About the conference

Following the official declaration of the prolonged dry spells in Zambia as a national disaster and emergency on 29th February 2024 by President Hakainde Hichilema, citing the devastating impact of the El Niño weather phenomenon on the country's agriculture, water availability and energy supply, the New Dawn government has continually and relentlessly put in place mitigation measures to reduce the impact on our energy sector. One of the measures is the call to diversify our sources of energy for electricity generation. In the immediate to short term, solar technology is the low-hanging fruit due to high irradiation levels in Zambia, its deployment offers the shortest lead time to be implemented and is the sustainable solution. A solar system is a big investment, and you want to ensure that you are partnering with a Contractor that delivers quality workmanship and is in business long enough to stand behind the work that they do. Designing the solar system involves careful consideration of the facility`s energy needs and selecting the right components to meet those requirements. Designing for maximum demand power increases the reliability of the system, which can help ensure that it operates even when demand is highest. By accurately estimating the energy consumption, assessing peak power demand, and choosing high-quality solar panels, batteries, inverters, charge controllers, and monitoring systems, a developer can create an efficient and reliable solar system. With proper planning and component selection, the site owner can enjoy the benefits of renewable energy while reducing the facility`s environmental footprint. However, the full benefits of a solar investment can only be realized when it is implemented in an environment where the rights of individuals and businesses are protected from exploitation by the those conducting business in the sector. Laws are the rules that regulate conduct and behavior within society. They apply to all citizens and are enforceable by a governmental authority, with penalties in place for people who contravene the law. Laws keep people safe, keep order in society, and protect the rights of individuals. Without laws, life would be chaotic. A regulatory framework in the solar industry provides rules and guidelines on how to legally conduct business to ensure compliance and protect the rights of individuals and businesses. To that effect, government has opened up the electricity market through the Open Access regime and the Net Metering legislation. Government has further provided various incentives to accelerate the deployment of solar systems in Zambia through the Ministry of Finance as well as tax rebates and exemptions on solar products through the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA). There are a number of big national projects currently being implemented or scheduled for implementation soon across the country that will turn our land into a big construction site. 1) The Presidential Solar Power Initiative: Through the ministry of energy, this program will be implemented on all government institutions countrywide and will introduce roughly about 170 MW for the first Phase. 2) ZESCO Solar Microgrids Project: 60 x 5 MW (300 MW) solar Microgrids by ZESCO through its subsidiary Kiyona Energy where more than 300 EPC Contractors and IPPs have expressed interest. GCIP Zambia Net Metering Pilot Project: With funding from the British government under FCDO, Green Cities and Infrastructure Programme (GCIP) is carrying out Net Metering Pilot Project throughout Zambia The conference is divided in four areas Main 1. Auditorum 2. Breakaway session 1 focus of discussion Business 3. Breakaway session 2 focus of discussion Technology 4. Breakaway session 3 focus of discussion Policy