Official opening of the conference

Officials from ministry of general education Zambia awaiting the arrival of the guest of honor acting Minister of General Education Honourable Mabumba

Guest of honour Acting minister of general education Honourable Mabumba MP being ushered into the main conference hall to officially open the conference.

HON MINISTER OF GENERAL EDUCATION (acting Minister of General Education Honourable Mabumba MP)

In his opening remarks he said no country can develop without having an educated workforce. He stressed that it is true that exclusion remains a huge challenge but the increasing number of private open learning institutions is helping bridge the gap. He welcomed the delegates to Lusaka Zambia and encouraged the delegates to feel at home as Zambia was a hub of warmth and peace and had much more to offer in terms of tourism. He urged the delegates to visit Zambia's tourist attractions and heritage sites like the Chilenje Monument, Oliver Tambo heritage site, the Victoria Falls in Livingstone and many other tourist attractions. He thanked all in attendance and declared the conference officially open.

Zambian Provinces Participating

- Lusaka
- Luapula
- Copperbelt
- Muchinga
- Northern
- North Western
- Eastern
- Western
- Central

Countries Participating

- Zambia
- Zimbabwe
- Botswana
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Swaziland
- Namibia
- Lesotho
- South Africa
Off to a Great Start with Keynote,
Professor Dickson Mwansa

New relationships were made and old ones renewed as DEASA members met in Lusaka, Zambia at Mulungushi international conference center for the 51st DEASA conference. The day started off with professor Dickson Mwansa speaking on ODL for social justice. He stated that of all regions sub-Saharan Africa continues to have a high rate of children not in school and if no action is taken this trend could get worse. He stressed that ODL is a critical factor in sustainable development. He gave testimony of how the shift to the use of ODL has positively impacted nations like Columbia. He further talked about how it is very important to change the current policies which continue to foster exclusion and that the role of the teacher to change from that of the tyrant to that of a co-creator/facilitator.