

PRESS STATEMENT - HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON EARLY CHILDHOOD NUTRITION CLOSES

Lesotho King closes high-level meeting on early childhood nutrition

The high-level level nutrition forum on early childhood nutrition in southern Africa has officially closed in Maseru, Lesotho.

And King Letsie III of the Kingdom of Lesotho stated that appropriate investment in early childhood nutrition is crucial if southern African countries are to reduce stunting in children.

King Letsie III who is also African Union Champion on Nutrition and FAO special Ambassador on Nutrition said it was a matter of concern that 30 percent of children under the age of five in the southern African region were stunted as a result of chronic malnutrition.

The Basotho king said this when he officially closed the early childhood nutrition regional forum at Thaba Bosiu, in Maseru, Lesotho.

King Letsie urged governments in the region to give focused attention to the beginning of a child's life.

He said countries should also increase their efforts in fighting malnutrition.

King Letsie has therefore prodded all governments in the region to scale up nutrition programs and policies.

Statement issued by His Excellency Emmanuel Mwamba, Zambia's High Commissioner to South Africa
With extra accreditation to Lesotho and Madagascar.

Ends/