



Republic of Zimbabwe

**SPEECH BY HON. MINISTER OF PRIMARY AND
SECONDARY EDUCATION**

PROF.P MAVIMA

**AT THE
CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS
CEREMONY**

Let me start by acknowledging:

Simon Thomas - Deputy Head of Mission, British Embassy in Harare

Roland Davies - Country Director, British Council Zimbabwe

Juan Visser - Regional Director, Cambridge International

Mark Barber - Senior Manager Southern Africa, Cambridge International

Other Government Officials and Invited guests. Your presence is greatly appreciated.

I am pleased to join you this evening and be part of this important occasion where we are all gathered to witness and support the presentation of the 'Top in Zimbabwe' awards by Cambridge International to excelling Zimbabwean learners. Cambridge International's support for quality education development has a global spot.

As a country, our pursuit for quality education fit for the modern-day learner is not debatable. Developments in our education sector such as the Competency Based Curriculum are now at advanced levels of implementation and other innovative ICT enabled education sector initiatives confirm our overall agenda to deliver 21st century education to our learners that will guarantee our country's survival in both periods of economic booms and bursts. This means we recognize without doubt that the need for an education that is proven to give our learners the capabilities to gain more knowledge and master skills at all levels of sophistication is a priority. My Ministry has a clear focus on multi-literacy, multi-tasking, life-long learning, and a competency-based education that produces learners with superior critical thinking, problem solving, leadership, effective communication and team building skills. We therefore thank Cambridge international for complementing our efforts towards this cause.

Let me acknowledge that Cambridge International has a known history of contributing significantly to the Zimbabwean education sector and they continue to set the standard for international education through creating learners who are equipped for success in the global world. Cambridge International is known for the highly publicized, innovative and dynamic programmes and qualifications that are used in over 10,000 schools in 160 countries across the world. In Zimbabwe, there are over 110 Cambridge schools which represents about 11% of the 950 Cambridge schools in Sub Saharan Africa. This clearly affirms our drive for an education system that is highly regarded.

This annual event has made us proud and as a country we continue to celebrate the success of our outstanding learners. It is therefore elating to note that today Zimbabwe once again recognizes 99 winners from 34 Schools with 122 awards for their achievement in categories that include the Top in the World, the Top in Country, the High Achievement, and the Best Across categories. To our outstanding learners, let me say that you need to continue to make history in the world and keep up the hard work and determination in your studies for the benefit of our country Zimbabwe. These awards provide you with the motivation to realize your dreams. As a Ministry, we will continue to remove barriers that may hold you back from taking bolder steps to realize your ambitions. We need your innovative capacities, we need your entrepreneurial capacities, we need a solid set of Zimbabwean continuados to take the button from the current crop of leadership.

Lastly, I wish to thank Cambridge International for the invitation and let me end by saying that it has been a great moment to be part of this occasion.

I thank you!

Tatenda!