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By NANCY MWAPE

GOVERNMENT has commended the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) for monitoring progress Zambia is making towards good governance.

Speaking at the workshop for in-country project launch in Lusaka yesterday, Finance and National Planning Deputy Minister Patrick Kalifungwa said good governance was a prerequisite for equitable, inclusive and sustainable human development.

Mr Kalifungwa said good governance determined the extent to which citizens were provided space and freedom to have a say in the manner in

which they were ruled by those in whom they deposit their trust.

He said the intrinsic linkage between good governance and poverty reduction was at the core of Zambia's development strategies.

Good governance issues received some attention in the recently approved Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), adding that government and its strategic partners have developed

a consensus that such issues were critical to economic growth, equity, political stability and poverty reduction.

Mr Kalifungwa said weak governance of public institutions imposed particular costs on the poor.

Government has formulated strategic objectives of the national capacity building programmes for good governance that include promotion of effective economic management.

