REPORT ON SOLWEZI CSO RADIO PROGRAM
28 /10/2013 AT RADIO KABANGABANGA
SOLWEZI

DISCUSSANT: BANDA C DAVID.

MEMBERS FROM THE FORUM;

• Milege Ireen, Caritus Zambia
• Moffat Madichi, Private Sector
• Samanama, Council of Elders
• Kenneth Kapata, Council of Elders
• Sylvester Chimbipta TALC
• Hellen Chiyanjje Forum Coordinator.

PRESENTER: Mr Musonda Mukanu.

CAMERA: Mr. Muwowo

The program started at 10.30hours. The presenter asked the discussant to introduce himself and his role at MeTA Zambia. Thereafter, he was asked to explain briefly on the objectives and activities of MeTA Zambia. After about 5 minutes, the presenter asked the discussants to address Forum members and the listeners. The discussant explained the MeTA Zambia phase 1 and 2. In he explained the organisational structure and objectives of MeTA. He also explained the funding sources and the implementation processes.

Challenges from the Forum Members and Listeners.
• They could not understand the role of MeTA
• How does MeTA improve access in rural areas where there are no health institutions
• What was MeTA doing on the exploitation by medicines sellers
• Where was the cost effectiveness of government in just delivering only cotton wool from MSL
• There was a concern on the unqualified staff dispensing medicines even the expired ones.
• What’s the role of MeTA on the traditional medicines
• How do you identify the registered premises?
• When will MeTA have enough funds to disburse to district forums?
• There was a concern on the activities of MeTA as they were a duplicate of ZAMRA.

Further, there were concerns on the training of dispensers and there was need to decentralise it. There was also a concern on the structure of pharmacy personnel as it was limited to higher levels only.

In summary, the discussant emphasised on continued advocacy, education on where to access quality medicines. The forum raised a concern that sensitisations may be done to community members but there are very few clinics in rural areas where the community can access essential medicines and the suggestion was to ask government to build more clinics in the rural areas for easy access of essential medicines by the community members in rural areas, and also to train local dispensers and send them back to their local clinics in their rural areas.
All it’s the duty of every citizen to work together and make sure that certain policies are put in place and some are changed to improve on health service delivery.

COMPiled By: Mr Banda and Ms Hellen: