



**Remarks by Mr. Israel Dessalegne UNDP Resident
Representative at the Dissemination of the 2017 National
Corruption Perception Survey Report**

December 8th, 2017, TUMS George Hotel, Manzini

Programme Director,

Honourable Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
Members of Both Houses of Parliament,
Principal Secretary in the Justice and Constitutional Affairs,
Anti-Corruption Commission
Heads of Government Departments and Parastals,
Representatives from Civil Society Organization,
Industry Captains and the Private Sector,
My Colleagues from the UN family,
Colleagues from the Media
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

The UN is pleased to be part of this event where we commemorate the Anti-Corruption Day themed, 'United Against Corruption'. as well as the disseminate the 2017 National Corruption Perception Survey Report. We commend the work and effort the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs has made in facilitating the Anti-Corruption Commission adhere to His Majesty King Mswati III pronouncement on 'zero tolerance for corruption'. This is the second perception study following one undertaken in 2010 with the primary aim to provide an information for analysis for policy-development and monitoring progress made of anti-corruption strategies in a country.

Globally the cost of corruption is over 35 trillion Emalangeni accounting for over five (5) percent of the global GDP. Beyond the monetary loss, the impact observed in stifled sustainable development, undermined rule of law, decreased employment opportunities caused by discouraged foreign investments, and more importantly decreased ability of the country to provide services, has serious impact on sustainable development.

Honourable Minister,

The United Nations developed the United Nations Convention Against Corruption which seeks to promote a collective global approach to address corruption. The 2005 National Constitution provision to establish the Anti-Corruption Commission, development of the ACC Strategy in 2007, and conducting the 2010 and successor National Corruption Perception Survey in 2017. In addition, the noted trials and prosecutions

are all efforts of His Majesty's Government to continue strengthening efforts to fight this scourge.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is encouraging to note that the Report calls for: stimulation of the legislative reform for the development of frameworks to strengthen law enforcement and punitive measures, promotion of institutional capacities for accountable and transparent resources management, encouraging reporting on unethical malpractice, growing a culture for prudent public procurement and management of resources.

As I conclude, **Honourable Minister**, let me once again applaud His Majesty's Government for this milestone and reaffirm the UN's commitment to supporting various initiatives to curb corruption in Swaziland.

I thank you all for your attention.