

Dr Tim Reed meets MeTA ZAMBIA Council Members

MeTA Zambia organized a MeTA Council meeting to discuss the budget for the year September 2014 to August 2015. This was preceded by preparatory meetings for the budget from 4 June to 6 June 2014 and the council meeting coincided with the visit of Dr Tim Reed from the International MeTA Secretariat (IMS). The meeting was held at the Mika Lodge.



In discussion Dr Reed advised the meeting to separate the CSO/Administrative budget from the Technical budget and a budget of slightly over 45,000 British pounds was approved by the IMS. Dr Reed also informed members that IMS had just released some funds for CSO/Administrative activities.

Earlier the MeTA Zambia chairperson Hon Lazarus Chota welcomed council members and implored them to participate in the deliberations. Below are his remarks:

“First I would like to welcome Dr Tim reed to zambia and to this meta zambia council meeting. we hope he will have a short, fruitful and enjoyable visit.

We welcome his coming because we have just completed a draft of our budget for the years 1st September 2014 to 31st august 2015. We hope he will be able to advise and add valuable information towards our finalisation of this.

We recall that the budget we are implementing took long

- A) During preparations which covered the whole of 2012

B) After budget and workplan were approved in december 2012 disbursement of funds took another 6 months from January to June 2013.

C) We hope the process will, this time around be very short and timely.

Our budget is ambitious as it aims at greater involvement of the CSOs through focus groups, government and the private sector. With government, we are partnering with the Zambia Medicines Regulatory Authority (ZAMRA) in the dissemination of medicines issues.

Further we hope the long awaited roundtable will finally take place bringing the private sector and government to the same table.

It is our hope that the discussion on the budget will reduce on time before funds are disbursed so the new activities are implemented on time.

Second I would like to welcome each one of you for taking time from your busy schedules to attend this council meeting.

Let us all participate. Let us take ownership of this budget and the narrative we will prepare to accompany it.



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