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**GUEST NAME: MS MUTALE NALUMANGO – VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA & VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED PARTY FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>TRANSCRIPTION</b>
DR. MALKA	Hello, I'm Dr. Amaleya Goneos-Malka, welcome to 'Womanity– Women in Unity'. The show that celebrates Women's milestone achievements in their struggle for liberation, self-emancipation, human rights, democracy and much more.
DR. MALKA	Joining us on the line today from Lusaka Zambia is the Vice President of the Republic of Zambia, Mutale Nalumango, who is also the Vice President of Zambia's ruling party, the United Party for National Development. Welcome to the show Vice President!
<b>VP NALUMANGO</b>	<b>Thank you very much, it's a great honour and I am blessed to have this opportunity to speak to the people through you Amaleya.</b>
DR. MALKA	You know it is always a privilege to host somebody like you, who has lit the torch that lights the path for other women, particularly in Africa to make their respective journeys' possible. Vice President your career has traversed several spheres of society, from education to politics; you have served as Minister of Information and Broadcasting and now you are the Vice President of the Republic of Zambia. So, starting with the political front, there are less than a handful of female presidents and vice presidents in the African continent; when did you realize that politics and serving your country would be such an integral part of your life?
<b>VP NALUMANGO</b>	<b>Thank you very much Amaleya. I can't answer that, it is very difficult for me tell when did I realize. I think it comes without me having fully planned, but realizing is when I felt the call upon my heart, you know, the call upon my heart was literally, to say the truth, was a call to justice. The injustice of humanity, not womanity, of humanity is what drove me, has driven me all the way, like you have said, from a teacher to a politician. Indeed I thank God that I have had to run this race with the support of God Almighty and people around me, but to realize it is a daily thing. Every day I wake up I realize I have a call of duty to ensure in my little space there is justice, but you know justice is a vast thing, it comes in so many ways and it is because of that, like you have said, that after being a teacher, let me tell you a little background. After being a proper villager you understand real village life, walking without shoes, sleeping on a mat or sometimes even a mat is better, on a sack, and I became a teacher. One of the injustices that I see is inequity; inequity in society. Basically this was the basic injustice that drove me all the way, that as a teacher I became a unionist, because I thought something was wrong there, there should be some equity in the distribution of resources, whether it is in terms of wages or in others. So this is what drove me and I am not driven from outside, that is the problem, I am driven from inside. So when people say how did you come into politics? What drives you? I am driven from within; I hate injustice and I call a call upon my life. So this is what I realize and I realized throughout, it is not to know that I will be this or I will do this, it is to realize that my duty is to fight</b>

	<p>injustice wherever I am, whatever effort I should put in is to fight injustice, to have the world indeed a little fairer than it is. So this is what I know about myself and this is how I have come this way and reaching this far.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>We can hear the passion in your voice and when you're driven by such a strong internal motivator, being in the position that you are in now means that you can change and redress injustices for so many more people.</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p><b>Truly, truly. That is true, that is my passion even now, what can I do. When I was minister, yes I was Minister of Labour and that is the ministry I loved the most before I was Minister of Information and Broadcasting, I am just saying the truth. I found that a little you know you are quarrelling, you are talking this and indeed you want people to speak, but what are they speaking about, but labour was so, real it fitted into what I wanted to say, because it affected humans. As I sit here it is my prayer that I can see change in terms of justice, this is why even after I left government I still looked for a platform and I found UPND, with their constitution, their manifesto, it suited me that in there, there is justice put in many different forms, including uniting people. Oh, it drives me, I want to see unity. It drove me, when I saw strengthening of institutions of governments in the programmes of UPND, United Party for National Development, oh I said this is home and therefore I can say many things, but those are some of the things that I am looking forward to; justice, justice, justice all the time and justice means fighting poverty, it means women must have their space. That is what I feel and what drives me.</b></p>
DR. MALKA	<p>What would you say are some of the targets that you want to achieve in the realm of justice, in the realm of reducing poverty, in the realm of uplifting women?</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p><b>I dream, but my dreams sometimes may not get the support that makes implementation as easy, because I am working in an environment where no single person is in control. So we have the collective, you know, vision, collective programmes and plans and therefore I have to fit my little into there. What I would want to see, number one, is indeed like I have said, unity in the country. I am a strong believer, also I am a Christian and I believe that peace is the greatest ingredient to development. It is biblical, because the Bible says if there is war you will turn instruments of peace production into instruments of war; I am paraphrasing; meaning you can have things that you use like axes and hoes to cultivate, that's the way the Bible puts it, into spears and arrows. I think this speaks to me that where there is no peace there is no production and therefore I would want to see a peaceful Zambia, number one, united Zambia, under that then I am looking for development, but again development Amaleya is so, so huge. What development? Just the ordinary, the improvement of the livelihoods of our Zambians. From the life I lived to a better life, to uplift the livelihoods of our youths so that they are better prepared for the future or I don't want any youth to remain the way I was left by my parents; they must be better prepared, but we are there to give the enabling environment. So I would like to see employment creation, poverty reduction and literally under my ministry there is a division called</b></p>

	<p><b>Resettlement. I am so passionate, right now I have done nothing but plan and I am saying we need resources in there to settle people in the right places, to help them with production so that we are both food and nutrition secure. We can have access to the very basics like energy, so that we don't continue in our villages to be destructive to what God said tend, you know, God said tend the garden, we have failed to tend it, we have become destructive because maybe we don't have the right tools. So with water I am working, I hear the Minister of Water and Sanitation and we sit and I say please, go give water to women, they don't have to walk long distances anymore, so that is something, to change the livelihoods of individuals, individual households, that is development to me. Of course I also like the big development, that means we need roads, we need all this, but I need a life changed at a household level in the villages, in the compounds of our people and this government Amaleya is working very hard to bring in resources, to free resources from somewhere and put it where it is needed most. These are some of the things that I would want that change the livelihood of our people.</b></p>
DR. MALKA	<p>With that changed livelihood dynamic, one, you're talking about putting in place fundamentals, looking at the individual and by each individual improving their respective lives, that in turn addresses the collective betterment of all citizens in society, which will lead to further development.</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p><b>That is that, because what is development if it does not affect the human life, what is development? Whatever we call development, it must be that which positively affects the livelihoods of people; that is development at the household level. So this is where we are working, but collectively we have many dreams.</b></p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Today we're talking to the Vice President of the Republic of Zambia, Mutale Nalumango. We would love to receive your comments on Twitter: @WomanityTalk.</p>
DR MALKA	<p>Vice President our programme 'Womanity – Women in Unity' is all about gender equality and naturally our conversation will highlight some important issues on this topic. Women occupying positions in government and serving as heads of state is significant for a number of reasons, whether that is about demonstrating the power of women in governments, that showcasing these women in their respective positions, they serve as role models for other women, thirdly, gender representation is important in policy development as well as policy implementation. As a female leader, please can you share some of your perspectives on the subject?</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p><b>It is critically important that we look at gender equity. It is very, very important, you know what I think of a woman and I like your programme, you say 'Womanity' I would like to say this indeed 'Womanity' is a man with an extra, that is what I said myself. We are extra and therefore we carry humanity and developing a woman is developing the world. I think people have many sayings around this issue and anybody who is playing with the failure to be inclusive for women, does not truly have love for humanity, because as women we carry humanity and therefore when we are given an opportunity to be in these positions you are talking about, we should use every effort to improve, to help to bring in more women on board. Women are different, you know, I read somewhere, a woman is a different type of a</b></p>

	<p>leader. She is a shepherd and I believe it. The shepherd goes before the sheep. We fill every bit of society. We fill every bit of human beings, we fill for the man, we feill for the woman, we fill for the children, we fill for the youth and therefore this issue, the SDG number 5 must be taken extremely seriously by this generation. Somebody made an analysis that in this government in Covid era, nations that are led by women did far much better. So occupy this position like this one I am occupying must be taken seriously. Let us work together like your programme says ‘Womanity’ all women must come together to be role models when we are in these positions, that others would be able to say I can do it. She did it. We are doing it because there were people who went before us, those that were foot-finders, against all odds they fought and they reached there. So we need, when we are given this opportunity, to really work hard and encourage other people to know that the sky is the limit.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Vice President you’ve shared the realities and I think the one example that I am going to pull out from what you’ve said was the fact that female-led nations were the ones that performed better, were the ones which managed the health of their nations during the COVID-19 era; what more proof could we have than that as being testament to the success of female leadership, but what do you think is required to build more female leadership, to get more women to the top?</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p><b>Well a number of things. To start with I think we need, for us who are here, to build confidence in women. I tell people, as I sit here, it’s not because I know it all and we must tell women that you don’t have to compete with the men. You have your role which a man will not do. We have our own style, our own thinking and the women must know that they should arise. It is not easy, we have many obstacles to overcome as women, many, if you ask me Amaleya I tell you it will be a miserable interview, but against that, women must rise themselves. I have said all the time that men will not give us the space, so it is us women to fight for this space, our colleagues - men, they are comfortable where they are and sometimes we make them insecure. We are not there to take over from them, they should be comfortable, colleagues men everywhere; men politicians, men professionals, corporate world, we are saying let women get involved because you can never think like women. When they come on board, we bring on board the other path, so we are not fighting to bring men, but women don’t think that men will leave the stage because they are comfortable. It’s us who need to got here and therefore women must be encouraged in so many ways to overcome many things, like I have said, including religion, traditional beliefs and so on and rise to the occasion. Even Nalumango, you can see me, as ordinary as I am, today I can be vice president, you can be the president tomorrow; you can climb higher. If we had a woman UN secretary general, we should be looking for one, we want the women when they lead, they lead with passion, they lead with conviction and that’s why we need them, because women are there, they fill everything like I have said before. So it is up to us women, when women say they fight one another, why should I fight you? We should not listen to that, we should encourage one another and go on and things will be done. So we need to encourage the women, we need to be role models, we need to work hard, after all people say we have to work three times more than men to reach certain positions. Let us encourage</b></p>

	<b>women, we are the ones who nurture our children, let us stop nurturing them in the negative.</b>
DR. MALKA	Those are some very uplifting statements. Thinking about the view of empowering women; the world over, we know that education is a skill as well as a resource which contributes to women's empowerment and not just for themselves, but also for the betterment of the lives of their families, whether it is from increased earnings to improving the health and wellbeing. You began your career in the education system as a teacher and then moved into the political space; can you share with us some of your views on education, particularly as a tool in the hands of women to change their lives as well as their children's?
VP NALUMANGO	<b>Amaleya where do you think I would be, I have given you a little bit of my background, without education I would be in that village, I would probably still be sleeping on a reed mat. So education is extremely important for me as a person, for my government, my president. I can tell you about Zambia, we believe that education is the greatest equalizer. I tell people my story, like when I was growing up there was Kaunda. Kaunda was like God, like you can never ever be near Kaunda, but Kaunda did one thing, he gave us free education in this country, because from where I come from I would not have made it into where I am, but there was that free education and because of that I tell people that I was telling Tilyenji, Tilyenji is the first born of President Kaunda and recently we were together, I was saying oh finally you, the son of the President, I can sit with you and you'll probably stand for me. Can you imagine! How sweet therefore education is, it is extremely empowering, the greatest equalizer. Yes, somebody said if you say education is too expensive, try ignorance, because today like you have said Amaleya, doctor, what you have said is so true, some food, given to a mother who was going to school and the mother was not going to school, the difference will be seen in the way they look after their children, in the way they feed, because of that little extra, just that education makes a lot of change. Change in the perception of things. Education is extremely empowering, you are talking of looking after children, because you don't understand certain things you may expose even your children to more disease and if there is more disease, then the hospitals health system gets overwhelmed and the children suffer. Why not spend on education, there is just so much in education and I will tell you, training as a teacher, doctor, is one of the best things, I have never regretted, I taught for 25 years.</b>
DR. MALKA	Wow! You must have some incredible stories, success stories of children.
VP NALUMANGO	<b>Oh yes, that is the best thing when you see children prosper. Children, you know I think the teachers we are crazy sometimes, because I remember my time, I would go to you know the selection results outcome, I have a child of my own and I ran to look at how my class has performed. Have they done very well, that is when I am excited, so many have passed and they are going, oh they are going to grade ten, oh they have passed and they are going to the university. It is just so fulfilling because you see this human being develop from what you found them to what they become, that is the greatest success. Of course children will always be there Doctor.</b>

DR. MALKA	And I also wonder from an educator’s point of view, especially hearing what you have said, that there is that maternal instinct; that it is not just your own children, but it is your children as the students that you feel responsible for them as in a way an extension of family.
<b>VP NALUMANGO</b>	<b>Indeed, indeed.</b>
DR. MALKA	I will definitely take away from this conversation your statement of education being an equalizer.
DR MALKA	We’re talking to the Vice President of the Republic of Zambia, Mutale Nalumango. We would love to receive your comments on Twitter: @WomaniyTalk.
DR MALKA	Vice President, you alluded to the Sustainable Development Goal Number 5 from the United Nations, which is all about gender equality and some of those targets include ending all forms of discrimination against women and girls, recognizing the value of both unpaid and domestic work and ensuring that women fully and effectively participate and have equal opportunities for leadership across all decision-making, whether it is in the political space, economic space and in general public life. How do you think Africa, Zambia in particular, is progressing with this agenda?
<b>VP NALUMANGO</b>	<b>Africa, I think really we all desire to progress but there are many impediments like you have said, that are making us fail to make the progress that we would want. Speaking for Zambia, especially in political leadership, we go up, we come down, we have not made real, you know, progress that we desire, even though we want, there are too many things along the way. The impediments you are talking about for example; the unpaid domestic work, we are born as volunteers, we are the people that we want to be home and look after everybody, that is an instinct that maybe we need to fight. I’m thinking well, maybe we need to know the father of the children is also responsible, but you know some of these things it’s not because they have been said, we feel them. You can’t just see it, to imagine your child is aware, that’s why we keep fighting for example for feeding spaces at our workplaces. This is why we fight for those, they are part of bringing opportunity to a woman to continue, because we volunteer to be the ones to look after the family. So we fail to go on and therefore the men are still enjoying their space, they have nothing to worry about and yet they don’t know they are missing out on that opportunity we talked about of the filling of a woman, whether it is in the development agenda like me, are talking of UNSDGs, we need the women, but sincerely we are not making enough progress. Yes there are countries, including South Africa, which have done very well. I think Rwanda is one of those, the very first that have done very well, even Namibia is doing well. So maybe I should not have said the fact that the entire Africa is not doing well, let us remember that we are making little progress, maybe that is what I should say, because we have had even African presidents on the political scene. In the corporate world we are also doing quite well, using Zambia as an example, we have only had a female vice president in the last five years and now I am the second female vice president, only the second and we have been in the world with 58 years old as a nation. So we haven’t done well as Zambia, the region is dry, but there are others where it is worse. Look at Mali,</b>

	<p>you know in some places a woman is still just something. For us, by law generally, it is open, but those other impediments; tradition, culture, beliefs, religion where they tell you a woman must be submissive and some think when the Bible says a woman should be submissive to her own husband, it doesn't say to all men, it is not to all men. Me I am only submissive to my own husband, the rest are colleagues, but those are things that make us fail to make progress. There is little progress, let us move together as women.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>How do we address that conflict, that tension and overcome these traditional expectations, because as you say, there's culture, there's social structures, there's religion that sometimes holds us back; how do we overcome that?</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p>One, we have talked about role modeling, those that have overcome and people must speak, we should speak out, but also the empowerment we have talked about, empowerment for women, like in Zambia when we give free education, we are thinking that there is interaction and they are thinking something, but also society must just come up to try and empower women, deliberate programmes to empower women, to sensitize women and you know one important person we should bring on this agenda is the male folk, who is actually a beneficiary of a woman's participation. Whether it is in the economy, you remember the issues we talked about, that when a woman comes in, she brings an income, the man is also a beneficiary, so let us talk about the benefits that men get, including the issue that a woman who is educated will do better in terms of helping the family in health, in other things. We need to bring the male on board, because I think they are the most scared, sometimes I say that you tended to be strong, but I think I don't want to use this word here for today, but they must be brought on board, to realize that there is no competition. The religion is very good, but especially Christianity in my country, it does not bar a woman from participating. The cultural norms, sometimes we are the perpetuators as women of the same things, like I said earlier, we are the ones who nurture children more than the men, why are we training them that as a girl, as a girl ... what is as a girl? This girl is beyond just being human; she is a woman, a man with an extra and to continue to believe that women, even in class, their performance must be lower. No! In fact now you are seeing that the girls are doing so, so well. So let us leverage on what is going on to continue to encourage our women, to support them in the school system. Remember if they fail in the school system over simple things like pads, making them uncomfortable and fail to go to school, we will not make it, but let us continue to encourage them from the school system so that they can continue. Let us empower them economically, because that is another issue, I have always said we don't, as women, politically where I am it is not easy for a woman to network while the men go to the men's clubs, thus if I am found somewhere they call me some name and it is the men who have more resources, so I need to interact with them so that I can also be empowered, but if you are found with men, maybe there it is okay, but here, uhuh, then people start saying what is she doing. We should overcome all these things and stand. So we should start listening to the negative voice that we are women, we can't do it, so we need to deliberately as women, tell women and girls that we can do it. So let us continue to encourage ourselves, to motivate our motivate our young</p>

	<p>people they can do it. I wished it was video, because I could say look at me, I have no extra hands, no extra what, I am here. Girl there, brilliant as you are, you can make it, just know what is your call on your life. What is it that you need to do? Do it with passion and with all your heart.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Hearing what you're saying, this is about changing the narrative, developing more confidence in women, demonstrating to men that we can provide an economic contribution ...</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p>... oh yes ...</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>... that's going to help you too.</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p><b>They are beneficiaries.</b></p>
DR. MALKA	<p>And developing our networking capabilities as women and being able to access more of that resource pie so that we can show and demonstrate meaningful contribution. Vice President, as an important learning curve for all of our listeners throughout the eight years of doing this radio show, I ask all our guests who have made tremendous achievements in their respective fields of expertise about the factors that they consider have contributed to their success. Some people speak about the role that their mothers played in shaping their views, others talk about hard work that they put in, with two words that recurring, being discipline, perseverance. In your opinion, please can you tell us what would you say have been the key drivers to your success?</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p><b>Everything you have mentioned earlier, literally everything. Yes, like I said, my own upbringing helped me to know that we can do better. Yes, I didn't miss things because I didn't know them, but as I got exposed I saw that there is an opportunity to be better, yes, but more I will talk about two things. One yes, God has helped me, believe you me, because He is the one who put the call and for me even whatever I do, if you came and visited me you will say is this the Vice President, because for me my call is service for mankind, to the glory of the living God and because God has taught me, this is in the serving part, in the service to man. God has taught me that I was not created just to be for food and drink, I am created for good works. So I find on the principles of God and the one who could tell me to leave my comfort zone, when I say comfort, teaching what was comfort, nobody shouted at me, nobody insulted me, I didn't even know I was ugly until I became a politician when people called me all sorts of names, but I had to step out because God had helped me. But in my character shaping, my mother is so critically involved, that woman was so strong in the village, you know, and really I could have married at 14, I could have married at 15, and this poor woman my mother was a widow, so I grew up without a biological father, without even a step-father for that matter, my mother chose to bring us up and refused to marry us off and it taught us such principles that up to now I think maybe she was a little crazy. You don't pick even a coin, because she will say the one who dropped it will come and pick it, never steal and every person in our home was important, whoever visited, as she looked at us and she would say oh-oh did you look down on that person, I saw your toys doing this; I don't know what she saw in our toys and</b></p>

	<p>sometimes you will get a whipping for that. She taught us to respect people, humans. So I picked up so much of that woman, I would say I didn't even know I was being shaped into the person that I am today. So I learned to serve because my mother felt, she was a princess herself, born out of a royal family, her father was a chief. Of course the father died, she was no longer royal; she lived a poor life after my father died, but she still taught us integrity. So is one that has helped me shape me today. She has not seen me as a politician, she is long gone, I don't know what she is saying if there is talk where she is, but God guides me every day in the principles of leadership and gives me encouragement. That's why I said all encouragement comes from within, I hardly look around to see what the other person does, I will look to them to learn, but not to compete because of what I need to do and I want to do it and I need to do it, that is why I fought the previous government like mad, because I thought they were taking us the wrong way.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>What an incredible driver and the values that you've inherited from your mom are really echoed in your ambitions for the country, whether this is about establishing unity, driving through on being a peaceful nation and having those, I would say the soft skills component, to build upon. I came across a quote attributed to you, where you stated "Challenges facing women are the same in many parts of the world, the key is to unite as a force against all sorts of gender injustices." So as we close out our conversation today, please can you share a few words of inspiration that you'd like to pass onto women in Africa who are listening to the show?</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p>Well, unity indeed, thank you for reminding me of that, I can't remember, but that is very important that we need to unite as women and fight collectively. We don't have to fight physically, but it is fighting all these things that draw us backwards, we have to challenge those things that draw us backwards. When we know they actually have no positive impact on our lives, so as women we need really to remain focused, to know ourselves. I will repeat that it is for the women to know and feel important. I will say one thing I said, don't carry a woman who like it makes you an inferior as such, women who actually makes you a superior person, nobody should intimidate you, nobody should use you as a tool, you are complete, make your own choices, don't let your choices depending on other people. We are equally made by God and we have the capability. Girl, rise up wherever you are. The presenter said the sky is the limit, you can break the glass in your own space and make it in corporate, in political, in administration, everything is open for us in Africa. Let us move and fight the injustice that discriminates against us. God made us equal.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Thank you very much for that wonderful message and you are absolutely living proof of that sentiment. Thank you very much for joining us today and sharing your time with our listeners.</p>
VP NALUMANGO	<p>Thank you very much all those that are listening, I feel grateful, thank you.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p><b>PROGRAMME END</b></p>