

Ambassador Iwado signs up to the HeForShe Movement!

On 5 December, Ambassador Iwado joined other ambassadors in pledging his commitment to advancing gender equality and ending gender-based violence through the global HeForShe movement, which was launched by UN Women. Ambassador Iwado and the Ambassadors of India, the US, Brazil, South Africa, Canada, Australia, and Zambia, shared their personal experiences of the struggles and sacrifices made by their mothers and women in their families. They then listened to voices of ordinary Zimbabwean women whose voices are not often heard, such as those with HIV, disabilities, and albinism, and heard the struggles that these women go through every day. The Ambassadors finally pledged to be champions of the HeForShe Movement, in other words to ensure that women's voices are heard and they have the resources to fully achieve their potential in society. Thank you to UN Women, the Australian Embassy and the Canadian Embassy for organising this truly inspiring and thoughtful morning! You can also be a champion of the HeForShe Movement – sign up at this link: <https://www.heforshe.org/en>

The HeForShe Movement is a global movement to involve both men and women in the fight against violence against women and girls. Men particularly can play a part, through using their privileged position in society to uplift women, particularly those living with HIV and with disabilities. As said by the Prime Minister of Canada, “Every single one of us, no matter our gender identity, can and must be a part of the solution to stop violence before it starts.



Ambassador Iwado (right) explained the importance of constantly questioning our actions and whether they are contributing positively to women's empowerment. The Ambassador of Brazil, H.E. Ms Ana Morales (left) emphasised the importance of educating children on the equal rights of women and girls.



The Ambassador of the United States, H.E. Mr Brian Nichols (right) said that the media in Zimbabwe should focus more on the important issues of gender equality and disability. The Ambassador of Canada, H.E. Mr René Cremonese (left) spoke on the importance of “walking the talk”, i.e. not only talking but actually taking action to create a more equal society.





H.E. Ambassador Cremonese having pledged to use his influence as ambassador to promote gender equality.



H.E. Ambassador Chenda of Zambia having committed to working towards gender equality for women and girls.



Champions of the HeForShe Movement, with Ms Delphine Serumaga, UN Women Country Rep. (left), and Ms Sally Dura, National Coordinator of the Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe.



Ambassador Iwado with participants at the ceremony.