

Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka Society Business Park officially opens
Hilton Garden Inn opens as part of formal inauguration ceremony of Lusaka's mixed use development Society Business Park

PRESS RELEASE

LUSAKA, ZAMBIA and MCLEAN, Va. – 27 August, 2018 – Last Friday evening, the statuesque copper-themed skyscraper situated along Cairo Road in the heart of Lusaka's central business district (CBD) was in a celebratory mood as invited guests basked in the opening ceremony of the refurbished 20-floor mixed use development, Society Business Park, which includes [Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka Society Business Park](#). Zambia's Minister of Labour and Social Security, Honourable Joyce Nonde-Simukoko, officiated as guest of honour and other dignitaries in attendance included the Minister of Works and Supply, Honourable Felix Mutati, His Worship the Mayor of Lusaka, Miles Sampa, the South African High Commissioner to Zambia, Her Excellency Sikose Mji and the National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA) Board Chairperson, Ms. Marian Munyinda. Hilton Garden Inn, the award-winning midscale brand, is the first property to open in Zambia and joins 42 existing Hilton properties in Africa.

Society Business Park evolved after the formerly known Society House and Central Arcades, was extensively damaged by a fire that swept through most parts of the building in 1997. After being in a disused state for several years, in 2011, Zambia National Building Society (ZNBS) and NAPSA entered into a 20-year concession agreement using a public-public partnership (PPP) procurement model for the redevelopment of the facility at an investment of US\$100 million. Hilton Worldwide was awarded a management partnership.

Just a 30-minute drive from Kenneth Kaunda International Airport, Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka Society Business Park offers guests access to 148 guest rooms with commanding, panoramic city views of Lusaka, including four junior suites with kitchenettes located on the 18th floor. The hotel also has an all-day dining restaurant – Garden Grille – for those looking to start their day with a hearty breakfast or indulge in various international cuisines in the evening. After a day exploring the city, guests can head over to the hotel's bar and lounge, which is perfect for relaxing, catching up on emails or having a quick bite to eat. With its enviable setting and offerings, this hotel is a lifestyle destination catering to both leisure and business travellers in the capital.

Speaking at the launch ceremony, Mr. Jan van der Putten, Hilton Worldwide Vice President for Africa and the Indian Ocean commented: "We are delighted to be opening the first Hilton Garden Inn property in Zambia, and we believe this hotel and this brand have great potential in the country. Lusaka's influence and prominence as a commercial centre continues to grow and we are inspired to be a part of it. I am confident that Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka Society Business Park will contribute to the growth of the tourism sector as well as create employment opportunities". He further added: "What we are witnessing today is part of our strategic five-year expansion plan for Africa. As a global brand, Hilton will expose Zambia as a destination to more than 70 million Hilton Honors members, worldwide".

In her keynote address, Honourable Joyce Nonde-Simukoko, in welcoming Hilton Worldwide to Zambia - demonstrating confidence in the Zambian market, commented: "This investment has transformed the outlook of Lusaka's central business district by adding the much needed modernity to infrastructure. It is my Government's wish that other property owners in the CBD will be motivated to give a facelift to their buildings. It is indeed a challenge to you, Your Worship the Mayor of Lusaka and your team to put up stringent measures to modernise the CDB of Lusaka as most of the infrastructure requires demolishing and replacement. Let us transform our city by implementing integrated planning and this will lower the cost of doing business in our city and improve its beauty and outlook." The minister continued: "It is my hope that the situation will remain like this for the years to come, as Lusaka, being the country's capital city, its CBD is the face of Zambia to the outside world".

The hotel also boasts contemporary indoor and outdoor spaces, including 150 square metres of banqueting space and pre-function areas, making it the ideal space to host events and special occasions. Business travellers can also take advantage of the hotel's meeting spaces, with state of the art 12 seater board rooms with built in flat screen TVs. Guests can unwind at the outdoor pool, whilst soaking in sunset views of the city's skyline or re-energise at the 24-hour fitness centre.

National Pension Scheme Authority Director General, Mr. Yollard Kachinda, in the event's opening speech, commented on the partnership between NAPSA and ZNBS: "NAPSA wishes to recognise the strategic partnership with Zambia National Building Society over this investment. NAPSA is also hopeful that this investment will yield the partnership objectives for the two public institutions". He further added: "The addition of a second hotel to NAPSA's asset portfolio with a third one due to open soon on the Copperbelt answers to Government's objective of growing the country's tourism industry".

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Hilton Garden Inn

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