

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES FOR THE FIRST SESSION OF THE TENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY APPOINTED ON 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2006**

*Consisting of:*

Mr R Muntanga, MP (Chairperson); Mr S Katuka, MP; Mr J B Chongo, MP; Mr S Chitonge, MP; Ms E M Imbwa, MP; Mr R S Mwapela, MP; Mr L P M'sichili and Mr V M Mooya, MP.

THE HONOURABLE MR SPEAKER  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
**LUSAKA**

Sir

Your Committee have the honour to present their Report for the First Session of the Tenth National Assembly.

**FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE**

2. Under the Standing Orders of the House, your Committee are mandated to scrutinise all assurances and undertakings made by Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers on the floor of the House with the objective of ensuring that these are implemented.

As your Committee is a General Purposes Committee, their mandate is not confined to any specific ministry as the issues that they consider are applicable to all ministries depending on situations and the issues involved.

**PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE**

3. Your Committee examined all contributions made by Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers as recorded in the *Daily Parliamentary Debates* and extracted all statements which, in their view, amounted to assurances. These were then referred to the Government ministries concerned to find out the actions taken to implement the assurances.

Upon receipt of submissions from the ministries and government departments on the outstanding assurances, your Committee then invited the respective Permanent Secretaries and Chief Executives to appear before them and give updates on the implementation of the assurances under their respective portfolios.

**MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE**

4. Your Committee held twenty three meetings during the period under review. Your Committee's Report deals with the consideration of outstanding and new assurances.

**TOURS OF THE COMMITTEE**

5. In fulfillment of their programme of work, your Committee also undertook tours to inspect some projects which were reported to be on-going and which had been pending for long periods.

**PART I  
CONSIDERATION OF ASSURANCES**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**02/88 - Floating Beacons on Luapula River and Lake Mweru**

On 28<sup>th</sup> January, 1988, the Right Honourable Prime Minister assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Speaker, what the Honourable Member for Nchelenge is raising is valid. We will look into the problem.”*

Your previous Committee were unhappy and disappointed with the same responses year after year and resolved to await a progress report on the matter. Further, the previous Committee (2006) observed that there was need to review the transfer of the assurance from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Ministry of Works and Supply and the Ministry of Lands, because the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had no role to play in the physical demarcation of the boundary, but had a bearing on international relations, and recommended that the assurance be transferred from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Ministries of Works and Supply and Lands, respectively, and requested a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the boundary between Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) originated from the Treaty signed at Brussels on 12<sup>th</sup> May, 1894, between Great Britain and His Majesty King Leopold II of Belgium on behalf of Congo. The total distance of the boundary is approximately 2, 140km from the Angolan frontier to Lake Tanganyika. While the boundary from Angola frontier to Mukuku Bridge, Main Beacon No. XXVIII, was demarcated and physically defined by concrete pillars; the remainder of the stretch up to Lake Tanganyika, covering a distance of approximately 905km, was not marked on the ground.

In recognition of the unmarked part of the border problem between Zambia and the Democratic Republic Congo, the former Presidents Kaunda and Mobutu held extensive consultations on the matter. Arising from those consultations, the two Presidents agreed to appoint a Special Joint Committee of Experts in 1982. They also agreed on the following terms of reference for the Committee:

- (a) to interpret the Treaty of 12<sup>th</sup> May, 1894 to the benefit of the two countries;
- (b) to study the course of the boundary in any area where it may be necessary and make proposals for the approval of the two Governments; and
- (c) to cause demarcation of the boundary, if need be, through construction of boundary beacons, which will be described in a protocol to be submitted to the two Governments for ratification.

So far, terms of reference (a) and (b) have been fulfilled following sixteen meetings held between July, 1983 and February, 1989 by the Special Joint Committee of Experts. On 18th September, 1989, a Delimitation Treaty of the Boundary between the Republic of Zambia and the Republic of Congo from Lake Tanganyika to main Beacon No. XXVII, was signed to resolve the boundary dispute. This was later to be followed by the actual physical demarcation of the boundary to be described in a protocol in line with the term of reference (c). Unfortunately, the actual physical demarcation of the boundary had not been carried out, and the Special Joint Committee of Experts had not met since the eighteenth session of July, 1998.

The following progress had been made on the implementation of the Decisions of the Joint Committee:

- (a) harmonization of the English and French Texts of the Draft Treaty;
- (b) harmonization of the Enlarged Extract of the Map Illustrating the Zambia/Congo Boundary;
- (c) finalisation of the Transparencies of the Map and the Enlarged Extract;
- (d) printing two English and two French Originals of the Final General Map;
- (e) printing and Bind appendices II and III into one Volume in Zambia; and
- (f) preparation of the Final Cartographic Documents.

Furthermore, seventy-seven books of Maps in French and 77 in English were produced.

*Demarcation of the Boundary under the Term of Reference (C)*

A corridor of aerial photography covering the Zambia/Congo border between Lake Mweru and Lake Tanganyika was undertaken in 1991.

The next phase was to put concrete beacons along the area that was photographed. However, this could not be accomplished under the normal bilateral arrangements due to the out-break of hostilities in the Congo since the last meeting in 1998.

However, the Zambia Congo-DR Joint Technical Committee of Experts on the border demarcation met in Lusaka from 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2006 and resolved to do the following:

- the joint survey team should meet to plan for the physical demarcation of the unmarked international boundary which has taken too long to be implemented mainly due to limited financial resources of the two countries;
- to finalize a joint project proposal to be submitted by the two Governments to cooperating partners for funding and that the joint proposal would indicate the percentage to be contributed by the two Governments and the percentage to be contributed by the prospective cooperating partners;
- that January, 2007, should be the commencement month for the project since both Governments did not provide for the exercise in their respective budgets;
- special tailored training in Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographical Information System (GIS) should be arranged for the twelve officers of the Joint Survey Field Team and that equipment for the exercise be procured by the two Governments;
- procurement of sensitization materials that are necessary to notify people along the common border and that people along the border be sensitized so that they are made aware of the reasons for the survey works; and
- that the project proposal document be submitted to the Joint Committee of Experts meeting for consideration.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to close the matter as the Surveyor General, through the Permanent Secretary, explained clearly that no country would lose land to the other.

**24/97 - Construction of the Chembe Bridge and Tarring of the Pedicle Road**

On 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1997, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“The tarring of the Pedicle Road (the shortest route to Luapula and Northern Provinces) and improvement of the treatment to Zambians who travel on that road to the two provinces, Northern and Luapula, will be looked into.”*

The previous Committee had observed that although the Governments had given an assurance in the House that the construction of the bridge was well on its way, it was still very far from being completed. They further observed that the Japanese entourage had expressed some reservation about constructing a bridge on behalf of Zambia in a foreign land. Your previous Committee recommended that the Congolese be brought on board for the negotiations relating to the Chembe bridge and with the putting up of the floating beacons, and resolved to await a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Governments of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Republic of Zambia (GRZ) had agreed to construct the Mokambo-Chembe road and the Bridge across the Luapula River at Chembe. It had been agreed that the Zambian Government would source funds for the projects. Part of the total project cost would be treated as a loan to the DRC, to be repaid later. However, the DRC's preference was for the projects to be financed under the Build, Operate, Transfer (BOT) arrangements.

A consultant was engaged to carry out the feasibility study of the Bridge at a contract price of K5 75,168,375.00. The study concluded that the project was viable with an economic rate of return of 13 percent which was higher than the 12 percent official discount rate adopted in Zambia and Democratic Republic of Congo for the development of infrastructure projects. Due to the urgency attached to this project, the GRZ commissioned the same consultant to carryout detailed engineering design including preparation of bidding documents at a cost of K1,346,003,047.00.

The consultant had completed the detailed design including preparation of bidding documents.

The Governments of the Republic of Zambia and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) had re - invited bids for the construction of the Chembe Bridge and submission of tenders for civil works and supervision would be made in about eight weeks. This was because the contractor who was short listed in the first instance was not responsive on the many concerns that the Government raised.

The total budget required by the client for construction of the proposed Bridge was K36 billion (US\$9.2 million). Of this amount, a sum of K8 billion had been released by the Zambian Government for works from the 2005 budget and another sum of K9 billion had been budgeted for in the 2006 budget, which had since been approved by Parliament.

#### *Mokambo Chembe Road (Pedicel Road)*

The consultant, Messrs ZMCK Consulting Engineering, in association with Zulu Burrow limited were appointed to carryout the feasibility studies and preliminary Engineering designs for the upgrading/construction of the Mokambo-Chembe road (Pedicel) at a contract sum of ZK547,024,187.50 with a duration of six months. The consultant had since submitted the Final Report.

The study showed that the proposed upgrading of this road to Class IC Bituminous standards was viable with an Economic Internal Rate of Return (EIRR) of 25.5 percent which was higher than 12 percent official discount rate adopted in Zambia and Democratic Republic of Congo for the development of infrastructure projects. The estimated cost of upgrading this road to the required standard was US\$15,535,290.

Following the submission of the Feasibility Report, the Government of the Republic of Zambia requested for financial assistance from the Japanese Government through JICA. The Japanese Government was currently reviewing the request. Once a positive response was received, the two Governments would initiate the detailed design and preparation of bidding documents to enable civil works to commence.

What was required was the support of the Democratic Republic of Congo for the request submitted to Japan for financing of the civil works of this road.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the completion of Chembe Bridge and the tarring of the Pedicel Road.

#### **18/05 - Establishment of a Career Diplomatic Service**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2005, the Minsiter of Foreign Affairs assured the House as follows:

*“Hon Membrs of Parliament may recall that during the last sesion, my predecessor, Hon Dr. Kalombo Mwansa, tabled in this House, the establishment of a career diplomatic service. The approval, by Cabinet Office has been long overdue and welcome as the Ministry is convinced that a highly trained diplomatic cadre would enhance the country’s image abroad and increase benefits accruable to our country.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry had started operationalising the implementation of a career diplomatic service. Before officers were sent in missions, they were subjected to a vigorous orientation process at home. They also underwent training at Zambia Institute for Diplomacy and International Studies before being sent out into missions. He explained that officers now served abroad

on rotational basis with those at home. The initial service period abroad was three years with an option for extension before they were recalled.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee request information on the programme being followed by those being trained at Zambia Institute for Diplomacy and International Studies (ZIDIS) for them to determine whether the ZIDIS had been implemented in full.

### **19/05 - Funding of Newly Opened and Re-Opened Missions: Tripoli, Paris, Rome and Ottawa**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Foreign Affairs assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, as the Ministry intensifies efforts to operationalise the creation of the career diplomatic service, there is need to increase the Ministry’s allocation to meet operational costs for RDCs for missions abroad, particularly, the re-opened areas. This will include purchasing new chanceries and residences to cut down on the huge costs incurred through rentals.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the funding situation in the newly opened and re-opened missions had not been changed much. However, there had been efforts to purchase and refurbish properties in missions abroad. The programme was on-going and would be implemented in phases. For instance, the Ministry managed to acquire a residence in Paris and soon a Chancery would also be procured.

#### *Tripoli*

The Permanent Secretary reported that budgetary allocation for 2007 increased from K4,497,358,500 in 2006 to K5,095,213,216. This increased by K597,854,716. However, this amount was not adequate to purchase properties such as a Chancery and Residence. However, the Ministry would continue to engage the Ministry of Finance and National Planning so that allocations could be further increased.

#### *Paris*

The Permanent Secretary reported that budgetary allocation for 2007 from K5,908,525,557 to K4,495,461,940. There was a reduction of K1,413,063,617. He pointed out that it was worth noting that during the year 2006, due to the limited funds available, there was a supplementary provision of K13,500,000.00, which went towards the procurement of the residence. He further reported that the purchase of a residence would go a long way in cutting down on costs incurred through rentals.

#### *Ottawa*

The Permanent Secretary reported that budgetary allocation for 2007 reduced from K4,867,325,659 in the year 2006 to K3,239,020,013. There was a reduction of K1,628,305,646. In order for the Ministry to implement the programme of procuring a Chancery, there was need for increased funding. The funding was more in the first year because of officers who had to be settled and for the purchase of movable assets.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee strongly feel that it is not prudent to open and re-open new Missions when some Missions Abroad are in a deplorable state and need renovations.

Your Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to streamline their operations on the matter. They request the Ministry to prioritise their operations on the matter to avoid nothing being achieved. A progress report will be awaited on the matter.

### **20/05 - Strengthening the Operations of the Zambia Institute for Diplomacy and International Studies (ZIDIS)**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Foreign Affairs assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, in implementing the career diplomatic service, there is need to strengthen the operations of the Zambia Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies (ZIDIS). The role of the institute is to provide training in diplomacy to Zambians whose institutions carry out diplomatic functions on interactions with the international community.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry had continued to strengthen the operations of Zambia Institute for Diplomacy and International Studies (ZIDIS). This had been done by ensuring that it provided the logistical support to the Institute in terms of the monthly grant and other necessary resources such as seconding experienced officers to offer tuition to students. Currently, ZIDIS was raising substantial amounts of funds from private individuals who were studying at the Institute. The Ministry also sent its employees for orientation programmes in diplomacy at the institute.

On whether the training and orientation at ZIDIS was internationally and regionally recognized or was in line with other international organizations, the Permanent Secretary reported that training at the institute was in its infancy. As such, it could not as yet be recognized at international level. He submitted that as at present, the Institute was giving both certificates and diplomas. The institute was still looking at entering into agreements with other institutes or universities to become internationally and regionally recognized.

On what was meant by career diplomatic service, the Permanent Secretary reported that it meant a trained personnel in diplomatic service and one making a living in foreign service on behalf of the nation. He informed the Committee that the Ministry now had properly trained personnel in basic foreign service skills due to the one month’s orientation which was being offered by ZIDIS.

On whether the training of one month given to trainees in career diplomacy was adequate to make them fully fledged as career diplomats, the Permanent Secretary reported that the training given was better than nothing. Actually, it had been documented that those who received training in career diplomacy were performing far better than those who did not. All those who opened the ZIDIS were in missions abroad. After three years, they would be recalled for orientation and possibly redeployment to other missions. This practice was internationally recognized.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that the Ministry is implementing the assurance and resolve to close it.

### **22/05 - Renovations of Some Missions Abroad**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Foreign Affairs assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, some chanceries and residences in missions abroad such as Gaborone, Windhoek, Dar-es-salaam and Washington DC are in a deplorable state and need urgent renovations. Sir, it is imperative that these embassies meet international standards so that they reflect a positive image of Zambia.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that renovations had started in Windhoek, Washington, D C and Dar-es-Salaam and were progressing well. Once completed, they would meet the international standards and positively project the image of Zambia internationally.

So far, the following amounts had been remitted to address these renovations:

Washington	-	K2,800,000,000
Dar-es-Salaam	-	K 465,400,300
Windhoek	-	K 270,000,000
Gaborone	-	K 225,000,000

Asked on why they were re-opening embassies and opening new ones while the old ones were in dire need of rehabilitation, the Permanent Secretary reported that new Missions were being opened for a purpose, to show case Zambia in missions abroad because Zambia was not an isolated country.

On whether there was adequate funding for renovations for the dilapidated missions abroad, the Permanent Secretary reported that funding for the renovations had never been enough.

On whether missions abroad were graded as some appeared favoured such as the Embassy in New York or London, the Permanent Secretary reported that they did not have that system of grading the missions abroad. This was to avoid a situation where one would feel promoted or demoted if he/she was sent to work in a particular embassy.

Asked whether all missions abroad required the presence of press attaches to market Zambia positively abroad, the Permanent Secretary reported in the affirmative, but hastened to state that due to lack of resources, the Ministry was not able to place press attaches to all their missions abroad.

### **Observations and recommendations**

The Committee urges the Ministry to allocate sufficient resources to renovations and prioritise the works to avoid scanty repairs or renovations in the missions abroad. Your Committee await a progress report on the matter.

### **23/05 - Promotion of Zambia's Interests Abroad and Upholding its International Image**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Foreign Affairs assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, it should be borne in mind that the Ministry’s responsibility of promoting Zambia’s interests abroad and upholding the international image involves looking after the welfare of Zambians living abroad, lobbying for jobs and country positions in international organisations, promoting investment and trade ties as well as coordinating development cooperation and technical assistance to Zambia.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had continued to pursue a proactive Foreign Policy premised on the need to promote and maintain the country’s international relations in order to safeguard its sovereignty, territorial integrity, social economic development and other national interests.

The Ministry had continued to strengthen Zambia’s role in regional and multilateral bodies for sustainable growth and peace and security.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs had also taken measures to increase the number of Zambians working in international organizations. These measures took various forms including the following:

1. the Government ensured that vacancies advertised in international organizations were as widely publicized as possible in order to attract as many applications as possible;
2. the Government played the vital role of authentication or confirmation of the bonafide status of the individuals applying for jobs, the Ministry also ensured that the individuals in question were well suited for the positions and, therefore, had no objection to their applications;
3. the Ministry had, in the recent past embarked on an exercise to collect and submit as many Curricula Vitae as possible of the Zambian professionals for onward submission to international organisations as it was cognizant of the fact that as a country, they did not have a strong voice in some of the organisations due to their limited numbers; and
4. the Ministry had undertaken campaigns in cases where candidates were to be elected, this programme covered all parts of the electorate worldwide and involved the causing of both Presidential and Ministerial letters to be sent in this respect. In some instances, special envoys were sent outside the country in order to physically lobby for support for the candidate.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the assurance is being addressed by the Ministry and, as such, they resolve to close the matter.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE MANAGEMENT DIVISION (PSMD)**

### **25/05 - Formulation of a Comprehensive Pay Reform Strategy**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2005, His Honour the Vice-President made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, the Medium Term Pay Reform Strategy is the first step towards the formulation of a comprehensive pay policy that will address all aspects of attraction, motivation and regaining competent and qualified personnel in the Public Service.”*

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that Government adopted the Medium term Pay Reform Strategy in 2002. The objective of the Medium Term Pay Reform Strategy was to address the anomalies that had arisen over the years in the Public Service in relation to payment of emoluments and pay structures before a comprehensive pay policy was developed.

Some of the achievements in the implementation of this strategy included:

- (i) reduction on the number of salary structures from 24 to 6 in the Public Service;
- (ii) decompression of salaries which entailed widening gaps between salary scales and within salary scales to ensure a meaningful salary increase when an officer was promoted. In the past, there were overlaps in salary structures and it was de-motivating to civil and public officers;
- (iii) consolidation of some allowances with the basic salary e.g. allowances in Defence Forces, Batman Allowances and Mental Allowances. These were meaningless and hence needed to be absorbed in salary structures; and
- (iv) development of the Payroll and Establishment of Control System.

Currently, Government was in the process of developing a comprehensive pay policy under the Public Service Management (PSM) Component of the Public Service Reform Programme (PSRP). The development of a pay policy would be done with the assistance of a consultant with support from cooperating partners. The process of engaging a consultant had commenced.

On when the Division would conclude the implementation of a comprehensive pay reform strategy so that your Committee could close the assurance, the Permanent Secretary reported that the pay reform would be ready by the end of the year 2007. He informed the Committee that it was actually at this stage that they needed assistance from cooperating partners because it was the aspect of implementation which needed the resources most. However, all necessary surveys and studies had been finalized.

Asked why the anomalies in the comprehensive pay policy were seen now instead of 1993/9 when the restructuring programme was at its peak, the Permanent Secretary reported that they should have indeed started at that time but they first wanted to restructure the whole civil service and public service including other commissions such as Judicial Service Commission and the Teaching Service Commission and, thereafter, deal with the pay policy. He emphasised that payroll systems had had so many reviews which go back to 1964. However, the proposals in those reviews had up to date not been implemented due to the inadequate resource envelope.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that all the necessary surveys and studies on the formulation of a Comprehensive Pay Reform and Strategy have been done and finalized. What remains is the implementation of the Pay Reform Policy, which requires adequate resources.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee urge the Permanent Secretary to give them a progress report on the matter at the earliest.

### **26/05 - Equal Pay for Equal Work: Zambian Doctors versus Expatriate Doctors**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2005, His Honour the Vice-President made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Sir, one of the answers I gave was that there are provisions to match the performance with pay. Therefore, we are trying to meet that criterion.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Government would continue to ensure equal pay for same qualifications, same job specifications and same salary grade for both Zambian and expatriate doctors in line with its National Employment and Labour Market Policy. Currently, the remuneration for both local and expatriate doctors were the same except for the rates of gratuity for officers serving on contract which was 35% of the basic salary for expatriates and 100% for local doctors.

On whether the policy of equal pay for equal work would work to attract expatriate doctors, the Permanent Secretary reported that his office was actually overwhelmed with requests from expatriate doctors wishing to work in Zambia on the principle of equal pay for equal work.

Asked whether the Division paid critical personnel inducement allowance, the Permanent Secretary reported they did not pay that allowance any more as everyone was on equal pay for equal work.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are satisfied with the response and resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **66/05 - Teaching Service Commission**

On 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, His Honour the Vice-President assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, the Commission intends to do the following programmes:*

- (i) conduct interviews and selection of candidates to fill vacant positions in high schools of the restructured Ministry of Education. These interviews will of necessity, be decentralised to provinces and districts in order to expedite the process;*
- (ii) undertake tours to provinces to resolve outstanding cases relating to appointment on probations, confirmations in appointments, promotions, retirements, discipline and so on and general sensitisation of teachers; and*
- (iii) restructure the Commission under the Public Service Reform Programme.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Government was extremely concerned with the vacant positions in both Basic and High Schools of the restructured Ministry of Education. To this effect, Government recruited 5,000 teachers in June, 2005, of which 4,000 were Basic School Teachers and 1,000 High School Teachers. These teachers were recruited with the assistance of the Netherlands Government which supported the payment of terminal benefits to separated teachers to pave way for the recruitment exercise.

Furthermore, in May, 2006, the Public Service Management Division gave authority to the Ministry of Education, working with the Teaching Service Commission, to recruit 3,074 teachers. The Ministry recruited an additional 4,026 teachers in October, 2006, bringing the total to number of teachers recruited in 2006 to 7,100. Out of this total, 4,463 teachers were for Basic Schools while 2,637 went to High Schools. The recruited in 2006 teachers did not only reduce the vacant positions in schools but also significantly increased the required number of teachers especially in rural schools.

The Teaching Service Commission also undertook provincial tours in 2005 and 2006 to carry out on the spot-processing appointments, confirmations, acting appointments, promotions, re-engagements, regarding, secondments and retirements in the following provinces:

#### **2005**

North-western Province;  
Western Province;  
Southern Province; and

Lusaka Province.

## **2006**

Northern Province;  
Copperbelt Province; and  
Eastern Province;

Regarding the restructuring of the Teaching Service Commission, the Commission, like other service commissions was not yet restructured. The service commissions were scheduled to be restructured in the course of this year.

Asked what the Division was doing in terms of pending confirmations, acting appointments, promotions and secondments of teachers for Luapula and Central Province to fully address the assurance on Teaching Service Commission, the Permanent Secretary reported that they were going to work on those areas this year to fully address the assurance.

Asked whether restructuring in general had succeeded or failed, the Permanent Secretary reported that in other ministries, restructuring had been successful whereas in others, it had been partially effected and in others still, it had been a disaster. He further pointed out that restructuring had been one of the benchmarks for International Monetary Fund (IMF) to offer financial assistance to a government in need of development.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that Luapula and Central Provinces have been left out in the processing of appointments, confirmations, acting appointments, promotions, re-engagements, regrading, secondments and retirements. Further, your Committee observe that the restructuring of the Teaching Service Commission has not yet been implemented.

They resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

### **164/93 - Soldiers Accommodation**

On 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2005, the Hon Minister informed the House that the programme of constructing houses for officers and servicemen was underway in Lusaka West while architectural drawings in Mufulira had been completed although construction work had not yet commenced.

Your previous Committee had observed that the matter on soldiers' accommodation was worrying and needed urgent attention as the work morale was low over the issue. They requested for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that out of the thirty houses being constructed in Mushili, twenty were completed and occupied. Out of the ten houses to be constructed for officers, three were complete with power connected except for sewer and water reticulation. Four more had outside walls and roofs done, but demarcations inside were not yet done. The remaining three were yet to be started.

The project which was commenced in Kaoma for construction of houses had become a white elephant and the case was in court. Apart from the need for capital funding to complete the housing project in L-85, funds were also required to renovate existing accommodation. Morale for soldiers had improved due to payments of housing allowance. However, security still remained compromised due to soldiers staying in compounds.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary submitted that there had been little progress in as far as soldiers' accommodation was concerned. He stressed that much needed to be done in this area to accommodate the 4,946 officers and soldiers without accommodation.

Further, he submitted that out of the ten houses which were to be constructed for officers in Mushili, three were completed and had been occupied. Out of the other four which only had outside walls and roofs, one had been demarcated, but was yet to be connected to power and water reticulation. Construction of outside panels and roofing had started for the remaining three.

The case for the Kaoma project was still in Court.

The Permanent Secretary also reported that the Government had made an allocation in this year's budget for capital funding to increase the housing stocks in L-85 and to rehabilitate infrastructure. The Government plan was embedded in the Five Year National Development Plan (FNDP). Until the funding was remitted and put to use, security would remain compromised due to soldiers staying in compounds. Almost every military cantonment had enough space for the construction of more houses. The payment of housing allowance to 3,572 soldiers in the Army had not resolved the situation as 840 other personnel had not been captured by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning.

The Permanent Secretary submitted that housing allowance was also being paid to service men in the Zambia National Service in lieu of decent accommodation.

### **Accommodation**

Most of the units in the Air Force Bases were constructed in the early 1970s. These housing units had expanded to cater for the increased number of servicemen in service. The age of these housing units had also resulted in high maintenance costs to keep them in good state. The following were the challenges in terms of accommodation:

a) *Twin Palm Project*

This housing project commenced in the early 1980s but was abandoned after constructing twenty-one houses. The roads, street lighting, sewerage and drainage works were completed before the project was abandoned.

(i) *Master Plan*

The master plan projected the following housing units to accommodate 1,360 personnel.

-	Executive houses for Station Commander	-	01
-	Houses for Senior Officers	-	06
-	High Cost houses for Officers	-	135
-	Semidetached medium cost houses for other ranks	-	377
-	Total housing units	-	896
-	Officers Single Quarters (14 rooms each)	-	15
-	Airmen Single Quarters (14 rooms each)	-	15

The Permanent Secretary reported that the Zambia Air Force had embarked on a programme to construct one house per month using the limited funds available. This programme started in 2006 and so far, seventeen semidetached flats had been completed. This had created thirty-four houses for the service personnel. With the other twenty-one houses completed before the project was abandoned, there were now fifty-six housing units.

b) *State of other Infrastructure*

Most housing units in all Air Force Bases were in a state of disrepair. The Air Force needed funding for routine maintenance of the housing units.

#### *Zambia Air Force Transport Problems*

The Permanent Secretary submitted that in the year 2006, the following vehicles were bought:

a)	Secondhand cars from Japan	-	54	-	\$382,424
b)	Nissan Patrols from CFAO	-	06	-	\$181,188

There was a shortfall for Utility vehicles as follows:

a)	Trucks (10 tons)	-	12x\$28,160=\$337,920
b)	Light Trucks (4 tons)	-	05x\$13,600=\$ 68,000
c)	Mini Bus (30 seater)	-	05x\$33,600=\$168,000
d)	Big buses (65 seater)	-	07x\$46,200=\$323,400
			<b>Total = \$897,320</b>

To substantiate the critical shortage of accommodation for the Defence personnel, the Permanent Secretary submitted a write up on the current housing requirement for the Ministry of Defence as requested by your Committee as set out below:

### **Zambia Army**

#### **MINISTRY OF DEFENCE CURRENT HOUSING REQUIREMENTS**

##### **ZAMBIA ARMY**

ADDITIONAL HOUSES	RANK	COST	No. RQD	TOTAL COST
EXECUTIVES HOUSES	BRIG. GENERALS	480,000,000.00	1	480,000,000.00
EXECUTIVE HOUSES	COLONEL	390,000,000.00	24	9,360,000,000.00
HIGH COST HOUSES	LT. COLONEL	330,000,000.00	44	14,520,000,000.00
HIGH COST HOUSES	MAJORS	330,000,000.00	95	31,350,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	CAPTAINS	190,000,000.00	28	5,320,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	LIEUTENANT	190,000,000.00	52	9,880,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	2 LIEUTENANT	190,000,000.00	5	950,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	WOI	190,000,000.00	56	10,640,000,000.00
SEMI DETACHED MEDIUM COST	won	220,000,000.00	143	31,460,000,000.00
SEMI DETACHED MEDIUM COST	SSGT	220,000,000.00	582	128,040,000,000.00
SEMI DETACHED MEDIUM COST	SGT	220,000,000.00	1022	224,840,000,000.00
LOW COST	CPL	110,000,000.00	1797	197,670,000,000.00
LOW COST	L/CPL	110,000,000.00	759	83,490,000,000.00
LOW COST	PTE	110,000,000.00	270	29,700,000,000.00
			4878	777,700,000,000.00

##### **ZAMBIA AIR FORCE**

ADDITIONAL HOUSES	RANK	COST	No.RQD	TOTAL COST
EXECUTIVE HOUSES	BRIG. GENERALS	480,000,000.00	18	8,640,000,000.00
EXECUTIVE HOUSES	COLONEL	390,000,000.00	52	20,280,000,000.00
HIGH COST HOUSES	LT. COLONEL	330,000,000.00	65	21,450,000,000.00
HIGH COST HOUSES	MAJORS	330,000,000.00	110	36,300,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	CAPTAINS	190,000,000.00	70	13,300,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	LIEUTENANT	190,000,000.00	180	34,200,000,000.00

MEDIUM COST	2 LIEUTENANT	190,000,000.00	240	45,600,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	WOI	190,000,000.00	70	13,300,000,000.00
SEMI DETACHED MEDIUM COST	won	220,000,000.00	260	57,200,000,000.00
SEMI DETACHED MEDIUM COST	F/SGT	220,000,000.00	350	77,000,000,000.00
SEMI DETACHED MEDIUM COST	SGT	220,000,000.00	142	31,240,000,000.00
LOW COST	CPL	110,000,000.00	400	44,000,000,000.00
LOW COST	SAC	110,000,000.00	207	22,770,000,000.00
LOW COST	LAC	110,000,000.00	50	5,500,000,000.00
			2,214	430,780,000,000.00

**ZAMBIA NATIONAL SERVICE**

ADDITIONAL HOUSES	RANK	COST	No. RQD	TOTAL COST
EXECUTIVE HOUSES	COLONEL	390,000,000.00	9	3,510,000,000.00
HIGH COST HOUSES	LT. COLONEL	330,000,000.00	7	2,310,000,000.00
HIGH COST HOUSES	MAJORS	330,000,000.00	68	22,440,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	CAPTAINS	190,000,000.00	51	9,690,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	LIEUTENANT	190,000,000.00	90	17,100,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	2 LIEUTENANT	190,000,000.00	22	4,180,000,000.00
MEDIUM COST	WOI	190,000,000.00	50	9,500,000,000.00
SEMI DETACHED MEDIUM COST	WOII	220,000,000.00	100	22,000,000,000.00
SEMI DETACHED MEDIUM COST	SSGT	220,000,000.00	620	136,400,000,000.00
SEMI DETACHED MEDIUM COST	SGT	220,000,000.00	650	143,000,000,000.00
LOW COST	CPL	110,000,000.00	300	33,000,000,000.00
LOW COST	L/CPL	110,000,000.00	400	44,000,000,000.00
LOW COST	PTE	110,000,000.00	170	18,700,000,000.00
			2537	465,830,000,000.00
Total number of housing units required	=	9629		
Total cost for all housing units	=	K1,674,310,000,000.0		

Infrastructure development funds in the 5th National Development Plan  
Average price K300,000,000 per unit

		No. of Houses
Zambia Army L85	(2007) K6,000,000,000	20
ZAF Twin Palm	(2007) K6,000,000,000	20
ZNS Makeni	(2007) K5,230,000,000	17
Zambia Army L85	(2008) K1,500,000,000	05
ZAF Twin Palm	(2008) K2,000,000,000	06
ZNS Makeni	(2008) K2,000,000,000	06
Zambia Army L85	(2007) K1,500,000,000	05
ZAF Twin Palm	(2007) K2,000,000,000	06
ZNS Makeni	(2007) K1,600,000,000	05

Zambia Army L85	(2009) K1,500,000,000	05
ZAF Twin Palm	(2009) K1,400,000,000	05
ZNS Makeni	(2009) K2,200,000,000	07
<b>Total</b>	<b>K32,930,000,000</b>	<b>107</b>

<b>Summary</b>		<b>Amount</b>	<b>No. of Houses</b>
Zambia Army L85	2007-2010	K10,500,000,000	35
ZAF Twin Palm	2007-2010	K11,400,000,000	37
ZNS Makeni	2007-2010	K11,030,000,000	35
<b>Total</b>		<b>K32,930,000,000</b>	<b>107</b>

On the above tabulations, the Permanent Secretary submitted that according to the 5th National Development Plan, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning had allocated K80 billion for Infrastructure Development for the Ministry of Defence Headquarters, Zambia Army, Zambia Air Force and Zambia National Service. Out of K80 billion, K32,930,000,000 had been allocated for the three housing projects at L85, ZAF Twin Palm, and ZNS Makeni. The three projects were supposed to have approximately 3,500 housing units upon completion. But the allocation for 2006 to 2010 would only cater for 107 units. This fell far below the minimum housing requirement just for Lusaka projects.

Finally, the Permanent Secretary submitted that although those funds had been allocated to the Ministry of Defence, no funding for infrastructure development had been released by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning. According to the plan, the Ministry and its Services were supposed to receive K32 billion this year for 2006 and 2007. But nothing had been released by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning.

On how long it took to build houses for the servicemen, the Permanent Secretary reported that he could not exactly state how long that could happen as the building depended on the release of funds from the Treasury.

Asked if there was a guarantee that critical shortage of housing units would be resolved with the Fifth National Development Plan in place, the Permanent Secretary submitted that the Ministry did budget yearly for this vote and they had put housing as a priority in their budget but they did not get the required releases.

On what exactly was involved regarding Kaoma Project which was still in court, the Permanent Secretary reported that he would give full details later when the court case would be concluded as he could not comment on matters that were before the Courts of Law.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are not satisfied with the submission on this assurance. They are not happy that 4,946 officers and soldiers are not yet accommodated in the camps or barracks. They resolve to have an update report on the matter.

#### **01/05 - The Plight of Retired Service Chiefs**

On 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2005, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Defence made the following undertaking on the Floor of the House:

*“Nevertheless, with regard to the plight of Generals, the Government since 2002, introduced a package for the retiring Service Chiefs which is currently in force. In addition, my Ministry has set up a committee to address the conditions regarding Generals. When this report is ready, it will be presented to relevant authorities and to this August House to find out whether we can be funded adequately.”*

Your previous Committee had observed that only the Service Chiefs who retired after 2002 were catered for regarding the terminal benefits package. They recommended that the Government did something about

extending this package to all retired Service Chiefs before 2002, at least up to independence era, and awaited a progress report on the matter.

As submitted in the 2005 Action-Taken Report, the plight of Service Chiefs who retired before 2002 could not be addressed as doing so would set a precedence that could not be controlled as other officers who served in different capacities might also wish to be entertained. The Government did not have the financial resources to do so.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee express concern as to why the terminal benefits package of the retired Service Chiefs cannot be extended to all retired Service Chiefs before 2002. They observe that these gallant men serviced the nation devotedly and selflessly. After all, there are only eight of them. Your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **03/05 - Transport Problem**

On 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2005, the Honourable Deputy Minister made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

*“Sir, with regard to transport, the Government , through the Ministry of Defence, is addressing this problem seriously. We have so far procured a number of vehicles from Germany and we are also expecting some more.”*

Your previous Committee (2006) had observed that the assurance had not been adequately addressed and therefore, requested for a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report (2006) that a consignment of 124 second hand cars has been received from Japan. Those cars were distributed as follows:-

Ministry of Defence Headquarters	12
Zambia Air Force	39
Zambia National Service	60
Defence Force Medical Services	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>

The Ministry was waiting for the second consignment of sixty five second hand saloon cars for the Zambia Army.

Staff transport had been highly alleviated. What remained to be addressed was the purchase of utility vehicles and other trucks.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the whole consignment of sixty five second hand saloon cars was received by 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2006. There was still a shortfall of utility vehicles and trucks as follows:

a)	Buses	-	28
b)	utility vehicles (3/4ton)	-	250
c)	Trucks	-	A contract was entered into by GRZ with Inter-commerz of Germany for supply of 350 units. The total cost for the order was US\$3,321,090.00. An amount of US\$3,500,000.00 was paid to the company and in June 2003, the Ministry received 104 vehicles and eighteen water tanks valued at US\$193,987.00. The company owed the Ministry equipment worth US\$2,306,013.00 from funds already paid despite them not concluding the remaining transaction.

However, the problem of utility vehicles remained outstanding considering the needs of units in rural areas.

Asked on why the Germany Company was failing to deliver the vehicles when they had already been paid for, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was also their concern. He further informed the Committee that the Zambian Ambassador in Germany was following up the matter. The Ministry had even handed over the matter to the Attorney General to commence legal proceedings against the erring company.

Asked why the Ministry was failing to get vehicles from Germany while a company like Pilatus was able to access the same Germany vehicles, the Permanent Secretary reported that Pilatus was getting from Germany vehicles which were not suitable for Zambian roads and terrain. The Ministry was interested in strong vehicles such as Magirus Deutch.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are not pleased to note that there is a big shortfall of military vehicles. They are particularly disappointed with the failure by the Ministry to secure vehicles from a German Company when the full amount was already paid for. They resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **04/05 - Communication Equipment**

On 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2005, the Hon Deputy Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, as regards communication equipment, the Government is fully aware of this problem and we are doing everything possible to address the issue, funds permitting.”*

Your previous Committee had observed that the assurance had not yet been fully addressed. They requested for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the fourth shipment of this equipment and all the accessories had been received, tested and found to be in good working order. Two more shipments would complete the supply contract of Grintek (funds permitting).

In his update, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Grintek supply contract was entered into between the Government of the Republic of Zambia and Messrs Grintek for the supply of radio and computer communication equipment to the Zambia Army and Zambia National Service (ZNS). So far, the ZNS had received the full complement of their radio and computer equipment as stipulated in the contract. The Zambia Army was still owed a balance. However, it was hoped that, should the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, who were directly responsible for servicing this contract make balance payment in good time, Messrs Grintek would be expected to deliver the balance equipment by December, 2007.

The acquisition of the Grintek equipment had at least improved the combat communication equipment requirement and efficiency by at least 60%.

It was recommended that once the current Grintek supply contract was concluded, efforts should be made to acquire more combat communication equipment to make good of the shortfalls by 40%.

As a supplement to the above, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Zambia Air Force was equally faced with a lot of challenges in terms of housing infrastructure and transport requirements.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee express satisfaction that the assurance has been addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

### **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

#### **03/99 - Amendment of the National Health Services Act**

On 24<sup>th</sup> February, 1999, the Honourable Minister assured the House that:

*“We are amending the National Health Services Act to make the Management Boards more effective, restructuring the Central Board of Health to make it lean, cost-effective and efficient, re-establishing the Provincial Health Offices with effect from 1st April, 1999, reviewing and finalizing the National Health Care Financing Policy and revisiting the public employed doctors engaged in private practice.”*

Your previous Committee were not happy with the progress made on the implementation of the assurance, and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the *National Health Services Act* of 1995 was repealed in 2005, and His Excellency the President Dr. Levy P. Mwanawasa, SC had since assented to the new Act. The Hon. Minister of Health signed the Statutory Instrument on 10th March, 2006 to bring the Act into force thus dissolving the Central Board of Health and Health Management Boards.

The Ministry was now in the process of ensuring that all the liabilities, assets and other issues of personnel, particularly issues of ghost workers in the Ministry, Personnel on Dual Employment, Pure Board Employees, Pure Civil Servants, Civil Servants seconded to Health Management Boards and general clean-up of payroll were dealt with by respective Boards together with the Unions, Ministry of Health, Public Service Management Division, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning (Office of the Accountant General).

The clean up exercise was expected to be completed by the second quarter of 2006. The rationale for allowing the Boards to do the clean up themselves was because they were the ones that were making decisions and also to ensure that the Government did not inherit liabilities that could have been avoided by simply involving the people at the grass root level.

As indicated during the Ministers' presentation of the Bill to Parliament to repeal the Act, the management of the implementation of the new Act should ensure that there was minimal or no disruption of the provision of health services in the nation.

Upon completion of the clean up exercise, the Hon. Minister of Health would issue the Statutory Instrument to bring the new Act into force.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to close the assurance because the Central Board of Health has been dissolved.

#### **05/91 - Rehabilitation of Chipata, Kasama, Kabwe and Livingstone Nurses Training Schools**

The Honourable Deputy Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2001:

*“Also we have some money to improve Chipata, Kasama, Kabwe and Livingstone Nurses Training Schools. We are going to rehabilitate these training schools and buy new equipment.”*

Your previous Committee were concerned that since no serious work had started, they requested an update report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report as set out below:

#### **Comments on Extended Periods of Handover**

The contractors had requested for extended period of time due to:

- (a) GRZ non-payment of 20 percent; and
- (b) Change in scope of works.

### **GRZ Non-Payment of the 20 percent**

From the time the contractors moved on site, the Government had not fulfilled their contribution towards the project. To date, the Government owed all the contractors under this project a total of ZMK4,574,242,995.37

### **Change in Scope of Works**

Most of the buildings had to be under pinned due to age and the numerous cracks they had developed. This exercise increased the scope of works.

### **Main Constraints**

The non-payment of the 20 percent contribution to the project by the Government had proved to be a draw back in terms of smooth implementation of the civil works. All the contractors had cited this as one of the reasons for not completing on time. The Government had now started paying interest on the delayed payments (of 20 percent) which had accrued to the contractors.

The contractors had threatened to suspend or slow progress of works on site due to the non-payment of the 20 percent Government contribution. The timeframe of the contract would be distorted again if the Government did not pay the 20 percent.

### **Provision of Equipment and Training Materials**

All the Nursing Schools had received equipment, teaching materials, library books and furniture. The project made savings from the procurement of the above cited goods. The savings had been utilized by floating another international competitive tender for the procurement of more equipment, teaching materials and library books.

The contracts for the same had been signed and the goods were expected to be delivered by the end of April, 2006.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the current progress on the nursing schools was set out hereunder.

### **Kasama Nursing School**

The contractor for Kasama Nursing School was Tomorrow/Emsworth Limited. Further, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Nursing School had procured a minibus, teaching aids and the equipment. However, due to slow progress on site regarding the civil works, the contract was terminated. Of late, negotiations had started to get the contractor to work on the remaining works.

### **Kabwe Nursing School**

The contractor was G M International Limited. Like Kasama Nursing School, Kabwe Nursing School had also procured a minibus, equipment and teaching aids. The major construction works had been done. Currently, the contractor was working on the kitchen which was outstanding and had a minor problem.

### **Chipata Nursing School**

The contractor was Hua Chang Infrastructure Limited. Chipata Nursing School had also procured a minibus, teaching aids and equipment. The construction works were at 100% of completion. The school was only awaiting ceremonial handover; otherwise, all civil works were completed by October, 2006.

### **Livingstone Nursing School**

The contractor was Millers Construction Limited. The Nursing School had procured a minibus, teaching aids and equipment. The civil works had been completed by October, 2006. What remained was the ceremonial handover.

On whether the contractor doing the rehabilitation of Kasama Nursing School could not meet targets because he was not paid, the Permanent Secretary stated that the contractor, Tomorrow/Emsworth Limited, was paid in time but could not simply meet the targets.

Asked why the Attorney General reversed the Ministry of Health's decision to terminate the contract of Tomorrow/Emsworth, who was visibly incompetent, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Attorney General took the cost implications involved in reversing the decision particularly that the tender was awarded through the Tender Board.

Asked why the Ministry still assigned the same contractor to construct Shang'ombo Hospital when it was a well known fact that their performance was below par and shoddy, the Permanent Secretary submitted that the Ministry did not offer contracts as that was done through the Tender Board. All the Ministry did was to pay for the job done after a certificate had been issued.

Asked whether Tomorrow/Emsworth Limited, as a Contractor, could not be blacklisted for doing shoddy work nearly all the time, the Permanent Secretary reported that the issue had been brought to the attention of the Tender Board and a decision would be made regarding the below par performance of the contractor.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe that it is only Kasama Nursing School which has not attained 100% rehabilitation works. Your Committee is concerned with the slow progress at which the contractor, Tomorrow/Emsworth Limited, is doing rehabilitation of the the Nursing School.

In view of the above, your Committee will await an update report on the rehabilitation works for Kasama Nursing School.

#### **09/05 - Designation of University Teaching Hospital (UTH) and Tropical Diseases Research Centre (TDRC) as laboratories to follow up cases of resistance to treatment and Anti Retroviral Drugs**

On 9<sup>th</sup> February, the Minister of Health made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, in this instance, having stated that it does not matter what you do, resistance is likely to occur. We have designated two centres, the University Teaching Hospital and the Tropical Diseases Research Centre (TDRC) in Ndola as specific laboratories that will follow up the difficult cases detected by the clinics indicating that there might be the resistance.”*

#### **HIV Drug Resistance Monitoring**

In his update, the Permanent Secretary submitted a progress report as at March, 2006 as follows:

The rapid scale-up of the ART programme under the pressure for achieving quantitative targets could compromise the quality of services. The Ministry of Health commenced on taking initiatives in collaboration with the Medical Council of Zambia, Cooperating Partners and Pharmaceutical Regulatory Authority (PRA) to put in place quality control measures.

The initiatives included:

#### **Accreditation system for all ART sites in Zambia**

This was to ensure that ART sites met the minimum required standards of service delivery.

#### **Revision of Performance Assessment and Technical Support Protocols**

This was to improve technical support and supervision of health facilities in line with comprehensive HIV/AIDS care.

#### **Pharmacovigilance System**

This was to monitor all side effects resulting from the use of ARVs.

#### **HIV Drug Resistance Monitoring (HDRM)**

This was to monitor occurrence of HIV drug resistance in the general population and patients on ARVs. This system would be able to detect the drug resistance.

On the HIV Drug Resistance Monitoring System, the Permanent Secretary reported that a technical working group had been set up at the Ministry of Health to oversee the process of implementing the system. This team had been working with the support of cooperating partners and the PRA.

The HIV Drug Resistance Monitoring System (HDRMS) comprised of two main components.

The first was the Reporting System. Due to the nature of drug resistance and the reporting requirements, this component has been coupled with the Pharmacovigilance System. This system was launched in August, 2006 by the Hon Minister of Health and the Permanent Secretary of Health. The system was based at the PRA and monitors side effects of ARV, anti malarial and Anti- TB drug. The essence of this system was to send a report on suspected side effects of drugs and effects resulting from drug resistance in a patient in care.

The second component of the HDRMS was the laboratory system which comprised the reference laboratories (UTH and TDRC), peripheral laboratory and health facility laboratories. This component of the HDRMS was currently undergoing capacity development.

The laboratory capacity required to set up the HDRMS was unfortunately the most expensive in the system. Due to lack of funding a number of activities had not taken place. New partners had been approached to support this component.

The sub components of this component were:

- laboratory personnel;
- investigation Teams (multidisciplinary);
- laboratory equipment for resistance profiling;
- infrastructure at peripheral laboratories;
- courier system for samples to the reference labs; and
- support supervision protocols for the HDRMS.

The Permanent Secretary reported that the first challenge was the human resource crisis. The shortage of laboratory personnel was the highest in the health sector. Specialized handling and processing was required for resistance detection.

The next challenge he reported was the start up funding. He submitted that funding of approximately K2.5 billion was necessary to set up and run the national HDRMS for a period of twelve months. Subsequent costs after the first year was likely to be much less (less than K300 million/year).

### **Way Forward**

On the way forward, the Permanent Secretary reported that the laboratory system for the HDRMS would benefit from the human resource interventions being implemented by the Ministry of Health. More staff would be available to process the samples at the peripheral levels and the central reference laboratory level.

Funds were being sourced from the Global Fund and technical support from World Health Organization. Due to the magnitude of the financial requirements for a full routine, HDRMS limited surveillance was an option that was being reviewed.

The Permanent Secretary explained the HDRMS surveillance worked in the system samples from representative patients in various areas (much like the antenatal surveillance systems). With further funding, this surveillance system could then be fully implemented for routine monitoring.

Activities to set up the system were scheduled to commence in June 2007, and to run till March, 2008, provided all the constraints were resolved (funding and HR).

He further explained that the Ministry of Health was responsible for the delivery of health care in Zambia. The ART Program fell under its Directorate of Clinical Care and Diagnostics. The ART program would

provide overall guidance and coordination of HDRS as part of their Monitoring and Evaluation activities. They would make progress reports twice a year to the HDRS Team. Specific responsibilities would include:

- constitution of the HDRS Team;
- appointment of the HDR Investigation Team;
- resource mobilization and allocation; and
- supervision of the HDRST.

#### **The HDR Investigation Team**

The Permanent Secretary then submitted that there would be a technical team responsible for monitoring HDR in Zambia. It would have full time administrative staff, answerable to the Director of Clinical Care and Diagnostics, to support its activities. It would include a part time epidemiologist, lab specialist, clinician and biostatistician. Its specific purposes would be:

- to function as the secretariat for HDRS in Zambia responsible for day to day management of HDR monitoring including planning, budgeting, coordination of partner support, implementation of surveillance activities, monitoring and evaluation;
- to serve as a central data bank for all drug resistance surveillance information. All data would be collated, analyzed and reported from here; and
- to provide technical assistance to CBoH and partners.

#### **The Reference Laboratory**

The National Reference Laboratory for HIV at the University Teaching Hospital, Lusaka, which had the technical capability to carry out genotyping or HDR testing, would serve as the genotyping laboratory. The laboratory had already collected background information on HDR in Zambia and was experienced in supporting public health programs. The laboratory would appoint a focal person to oversee all HDR activities within the laboratory and to be part of the Investigation Team. The laboratory would be responsible for:

- training in sample collection, processing and transportation;
- supervision of peripheral labs;
- sample processing and long term storage;
- establishment of a central repository of all national genotyping data;
- interpretation of genotyping data; and
- feed-back of clinical results.

#### **The Provincial Health Office (PHO)**

The Permanent Secretary also reported that the PHO would direct all health related issues in the province. It would oversee both public and private sector facilities. In the public sector, the District Health Management Board was responsible for supervision of health care services in its area. Implementation would be managed by the District Health Management Team (DHMT) through a network of district health centres, hospitals and other health care providers.

The PHO would identify a focal person to coordinate HDR activities in the province. This person would be responsible for:

- liaison between DHMTs, private sector facilities, mission hospital boards and central level;
- supervision of data collection and laboratory staff at sites selected for resistance monitoring activities;
- management of provincial level funds; and
- ART program data collection at provincial level.

### **Peripheral Laboratories**

The Permanent Secretary submitted that samples for resistance testing would require specialized processing and storage before transportation to the reference laboratory. Laboratories, where this could be done, would be identified in each province.

### **Regional and International Cooperation**

The Permanent Secretary reported that the HDRST should explore partnerships with institutions having experience in surveys, surveillance, research, HIV treatment, laboratory diagnosis, and HIV drug resistance. Potential partners include:

- The World Health Organization, Global HIV Resistance Surveillance Network (WHO HIV ResNet) who would provide technical assistance as needed;
- External Resistance genotyping reference laboratories involved in WHO, HIV ResNet who could provide quality assurance and technical guidance; and
- The proposed WHO AFRO HIV Drug Resistance Laboratory Network.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that the assurance has fully been addressed. Therefore, they resolve to have the matter closed.

### **32/02 - Cancer Centre**

On 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2002, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance:

*“Mr Speaker, we are in the processing or planning phase of the Cancer Centre at the University Teaching Hospital (UTH). It is on-going and it will be realized shortly.”*

Your previous Committee had expressed their concern over the time frame regarding the operationalisation of the project. They insisted on being given the specific time frame in which the assurance would be implemented in totality.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the progress report covered four components of the project namely:

- (a) construction works - construction of a building to house radiotherapy equipment;
- (b) supply, delivery and installation of equipment;
- (c) training of fellows in radiation oncology and related fields; and
- (d) clinical implementation.

The report provided an update of activities implemented since the previous progress report of 2005. The status of project implementation was as follows:

#### **A. Construction Works**

The contractor finished construction of the building on 16th December, 2005.

A planned inspection of all the rooms in the building to check for any problems was undertaken from 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2006. A complete handover of the building to the Ministry of Health would be determined by the problems list. Staff recruited to work at the radiotherapy center occupied offices on 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2006 to start preparatory work for operation of the center.

#### **B. Supply, Delivery and Installation of Equipment**

Equipment from the two main suppliers (Siemens International and Simed International) was delivered to the radiotherapy center from 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2005. Mechanical installation of all equipment was done from 15<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2005.

Acceptance testing began from 15<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2006. Commissioning and calibration of equipment would be done by the medical physics team. It was estimated that the process of

commissioning and calibration of equipment would last up to the end of second quarter of the year.

**C. Training**

A total of sixteen fellows were sent for training in radiation oncology and related fields. The status of training for each cadre was as follows:

<b>Field</b>	<b>No. Sent for Training</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Expected Completion Period</b>
Radiation Oncology	4	4 years	July 2007
Medical physicist	3	2 years	One completed in April, 2005. Two will complete in October, 2006
Therapy radiography	7	2 years	All completed and have returned home.
Maintenance Technician	2	9 months	Both have completed and have returned home.

**D. Clinical Implementation**

The Clinical implementation team organized a workshop in August, 2005 to develop further the treatment protocols for common cancers seen at UTH. This workshop was facilitated by an expert from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Protocols were developed for gynecological cancers, cancer of the esophagus, and breast cancer.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee will await an update on the full operationalisation of the project.

**MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**48/87 - Renovation of Police Camps throughout the Country**

On 8<sup>th</sup> December, 1987, the Hon Minister assured the House that his Ministry was making every effort to secure funds to carry out necessary renovations of Police camps throughout the country.

Your previous Committee had, however, observed that the assurance was not fully addressed and requested for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report and in the Permanent Secretary's update that as in the previous progress report, renovation and rehabilitation of Police Camps countrywide was a continuous programme that could not be done and completed in one financial year because there were many camps needing attention.

Each year, the Government, through the Ministry of Home Affairs, provided a budget allocation for the works.

For instance, this year, the service had budgetary allocations of the following activities to underpin commitment:-

- (i) Rehabilitation of Police Camps - K 1,200,000,000.00
- (ii) Rehabilitation of water and sewer systems - K1, 000,000,000.00
- (iii) Repairs of water and sewer systems - K50, 000,000.00

- (iv) Grading of Camp Roads - KI,150,000,000.00

Meanwhile in a concerted effort to address the assurance, the following works had been carried out since 2004:-

- (a) **Yobe Camp Kitwe:** the water and sewer systems had been worked on as well as renovations to make the camp habitable at cost of K2,018,340,525.00;
- (b) **Solwezi Police Camp:** rehabilitation works were completed at a cost of K1, 279,663,830.00;
- (c) **Mpatamato Police Camp Luanshya:** rehabilitation of water system (laying of pipes) had been done. The amount spent was K 16,000,000.00;
- (d) **Kalabo Police Station:** rehabilitations were done at a cost of KI00, 000,000.00;
- (e) **Livingstone Police Station and camp:** repairs on the roof of the station and rehabilitation of the camp at the cost of KI00, 000,000.00;
- (f) **Nambuluma Police Camp in Chinsali:** rehabilitation done at a cost of K250,000,000.00;
- (g) **Shangombo Police** - works done at a cost of K250,000,000.00; and
- (h) **Choma Police Camp:** rehabilitation done at a cost of K562, 126,085.00. This included the water and sewer systems;
- (i) **Lusaka West:** Electrification of Balmoral Police Camp at a cost of K1,702,109,700.00;
- (j) **State Lodge Police Camp** - rehabilitation of water boreholes at a cost of KI50,000,000.00;
- (k) **Sondela Police Training School:** rehabilitation works done at a cost of KI50,000,000.00;
- (l) **Chelstone Police Camp in Lusaka:** rehabilitation done at a cost of K800, 000,000.00
- (m) **Sikanze Police Camp in Lusaka:** rehabilitation done at a cost of K250,000,000.00; and
- (n) **Nyimba Police:** ripped off roofs replaced at a cost of K50, 000,000.00.

The Permanent Secretary concluded his submission on the matter by stating that the Ministry of Home Affairs was deeply concerned with the bad state the Police Camps were in. Hence, each year, the Zambia Police Force allocated funds for the works. This year (2007), the Force had budgetary allocation of three billion two hundred seventy nine million four hundred and fifty two thousand and One hundred thirty two (K3,279,452,132.00) Kwacha under Building, Repair and Maintenance, for the programme. In addition there was twenty one point thirty five billion (K21,350,000,000b) Kwacha for the year 2007 under the Infrastructure Rehabilitation, Public Safety and Order, in the Fifth National Development Plan 2006 - 2010, to be used in the same programme.

On whether the contractors engaged in doing rehabilitation works for police stations and police camps were being monitored to ensure quality work, the Permanent Secretary reported that all works were being supervised by competent staff from the Ministry of Works and Supply in collaboration with the Ministry.

On the police stations or police camps which had been renovated satisfactorily, the Permanent Secretary cited Yobe police Camp in terms of water reticulation and the sewer system. He also mentioned Livingstone Police Station that the ripped off roofs had been worked on well.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to ensure that quality work is observed in the rehabilitation works at the police stations and police camps throughout the country. Contractors who do substandard works should be avoided at all costs. Therefore, your Committee will await an update report on the matter.

#### **28/97 - Police Air wing**

In reply to a question on when the Police Force would establish an Airwing, the Hon Minister had informed the House that when the money became available, his Ministry would establish the wing.

Your previous Committee had observed that the assurance was not adequately addressed. They requested for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the progress made on the establishment of the Police Air Wing was as follows:-

The Zambia Police Service had nine officers undergoing training as pilots/ flight engineers at Zambia Air Services Training Institute (ZASTI). Two of those officers were female and already had got some experience in flying with commercial airlines such as Kenya Airways.

The nine officers who were specialising in Helicopter flying were due to complete and graduate at the end of August, 2006, but the course had since been extended to continue under a Danish Pilot Instructor. The service had also established a committee, which included two Col. Pilots from the Zambia Air Force (ZAF) to oversee the birth of a Police Air Wing. The ZAF officers would provide their local experience as well as knowledge of flying choppers.

A Danish Company had offered to sell the Zambia Police Service a bell 222-U Helicopter, powered by two engines with a top speed of 260 Km per hour and a sitting capacity of nine passengers plus two Pilots at a cost of US\$1.2 million, with a supply of complete spare parts. In addition, through the Danish Embassy, two Pilot experts and an Instructor, who would have the task of training three Zambian Air Craft Mechanics, would be seconded to the Air Wing for a period of two years. Further, the package included the supply of computers, speed traps and other equipment to Zambia Police.

The Danish company had also offered to sell two more choppers to the Zambian Government at a much lower price. In the meantime, the Zambia Police Service had already been granted authority by Cabinet to proceed with the purchase programme. It was expected that the Police Air Wing programme would be launched early next year.

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that the progress made on the establishment of the Police Air Wing was as follows:

The Zambia Police Force had seven officers trained as Pilots/flight engineers at Zambia Air Service Training Institute (ZASTI).

In the meantime, the Zambia Police Force was waiting for authority from the Zambia National Tender Board, for the purchase of the Helicopter.

However, the Government had not just sat by as other initiatives were being explored to ensure acquisition of Helicopters and setting up an Air Wing.

On how far they were on the operations of the Police Airwing, the Permanent Secretary reported that they were almost there as they had now resolved to go for an outright purchase of a Chopper than refurbishing an old ZAF Chopper.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to expedite the realization of the Police Air Wing as the matter has been a pipe dream for a long time. An update report will be awaited on the matter.

### **26/02 - Refugee Influx**

On 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2002, the Honourable Minister informed the House that it would be his task to look at the serious problem of refugee influx and administration and find solutions to them in conjunction with co-operating partners.

Your previous Committees had urged the Government to speed up the repatriation of Rwandese and Angolan refugees with a view to closing the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Reports that the Government of the Republic of Zambia, the Angolan Government and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees held the seventh Tripartite Commission Meeting in Luanda, Angolan on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2006 at which it was agreed to extend the organised voluntary repatriation programme of Angolan refugees up to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2006 due to the large number of Angolan refugees still in the country that were willing to go back. During the same

meeting, it was also agreed that the parties should approach the donors jointly and/or bilaterally in order to solicit for funds to ensure the realization of a durable solution for the Angolan refugees.

Pursuant to this resolution of the Tripartite Commission on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2006, the Zambian Government, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organisation for Migration issued a joint appeal to the donor community for financial support for the 2006 extended Angolan voluntary repatriation from Zambia. Under the appeal, the parties requested for US\$4, 872,008 to cover transport and logistics needed for returning refugees. Despite the appeal, there were still no funds to carry out the exercise.

The Tripartite Commission for Voluntary Repatriation of Angolan refugees held its eighth meeting in Lusaka, on 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> June 2006. During this meeting UNHCR pledged US\$ 500, 000 out of the US\$4.8m that was needed for the repatriation exercise. During the same meeting, the Government of Angola offered to provide a plane to be used for the repatriation exercise but unfortunately, the pledge had not been honoured.

The parties had continued to approach the donors for more support, although there had been no favourable responses from the donor community, thereby making it difficult for the parties to resume the exercise.

The respective parties had been active during the period when the repatriation exercise had been suspended. One of the preparatory activities that had been undertaken with regard to the resumption of the repatriation exercise was to conduct an Intention Survey. The survey revealed that there was an increase in the number of Angolan refugees willing to repatriate in 2006. The current number of refugees who had registered for assistance to be repatriated was 14, 750.

The parties to the Agreement for the voluntary repatriation of Angolan refugees remained committed to carry out the exercise despite the above challenges. In this regard, the parties had resolved to resume the repatriation exercise during the last quarter of 2006, using the funds pledged by UNHCR. Though the funds were not sufficient to see the exercise through, it was hoped that the launch of the exercise would demonstrate the commitment by the parties and act as a catalyst to mobilize the required resources from the donor community to complete the exercise.

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that Zambia had a long history of hosting refugees from her neighbouring countries and beyond. The greater part of the Angolan Refugee population came to Zambia between 1994 and 2002 when there was an upsurge in the Angolan conflict after Jonas Savimbi rejected the Vice-Presidency of Angola.

Nangweshi Refugee Camp, located in Shangombo District in Western Province, was established in January, 2000. It was closed in November, 2006 owing to, among other things, the fact that most of the refugees who were resident there had been repatriated to their countries of origin and the 4,971 refugees who opted not to repatriate were relocated to Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlement in Kaoma District.

Ukwimi Refugee Settlement was closed in 1995 following the repatriation of Mozambican refugees. It was re-opened in 2001, to accommodate Angolan and Rwandan refugees. Following the commencement of the repatriation exercise of Angolan and Rwandan refugees, the majority of the refugees in Ukwimi repatriated. This resulted in Ukwimi refugee camp being closed in December, 2004. The refugees who remained were relocated to Mayukwayukwa Refugees Settlement.

The Democratic Republic of Congo had been a source of refugee influxes at different stages of its history. The ousting of President Mobutu Seseseko and the reign of Laurent Kabila and his subsequent assassination resulted in conflict that forced an influx of Congolese refugees into Zambia which resulted in the opening of Mwange Refugee Camp situated near Mporokoso District in Northern Province and Kala Refugee Camp in Kawambwa District. Mwange Refugee Camp opened in March, 1999 while Kala Refugee Camp opened in August, 2000 respectively.

However, with the restoration of peace in Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia had not experienced large scale refugee influxes in the past six years. However, the country did continue to receive individual asylum seekers citing mostly individualized persecution. All those who did that underwent a process of individualized screening to establish the validity of their claims of refugee status. Others emanated from Somalia in view of the fact that Somalia continued to be a failed state, which resulted in the continuous exodus of its nationals.

On the whole, there had been a steady decline of the refugee population as a result of the various repatriation exercises.

However, during the recent Standing Committee meeting held in March, 2007, the Government was advised that UNHCR Headquarters in Geneva had taken a formal position that although there had been some profound developments in Rwanda, they were not so fundamental as to support the invocation of the cessation clause by UNHCR or countries of asylum, hence the need to approach the matter with caution. Of particular concern were human rights issues regarding the Gacaca court system and property rights issues.

However, in order to still address states of concern over this residual group of Rwandan refugees, UNHCR acknowledged the need to take concrete steps to profile the whole group of Rwandan refugees who came at different times. There were 5,000 Rwandese still in the country. So far, there were less than 200 Refugees, still in the country, who had since signed the declaration agreement.

Considering the importance of the matter concerning Rwandan refugees, the Government was of the view that the position taken by the international community should be shared formally including with the country of origin, Rwanda.

On the other hand, UNHCR and the Government of Zambia continued to facilitate the spontaneous repatriation of Burundian refugees

### **Congolese Repatriation**

Further, the Permanent Secretary reported that following the restoration of peace and the holding of the first democratic elections in October, 2006 in the Democratic Republic of Congo in a long time, Congolese refugees who were living in Zambia started returning spontaneously to their country of origin. This resulted in the UNHCR and the Governments of Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo to sign a Tripartite Agreement for the Repatriation of Congolese refugees living in Zambia on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2006 in Lusaka, Zambia. They were currently 61,000 Congolese refugees living in Zambia and it was planned that 20,000 Congolese refugees would be repatriated in 2007. The repatriation exercise was expected to commence on 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2007 following the signing of the operation plan document called the Practical Modalities scheduled for 26-27 April, 2007 in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In order to carry out the repatriation of the targetted 20 000 refugees in 2007, the Government of Zambia, UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) issued a joint appeal to the donor community to raise the sum of US \$5,340,382.00. It was expected that with the resources available, the exercise would be a success.

### **Ugandan Refugees**

The Permanent Secretary reported that following the death of the former President of Uganda, Milton Obote, who had been granted asylum in Zambia, a number of Ugandans had expressed desire to return to their country of origin. In this regard, the Government entered into discussions with UNHCR on the prospects for their repatriation. While UNHCR initially was reluctant to provide assistance, discussions with UNHCR Geneva concluded there was no need for Ugandan Refugees to continue staying in Zambia as there was peace in Uganda. The son of Obote was currently a Member of Parliament in Uganda and the wife of Milton Obote stood for elections, but did not win. So there was no persecution in Uganda for former allies to Obote.

### **Angolan Repatriation**

The Permanent Secretary reported that the four year organized and voluntary repatriation programme of Angolan refugees in Zambia which started following the signing of the Tripartite Agreement for the repatriation of Angolan refugees in November, 2002, officially came to an end on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2007. There was a ceremony held in Luanda, Angola on 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2007 to officially conclude the matter at which Zambia was represented by a delegation led by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

At the close of the programme 74, 064 Angolan refugees comprising camp-based and spontaneously settled refugees were repatriated to Angola. However, there was an estimated residual case load of 40,000 Angolan refugees still in Zambia. The breakdown was as follows:

- (i) 18,000 are camp-based; and
- (ii) 22,000 were spontaneously settled; it must be noted that among the residual case load, they were some refugees that were still willing to go back to their country of origin. However, the majority of the case load were reluctant to go back to Angola citing their long stay in Zambia, marriage ties, good hospitality and similarity in tribal and ethnicity to their hosts as their reasons to stay on in Zambia.

The conclusion of the organized repatriation programme had triggered the need to start discussions on the possibility of invoking the cessation clause under the refugee's conventions to which the State was party. However, before the cessation clause was invoked there was need to secure an alternative status other than that of being a refugee, for the remaining Angolan refugees. This was a complex and challenging issue, which required dialogue at different levels to arrive at the best way of addressing the issue. It should be noted that such dialogue would be facilitated through the Danish Government financed project, the Strengthening Protection Capacity Project, which had earmarked funds for such purpose. It was in this respect, therefore, that the Government was planning to hold a series of workshops, including a workshop for Parliamentarians, to facilitate the dialogue between the various stakeholders.

It must also be noted that for those refugees that were still willing to go back to Angola, the Angolan Government announced their decision to stop recognizing the voluntary repatriation form as a travel document but instead the returning refugees should with effect from 1st April 2007 use a travel document of identity issued by the Angolan Embassies or Consulates.

### **Rwandan Repatriation**

The Permanent Secretary submitted that despite the signing of the Tripartite Agreement for the Voluntary repatriation of Rwandan refugees in 2003, the exercise had continued to be a challenge to the Government. This was as a result of the unwillingness of the Rwandan refugees to return to their country of origin. The Zambian Government had consistently raised the issue of the invocation of the cessation clause for the Rwandan refugees in view of the peaceful conditions apparently obtaining in Rwanda with the UNHCR.

### **Zambian Initiative**

The Permanent Secretary submitted that this initiative continued to be recognized by the Government, as well as internationally, as the most effective form of burden sharing with the international community regarding the hosting of refugees for a long time, particularly Angolan refugees. While the programme was beset by lack of funding for the most part of last year, UNHCR still expressed its commitment to the programme, which had also been extended to the North-Western Province. In this regard, UNHCR would continue with its catalytic role to lobby for developmental funding for this programme, which benefited both the local Zambian community and the refugee population, targeting interventions in the health, micro-finance education, agricultural and infrastructural rehabilitation sectors, amongst others.

On when the refugee remnants (approx. about 18,000) would be going back to Angola, the Permanent Secretary reported that there was the cessation clause in place. Once that was cleared, the refugees would be subjected to the country's immigration laws and would convince them to go back to their countries. Those who would refuse to go back to their countries could apply to become Zambians. There was a Cabinet Memorandum called the Zambian Initiative on the issue.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge Government to do all it can to enable the refugees go back to their countries as a lot of crimes are being master-minded by foreigners, some of whom are refugees. An update report will be awaited on the matter.

### **06/03 - Nsumbu Immigration Office**

On 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2003, the Honourable Deputy Minister gave the following response to a question raised on the floor of the House:

*“A new immigration office will be built at Nsumbu Boarder Post as soon as funds are made available. The Nsumbu Immigration Post will soon benefit from the fleet of vehicles which the Immigration Department will be sourcing soon.”*

Your previous Committee had noted the submission and resolved to await a progress report on the matter as nothing at all had been achieved in addressing the assurance.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the construction of a new Nsumbu Immigration Office was again left out of the 2006 Budget. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs had highlighted the building of infrastructure i.e. office blocks and housing units etc, in the Fifth National Development Plan, under the Public Safety Chapter, which ran from 2006-2010. The Nsumbu Immigration Office awaited release of capital projects funds. On transport for Nsumbu, sadly, the Immigration Department was not going to benefit from the Indian vehicles. However, the Department would now have to rely on their own resources. When funds were released for motor vehicles, Nsumbu would be given priority for one.

The Permanent Secretary submitted that the construction of a new Immigration Office Block at Nsumbu had now been included in the Fifth National Development Plan 2006 – 2010, which was launched by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zambia. The programme comes under Public Safety and Order. Infrastructure Development was apportioned K113.86 billion in this year’s budget.

On the allocation for a vehicle to Nsumbu, the Permanent Secretary reported that three vehicles were allocated to Northern Province last year (2006). One vehicle was sent to Nakonde and the other two were retained at Kasama Regional Office. Of the two vehicles, one was a saloon car and the other was a van. Since the van was the only vehicle which could move in rough terrain, it was being shared by the remote places as more suitable vehicles were being awaited. However, the boat at Nsumbu was operational.

On why they could not source a vehicle for Nsumbu Immigration Office, the Permanent Secretary reported that they were in the process of buying a fleet of vehicles for Immigration Department and Nsumbu Immigration Office would benefit from that.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to honour its assurance of the provision of transport to Nsumbu Immigration Office. An update report will be awaited on the matter.

### **16/03 - Expansion of Kamwala and Chimbokaila Prisons**

During the questions for oral answers on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2003, the Honourable Minister informed the House as follows:

*“ Kamwala Prison will be expanded when funds are made available. Chimbokaila Prison will also be expanded when funds are made available. The Drawings and Bills of Quantities are ready, pending the availability of funds.”*

Your previous Committee had observed that nothing tangible had been done in as far as the expansion of Kamwala and Chimbokaila prisons was concerned. They requested a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report and in the Permanent Secretary’s update that it was not possible to start expanding the two prisons because there was no space at both places for expansion works.

However, since the Mwembeshi Prison was within the proximity of the two prisons, the Ministry of Home Affairs, through the Prisons Department, had put emphasis on completing the Mwembeshi complex. Each year, the Prison Service would continue to allocate funds in the budget for the same. The idea was to decongest the two prisons by transferring some inmates to Mwembeshi as and when it was completed. Meanwhile, Zambia Prison Service had a budget of K4, 074,144,427.00 for Prison Cells Improvement.

On why there was a policy shift on the expansion of Chimbokaila and Kamwala Remand Prisons, the Permanent Secretary reported that they were now concentrating on Mwembeshi Open Air Prison to answer the issue of congestion in the two prisons cited above. The Permanent Secretary further reported that Kamfinsa Prison in Kitwe had enough space which if utilized could help decongest Chimbokaila Prison. He pointed out that congestion in the prison was mainly caused by delayed disposal of court cases for those in remand.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Due to an apparent shift in policy, your Committee resolve to have this assurance closed while urging the Government to speed up the completion of Mwembeshi Open Air Prison in order to decongest Kamwala and Chimbokaila Prisons. An update report will be awaited on the matter.

#### **17/03 - The Completion of Mwembeshi State Prison**

On 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2003, the Honourable Minister informed the House as follows:

*“We are trying to make all efforts to slot this requirement of Mwembeshi Prison in next year’s budget and should that be approved, we are going to commence the works.”*

Your previous Committee had noted the submission and requested for a progress report on the remaining works.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report and in the Permanent Secretary’s update that one dormitory of four cells had been completed. A dormitory accommodated up to 200 prisoners that was fifty inmates in each cell. Construction of two blocks, one for the kitchen and the other for the dining hall, had been instituted. Also erection of security towers was almost complete, including fencing.

Each year, the Prisons Service would endeavour to allocate funds for the completion of the Mwembeshi Prison. This year, an amount of K856, 446,404.00 had been provided for in the budget.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to expedite the completion of Mwembeshi Open Air Prison so that Kamwala and Chimbokaila Prisons can be decongested.

#### **18/03 - Telecommunication System - Muoyo Police Post**

On 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2003, the Honourable Deputy Minister informed the House as follows:

*“On the question of Muoyo Police Post, we are sourcing for funds for a basic telecommunications system.”*

Your previous Committee had observed that very little had been accomplished in addressing the assurance. They requested for a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that due to budgetary constraints, it was not possible to purchase the communication equipment. It was, however, hoped that the equipment would be procured when funds were made available.

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that in 2006, no funds were released for this activity. However, it was envisaged that in 2007, some money would be released for this purpose as it fell in line with a countrywide assessment needs of communication equipment. This had to be implemented through the Fifth National Development Plan 2006 - 2010.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to quickly release funds for the procurement of communication equipment for Muoyo Police Post. Once that is done, the assurance will be closed. An update report on the matter will be awaited.

### **03/04 - Police Stations or Posts in Rufunsa Parliamentary Constituency – 2004**

On 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Home Affairs assured the House as follows:

*“However, a budgetary provision has been made in the 2004 activity-based budget for building and renovating Police Stations and Posts. Thus, as and when funds are released, the Chief’s areas in Rufunsa Parliamentary Constituency of Mwatshi in Shikabeta; and Lukwipa in Mpanshya, will have Police Stations or Posts put up accordingly.”*

Your previous Committee had noted the submission and observed that no implementation had taken place. They therefore, requested for a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that, as stated in the previous report, building of Police Stations/Posts had been included in the Fifth National Development Plan: 2006 - 2010 which was launched in July, 2006.

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary submitted that, as stated in the previous report, building of Police Stations/Posts, the items above, had been included in the Fifth National Development Plan: 2006 - 2010. The Plan was launched early in 2007 by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zambia. Meanwhile, the Zambia Police Force had allocated a sum of K30 billion for construction of houses. Rufunsa Police, which had been earmarked to build fifty housing units, would benefit from the amount.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to speed up the process of rehabilitating and building the housing units for Rufunsa Police Station. Only then will they consider closing the assurance. An update report will be awaited.

### **06/05 - Rehabilitation of Robert Kafula Police Camp - Kasama**

On 11<sup>th</sup> Febaury 2005, the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Speaker, the Police Force has not received any capital funding to repair Robert Kafula Police Camp in Kasama since the time it was condemned. However, the camp may hopefully be repaired when funds are made available, especially that in this year’s budget, there is funding for such works.”*

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that rehabilitation to more than twenty houses at Robert Kafula Police Camp in Kasama had been carried out. Repair works were done in the months of November and December, 2006 at a total cost of K132,000,000.00.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to have the matter closed as rehabilitation of the camp has already commenced as assured.

### **27/05 - Use of Live Ammunition in Crowd Control**

On 11<sup>th</sup> Febaury 2005, the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Speaker, we are very concerned about the use of live ammunition and all efforts will be made to ensure that we have non-lethal mechanisms of dealing with crowd control. Therefore, we are looking into this issue.”*

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Zambia Police Force High Command had already taken a decision to stop the use of live ammunition in crowd controls.

In light of the foregoing, the Zambia Police Force was in the process of acquiring water cannons and rubber bullets to be used in crowd controls in place of live ammunition.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **05/99 - Building of two Juvenile Detention Centres**

On 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1999, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“We are also discussing the issue of building two Juvenile Detention Centres. Hon Members are aware that we have only one Juvenile Reform School, Katombora, which is for males. Those juveniles who are jailed for less than four years go to ordinary prisons. We believe that building of juvenile centres for younger males will cater for that. At the same time, we are looking at another one for females.”*

Your previous Committee had observed that the assurance was superficially addressed. They resolved to request for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that, as stated in the previous report, the existing facilities for Juvenile offenders were adequate. So far, those facilities had never reached their capacity, as there were few young offenders. Similarly, young female offenders were rare. The Prisons Authority felt very strongly that at this moment in time, building of more Juvenile Detention Centres would be wasteful of resources.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee note the shift in policy but resolve to await an update on building detention facilities for female/girl offenders even though these can be rare.

### **MINISTRY OF TOURISM, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

#### **20/98 - Operations of the Zambia National Tourist Board (ZNTB) and Hostels Board of Zambia**

The Honourable Minister made the following undertaking on the floor of the House on 4<sup>th</sup> February 1998:

*“My Ministry plans to rationalize the operations of the Zambia National Tourist Board and the Hostels Board and, if feasible, make the necessary legislative amendments.”*

Your previous Committee had resolved to request a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources received a number of representations from stakeholders. However, there were some specific issues in the Bill that seemed to be contentious. As a result, the Ministry decided to re-open consultations with stakeholders in early 2005.

On 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Ministry invited stakeholders to a consultative meeting on the three contentious issues on the Bill. These issues were:

- (i) the removal of the 10 percent service charge;
- (ii) the "Right of Admission Reserved", and,
- (iii) the introduction of the Tourism Levy for the purposes of tourism marketing and promotion.

The status was that consensus was reached by stakeholders on the three contentious issues as follows:

- (i) that the 10 percent Service Charge should be charged as per the current practice;
- (ii) that the "Right of Admission Reserved" be maintained but with a provision that nobody should be denied entry on the grounds of race, religion, colour or indeed any form of discrimination; and
- (iii) that Tourism Levy be introduced and the percentage level be in the subsidiary legislation.

The draft Bill was submitted to the Ministry of Justice in 2005 and it was hoped that the July, 2006 sitting would see the Bill dealt with by Parliament.

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that the draft Tourism and Hospitality Bill together with the Zambia National Tourist Board Bill was presented to the Cabinet in January, 2007. Whilst no issues were raised on the later, Cabinet deferred the decision on the Tourism and Hospitality Bill and directed the Ministry to further consult with the Ministries of Finance and National Planning, Local Government and Housing, Commerce, Trade and Industry and Labour and Social Security.

This was in order to ensure that the Bill was in harmony with other pieces of legislation that fell under the mandate of these relevant ministries and also to ensure that there were no overlaps or duplications. Further, Cabinet sought clarification on some sections of the draft Bill.

The affected ministries set up a Technical Committee to deal with the matters raised by Cabinet. The Committee had since finalized its work and would be presenting its recommendations to the concerned Ministers for approval. Thereafter, the Bill would be re-submitted to Cabinet for approval. The Ministry was working on the matter expeditiously so that all necessary approvals were obtained in order to present the Bill at the June/July, 2007 sitting of Parliament.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe that the process of consulting on the matter is in progress. They resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **09/02 - Development of a National Environmental Policy**

On 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2002, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“We intend to undertake the development of a National Environmental Policy that will provide a framework of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development.”*

Your previous Committee had wished to be updated on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that after the nationwide consultative process that was undertaken in the formulation of the National Policy on Environment (NPE), a final draft of the policy was produced, in 2005. The Ministry had since initiated the process of submitting the policy to Cabinet for approval. It was hoped that the draft National Policy on Environment would be approved by Cabinet by mid 2006.

When adopted, the policy would provide a comprehensive umbrella framework for the welfare of the nation's environment so that socio-economic development would be achieved effectively without damaging the integrity of the environment and for its resources.

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that Cabinet was not able to consider the adoption of the draft policy last year. At the time, the Cabinet was dissolved before the last elections, the Cabinet Memorandum was returned to the Ministry for recirculation once the new Cabinet was in place. The recirculation had since been done and the Cabinet Memorandum had been submitted to Cabinet Office for tabling before Cabinet.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee express concern that the draft policy document has delayed in being implemented. They resolve to await an update report on the matter.

### **39/03 - Forest Development Fund**

In her contribution to the debate of 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2003, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance:

*“I intend to re-activate the forest development fund to which investors will contribute part of the proceeds from the sale of timber. The fund will be used in reforestation programmes as well as promoting joint forestry management.”*

Your previous Committee and requested for a detailed report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Forest Development Credit Fund would be implemented once the *Forest Act No. 7* of 1999 was commenced. The old *Forest Act, Cap 1999* of 1973 was still being used and it had no provision for such a fund.

The *Forest Act No.7* of 1999 could not be commenced in 2005 as the resources needed for the establishment of the Forest Commission were not provided. The commencement of the Commission had posed a challenge due to the financial implications involved. In order to understand fully those implications and prepare adequately for the commencement of the Commission, the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources, with the support of the European Union, implemented the Forestry Support Programme (FSP) from 2001 to 2004. Through this programme, the Ministry was able to undertake the following:

- (i) an audit of the accounts and liabilities of the Forestry Department and Zambia Forestry and Forest Industry Corporation (ZAFFICO);
- (ii) the development of a preliminary management (business) plan for the Commission;
- (iii) the design of the structure and functions of the Commission; and
- (iv) the design of mechanisms to ensure the involvement of local communities in the management of forests.

The audit had revealed that as of December, 2003, the Forestry Department had an estimated debt of K3.5 billion accrued mainly from outstanding payments for rentals, utilities (water, telephone and electricity) and other services. Separation benefits for the Department were estimated to be K25 billion by mid-2004. In addition, ZAFFICO had a total debt of US\$20.6 million in form of a loan obtained in 1985 from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank and was guaranteed by the Zambian Government.

In addition, about K5 billion would be needed in the first year to establish the Commission's systems and procedures. The annual operating costs were estimated at K39 billion and these included personal emoluments for the staff recruited under new conditions of service as well as the cost of field operations. With this investment, the projected revenue to the Commission was expected to grow from K 12 billion in the first year to K54 billion in the fifth year as compared to an estimate of K5 billion generated by the Forestry Department in 2005. Therefore, the preliminary business plan showed that the Forestry Commission could be a viable venture and could support itself after five years from establishment as long as it was adequately capitalized.

In view of the difficulties encountered in raising the required resources for the establishment of the Forestry Commission, the only other way to establish the Forest Development Fund was to amend the Act currently in use (i.e. *Forests Act* of 1973, Chapter 199 of the Laws of Zambia) so as to make specific provisions for this Fund.

Your Committee had requested the Hon Minister of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources to appear before them to explain the delay in implementation of the two entities. The Minister's report substantiated the submission done by the Permanent Secretary as given earlier.

On whether money collected from timber investors went into Forest Development Fund as the assurance suggested so in 2003, the Permanent Secretary reported that it went straight to the Treasury because the Forest Development Fund was not yet operational.

On why there was delay in implementing the Forest Development Fund and the Forestry Commission, the Hon Minister reported that those activities were donor driven. Once the donors withdrew their funding, it was difficult to sustain the establishment of the Forestry Commission and the Forest Development Fund despite the *Forest Act No. 7* of 1999 being enacted. He, however, informed your Committee that they had put K100 million aside for the commencement of the activities. He pledged to inform the House in due course.

On why they could not commence the operations of Forestry Development Commission and the Forest Development Fund after graduating from HIPC, the Hon Minister reported that they could follow their own route, which was sustainable, in establishing those entities. He agreed that HIPC funds were there but they were not being controlled by the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources.

On what measures the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources was putting in place to ensure aforesatation and control on climate change, the Hon Minister reported that the Ministry was sensitising pupils in schools to keep forests and had appealed to Zambia Police and Forest Officers to impound any vehicle laden with bags of charcoal, particularly at the roadblocks if they had no licence to show that they were authorized to deal in timber products.

On the area the Forest covered the country and on the rate at which the Forest was being replanted, the Hon Minister reported that the Forest (protected, reserve area) in the country was about 10% while the rate at which replanting was done was at 3%.

#### **Observations and Recommendationaions**

Your Committee observe that the *Forest Act No. 7* of 1999 which, established the Forest Development Fund and the Forestry Commission, has not yet been implemented due to inadequate resources. They are disappointed that the Hon Minister assured the House on the establishment of those two entities when their operationalisation have taken place to date. They resolve to await an update report.

#### **37/05 - Replacing Forestry Department with Forestry Commission**

On 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Tourism and Natural Resources made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, I wish to inform this House that, to a large extent, the Forestry Department will be replaced by the Forestry Commission, especially at the field level. Although the Forestry Act No. 7 of 1999 provides for the transfer of employees from the Forestry Department to the Forestry Commission, Government plans are to bring an amendment to the House. This will enable employees of the Forestry Department to be retired with full benefits before they join the Commission, which can be an autonomous body.”*

In his update to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that due to non-operationalisation of the *Forestry Act No. 7* of 1999, it had not been possible to bring any amendments to the same Act.

On how they were managing timber investors when the *Forest Act No. 7* of 1999 had not yet been implemented, the Permanent Secretary reported that they were ably managing them by charging forestry fees.

On whether the assurance on Forestry Commission and Forest Development Fund was wrongly issued by the Hon Minister because those bodies had not been formed to date, the Permanent Secretary reported that at the time the assurance was issued, there were efforts made to realize those bodies. The Forestry Department would have been subsumed under the Forestry Commission and the Forest Development Fund would have been created. He promised to work on the assurance once resources were availed to the Ministry.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe that the assurances above are not being addressed. They resolve to await an update report on how they are implementing the establishment of the Forestry Development Commission and the Forest Development Fund.

### **19/89 - Rubber Plantation in Nchelenge**

On 5<sup>th</sup> July, 1989, the hon Minister informed the House that Dunlop (Z) Limited, together with other rubber manufacturing firms, Consolidated Tyre Services and Pigott Maskew, were setting up a pilot rubber plantation scheme in Nchelenge District, Luapula Province.

Your previous Committee had noted that the industry's viability would be dependent, not only on Government funding, but also on the involvement of the private sector. To this effect, your Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry will reopen dialogue with the private sector to interest them in the undertaking of this venture.

However, it was noted that in 2005, the Ministry undertook the following activities:

- (i) plantation maintenance, including slashing in plantations, scuffling of all access roads, and weeding of newly planted areas;
- (ii) purchase of nursery tools and equipment including hoes, slashers, watering cans, wheel barrows, partial shade netting and protective clothing;
- (iii) raising of seedlings to plant at least 1,000 hectares;
- (iv) conducting social economic survey and land availability survey;
- (v) conducting rubber tapping to identify high latex yielding trees and also determine quality of local rubber;
- (vi) employment of 200 community members in the rubber programme;
- (vii) land clearing for plantation establishment;
- (viii) raising 5,000 eucalyptus, 1,000 pines and 5,000 Jatropha seedling besides the rubber plants for sale to farmers; and
- (ix) construction of five workers' houses and an office block.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF WORKS AND SUPPLY**

### **69/93 - Choma/Namwala Road**

On 16<sup>th</sup> July, 1993, the Honourable Minister informed the House that the Choma/Namwala road would be tarred in phases as soon as the initial K90 million was released. He further stated that the project would be implemented by the end of 1993.

Your previous Committee had observed that work was still on-going. They urged the Government to source more funds to complete the road project and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Final Draft Agreement between the contractor and the Ministry for carrying out the construction and completion of the first 10 km portion of the project road was sent in April, 2005 to the contractor in South Africa, for approval of terms and conditions that were discussed and agreed upon at the second meeting held at the Road Development Agency, in Lusaka.

The contractor had also requested that part of the outstanding debt be settled before work could resume on the current contract. The Ministry had since paid an amount of ZMK 2, 000,000,000 through the Road Development Agency in September, 2006. The contractor was now expected to mobilize equipment, plant and personnel to site towards the end of November, 2006. The programme of works and cash flow

requirements submitted by the contractor showed that the available funds for the current year would not be fully utilized until next year. The Ministry would include a provision in the 2007 Budget for the continued construction of the road.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry and the contractor Messrs Basil Read had agreed to implement the construction to bitumen standard of the Choma-Chitongo road in phases according to the available funds. It was planned that in 2007, the first 10 km of the project road would be carried out and completed to surfacing level.

In December, 2006, the contractor carried out a detailed survey and detailed engineering design to determine the quantities of the work required for the first 10 km starting from Choma. The contractor had agreed to resume the works this year upon clearing the amount of ZMK4,900,000,000 still owed to him for the works carried out on the Chitongo-Namwala road.

In the 2007 Budget, there was a provision of ZMK18,000,000,000 for the construction to bitumen standard of the Choma-Chitongo road. The Ministry hoped that the Ministry of Finance and National Planning would release the funds on time allocated to the project.

On why the Ministry could not find money to finish Choma/Namwala Road because it was taking long to finish work on the road when the road was supposed to finish in three years and yet at the current pace, it might take nine years, the Permanent Secretary reported that the intentions and plans of the Ministry was to carry out work as assured. However, the Ministry had not been adequately funded for their various road projects. A consequence of this was that they had been losing money through penalties from contractors. So far, they had brought back Basil Read from Namibia and appealed to your Committee's support for adequate funding for the road projects.

On what his comment was on money paid to contractors and yet work was not done as the case was for Choma/Namwala Road and Mbesuma Bridge in Northern Province, the Permanent Secretary reported that for Choma/Chitongo Road, money was paid upon the contractor negotiating for some terms. As for the Mbesuma Bridge, it was a classical example of a failed project. Once a contractor had moved on site, he starts to accrue money whether he was doing the work or not. The Permanent Secretary reported that another project where money was wasted was to a contractor who was engaged to do the Mongu-Kalabo road. The Government ended up paying K7 billion for substandard and shoddy works.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that it has taken long to work on this road. They urge the Government to release adequate funding to expedite the works on this road project.

An update report will be awaited on the matter.

#### **41/97 - Hostel Accommodation in Mansa and Kasama**

The Honourable Minister on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1997 assured the House that:

*“During the 1997 period, my Ministry will try to provide hostel accommodation in Mansa and Kasama by completing and officially opening or commissioning the Mansa and Kasama Hostel.”*

Your previous Committee had recommended that the assurance on hostel accommodation in Mansa and Kasama would be partially closed as Kasama Lodge was adequately accomplished. There was need to follow up on the completion of work at Mansa Lodge and the progress report was awaited on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the tender documents for the works at Mansa Lodge were ready. The tenders were expected to be floated before the end of October, 2006.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the refurbishing of Government Lodges was on-going countrywide. This would make the lodges to fare favourably and consequently assist in raising Government revenue.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that Kasama Lodge is well rehabilitated while Mansa Lodge still requires rehabilitation. They resolve to await an update report on the Mansa Lodge rehabilitation works.

### **42/97 - Lusaka/Chipata (Great East) Road**

On 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1997 the Honourable Minister assured the House as follows:

*“I wish to confirm to this August House that this particular project will receive my ministry’s immediate review and at a later date I will be able to come back to this House and give you the action taken so far.”*

Your previous Committee had observed that work on the Great East Road was on-going. They had urged the Ministry to speed up the process as they awaited a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the maintenance of Katete-Chipata-Mwami Border road was progressing quite well. The contract had been revised to cover the full maintenance up to Mutenguleni. The additional works would cost K4.6 billion and the Roads Development Agency (RDA) had applied for Tender authority to cover this variation.

The progress achieved to date on the full maintenance of the first 60 km was as given below:-

<b>Item</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Work Done (KM)</b>
Clear and grub	-	60%
Shoulder Rehabilitation	-	60%
Drainage Works	-	43%
Pothole Patching and Edge Repair	-	45%
Pavement Reconstruction	-	39%
Surface Dressing	-	21%
Stone Pitching	-	39%
Edge repair	-	29%

The portion between Chipata and Mwami would be included in the Annual Work Plan for 2007 of the Road Development Agency.

The Ministry would continue to carry out full maintenance of the Great East Road until sufficient funds for carrying out a complete rehabilitation of the project road was sourced.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the European Union had pledged 23 million Euros for the road and that the Ministry to continue to carry out full maintenance of the road. They urge the Government to attach great importance to this road as it is economically viable since it connects Zambia to Malawi and Mozambique. A progress report will be awaited on the matter.

### **59/97 - Livingstone/Kazungula/Fourways Road Bridge**

On 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1997, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Plans are underway between the Zambia and Botswana Governments to construct a bridge across the Kazungula crossing point.”*

Your previous Committee had requested for an update on the project.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that a response to the request for a grant of US\$3,500,000 to finance the carrying out of a survey and detailed engineering design for the construction of the bridge at Kazungula, which was sent to the African Development Bank (ADB) in form of a joint letter by the two

Governments of Botswana and Zambia had now been received. The ADB had requested that the border dispute between Botswana and Zimbabwe should be resolved first.

However, following an appeal by the President of Zambia for Zimbabwe and Botswana to resolve their border dispute, a compromise was reached and that the construction of the bridge would go ahead and that Zimbabwe would become a part in the construction of the Bridge. The structuring of the Memorandum of Understanding among the three Heads of States was finalised in Harare, Zimbabwe on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2006.

A letter had since been sent to the ADB to indicate that the border dispute would not affect the construction of the bridge and that financing arrangements for the construction of the bridge involved Zimbabwe.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that African Development Bank (ADB) had given Botswana, Zambia and SADC, a total amount of US 3.9 Million Dollars to carry out feasibility studies and detailed engineering designs. On 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2007, seven international consultants, who had expressed interest in the job, were short listed and would be invited to submit design proposals. This task would last till August, 2007 after which contractors would be invited to bid for the construction of the bridge and support infrastructure.

On when the actual construction of Kazungula Four Ways Bridge would commence, the Permanent Secretary reported that this would possibly be in March, 2008, but hastened to state that he would get the exact date and inform your Committee accordingly.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that there are serious and positive steps being taken to ensure that the Kazungula Four Ways Bridge is realized. Your Committee implore the Government to speed up the process, particularly now that Zimbabwe has become a stakeholder along with Botswana. An update report will be awaited on the matter.

#### **60/97 - Landless Corner - Mumbwa Road**

On 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1997, the Hon. Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Efforts are being made to source funds to enable us fulfil this very important requirement. As a matter of fact, the same road has been included in the next programme of work for 1998.”*

Your previous Committee requested the Permanent Secretary to provide an update on the Road Project and on the trial results.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the progress report on the project and trial results was as follows:

- The contract for the testing of the soil stabilizer SOILFIX over a 10 km stretch of road from Landless Corner, was awarded to Messrs Rankin Engineering Consultants at their tendered sum of ZMK2,101,668,332.00 with completion period of six weeks using an integrated Contract Unit (ICU) System. The works started on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2005 and were completed towards the end of November, 2005.
- The cost of the product inclusive of transportation from South Africa was ZMK2.9 billion, thus the total cost of the 10 km trial section was ZMK4.1 billion. The unit cost was therefore approximately ZMK410 million per kilometer which compared well with the conventional pavement building method.
- The completed trial road section was now under observation in order to determine its performance during and after the rainy season. So far, the road pavement was very bad with minimum dust emitted on passing of motor vehicles. This performance would be progressively monitored and if it proved desirable, then the stabilizer would be applied over a longer section of the road to the limit of the available financial resources.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry, through the Road Development Agency, in 2006, engaged Messrs J.J Lowe to carry out the maintenance of the 110km landless Corner-Mumbwa road at a contract price of ZMK2, 100,000,000. The contract had been revised to include the construction of a box culvert across the Bulungu embankment. The project was being financed by the European Union. The works were expected to be completed by July, 2007. The work covered heavy grading of 30km of the project road, light grading 60km and regravelling of 10km.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the assurance is being addressed. They resolve to close the matter.

#### **6/97 - Luampa/Machile Road**

On 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1997, the Honourable Minister assured the House that:

*“Tenders for the Luampa/Machile Road are being processed and that works on the road would cover Luampa, Machile, Mulobezi and Sesheke.”*

Your previous Committee had resolved to wait for an update on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that, the works would be carried out in 2007.

Procurement of the works would start in September, 2006 and completed by November, 2006. The contract for the maintenance of the project road might have been signed in December, 2006. The maintenance of the project road would be included in the Annual Work Plan for 2007.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry provided an amount of ZMK1,000,000,000 for the maintenance of Luampa-Mulobezi road in the 2006 Budget. However, no works had been carried out because no funds were released during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2006. Due to budgetary constraints, the Ministry did not allocate any funds for the project road in the 2007 Budget.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee note that what is assured is not being achieved. They await an update report on what they are doing on Luampa/Machila and Sesheke/Mulobezi roads.

#### **62/97 - Chingola/Solwezi Road**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 1997, the Honourable Minister made the following undertaking on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, rehabilitation of the Chingola/Solwezi Road is one of the priority items included under Roadsip in the second tranche. The Government is currently scouting for funds and preparatory work on the documentation will be taken up during 1998. It is, therefore, likely that the rehabilitation work may commence during the same year.”*

Your previous Committee had commended the Permanent Secretary for rehabilitating the 130 km stretch. They further commended the Ministry for contracting a firm to carry out full maintenance on the portions of the road that were initially omitted and requested to be furnished with a progress report on the road.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the maintenance of the sections between Km0+00 to Km 102+00 to Km 168+00 of the Chingola-Solwezi road was awarded to Messrs Raubex Construction and works commenced in January, 2005.

The works contained in the original contract were substantially completed in November, 2005. However, due to further deterioration in the condition of the road over the past one year, it was recommended that the last 20 km of the project road should receive a surface dressing treatment instead of only carrying out pot hole patching as contained in the original contract. The Government through the Ministry of Works and Supply had already requested a ‘No-Objection’ for additional expenditure from the National Road Fund

Agency (NRFA). The NRFA had approved the additional expenditure in the amount of ZMK3,229,206,675 for the additional works.

The contractor was currently attending to this section of the road and all works were expected to be completed by early 2006.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **63/97 - Chama/Matumbo Bridge**

The Honourable Minister made the following undertaking on the floor of the House on 18<sup>th</sup> November, 1997:

*“Mr Speaker, the construction of this important bridge over the Luangwa River has been put under Roadsip programme of work for 1998. Work on the same bridge will only commence as soon as funds are made available for the particular job in question.”*

Your previous Committee had observed that construction work of Chama-Matumbo Bridge was still pending. They requested progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the amount of ZMK700,000,000 provided in the 2006 Budget for carrying out Feasibility Study for the construction of the bridge across Luangwa river at Matumbo had not yet been released due to budgetary constraints. The Study would only commence upon the release of the funds. However, the component of the Bailey Bridge from Nkalamabwe would be transported to Chama in the year 2006 in readiness for installation.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry, through the Road Development Agency, had prepared Tender Documents for the construction of a bridge at Matumbo. The works were expected to commence in August, 2007.

On how possible the Ministry would fit the Bailey Bridge from Nkalamabwe over 100m wide Chama/Matumbo Bridge, the Permanent Secretary reported that other components would be obtained from other abandoned bridges in Eastern Province.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee, while expressing concern on how the Bailey Bridge from Nkalamabwe will fit over 100m wide of Chama/Matumbo Bridge, resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **07/01 - Mansa/Luwingu/Kasama Road**

The Honourable Minister assured the House on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2001 as follows:

*“Mr Speaker, tarring the 340 kilometre Mansa/Luwingu/Kasama Road to class 1 bitumen standard starts this year, 2001, shortly after the rainy season ends. The design and the tender documentations have been fully completed. The estimated cost for the construction is US\$70 million and so far, the Government has sourced K5 billion for the project to get started.”*

Your previous Committee had observed that work had partially been done. They requested for a progress report on the full rehabilitation of the road.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report as well as in the Permanent Secretary's update that there was need to correct the title of the project because there was no such project as Mansa/Luwingu/Kasama. There were two separate projects. These were:-

- (a) Mansa-Luwingu which was a gravel road project and had been completed. It was awarded to Sable Transport (Limited) in 2005. 163km had been graded, gravelled and drainages opened. The Government owed the contractor K3.6 billion;

- (b) Luwingu-Kasama which was an upgraded project to bituminous or tarmac standard was awarded in 2001. The contractor Sable Transport Limited had never abandoned site. As at last year, the contractor completed 10 km of Kasama Township roads, which was an addendum to the Luwingu-Kasama road project.

The Government was not up to date in paying the contractor and several payment certificates were pending. The contractor had carried out and completed 56km of the road to bitumen standard.

The Government owed the contractor an amount of ZMK56 billion as verified by an independent consultant appointed by the Ministry to determine the amount owed to the contractor.

On whether the Ministry was departing from the Mansa/Luwingu Assurance by breaking it up into two parts as Mansa/Luwingu and Luwingu/Kasama Roads, the Permanent Secretary reported that the two roads were different and dealt with under different projects. The Mansa/Luwingu Road was a gravel road while the Luwingu/Kasama road was to be upgraded to become a bituminous road. However, they were struggling to get adequate resources to complete work on the Luwingu/Kasama Road.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the splitting of the assurance in two parts as Mansa/Luwingu Road and Luwingu/Kasama Road is for their own administrative purpose. The assurance is for the whole road from Mansa to Kasama through Luwingu. In a way, your Committee are of the view that the assurance is being addressed as they had started tarring from Kasama.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee urge the Government to source adequate funds to tar the whole Mansa/Kasama Road. An update will be awaited.

#### **06/02 - Empowering Upcoming Small-Scale Contractors**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2002, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"I am working on the measures to implement a deliberate policy to empower small contractors to get loans for procurement of such plant and equipment."*

Your previous Committee had requested for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report and in the Permanent Secretary's update that the National Council for Construction (NCC) was initiating a credit rating exercise where contractors would be evaluated according to their credit worthiness. This would then create a medium through which appropriate negotiations between the (NCC) and financial lending institutions would be made for sourcing of loans for the local contractors. However, the credit rating initiative was being considered under the private sector reform process. So far, credit reference services had been introduced in the financial sector under the *Banking and Financial Services Act*.

Further, in his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that NCC managed to engage a consultant to recommend the best option by which local contractors could be empowered with plant and equipment in implementing their work efficiently and satisfactorily. The consultant had completed his study and was yet to submit the report.

In terms of monitoring the activities of the contractors with respect to their performance, NCC inspectorate had been carrying out inspections quarterly. The compilation of a register and creation of a data base of projects being carried out by contractors for effective monitoring was on-going.

On why the Ministry had continued involving NCC in their projects when World Bank had indicated that NCC could not be a referee and a player at the same time, the Permanent Secretary reported that the World Bank at that time had doubts on the management of NCC and felt that NCC had not utilized the construction equipment adequately.

On why the Ministry was dealing with Messrs Tomorrow Contractors who were known for substandard works, the Permanent Secretary reported that at the time of registration, they did not know that they were bad contractors. This only came to light after assessing their performance on a number of projects dealing with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the Government is working on modalities leading to the registration of contractors who are worth. Your Committee are of the view that only Registered Contractors should be eligible for loans as contractors.

In view of the foregoing, the committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **28/02 – Lundazi/Chipata Road**

On 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2002, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance to the House:

*“I am also concerned about this. I am discussing the matter with the Hon Minister of Finance and National Planning to ensure that we find money, for the time being, to patch up the road before the onset of the rains. However, this road will certainly be worked on next year.”*

Your previous Committee had requested an update on the full rehabilitation of the road.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry of Finance and National Planning released amounts of ZMK1,000,000,000 in February, 2005, ZMK4,000,000,000 in May, 2005 for the maintenance of Chipata/Lundazi road out of the ZMK6,000,000,000 provided in the 2005 Budget. The contractor was fully paid and returned to site on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2006.

However, the condition of the road had deteriorated where only patching was carried out as more places had been discovered where culverts were vandalized. Fresh areas had also opened up where patching of potholes was carried out but not followed up by surface dressing to seal the cracks. This would thus lead to more expenditure.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee urge the Government to resurface the entire road.

#### **29/02 - Monze/Niko Road**

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2002, the Honourable Minister informed the House that Monze/Niko Road was one of the roads that he was working on, and that when the transport policy was in place and legislation approved, co-operating partners were prepared to fund the Government.

Your previous Committee had observed that very little, if anything, was being done on the assurance. They resolved to await a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Provincial Roads Engineer for Southern Province had prepared tender documents for the maintenance of the Monze-Niko road by contract. The tender had been floated and it was hoped that works might have commenced in November, 2006.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the plans to carry out the maintenance of Monze-Niko road could not be realised because the amount of ZMK670,000,000 that was provided in the 2006 Budget was not released, despite the tender being advertised and recommendation for award being made. The contract was, therefore, not signed but was awaiting the release of funds that never occurred. The project road was not included in the 2007 Budget due to budget constraints.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

### **05/03 - Mwami Turn Off/Mwami Hospital Road**

On 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2003, the Honourable Minister assured the House as follows:

*“The Mwami Turn-Off Road and Mwami Hospital Road will be rehabilitated under HIPC funds by Chipata Municipal Council, They may have hopefully started at the month end of July this year.”*

Your previous Committee had requested for an update on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry of Works and Supply had requested the National Roads Fund Agency to fund the additional works and the Agency had since agreed. However, the additional works would not be carried out as a Variation Order to the existing contract but new tender documents would be prepared to cover the full maintenance of the road - Katete/Chipata - Mwami including the Mwami Turn off to Mwami Hospital. The planned additional works would be included in the 2007 budget.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the improvement of the Mwami Turn off-Mwami Border Hospital road would be included as a variation to the contract covering the full maintenance of Katete-Chipata-Mwami Border post in 2007.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **18/02 - Chipata/Chadiza Road**

On 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2003, the Honourable Deputy Minister informed the House that:

*“The road from Chipata to Chadiza will receive heavy grading this year using funds from the Poverty Reduction Programme. The procurement of works is in place and works will commence soon.”*

Your previous Committee had requested for a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the contractor had not resumed the works to date because the amount of ZMK 1,000,000,000 provided in the 2006 Budget had not yet been released. The Ministry had identified additional works to be carried out as a Variation Order under the existing contract. The contractor would carry out the remaining works and additional works when funds were released by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the additional works for the maintenance of Chipata-Chadiza road had been suspended because the Ministry of Finance and National Planning did not release the amount of ZMK1,000,000,000 that was provided in the 2006 Budget. The Ministry had not provided any money in the 2007 Budget because of budget constraints. The works would remain suspended until funds were sourced.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

### **11/03 – Chipata/Mfuwe (Malambo) Road**

The Honourable Minister made the following assurance on 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2003:

*“The Malambo Road is on the list of being tarred when the money is available and we are looking for a donor to tar that road, but not Vubwi.”*

Your previous Committee had requested for an update report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that, the Provincial Road Engineer for Eastern Province (PRE), acting as the Engineer for the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA), prepared tender documents for the maintenance of 40 km of the Mfuwe-Chipata road and submitted them to ZAWA.

The PRE was still waiting to receive the authority to advertise the tender from the Tender Board through ZAWA.

The section between Chipata and Jumbe on the Chipata-Mfuwe road would receive maintenance under the European Union financed maintenance programme. The contract was awarded to China GEO on 31st May, 2006.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that in August, 2006, the Ministry engaged Messrs China Geo Corporation to carry out light rehabilitation of the Chipata-Chisengu road within the first six months of contract period and then carry out, thereafter, the maintenance of the Chipata-Chisengu road for forty-two months. The works were being financed jointly by the European Union and the Zambian Government. The works started in August, 2006. The maintenance of the other section of the project road, Mfuwe-Chisengu road had been contracted to a local contractor, Messrs Tomorrow Investments. The work progress was very slow. The Ministry through the Road Development Agency had recommended to Zambia Wildlife Authority to terminate the contract because of poor performance.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **12/03 - Chiengi/Kaputa Road**

On 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2003, the Honourable Deputy Minister made the following assurance:

*“Maintenance of the roads between Chiengi and Kaputa has been included in the 2004 budget.”*

Your previous Committee had requested a progress report on the matter .

It was reported in the Action Taken Report and the Permanent Secretary’s update that the Ministry's intentions of utilising a portion of the funds provided in the 2006 Budget in the amount of ZMK19,510,000,000 for the maintenance of various roads did not materialise because the funds were not released by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2006.

Asked why Chiengi/Kaputa Road was not maintained despite money being budgeted for in 2004, the Permanent Secretary reported that the money which was released was quite limited to do serious work.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that since the assurance was made in 2003, there has been no serious works on the road. They urge the Government to budget for the works of this road in 2008 and eventually release the funds for its actual works. A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

#### **26/03 - Kabompo/Mwinilunga Road**

On 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2003, the Honourable Deputy Minister informed the House that:

*“The grading of the Kabompo/Mwinilunga Road via Manyinga has been included in next year’s budget and will be graded as soon as those funds are made available.”*

Your previous Committee had requested for a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the maintenance of 126km of Kabompo (Manyinga)-Mwinilunga road (0286) was awarded to Messrs China Geo in June, 2006, under the European Union financed maintenance programme of district and main roads country wide, which included Solwezi - Kipushi Road (114km) and part of the M8 Road. The total distance under this package was 694.87km. Works on the Solwezi - Kipushi road had started with a total progress of 85km achieved.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the maintenance of 122 km of Kabompo (Manyinga) - Mwinilunga road was awarded to Messrs China Geo in June, 2006 under the European Union financed maintenance programme of trunk, main and district roads country wide. The contract covered the light rehabilitation of the road in the first six months of the contract period and then carry out maintenance, thereafter, for three and half years. The works commenced in August, 2006. The light rehabilitation was carried out and completed in February, 2007.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the assurance has been adequately attended to. They resolve to close the matter.

#### **27/03 - Choma-Chitongo Road**

On 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply had stated that:

*“With regard to when the Choma/Chitongo Road would be tarred, the upgrading of the road to class IC bituminous standards between Choma and Chitongo commenced in July, 2000. The work had since been suspended due to lack of funds. The work shall resume as soon as sufficient funds have become available.”*

Your previous Committee noted the submission and requested that they be given a consolidated update on the matter

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry had paid the contractor an amount of ZMK4,600,000,000 being the principal amount of the outstanding amount due to the contractor for carrying out the construction of the first section of the Choma-Namwala road. The payment followed after the release of ZMK11,000,000,000 by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning.

The contractor was expected to commence the works in April, 2006 upon full mobilization of plant and equipment between February and March, 2006.

An amount of ZMK9,000,000,000 in the 2006 Budget for the construction of Choma-Chitongo Road had been provided.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **28/03 - Mutanda-Mwinilunga Road**

On 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Minister re-assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Speaker, the Ministry intends to carry out periodic maintenance of the road between Mwinilunga and Mutanda.”*

Your previous Committee requested for a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the contractor, GEO Tech carried out the maintenance of the project road and had to date patched a section of 12km as at 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2006.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the maintenance of the first 20km of the road was awarded to Geo Tech, who carried out pot hole patching of the project road and patched a section of 5 km. The contract had since been concluded and the contractor had left the site.

The Ministry was currently negotiating with Messrs Raubex Construction to carry out a full maintenance of the first 100km of the project road. The contractor submitted a bid in the sum of ZMK6,500,000,000 to carry out the works.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that there is still pending work of the project road. They resolve to await an update report on the matter.

### **83/05 - Road Sector Works in Provinces**

On 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Works and Supply informed the House as follows:

*“Sir, the major project being undertaken by the Government and require more resources to register meaningful progress this year are:*

#### **Central Province**

*Mumbwa/Itezhi tezhi Road*

#### **Copperbelt Province**

1. *Old Congo Road*
2. *Mpongwe/Machiya Road*
3. *Lwansobe/Mpongwe Road*

#### **Luapula Province**

1. *Chembe Bridge*
2. *Kashikishi/Lunchinda*
3. *Pedicle Road*

#### **Lusaka Province**

1. *Mungwi/Old Mumbwa/Kasupe Road*
2. *Leopards Hill Road*
3. *Chongwe-Mulalika Road*

#### **Northern Province**

1. *Kasama-Mporokoso Road*
2. *Mbesuma Bridge*

#### **North Western Province**

*Kasempa-Kabompo Road*

#### **Southern Province**

1. *Lusitu-Siavonga-M15 Culvert*
2. *Bottom Road*

#### **Western Province**

1. *Senanga-Kalongola Road*
2. *Kalumwange Farm Block Roads.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secratry reported as follows:

#### **Central Province**

*Mumbwa/Itezhi tezhi Road*

Plans for maintenance of this project road were underway and it was anticipated that civil works might start in 2008. At the moment, the Norwegian Government had funded Feasibility Studies which was being carried out by Messrs RANKIN Engineering. It was hoped that other studies such as the preliminary Engineering Design study would follow thereafter.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that there are some works being done on the road. They resolve to have the matter closed.

### **Copperbelt Province**

#### *Old Congo Road*

The Old Congo road was one of the roads under the European Union financed output and performance based road contract for Copperbelt Province. The contract was signed with Yakashika Contractors Limited on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2006. This contract is for forty-eight months and would last up to July, 2010. The contract covered light rehabilitation to be carried out within six months of the project duration. The contract comprised a number of roads in the Copperbelt Province. The total length of all the roads was 463.79km at a total cost of ZMK34,641,975,185.50.

#### *Mpongwe/Machiya Road*

The Mpongwe/Machiya road was another road included for maintenance under the European Union financed output and performance based road contract for roads on the Copperbelt Province. The contractor was Yakashika Contractors Limited, as already stated above, the contract was signed on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2006 and was for forty-eight months.

#### *Lwansobe/Mpongwe Road*

The Lwansobe-Mpongwe road was yet another of the roads included under the European Union OPRC and is part of the package No.8. The contract was signed with Yakashika Contractors Limited on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2006. This contract was for forty-eight months and would, therefore, last up to July 2010.

As to where the old Congo Road was, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was the road from Mkushi which passed through Teka Farm.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that there are some works being done on the three road projects. They resolve to have the matter closed.

### **Luapula Province**

#### *Chembe Bridge*

The Chembe Bridge linked Luapula and Northern Province to the Copperbelt Province. The Bridge was across the Luapula River. The contract to carry out construction of the Chembe Bridge was signed with China Henan International Cooperation Group Company Limited (CHICO) on 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2006 at a sum of ZMK46.4 billion. The Consulting Engineers were Kiran Musonda Associates Zambia in association with WSP International Management Consulting of the United Kingdom.

The Ministry would like to report that the heavy rains experienced in the 2006/2007 had affected the progress of the project. The bridge site was submerged in water and the construction of bridge abutments, which were being carried out, had as a result stopped. The works going on currently were the completion of the camp site and preparation of sources of construction materials.

On whether there were plans that after doing the Chembe Bridge, they would also work on the Pedicle Road, the Permanent Secretary reported that there were plans not only to work on the pedicle road but to also bring it to a tarmac level. He pointed out that there was K1.9 billion earmarked for the road.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the original completion date of the Bridge is set for March, 2008. The Committee urge the Government to ensure that Road Development Agency (RDA) becomes serious with the project to work within the given timeframe. An update report is being awaited on the matter.

#### *Kashikishi/Lunchinda*

The construction of Kashikishi-Lunchinda road to bitumen standard was fully financed by the Government of Zambia. The works commenced in November, 2001. The project duration was two years. The contract was originally awarded to Messrs NCC Phonix contractors. The contract was in June, 2003 assigned to Messrs J.J. Lowe.

The Ministry wished to report that progress on this project had been slow because of inadequate funding. The Ministry was considering termination of the contract.

#### ***Observations and Recommendations***

Your Committee wish to know the reason the Ministry changed the contractors from the NCC Phoenix Contractors to Messrs J J Lowe. They resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### *Pedicle Road*

The road project started in July, 2006. The total contract sum was ZMK1.9975 billion. The total road length was 70km. Out of the total road length, 41km had been graded, 25km of the 41 had also been regavelled. The Ministry intended to vary the contract to cover 55km regaveling. The request to incur the additional expenditure had already been submitted to Tender Board for approval.

#### ***Observations and Recommendations***

Your Committee observe that there will be a bridge over the Luapula River to connect Chembe/Mansa Road to the pedicle road and the Copperbelt. They strongly feel the pedicle road should be worked on and made into a tarred road. After all, pedicle road was mainly used by Zambians. They resolve to urge the Government to consider tarring the Pedicle road almost simultaneously as they were finishing the Chembe Bridge. An update report is being awaited on the matter.

### **Lusaka Province**

#### *Mungwi/Old Mumbwa/Kasupe Road*

The rehabilitation and maintenance of the Mungwi-Kasupe road started in May 2006. 26km of the paved or tarred section of the road was carried out and completed at a cost of ZMK5 billion under the direct government funding. The rehabilitation works involved pot hole patching and double surface dressing. The works were completed in December, 2006.

#### *Leopards Hill Road*

The maintenance of Leopards Hill Road was awarded to Argente and Company on 28th June, 2006 under the European Union financed programme of periodic maintenance of trunk, main and district roads by output and performance based road contract.

The contract comprise six months of light rehabilitation and thereafter forty-two months of maintenance.

#### *Chongwe-Mulalika Road*

The maintenance of Chongwe-Mulalika road was previously carried out in 2005. It was the intention of the Ministry to continue with the maintenance in 2006 and a budget provision of ZMK1,000,000,000 was made. The Ministry proceeded to procure the works but did not sign the contract because the Ministry of Finance and National Planning failed to release the funds.

#### ***Observations and Recommendations***

In noting the submission, your Committee, request the Government to furnish then with an update report on the three road projects.

### **Northern Province**

#### *Kasama-Mporokoso Road*

The 70 km of the project road, that is from Kapatu to Mporokoso was under the European Union financed periodic maintenance programme. The contract was signed as Package No. 1 with Messrs Sable Transport

at a sum of ZMK35,938,304,463.00 in July, 2006. Light rehabilitation works had been completed on the 70km. Maintenance works would be carried out for a period of forty-two months.

***Observations and Recommendations***

Your Committee observe that maintenance works on the road will go on for forty-two months since 2006. They resolve to await an update report on the matter.

***Mbesuma Bridge***

The construction of the Mbesuma Bridge started in October, 2000. Works were planned to be completed in October, 2001. The contractor was Millers Construction and ASCO Consulting Engineer was the supervising Engineer.

The erratic and inadequate funding had resulted in little works being carried out. The contractor had initially mobilised but due to lack of payments, the contractor suspended the works and demobilised.

The works were still under full suspension. The Ministry intended to terminate the contract.

***Observations and Recommendations***

Your Committee observe that there is a lot of inertia and wastage of resources in the construction of the Bridge. They urge the Government to get rid of the bottlenecks and expedite the construction of the Bridge. An update report is being awaited.

**North Western Province**

***Kasempa-Kabompo Road***

The Kasempa Turn off-Kabompo road was part of the Kasempa Turn off-Zambezi road where the Ministry had two contracts. The first one was the construction project with Belga Construction at a price of ZMK211,377,290,000.00. It started from Kasempa Turn off and was signed in January, 2006. The planned completion date was November, 2007. The second contract was the EU financed OutPut and Performance Based Road Contract (OPRC) which started from Kasempa Turn off and ended in Zambezi. The contract was signed with China Geo Engineering as package No. 11 at a total contract sum of ZMK43,888,428,046 in July, 2006.

The first contract was being funded by the Government of Zambia. The Ministry also reported that progress on this contract had been very slow. About 40km of road length had so far been constructed to bitumen standard.

The second contract under the EU was going on well with all rehabilitation works carried out by the contractor.

***Observations and Recommendations***

Your Committee observe that works on the road rehabilitation have been slow. They urge the Government to speed up the works. An update report is being awaited on the matter.

**Southern Province**

***Lusitu-Siavonga-M15 Culvert***

The project was completed in July 2006. The Lusitu Culvert as it was called, was commissioned in October, 2005. The contractor and Consultant was Ngandu UWP Consulting Engineers and the total contract sum was ZMK1.7 billion.

***Observations and Recommendations***

Your Committee is satisfied with the works done on the culvert. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### *Bottom Road*

The Ministry had provided an amount of ZMK1 ,000,000,000 in the 2007 Budget. Tender documents had been prepared and would be advertised soon.

On the description of the Bottom Road, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was from Chambomboma to Sinazeze through Lisutu in Southern Province.

#### ***Observations and Recommendations***

Your Committee observe that works have not yet started on the road. They resolve to urge the Government to work on the road as assured. A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

#### **Western Province**

##### *Senanga-Kalongola Road*

The Senanga-Kalongola road was approximately 20 km and was part of the road section between Senanga and Sesheke. The Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) would finance the rehabilitation of the road between Mongu and Sesheke through Senanga.

Preliminary studies had already been carried out. Further, detailed engineering design and preparation of Tender documents for the rehabilitation of the road was completed.

#### ***Observations and Recommendations***

Your Committee observe that works have not yet commenced on the road. They resolve to urge the Government to commence working on the road. An update report is being awaited on the matter.

##### *Kalumwange Farm Block Roads*

The construction of roads in the Kalumwange Farm Block area started in May, 2006. The total road length was 34 km at a contract sum of ZMK635.2 million. The contractor was Buyazonki General Dealers and the supervising Engineer was the Regional Engineer, Western Province.

The Permanent Secretary reported that 16 km of road length was constructed by the contractor. Progress was slow because of inadequate funding to the project. As a result, and by mutual agreement between the Ministry and the contractor, this project had been terminated. A total of ZMK167.8 million was paid to the contractor for the works done.

#### ***Observations and recommendations***

Your Committee observe that only 16 km of the 34 km road was worked on before the project was terminated. Your Committee urge the Government to find other contractors to do the remaining 18 km of the road. A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

#### **84/85 - Hostels Board Management**

On 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Works and Supply informed the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, our plan is to make the lodges completely favourable and assist raise Government Revenue.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the refurbishing of Government Lodges was on-going countrywide. This would make the lodges to fare favourably and consequently assist in raising Government revenue.

#### **Observations and recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the rehabilitation of Government Lodges was on-going countrywide. They urge the Government to provide them with a schedule to show which lodges had been worked on and on which work was still pending. The schedule should show status of each Government lodge. An update report is being awaited on the matter.

### **85/05 - Control of Government Transport**

On 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Works and Supply informed the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, the control and use of Government transport is a responsibility of my ministry. I hope to enhance road patrols and control misuse of government vehicles by securing patrol of motor vehicles.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry of Works and Supply through the Government Transport Control Unit had been conducting patrols to check on misuse of GRZ Vehicles especially during weekends and Public Holidays. The Ministry had put up measures to ensure that all movements outside working hours and during weekends were only signed by Controlling Officers or Permanent Secretaries. This included authorising of trips outside the working stations.

Arrangements were also being made to integrate the monitoring of expenditures on the running of the GRZ Vehicles using the newly introduced integrated Financial Information Management System (IFMIS) spearheaded by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning. This system was computerised and all the transactions would be made online and would enhance transparency and promote efficiency in the utilisation of GRZ vehicles.

On why Hon Ministers and Hon Deputy Ministers defied the Government regulations of driving Government vehicles over the weekends, the Permanent Secretary reported that those were national leaders. They were entitled to that privilege but for other Government workers, there were control measures to that effect.

On what explanation could be given to the use of a Government vehicle in a campaign trail, which vehicles were at times was fitted with a private number plate, the Permanent Secretary reported that there were vehicles from Security Wings which were allowed to be used in that manner but purely for security reasons.

#### **Observations and recommendations**

Your Committee observe that there is still misuse of Government vehicles by Government officers. They urge the Government to strengthen the Government Transport Control Unit to ensure effective and efficient patrols to check on the misuse of GRZ vehicles at all times. A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

### **86/05 - Motorised Pontoons**

On 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Works and Supply informed the House as follows:

*‘Mr Chairman, the motorised pontoons will, now, be under the Roads Department Agency after most of the Engineering Services Corporation (ESCO) assets were sold.’*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the functions of ESCO had been transferred to the Road Development Agency.

#### **Observations and recommendations**

Your Committee observe that ESCO is no longer in charge of pontoons in the country but that Road Development Agency is. They resolve to have the matter closed.

### **87/05 – Kasempa/Chavuma Road**

On 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Works and Supply informed the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, the Kasempa/Chavuma Road will be tarred and there is money in the budget for it.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the periodic maintenance of the road between Kasempa and Zambezi had been included in the European Union financed output and performance based road contract that comprised six and forty-two months of continued maintenance.

#### **Observations and recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the continued maintenance works on the road have been earmarked for forty-two months. They resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **88/05 - Disembarking from a Bus at a Weigh Bridge**

On 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Works and Supply informed the House as follows:

*“Regarding the issue of people being made to disembark from a bus in order to go through the weigh bridge is not what should happen. However, I promise that I will investigate this and if there is any truth, I will take action immediately.*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the essence of weighbridges was to make sure that the roads and bridges were protected from overloading vehicles. This helped to ensure that heavy vehicles that were using the road network complied with limits. When weighing a bus at a weighbridge, what was considered was its weight plus that of the passengers it was carrying.

#### **Observations and recommendations**

Your Committee note the submission and resolve to have the matter closed.

### **MINISTRY OF SPORT, YOUTH AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

#### **34/92 - Dag Hammarskjöld Stadium**

The Honourable Minister made an assurance to the House on 28<sup>th</sup> October, 1992, that the work schedule for Dag Hammarskjöld Stadium indicated that the construction work would take thirty-six month from the time the contractor moved on site towards the end of November or early December, 1992.

Your previous Committee expressed concern that the shift in policy of using private funds as opposed to Government funds to build ultra modern stadia would make it difficult to follow progress on the said construction. They requested an update report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that there was a shift in policy regarding construction of the stadium from using public funds to using either Government-Government bilateral co-operation or the private funds through creation of private-public partnership using Build Operate Transfer (BOT) because the government at the moment had no resources to invest in the project. However, this did not change the principle to construct the stadium to which government remained committed.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await for a progress report on the matter.

#### **57/91 - Construction of Two Stadia in Lusaka and Copperbelt**

On 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1997, the Honourable Minister assured that the Government was initiating a budget to put up two stadia in Lusaka and on the Copperbelt.

Your previous Committee were disappointed at the state of stadia in Zambia.

They urged the Ministry to facilitate the development of stadia in order to enhance the development of sport in the country.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry acknowledged the poor state of sports infrastructure in the country and had started negotiations with the corporate organizations for support to the rehabilitation of sports infrastructure. Your Committee was further informed that, the Technical Committee which had been constituted to drive the process of developing stadia had identified three sites

and undertook topographical surveys in all the three sites in Lusaka, Ndola and Livingstone. The Technical Committee, which was co-chaired by the Permanent Secretaries of the Ministry of Sport, Youth and Child Development and the Ministry of Works and Supply, also developed, the request for proposal document (RFP) which was submitted to the Zambia National Tender Board so that the Board could advertise for expression of interest from developers to construct three ultra modern stadia in Lusaka, Ndola and Livingstone on Build Operate Transfer (BOT) basis. The Government was also pursuing the other option of Government to Government bilateral cooperation. The Governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and China had shown willingness to support the project following the visit to the two countries by His Honour the Vice-President of Zambia. In addition to the K5.0 billion that was allocated in 2005, the Government had allocated another K1.0 billion in the 2006 budget for further preliminary works.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await for a progress report on the matter.

### **31/97 - Constituency Youth Development Fund**

On 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1997, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“We are aware of certain dislocations of this fund in some areas. I can assure you that my colleague, the Minister of Local Government and Housing and myself are working closely so that we can find a lasting solution and indeed serve the youths throughout the country.”*

Your previous Committee urged the Ministry to put proper guidelines in place to ensure the proper utilization of the funds.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry had developed guidelines to ensure proper utilization of the funds. A copy was submitted to your Committee.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to have the matter closed as the Constituency Youth Development Fund has already been released.

### **96/01 - Review of the National Sports Policy**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2001, the Hon Minister assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, my Ministry will review its current sports policy. This will begin by reviewing the current National Sports Council Act which has outlived its usefulness.”*

Your previous Committee expressed their concern that sport in the country had continued to lag behind as a result of the delay in the review of the National Sports Policy. They urged the Ministry to put measures in place to expedite the revision of the National Sports Policy and further urged the Ministry to budget for sport for the disabled.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the nation wide consultation process for the review of the Sports Policy was concluded in December, 2005. The process was delayed due to lack of funds. The revised National Sports Policy would be drafted and subject to scrutiny by experts within the second quarter of 2006 before submission to Cabinet Office for consideration. The revised policy would include the sporting needs of the disabled. Your Committee were further informed that in 2005 the Ministry created a budget line for the National Paralympic Committee as a way of supporting sport for the disabled. An amount of K80m was allocated in 2005 and in 2006 the National Paralympic Committee had been allocated K46m.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the review of the National Sports Policy commenced in 2004. This was done through wide consultations with all the National Sports Associations and relevant stakeholders in all the provinces. The recommendations and contributions made to the draft revised sports policy were compiled and presented to the stakeholders at a National Consultative Forum held in December, 2006.

The final policy document had since been finalised and ready to be presented to Cabinet for approval.

On whether the current *National Sports Council Act*, which had apparently outlived its usefulness, had been reviewed, the Permanent Secretary reported that it had not been reviewed though the Ministry had gone ahead to review the National Sports Policy.

On why they had started by reviewing the subset of the regulatory body (the Act) when they were supposed to start with the Act itself as assured, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was actually a small part which needed reviewing otherwise other areas of the Act were satisfactory.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the Ministry has commenced the amendment of the Act by first doing piecemeal amendments to the National Sports Policy. They recommend that the Ministry should first aim at making amendments to the Act before they can seriously begin making amendments to the National Sports Policy. A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

#### **76/ 05 - Revised Policies on Sport, Youth and Child Development**

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Sport, Youth and Child Development assured the House as follows:

*“Similarly, the Ministry intends to launch its revised policies on Sport, Youth and Child Development this year in order to effectively address the challenges ahead of us.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that as pointed out under 96/ 01: Review of the National Sports Policy, the final National Sports Policy document was ready to be presented to Cabinet for approval. However, the revised Youth and Child Development policies had already been authenticated by Cabinet and were launched last year. The Revised Youth Policy was adopted and launched on 20th April 2006. In addition, the Child Policy was adopted and launched on 21st July, 2006.

The Permanent Secretary reported that copies of the Youth and Child policies had been distributed to all the provinces for public consumption. For the Youth Policy, 5000 copies have been distributed while 1,500 copies of the Child Policy had been distributed with 1,000 CDs of the same policy also being distributed.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the policies on Sport, Youth and Child Development have been done. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **77/05 - Construction of three Multi-purpose Stadia in Lusaka, Ndola and Livingstone**

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Sport, Youth and Child Development assured the House as follows:

*“In the context of South Africa hosting the world cup, my Ministry has designed programmes to ensure that the nation benefits from this tournament. This will involve rehabilitation of existing infrastructure and construction of three multipurpose stadia in Lusaka, Ndola and Livingstone using the build operate, transfer concept.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was the Government's intention to construct three ultra-modern stadia; one in Lusaka, one in Ndola and the other one in Livingstone. He pointed out that the policy had not changed and still remained a top priority business of the Ministry. The anticipated benefits of those stadia could not be overemphasised. The construction of these facilities was initially planned to be implemented under the Build Operate and Transfer Scheme (BOT). However, this plan failed because there was no successful bidder to undertake the construction of these stadia under the scheme.

To this effect, the Ministry decided to use the Government-to-Government arrangement. Due to this, some countries had become interested in providing the necessary support in this area, with China pledging to construct one in Ndola. In the same vein, the International Olympics Committee (IOC) had pledged to

build one of those facilities in Lusaka. As for the one to be constructed in Livingstone, the Ministry was still looking for strategic partners.

In addition, the Government remained committed in upgrading the already existing stadia and other sports facilities throughout the country. In this regard, K30 billion Kwacha had been allocated in the 2007 National budget for the rehabilitation of the Independence Stadium, in Lusaka. To support this initiative, the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) with assistance from the world soccer governing body (FIFA) had pledged to provide the artificial turf for the stadium.

With regard to the construction of an ultra-modern stadium in Ndola, it was learnt that Zambian general workers had already moved on site and had started preparing the site in readiness for the Chinese experts who were expected to move on-site very soon. The site had already been identified for the one to be constructed in Lusaka. However, funds were still being awaited from the International Olympics Committee (IOC) for the project to commence. As stated above, the government was still looking for strategic partners to help in the construction of an ultra-modern stadium in Livingstone.

On what the Ministry was doing to realize the assurance of constructing three multi purpose stadia in Lusaka, Ndola and Livingstone to enable Zambia benefit from the World Cup Match to be hosted by South Africa in 2010, the Permanent Secretary reported that the weather pattern in Zambia and South Africa did not significantly differ and as such, some teams might like to camp in Zambia in order to get acclimatised to the weather pattern in South Africa. Therefore, the Government had budgeted a sum of K30 billion for the rehabilitation and construction of the stadia in Zambia as a way of ensuring that they too benefited from the tournament to be hosted in South Africa in 2010.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that Zambia can benefit from the Football World Cup tournament to be hosted by South Africa in 2010. They urge the Government to expedite rehabilitation of the Independence Stadium and the construction # of the multi-purpose stadia in Lusaka, Ndola and Livingstone.

An update report was awaited on the matter.

#### **78/05 - Establishing Zambia Sport Development Trust**

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Sport, Youth and Child Development assured the House as follows:

*“That is why we have thought of establishing the Zambia Sports Development Trust as a private sector driven body to mobilize resources for sports development. Once cabinet approves, this body will become operational this year and will be used as a special purpose vehicle for infrastructure development.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that names of the members to sit on the Zambia Sports Development Trust Board were identified and submitted to Cabinet for scrutiny and ratification. However, the list was sent back on account that the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ), which was a strategic partner in the development of soccer in the country, was not included on the list. Therefore, F AZ was included on the list that was resubmitted to Cabinet. However, the list was again sent back so as to include representatives of certain private sector organisations which had interests in sports development and the capacity in mobilising resources.

The Ministry had been consulting other countries on how they had implemented the same. It was in the process of resubmitting a comprehensive list of all the major stakeholders in the development of sport in Zambia to be part of this board. Those would include the aforementioned representatives.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolve to await an update report as the Ministry is still consulting on the establishment of the Zambia Sport Development Trust Fund and the modalities of its operations..

### **19/05 - Youth Entrepreneurship Development Fund**

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Sport, Youth and Child Development assured the House as follows:

*“In addition Sir, through the newly reconstituted National Youth Development Council, the Ministry has established a Youth Entrepreneurship Development Fund through which youths intending to start businesses access affordable capital.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry of Sport, Youth and Child Development through the National Youth Development Council prepared a project proposal to establish a Youth Entrepreneurship Fund that could be accessed by the youths as start up capital for their projects. The proposal was prepared in 2005 and submitted to AARDO Headquarters in India for their study and consideration. Following the approval of the proposal which had a budget of USD40,000, an initial amount of USD20,000 was released to the Ministry as Youth Entrepreneurship Development Fund. Those funds were released to the National Youth Development Council by the Ministry for disbursement to potential young entrepreneurs. At that time, the USD20,000 was equivalent to ZMK67 million. As a pilot phase, four youth groups in Lusaka and Central provinces benefited from this initial funding, on revolving fund basis, as follows:

Kabwe Youth Group	20 million
Chifundo Youth Project	25 million
Chawama Youth Project	12 million
Evangelical Fellowship Youths	K10 million

The Permanent Secretary reported that currently, all the above named youth groups were engaged in the implementation of their various projects. Nonetheless, none of them had started paying back the loans. As a result, the council had since ceased to disburse any further funds because it was waiting for the repayment of the already disbursed funds.

On whether the Youth Entrepreneurship Development Fund was different from the Youth Constituency Development Fund, the Permanent Secretary reported that the two Developments Funds were different. The Youth Entrepreneurship Development Fund was under the National Youth Council and through that, various youth groups should access the fund.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the assurance is fulfilled as the administration of the project has been done though it is currently suspended. They resolve to, however, close the assurance.

### **80/05 - Lukanga Resettlement - Ndola Rural**

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Sport, Youth and Child Development assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, in line with the New Deal Administration’s Policy on agriculture, the Ministry through the Office of the Vice-President, has acquired land in Lukanga Resettlement Area in Ndola Rural for settling of youths in agricultural activities. This programme is also commencing this year.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that in a continued effort to empower youths, the Ministry of Sport, Youth and Child Development initiated the Lukanga Youth Resettlement Project. This was done via an application for 100 hectares of land in Lukanga from the Office of the Vice President-Department of Land Resettlement by the Provincial Youth Development Office in Ndola in 2003.

The project was aimed at settling 100 unemployed youths in order to train them in agro-processing. The project was also to serve as an exit strategy for the graduating youths from the Zambia National Service (ZNS) youth training camp

To kick-start this project, a budget of ZMK 407,657,250 was prepared at the Ministry Headquarters. However, owing to limited funds, only ZMK 366,833,000 of this amount was released to the provincial office. These funds were to be used for the following:

1.	Preparation of the road network	ZMK 12,000,000.00
2.	Sinking of four (4) boreholes	ZMK 87,000,000.00
3.	Orientation of twenty five (25) youths	ZMK 12,000,000.00
4.	Construction of the project officer's house and VIP toilet	ZMK 26,970,000.00
5.	Construction of 1x3 rooms health counseling office block plus 2 VIP toilets	ZMK 20,510,000.00
6.	Preparation of recreation grounds	ZMK 13,000,000.00
7.	Construction of houses for 25 youths	ZMK 163,000,000.00
8.	Fuel	ZMK 5,000,000.00
9.	Contingency	ZMK 33,000,000.00

Only ZMK 107,850,000 of above allocation was disbursed and was used for physical planning, initial road network and drilling of four boreholes. The remaining ZMK 258,983,000 was in the process of being disbursed and was earmarked for financing undertaking of the pending work as articulated above.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that this assurance has been achieved. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **81/05 - Building staff capacity in Provinces and Districts**

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Sport, Youth and Child Development assured the House as follows:

*“My Ministry has been undergoing restructuring and it a very lean Ministry because we have staff at headquarters and we want to build capacity in Provinces and Districts. We want to get down to the grassroots and administer in the manner we are supposed to administer sport, child and youth development.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry underwent restructuring and new officers had been employed in the Provinces. This had enhanced the implementation of sport, youth and child development programmes at provincial level.

To further stimulate the implementation of sport, youth and child development programmes in the provinces, the Ministry was in the process of recruiting district officers.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee express satisfaction that this was already happening. However, they implore the Government to ensure that once funds are available, the exercise should get down to the districts. An update report is awaited on the matter.

#### **82/05 - Introduction of Soft Ball Sport in Schools**

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Sport, Youth and Child Development assured the House as follows:

*“We are introducing soft ball in schools because this year, we have said it is a year of sports and physical education. We will distribute these handsets in schools and targeting all schools in the 150 constituencies.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that both Softball and Baseball were famous games in other countries, especially, developed countries. They form part of the Olympic Games. In Zambia, those sports disciplines had not received the popularity they deserved mainly because of lack of recognition and support. Nevertheless, Zambia had been making frantic efforts in developing the games.

This was evident from the country's affiliation to the International Baseball and Softball Federations as well as the National Olympic Committee.

The two games were similar and had been in existence in Zambia since 1967. Baseball was previously known as "Rounders." In Zambia, Baseball was played in five provinces namely Lusaka, Copperbelt, Central, Western, and Eastern Provinces. In an effort to improve those two games, a pitch had been built at Munali Secondary School, which was the training ground for all Physical and Sports teachers in the country for the two sports disciplines.

Softball and Baseball had been introduced in the following schools and colleges countrywide:

### **Copperbelt Province**

#### *Kitwe*

Matete Basic, Riveran Basic, Lechwe, MCM and Nkana Schools

#### *Chingola*

Chingola Basic, Nakatindi Basic, Chingola Trust and Sekela Schools

#### *Luanshya*

Ghandi Primary, Luanshya Trust, Chainsa Primary and Mikomfwa schools

#### *Mufulira*

Mufulira Primary, Mufulira Basic, Kantashi Primary and Pamodzi Primary schools

#### *Ndola*

Simba, Nsansa, Kansenshi and St.Andrews schools

### **Lusaka Province**

Munali, Chainda, Jacaranda, Lake Road, International School and Chibelo schools

### **Western Province**

Lewanika Nursing School

So far, twenty five schools had benefited from sports equipment with twenty of these coming from the Copperbelt while five were from Lusaka. From the above scenario, it was evident that these sports disciplines were more popular on the Copperbelt as compared to other provinces.

The Permanent Secretary reported that currently, 200 schools were ear-marked to play league games at district level so as to increase the population of baseball and softball players throughout the country as well as build more playing fields in many schools and other strategic locations. This was also aimed at enhancing the popularity of the games in the country.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee express happiness and satisfaction that softball in schools is being introduced. They resolve to have the matter closed.

## **MINISTRY OF LANDS**

### **11/98 - Demarcation of the Zambia/Malawi International Boundary**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 1998, the Honourable Minister assured the House as follows:

*"I am happy that funds have been allocated in this year's budget to demarcate the Zambia/Malawi boundary."*

Your previous Committee observed that there was a serious problem of encroachment by the Malawians on the Zambian/Malawian international boundary especially in Chama and Mwami/Muchinji border areas. In

view of the foregoing, they recommended that the Government should speed up the demarcation process and urgently engage the Malawian Government in the process so that they became committed partners in the exercise and to ensure that the continued destruction of beacons was averted.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government of Zambia and Malawi had already commenced the demarcation of the 804.5km of the Zambia/Malawi border. The work on the demarcation of the Zambia/Malawi boundary commenced in 1988 with aerial photography of the first phase on the 200km stretch from Mwami to Tamanda. The joint survey meeting of May, 1999 resolved to commence with the beacon monumentation work on the initial 200km stretch around the Mwami/Muchinji area. This work commenced on 18<sup>th</sup> August, 1999. Prior to this, a six days social sensitisation exercise was conducted jointly by the Zambia and Malawi Survey Teams along the common border in the Mwami/Muchinji area. The sensitisation prepared the local people along the border to be aware of the impending survey work so as to lessen mis-understanding and unnecessary problems for the field survey parties. People were also sensitised on the need to protect and safe guard the beacons. All the work in the sensitisation exercise entailed a joint participation of the two National Survey Agencies and other Government officials.

The work to physically mark the 200 kilometres with boundary beacons started in 1999 and ended in 2001. The first phase boundary stretch showing the watershed had also been mapped with maps at scales of 1:50,000 and 1 :20,000.

The Zambia/Malawi Ministerial Meeting that was held from 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2003 in Chipata, Zambia, approved the survey work, with the accompanying maps of the first phase of 200 km. The meeting also charted a way forward for surveying of the remaining 604.5 kilometre stretch to regulate and facilitate cross border activities.

Aerial photography of the remaining boundary stretch of 604.5 kilometres had since been completed. The placement of boundary beacons would be undertaken in three phases. From the year 2006 to 2008, work was expected to progress, and the two Governments were expected to provide the funds for the project. Sensitisation of peoples living along the common border had been done, and this was also expected to be a continuous exercise involving local officials in the border area. Further, the two Governments through their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs were sourcing for donor funding and the Governments had since prepared a joint project proposal.

The Ministry of Lands had through the 2006 MTEF Budget made provision, for the completion of this work, and the Ministry of Finance and National Planning had been requested to release funds for the programme.

As regards the issue of encroachments by the Malawians on the Zambia/ Malawi international boundary, especially in Chama and Mwami/Mchinji, the correct position was that the two Ministers responsible for Land in Zambia and Malawi undertook a tour of the first 200km of the border area, and determined that both Zambian and Malawian villages encroached on the established boundary line of each country. However, the two Governments recommended that border settlements should not be disturbed for now until the whole international boundary was physically demarcated.

On the issues of destruction of the boundary beacons, it was established that five out of the existing 360 beacons have been damaged to date, and that two of these are located on the Zambian villages while three are located on a private estate belonging to a Malawian national. Further, the two Governments established that contrary to allegations contained in some reports, the people along the common border lived in harmony.

The two Governments resolved to immediately restore the five damaged beacons, and charge the culprits responsible for the damage.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the work on the demarcation of the Zambia/ Malawi boundary that had so far seen the marking with permanent beacons of the 200km stretch of the entire 804km of the boundary was on going.

He reported that Zambia/Malawi International Boundary as inherited from the British Government at Independence was a watershed line of high land that separated the catchment area of water that flows into Lake Malawi on one side and the Luangwa River on the other side.

#### **Determination of the watershed-remaining 604km stretch**

The Permanent Secretary reported that progress had been made towards the surveying of the remaining 604km stretch. In 2005, a contract was awarded at a cost of US\$420,000 to Airborne Laser Solutions Company of South Africa to determine and map the watershed. The aerial survey covered a corridor width of 5km over the remaining stretch of 604km along the border. The mapping and determination of the watershed was completed in April, 2006.

He further reported that the watershed had made apparent the encroachment patterns of people living along the common border. Zambian villages on Malawi land were now visible and Malawian villages on Zambian soil were also visible. The same could be said about farming estates along the common border.

The Airborne Laser Solution Company made a presentation of the work at a joint meeting held in Lusaka from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005. At that meeting it was agreed that a team of surveyors from both countries jointly carried out an independent survey to check the result presented by the Company before the two Governments could be advised to officially accept the work.

The Permanent Secretary went on to report that field verification inspection exercises to verify the work done by company was conducted from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2006. The two departments in the ministries responsible for land surveying in the two countries jointly studied the work done by the Consultant to determine the watershed and its mapping.

Technical advice on the quality and accuracy of the watershed determination was given to both Governments and the work had since been accepted by the two Governments.

#### **Alleged destroyed beacons along the 200km stretch**

The Permanent Secretary reported that with regard to alleged beacons that were reported as having been destroyed or tampered with along the 200km stretch of the already surveyed Zambia/Malawi International Boundary, a Joint Ministerial Sport Check on the alleged destroyed beacons along the border was jointly conducted from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2006.

The two Governments resolved as follows:

- to immediately restore the five damaged beacons;
- to charge the culprits responsible for the damage of the beacons in accordance with the law;
- to intensify sensitization campaigns targeting people living along the common border by involving local administration;
- to maintain the existing beacons and open a boundary cut line along the established boundary;
- to adhere to existing and future Ministerial resolutions on the common border; and
- to use the established channels of communication whenever there was any issue relating to the common border.

#### **Latest progress on the demarcation of the border**

Following the approval of the watershed as determined by Airborne Laser Solutions Company, a team of Technical Experts led by the Surveyor General travelled to Malawi in May, 2007 to meet with their counterparts in order to jointly assess and consider the current situation along the common boundary as made apparent by the mapping and determination of the watershed line. The joint assessment of the impact of the watershed would facilitate to conclusively resolve matters relating to the affected people, settlements, infrastructure and other assets.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that the assurance has been addressed and resolve to have the matter closed.

### **05/95 - Decentralisation and Wide Publicity on the Decentralisation of the Lands Tribunal**

On 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2005, the Honourable Deputy Minister assured the House as follows:

*“Again, the Ministry of Lands is doing everything possible to publicise the existence of this Lands Tribunal. There is, therefore, need to decentralize and broaden the operations of the Lands Tribunal so that more people can have access to the services being offered by the Lands Tribunal.”*

Your previous Committee observe that the Lands Tribunal is an important institution which need a lot of support in order to carry out its operations. They, therefore, urge the Government to ensure that adequate funding is given to the tribunal for operations and request a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry reported that budgetary provision had been made regarding wide publicity of the Lands Tribunal. Further, there had been an increase in the amount allocated to the Lands Tribunal in order to sensitize members of the public about the existence of the Tribunal. The Ministry was also considering having more sittings in the provinces and districts in order to make the Tribunal effective in the resolution of the Land disputes.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Lands Tribunal was set up as an alternative dispute resolution mechanism, in order to accommodate the:

- (a) most vulnerable members of our society (i.e. including women, disabled persons, the illiterate and the blind);
- (b) promote speedy and equitable resolution of land disputes;
- (c) assist people who could not afford costs of litigation access to justice pertaining to land;
- (d) promote conflict free systems of land allocation and further enhance the predictability of the same; and
- (e) achievement of a governance record from the Government to its citizens with regard to land.

The Permanent Secretary further submitted that the Lands Tribunal was currently housed in the former Political Museum of Zambia at the annex building of the Mulungushi Conference where it was renting the structure and it was the desire that a permanent structure for its operations be found to cut down on running costs for funds to be directed to its core business.

The Lands Tribunal had heard over 716 cases since its inception.

### **Decentralisation of the Lands Tribunal**

The Permanent Secretary reported that soon after its establishment, it was the view of everyone that the Lands Tribunal should be decentralized and be made a circuit court. The Ministry was of the view that they needed to start with two offices; one in Lusaka presided over by the Chairperson; and other one in Ndola presided over by the Deputy Chairperson. The Lusaka office should cater for the Lusaka, Central, Southern, Western and Eastern Provinces while the Ndola office should cater for the Copperbelt, North Western, Northern and Luapula Provinces.

### **Publicity**

The Permanent Secretary reported that the wide publicity of the Lands Tribunal had also not been effectively done. People in outlying areas had no idea on the existence of the Lands Tribunal and yet others think it had been dissolved. The Tribunal had only been able to tour one province outside Lusaka in Northern Province. This year the Tribunal planned to undertake more trips to various provinces. Through the provincial tours, it was hoped that rural communities would be made aware of the existence of the Lands Tribunal.

On why the wide publicity and decentralisation of the Lands Tribunal was not taking place, the Permanent Secretary reported that they would put adequate machinery to ensure that they publicised the Lands Tribunal and embarked on decentralization once the level of funding was improved.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **28/05 - Processing of the Title Deeds to Former ZCCM Employees**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Lands made the following assurances on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, there is also continuation of processing title deeds to former ZCCM employees.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that with regard to the processing of titles to former ZCCM employees, your Committee were informed that ZCCM had more than 40,000 housing units. The Ministry of Lands had received approximately 15,000 units for titling. Out of the 15,000 units, approximately 13,500 were collected by ZCCM on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2007. More were still in the process of being worked on. There were more than 20,000 units which were still with ZCCM holdings and were awaiting lodgments at the Ministry of Lands.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the assurance is being worked on. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **29/05 - Draft Land Policy**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Lands made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, by the end of the year 2004, all key stakeholders were consulted in the nine provinces of the country. A preliminary draft policy has been prepared.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that following the consultations that had taken place with regard to the formulation of the National Land Policy, a draft working document had now been prepared by the Ministry. The Draft Land Policy reflected the views of the key stakeholders in land matters, who included Government Institutions, Cooperating Partners, Traditional Authorities, Local Authorities, Civil Society and the Public at large. The draft document would be subjected to further analysis through a National Conference to take place in July, 2007, before its submission to Cabinet for approval.

On whether the draft land policy was in place, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was but that there was need for consultation with the key stakeholders on land matters. He intimated to your Committee that the nation's conference on the matter might be held in July, 2007 before it was submitted to Cabinet for approval. He then pledged to your Committee that by the end of the year, there would be an approved land policy in place.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the draft land policy is already in place. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **30/05 - Processing of Title Deeds from Ndola Office - Northern Half of Zambia**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Lands made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, as a result of the assistance from the Public Service Capacity Building Project (PSCAP), I am happy to announce that my Ministry has managed to lease a line from ZAMTEL to connect Ndola regional office to the Ministry Headquarters. This will allow owners of properties from the north end part of the country to process title deeds and access information there, instead of having to travel to Lusaka.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that as a result of the assistance received from the Public Service Capacity Building Project (PSCAP), the Ministry had managed to lease a line from ZAMTEL to

connect the Ndola Regional Office to the Ministry Headquarters. Currently, property owners from the Northern half of the country were able to access information on the Land Register at Ndola Office.

On whether Ndola Lands Office was operational, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was, except that it did not have a registrar as yet.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that work is going on of connecting ZAMTEL line from Ndola Office to the Ministry of Lands in Lusaka. They are of the view that the assurance is being addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **31/05 - Linking Provincial Offices to the Ministry Headquarters in Lusaka**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Lands made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, the Ministry has plans to link the rest of the provincial offices to the system at the headquarters in the near future, subject to the availability of funds. This is in line with Government policy of decentralisation.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry had plans to link the rest of the provincial offices to the Land Information Management System (LIMS) at Headquarters, subject to the availability of funds. This was in line with the Government Policy on Decentralisation.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that apart from the Ndola Office, other provincial centres have not as yet been linked to the Ministry Headquarters in Lusaka. They resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **32/05 - Revenue Collection through Ground Rent and Other Related Fees and Charges**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Minister of Lands made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, one of the core functions of my Ministry is to raise revenue for the Government through collection of ground rent and other related fees and charges. This year, my Ministry has put in place measures to increase revenue collection through improvement of the billing system as well as the employment of revenue collectors to be based in all the nine provinces as earlier stated.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the core functions of the Ministry was to raise revenue for the Government through collection of ground rent and other charges. The Ministry budgeted to collect K10, 911,292,333.00. As of May, 2007, K5, 597,488,564.00 was collected representing 51.3%. This had been as a result of improving the billing system and recruitment of ground rent collectors.

On whether the Ministry had improved revenue collection through making the billing system effective and efficient and by employing ground revenue collectors, the Permanent Secretary reported that the written response to your Committee did not answer those questions. He pledged to revisit the response as guided.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the following measures have not been done to improve revenue collection:

- (i) work on the billing system; and
- (ii) employment of ground revenue collectors.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee are of the view that the assurance is not being addressed. They resolve to await an up date report on the matter.

## MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

### 19/98 - Establishment of the University of Science and Technology

On 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1998, the Hon Minister assured the House as follows:

*“I can assure you that I am taking up the challenge to ensure that Zambia has got a third university but this time, of Science and Technology.”*

Your previous Committee observed that little had been done to achieve the intended results of the assurance. They requested for a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that as previously reported, the Ministry had been pursuing the establishment of the University of Science and Technology through collaboration with various private investors that had shown interest in establishing a University of Science.

The initial group of investors that had committed themselves to establish the University had, unfortunately, been unable to pursue the matter, and had since withdrawn. However, another set of investors had shown interest to establish a University of Science and Technology. The Ministry was still having discussions with the investors to determine a way forward.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that in order to speed up the establishment of a University of Science and Technology, the Ministry had entered into partnership with the Victoria Falls University of Technology. In this partnership, the Ministry had leased to the university the old campus of the Livingstone Institute of Business and Engineering (LIBES) in Livingstone.

The university was currently renovating the facilities in order for programmes to begin, possibly in the next academic year. The initial programmes would be based on Communication Technology such as:

- Microsoft Office 2003 Specialist (MOS) certification training courseware
- MCP (Microsoft Certified Professional), MCSE (Microsoft Systems Engineer) and other Microsoft certification training
- Internet user courseware
- Internet developer courseware
- Teachers Computers Orientation Course

He reported that other programmes would be added later. The University would be registered under the Ministry of Education in line with the *Universities Act*. However, being a University of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Vocational Training would support the University in terms of policy guidance related to technology education, maintenance of training standards, and provision of the basic infrastructure. As a partner, the Ministry would be on the Governance board of the University.

On whether the University to be established under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Vocational Training was the one which was to be in Kabwe, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was not the same because the one in Kabwe would concentrate on programmes in administration, human resource and would be under the Ministry of Education whereas the one which would be in Livingstone would concentrate on programmes in Science and Technology and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Vocational Training would be a member of the Governance Board of the University.

On why the Victoria Falls University of Technology would be based in Livingstone, the Permanent Secretary reported that other places were considered. Ndola was one such place because of its centrality in the highly industrialized town. Another option was Kalulushi due to it being based in a highly industrialized area. However, of all those options, Livingstone was found to be the most suitable town because it would attract students from neighbouring countries of Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia and even from South Africa.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee express the hope that there will not be a reversal of establishing the University of Science and Technology as was the case for Zambia Institute of Technology (ZIT). They urge the Government to be in the forefront in establishing the University of Science and Technology to enable them claim its ownership.

A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

### **24/03 - Chipata Trades School**

The Honourable Deputy Minister made the following assurance on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2003:

*“My Ministry has plans to build classrooms, workshops and offices for Chipata Trades Institute, which has been operating from temporary premises since 1993.”*

Your previous Committee observed that the response advanced by the Ministry on the subject matter was not focused on addressing the particular assurance. They resolved to request for a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report and in the Permanent Secretary’s update that so far one classroom block and two ablution blocks had been constructed at the new site. In March, 2006, K20 million was sent to Chipata Trades Training Institute to help them complete remaining works on the ablution block. Plans were that within this year 2006, class sessions should start at the new Campus along the Malawi Road. It should be noted that teachers' houses were situated at this same Campus, and it was planned that construction work would be done in phases. The Ministry intended to put K600 million in the 2007 budget for the construction of workshops at the institution.

On whether classrooms, workshops and offices had been built at Chipata Trades School, the Permanent Secretary reported that money had not been found.

On what the Ministry had done to ensure the Trades Training School was not operating on temporal premises, the Permanent Secretary reported that when the Chipata Trades Training School started, they operated from Katopola Agricultural Centre. Later, they moved to ESCO buildings in Chipata. The policy of Government on the matter was to build a fully fledged campus like Lukashya Trades School in Kasama or Mansa Trades School in Mansa.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that part of the assurance is being addressed as the Trades School was no longer operating on temporal premises. They, however, resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **62/05 - Implementation of the Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy and Programmes**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Science, Technology and Vocational Training made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

*“Modern trends in scientific research in biotechnology had seen the emergency of GMOs, which had become a major influence in agricultural development. There was local human and institutional capacity needs to manage the effects of this technology.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that to facilitate the implementation of the Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy, the Ministry developed a National Biotechnology and Biosafety Strategic Plan in 2003. The plan had seven core strategic programmes, of which the first programme was Human Resources and Infrastructure. This aimed at developing adequate infrastructure, expertise and skills and training on appropriate human resource base. Development of local human and institutional capacity to manage modern trends in scientific research in biotechnology was an on going process. The Government was being assisted by the Norwegian Government through a biosafety capacity building project which commenced in 2004.

The institutional biosafety capacity building was ongoing at the National Scientific and Industrial Research. Among others, the GMO Detection and Research Laboratory was rehabilitated, completed and equipped in 2006. The laboratory would require additional equipment for other more sophisticated procedures. It was expected to be commissioned in the month of April, 2007.

#### **Human Resource Training:**

The Permanent Secretary reported that seven scientists and one lawyer had participated in Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetically Modified Organisms Genok/UNEP training weeks in Norway. The course was designed to provide policy makers, regulators, NGOs/civil society leaders, specifically from developing countries, with the necessary balanced and critical training in crucial Genetic Engineering, GMO issues, through lectures, laboratory demonstrations, group work on case studies, and discussions.

Further, the Permanent Secretary reported that thirty five scientists participated in the one day GMO detection course by the Norwegian Veterinary Institute in Lusaka, Zambia. One person was trained in management of the Biosafety Clearing House while six scientists had undergone short training courses (3 - 4 weeks) in GMO detection and two scientists were on Masters Degree Programme in Norway.

#### **Biosafety Information System**

The Permanent Secretary reported that National Biosafety Information System had been set up at NISIR through establishment of a Website [www.biosafety.org.zm](http://www.biosafety.org.zm) which was operational and linked to the Conventional of Biological Diversity (CBD) Biosafety Clearing House. The development of the Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) was on going.

The following brochures on biotechnology and biosafety had been developed to raise awareness and participation of the different target groups in issues of biotechnology and biosafety:

- (i) Non-technical brochure for the general public;
- (ii) Technical brochure for scientists;
- (iii) Brochure on the Cartagena Protocol; and
- (iv) National Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that the assurance has been fully addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **63/05 - Establishing a Science and Technology Venture Capital Fund**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Science, Technology and Vocational Training made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“My Ministry is, therefore, in the process of establishing a Science and Technology and Capital Fund that would provide credit financing to small-scale businesses who intended to apply indigenous technologies. Currently, the ministry was developing modalities and instruments for operationalising this Fund.”*

In reference to the above contents of the assurance, the Permanent Secretary reported that a concept paper had been developed and Terms of Reference prepared. They were in the process of selecting a consultant. It was anticipated that the consultants would bring out the following:

- i) conceptual framework for the establishment and operationalization of the venture capital fund;
- ii) venture Capital Fund Management Structure;
- iii) source of Funding (VCF Financiers);
- iv) eligibility for the Fund;
- v) monitoring and evaluation;
- vi) legal and institutional framework; and
- vii) strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) institutional framework of the proposed fund.

Thereafter, the Permanent Secretary submitted that the expected specific outputs on VCF were as follows:

- (i) report on VCF establishment;
- (ii) operation manual on VCF;
- (iii) application forms for awards;
- (iv) MoU with the holding bank(s);
- (v) business profiling;
- (vi) due diligence process;
- (vii) performance contract between the fund management;
- (viii) service level agreement between fund management; and
- (ix) general guidelines on the project proposals.

On the reasons for wanting to establish a Venture Capital Fund, the Permanent Secretary reported that they wanted a basis for promoting their ventures without necessarily going through the rigours of getting a loan from the banks.

On whether they had developed any modalities and instruments on the operationalisation of the Venture Capital Fund, the Permanent Secretary reported that they had. One of such modalities involved engaging a consultant to undertake the project. If the fund became operational, it would provide credit facilities to small scale businesses. So far, K150 million had accumulated since 2006, when the idea was mooted.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that the modalities for operationalising the Capital Fund are delaying the implementation of the programme. A situation where K150 million is lying unused should not arise. They urge the Government to expedite resolving the issue of modalities to set in motion the Venture Capital Fund.

An update report is awaited on the matter.

#### **MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (MDD)**

##### **65/05 – Development and Implementation of Citizens’ Charters**

On 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Deputy Minister in the Office of the Vice-President made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, having undertaken study tours on this subject, the Division intends to use this money on developing and implementing Citizens’ Charters in selected Ministries and Institutions before covering the rest of the civil service.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Government of the Republic of Zambia had been implementing the Public Service Reform Programme (PSRP) since 1993. The overall goal of the PSRP was "To improve efficiency, cost-effectiveness and quality of service delivery to the people of Zambia". Over the last thirteen (13) years of the PSRP implementation, changes had been made to the operating and organisational frameworks of ministries and other government institutions. All ministries now had strategic plans to guide their operations and optimal structures to implement the plans. In addition, a new and open objective performance management system had been developed and installed and some human and institutional capacity had been built in most of the restructured ministries. At the centre of these changes, there had been the desire to place public service institutions in a position where they could deliver and achieve more with limited budgetary resources.

Despite these changes, the general public who were the ultimate beneficiaries of the reforms had not benefited fully from the reform initiatives. This could be attributed to the fact there was no formal system in place to determine expected and actual service delivery levels as perceived by the public and to provide feedback. One of the contributing factors had been the over emphasis of the reform strategy adopted on the supply-side of public service institutions at the expense of demand-side interventions, which empowered

citizens and clients to put legitimate pressure on the Public Service institutions to perform. As one of the interventions to address the issues raised above, the Government decided to develop and institutionalise Service Delivery Charters in all Public Service institutions. Service Delivery Charters were social contracts entered into between the general public as clients and public service institutions as service providers. The charters obligated Public Service institutions to provide a certain agreed level of service, and the general public to place legitimate demands on the public service institutions to fulfill their obligations.

As a first step in this regard, it was found necessary that a team of officials from Management Development Division (MDD) and Public Service Management Division (PSMD), Cabinet Office, undertook a study tour to some countries in the region. The overall objective of the study tour was to enable the officers exchange experiences with their counterparts with regard to the development and implementation of Service Delivery Charters as well as e-governance. Specifically, the focus of the study tour was mainly on the processes followed, management institutional arrangements, the policy and legal environment, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

Further, the Permanent Secretary reported that since then, some appreciable progress had been recorded towards the development and implementation of Service Delivery Charters. To ensure objectivity and guarantee success of the initiative, it was decided that independent consultancies be commissioned to work with officials from MDD and PSMD. The main objectives of the consultancies were: -

- (a) to develop a Service Delivery Charter Development Manual for use by government officials in developing the charters in the targeted ministries and institutions as well as in the rest of the Public service;
- (b) to build adequate capacity in MOD, PSMD and the targeted ministries/institutions to develop Service Delivery Charters;
- (c) to conduct service delivery surveys to solicit for public perceptions and opinions;
- (d) to develop Service Delivery Charters for the targeted ministries/institutions, namely; PSMD, Ministry of Lands, Department of National Registration, Citizens and Passport; and; and Department of Immigration under the Ministry of Home Affairs; and
- (e) to develop and implement a mechanism/strategy for sensitizing the general public about the charters.

The Permanent Secretary reported that to date, the consultancy services had been advertised and expression of interests from potential consulting firms had been received and evaluated. Out of a total of eleven (11) firms evaluated, six (6) were short-listed as having met the evaluation criteria and were subsequently requested to submit technical and financial proposals for undertaking the consultancies. Only three (3) out of the 6 firms successfully submitted detailed proposals by 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2007, which was the deadline. The technical proposals had since been evaluated and two (2) firms had been recommended subject to the approval by the World Bank and final evaluation of their financial proposals. It was expected that the procurement process would be concluded by end of June, 2007, to enable the successful firm to commence the provision of the consultancy services.

It was planned that the consultancy services would be provided over a period of eighty (80) person days and not exceeding six (6) months. Resources for these activities were available under the Public Service Management component of the PSRP.

Finally, the Permanent Secretary reported that in the meantime, some work was already underway in the Ministry of Lands and Department of Immigration to review, re-engineer and where possible, automate the work processes. So far, the type and nature of services being provided had been defined. Current work processes had been mapped out, problem areas identified and possible interventions had been proposed and were being reviewed. All this was aimed at building a firm foundation for the eventual development and implementation of meaningful Service Delivery Charters.

On what a Citizens' Charter was, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Citizens' Charter was a social contract entered into between the general public as a clients and the public service institutions as service providers. He gave an example of the Ministry of Lands where the clients go to have their title deeds

processed at the Ministry. A Citizen Charter would inform the client that a title deed would be processed within two weeks of lodging in. This would mean that interactions of officers at the Ministry of Lands and the clients would be minimized to almost zero and as such, corruption would be reduced as clients would be well informed of their rights and privileges.

On when the Citizens' Charter would be developed as they seemed to concentrate on working modalities of developing them by engaging consultants from time to time, the Permanent Secretary reported that Citizens' Charter were a new phenomenon in Zambia. Therefore, there was need to engage renowned consultants as they worked closely with the Public Service Management Division and their Division to develop the Citizens Charter. He reiterated that it was a costly venture as other cooperating partners such as the Swedish and Danish Governments were working closely with them. It meant also having an e-governance and other modalities in place to implement it.

On the time-frame regarding the implementation of the Citizens' Charter, the Permanent Secretary reported that by December, 2007, the Citizens' Charter would be ready for the Ministry of Lands.

On the request to avoid using terms such as 're-engineering' in reporting on the works done in implementing the Citizens' Charter, as such a word meant nothing at all to your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that a term such as re-'engineering' was meant for consultants but in terms of reporting to your Committee, he pledged that he would be as simple as possible. By re-engineering, it entailed a process of operations of implementing the Citizens' Charter. He intimated to your Committee that they had done some works already with the Ministry of Lands, Immigration Department and they were now busy looking at e-governance.

On whether one could be sued for failure to implement what was contained in the Citizens' Charter, the Permanent Secretary reported that a person could not be legally sued for failure to implement what was contained in the Citizens' Charter because this was a social contract and not a legal contract. However, one could be disciplined administratively for not adhering to the laid down guidelines contained in the Citizens' Charter. The Permanent Secretary reiterated that Citizen Charters improve service delivery in a most effective and efficient manner.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe that the Citizens' Charter is a necessary component in Public Institutions as it improves the efficiency and service delivery to the public. It reduces issues of corruption and rent seeking behaviour from clients. In view of the foregoing, the Committee resolve to await a comprehensive report on its implementation in the identified Ministries and Government Departments.

## **MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT**

### **47/88 - Tazama Rehabilitation Programme**

On 8<sup>th</sup> December, 1998, the Honourable Minister assured the House that a complete survey of the pipeline and essential repairs had been carried out and that major rehabilitation of the pipeline was underway.

Your previous Committee observed that since the Ministry and TAZAMA were still in the process of securing the funds for the project to take off, they would await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the rehabilitation of Tazama Pipeline was supposed to have been done in four phases with assurance from the World Bank (WB) and the European Investment Bank (EIB). However, after completion of phases 1,2 and 3, the final phase was suspended halfway as a result of the withdrawal of financing by the WB and EIB when the Governments of Zambia and Tanzania felt that due to its strategic nature TAZAMA could better be managed by the two countries as opposed to private entities.

TAZAMA, therefore, embarked on sourcing funds for the final phase of rehabilitation estimated at US \$10 million with the following components:-

- (a) pipeline repairs and replacements at a cost of US \$5.0 million;
- (b) equipment and spares at a cost of US \$2.0 million; and
- (c) completion of Crude Oil Tanks repairs at a cost of US \$3.0 million.

In implementing the core priorities, TAZAMA with the assistance of the Government had done a lot in mobilizing its own resources to finance part of the works with regard to the US \$3.0 million required for rehabilitating tanks, 2 and 6 in Dar-es-Salaam, which had since been commissioned. Tank 5 was expected to be commissioned in July, 2006. This meant that the whole tank farm would be available for operations of the company.

The remaining US \$2.0 million, which the Company expected to raise, would be used to complete the Ndola Crude Oil Tank.

The Company was seeking additional funding to implement the other rehabilitation works. So far, TAZAMA had done some works on pipeline repairs and replacement. It also procured some critical equipment and spares through the use of its own resources.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that in 2007, work to complete the 40,000 metric tones tank in Ndola and convert it into a diesel storage facility would commence.

On the estimated cost of TAZAMA Rehabilitation Programme, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was US\$40 Million. He reiterated that money for this project was expected to come from European Investment Bank and the World Bank.

On whether the leakages on TAZAMA Pipeline had been worked on, the Permanent Secretary reported that they needed to provide an update on the matter. All he could state in the meantime was that the tanks had been rehabilitated at the Dar-es-salam tank farm in Tanzania at a cost of US\$1.5 Million.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolve to request the Government to urgently work on the oil tanks in Ndola to avert the frequent closures of INDENI Refinery which impacted negatively on the country's Strategic Oil Reserves. A progress report is awaited on the matter.

#### **26/95 - Mini-Hydropower Stations**

The Honourable Minister assured the House on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 1995, that depending on the availability of funds, his Ministry intended to develop more hydro power stations.

Your previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that as regards, the project "Renewable Energy Based Electricity for Isolated Mini-grid in Zambia" it had been approved by the Board of the United Nations Environment Programme's Global Environment Facility (GEF). The project covered operationalising three electricity mini-grid projects in Samfya, Chinsali and Kaputa at a total cost of US \$7.5 million. Through this project, a 1 MW mini-hydro power plant would be implemented at Shiwangandu in Chinsali. The Ministry would work with UNIDO on this project.

Through the implementation of this project, a model for securing finance for developing additional mini-hydro sites in Zambia would be developed.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry had prioritized the development of mini-hydro power development. So far the projects set out hereunder were being implemented:

1. Development of a 1 MW mini-hydro power plant at Shiwangandu in Chinsali District. The plant would cost US \$1.4million and would supply the surrounding areas. Construction was expected to commence before the end of 2007 and was expected to be commissioned in 2008. Currently,

- preliminary activities were being undertaken. Funding had been secured from United Nations Industrial Development Organizations (UNIDO) which would partner with ZESCO in implementing the project.
2. Development of a mini hydro plant at Zengamine in Mwinilunga District would with installed capacity of 1.5MW. The project was private sector driven but the Ministry through the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) had provided K100 million as capital subsidy from the Government. This was in line with the role of REA. This project was extended to be commissioned in July, 2007.
  3. Development of a mini hydro plant at Chitokoloki Mission in Zambezi. The project was in its infancy and would have an installed capacity of 150 kW. The Ministry through the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) would also provide K100 million as capital subsidy to the project. The contribution from the Government was available and awaited progress from the private sector developer.

In addition, the Government with assistance from the Japanese Government was developing a Rural Electrification Master Plan (REMP). The formulation process started in May, 2006 and was scheduled to be completed in December, 2007. The Master Plan would have a comprehensive list of potential mini-hydro sites to be developed within the framework of the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP) and Vision 2030. Field surveys for identifying the additional mini-hydro sites would commence in May, 2007.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolve to await an update report on the various Mini-Hydro Power Plants in the country.

#### **27/97 - Kapishya Geothermal Power Plant**

On 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1997 the Honourable Minister informed the House that his Ministry was looking into the possibility of transferring Kapishya Hot Springs to his Ministry to be under the jurisdiction of ZESCO.

Your previous Committee noted some progressive work being advanced to the realisation of Kapishya Geothermal Power Plant. Since the assurance had not been implemented in totality, they resolved to await a progress report

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that ZESCO was to send its official to Italy to study the operations of the plant. ZESCO was also collaborating with Kenyan experts, who were knowledgeable on geothermal power stations. Efforts were being made to ensure that the plant became operational at the earliest possible time.

ZESCO was currently working on rehabilitation plans, which were in procurement stage. ZESCO would invite the Kenyan counterparts to assist in the fine tuning of the detailed designs. This work was expected to start in the third quarter of 2006.

As regards the outstanding payment of salaries to the people safeguarding the plant, ZESCO was in the process of paying the first half of what was owed (seventeen month's salary) and was expected to clear the remaining balance before the end of the year.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that since ZESCO took over the project, a number of site investigations had been carried out to assess the plant rehabilitation and re-commissioning. Among ZESCO's findings was the fact that the plant's installed capacity of 240 kW was small as compared to the surveyed and projected demand of about 1.4 MW along the Lakeshore and the Nsumbu sub boma. This had led ZESCO to consider investigating the possibility of expanding the existing Kapishya plant in order to meet the projected demand.

Since this kind of plant was the first in Zambia, ZESCO had contracted Kenya Generating Company (KENGEN), which had vast geothermal generation experience to work with ZESCO for this type of generation. ZESCO had also involved local consultants at the University of Zambia (UNZA), school of Engineering to offer technical support.

The current findings indicated that more than 2MW could be generated from the site. This was a positive development as it meant that the plant at Kapishya could be expanded to supply not only all the loads within the immediate vicinity of the plant, but all the other loads along the lakeshore including Nsumbu sub-boma.

With this development, ZESCO had commenced surveys and designs for the construction of the distribution reticulation networks and for the re-construction of the damaged access road portions. Preparations for the rehabilitation works were currently in progress. In order to update the power plant from 240kW to 2 MW, the next step required detailed drilling works to confirm the exact capacity to be installed at Kapishya. The work was, therefore, still in progress.

On what was meant by Geo-thermal, the Permanent Secretary reported that it referred to underground energy. One drilled a hole in the ground, introduced a pipe to get the hot liquid from there and the steam was used to turn the turbines to generate electricity. Examples of these were at Chinyunyu and Kalomo hot springs.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to seriously tap the Geo-Thermal Power in close liaison with the Kenyan Generating Company (KENGEN). An update report on the matter is being awaited.

#### **52/05 - Strategic Oil Reserves**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Energy and Water Development made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, on the issue of Petroleum, this is a start. The Government is contemplating on introducing strategic oil reserves in the country.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry was in the process of purchasing 7 million litres of diesel and 3.5 million litres of petrol from BP as part of the strategic reserves. This fuel remained for the contractual amounts BP brought in the country during the plant shutdown of INDENI in October, 2006.

Modalities for the purchase of this fuel had been concluded and the fuel was already in the country.

In addition, Oil Marketing Companies were still obliged to keep fifteen working day stocks. This fuel was also meant to cushion the country in case of an unplanned shutdown of the INDENI refinery.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to ensure that Strategic Oil Reserves are able to hold Crude Oil for ninety days and, during shutdowns of INDENI Refinery, to hold Crude Oil for thirty days to avoid prolonged shortages of petrol and diesel. An update report is awaited on the matter.

#### **53/05 - Electrification of Lumezi**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Energy and Water Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Lumezi is twenty-third on the list. The cost of electrification project in the Eastern Province is K3.4 billion. The expected time of completion is March, 2006.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that Lumezi was one of the rural electrification projects approved for funding in 2006. The cost was K3.4 billion, which money Government through the Rural Electrification Authority had paid to ZESCO.

Since all the required funds had been provided, the project would be completed in 2007.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that ZESCO is on course in the electrification of Lumezi. They resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **54/05 - Electrification of Chama District**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Energy and Water Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“We are connecting Chama, through Malawi and President Mwanawasa has not been to Chama to effect or influence this project. We shall spend about K5 billion on this project.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the status of this project was that the electricity utility in Malawi, ESCOM, had completed their section up to the Zambian border. ZESCO on the other hand was also working on its 30 km stretch from Chama Boma to the border, which was expected to be completed by the end of May, 2007. Once these works were completed, Chama would cease to be supplied by diesel generation, hence improving the reliability of electricity supply.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the electricity utility in Malawi, ESCOM, has done their section up to the Zambian Border. ZESCO, on the other hand, has not completed its part up to the Malawian Border. Your Committee are concerned that Zambia usually responded last to international arrangements. Examples of Chipata/Mchinji Railway Line and TAZAMA Tank rehabilitations are given where Malawi and Tanzania have already done their part and Zambia is only trailing behind.

They, therefore, urge the Government to double its responses to issues of international arrangement. ZESCO should speed up to complete the 30Km stretch from Chama Boma to the Malawian, ESCOM Grid. A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

### **55/05 - K7 Billion for Rural Electrification**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Energy and Water Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“I would like to say that this money is meant for the whole country. So, we must now look at those provinces that have nothing so that we can pour in some money to make a difference in terms of projects.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that funds for the rural electrification programme had always been provided through the national budget as Rural Electrification Fund (REF) which was paid as 3% electricity levy on all electricity consumption. From 1995 to 2005, ZESCO completed sixty-eight projects.

In 2006, the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) again contracted ZESCO to implement the forty-three projects shown below. These included new and on-going projects. It was expected that these projects would be completed before the end of 2007. The national spread of these projects was designed to fulfill the assurance given to the House in 2005.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to speed up the process of electrifying rural areas. An update report is being awaited on the matter. The progress report should state the status of the rural electrification programmes.

### **56/05 - Electrification of Kaputa District**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Energy and Water Development made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

*“We have actually purchased a brand new generator for Kaputa. We have also as a Government, paid K3 billion to ZESCO to connect Kaputa to the national grid.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the total cost for connecting Kaputa to the national grid was estimated at K12 billion. Out of this amount, the Government through the Rural Electrification Project had provided K3.3 billion, which money was being used to carry out preliminary works. Additional funds would be provided in 2007. The completion of the work would be determined by the availability of funds.

On the other hand, the Ministry was spearheading the construction of a 1 MW biomass gasification plant at Kaputa at a cost of US\$1.5 million. Assessments for the project were currently being done. It was estimated that this project would also be commissioned in 2008.

Since the capacity of the gasifier was more than the power requirements for Kaputa for the foreseeable future, the excess power would be fed to the national grid. This was the rationale for both extending the grid to Kaputa as well as developing the gasifier plant. This arrangement would also improve the voltage profile in the area considering that Kaputa was at the terminal end of the national grid.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge Government to honour its undertaking of completing the gasification plant in Kaputa by December, 2008. A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

#### **51/05 - Preferential Electricity Tariffs for Commercial Farmers**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Energy and Water Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“That arrangement expired, but farmers have come back to us and we are asking them why they cannot discuss the matter with ZESCO in view of the important and strategic role that farming plays in our country. The discussions are going on and we hope they will reach a fruitful settlement.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the arrangement for ZESCO to offer preferential electricity tariffs to farmers was ended. It covered the period 2004 to 2005. The arrangement was meant to cushion the impact of drought that was experienced in the 2004/2005 farming season in order to enable farmer at that time to be able to irrigate their crops.

However, farmers had indicated that they would like to re-discuss this matter with ZESCO. These discussions would take account of the need for ZESCO to sell power at the real costs as well as the impact of reduced generation due to the on-going rehabilitation of the power stations.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolve that if the issue of giving preferential electricity tariffs for commercial farmers is a Government Policy issue, then ZESCO should be brought on board to support the programme.

#### **58/05 - Sinking and rehabilitation of Boreholes in Mazabuka and Monze**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Energy and Water Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Under this Emergency Programme, we want to sink twenty boreholes and rehabilitate twenty-five in Mazabuka. In Monze, we want to sink twenty new boreholes and rehabilitate twenty-five.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that according to the Emergency Drought Recovery Programme plan, they were supposed to sink fifteen boreholes in Mazabuka and fifteen in Monze. However, twenty sites were requested from each district to allow for replacements in case of drilling dry holes. The following was the progress achieved so far:

In Mazabuka: Out of the planned fifteen boreholes, two had been constructed. Of the targeted twenty-five rehabilitations, ten had been done.

In Monze: Out of the planned fifteen, three boreholes had been done. Of the targeted twenty-five rehabilitations, eleven boreholes had been rehabilitated.

The delays in completing the works had been caused by lack of spare parts to maintain their old drilling machines. Another factor was that the only machine, was redeployed to sink township boreholes in Choma and Gwembe when the dams that supply water to these towns dried up in 2005/2006.

The drilling rig and its compressor had been fully repaired and had been sent back to Southern Province to tackle all outstanding assurances and other programmed works in the 2007 work plan.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee on observing that the Permanent Secretary is talking only of fifteen boreholes instead of twenty as assured on the floor of the House, urge the Ministry to reconcile their response with what was assured in the House. An update report is being sought on the matter.

#### **20/97 - Inter-Basin Transfer of Water**

On 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1997, the Honourable Minister assured the House as follows:

*“I am happy to inform this House that currently, a feasibility study has been completed for the transfer of a substantial amount of water out of Luapula into the Kafue across the Congo Pedicle.”*

Your previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the status had not changed as Zimbabwe had not yet submitted any Environmental Impact Study report.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update on the matter.

#### **50/97 - Commercialisation of ZESCO**

The Honourable Minister assured the House as follows:

*“To improve the commercial position of the company (ZESCO), the Government has set out key objectives one of which is the commercialisation of ZESCO. This will make the company financially viable. As part of the commercialisation, the Company will be encouraged to make all divisions operate as separate business entities such as generation, transmission and distribution.”*

Your previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the ZESCO Business Plan for the period 2004 - 2009 had been finalized and approved by its Board and the World Bank. The Regulatory Expert had been engaged and had already started working with the Energy Regulation Board.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS DEVELOPMENT**

#### **19/03 - Restructuring of Kagem Mining Limited**

On 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2003, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance:

*“I would like to state that this country has got a lot of minerals which the Lord has given us but, we do not think that the country is benefiting. That is why we intend to restructure Kagem Mining Limited so as to make it a pilot project for the nation.”*

Your previous Committee were concerned that generally, safety concerns in the mines were not adequately addressed and recommended that safety departments in the mines should be reintroduced as a matter of urgency.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government had taken steps to set up safety offices in all the mines in Zambia. Today all mining companies, large and small, had safety offices operating under the Mine Manager, except in the case of Konkola Copper Mines PLC where safety fell under a Vice-President of the Company.

To promote safety among small scale miners, safety letter No. ASI was issued at the point of granting a mining licence. The letter assigned mine safety responsibility to the Mine Manager. The practice sensitized new miners to the importance of adhering to safety standards in the mining industry.

Further, the following additional measures were taken in 2005:

- (a) large scale mining companies were instructed to ensure that employees, particularly contractors' employees underwent safety induction courses before allowing them to commence work on the mines; and
- (b) contractors whose employees persistently breached safety rules and regulations would have their contracts terminated by the mining companies they worked for. Mining companies were in support of this measure.

The shareholding of Kagem Mining limited, however, had been restructured after going through a court process. On 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2005 the Solicitor General wrote to the Minister of Mines and Minerals Development that the Government had settled all outstanding disputes with Hagura on the transfer of 42 percent shares in Kagem from the Government. The settlement was that rather than transfer the 42 percent, Government would only transfer 30 percent and that the case payment to Government, which was originally at US\$1,800,000, would be increased by 100 percent.

Accordingly, the Solicitor General advised that pursuant to Section 55(1) of the *Mines and Minerals Act, Cap 213* of the laws of Zambia, the Minister of Mines and Minerals Development should consent to the transfer of 30 percent shares. The Minister accepted the advice and provided the consent.

With this development Hagura held 75 percent while the Government held 25 percent of the shares in Kagem Mining Limited.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **04/03 - Gemstone Exchange Centre**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2003, the Honourable Deputy Minister informed the House as follows:

*“My Ministry has put a programme in place where we would like to establish a Gem Exchange Center where all gemstone dealers would be free to sell their products. This gem stone exchange center will actually act like a free based market.”*

Your previous observed that Zambia had failed to have an organized gemstone market. They, therefore, urged the Ministry to put in place mechanisms to allow and encourage small scale indigenous miners to engage in mining.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government had since decided to let the gemstone exchange be private sector driven. Accordingly a private entrepreneur and proprietor of sub-Sahara Africa was identified in July, 2005 to lead the establishment of the gemstone exchange.

The entrepreneur had offered his premises and buildings, which were being renovated, to provide rooms for banking facilities, offices for rent and for security personnel, and an auction floor with booths for display of gemstones on sale. Arrangements were under way to offer gemstone mining associations and other interested parties shares in the sub-Sahara Gemstone Exchange in order to make the exchange more representative of the private sector.

To further encourage small scale miners engage in mining activities, a Mining Sector Revolving Fund (MSRF) was launched by the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development in 2005 with an initial capital of K2 billion. The fund was created as an additional credit facility for artisanal, gemstone and small scale miners. The fund supplemented the credit facility of some Euro 15.5 million issued through selected Commercial banks under the Mining Sector Diversification Programme. It also supplemented the small loan facility of Euro 1 million disbursed through Pride Zambia, a micro credit institution.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **67/05 - Mineral Exploration Works in Zambia**

On 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Mines and Minerals Development assured the House as follows:

*"In the meantime, there were a number of companies carrying out exploration work in the Petauke District for copper and gold. The discoveries were there, but exploration work was still continuing. In the Munali Hills, there was exploration for nickel, in Mumbwa for gold, in Chongwe for copper and gold and in Lusaka West area for other base metals."*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the current scenario was as set out below:

Katanga Resources had continued to do detailed exploration for copper and gold in the Petauke area. Significant discoveries were currently being evaluated. Albidon Limited completed the bankable feasibility study in July, 2006 and the Company was granted a Mining Licence on 5th September, 2006. The Company had started constructing the mine. The Lui Mines Limited which was exploring for gold in the Mumbwa area was concentrating on the Matala Dome area located 30 km southeast of Mumbwa and the old Dunrobin Mine. Mineralisation had been recognized in both the Matala Dome area and the old Dunrobin area. Current geochemical and geophysical exploration had indicated anomalies which were being followed up by drilling. The results of the assays were quite encouraging. The Company gave an estimated resource of 108,000 ounces of gold in the indicated areas and 173,000 ounces in the inferred category. The exploration licence was due to expire in November, 2007 and was subject to renewal.

Further, the Permanent Secretary reported that Zambezi Resources had entered into a joint venture with Glencore and were going to fund US\$16 million in exploration over the next two years. The company plans to employ about twenty geologists to intensify the exploration for copper and gold. Additionally, the Company had contracted four drilling companies to drill the copper and gold anomalies. Basically, the Company was proceeding to do detailed exploration and drilling. The exploration licence was due to expire in November, 2008 but might be renewed.

It was reported that African Rainbow Minerals was still exploring for minerals in the Lusaka West area. Their exploration licence was due to expire on 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2007 but might be renewed.

On the concern regarding the long gap between exploration work and actual mining, The Permanent Secretary reported that it was a necessary requisite because exploration had to be exhaustive before actual mining was commenced. He cited Lumwana Mine as a case in point where exploration started in 1961 and the Mine was only being developed now. The law provided that exploration works could take as long as seven years. Once seven years expired, the other group of explorers could take over the exploration work.

As to who financed exploration work, the Permanent Secretary reported that usually it was self financed by the explorers themselves. Others go on stock exchange in order to undertake exploration work.

On whether some explorers were doing actual mining and sending to their countries huge samples, the Permanent Secretary reported that exploration took a period of seven years and whatever the explorers were doing during that time, the Ministry had officers who monitored their works.

On whether the Ministry would increase the number of inspections in the mines to further reduce the mine accidents, the Permanent Secretary reported that the issue was being pursued even further as the aim was to completely reduce mine accidents and make all the mines safe places to work in.

On the concern that a named mining company was still employing expatriate personnel at the expense of local personnel, the Permanent Secretary reported that if that was done, it was an insult to the spirit of Zambianisation. He pledged that he would follow up the matter to ensure that local contractors and local skill were given due priority. He reiterated that the Ministry had an inspectorate to check on mine managers and other key appointments.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Geologists in the Ministry to take keen interest in what was happening in Lusaka and Chongwe by people doing exploration works in those areas. An update report is being awaited on the matter.

### **68/07 - Geological Mapping**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March 2005, the Hon Minister of Mines and Minerals, Development assured the House as follows:

*"Sir, ----- We, also, want to continue with geological mapping, including investigations on mineral resources and hydrocarbons in certain parts of the country. Further, when we have sufficient personnel, we will be able to go round the country to look at the aspect of safety of our people. We are doing everything possible, as a Government, to address the situation so that we can minimize the number of mine accidents."*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Geological Survey Department had continued to do geological mapping of the Mwense area. The work was expected to be completed in August, 2007.

Under a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Japanese International Corporation Agency (JICA), the Department would work with Japanese geologists to commence the mapping of four quarter degree sheets in the Mpika area. The work was expected to commence in June 2007 and end in 2009.

The Department started petroleum exploration in the North-Western Province in 2005 using the Microbial Prospecting for Oil and Gas technique. The positive results of the exploration had led to the demarcation of the area into sixteen blocks for detailed exploration by oil and gas exploration companies. Tenders for the companies to bid for these areas would go out in May, 2007. Tendering would close three months later when selection of the successful bidders would be made and contracts awarded to do the detailed exploration work.

With the allocation in the national budget for 2007, the Department would extend the petroleum exploration to Western Province, North Luangwa Valley (Chama Area) and the Zambezi Valley this year.

Further, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development recruited fifteen mine inspectors and two technicians to strengthen the then low number of eight inspectors at Mines Safety Department. The increased number of inspectors from eight to twenty three resulted in an increase in the number of inspections. The inspections increased from 485 in 2005 to 1285 in 2006. There was also a corresponding reduction in the number of fatalities from eighty in 2005 to eighteen in 2006.

The Government procured three vehicles for the Department. There was only one vehicle for inspections at the time.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge the Government to update them on the geological mapping for all the provinces in the country to enable everyone know where to find such and such mineral deposits.

Further, your Committee urge the Government to double its efforts of reducing mine accidents to zero rate in the mining industry.

An update report is awaited on both matters cited above.

#### **70/05 - Local Contractors**

On 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2005, the Hon Deputy Minister of Mines and Minerals Development assured the House as follows:

*"Mr Speaker, although the economic environment in Zambia is liberalized, allowing privatized Mines to select contractors to undertake contractual work, the Government encourages these companies to use local contractors where necessary and expertise and capabilities which are locally available."*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that Government was encouraging use of local labour through structures set up to implement the current policy on recruitment of expatriate labour.

The Government Policy on recruitment of expatriate labour was that non-Zambian professionals should only be recruited to occupy positions for which they were not suitably qualified Zambians to fill them. This Policy was promoted and monitored through the Zambianisation Committee chaired by the Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Security. The core objective of the policy was to ensure that priority for employment and promotion was given to Zambians to assume key positions in the economy. The Zambianisation Committee worked closely with the Work Permits Committee at the Ministry of Home Affairs chaired by the Chief Immigration Officer. The Zambianisation Committee ensured that companies drew up succession plans and training programmes to ensure that Zambian trainees were attached to expatriates to understudy those expatriates with a view to eventually taking over the jobs held by expatriates.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee urge Government to ensure that all mining companies in Zambia put emphasis on employing local personnel and engaging local contractors to support the Zambianisation policy, unless where such skill or technical knowledge is not available.

An update report should be availed to your Committee on the matter.

### **MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

#### **05/04 - Rehabilitation of Nyanje and Mwanjawanthu Local Courts**

On 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Minister of Justice and Attorney-General made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, the Judiciary has already embarked on rehabilitating local courts not only in Eastern Province but countrywide."*

Your previous Committee observed that the information presented was scanty and lacking in detail, and that the information was in fact meant for the Permanent Secretary's action. They resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government shared your previous Committee's anxiety regarding the rehabilitation of Local Courts and, in particular Mwanjawanthu and Nyanje Local Courts. Your Committee might, however, wish to know that due to budgetary constraints, it had not been possible to rehabilitate Local Courts. However, the rehabilitation works would be included in the 2007 estimates of expenditure.

In his update, The Permanent Secretary confirmed that the rehabilitation of Nyanje and Mwanjawanthu Local courts in the Eastern Province did not take place due to the fact that the sum of K400,000,000.00 that was allocated for the rehabilitation works was not released.

It was, however, hoped that the recently allocated K9,000,000,000.00 to all the nine provinces, if released on time might help to rehabilitate most of the Local courts throughout the country currently in deplorable state.

For any further information, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee to consult the Chief Administrator, who was the Controlling Officer for the Judiciary.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee urge the Ministry to reconcile the responses from the Permanent Secretary on the matter with that of the Controlling Officer of the Judiciary.

A progress report is being requested on the matter.

#### **06/04 - Laws Relating to Children**

On 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Minister of Justice and Attorney-General made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, we do not want to bring piecemeal amendments to this August House. We have a programme of comprehensively reviewing laws relating to children including domesticating the Convention on the Rights of the Child and all child-related legislation. I can promise that in the next session of Parliament, we should be ready to table such legislation.”*

Your previous Committee observed that the information presented was lacking in detail and was not meant for their attention. In this vein, they resolved that the Permanent Secretary availed them a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in Action Taken Report that the Government shared your previous Committee's concern regarding laws relating to children. In this regard your Committee was informed as follows:-

The complexity of the matters relating to children's rights had necessitated greater need for consultation with the stakeholders in order to ensure that the legislation brought before the House adequately took into account the dynamics of society obtaining not only in the nation but regionally and internationally. This was important, especially when viewed in light of the fact of recent lapses that had been observed in the legal system, which were brought to the fore in the case widely reported in the media, where a Congolese woman was prosecuted for smuggling children through Zambian enroot to South Africa.

Currently the Judiciary was implementing a programme for child friendly courts to deal with the complexities presented in juvenile justice delivery. This effort would require legislative responses that were far reaching and, therefore, the consultative process needed to utilise the local and international interest generated to the fullest extent possible in order to ensure that the welfare of the child was secured.

As an interim measure, the Government ensured that amendments to existing legislation were effected and these included the *Penal Code (Amendment) Act No. 15 of 2005* which provided for stiffer penalties for sexual offences committed against children. The Act provided for minimum sentences ranging from between fourteen and twenty-five years for offences such as indecent assault of a child, child defilement, procuring of defilement of a child by threat, fraud or administering of drugs, selling or trafficking in

children etc. The maximum sentences for many of the offences in the Act was life imprisonment. Those penalties were intended to enhance child safety because of their deterrent nature.

A further legislative development had been the amendment of the *Employment of Young Persons and Children Act* contained in the *Employment of Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Act No. 10 of 2004*. This Act domesticated the International Labour Organisation Convention against the Worst Forms of Child Labour as well as the International Labour Organisation Convention on Minimum Age.

A need for legislation that provided support structures for child victims of traumatic events had also added to the need for wider consultations with the various stakeholders. The need to focus on the rehabilitation of children in relation to the various forms of abuse they might suffer and to address the root causes of negative behaviours had meant that more dialogue be engaged in.

In furtherance of the need to ensure that adequate legislation was brought to the House promptly, the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services in conjunction with the Zambia Law Development Commission had been spearheading the formulation of a comprehensive legislative framework for the protection of children's rights in the country. Some of the current legislation in Zambia that dealt with children rights included:

- 1 *the Adoption Act;*
- 2 *the Affiliation and Maintenance of Children Act;*
- 3 *the Education Act;*
- 4 *the Employment of Young Persons and Children;*
- 5 *the Juveniles Act;*
- 6 *the Prisons Act; and*
- 7 *the Probation of offenders.*

The consultation and legal framework once completed by the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services and the Zambia Law Development Commission would then be forwarded to the Ministry of Justice for the drafting of the necessary legislation for presentation to the House. The projected date by the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services for the completion of consultations was between six to eight months from the beginning of the year 2006.

However, due to the complexities encountered during the consultative process, the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services had not concluded their consultations in the period that they initially thought they would. However, the matter was receiving the seriousness it rightly deserved, and it was hoped that appropriate legislation would be presented before the House in the shortest possible time after conclusive consultations were completed.

As to whether the seven legislation on children's rights cited above had been reviewed by the relevant stakeholders, the Permanent Secretary reported that they had been reviewed as a lot of consultations on the matter had been done.

On what the Ministry of Justice had done to ensure that the assurance as stated on the Floor of the House was met by bringing up child-related legislation to the House during the recent sitting of Parliament, the Permanent Secretary reported that assuming she had full control of the situation, the Ministry would bring the legislation on the current Children's right in the next sitting of Parliament. But because they had client ministries, who had to fulfill their roles as well and finally bring those pieces of their input for fine tuning at the Ministry of Justice, she was incapable of committing herself that the legislation would be brought to the House in the next session of the Parliament Sitting.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that there was wide consultation taking place before the Ministry of Justice could bring to the House the current Children's Rights Legislation. Your Committee urge the Government to expedite the process of consultation on the matter and ensure that the legislation was brought in the October/November, 2007 sitting of the House.

An update report is awaited on the matter.

**47/05 - Violation of Human Rights Due to prolonged Disposal of Court Cases particularly for Inmates**

On 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Justice made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, I must thank the Hon Member of Parliament for bringing that to my attention. I will look into it.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Government under the Administration of Justice, priority area of the Governance Chapter of the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP), was implementing a programme designed to improve access to justice for all, including the poor and vulnerable, women and children.

This programme would be achieved through the development of an effective and accountable justice sector that was capable of meeting the needs and interests of the poor, vulnerable and marginalised people. The key access to justice institutions involved in the programme included Zambia Police, Legal Aid Board, Director of Public prosecutions (DPP), Judiciary and the Prisons.

**Outputs of Access to Justice Programme**

In so far as the violation of human rights due to prolonged disposal of court cases particularly for inmates were concerned; the outputs of the Access to Justice programme included:

- improved communication, cooperation, and coordination among justice institutions and other stakeholders;
- improved accessibility to justice institutions, especially by the poor and vulnerable, women and children; and
- improved record keeping and information management within and across the justice institutions.

**Priority Reforms of Access to Justice Programme**

The Permanent Secretary reported that, during the first year of implementation, the Access to Justice Programme would include the following priority reforms:

*(a) Overcrowding of Prisons:*

- identification of prisoners held for a long time and make recommendations for their release from custody depending on the nature of the offence;
- development of guidelines for visits to places of incarceration including prisons and police cells;
- conducting visits to prisons and police cells by teams of justice sector institutions based on guidelines to be developed;
- development systems for classification of prisoners and take actions to reduce remandees; and
- strengthening records management systems within criminal justice institutions.

*(b) Delays in Court:*

- establishment of a co-ordinating mechanism among the offices of the Police, Prosecutions and Courts in order to strengthen investigations and prosecutions;
- development of best practice guidelines for the criminal justice process;
- development of backlog strategy based on best practice guidelines;
- development and implement care of court users initiatives; and
- improvement of the current standards and formats used in record keeping.

- (c) *Pilot Areas:*  
Scope and establish opportunities for improved coordination, communication and co-operation between justice sector institutions in pilot areas i.e. Lusaka High Court to demonstrate benefits of a holistic approach to justice.
- (d) *Justice Sector Infrastructure and Equipment:*
- commissioning major infrastructure projects, e.g., establishment of justice houses in selected provinces with no facilities for the DPP and Legal Aid Board (Chipata, Mongu, Solwezi, Kasama and Mansa), build approved and reformatory schools in selected provinces and rehabilitate local courts in selected areas; and
  - installation and maintainance of a criminal case flow management system and update the existing databases (electronic and manual systems).

### **Management Arrangements**

The Permanent Secretary reported that in order to manage and administer the Access to Justice programme, the following structure had been put in place:

- (i) steering committee for policy Direction and Decision Making composed of the heads of the key access to justice institutions;
- (ii) technical committee for Strategic Planning, Monitoring and Implementation composed of senior managers from the key access to justice institutions; and
- (iii) governance secretariat hosted by the Ministry of Justice which was responsible for administering, implementing and monitoring the Governance Chapter in the FNDP, including the Access to Justice programme.

### **Observations and recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that the assurance is being addressed. However, they resolve to await a progress report on the matter as the delay in the prolonged disposal of court cases, particularly for inmates is quite worrying.

### **48/05 - Recruitment of Judges of the High Court vis-a-vis Attractive Conditions of Service**

On 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Justice made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, the recruitment of Judges of the High Court is not likely to extend to neighbouring countries as long as the University of Zambia continues to produce lawyers. However, there will be need to put in place attractive conditions of service for these lawyers to be attracted to the Bench.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that, attractive Conditions of Service for Judges had been put in place, such as:

- provision of 100% Housing Allowance;
- procurement of motor vehicles;
- increase of salaries over the last two years just as those of the civil servants; and
- increase and introduction of other allowances as stipulated in the *Judges (Conditions of Service) Act*.

Many lawyers were now attracted to join the bench because of the improved conditions of service as afore stated.

As to whether the Governance Chapter would have permanent linkages in the Zambia Police, Legal Aid Board, Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Judiciary and Prisons to ensure access to justice for all was guaranteed for the poor and vulnerable women and children, the Permanent Secretary stated that by the end of the year, they would have had a permanent presence in those five sectors of government.

On why the Judiciary was now attracting lawyers to join the bench unlike previously when lawyers used to refuse to join the bench, the Permanent Secretary reported that there were now improved conditions of service for the Judges and hastened to mention that they had even recruited judges who were in Foreign Service.

On whether the Judiciary was recruiting from the neighbouring countries, the Permanent Secretary reported that they were not as all of them were trained from the University of Zambia.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee note that the assurance has been addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **49/05 - Review of the Electoral Act**

On 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Justice made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, this process will be expedited. We will accelerate the Electoral Reforms in the next few days, we should be able to state the Government’s position and then the process will continue. We are, also interested in having the process concluded.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that, the *Electoral Act No. 12* of 2006 was passed together with the Electoral Code of Conduct. The 2006 Tripartite Elections were held under those Laws.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee express satisfaction that the issue has been addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

### **MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATIVES**

#### **66/86 - Tsetse Fly Eradication**

On 27<sup>th</sup> March, 1986, the Honourable Minister informed the House that the tsetse infested areas in the Western Part of Chief Muyombe’s area in the Isoka East Parliamentary Constituency would be included in the Regional Project for the eradication of tsetse fly in the five provinces of Central, Eastern, Luapula, Northern and Southern, which were infested with the fly.

Your previous Committee observed that the assurance was made in 1986 and up to date it had not been executed because of lack of funds. Arising from that observation, they urged the Ministry and the Government at large to commit itself to addressing the assurance urgently as the presence of the tsetse fly had been a long standing problem. They advised that the Government should budget for the exercise of tsetse fly eradication every year without necessarily depending on donor funding.

It was reported in Action Taken Report that the Government appreciated the Committee's concern regarding eradication of tsetse flies. The Committee might wish to know that in November, 2005 the long outstanding Agreement between the Governments of Angola, Botswana, Namibia and Zambia was signed to implement a Regional Project for the Eradication of tsetse fly in the Kwando/Zambezi region. This Agreement was a framework for cooperation and was a fulfillment of the decision taken by Heads of State and Government at their Summit held in Lome, Togo, in July, 2000, where member states were urged to collectively embark on a Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC).

By this Agreement the four countries had recognised that trypanosomiasis was a severe debilitating disease which was transmitted by tsetse flies and affected man and livestock, causing death, morbidity, and diminished productivity. This being a trans-boundary problem could most effectively be addressed through the concerted efforts of the affected countries.

Following the signing of the Agreement that had led to the establishment of the Regional Project, the following activities had been undertaken:

- (a) a project Coordination office has been established in Katima Mulilo, Namibia; and

- (b) aerial spraying against tsetse flies commenced on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2006 on the Botswana side, which was the southern border of the Kwando/Zambezi tsetse fly belt. The aerial spraying programme would progressively advance northwards to cover Zambia and other member states.

In view of this new development, the Government remained committed to providing the required financial resources through the budget annually.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Government was concerned with the delay in implementing the assurance on tsetse fly eradication. However, there had been some developments since the last assurance was made in June, 2006. The Project Steering Committee whose major role was to give direction in the management and implementation of the Kwando-Zambezi Regional Project had been constituted. Further, the following activities had been undertaken in readiness for aerial spraying this year (2007) of approximately 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> stretching from the Botswana-Namibia and Angola borders to Shangombo District in Zambia as part of Phase II:

- (i) trypanosomosis survey/awareness campaigns;
- (ii) tsetse survey;
- (iii) establishment of monitoring sites;
- (iv) demarcation of the aerial spray block for Zambia and Angola;
- (v) tender for the Environmental Impact Assessment, aerial spraying and procurement of insecticides had been completed and bidders invited; and
- (vi) secondment of GRZ personnel and payment of annual contributions to the Regional Project Co-ordination and Management Unit (RPCMU).

However, the commencement and success of the aerial spraying operations was dependent upon the timely release of financial resources. Due to delays in the releases of funds by the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives requested the Ministry of Finance and National Planning in January, 2007, for the release of K12.5 billion for aerial spray to start in May 2007, to cover the financing gap, which was supposed to have been undertaken by the AfDB. From 2008 and beyond, the funding agency should be the AfDB with a counterpart funding from GRZ.

On whether what was assured by the Minister regarding tsetse fly eradication in Chief Muyombe's area had been fulfilled since the Ministry seemed to concentrate on Southern and Western Provinces, the Permanent Secretary, reported that the battle of eradicating tsetse flies was countrywide and had divided the battle field into zones. One such zone was the Kwando-Zambezi Region and the Ministry simply started from there and would cover the whole country which was tsetse fly infested. He explained that the control activities were on-going. In Muyombe, he reported that surveys were going on and they had staff monitoring the situation in Isoka, Muyombe area.

On whether there were target or moving barriers to control tsetse flies in Muyombe's area, the Permanent Secretary reported that he could not confidently say so because their biggest problem was that of resources. However, he pledged to revisit the assurance to address its specifics in a precise and focused manner as per the Committees' guidance.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the Ministry is not focused on addressing the assurance of eradicating the tsetse flies in the western part of Chief Muyombe's area in Isoka East Parliamentary Constituency. They urge the Government to direct the Ministry to address the specific requirements of the assurance. A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

#### **15/05 - Marketing Facilities for Maize Growing Farmers**

The following statement was made on the floor of the House by the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2005:

*"Mr. Speaker, my Ministry is in the process of registering all farmers involved in maize growing and once we have this done, we will do the best to provide marketing facilities as quickly as possible"*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that due to financial and logistical constraints, the exercise on the registration of farmers involved in agricultural production commenced in 2006 in two provinces namely, Central and Copperbelt as a pilot. The registration exercise being undertaken by agricultural officers at camp level captured all farmers involved in crops including maize, livestock and fisheries production. With improvements in the 2007 budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, the exercise would be extended to other provinces this year.

The provision of grain marketing facilities and services were demand driven and was based on the production and productivity of an area. Government, through the Food Reserve Agency (FRA), had been working on modalities to rehabilitate storage facilities throughout the country. Further, preparations for the next marketing season had reached an advanced stage and FRA would buy designated crops from established depots at district level including mobile depots where necessary.

Further, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) crop purchase programme for the 2007/08 Marketing Season commenced on 15th June, 2007. The Agency had planned to purchase maize, cassava chips, soya beans, paddy rice and ground nuts. The designated commodities would be purchased from 620 locations in 62 districts throughout the country.

The quantities and prices of the designated commodities that FRA would purchase were as shown in the table below.

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Quantity (mt)</b>	<b>Proce/50kg bag</b>
Maize	400,000	K38,000
Cassava Chips	2,400	K15,000
Paddy Rice	1,200	K50,000
Soya Beans	1,200	K30,000
Groundnuts	1,200	K50,000

The FRA purchase prices would be uniform throughout the country.

It was noted that FRA was only one among many buyers of crops. Farmers were free to negotiate higher prices with other buyers.

#### **Selection of Warehouse Managers and Satellite Depot Operators**

The Permanent Secretary reported that FRA would purchase crops through designated satellite depots. The crops would later be transferred to holding depots. The satellite depots would be managed by primary cooperatives societies and other farmer organizations such as farmer associations. The holding depots would be managed by the warehouse managers, most of whom were district cooperative unions.

The Agency had completed the process of appointing satellite depot operators and warehouse managers.

#### **Training of Satellite Depot Operators**

The Permanent Secretary reported that prior to the commencement of the purchase exercise, the Agency conducts training workshops for selected satellite and holding depot managers. The workshops had already been conducted.

#### **Disbursement of Crop Purchase Funds**

The Permanent Secretary reported that the agency had disbursed the first tranche of crop purchase funds to participating banks in all purchase locations. A total of K 13.1 billion had been disbursed todate.

### **Marketing Requisites**

The Permanent Secretary reported that since the Agency had increased the number of purchase locations from 180 last year to 620 this year, additional marketing requisites such as empty grain bags, stationery, sieves, scales had been procured and distributed.

### **Launch of the 2007/2008 FRA Marketing Season**

The Permanent Secretary reported that FRA crop purchase exercise was officially launched by the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperative on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2007 in Mkushi.

### **Purchases of the New Crop**

The Permanent Secretary reported that crop purchases had commenced at a slow pace. As at 15 June 2007, only 1,800 metric tones of maize and 10 metric tones of rice had been purchased. This was because as at 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2007, most parts of the country were still reporting high moisture content in maize. The Agency's acceptable moisture content for maize is 12.5% but most of the areas were recording moisture content of 13% and more.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee express satisfaction that the specifics of the assurance are being addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

### **16/05 - Rehabilitation of Training Institutions and Farmer Training Centres**

The following assurance was made on the floor of the House by the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2005:

*"Mr. Speaker, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives has drawn up plans to rehabilitate training institutes and farmer training centres in the country. As soon as funds are available, rehabilitation works start"*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry had drawn up a plan to rehabilitate agricultural training institutions throughout the country. However, due to limited resources, the plan was being implemented in phases. The following is what had been implemented with funds that came through the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI):

- i) Kasaka Fisheries Training Institute: completion of a students' dormitory, rehabilitation of marine;
- ii) Zambia Centre for Horticultural Training (ZCHT) - irrigation and canal rehabilitation; and
- iii) Natural Resources Development College (NRDC): rehabilitation of student's hostel and kitchen.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee note that there is need for the Ministry to draw up a schedule on how and when rehabilitation works of the farmer training institutes and farmer training centres will be done country wide. This is good for evaluation and monitoring of the rehabilitation projects. They resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **17/05 - Cashew Nut Industry - Mongu/ Western Province**

The following statement was made on the floor of the House by the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2005:

*"Mr. Speaker, yes, the government has plans to revamp the Cashew Nut Industry. There has been consultations between Government and stakeholders, including the Western Cashew Industry Limited, in Western Province."*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that in order to revamp and commercialise the cashew industry in Western Province, the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives and the Lyambai Agricultural Development Trust (LADT) developed the Cashew Out grower Scheme. The implementation of the programme commenced in April, 2006 upon signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the two parties.

LADT and Western Cashew Industries (WCI) Limited have entered into a strategic partnership and developed the Cashew Nut Development Project. The project would be implemented with technical and financial support from Zambia Chamber for Small and Medium Business Association (ZCSMBA). The Netherlands Development Organization would provide technical advice in development of the cashew commodity chain, while Export Board of Zambia and National Savings and Credit Bank would provide export linkages and loans respectively.

The activities carried out included:

- i) spraying of mother cashew trees in two plantations to be the source of seedlings (Brazilian dwarf) for nursery establishment;
- ii) establishment of six nursery sites and training the growers in nursery management;
- iii) training of 912 farmers and fifteen Camp Officers in cashew management practices;
- iv) rehabilitated 1 00 hectares of cashew plantation;
- v) repair of the processing equipment; and
- vi) commencement of procurement and processing of nuts from farmers.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee express satisfaction that the specifics of the assurance are being addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

### **MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING SERVICES**

#### **26/93 - Television Reception and FM Signals**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1993, the Honourable Minister informed the House that the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) would be in a position to provide 100% coverage of the entire country in radio and television reception and funds were already in place and engineers were to start work thereafter.

Your previous Committee observed that work was pending in the full implementation of the assurance, therefore, resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that sixty-nine out of seventy three districts were now able to access quality Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) TV signals following the completion of phase II of the Rural TV Project. The remaining four districts could not at present access ZNBC TV signals because of the absence of ZESCO Power supply. Even though equipment for these sites was already available.

Furthermore, your Committee learnt that phase III of the project would ensure that all the diversity populated settlements which were outside the coverage areas of the television transmitters installed at district administrative centres were covered. It was hoped that the implementation of the FM Radio Project for all the districts would be undertaken after completion of the Rural TV Project.

On whether the problem of poor television reception had been resolved for Chipata viewers, the Permanent Secretary agreed that it had been cleared though not necessarily one hundred per cent. However, there were areas between Chipata and Lusaka which did not receive any television signals. Television signals were concentrated on the districts where the population was high.

On whether the ministry had achieved the 100% coverage of the whole country for Television and FM signals, the Permanent Secretary reported that he could confidently report that they had managed to cover about 80% of the country.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **14/96 - Decentralisation of Printing Presses**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1996, the Honourable Minister assured the House that plans were underway to decentralise the printing presses in provincial centres for publishing of fortnightly vernacular newspapers.

Your previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the decentralisation of the printing press would be implemented under the Fifth National Development Plan.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry put decentralisation of printing presses as one of the core programmes under the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP) and there was a total of K500 million in this year's budget for the purpose. With this amount, the Ministry intended to procure and install printing presses at two provincial centres. It was hoped that by the end of the Fifth National Development Plan, all provincial centres would have printing presses.

On why the Ministry concentrated on Chiptata Centre when it came to decentralising the printing presses, the Permanent Secretary reported that they did that because Chipata was not being serviced by any printing press and for not being seen to scratch on the surface only.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that the assurance is being addressed. However, they resolve that the Government should give them a progress report not for Chipata only but also for other provincial centres. An update report is being awaited on the matter.

#### **06/95 - Restructuring of the Zambia News Agency**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1995, the Honourable Minister said:

*“ZANA is also being restructured to revamp its operations to make it more relevant in the liberalised media climate which may no longer monopolise as a sole domestic news agency.”*

Your previous Committee noted the submission and requested an update report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that after merging on 1st September, 2004, the two departments (ZANA and ZIS) became one department known as the Zambia News and Information Services (ZANIS). Staff recruitment and placement for ZANIS was now in process.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to have the matter closed because ZANA and ZIS had merged to become one entity.

#### **08/95 - Establishment of Press Liaison Network**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1995, the Honourable Minister assured the House as follows:

*“It is also the intention of my Ministry to establish a Press Liaison Network which will link ministries by computer to my Ministry for dissemination of information to the general public through the media..”*

Your previous Committee requested for a progress report on the matter.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministerial website was ready and hosted by Copper Net. The Ministry was able to provide information for the MPs on website. The uniform resources Locator (URL) for site was [www.mibs.gov.zm](http://www.mibs.gov.zm).

On whether the Ministry was linked to all other ministries through press liaison network, the Permanent Secretary reported that some ministries did not have press liaison connections with their Ministry while others did have.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that some of the Ministries do not have Press Liaison Network with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. They resolve to urge the Ministry to provide an update on which ministries are linked or networking with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. An update report is being awaited.

### **08/98 - Press Attaches for Zambia Mission Abroad**

On 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1998, the Honourable Minister assured the House as follows:

*“It is my Ministry’s intention to station properly qualified, professional, and experienced journalists as Press Attaches at Zambia’s High Commissions and Embassies strategically all over the world”*

Your previous Committee observed that nothing of substance had been achieved in addressing the assurance and requested for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the status still remained the same with only New York and Pretoria having press attaches. Plans to have some placed in Addis Ababa, London and Windhoek still remained unexecuted due to financial constraints.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that progress had been made in the appointment of press attaches. Treasury Authority had been issued for the four approved positions of press Attaches for the Washington, London, Brussels and Addis Ababa missions to be included in this year’s budget.

The Ministry of Information had submitted the proposed names to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for submission to the Public Service Management Division of Cabinet Office. The Officers would be paid by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who would be funded by the Treasury.

The Ministry was just awaiting the Public Service Management Division (PSMD) approval before the officers could be posted. This would bring to six, the Zambian Missions with Press Attaches in addition to Pretoria and New York.

On whether all those who were being sent as press attaches to missions abroad were all journalists, the Permanent Secretary reported that they were. He reiterated that they were properly trained, qualified and experienced journalists.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the programme of sending press attaches to the Zambian Missions Abroad is still going on. They recommend that the Government should send only qualified and experienced journalists as press attaches to Zambian Missions Abroad. They await a progress report on the matter.

### **05/05 - (26/93) Poor Television reception in Chipata)**

On 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2005, the Hon Deputy Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services made the following undertaking on the floor of the House:

*“Lusaka/Chipata Microwave Link was digitalised and problems were being experienced with the system. This has affected the signed delivery for re-broadcasting to the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) Television transmission in Chipata. The problem is, therefore, temporary as ZAMTEL technicians are working hard to solve it. Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNCB) on the other hand has continued to invest in the rehabilitation of infrastructure in order to ensure the delivery of good quality programme to viewers.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that, following the digitalisation of the Lusaka-Chipata microwave link, a lot of problems were experienced on this link and it affected the delivery of TV programmes to ZNBC Chipata TV station for re-broadcasting. This resulted in viewers complaining of

poor service. Although significant improvements were made to reduce the failures on the microwave link by ZAMTEL, the problem was not completely eliminated.

In 2005, however, ZNBC signed an agreement with Multichoice Africa (MCA). Under this Agreement, ZNBC was allowed to utilise the Multichoice Africa Satellite Network for the distribution of ZNBC TV signals to the whole of Zambia.

Consequently, satellite uplink equipment was installed in Lusaka to facilitate the delivery of ZNBC TV signals onto the MCA Satellite Platform. As a result of this development, it became possible to provide and install satellite receiving equipment at Chipata and many other remote sites for receiving the ZNBC TV signal for re-broadcasting.

Currently therefore, Chipata station received its television and radio 1 and 2 signals from Lusaka via the Multichoice Africa satellite system for re-broadcasting. The result of this migration from using the digital microwave system to the satellites system had been an improvement in TV reception in the Chipata areas as the outages or failures had been greatly reduced and the quality of the TV signal was also better.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that Chipata is being adequately addressed in terms of improved ZNBC TV reception signals. However, the 100% coverage for countrywide T V reception and FM signals is not yet achieved. ZNBC T V signal is reported to be at 80% in terms of coverage of the country.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee await an update report district by district on the matter.

#### **03/03 - CASAT**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2003, the Honourable Deputy Minister assured the House that:

*“As we start the year, we are getting into Kalabo, Senanga, Kaputa, Chilubi and Mwinilunga. We will have CASAT going there. We have already instructed them to do so and the payment was done last year.”*

Your previous Committee observed that Government was awaiting arbitration over the termination of the CASAT contract. They requested for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the issue had been resolved and CASAT had since agreed to be paid K137, 000,000.00, an amount which the Government did not dispute as being owed to them.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to have the matter closed as the Government has terminated the contract with CASAT.

### **MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

#### **14/98 - Normalisation of Border Trade between Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**

On 14<sup>th</sup> July, 1998, the Honourable Minister informed the House that in order to ease cross-border smuggling between Zambia and the former Zaire, the two countries had held consultations on the normalization of trade between them.

Your previous Committee observed that the assurance needed monitoring and follow up action. They resolved to await the progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the normalization of the border trade between Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) had not been pursued due to a non response from that country over the signing of the Trade Agreement.

The Government intended to resuscitate the matter with the Zambia Diplomatic Mission in Congo after the re-run of the election in that country to see if the Trade Agreement could be concluded.

In his update, The Permanent Secretary submitted that Zambia had had long standing bilateral relations with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which dated back to 1967 when the first Bilateral Trade Agreement was signed between the two Governments. This Agreement was followed with the establishment of the Joint Permanent Commission on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 1982, which provided for an enhancement in the areas of cooperation. It was this mechanism that had provided the forum through which the current negotiations were being undertaken.

In 1987, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) concluded another Bilateral Agreement to replace the 1967 one which had expired. However, both Governments did not implement this due to non-ratification. In 1992, renewed efforts were made and another Agreement concluded which could not be implemented due to ratification difficulties on the part of the DRC.

It was against this background that Zambia initiated the current negotiations, which commenced in January, 1998 with a proposal by the Zambian authorities of a duty free bilateral trade agreement on selected products to be determined by the two countries. During the November, 1998 Joint Permanent Commission meeting between the two countries, DRC responded by tabling a counter proposal of Most Favoured Nation, which in essence would not accord any special preferential treatment to Zambian products. Following negotiations between the two parties, the DRC agreed to negotiate a duty free bilateral trade agreement.

Since then, a number of negotiating meetings had taken place with the last having occurred in December, 2006, where it was expected that the Agreement would be concluded and signatures appended. However, the DRC reported that they were still consulting internally and would report back as soon as that process was finalized. Zambia was still awaiting communication from the DRC in that regard. On the part of Zambia, the draft text had already been cleared and approved by the legal authorities.

#### **Importance of the proposed Bilateral Agreement and the DRC Market to Zambia**

The DRC with its population of over 52 million people provided the largest consumer market for Zambian goods with minimal transportation costs in comparison with other countries in the region. The DRC production industry was in quite a dormant state following the 1991 instability. Katanga Province alone had an estimated 8 million people with 1.5 million residing in the provincial capital of Lubumbashi. Another estimated 10 million resided in the Kasai Province.

The DRC provided an opportunity to diversify from copper industry, especially for the Copperbelt.

The DRC market could provide quick wins for the private sector, the Government and the Zambian people through employment and income generation. ZDA through the exporter promotion wing had estimated export earnings on non tradition products of \$100 million if bilateral were to be concluded.

The DRC was currently not implementing both her COMESA and SADC obligation on regional integration, in particular the tariff liberalization. As such, the conclusion of a bilateral would serve as an effective interim arrangement for Zambia to facilitate accessing the DRC market.

On why the Hon Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry had not come back to the House to report that border trade between Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo had not yet normalized since 1988, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was due to some administrative problems perpetuated by the problems which were in the DRC. He reiterated that with the Joint Permanent Commission in place, there was hope that the process of normalizing the trade between the two countries would be expedited.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that since 1988, DRC had not been engaged seriously in terms of doing big trade business with Zambia. Only informal trade seems to flourish between the two countries.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee urge the Government to take this matter seriously. If possible, the Hon Minister should issue a Ministerial Statement to let the nation know why this had taken long to materialize and when it will be concluded.

An update report is expected on the matter.

#### **27/02 - Amendment of the Investment Act**

On 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2002, the Honourable Minister's contribution on what his Ministry was doing and intended to do to empower the indigenous people was that:

*“We are further enhancing the regulatory environment through the amendment of the Investment Act to reserve certain areas of business exclusively for Zambians. I intend to bring this amendment at the beginning of the next session.”*

Your previous Committee observed that the amendment of the *Investment Act* was taking long to be implemented. They recommended for the speedy implementation of the amendment of the *Investment Act* and resolved to await an update on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry submitted amendments to the *Investment Act* to Cabinet for approval in June, 2005. However, Cabinet deferred making a decision on the proposed amendments.

Following Cabinet deferring making a decision on amendments to the *Investment Act*, the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry restarted the consultative process necessary for harmonizing all stakeholders' interests and completed the excise in November, 2005.

Through the consultative process, the Secretary to the Treasury and the Commissioner General at ZRA agreed that all incentives should be provided under the *Income Tax Act* and the *Customs and Excise Act* and not in the *Investment Act*.

The consultative process had now been completed and the matter would be sent back to Cabinet this year.

The Government had taken note of your previous Committee's concern that it had taken long for the *Investment Act* to be amended and implemented. However, the Government was happy to indicate that the consultative process had now been completed and Cabinet would soon make a decision on the proposed amendments given that the Ministry of Finance and National Planning and the ZRA had all agreed that the incentives would be contained in the *Income Tax Act* and *Customs and Excise Act* and not in the *Investment Act*.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the amendment to the *Investment Act* of reserving certain areas of business exclusively for Zambians will be contained in the *Income Tax Act* and *Customs and Excise Act*.

They resolve to request for an update report.

#### **12/05 – Amendments to the Trade Licensing Act**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry made the following assurance:

*“My Ministry has been going round the country as you know, dealing with the issue of Trade Licensing Act and getting inputs from all the provinces. It would be irresponsible for me to just make a decision in Lusaka..... And I am on record to make amendments to do certain things”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary submitted that Zambia's independence from the British in 1964 also brought with it, a new vision and aspirations for the Zambian Government and its peoples. In terms of Trade Licensing, the Law related to the conduct of business and licensing of certain trades within the Zambian borders. The law addressed issues of how trading would be conducted, types of licenses for

certain businesses, the fees to be charged for such businesses, who should issue the licenses and other relevant issues such as penalties for offenders and information required on Trades Licensing and tax purposes.

All those efforts were meant to provide guidance to the process of developing the country, so that the Zambian people would enjoy a reasonable standard of living.

However, since the development of any economy was dynamic, there was need to update the laws so that they became relevant to the current environment. Therefore, it was against the need to update the *Trades Licensing Act*, which was last amended in 1996, that countrywide consultations were carried out in form of workshops with stakeholders so that they could provide their input to the review process of the Act.

The Permanent Secretary reported that it was good practice in the current world for consultations to be made with major stakeholders, especially for laws that affected them. After exhausting the countrywide consultations in the Act, a bill entitled “The Trades Licensing Amendment) Bill, 2006 was approved by the Cabinet Legislative Committee and was submitted to Cabinet for consideration and approval for publication.

At a Cabinet meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2006, Cabinet considered Memorandum Number 51 entitled “The Trades Licensing Amendment” Bill, 2006 and deferred making a decision on the recommendations of the Cabinet memorandum to allow for further consultations on matters of license fees, types of licenses and services to be reserved to Zambians in line with the provisions of the Citizens Economic Empowerment Act, 2006.

Currently, the Permanent Secretary reported that consultations were going on with all relevant stakeholders such as Ministry of Local Government and Housing, Councils, Ministry of Justice, Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission, to clarify issues raised in the Cabinet meeting so as to enable the Secretary to the Cabinet to have a Cabinet Memorandum on the Trades Licensing Act with all the concerns for reconsideration to enable it approve for publication.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the Bill on the matter was already brought before the House. They of the view that the Ministry is already addressing the assurance.

They resolve to have the matter closed.

### **13/05 – Trading Terms to Support Local Empowerment**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“I am keen on this issue and I am alert and alive to the fact that the local empowerment issue must be dealt with properly. We do our best for trading terms and many Honourable Members talked about trading terms. We are fighting hard at the WTO, EU, COMESA and SADC to get better trading terms.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry (MCTI) through the various trade negotiations was participating in providing tangible benefits for Zambia as well as creating an enabling environment for private sector growth. At the multilateral level, Zambia was participating in the World Trade Organisations (WTO), Doha Round of negotiations, in addition to negotiation as part of the Eastern and Southern African (ESA) configuration in the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union. Regionally, Zambia was a participant in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern (COMESA) integration programme working towards establishing Free Trade Areas and Customs Unions.

Within the WTO, Zambia as part of the developing countries, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs) had been pursuing the realization of the fundamental principles embedded in the WTO Agreements

relating to the treatment of countries with small economies and limited in capacities, especially the LDCs who were considered to be the most vulnerable. Therefore, as part of the LDC group, Zambia had been working towards not only the recognition of its vulnerability but also ensuring that the principle of special differentiation was actually realized and applied as part of the Round's agreed results once concluded. LDCs objective was to ensure that all special differentiation treatment provisions were made precise, operational and obligatory.

In addition, Zambia as Coordinator for the LDC group during the WTO Ministerial meeting held in Hong Kong, China, in December, 2005, obtained a landmark principle agreement on the extension of ninety seven percent (97%) duty free quota free market access by the developed countries to products originating from LDCs by 2008 or end of the Doha Round whichever comes first. An indication of the integration of the remaining three percent (3%) was a requirement. The developing countries were also encouraged where possible to extend the same treatment even though it was not as obligatory as was the case of the developed countries. In addition, a principle agreement was obtained by which the developed countries committed to making the rules of origin simple and transparent. Once implemented, this would provide some advantage for LDC products to compete with other products on the global market.

However, for the above to be realized, LDCs had to address a number of constraints relating to the supply side of the production chain and had insisted on the inclusion of financial technical package. It was against this background that developing countries, Zambia inclusive, during the current round had insisted on a substantive Aid for Trade package, which would bring about additionality of resources currently provided for developing countries. Following a decision of Ministers in Hong Kong to include this aspect, the members had since adopted recommendations of an appropriate package and were now working towards establishing appropriate disbursement procedures and mechanism. In addition, as part of a complimentary process, LDCs had attained an agreement with developed countries to substantially increase the implementation period and the resources allocated to the Integrated Framework Programme whose main object was to integrate LDCs into the global system. The funds under this programme would be increased from one million dollars to approximately five million dollars to be disbursed over a five year period.

Whilst acknowledging the fact that trade facilitation had to be an integral part of the negotiations that was likely to benefit all WTO members, LDCs had also on the technical assistance, financial and otherwise, been assisted in implementing any of the commitments that developing countries were likely to make in the negotiations.

At a regional level, Zambia was a participant in both the COMESA and SADC liberalizations programmes. Currently, Zambia was a full participant in the COMESA Free Trade Area with thirteen of the nineteen members. As part of SADC, Zambia was participating in the SADC protocol on Trade, which was aiming at establishing a full free trade area by 2008. Both these arrangements facilitated products exported from Zambia to be accorded preferential treatment, in the case of COMESA, duty free and for SADC according to the tariff schedules submitted.

In addition to the above, as part of the programmes for the two regional groups, Zambia was benefiting from the simplified customs and transport procedures that the Members had agreed to such as the single customs document and the yellow card scheme. Both organizations were also jointly working towards the removal of non tariff barriers.

On the debate that Zambia should not belong to both SADC and COMESA due to overlaps in functions and roles, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was actually working to the advantage of Zambia to belong to both regional trading bodies. He gave an example of Zambia being a member of SADC and COMESA as sharing in the strategic plan in the construction of bridges and border posts as in the case of Chirundu Boarder Post. COMESA actually took the lead in that arrangement. This had led to the ministry to request both bodies to compare notes in order to harmonise their operations.

On the concern that Zambia was involving itself in the Economic Partnership Agreements in trying to partner with European Union (EU) when it was struggling with its own regional agreements with SADC

and COMESA, the Permanent Secretary reported that Zambia needed to configure itself in Eastern and Southern African Union if it had to trade with EU through the EPAs.

On what the Ministry was doing to prepare local markets to achieve local empowerment, the Permanent Secretary reported that they were working closely with the Eastern and Southern African (ESA) configurations. The Common Markets for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the SADC were instrumental in trying to establish free trade areas and common tariff structure for member states with regard to customs affairs.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the Ministry is doing its best working on this matter. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **14/05 – Zambia Malawi Mozambique Growth Triangle Feasibility Study**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, this is a joint study among Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique, on the growth triangle that was signed about two years ago in Nacala. The Programme has been attracting adequate donor financing to create activities in the growth triangle. I agree with Hon Kapita that the money is not sufficient, but at least, will get our work started.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique Growth Triangle (ZMM-GT) was established in 1999 with the core objective of reducing poverty, creating employment and contributing to wealth creation in the three countries, namely, Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique. A Growth Triangle was a transitional economic zone that linked neighbouring areas of separate countries with different endowments of factors of production and comparative advantage, to form a sub-region economic growth. The total area covered under the ZMM-GT was 301.474 sq km with a total population of slightly more than 8 million people, the majority of the people living in Malawi.

The ZMM-GT covered the following provinces: Tete in Mozambique, North and Central in Malawi, and Eastern and Northern in Zambia. Comparative advantage of the three areas existed in agriculture, livestock, fisheries, mineral resources, tourism, agro-processing, leather and textiles. The areas covered by the Growth Triangle in Zambia had huge economic potential that could lead to value-addition with higher production if forward backward linkages were taken into account.

Similarly, the ZMM-GT would generate increased opportunity in terms of employment, wealth creation, rural industrialization and increased exports.

The fast tracking towards realization of the ZMM-GT goals was being tackled in many areas such as addressing the issue of a mission rail link between Chipata and its neighbouring town Mchinji, which was critical to the achievement of the ZMM-GT goals. An Agreement worth US\$30 million was signed at the close of the 4th Bi-annual US African Business Summit in Washington DC on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2003 on the railway line project. His Excellency the President, Dr Levy Patrick Mwanawasa, SC, President of the Republic of Zambia, and the two Republican Presidents of Malawi and Mozambique, signed on behalf of the two respective countries, while Overseas Private Investment Cooperation (OPIC), an agency of the United States Government agreed to be an executing Agency on the Agreement and undertaking of the Feasibility Study on the rehabilitation of the Nacala railway project.

The construction of Chipata – Mchinji rail project was supposed to be done under the Build Operate Transfer. However, the investors contracted to build the rail line withdrew, as they perceived the project to be none viable.

That notwithstanding, the Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique Growth Triangle (ZZMM-GT) Feasibility study for the 67km Chipata-Mchinji rail line was completed and Zambia Railways was contracted to build the rail line earmarked for completion by December, 2007.

In addition, under the ZMM-GT programme, a consultant was being sought to undertake the feasibility study for building of the Dry Port in Chipata. The Dry Port would be a transshipment centre offering storage facilities for road, rail and air transport.

On what the Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique Growth Triangle entailed, the Permanent Secretary reported that the way the Growth Triangle was conceptualized was in such a way that the project had been tailored to the needs of each country involved.

On why the Growth Triangle Project seemed to have died a natural death, the Permanent Secretary reported that when the donor who was funding the project pulled out, the Governments of the countries involved did not fund the project further and that explained why the project had stalled of late.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the project is donor dependent. They wish the three Governments showed due commitment to what they signed.

Your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

### **24/05 – Resuscitating the Economy of Ndola/Copperbelt**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, as you know, the Copperbelt Economic Task Force has been formed by my Government. It has been tasked with the responsibility of revitalizing the economy of Ndola. Some measures have been mooted, but are still under consideration by Cabinet”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary submitted that the Government had recognized the important role that development of the private, manufacturing and the revitalizing of the Zambia economy including the Ndola/Copperbelt economy would play. In this regard, activities aimed at enhancing Zambia’s manufacturing and trade sectors had been streamlined in the Fifth National Development Plan and were regarded as being among the key priorities that the Government intended to promote in order to create wealth, generate employment and reduce poverty. In order to unlock the potential of the Zambian economy, the Government had put in place a number of programmes and activities which included the following:

- establishment of the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) through an Act of Parliament (ZDA Act No. 11 of 2006); and
- establishment of the Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) through an Act of Parliament (CEEC Act No. 9 of 2006); and the development of the Private Sector Development Reform Action Plan.

The ZDA was an amalgamation of five statutory bodies namely: Zambia Export Processing Zones Authority; Small Enterprises Development Board; Export Board of Zambia; Zambia Investment Centre; and Zambia Privatization Agency. The ZDA would, among other things, address the high cost of doing business in Zambia and simplify the processing of various business formalities such as licensing. This was part of the Government strategy to improve the business climate and encouraged investment flows in the country.

The major thrust of ZDA was investment promotion, export promotion, promotion of micro, small and medium enterprises and undertaking of on-going privatization and post-privatization activities. The major investment promotion programme under the Agency would be the Multi Facility Economic Zones (MFEZs). The MFEZ were special Industrial Zones for both incentives to investors and provide the necessary infrastructure required for development of the manufacturing and trade sectors.

According to the *ZDA Act*, any area, premises or building in any part of the country, the Minister could by way of a statutory instrument declare such an area, premises or building an MFEZ. Two areas had initially been identified for investment; one area being Lusaka South Forest Reserve Number Twenty Six which would be developed with the help of the Japanese Government through the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the other being in Chambishi on the Copperbelt, which was being developed by the Chinese Investors.

The Chambishi MFEZ was officially unveiled by His Excellency Dr Levy Patrick Mwanawasa, SC, President of the Republic of Zambia and His Excellency Mr Hu Jintao, President of the People's Republic of China on 4th February, 2007 at a ceremony held in Lusaka, Zambia. The Chambishi MFEZ was expected to attract about fifty world class enterprises and individuals for investment within the next five years with the total attracted investment of US\$800,000,000. It was expected that US\$6,000 (Six Thousand) job opportunities would be created for the local people and a team of highly qualified employees would be trained within the zone. Further, the Chambishi MFEZ was expected to contribute an output value of US\$900,000,000 to the Zambian economy by 2011.

In addition, land had been identified and reserved for the development of MFEZ in Ndola. This would further create more employment opportunities, wealth and would contribute to increased foreign exchange earnings to Ndola and the country in general.

The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission on the other hand was a tool for wealth creation and employment generation by integrating economically disadvantaged citizens into the mainstream economy, leading to sustained individual and national wealth. It was expected that once the Commission was fully operationalised, it would impact positively on the lives of disadvantaged citizens of Ndola in particular and Zambia in general.

The Private Sector Development (PSD) Reform Programme's purpose was to lay the foundation for a faster, sustained; private-sector led economic growth by implementing a comprehensive action plan for enhancing the business and investment ultimate, and restoring investor confidence.

The measures outlines here amongst others, had led to renewed confidence in the Zambian economy by the private sector. In Ndola, for instance, a number of business houses had shown interest in investing there. One such company was the Zambezi Portland Cement, which would start operating soon. Tata Zambia had also reviewed their Truck and Bus, assembly plant in Ndola. Mining houses such as First Quantum Mining and Operations (Bwana Mukubwa Mine) were creating economic activities and multiplier effect to the people of Ndola.

It was expected that through the measures that the Government had put in place, the economy of Ndola and the Copperbelt would be revitalized and would once again contribute significantly to the wealth of the country.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the Government is putting in all necessary efforts to resuscitate the economy of Ndola and the entire Copperbelt to once again making it contribute significantly to the wealth of the country. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

##### **01/96 - Provision of Sixteen Secondary Schools**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1996, the Honourable Minister informed the House that the Government was committed to building sixteen secondary schools in various provinces.

Your previous Committee observed that the assurance needed follow-up action and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry had continued to ensure that provision of Education at all levels was provided to meet the aspirations of the people of Zambia. However, the Ministry had had many challenges in particular the limited resources received against numerous competing Educational demands. The high school sector had recorded a very sharp demand for school places resulting from a number of interventions at the Basic sub sector such as the Free Basic Education Policy (Grade 1-7), the Re-entry to school for pregnant girls, the bursary scheme for vulnerable pupils, the school feeding programme and nutrient supplement administration, to name a few. All those measures had impacted positively on the provision of education by increasing enrolments at the basic sub sector level and subsequently increased the demand for school places at high school sub sector.

However, the demand for high school places had not been able to be matched with the current available school places at high school sub sector. Thus becoming one of the major challenging area the Ministry was currently addressing, through a number of measures aimed at meeting the planned provision of the sixteen high schools across the country. However, implementation of the plan had experienced some difficulties due to non response of various funding agencies who were approached when the plan was muted few years ago. Despite the slow rate of response from some funding agencies, the World Bank, who had funded the construction of Lumezi and Kafumbwa in the Eastern Province, the Arabian bank, who were funding Kapiri Technical High School in Central Province and OPEC funding Ndola Technical High School in Copperbelt Province had responded positively, while the rest of the on-going High School projects were being supported from the sector pool funds. These included the constructing of Mufumbwe High School in North-Western Province and completion of Sioma High School in Western Province. Other targets planned were to complete Chilubi and Kaputa High Schools in Northern Province. But unfortunately, funds in this year's budget could not permit to do so.

In view of the above, the remaining high schools, out of the original sixteen schools would be considered for construction during the Fifth National Development Plan period if funds to implement the project would be made available.

#### **Progress achieved during the Course of 2006**

Some progress had been made in the area of infrastructure development but not at the rate anticipated at the inception of the on-going high school projects. Progress had been recorded so far as set out below.

(i) ***Lumezi and Kafumbwa High Schools***

The works for the two high schools were almost completed at 97 percent completion rate. All the buildings were completed except for the overhead tank for water imported from South Africa which was yet to arrive. The connection of electricity by ZESCO to the two schools was expected to be completed by October. The procurement of furniture and other school equipment including vehicles was being processed. It was expected that the completion of the two High Schools would be done in the last quarter of this year:-

(ii) ***Ndola Girls Technical High School***

The construction works at the school had reached 55 percent completion rate. With the following buildings roofed:- classrooms, teacher's houses, dormitories and ablution blocks.

(iii) ***Kapiri Mposhi Girls Technical High School***

The tender procedures to select a contractor were done early this year but unfortunately the funding agency, Arab Bank, rejected the selected contractor. They however made a recommendation that the contractor be of African or Arabian origin. This conditionality compelled the Ministry to make a fresh Tender advert on the project. Currently, the Ministry was at a stage of finalizing documents to re-tender as recommended by the funding agency.

(iv) ***Sioma High School***

Preparations of tender documents had started for the targeted works to complete some of the unfinished structures at the school.

(v) ***Mufumbwe High School***

The Ministry had prepared the tender documents to begin constructing the school. The tender documents had been sent to Zambia National Tender Board to select a contractor. It was expected that the construction of the school would begin in the last quarter of 2006 and would spill over to 2007.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the provision of education was the responsibility that the Government had recognized as being critical since the overall development of the country as well as poverty reduction were centered on the type of education Government provided for its citizens.

To this end, high school education had been a major challenge due to low progression rates. The demand for high school education had been on an increase because of measures put in place to increase access at basic school level. The increase of basic school level should correspond with available places at high school level. Unfortunately, the demand surpassed the available places.

It was for this reason that the Government began planning to increase the number of high schools in the country. In the late 1990s, sixteen schools were proposed to be constructed and funded by some funding agencies, who were approached to fund the projects. Unfortunately, the proposed sixteen secondary schools were not funded except for a few that were recently funded, namely, Lumezi and Kafumbwe in Eastern Province which were funded by the World Bank, the Arab Bank funded Kapiri Girls Technical High School in Central Province and Ndola Girls Technical High School on the Copperbelt Province being constructed and funded by OPEC.

In view of the increasing demand for high schools, the Ministry had plans to build medium high schools during the Fifth National Development period (2006-2010) to be funded under the sector pool funds beginning in 2007.

Further, the Permanent Secretary reported that, according to the Ministry's work plan and budget for 2007, thirty-five high schools would be constructed. Further, completion and construction of the on going projects like Sioma High School in Shangombo District, Kafushi High School in Chibombo District, Mufumbwe High School in Mufumbwe District, Chitambo in Serenje District and Itezhi- Tezhi High School in Itezhi- Tezhi District. Other new high school projects would include the following:

<b>Province</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Name of School</b>
Luapula	Mwense Chienge Milenge	Lukwesa High School Mponde High School Milenge High School
Nothern	Chilubi Mpulungu Isoka	Chilubi High School Mpulungu High School Muyombe High School
Eastern	Chama Nyimba	Chama South High School Kacholola High School
Central	Chibombo  Serenje Kapiri Mposhi	Chisamba High School Moomba High School Kafushi High School  Chitambo Girls School Kapiri Day High School
Copperbelt	Mpongwe Lufwanyama Kitwe Masaiti	Mpongwe High School Lufwanyama High School Kamfinsa Day High School Masaiti High School
North Western	Solwezi Chavuma	Solwezi East Technical High School Chavuma High School
Western	Mongu Kaoma Shangombo Lukulu	A Girls Technical School Mayukwayukwa High School Nangwasha High School Lukulu High School
Southern	Kazungula Gwembe	Kazungula High School Munyumbwa High School

Lusaka	Lusaka	Nyumba Yanga High School Kanyama High School Mandevu High School Kabanana High School Mwembeshi High School Rufunsa Girls Technical School School for Children with special education Needs (Centre of Excellence) at Munali
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### Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee observe that although the assurance is actively being addressed, there is need for update reports as schools are still being constructed.

### 25/02 - Upgrading the National College for Management Studies

On 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2002, the Honourable Minister made the assurance that the Government had advanced plans to turn the former President's Citizenship College for Management Studies (PCC) into the third university.

Your previous Committee noted that, in as much as they appreciated the efforts being made, the former President's Citizenship College for Management Studies (PCC) had, up to date, not been turned into the third public university. They therefore, wished to be availed with a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that Government transferred the mandate of the college to the Ministry of Education through the repeal of the *National College for Management and Development Studies Act*. The mandate to superintend the winding up of the affairs of the college including dissolving of the College Council was given to the Secretary to the Treasury as contained in the *Public Finance Act* section forty-three. The Act also provided for ensuring that assets and liabilities were taken care of as the process of converting the College into a university was being made.

The Ministry was still awaiting for advice from the Secretary to the Treasury.

Upon this advice, and when the Minister is satisfied that all necessary arrangements had been made for converting the College into a public university, the Council might then be dissolved by a statutory instrument. It was the above process that the Ministry was awaiting for before a statutory instrument was issued by the Minister to declare the College a university.

Currently the Ministry of Education was to upgrade the College by focusing on improving the existing infrastructure to provide adequate facility to the Institution in order to accommodate extra students, who would be enrolled to take degree programmes at the proposed University.

### Observations and Recommendations

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### 13/03 - Girls Secondary Schools

On 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2003, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Education informed the House that under the Ministry's five year strategic plan for the period 2003-2007, there were plans to build two girls' high schools, one in Ndola and the other in Kapiri-Mposhi with funds from the Arab Bank and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), respectively. The House was also informed that consultancy tenders for both schools had been advertised and work would start before the end of the year 2003.

Your previous Committee requested the Permanent Secretary to avail them with a progress report on the construction project for Ndola Girls Technical High School and Kapiri-Mposhi Girls Technical High School.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that progress had been made on the construction as set out below.

(a) ***Ndola Girls Technical High School***

Construction of the school had reached a 40 percent completion rate. The project was still on-going and is expected to be completed in the course of this year 2006.

(b) ***Kapiri-Mposhi Girls Technical High School***

Progress on the school project had been slow due to tender procedures that took a bit of time. However, the process was at a stage where the National Tender Board had approved the recommendation of the contractor and a report had been sent to the funding agency (BADEA) for "No objection" before a contractor could be at the site and begin construction of the school.

On where the site for Ndola Girls Technical High School was, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was around Dag Hammarskjöld Stadium. She added that it would be a state-of-art school.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

**21/03 - Kabulu and Mung'omba Primary Schools**

On 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2003, the Honourable Minister was asked when primary schools would be built at Kabulu Mandwe, Mung'omba and Buchinda islands.

Your previous Committee urged the Permanent Secretary to furnish them with a progress report on the two Schools.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the construction of permanent structures at at the two Island sites had not yet taken place due to the small population on these Islands, rendering such a project not viable. However, the Ministry through the District Education Office would continue monitoring the schools enrolments in order to make an assessment as to when such a project would be viable to attract the construction of permanent structures. Currently, the two schools had been granted a community school status and Kabulu Community School had even been included on the school grant list of the District.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

**08/04 - Rehabilitation of Ablution Blocks at David Livingstone High School**

On 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Deputy Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, in the Ministry's Sector Plan 2003 – 2007, there are plans to rehabilitate ablution blocks and toilets that require immediate attention when funds are made available."*

Your previous Committee observed that there was need for follow-up action on the assurance and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the work on the first girl's ablution block at David Livingstone High School had been completed. The construction works of the project was certified complete on the 16th June, 2006 by the District Building Office and the work on the next ablution block had also commenced. The next phase of the rehabilitation would spill over to the two boy's ablution blocks at the school. In all, the school had four ablution blocks, two for girls and two for boys. So far one girl's ablution block had been rehabilitated and the other was now being rehabilitated, leaving two ablution blocks for boys to be worked on as funds were made available in the next year's school budget.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that this was an on going project, which started with the first phase last year 2006. A total of K46,000,000 was allocated to the project and focused of partitioning of walls, putting floor, screeds, plumbing, glazing, replacing of doors, replacement of seven toilet pans, two showers and fifteen hand washing basins and putting of terrazzo floor. The works in the two ablutions were completed in December, 2006 and a balance of K4.7 Million remained from the project.

However, two other ablution blocks needed rehabilitation when funds were made available. Currently, the school had a balance of K4.7 million from the previous funds allocated towards the project.

The targeted works under phase two of the ablution rehabilitation would include:

Construction of two portion walls for the shower rooms, removal of the old floor screed, making of grill doors, replacement of door frames, removal of all the old pipes, painting and replacement of all the cisterns and pans and the total cost of the remaining works was estimated at K49, 786,250.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are satisfied that the assurance has been adequately attended to. They resolve to have the assurance closed.

#### **09/04 - Building of High Schools in New Districts**

On 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Deputy Minister assured the House as follows:

*“The policy of the Government is to build high schools in districts that do not have high schools and to upgrade some basic schools with adequate facilities to high schools in order to increase places in Grades 10-12. However, this will depend on the availability of funds.”*

Your previous Committee observed that there was need for follow-up action on the matter and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the plan to build high schools in new districts was an on going activity due to heavy capitalization investment required. However, some progress had been recorded in that the 2006 budget, had planned to continue with the building of high schools especially in those districts where there were no high schools as set out hereunder.

(i) ***Mufumbwe High School- Mufumbwe District***

Tender document had been prepared and sent to the Zambia National Tender Board to make comments before the tender and construction would start immediately the contractor was selected.

(ii) ***Sioma High School- Shangombo District***

Tender documents had been prepared after the infrastructure team visited the school to carryout the bills of quantities required. Some of the classrooms, teachers' house and laboratories would be targeted under this phase leaving some targets due to limited resources available in 2006 budget.

(iii) ***Kafushi High School- Chibombo District***

A tender to construct Administration block, four staff houses, four dormitory blocks, two ablution blocks including ancillary works had been concluded. Furthermore, high schools in the new districts would continue to be built in line with plans contained in the Fifth National Development Plan 2006-2010 and those would be district driven following the principle of decentralization policy that stressed the primary goal of giving decision power to the people.

(iv) ***Chilubi and Kaputa***

This year's budget could not accommodate the construction of the two schools due to inadequate funds available for infrastructure development. However, the two schools were still on the Ministry's plan for implementation in the Fifth National Development Plan period.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Fifth National Development Plan 2006-2010 had taken into consideration the continuation of building of high schools in new districts. This was an on going activity and the Ministry had plans to complete construction of some of the on going projects beginning from this year. While new construction would be started in some of the new districts in this year's workplan and budget for 2007.

Progress made so far towards the construction of high schools in new district as set out below.

Province	District	Name of School	Status
North Western	Mufumbwe	Mufumbwe High School	The contractor was on site.
	Chavuma	Chavuma High School	Planned for construction under the 5th National Development Plan and tender process to be done and construction was expected towards the end of 2007.
Western	Shangombo	Sioma High School	Construction for completion of the project was due to start in the third quarter of 2007. The contracts had been signed.
		Nangweshi High School	Planned for construction under the 5 <sup>th</sup> National Development Plan and tender process to be done and construction was expected towards the end of 2007.
Northern	Kaputa	Kaputa High School	Additional infrastructure was needed to be built.
	Chilubi	Chilubi High School	Planned for construction under the 5 <sup>th</sup> National Development Plan and tender process to be done and construction was expected to start towards the end of 2007.
Luapula	Milenge	Milenge High School	Only 1x3 Class Room Block was built and reached gable level. To be constructed under the 5th National Development Plan.
	Chiengi	Mponde High School	To be constructed under the 5th National Development Plan.
Copperbelt	Mpongwe	Mpongwe High School	To be constructed under the 5th National Development Plan and tender process to be done and construction was expected to start towards the end of 2007.
		Masaiti High School	To be constructed under the 5th National Development Plan and tender process to be done and construction was expected to start towards the end of 2007.
Central	Chibombo	Kafushi High School	The construction of the school began last year using sector funds.
		Chisamba High School	To be constructed under the 5th National Development Plan and tender process to be done and construction was expected to start towards the end of 2007.
	KapiriMposhi	Kapiri Girls Technical School	Construction to start in the second half of the year (2007) and to be funded by the ARAB Bank for reconstruction.
		Kapiri Mposhi Day High School	To be constructed under the 5 <sup>th</sup> National Development Plan and tender process to be done and construction was expected to start towards the end of 2007.
Lusaka	Chongwe	Rufunsa Girls Technical High School	To be constructed under the 5 <sup>th</sup> National Development Plan and tender process to be

			done and construction was expected to start towards the end of 2007.
Southern	Kazungula	Kazungula High School	Construction of the school was due to start in the fourth quarter of 2007 under the 5th National Development Plan.
	Itezhi-tezhi	Itezhi-tezhi High School	The construction of the school began in the first quarter of 2007 under the 5 <sup>th</sup> National Development Plan.

The process to construct sixteen high schools in the nine provinces was beginning this year, 2007. This would be after tender procedures. However, among the listed schools, Mufumbwe, Sioma and Itezhi-tezhi would start earlier than the rest because the tender process for the construction of those schools had already been done.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that there are some overlaps between the assurances on the provision of sixteen secondary schools and the building of high schools in new districts. They, however, observe that the Ministry is addressing both assurances. They resolve to have the matter closed.

### **10/04 - Affirmative Action in Sponsorship Accorded to Students from Rural Origin at the University of Zambia**

On 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Deputy Minister assured the House as follows:

*“The University of Zambia this year has introduced a new dimension to its admission policy under which preferential consideration has been given to a supplementary quota of students applying for admission from Government Secondary Schools which serve predominantly rural catchment areas. Under this new programme, affirmative action is being taken to accord special preference to students with rural origin. This policy is expected to extend to all educational institutions.”*

Your previous Committee requested the Permanent Secretary to avail them a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the University of Zambia had continued to implement the preferential consideration for a supplementary quota for students applying for admission at the University from predominantly rural areas. These were students who could not have been admitted under the cut-off point system as they scored below the cut off points in their respective first choice programmes.

Therefore, this was a positive discrimination measure aimed at availing access to university education by rural students. The policy started in the 2004 and 2005 academic years. For 2006 academic year, 344 out of 1,681 candidates from rural areas had been admitted to the University. This translated to 20.5 percent of the total number of students admitted in the first year at the University through the preferential quota.

These students had been admitted in the following schools as follows:-

- |       |  |   |  |
|-------|--|---|--|
| (i)   | School of Natural Sciences               | : | 67 candidates (all males)                                  |
| (ii)  | School of Education                      | : | 166 candidates of which 39 were females and 127 were males |
| (iii) | School of Humanities and Social Sciences | : | 111 candidates of which 34 were females and 77 males.      |

To ensure that the issue of poverty and vulnerability of these students was taken care of, the students had been admitted under the Loan's Scheme administered by the Bursaries Committee in the Ministry of Education.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to have the matter closed.

### **09/05 - Support to Community Schools**

On 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2005, the Hon Minister of Education made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, I explained that the Government is ready to support Community Schools and we do this by sending qualified teachers to them. In addition, we train volunteer teachers in these community schools. More importantly, we do not only take books, but we also give them money.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry had been supporting community schools through the provision of teaching and learning materials, provision of teachers to some of the community schools. Grants were given to community schools on the basis of their legibility. The 30 percent of the grants to districts were disbursed on meeting the conditionalities needed to be met by community schools. Some of the conditions were as follows:

- (i) the school should have a Management Committee and Parent Community School Committee to administer the day to day needs of the school;
- (ii) the school should be registered with the District Education Board Secretary; or
- (iii) the school should provide a performance report on the school achievements;
- (iv) the school should be initiated managed and owned by the community; and
- (v) there should be evidence of the school filling in the annual census forms.

In addition, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry was in the process of taking the component of community schools as an area needing more assistance and reduced on the neglect that was there before. Standards officers had been directed to monitor community schools in order to ensure that there was adherence to standards in the schools. It had also been possible to network with non governmental organizations to provide training in teaching methodology for community school teachers. As a result, a number of NGOs had come forward to offer support to many community schools in the country.

With the influx of NGOs taking keen interest in this area, the Ministry was developing a policy framework to provide guidance to all stakeholders involved in community school education so that pupils received quality education.

On the kind of education policy which community schools were following, the Permanent Secretary reported that initially, community schools did not have a clear education policy. However, lately, the Ministry of Education decided to step in and were working on the policy document. She reiterated that her Ministry might fuse community schools countrywide into their system but they would be cautious that they did not kill the noble idea of community schools. She further reported that about thirty teachers were being trained at Kasama Teachers' College for community schools. Further, the Ministry was encouraging the NGOs to support the already existing community schools.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that the policy document on community schools is now in place and notice that the schools lack adequate support for their operations. Your Committee resolve to urge the Government to provide adequate financial and material support to the community schools countrywide. They await an update report on the matter.

### **10/05 - Paying Teachers in Good Time**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Education made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, I would like to assure the Hon Members of parliament that the Government has decided to pay teachers in good time.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary started her submission on this issue by acknowledging the statement made by Honorable Minister of Education to the Honorable Members of Parliament that the Government

had decided to pay teachers' salaries, housing allowances and other personal emoluments in good time. This was in line with the Ministry's efforts in ensuring that the teachers' plight was looked into to meet and provide a better education system in the country.

Once payrolls were funded, the Ministry of Education at Headquarters and provinces prepared cheques which were then delivered to the various banks. A team had been put in place specifically to deal with preparation and delivery of salaries to various banks. This standby team ensured that they monitored at every level of payroll preparation and acted as whistle blowers in an event that any stage there was likelihood of a delay. This was done through monitoring of the system in relation to the timetable provided. Once cheques were presented to banks, it was up to the individual banks to credit the accounts for teachers and paying them accordingly but, not later than the end of the month. With the deployment of new accounts staff in provinces and districts, the processing of teachers salaries at this point had tremendously improved.

Thereafter, the Permanent Secretary reported that payment of teachers salaries was dependent on the performance of two other Independent Ministries. These were:

- (i) Cabinet Office, PSMD, for the processing and production of payroll schedules; and
- (ii) Ministry of Finance and National Planning, for funding.

The Permanent Secretary reported that it was only after those two the Institutions had performed their part that the Ministry of Education started to act in preparation of transfers to the various banks in which the teachers maintained their accounts.

Finally, she reported that the Ministry was also making efforts to ensure that teachers housing allowances and other personal emoluments related payments were paid on time with the support from the Treasury.

On what was meant by "good time" when it came to payment of teachers' salaries, the Permanent Secretary reported that it referred to a date of each month not later than 25<sup>th</sup> as when teachers' salary schedules were deposited in all banks. However, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning were key players to this cause.

On what the Ministry was doing about the issue of ghostteachers, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry would soon carry out the headcount of teachers. After all, the pay roll system had been decentralized to districts. Once a teacher resigned or died, that officer was deleted from the pay roll by the end user.

Previously, the Ministry used to have problems when the system was centrally prepared. Currently, the Ministry was trying to encourage banks to introduce mobile banks to save the teachers' time from walking long distances to get their salaries.

On how current the Ministry of Education was for the payment of housing allowances to teachers, the Permanent Secretary reported that they were current at 40% regarding the payment of housing allowance for all provinces except for Copperbelt Province where they needed to clear the K3 billion meant for housing allowances to teachers there.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that teachers in remotest areas suffer the most when it comes to delayed salary payments. Some of them end up being paid mid month of the following month. Your Committee urge the Government to ensure that all teachers whether in remotest areas or not are paid by 25<sup>th</sup> of each month as pledged by the Permanent Secretary. They await an update report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY**

### **11/04 - Labour Conditions for Farm Workers**

The Minister of Labour and Social Security made an assurance on the floor of the House on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2004, on the plans to conduct comprehensive country wide inspections in order to ascertain the conditions under which farm workers operated. The Minister further assured the House that stringent measures to punish employers who deliberately flouted existing laws would accordingly be instituted expeditiously.

Your previous Committee recommended that the Ministry had to come up with a very specific clause to deal with racial discrimination. Currently, it was not even mentioned under the labour inspection guidance form; and to ensure that funds were correctly used, the budgeting had to be done very firmly by the responsible ministry. Funding to the Ministry of Labour had to be increased, as poor funding had been a major drawback in the Ministry's operations. A progress report was awaited on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that your previous Committee's recommendation that there should be a clause to deal with racial discrimination in labour laws was appreciated. It was also reported that racial discrimination was addressed in the *Industrial and Labour Relations Act*, section 108 that provides for restriction on discrimination in employment in general terms and subsection (1) states that "no employer shall terminate the service of an employer or impose any other penalty or disadvantage on any employee, on grounds of race, sex, marital status, religious, political opinion or affiliation, tribal extraction, or social status of the employer". However, it did not specifically address racial discrimination per se. The Ministry was considering strengthening this provision during the on-going review of the Labour Laws by specifying and prohibiting issues that were related to racial discrimination.

In its revised clause, the Ministry intended to define the terms "discrimination", "racial discrimination" and emphasized that any employer who perpetrated racial harassment and any action, inciting disharmony, as well as discrimination on the basis of race, colour and ethnic or national origins, which included nationality or citizenship, would be guilty of an offence. The proposal would be tabled before the Tripartite Consultative Labour Council and once consensus was reached, the draft legislation would be sent to the Ministry of Justice for consideration after which it would be sent to Parliament for adoption.

With regard to funding, the Ministry still remained one of the least funded Ministries. Efforts had been made both by the Permanent Secretary and the Honourable Minister to request for an increased budgetary allocation but this was yet to materialize. Tripartite Partners i.e. Workers' representatives and Employers' Organisations had also made representations on the same to relevant authorities but the status had remained the same.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee urge the Government to review allocation to the Ministry and resolve to await an update report on the strengthening of the labour laws on racial discrimination.

### **07/05 – Fixed Contracts for Gratuity**

On 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2005, the Hon Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Security made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Sir, the information we are availing to citizens out there is that if you enter into a fixed contract and there is no provision for gratuity, you are actually being robbed of your services. Bring these fixed contracts that do not have gratuity so that the Ministry of Labour and Social Security can intervene and accordingly, you get your dues".*

### **Types of Contracts of Service under the Employment Act, Cap 268**

In his update, the Permanent Secretary submitted that there were two types of Contracts specified under the *Employment Act, Cap 268* of the laws of Zambia, viz: Oral Contracts of Service and Written Contract of Service. The categories of employees under written contracts of service might include:

- (a) casual employees - These were employees the terms of whose employment provided for payment at the end of each day and who were engaged for a period of not more than six months. Casual employees were legally guaranteed no terminal benefits but their daily wages;
- (b) employees on fixed term contracts- these were employees that agree to work for an employer for a certain fixed period exceeding six months, say two years, or five years; thus, this contract exceeded six months but was not open-ended. Upon completion of a fixed term of service, employees were usually paid gratuity before the contract was terminated or renewed; and
- (c) employees on open-ended contracts sometimes referred to as 'permanent employees' - these employees were engaged on contracts that were open-ended in terms of length of service. This category of employees had legal protection under the *Employment Act, Cap 268* as well as the *Minimum Wages and Conditions of Service Act, Cap 276*.

Under the current law (*Employment Act, Cap 268*), all written contracts were supposed to be attested by a Labour Officer.

A Labour Officer would attest contracts that contained the following details:

- (a) the name of the employer and of the employee;
- (b) the name of the business or undertaking in which the employee was to be employed;
- (c) the place of engagement and, where applicable, the place of origin of the employee and any other particulars necessary for his identification;
- (d) the date of commencement and the duration of the contract of service;
- (e) the place at which, or the geographical limits within which, any work under the contract was to be performed;
- (f) the wages to be paid and, if applicable, description of any food ration to be provided under the contract;
- (g) an undertaking by the employer to pay the wages of the employee monthly or at shorter period, as the case might be, unless deferment of payment was expressly sanctioned in terms of section forty-eight; and
- (h) the nature of the employment, including working hours and tasks to be performed, and the general operations involved and such additional details as might be necessary to make it clear to the employee as to the nature of work for which he had been contracted.

In the case of a contract of foreign service or contract of service entered into by an employment agency on behalf of an employer with an employee, an undertaking by the employer or employment agency, as the case might be, to provide the employee with sufficient means of subsistence to proceed to the place of employment and to pay the expenses of repatriating the employees as specified in subsection (2) of section thirteen of the *Employment Act*.

#### **Position of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security on Fixed Contracts and Gratuity**

The Permanent Secretary reported that due to the observed tendency by employers to abuse workers serving on the fixed contract category, the Ministry's position on fixed term contracts and gratuity was that any contract was to be attested by a Labour Officer, should have a provision for gratuity. However, as seen above, the current *Employment Act* did not include this as part of the clauses required in such contracts.

Within the context of the comprehensive labour law reform exercise, the Ministry of Labour and Social Security in collaboration with its Social Partners (Employers' and Workers' representative organizations) had drafted a Bill to amend the current *Employment Act*. The *Employment Act Amendment Bill* proposed that Section thirty (30) of the current *Employment Act* be amended to make a provision for the Minister of Labour and Social Security to issue a Statutory Instrument relating to gratuity as may be applicable to a class of persons as the Minister might determine.

On why an assurance of this nature was made on the Floor of the House and yet there was no legal backing to support the payment of gratuity to fixed contracts, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was done in a spirit of reducing unnecessarily abuses by employers who found it suitable to engage workers as casuals or on short term contracts and never paid them any gratuities.

The Hon Minister informed the Committee that at the time the assurance was being made, there was no legal backing. The Ministry had simply been encouraging every employer to include a clause on gratuity in the fixed term contracts entered into with their employees. Before contracts were attested by the Labour officers, they were scrutinized to see whether they were in compliance with the labour laws and though the issue of gratuity was not in the law, employers were encouraged to include it. This was because those contractual employees were not entitled to a pension and, therefore, there was no social protection for them.

The Ministry has had difficulties with some employers who did not want to comply with something that had no legal backing. It was in this regard, that the Ministry floated the idea of including a gratuity clause to the tripartite partners during the labour law review.

The Ministry was pleased to report that the clause had now been included in the Employment Act Amendment Bill, which had already been submitted to the Ministry of Justice, and later to be considered by Parliament.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee express concern that despite all the legal language to justify the assurance, they are of the view that the assurance was issued from a wrong position as it lacks legal support. They, therefore, resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT**

#### **21/96 - Chipata/Mchinji Railway Project**

On 13<sup>th</sup> February, 1996, the Honourable Minister informed the House that, regarding the Chipata/Mchinji Railway Project, it was the Government's intention to source funds and that as a result of the Government's efforts, signs were that sooner or later, a donor was going to be found to finance the project.

Your previous the Committee urged Government to source money so that the works were completed and requested to be furnished with a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Chipata-Mchinji Railway Project was conceived in 1982 as a bilateral project between Zambia and Malawi to connect Zambia via Malawi to the Port of Nacala in Mozambique. The Government of Malawi with the assistance of the Canadian Government completed their portion of the railway line in 1984 within the agreed time frame of two years, whilst the Zambian Government could not complete the construction of the line from the time the project started in 1982, due to lack of funds. To date only 3.5 km had been done on the Zambian side.

In an effort to complete the rail line, the Zambian Government through the Ministry of Communications and Transport (MCT) decided to construct the rail line on a Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. To this end the MCT signed a Memorandum of understanding (MOD) with V3 Consulting Engineers in 1999, to source funds for a feasibility study for the construction of the Chipata-Mchinji Railway line. The Zambia National Tender Board authority was sought and granted to the Ministry of Communications and Transport.

Following the study, V3 Consulting Engineers recommended, among other things, for the Zambian Government to source donor funding up to 40 percent and the balance of 60 percent to come from the V3 Consulting Engineers. However, the Government was unable to secure the 40 percent towards the cost of the project. Consequently, V3 Consulting Engineers could not secure the other 60 percent funds from the private sector, and, therefore, the BOT arrangement could not take off.

In 2003, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning also entered into another MOD with Eldow Resources Limited (ERL), the company registered in Bermuda to carry out a feasibility study and subsequently mobilized resources on the same project. The Minister of Finance and National Planning signed this MOD with ERL, bearing in mind that V3 had surveyed and evaluated the project and concluded that it was economically not viable, unless the rail line was connected to TAZARA line at Government

cost. The Government policy on the matter was that the private sector could construct the rail line on a Build-Operate-and- Transfer basis.

### **Review of the Project**

In September 2005, the Ministry of Communications and Transport sought and obtained Tender Board authority to engage Edlow Resource Limited (ERL) into discussions with the Government in order to agree on terms and conditions of completing the construction of the rail line.

In October, 2005, the Ministry constituted an Inter-Ministerial Task Committee to prepare a draft concession agreement and negotiate with Edlow Resources Limited (ERL) on the terms and conditions of constructing the Chipata-Mchinji Rail Line and Dry Port.

The Inter-Ministerial Task Committee comprised the following institutions:

- (i) Ministry of Communications and Transport;
- (ii) Ministry of Finance and National Planning;
- (iii) Ministry of Justice;
- (iv) Zambia Railway Limited;
- (v) Zambia Privatisation Agency;
- ((vi) Zambia Investment Centre; and
- (vii) Zambia National Tender Board.

The Inter-Ministerial Task Committee prepared the Draft Concession Agreement and negotiated with ERL from 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2005.

The outcome of the negotiations were the following proposals and agreements:

Taxes and Fees ERL requested for the following tax exemptions:-

- (i) exemption from payment of import duty and VAT on the importation or procurement of construction materials and related items necessary for the development of the project;
- (ii) exemption of excise duty on power purchase from ZESCO;
- (iii) exemption from payment of excise duty on fuel;
- (iv) ability to carry forward tax losses by ten years;
- (vi) corporate tax exemption for five years; and
- (vii) withholding tax to be zero-rated for the first five years.

It was agreed that ERL should apply for the tax exemptions to the Ministry of Finance and National Planning;

ERL should commence paying tax to the Government after five years of its operations subject to the Ministry of Finance and National Planning;

ERL would include an item on lease payment fees to the Government on materials to be contributed; that the materials on site would be leased to ERL upon verification of the asset list by both parties; that ERL would pay the following fees to Government based on ERL's proforma income statement:

- (i) nominal fees in year six, seven and eight;
- (ii) lease fees on materials at a rate of US\$20 000 per year in year 9, 10 and 11; and
- (iii) lease fees on materials at a rate of US\$50 000 per year in year 12, 13 and 14.

### ***Project Proposal and Financing Arrangements***

That ERL would submit a project proposal by 12<sup>th</sup> December 2005 to Government. The proposal was to include a financing model.

ERL proposed the following financing arrangement:

- (i) to secure a US\$1.5 million loan from OPIC;
  - (ii) local investors in Eastern Province to contribute US\$50,000; and
  - (iii) ERL to contribute US\$400,000 from own resources; -that ERL's cash flow projections would be reviewed annually by both parties;
- that ERL would include inflation rate on the operating expenses in their financing model; and
  - that ERL should have a fourteen year BOT Agreement with an option of three, five year operating concession extensions;
  - that the former Zambia Railways Limited workers, if available would be engaged by ERL;
  - ERL requested for excess rails and sleepers as a donation to the project subject to availability and Government clearance;
  - that ERL would apply for railway permits before construction and operating;

*Dry Port Construction*

The Dry Port would be a new facility and would be near the existing Chipata Station. The site had water, power and sewerage system in place. However, ERL was expecting GRZ to provide connections of these utilities to the warehouse.

Access to the site would be from Chadiza Road, an existing unpaved road running from the centre of Chipata to the vicinity of Chipata railway station. The Chadiza Road was generally wide and well graded to a point about 1 km from the proposed railway terminal. From this location ERL was expecting that the GRZ would construct a road to the railway terminal facility. GRZ was also expected to extend the railway line to the Dry Port.

The estimated cost of constructing the dry port was US\$480,000.00 broken down as follows:

<b>Item</b>	<b>US\$ Estimate</b>
Rehabilitate and Install Container Crane	150,000
Foundation and Floor Slab	40,000
Warehouse Building Interior	100,000
Warehouse Building Exterior	8,000
Other Dry Port Costs	102,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>400,000</b>
Contingency (10 percent)	40,000
Administration (10 percent)	40,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>480,000</b>

After analyzing both the railway and the Dry Port construction costs, your Committee noted that ERL's proposal did not outline the cost of the GRZ contribution. This prompted your Committee to estimate the cost of the shortfall materials to be contributed by the Zambian Government to the project.

The total cost of completing the railway line was now estimated at US\$9,919,910.00, out of which GRZ would contribute US\$8,249,910.00 and ERL US\$1,670,000.00 which translates to 83percent in case of GRZ and 17percent in case of ERL.

	<b>Railway</b>	<b>Line Total%</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
ERL	\$1,670,000.00	\$1,670,000.00	17percent
GRZ	\$8,249,910.00	\$8,249,910.00	83 percent
	Dry Port	Total	% Contribution
ERL	\$480,000.00	\$480,000.00	100percent
GRZ	nil	nil	0percent*

\* cost for access road, railway spar and utilities are included in the GRZ contribution to the railway project.

Total ERL Contribution: \$1,670,000.00 + \$480,000.00 = \$2,150,000.00

Total GRZ Contribution: \$8,249,910.00 + \$0.00 = \$8,249,910.00

**Total Project Cost: = \$10,399,910.00.**

It is now recommended that the rail line would be built by the Government of Zambia within eighteen months using the former ZRL employees and ZRL be appointed as a supervising engineer. The total cost of completing the construction of the project was US\$9,919,910.00.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that, following the Government's decision to construct the Chipata/Mchinji railway line, Zambia Railways Limited was appointed by the Government as a contractor to revive the construction of railway line on its behalf, in March, 2006. This decision was arrived at due to poor and unreliable responses from outside investors.

In the same month, a project Engineer was recruited from Zambia Railways Limited and work commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2006.

Zambia Railways Limited also filled the positions of Permanent Way Inspector, Land Surveyor, Track Supervisor and Road Motor Driver. In addition, fifty-three casual workers were recruited from within Chipata.

#### ***Progress made on the Railway Route constructed in early 1980s***

The following was the progress made so far on the project:

- stamping of trees and clearing of grass was completed;
- unblocking of culverts that were blocked with silt over the years had been completed and repair works and construction of new culverts was expected to be completed by the end of May, 2007;
- drainage works were ongoing;
- land surveying on the railway formation was completed;
- dismantling of the 3.5km stretch of railway which was built using 60lb rails was completed in readiness for the laying of heavy rail (80lb);
- renovation of the Chipata-Mchinji project rest house which had since been turned into offices and staff accommodation had been completed and was operational; and
- Zambia Railways had mobilized and moved to site 80lb rails to cover a distance of 21km of the track length leaving a balance of 6km.

In addition to the above, the following items for the project were procured during the period under review:

#### ***Office equipment and furniture;***

- Motor vehicles (one 4x4 vehicle, (twincab), two trucks for ferrying materials and workers;
- Additional culvert concrete pipes; and
- Uniform and protective wear for the employees.

#### ***Tendering Works***

In 2006, Zambia Railways Limited, the Contractor, tendered the following works which are not yet on site:

- purchase of concrete sleepers and fasteners;
- purchase of additional 80lb rails and fasteners;
- rehabilitation of railway formation (earthworks);
- purchase of track machines;
- purchase of turnout sets; and
- purchase of crossing timbers.

The progress on the tendering for the supply of Permanent Way materials and formation rehabilitation works is outlined below:

- Purchase of concrete sleepers at a total of K11,294,382,000.00 has been awarded to Infraset (Z) (Limited of Kafue);
- Purchase of track machines at a total cost of K240,580,496.25 has been awarded to RTI Turbo Incorporation of Canada;
- Purchases of additional 80lb rails from South Africa and fastenings at a total cost of K1,880,290,404.00 has been awarded to Rail Cor of South Africa;
- Award of a contract to rehabilitate the railway formation (earth works) at a cost of K1,488,272,625.00, already on site, has been finalized with Zia's Construction of Chipata;
- Purchase of turnout sets at a total cost of K1,194,040,347.43 has been awarded to Perway Industries of Kitwe; and
- Purchase of crossing timbers at a total cost of K135,354,125.00 has been awarded to Masange Enterprises Limited of Lusaka. For them to achieve this objective, they need timely release of funds. This year, K3 billion was received. Recently K2 billion had been released.

#### ***Railway Construction Works***

The final rehabilitation works of the railway formation would commence on May, 2007. Track laying would follow the rehabilitation of the formation.

#### ***Status of Funding***

The Chipata-Mchinji works were on course and on schedule and were expected to be completed by the end of 2007 at a total cost of K34 billion.

However, to achieve this objective, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning should timely release the whole K8.7 billion budgeted for in the 2007 budget and a supplementary budget for the deficit.

In the 2005 *Yellow Book*, only K4.3 billion was released against a budget figure of K7.4 billion. In the year 2006 *Yellow Book*, there was a provision of K4.3 billion and only K1 billion was released.

To date, K5.3 billion had been released against a budget figure of K20.2 billion representing 26.23% funding to the project. For this project to be completed as planned, it was strongly recommended that the Ministry of Finance and National Planning should release the funds for the project to avoid the project from stalling and consequently the cost would rise due to time lag.

On why the Chipata/Mchinji Railway Line had delayed to be constructed, while Malawi did it in two years when the plans were endorsed, the Permanent Secretary reported that looking at the progress of the pace at which money was being released for the project, there was hope that by the end of this year, 2007, the project would be implemented.

On the report that the Ministry was moving railway line of 80lbs from the vandalized Luanshya Railway line to Chipata/Mchinji Railway Line, the Permanent Secretary agreed with that position. He reiterated that they managed to get 9km of 80lbs rails which were left on the track along Luanshya Railway Line and also recovered a total of 21km of 80lb rails from the bush near the surrounding villages.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

The assurance has delayed in being honoured. Your Committee urge the Ministry to speed up the construction as Malawi has already done their side.

Your Committee request an update report on the matter.

### **04/96 - Improving Zambia Railways Operations and Mulobezi Rail Line**

On 13<sup>th</sup> February, 1996, the Honourable Minister assured the House that his Ministry was committed to improving Zambia Railways operations through programmes intended to rehabilitate the track and signaling system to ensue that accidents such as the one which occurred at Mukwela did not happen.

Your previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that this line was due for privatization under the Zambia Privatization Agency.

The idea was to privatize it through a concession as a means of improving operations and also to attract critical private capital to upgrade infrastructure. There were also plans to extend this line to Namibia through Katimamulilo. This would provide Zambia another alternative railway link to the sea through Wavis Bay.

The Zambia Privatization Agency had just completed a study on the future of Mulobezi Railway Line. The Minister of Communications and Transport had jointly with the Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry and the Minister of Finance and Financial Planning prepared a Cabinet Memorandum on the possibility of pursuing a Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) option in the rehabilitation and maintenance of the Mulobezi line and also its management and operation. The Cabinet Memorandum was expected to be presented to Cabinet within the first half of the year 2006.

Any implementation plan would only be known when the Government made a decision on the matter.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are satisfied that the assurance is being addressed. They resolve to close the matter.

### **16/02 - Kasama Airport Rehabilitation**

On 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2002, the Hon Minister informed the House that it was just a matter of time before the Government moved in and started working on the Kasama Airport.

Your previous Committee requested a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government had earmarked K300,000,000 in the 2006 budget mainly for temporal remedial works such as regravelling of the runway, and vegetation control. The heavy rehabilitation civil works are expected to commence in 2007. Preliminary estimates indicate that it will cost K 15 billion. Heavy rehabilitation works could not be undertaken in 2006 because three other airports, namely Livingstone Airport, Southdowns, Solwezi aerodromes have been prioritized, in the wake of limited resources available from the treasury.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

### **25/03 - Information, Communication, Technology Policy (ICT)**

During the debate of the Report of your Committee on Communications, Transport, Works and Supply, on 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2003, the Honourable Minister informed the House as follows;

*“My Ministry is still in the process of developing the Information, Communication Policy..... after the development, the Ministry..... intends to review the Telecommunications Act and align it to the provisions of the Policy.”*

Your previous Committee noted the submission and resolved that they be updated on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry, through Communications Authority of Zambia commissioned a number of World Bank funded studies pertaining to the following issues which related to major tenets of the ICT Policy:-

- i) review of the licensing frame work in Zambia;
- ii) development of an interconnection framework;
- iii) assessment of market opportunities for the provision of ICT services in rural and underserved communities;
- iv) assessment of opportunities for private sector participation in the provision of ICTs in rural areas; and
- v) modalities of establishment of a rural telecommunication development fund including management of and access to the fund.

The above studies, which included public hearings and workshops, culminated in the draft ICT Bill, which would soon be submitted to cabinet and ultimately to Parliament for enactment as a legislation. The ICT Bill seeks to deal with issues such as technology neutrality, enforcement and composition of the Authority's Board in a long term decisive manner.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the development of the ICT Policy was completed and adopted by Cabinet in November, 2005. The Policy was officially launched by His Excellency, the President on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2007.

With regard to the review of the *Telecommunications Act*, the draft ICT Bill had been developed which sought to repeal the *Telecommunications Act* and align it to the provisions of the Policy.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **04/96 - New Solwezi Post Office Construction**

On 27<sup>th</sup> October, 1992, the Honourable Minister informed the House that the construction of the new Solwezi Post Office was anticipated to start in 1993 after sourcing funds from donor countries to meet the costs.

Your previous Committee resolved to be availed with a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the design drawing and Bills of Quantities were ready and the tender documents pertaining to the same were, through Zampost, forwarded to the Zambia National Tender Board for scrutiny and approval. A feedback was still awaited.

The estimated additional cost of construction to be borne by the Government was K250,000,000.00. Zampost had available, a sum of K200,000,000.00 bringing the total cost of the said construction to K450,000,000.00.

In his update, the Permanent Secretaru reported that the Zambia Postal Service Corporation was initially allocated a plot to build a new post office by the Solwezi Municipal Council where the Shoprite building stands today. Eventually the plot ended up with Shoprite due to Zampost's failure to build owing to lack of funds.

It was subsequently decided to extend the existing post office at an estimated cost of K250,000,000.00.

Architectural drawings were made a year ago and contractors were invited to tender by Zampost. Detailed tender documents containing the Bills of Quantities were prepared and an evaluation of the tender submissions was done by the management tender committee of Zampost.

Unfortunately due to lack of funds, the tender was never awarded.

The Permanent Secretary reported that the project had failed to take off and the architectural drawings had been passed to the Permanent Secretary, North Western Province, who had undertaken to liaise with the Ministry of Communications and Transport and the Ministry of Finance to secure funding for the project.

It was worth mentioning that Zampost intended to build a completely new post office at Lumwana to be integrated as part of the infrastructure of the new mine to service the community. This project would be handled through the North Western Provincial Administration, including mobilization and coordination of funding.

On whether the shifting of the building of new post-office to Lumwana area was suggesting that they were equally shifting the provincial headquarters to the location of the new post office, the Permanent Secretary reported that Solwezi Post Office was still the provincial headquarters and still needed a better post office. He emphasized that they might need another piece of land to build a new post office.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are concerned that the specifics of the assurance are not being addressed. They are of the view that building a new post office at Lumwana instead of the grounds around the Solwezi Main Post Office is not necessary. They resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **17/04 - Vubwi Post Office**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Communications and Transport made the following assurance on the floor of the House.

*“Mr Speaker, we are moving fast and funds permitting, Vubwi Post Office will be attended to very soon.”*

Your previous Committee urged the Ministry not to abandon the people of Vubwi Constituency but to look at other innovative ways of servicing the area such as the use of mobile postal services.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that in an effort not to abandon the people of Vubwi Constituency, Zampost approached a number of individuals to take up the agency ship of a postal outlet in Vubwi but up to now no offer had been received. The road network was still impassable and the corporation was unable to travel there even if it opted for mobile services once a week.

As mentioned in our earlier update, due to lack of finances, to build or rent a building, maintain permanent staff and move mail, Zampost was unable to have a permanent presence there.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that Zampost had no Post office at Vubwi, but operated a postal agency under the former Member of Parliament, Hon. Alexander Miti. The postal agency was located within his building which also housed a grocery store.

In 2001, he closed the Agency. The Agency was located about 100 Km from Chipata on the route to Mozambique. The road was almost impassable.

The Permanent Secretary reported that Zampost had no immediate plans to construct a post office but was currently looking for an agent to operate a postal agency.

On why a container could not be placed in Vubwi to operate as a post office instead of depriving the people there of the services of the post office, the Permanent Secretary reported that they had put the construction of Vubwi post office in the budget for next year.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolve to await a progress on the construction of Vubwi Post Office.

### **70/05 - Concessioning of Siavonga Harbour**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Deputy Minister of Communications and Transport assured the House as follows:

*“However, plans are underway to concession Siavonga harbour to the private sector.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry had embarked on a programme of infrastructure development in the Harbour before concessioning it. In this regard, the Ministry had in this year’s budget provided for the sum of K300 million for the rehabilitation of harbours country wide.

In order to implement this programme, the Ministry had constituted a team of experts on infrastructure development in the Harbour consisting of officers from the Ministry of Communications and Transport and the Ministry of Works and Supply, Building Department. The team had already carried out a site survey and were currently finalizing the drawing for the infrastructure, which would include among others, the following works:

1. pavement of the launching bay;
2. hardening surface area;
3. construction of a terminal passenger building to serve as an international entry and exit point; and
4. construction of a security wall fence.

Once the works were completed, the Ministry would then work out the best mode of concessioning, to the private, sector port operation at Siavonga Harbour in line with the transport policy. One of the mode of concessioning was for the Government to be the asset holder (Land Lord Port) and lease of terminal facilities to the private operator.

The Ministry was still working out modalities for involving Private Sector Participation (PPP) in port operation at Siavonga Harbour in line with the Transport Policy.

Asked whether the Ministry had capacity to improve on Siavonga Harbour and later concession it, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry would work closely with the Ministry of Works and Supply to realize the assurance, although it might take years for this to happen. The concessionaire would like to take over the infrastructure which was already there.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **71/05 - Private Sector Participation in Running the Railway Sector - TAZARA**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Communications and Transport assured the House as follows:

*“My Minsitry, in conjuction with the Zambia Privatisation Agency, is stil working out modalities for involving the private sector in the railway sector. For example, the World Bank funded a study on the options of private sector participation in running TAZARA and has been completed and is under consideration by the Government of Zambia and Tanzania.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that at the Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority's (TAZARA) stakeholders' meeting held in Lusaka, Zambia on 6th August, 2002, it was agreed that Consultants should be engaged to carry out an options study for Private Sector Participation (PSP).

In April, 2004, Public Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF), an institution of the World Bank, commissioned Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PWC), to undertake the Options Study to identify the most appropriate mode of Private Sector Participation in TAZARA. Both the Governments of Tanzania and Zambia had applied to PPIAF to finance the study. In March, 2005, PWC submitted the report to the two Governments for consideration.

Alongside the above process, the Government of China formally invited the two Governments of Zambia and Tanzania for a special tripartite meeting, which was to be held in Beijing, in 2005 to discuss the way forward for TAZARA including the proposed PSP process. The Chinese Government sent a team of experts in two groups to undertake the study to evaluate the current situation of TAZARA so that they could make an informed decision whether to participate or not in the PSP in TAZARA. This resulted in a report, which was submitted to TAZARA in May, 2006.

After the two study reports were received by TAZARA Board of Directors at its 85<sup>th</sup> meeting held in Lusaka, Zambia on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2006, it was agreed to establish a Joint Task Force (JTF) comprising of members from both countries for the purpose of coming up with the way forward for PSP option in TAZARA.

Accordingly, the Governments of Tanzania and Zambia appointed a Joint Task Force (JTF), which consisted of members from:

**(a) Tanzania**

- i) Ministry of Infrastructure Development;
- ii) Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs;
- iii) Ministry of Finance;
- iv) Presidential Parastatal Sector Reform Commission; and
- v) TAZARA.

**(b) Zambia**

- i) Ministry of Communications and Transport;
- ii) Ministry of Finance and National Planning;
- iii) Ministry of Justice;
- iv) Zambia Railways Limited;
- v) Zambia Privatization Agency; and
- vi) TAZARA

The Board provided specific Terms of Reference for the Joint Task Force (JTF), which could be summarized into two categories as follows:

- a) identify and recommend the best option for Private Sector Participation in TAZARA; and
- b) identify and recommend measures to be taken by the two Governments before Private Sector Participation, which should include financial, management and operational restructuring.

The meeting of the JTF took place in Bagamoyo, Tanzania from 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 after the two National Task Forces (NTF) had met separately in their respective countries. The purpose of two separate meetings of the NTFs was to study, analyze and come up with individual country position on the subject. The NTFs of the two countries prepared their reports, which were discussed and adopted by the JTF and consolidated into one joint report.

***Performance Review***

After thorough review and discussion on performance of TAZARA, JTF identified areas which hinder performance. These included:

***Business levels***

TAZARA's business performance had declined from a peak of 1.08 million metric tonnes in 1989 to an average of 600,000 metric tonnes per annum in recent years. However, JTF noted that the business potential for TAZARA along the corridor was about two (2) million metric tones per annum.

On average TAZARA made losses of US\$ 18 million per annum for three years up to 2003 and in 2004, it made a loss of US\$ 36 million. This was due to an adjustment following reconciliation of the protocol loans from the People's Republic of China.

The reasons for low performance by the TAZARA had been attributed to, among others, the following:

- (a) inadequate working capital which has resulted in poor and deferred maintenance of rolling stock and infrastructure;
- (b) lack of capital investment;
- (c) weak marketing strategy resulting in competition with other transport routes and road hauliers

According to the report by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC), the break-even point for the TAZARA to sustain its operations was 800,000 metric tonnes per annum.

### ***Staffing***

It was noted that TAZARA had more workers than it required at the current operating levels of 600,000 metric tonnes per annum. The TAZARA had about 3,400 workers, whose wage bill was 66% of revenue. Among of the reasons for the high number of employees was due to labour intensive technology, overlapping of functions and lack of funds for retrenchment.

At the current business level, the two studies by Pricewaterhouse Coopers and the Chinese Study Team recommended that TAZARA with appropriate investment could scale down its workforce to 1,300 and 2,000 employees, respectively.

The JTF observed that depending on the PSP mode adopted by the two Governments, either all of the 3,400 or only excess TAZARA employees would be retrenched. With this type of an arrangement, the TAZARA would need funds to pay the would-be retrenchees.

### ***Liabilities***

TAZARA railway line and its infrastructure was built in the early 1970s at a cost of Rmb Yuan 988 million (equivalent to US\$500 million at that time) from an interest free loan obtained from the People's Republic of China. This loan belonged to the two Governments.

In addition, TAZARA had been receiving further loans in form of materials, spare parts and equipment through the Technical Co-operation (Protocols) to support the smooth operations of the TAZARA. These protocols had now accumulated to US\$132 million, and to date, TAZARA had not been able to service this debt. It was further noted that other TAZARA liabilities were as follows:

- (i) pension funds US\$10.3 million as at June, 2004;
- (ii) statutory obligations US\$25.6 million as at June, 2006;
- (iii) provision for court cases estimated at US\$8.6 million as at June, 2004; and
- (iv) trade creditors US\$6.7 million as at June, 2006.

Further, as at June, 2006, total retrenchment package for all employees was US\$53.4 million.

### ***Capital Investment***

The JTF noted that TAZARA was in the dire need of recapitalization. According to the Management, a total of US\$116 million was required for that purpose.

The Chinese Study Team indicated an initial capital injection of US\$180 million was required.

However, it was noted that neither the two Governments nor TAZARA might have the requisite funds to recapitalize TAZARA.

### ***Management Structure***

It was noted that the management structure of the TAZARA was top heavy. In addition, its structure was cumbersome in that there were overlapping functions and reporting systems were not well defined. For example, Directors, Regional General Managers and Managers perform similar functions with no clearly defined notes. As a result, there was duplication of work.

The above structure had resulted in unnecessary costs and inefficiencies.

### ***Non-core business***

Apart from its core business, TAZARA was also involved in non-core activities such as quarrying, constructions, and lodges, which were intended to support the operations of TAZARA and generate revenue. However, due to inadequate resources those non-core businesses were now a drain on the finances of TAZARA.

### ***Corporate Governance***

Corporate governance structure was also noted as a hindrance to the performance of the TAZARA. TAZARA at times depended on the Government machinery for approval to perform a commercial function.

### ***Labour laws***

Much as TAZARA had a collective agreement and a disciplinary code, the labour laws in the two countries were different and as such TAZARA was compelled to comply with each country's national labour laws.

### **Review of Private Sector Participation (RSP) Options from the two Study Reports-Review of The Reports- Report From Pricewaterhouse Coopers(Pwc)**

The JTF reviewed the report prepared by PWC. The report was submitted to the two Governments in March, 2005. The consultants reviewed the performance of TAZARA based on statistics of the period between 1999 and 2004. The key findings, conclusions and recommendations of the consultants are set out below.

### ***Financial Status***

TAZARA was technically insolvent with the net worth of US \$ 4.0 million in 2003. It was therefore unable to meet its liabilities as they fell due. It was not servicing its debts and it had substantial off balance sheet (unrecorded) liabilities. It had moved to predominantly a cash based business as suppliers did not want to extend credit. The reasons for the poor financial performance included:-

- i. loss of freight traffic;
- ii. poor operating performance;
- iii. inadequate infrastructure (track) maintenance;
- iv. poor record of maintaining and using its locomotive fleet efficiently (rolling stock);
- v. excess staffing; and
- vi. poor management.

In this regard, the Consultants concluded that TAZARA was in urgent need of financial, management and operational restructuring.

### ***PSP Options***

The Consultants evaluated the future structure and PSP options for TAZARA taking into account the objectives of the Governments, the interest of the private sector, the needs of the business, financial issues and the complexity of implementation and management. They narrowed the options down to four as follows:

- (a) vertically integrated bi-national entity - i.e. one entity;
- (b) vertically separated into operations and infrastructure bi-national entities i.e. two entities - one for operations the other for infrastructure;
- (c) vertically integrated national entities - i.e. two entities one for each nation; and

- (d) hybrid with operations bi-national and infrastructure national - i.e. three entities.

After due consideration of the four options, the Consultants recommended a vertically integrated bi-national entity.

### ***Structure***

The Consultants recommended a long-term concession for infrastructure and operations and either a long-term concession or an outright sale for the rolling stock.

In summary, the Consultants' preliminary recommendations for structure and PSP were:

- (a) remain as a vertically integrated bi-national railway business with the management and operation of infrastructure, operations of freight and passenger services under one management structure;
- (b) ownership of infrastructure should remain with the public sector;
- (c) concession infrastructure, rolling stock maintenance and management, freight and passenger operations to one private sector operator; and
- (d) rolling stock ownership ideally transferred to the private sector or retained by the public sector.

### ***Institutional and Regulatory***

The Consultants considered the future institutional and regulatory arrangements for dealing with the residual responsibilities of TAZARA, ownership of TAZARA assets, monitoring of the concession agreement and regulation of safety, environment and economic behavior. In this respect, the Consultants proposed the options set out hereunder.

- (a) The options considered for dealing with the residual TAZARA responsibilities were:
  - (i) TAZARA itself to wind up its residual responsibilities;
  - (ii) separate public bodies with the two countries; and
  - (iii) the asset holding entity.
- (b) The options for the asset holding entity were:
  - (i) the two Governments could each take ownership of their share of the assets;
  - (ii) the assets holding authorities responsible for the national railway assets, Railway Holding Company (RAHCO) and Zambia Railway Holdings and (ZRH); and
  - (iii) a new bi-national legal entity.
- (c) The options considered for regulation of safety were:
  - (i) a bi-national regulatory commission;
  - (ii) one country delegating to the other;
  - (iii) separate regulation of safety on TAZARA within national boundaries.

### ***Environmental Management***

The Consultants recommended that the existing environmental bodies in the respective countries should carry out the limited environment regulation that was needed.

### ***Economic Regulation***

The Consultants envisaged no dire economic regulation, as freight would have road as a competitor. The Consultants recommended that the economic behaviour was self-monitoring and if necessary an ad-hoc bi-national economic commission be appointed to investigate any issues.

### ***Inter-change Agreement***

The Consultants considered the impact of the relationship between TAZARA and the Railway Systems of Zambia (RSZ), and recommended that it should be dealt with before concessioning.

The Consultants recommended the option of negotiating a service level agreement between RSZ and TAZARA covering the rack from New Kapiri Mposhi to the Copperbelt and the DRC boarder.

### ***Management of non-core Assets***

TAZARA had a number of non-core assets including two quarries, a concrete sleeper plant, three workshops, a training centre, guesthouses, clinics, warehouses and cargo depots. The Consultants recommended that the TAZARA management continued to save costs and improve operational efficiency through disposing of assets and activities.

### **Review of Reports - Report from the Study by Chinese**

The JTF reviewed the report prepared by the Chinese TAZARA Restructuring Study Team (TRST). The objective of the study was to see how best the Chinese Enterprises could be engaged in the private sector participation in response to invitation by the two Governments. The first study was carried out from May to June, 2004 and the second carried out from November to December, 2005. The following were the key findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Chinese Team:

### ***PSP Options***

The general opinion of the TRST was that, TAZARA could be privatized in three different forms i.e. leasing, joint venture or concession. However, TRST considered concession as the best option if the Chinese enterprises were to be involved.

### ***Pre Concession conditions***

TRST proposed the following conditions to be undertaken by the two Governments before concession:

- a) amend *TAZARA Act*, 1995 to allow PSP in TAZARA;
- b) assume liabilities including the debts owed to the employees and terminal benefits payable for all TAZARA employees after restructuring;
- c) exempt all taxes and duties of all imported equipment and spares to be used for railway maintenance and operation after the restructuring of TAZARA;
- d) provide more preferential policies to TAZARA after the restructuring so as to attract more foreign investments and revitalize the business operation of TAZARA, such as guaranteeing concession exclusivity for freight and passenger operations;
- e) the right to hire and fire employees should be accorded to the the concessionaire;
- f) the Governments should perform all normal services and maintenances on the infrastructure and facilities before concession. Technical conditions and level should be maintained as they were in December, 2005; and
- g) TAZARA should ensure normal services and repairs of locomotives and rolling stock were carried out.

The concession period was provisionally considered for twenty-five years excluding one year of transition and concession fees were to be paid annually.

### ***Equipment Management***

The TRST cautioned on the need to have a detailed plan and sufficient funds to secure adequate supply of spares and fittings.

TRST report stated that there was no proper maintenance of equipment and one of the main reasons was that there were no local industries either in Zambia or Tanzania, which existed to produce spare parts and fittings. Most of spares were imported.

### ***Wagon interchange with Railway Systems of Zambia (RSZ)***

On wagon interchange with RSZ, the TRST's opinion was that the problem of wagon interchange with RSZ should be resolved to avoid its impact on the operations benefits of the future concessionaire.

### ***Accounting Parameters***

The two Governments needed to subsidize Public Services Obligation (PSO).

### **Preferred PSP Option**

After considering the issues discussed in the two reports, the JTF recommended concession as the preferred PSP option. The concession should have the following structure:

- (a) a vertically integrated bi-national railway business;
- (b) the concessionaire should be a joint venture company comprising the two Governments and the private sector. The ownership of shares in the concessionaire by the two Governments will be through institutions appointed by each Government.
- (c) the concessioning of the assets and operations of T AZARA;
- (d) TAZARA to retain the ownership of the concessioned assets;
- (e) the private sector partner in the Joint Venture should have a controlling share to ensure private capital and management discipline; and
- (f) the two Governments will remain as minority shareholders in the new Joint Venture Company in order to protect national interests.

### **Issues to be resolved in the transition Period**

In order to achieve the recommended PSP option, the Permanent Secretary reported that the JTF recommended the following:

- (a) the transition period of three years;
- (b) make a policy decision on the recommended PSP option;
- (c) review *TAZARA Act* of 1995 and the 1993 Bilateral Agreement between the Government of Zambia and Tanzania; and
- (d) the Government to assume the following liabilities:
  - loan from Technical Term of Cooperation with People's Republic of China US\$132 million as at June, 2004;
  - retrenchment packages US\$53.4 million as at June, 2006;
  - statutory obligations US\$25.6 million as at June, 2006; and
  - pension funds US\$10.3 million as at June, 2004.
- (e) TAZARA to assume the following liabilities:
  - Court cases estimated at US\$8.6 million as at June, 2004; and
  - Trade Creditors US\$6.7 million as at June, 2006.
- (f) TAZARA would require maintaining and rehabilitating its railway infrastructure, rolling stock, signaling and telecommunication and capacity building at a minimum level as follows:

(i) rebuilding of Locomotives (5)	-	US\$10.0 Million
(ii) signaling and Telecommunications	-	US\$5.0 Million
(iii) rebuilding of Wagons (800)	-	US\$5.0 Million
(iv) rebuilding Coaches (30)	-	US\$0.5 Million
(v) capacity Building	-	US\$3.0 Million
- (g) the two Governments were to advance TAZARA US\$2.0 Million as working capital;
- (h) the two Governments were to compensate TAZARA from loss making passenger services currently standing at US\$3.8 per annum;

- (i) the Tanzanian Government was to consider exempting TAZARA from paying fuel levy like was done in Zambia. TAZARA was currently paid fuel levy at US\$0.5 million per annum;
- (j) Zambian Government was to consider to exempt TAZARA from paying VAT;
- (k) TAZARA was to begin to reduce excess staff during transition period with the help of the two shareholders;
- (l) the TAZARA Board of Directors should spear head and streamline management structure; and
- (m) the JTF proposed the following implementation plan.

No.	Action to be Taken	Responsibility	Delivery Date
1.	Prepare a Joint Position paper on PSP in T AZARA	Joint Task Force of Tanzania and Zambia	4th _6th September 2006
2.	Submit the Joint Position paper on PSP in T AZARA to the T AZARA Board of Directors	Joint Task Force of Tanzania and Zambia	15tn October 2006
3.	Submit the recommendation on the mode of PSP in TAZARA to the Council of Ministers	TAZARA Board of Directors	30th October 2006
4.	Consultative Tripartite meeting on the form of PSP in TAZARA (China, Tanzania and Zambia)	The two Governments of Tanzania and Zambia and Joint Task Force and TAZARA	30tn November 2006
5.	Prepare and Submit Cabinet Memorandum for the approval on the mode of PSP in T AZARA	The two Governments	January 2007
6.	Cabinet conveyance from the two Governments received on mode of PSP in TAZARA	Cabinet Offices In the two Governments	March 2007
7.	Board of Directors and Council of Ministers meetings	TAZARA	May 2007
8.	Review T AZARA Act and Bilateral Agreement	T AZARA/Governments	June/July 2007
9.	Implementation of PSP in TAZARA  clean TAZARA Balance sheet		January - July 2007
No.	Action to be Taken	Responsibility	Delivery Date
	Secure funds for:  -Working Capital/	Two Govts.	

	injection & Capex		July/December 2007
	-PSP implementation process		September 2007
	-retrenchment packages	Two Govts.	January/July 2008
	-tender process	Two Govts.	March 2008
	-commencement of PSP		October 2009
		Two Govts.	
		Concessionaire/T AZARA/Two Governments	

### Observations and Recommendations

In noting the submission, your Committee observe that negotiations were in progress for promoting private sector participation in running the railway sector-TAZARA.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

### 72/05 – Improvement of Operations of the Road Traffic Commission

On 2nd March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Communications and Transport assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, in an effort to improve the operations of the Road Traffic Commission, my Ministry, last year, started the computerization of stations outside Lusaka starting with Kitwe, Ndola and Livingstone. In 2005, the programme will be extended to other towns. This is expected to decongest the Lusaka Office in terms of issuance of road traffic and driver’s licences.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Road Traffic Commission had undergone an institutional reform when it was abolished together with the National Road Safety Council (NRSC) to pave way for the establishment of the Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA). The first Board of Directors were appointed on the 14th July, 2004. The RTSA Executive Director was recruited in May, 2006 while all senior management positions were filled by September, 2006.

The Road Transport and Safety Agency under the Ministry was responsible for the implementation of policy on road transport and traffic management, road safety and enforcement of laws regulating road transport and safety in the country. In addition, the Agency was responsible for programming, procurement, monitoring and evaluation of road transport regulations and safety programmes approved by the Committee of Ministers on Road Management Initiative (RMI).

The reforms in the Roads and Road Transport Sector had been undertaken by the Government through its line ministries to improve the operations of the forerunner institutions namely, the Roads Department under the Ministry of Works and Supply, the National Roads Board and the Road Traffic Commission under the Ministry of Communications and Transport.

It was the Government's intention, through the Ministry of Communications and Transport, to secure collection of all revenue and enhance the quality of service delivered by the Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA) to the public through the computerization of all revenue collection related functions of the Agency.

The Road Transport and Safety Agency was the second highest collector of non tax Government revenue to the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) in cumulative collections. The Government, therefore, attached great importance to the way this non tax revenue was collected and would ensure that, transparent and accountable systems were put in place, hence the need for computerization of RTSA functions.

To-date, five RTSA Stations had been computerized in Livingstone, Kazungula, Monze, Mazabuka, and Kitwe; and three at Lumumba, Dedan Kimathi and Ridgeway in Lusaka.

In addition, five more RTSA Stations in Kasumbalesa, Ndola, Chirundu, Kariba and Nakonde had been earmarked for computerization in the second quarter of 2007. This would bring the number of computerized RTSA stations to thirteen out of twenty-six stations throughout the country. Further, all provincial stations were earmarked for computerization by the end of 2007.

On why there was congestion during road tax and license renewals in Lusaka, the Permanent Secretary reported that the problem was with the public who usually reacted towards last minute arrangements. He reiterated that the congestion was continuous in Lusaka as people still believed that they would only get their licenses in Lusaka.

On the allegation that congestion was caused by themselves due to failure to clear the backlog of cases regarding impeding licenses, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry had secured containers which would cater for mobile stations even in rural areas to speed up the process of issuing road tax licenses.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are satisfied that the assurance is being addressed. They resolve to close the matter.

#### **73/05 - Private-Sector Driven National Airline**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Communications and Transport assured the House as follows:

*“On air transport, the government is considering the establishment of a private sector driven national airline. Consultations on how best to establish such an airline are going on.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the contract between the Ministry of Communications and Transport and Ernst and Young regarding the formation of a National Airline in Zambia was signed in April, 2005.

The Consultant produced an inception report and interim report (November, 2005). Since then, the Ministry had been facing difficulties in mobilizing funds to meet the envisaged obligations falling due to the Consultant.

The Ministry had appealed to the Ministry of Finance and National Planning to release the K400,000,000 in this year's budget for the project.

The policy of multiple designation was still being implemented. Therefore, any airline that met the criteria set by the Department of Civil Aviation for designation could be designated on a particular route applied for.

No single airline to date had been designated National Airline status as none of the local airlines met the minimum requirement. Efforts to coax the air operators to consolidate themselves into a corporation had failed.

On why the Government had failed to pick on at least one local airline operators to operate a National Airline, the Permanent Secretary reported that none of the local operators met the minimum requirements to operate a National Airline. Even Nationwide Airline, which had enough places, could not become a National Airline because it was a foreign airline. It could, therefore, not partner with the Zambian Government to operate a National Airline. At one moment, Nationwide Airline wanted to make a golden triangle but failed to do so. He reiterated that to form a National Airline, there was need to have a bankable document, indication of routes and have a consultant.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee note that despite the Government being approached by big airlines such as Virginia and some German and Chinese Governments to establish a national airline, the Government has up to date not launched a national airline.

In line with the above, the Government is urged to expedite the formation of a national airline to fly the national flag around the world. Once that is done, the assurance would be addressed and closed. They await a progress report on the matter.

#### **74/05 - Rehabilitation of Airports - Chipata, Solwezi, South Downs (Kitwe) and Kasompe**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Communications and Transport assured the House as follows:

*“Sir, following the increase in activity in certain parts of the country, such as in the North-Western Province, my Ministry, through the Department of Civil Aviation, intends to carry out the rehabilitation of those airports considered to be strategic. These include Chipata, Solwezi, South Downs in Kitwe and Kasompe in Chingola.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that funds for the rehabilitation of Chipata Airport, Solwezi and Southdowns aerodromes were provided and all the works involved had since been completed.

On why the rehabilitation of airports was not extended to Kasompe Airport in Chingola and yet the assurance included it, the Permanent Secretary reported that Kasompe Airport was under the Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines (ZCCM). This had just been handed over to the Ministry and already work had started on Kasompe Airport.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are satisfied that the assurance has been addressed. They resolve to close the matter.

#### **75/05 - Modern Equipment for the Department of Meteorology**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Communications and Transport, assured the House as follows:

*“Sir, the department has already received a positive response from cooperating partners with regard to provision of modern equipment for weather observation and forecast.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that installation of the Meteosat Second Generation (MSG) satellite receiving equipment at the Zambia Meteorological Department Headquarters was successfully completed during the month of April, 2005. The unit (including installation costs) costs amounted to US\$ 100,000. The equipment was procured under an African-wide (members of the Lome Convention) project funded by the European Union (EU).

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are satisfied that the assurance is addressed. They resolve to close the matter.

#### **76/05 - Nseluka - Mpulungu Railway Spur**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Communications and Transport assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, last year, His Excellency signed the agreement for the Mtwara Development Corridor. Under this agreement, a number of projects in various sectors are expected to be*

*developed. In the transport sector, the project will include the Nseluka-Mpulungu Railway Spur, which is expected to connect the country to the Great Lakes Region.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that to facilitate the imports and exports from the Great Lakes Region to the sea ports on the Indian Ocean, the Ministry was considering constructing a railway line from Mpulungu Port to Nseluka.

The project involves linking the Port of Mpulungu to T AZARA Railway line at Nseluka.

The Ministry advertised the project for expression of interest in 2006. Only one Chinese company had expressed interest to construct the railway line on build-operate and transfer (BOT) basis. The company was yet to submit the detailed technical and financial proposals to the Ministry for consideration.

On whether the Nseluka-Mpulungu Railway Spur would take off soon, the Permanent Secretary reported that this could not be addressed at the moment due to inadequate resources.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the assurance is not yet addressed. They resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **77/05 - Establishment of Tele - Centres**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Communications and Transport assured the House as follows:

*“Sir, it is, also, the Government’s desire that access to internet services extends to schools, colleges, health centres and the rural communities through the establishment of tele-centres.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the role of the Ministry of Communications and Transport was to provide the environment for the establishment of tele-centres in schools, colleges, health centres and the rural communities.

So far the Ministry had developed and launched the ICT Policy, which among other things, proposed the establishment of a Rural Telecommunications Fund/Universal Access Fund which would provide seed money to individuals and communities intending to set up telecentre. Secondly, it was expected that the various sectors such as education, health, NGOs, the Civil Society would develop programme to mainstream ICTs in their operations.

Below is the example of a project which the Ministry together with other stakeholders was involved in which aimed at expanding access to internet facilities in the rural communities.

#### **Renewable Energy Powered Rural ICT Services (Reprise-Zambia)**

REPRISE-Zambia project sought to expand rural and peri-urban access to telecommunications services based on renewable electric power solutions in the country. This would be achieved by catalyzing the development and growth of small and medium sized enterprise(SMEs) that used renewable energy systems to meet the demands for telecommunications services in unserved areas.

Each qualifying enterprise would receive a package of tools and training in applications of renewable energy systems; business development services; and start-up financing. All REPRISE Centres supported by the project would be structured such that they maximize financial and economic returns, social equity and environmental sustainability.

The services that the REPRISE Business Centres (RBC) would provide are set out below:

- 1. Office Computer Services:** RBCs would be equipped and trained to offer a variety of office services including desktop publishing, which would be useful in preparing advertisements, greeting cards, resume writing and school test papers.

2. **Computer Education:** Offline and online courses and teaching aids and materials could be provided for computer education targeting children and adults. Materials would include software that would be developed for rural education and communication.
3. **Health:** RBCs in town/villages without health centers would be equipped with web-cams and partnerships would be formed with remote hospitals to provide online consultations and health appointments. A Health Web portal would also be created to be accessed through the RBCs to provide ports of call for qualified rural dwellers needing information on health and access to health care. Possibilities for use of the RBCs by Ministry Departments and Agencies for providing extension services are being explored.
4. **Agriculture:** The REPRISE Centers could be made to effectively link the rural communities to Ministry Departments and Agencies (MDAs). They could, using innovative tools, be used by the MDAs to provide agricultural extension services to farmers within their localities. Online and office farming schools, web-portals would be created to provide basic agricultural practice information, produce-prices nationwide as well as find weather information, crop prices, veterinary information, and best-practice farming techniques. REPRISE Centers could be equipped to mediate on sales of tractors and spare parts and farming. The RBC could become a medium of communication between various MDAs and the rural communities.
5. **Basic ICT Services:** Internet services such as browsing, e-mail, voice mail, video mail, and chat and digital photography would be provided.
6. **E-governance:** REPRISE Centers would provide access to government portals that contain online forms and applications for documents such as birth and death certificates, civil rights, information on policy and central and local government programs such as the National Health Insurance Scheme as well as education.
7. **Distance Education:** REPRISE Centers would be equipped with TV sets to provide access to distance education programmes.
8. **Selling Clean and Renewable Energy Services and Products:** The Rural Business Centers (RBCs) would be trained/assisted and equipped to sell clean and renewable energy services and products. Products targeted included solar lanterns, solar PV panels, batteries, regulators, invertors, Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) lamps, LPG cylinders and stoves. At a later stage of the project, the solar systems of RBCs in purely non-grid areas would be modified to provide battery-charging services. They would also be trained to provide initial solar equipment, sizing assessment for potential customers before further referral to experts.
9. **Provision of Energy Information Services:** Rural Business Centers (RBC) would be assisted to serve as energy information hubs within their localities to provide such services as information on energy efficiency, cleaner energy options, and energy policies. They would also serve as ports of call for and provide links to energy system vendors.

The REPRISE Centres would be located within or near Ministry of Education rural network and would be funded through the Global Environment Facility supported by UNEP/UNIDO. Co-financing would come from the following partners:

- Ministry of Communications and Transport Budget and COMESA Regional ICT Support Project;
- Communications Authority- (Universal Access Fund);
- Ministry of Energy and Water Development/Rural Electrification Authority;
- Renewable Energy PV Systems;
- Zamtel and other operators;
- Entrepreneurs-Private Sector/Local Community;
- NGOs;
- ZANACO as Finance Manager;
- A Telecentre would have the following ICT equipment;
- 3 PCs;
- 2 Desk jet printers;
- A beamer;
- A fax machine;
- 2 PC IP phones; and

- TV plus VCR.

**The server**

The VSA T system would be used.

**Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are satisfied that the assurance is being addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

**MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

**04/02 - Market Development Programme**

On 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2002, the Honourable Minister informed the House that with funding from the European Union, three markets in Libala, Chilenje and Nyumba Yanga were being improved upon. The programme would be extended to other markets in the city and to Kitwe and Ndola.

Your previous Committee noted that some markets were still under construction. They resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the contract to complete Chilenje Market has been processed and signed by the Government. This included Chelstone and Ng'ombe Markets. The Chilenje Market is earmarked for completion in mid 2006.

Libala Market: The Libala Market has been completed and was handed over to Lusaka City Council in July, 2005.

Lusaka, Ndola and Kitwe Markets Phase II: The Ministry would construct markets in Lusaka and Kitwe. However, no bids had been received for Ndola Markets. The Ministry Local Government and Housing would re-advertise the bids in the first quarter 2006. The bids received and awarded were for the construction of markets in Lusaka i.e. Ngombe, Chilenje and Chelstone. In Kitwe, contracts awarded were for the construction of Nakadoli, Buchi, Kamitondo and Ndeke.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report.

**11/04 - Empowering of Councils with Equipment Such as Graders**

On 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, I wish to inform this August House that the Government is determined to empower all Councils with equipment such as graders to enable them perform their duties effectively in the reconstruction and maintenance of feeder roads. Mr Speaker, the intention of my Ministry is to budget for the procurement of at least two graders in each province for the districts to share themselves for a start.”*

Your previous Committee noted the response and resolved to wait for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government released K500 million to the Ministry for the purchase of Graders in 2004. However, this money was not enough to buy a grader. Part of the money was sent to Chipata for the purchase of Bulldozer and the other funds were used to repair some graders in selected councils. The Ministry had also received K500 million this year but the funds had been reserved to await a top up from cooperating partners so that the Ministry could be able to purchase a few graders.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

**12/04 - Construction of Houses through Municipal Bonds**

On 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, I would like to state that this administration is trying to construct houses by raising finances through Municipal Bonds. Our programme is to use “Special Purpose Vehicles” meaning that we will create some form of organs that, indeed will be used for purposes of Municipal Bonds.”*

Your previous Committee observed that there were outstanding issues to be addressed with regard to constructing houses through Municipal Bonds. They recommended to be furnished with a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report as set out below.

- (a) **Appointment of Financial Advisors/Arrangers** - The task of appointing a Financial Advisor had been completed. Stanbic Bank Zambia Limited (backed by Stanbic Africa in South Africa) was picked as Consultants to the program. Accordingly, this key component of the program was in place and the programme was ready for implementation.
- (b) **Creation of the SPY and Appointment of members of the SPY Board** - The Board of Trustees was now in place and had already been announced to the nation. This followed the formal registration of the Trust Deed by the Ministry of Lands. The first Board meeting of the SPY was to be held before the SPY would formally take over the operations of the SPY work program on the National Housing Bonds Program.
- (c) **Sensitization of Pilot Councils** - The preliminary work had been done. The program would formally start and involve direct dialogue with Council officials.
- (d) **Lobbying of Institutional Investors** - This was an on-going task and did not really have an end point. Thus, both the Ministry of Local Government and Housing (MLGH) and the SPY officials would continue to engage Institutional Investors, to get them to understand both the narrow and broad agendas of the Government's Municipal Bonds Policy. The objective of this agenda was to work towards harnessing Zambia's huge domestic savings into domestic investments.
- (e) **Lobbying for Tax Incentives (particularly the Withholding Tax)** - The work done so far, to get the Ministry of Finance and National Planning to waive this tax, had not been successful. Efforts to get the Ministry of Finance and National Planning to appreciate the need to make Housing Bonds attractive to investors thereby making the National Housing Bonds Program viable and a sure vehicle for implementing the National Housing Policy in Zambia would continue after elections.
- (f) **Institutional Investment Guidelines** - Like with the Withholding Tax issue above, the Ministry would continue to work with various stakeholders to try and get these guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning. This was simply because Institutional Investments Guidelines would unlock domestic savings mobilized through pension funds, etc., for domestic investments, as already noted. If guidelines got issued, the National Housing Bonds Program would become very easy to implement and would become the "vehicle" in the process of implementing the Housing Policy in Zambia.
- (g) **Training** - Training to make the concept of raising funds through municipal bonds "understandable" to people had been launched. This was continuing and would remain a key implementation vehicle of the Municipal Bonds Concept and Policy in Zambia.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary submitted that the status of the construction of houses through Municipal Bonds still remained the same as earlier reported in the previous memoranda.

On whether the programme of building houses through municipal bonds had worked elsewhere, the Permanent Secretary reported that it had worked perfectly well in Zimbabwe, South Africa and Tanzania.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the Ministry is enthusiastic about realizing the assurance of constructing houses through municipal bonds. They resolve to be availed with a progress report on the matter.

#### **13/04 - Clearance of Outstanding Council Debts**

On 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, the outstanding debts, currently in the books of the councils, we as Government, have taken note. We have planned that for a period of two years, we will try to clear all these debts.”*

Your previous Committee resolved to await a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government was committed to finding a lasting solution to assist councils clear their outstanding debts, which stood at K65 billion as at 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2005. Councils also owed its former employees an amount of K135 billion in form of unpaid salaries, retrenchment and retirement benefits as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2004. However, the Government had so far released K25 billion to pay retrenchment and retirees benefits. The retrenchment and retirement benefits to former employees had now been reduced to K105 billion as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2005. the Government would continue releasing funds to councils to assist them retrench so that only manageable but productive staffing levels in councils could be achieved.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **40/03 - Rehabilitation of Chilenje Market**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, it has been found that, for Chilenje Market, the cost of work still outstanding is quite huge. There is about K100 billion that will be given through some grant from the European Union for phase II of the European Union Urban Markets Rehabilitaiton Programme. We have decided to include the Chilenje Martket so that it also benefits from that money.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary submitted that the rehabilitation of Chilenje Market which started in May, 2006 under Urban Markets Development Programme Phase II funded by the European Union (EU) had reached an advanced stage and was scheduled to be completed in November, 2007.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that it has taken rather too long to build Chilenje Market. They urge Government to ensure that the deadline for the completion of Chilenje Market of November, 2007 is met at all costs.

#### **41/05 - Building Modern Markets in all Provincial Centres**

On 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Hon Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, it is the intention of the Government to build markets like the new Soweto Market in all Provincial Centres and, also in big cities like Livingstone, Kitwe and Ndola.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Programme to build modern markets like Soweto Market in Lusaka in all provincial centres had not yet started because of lack of funds to undertake such a project. The Permanent Secretary reiterated that this was a huge Programme that needed a lot of funds to complete. However, since the House had passed the Market and Bus Station Bill, which was going to regulate the operation and management of those institutions, the Boards would be mandated to plan and build markets and bus stations as they saw it fit in all provincial centres and other districts using the funds that would be pooled from the existing markets. At the present moment, markets were being constructed in Kitwe and Ndola under the Urban Market Development, which was supported by the European Union (EU).

On whether the modern markets which the Ministry was building in all provincial centres was like the modern Soweto Market, the Permanent Secretary reported that it was indeed the same though Soweto Market would be bigger than those other markets.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the programme of rehabilitating and building modern markets like Soweto Market in all provincial centres is an ambitious one. There is need for some tabulation and timeframe in rehabilitating and building modern markets in each provincial centres. Your Committee want to see things done rather than empty promises. They await a progress report on the matter.

### **42/05 - Welfare of Chiefs**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Local the Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, currently, we are working on a policy of Chiefs’ Affairs and this policy will take into account issues such as the building and maintenance of Chiefs’ Palaces and whether or not chiefdoms that were abolished in the past should be resuscitated.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that Government had not yet adopted the Draft Chiefs Policy, which was aimed at addressing some issues that were raised in the earlier Report.

Asked what the Chiefs’ Policy would contain, the Permanent Secretary reported that it would deal with various issues to ensure the welfare of Chiefs was taken care of such as payment of royalties, land issues, Chiefs’ functions and issue of reports from the House of Chiefs.

On whether the Ministry was waiting for the Chiefs’ Policy to start rehabilitating or building Chiefs’ palaces, the Permanent Secretary reported that rehabilitating Chiefs’ Palaces needed not wait for Chiefs’ Policy Document. He reported that the Ministry had already started renovating the Chiefs’ Palaces to ensure that they were habitable.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the welfare of Chiefs needs improvement. There is need to deal with issues of payment of royalties, customary land, Chiefs’ roles and the rehabilitation of Chiefs’ palaces. In this respect, your Committee urge the Government to quickly draw up a policy document on the welfare of Chiefs. They await a progress report on the matter.

### **43/05 - Delegation of Management of Some Roads to Councils**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, the Government adopted new transport Policy and enacted the Public Road Act of 2002 which effectively put all gazetted roads under the Road Development Agency (RDA), under the Ministry of Works and Supply. However, there is provision to delegate some of the RDA functions to the local authorities that are capable of managing roads in order to avoid creating a large central agency that may not be present on the district level. This is in line with the Decentralisation Policy.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Government in February, 2007, granted all Local Authorities the status of Road Agents of all roads in their jurisdictions. This meant, therefore, that all councils would plan and manage the repairs and rehabilitation of all the roads in their jurisdictions.

On the perceived cold war between the Ministry and the Ministry of Works and Supply regarding being road agents in as far as feeder and urban roads were concerned, the Permanent Secretary reported that the Ministry of Works and Supply had created the Road Development Agency to be in charge of all road works in Zambia. The Ministry of Local Government and Housing contended that this was retrogressive as it was against the spirit of decentralization. It was with that understanding that the Committee of Ministers approved that councils should continue to coordinate the works of feeder roads and urban roads.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the assurance has been addressed. They resolve to close the matter.

#### **44/05 - Eradication of Cholera**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, my Ministry has plans to eradicate or reduce cholera by making water as well as latrine treatment chemicals available to local authorities.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that as a measure to eradicate or reduce Cholera in Zambia, the Government had embarked on a programme to give communities health tips on a door to door basis. This included the provision of educational materials, written both in English and local languages. Currently, 268 home based voluntary health educators had been trained to train households in communities on how to live in a safe environment.

Your Committee also heard that the Ministry provided K20 million to Lusaka City Council to assist the Council to inspect premises such as bars, taverns and schools so that they could maintain good health standards to avoid outbreaks of Cholera.

Additionally, United Nations International Children's Educational Fund (UNICEF) provided K29.7 million for the purchase of 6,200 bags of lime to spray in latrines in compounds. The Ministry has also continued providing chlorine to councils to make the drinking water safe.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

While commending the Ministry for a positive action on the matter, your Committee urge the Government to ensure that all those throwing litter carelessly should be checked and cautioned by appropriate officers. They await a progress report on the matter.

#### **45/05 - Programmes Under the House of Chiefs**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Local Government and Housing assured the House as follows:

*“My Ministry is asking for continued support in ensuring that the programmes under the House of Chiefs are undertaken.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the House of Chiefs received financial support. Through that financial support, programmes such as the election of new members of the House of Chiefs was undertaken. Other programmes undertaken were the holding of the sitting of the House, conflict resolutions in selected Chiefdoms, which led to the reduction of the number of unresolved conflicts from 106 to only nine as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2006.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee note the submission and the various programmes being undertaken by the House of Chiefs. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **46/05 - Grants to Local Authorities**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2005, the Hon Minister of Local Government and Housing assured the House as follows:

*“Mr Chairman, there is nowhere in this world where councils stand on their own. This is where we have created problems for our local authorities because somehow, we have this illusion that Councils are viable and can look after themselves..... What is required are grants from the Central Government to make those people deliver services. You do not expect a local authority to raise money from the people to construct roads....That money cannot be enough.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary submitted that the Government had developed a document called Intergovernmental Fiscal Architecture (IFA) which was aimed at regulating the disbursement of grants to councils in the country. The IF A also contained the formula for the disbursement of funds and ways of

accessing funds by the councils. Further, K50 billion had been allocated in this year's budget as Restructuring Grants to Councils.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the assurance has been addressed. They resolve to close the matter.

### **MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND NATIONAL PLANNING**

#### **2/96 - Re-organisation of the Central Statistical Office (CSO)**

On 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1996, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the house:

*“Our national statistical system needs to be strengthened in order for it to give the relevant and timely data that we will require for decision making. In this regard, plans are underway to re-organise the Central Statistical Office into a Bureau of Statistics with enhanced capacities.”*

Your previous Committee expressed their concern at the delay in re-organising the Central Statistical Office into the Bureau of Statistics with an enhanced mandate. In view of the above state of affairs, they resolved to urge the Government to speed up the process as they awaited a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government was concerned with the escalating costs of funding institutions which were turned into semi - autonomous bodies as nearly all of them had continued to be dependent on Government subventions. In this regard the Government was avoiding transforming more institutions into semi autonomous bodies. Further, Government was in the process of revising the 1964 *Census and Statistical Act* (CAP 127 of the Laws of Zambia) within the existing Government structure instead of establishing a new institution such as a Bureau of Statistics as was proposed in 1996.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await an update report on the matter.

#### **52/99 - Privatizations of the Zambia State Insurance Corporation (ZSIC)**

The Honourable Minister made the following assurance on 14th October, 1997:

*“I am bringing in a management company to make sure that for the next two years, we consolidate the management of ZSIC before it is placed on the stock exchange.”*

Your previous Committee were concerned at the development taking place with regard to the privatization of ZSIC. They wondered whether there had been a shift in policy to the full privatization of the entity. They requested an update on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government of the Republic of Zambia requested the Zambia Privatisation Agency (ZPA) to work with the Zambia State Insurance Corporation (ZSIC) to prepare the company for public floatation. ZSIC could not be floated on the stock exchange immediately because of its poor operational and financial position. In this regard, ZSIC advertised for bidders to bid for the provision of services for commercialization and public floatation of ZSIC in 2004. Three bids were received and a successful bidder was selected by ZSIC. However, ZSIC failed to mobilize funds to pay the successful consultant to commence work. In view of the above, ZSIC was tasked to prepare its own three to five years Business Plan and embark on the restructuring process which was still on going. Further, there were conditions that ZSIC should make profits for three (3) years consecutively. To that effect ZSIC had been making profits since 2000. Additionally, the Government was required to clear the debt it owed ZSIC in terms of premiums. To this end, the Government had since paid over 12 billion out of the 17 billion that was verified by the auditors. Therefore, once the institution achieved a positive financial position, it would be considered for floatation on Lusaka Stock Exchange (LuSE).

In view of the above, there had not been a shift in policy to the full privatisation of the entity.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **42/02 - Fiscal Responsibility Bill**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2002, the Honourable Deputy Minister was asked when the Government would introduce a Fiscal Responsibility Bill to Parliament. The Hon Minister's response was:

*“The Ministry of Finance and National Planning accepted the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee on Estimates to enact a Fiscal Responsibility Act, which is aimed at improving budget transparency and governance. However, my Ministry will accommodate this recommendation by incorporating the elements of this proposal into the revised Finance Control and Management Act possibly before the end of the year.”*

Your previous Committee recommended that the progress report be availed to them.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government planned to incorporate the fiscal responsibility matters in the Constitution and as such the Ministry of Finance and National Planning presented to the Constitution Review Commission proposals bordering on the Fiscal Responsibility Bill which included:

- (a) changing the period of presenting of estimates of revenue and expenditures to Parliament to ninety days before commencement of the next financial year (Part XVII - Public Finance and Budget, Para 328 (i));
- (b) enactment of the *Budget Act* to provide for matters that relate to the annual budget (Part XVII - Public Finance and Budget, Para 329).

The draft Constitution had since incorporated the above mentioned paragraphs.

Your Committee was also informed that the Ministry of Finance and National Planning intended to encourage a consultant to come up with the draft Fiscal Responsibility Bill after finalizing the terms of reference for the consultant.

In his update, the Secretary to the Treasury reported that the Ministry of Finance and National Planning incorporated the following provisions in the *Public Finance Act No. 15* of 2004 which did not exist in the repealed and replaced *Finance Control and Management Act, 1969*.

On whether the Ministry of Finance and National Planning had incorporated the elements of *Fiscal Responsibility Act*, the Secretary to the Treasury reported that the assurance hinged on improving budget transparency by incorporating the *Fiscal Responsibility Bill*. Therefore, the assurance was attended to in 2004 when some provisions in the *Public Finance Act* was incorporated.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the elements of the Fiscal Responsibility Bill have already been incorporated in the *Public Finance Act No. 15*, of 2004. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **20/03 - Lundazi-Chipata Road**

On 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2003, the Honourable Deputy Minister made the following assurance:

*“It is the intention of the treasury to have the K4 billion allocated to this road in accordance with the contract work plan provided by the Ministry of Works and Supply for this year. The initial K1 billion has been profiled to be released this month August, 2003. The treasury will further consider releasing the remaining balance as the certificate for expanded works gets signed by the road engineers at the Ministry of Works and Supply as per procedure.”*

Your previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that Lundazi - Chipata Road Budget Allocation and Releases, K' Million was as follows:

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Budget Allocation	4,000,000,000	9,306,676,000	6,000,000,000
Releases	1,000,000,000	9,306,676,000	6,000,000,000
Variance	(3,000,000,000)	-	-

Source: Ministry of Finance and National Planning

The budget allocations towards the expenditure line Chipata - Lundazi Road under the Ministry of Works and Supply were K4,000,000,000, K9,306,676,000, K6,000,000,000 in 2003, 2004 and 2005 respectively.

The releases by the Treasury towards this line has been K1,000,000,000, K9,306,676,000 and K6,000,000,000 in 2003, 2004 and 2005 respectively. In 2003 the releases towards the Lundazi- Chipata Road were less by K3,000,000,000.

In terms of works done, the Ministry of Works and Supply was the competent institution to provide a response on this matter.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee urge the Government to urgently release the variance as indicated in 2003 and resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **14/04 - An Impending Bill to Amend the Liquidation Law**

On 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Minister of Finance and National Planning made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, we promised to look at the liquidation or receivership law this year because we are also concerned about this perpetual liquidation of companies. We are working on this and we hope that by the end of the year, we will bring a Bill for this House to amend the law regarding liquidation and receivership.”*

Your previous Committee observed that the Government was processing the Bill to amend the Liquidation/Receivership Law. They resolved to awaited a progress report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that Government started the process of revising the *Companies Act*, Chapter 388 of the Laws of Zambia, with special references to the Law on liquidation, receivership and insolvency of companies. The Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry requested stakeholders including the Zambia Institute of Certified Accountants (ZICA) and the Institute of Directors to make proposals and recommendations on the amendments to the *Companies Act*. ZICA commissioned a consultant to collect views from its members and other stakeholders and to compile those views and report to the Ministry.

The consultant had since compiled the report on the proposals and recommendations, which were discussed by ZICA members and other stakeholders. The report had since been submitted to the Ministry and a roundtable meeting had been planned for November, 2006 at which the proposals and recommendations from ZICA would be discussed.

The Ministry hoped that a Bill would be presented to Parliament in the course of 2007.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are of the view that the Hon Minister of Finance and National Planning should not have made this assurance as it does not fall under the purview of his Ministry, but under the purview of the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry. They resolve to request the Government to reroute the

concerns of this assurance to the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry. They await a progress report on the matter.

#### **15/04 - Recording of the External HIPC Tracking Team**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Minister of Finance and National Planning assured the House as follows:

*“There are plans to reconstitute the external HIPC expenditure tracking team so that the team adheres to its original mandate. To this effect, the terms of reference for the HIPC Monitoring Team are being revised and will include tracking and monitoring PRP expenditure to assess the project benefits from the special economic point of view.”*

Your previous Committee noted the overlapping roles of the external HIPC tracking team with other organizations such as the Internal Audit wing of the Ministry and the Auditor-General's Office. In view of the above, your Committee resolved to await an updated report on the position of the external HIPC tracking team in the Government structure.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that it was correct that the Terms of Reference were being revised, however, after the *Public Finance Act No. 15* of 2005 was enacted, this responsibility had been taken care of in Section 12 clause (1) of the Act as well as in Financial Regulations 18 and 19 Clause (1).

With these developments, the Government, in avoiding the overlapping roles with other Government organizations such as Auditor General's Office and the Internal Audit, decided to suspend the operations of the External HIPC Tracking Team.

However, should there be need in future, the Government would not hesitate to reconstitute the External HIPC Tracking Team.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **16/04 - K10.0 Billion in Control 29 at Bank of Zambia for Accessing Building Loans for Civil Servants**

On 13<sup>th</sup> July 2004, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Finance and National Planning made the following statement on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, we have K10 billion in control 29 at the Bank of Zambia and within the next few weeks, a programme of how the civil servants can start accessing those resources with the view of building will be announced.”*

Your previous Committee observed that the implementation of the scheme had not yet been launched. They requested for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the K10 billion in Control 29 at the Bank of Zambia had grown to K16 billion and that on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2006, the Government launched the Housing Loan scheme for civil servants. The scheme would be administered by the Zambia National Building Society.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the disbursement and general administration of the loan facility to civil servants has commenced. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **17/04 - Collection of Presumptive Tax from Traders and Marketeers**

On 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Finance and National Planning made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“To implement this, the agency contract between councils and the Zambia Revenue Authority have since been concluded and councils are now collecting presumptive taxes from passengers and transport operators countrywide and soon they will start collecting from traders and marketers.”*

Your previous Committee noted that presumptive tax, though contributing revenue below the expectation of ZRA, should be encouraged. They urged the Government to actively involve the councils in the collection of presumptive tax from markets and bus stations in urban areas if the revenue yields were to increase.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that in its effort to enhance revenue collection from the informal sector such as markets and traders, the Zambia Revenue Authority continued exploring possibilities of engaging, apart from councils, other agencies with capacity.

This had culminated in most councils in provincial centres signing agency contracts and effectively collecting the presumptive tax and base tax (tax from marketeers and traders). This effective collection was attributed largely to the fact that those councils in provincial centres had a presence in the markets and bus stations. The structures established for the collection of the Council Levy had in most instances been utilised to collect presumptive taxes.

Nevertheless, there was still a problem with the councils in cities where no agency contracts had yet been entered into with Zambia Revenue Authority. The main reason being the Councils' lack of effective control of the market places. Consequently, this had resulted in the revenue yield from cities to remain below the expectations of the Zambia Revenue Authority.

While the Councils in the cities had continued to search for a solution, the Zambia Revenue Authority has also engaged other agencies that have shown capacity to collect revenue on its behalf. Those were associations and institutions that had structures and systems in the relevant business areas, for example, Drivers' Contribution-Ndola, National wide Transport-Kitwe, MAFFS Clearing and Forwarding Ltd-Chipata and Feka Enterprises-Mansa.

For transparency purposes and to reach a wider audience with potential to be agents, the Zambia Revenue Authority implemented public tender procedures for the award of agency contracts.

It was envisaged that the broadening of the agency base would eventually result in better compliance and enhanced collection of presumptive and base taxes country wide.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe that the collection of presumptive and base taxes has already started and resolve to close the matter.

#### **18/04 - Kasempa Turn-Off/Zambezi/Chavuma Road**

On 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Finance and National Planning made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*“The estimated total cost of Kasempa Turn-off/Zambezi/Chavuma road is US \$80 million, which is approximately K383 billion. Efforts are being made to seek support from co-operating partners.”*

Your previous Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the two roads, namely, Kasempa Turn Off- Kabompo and Zambezi/Chavuma, had continued to be solely financed from domestic resources and the Ministry of Finance and National Planning was yet to bring any foreign financiers on board.

Allocations towards the Kasempa Turn Off- Kabompo road were K5,000,000,000, K15,700,000,000 and K13,000,000,000 in 2003,2004 and 2005 respectively. Releases against those allocations had been nil, K15,700,000,000 and K13,000,000,000 in 2003,2004 and 2005 respectively.

**Kasempa Turn off- Kabompo Road**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
BudgetAllocation	5,000,000,000	13,000,000,000	13,000,000,000
Supplementary		3,700,000,000	
TOTALAUTHORIZED	5,000,000,000	15,700,000,000	13,000,000,000
RELEASES		15,700,000,000	13,000,000,000
VARIANCE	(5,000,000,000)		

Source: Ministry of Finance and National Planning

Allocations towards the Zambezi- Chavuma road were K800,000,000, K2, 1 00,000,000 and K1 00,000,000 in 2003, 2004 and 2005 respectively. Releases against those allocations were done as per budget allocation in each of the three years.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve await for an update report on the matter.

**MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

**14/90 – National Cultural Centre**

On 5<sup>th</sup> March 1992, the Honourable Minister made an assurance on the floor of the House that his Ministry, intended to embark on a major project of establishing a National Museum and Gallery in Lusaka.

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that there had not been much progress made to the construction of the National Cultural Centre, which was expected to house a National Arts Gallery and National Arts Museum, after the architectural plans for the centre and the Provincial Cultural Villages were done in 2005. This was due to two main factors. Firstly, the funds allocated to the vote were inadequate and the cost of the Project kept on escalating such that it would have taken a very long time to complete the project. Secondly, new thinking emerged with the development of the Fifth National Development Plan that resources should not be used in a way that would unnecessarily delay the benefits to be accrued from the projects. It was thought by the Ministry that the available resources on the vote should be used to build the Provincial Cultural Villages, which required less funding. This measure would ensure that the public benefited from funds in the shortest possible time. In the meantime, the Ministry was looking for cooperating partners to support the construction of the National Cultural Centre.

However, the resources that were meant for the construction of the National Cultural Centre in 2006 were relocated for construction of Provincial Cultural Centres (or cultural villages) and a Project Vehicle (see Appendix I).

In the year 2007, funds on the vote had been allocated (as described in Appendix II) to continue the construction of Provincial Cultural Villages.

On what exactly was being done on the construction of the National Cultural Centre as the information on Provincial Cultural Village was privileged information, the Permanent Secretary reported that the construction of the National Cultural Centre was not a stand alone project as it was under one vote of cultural villages. The reason why the Lusaka National Cultural Centre was not being addressed was due to inadequate funding.

## **SUBMISSION BY THE HON MINISTER**

The Hon Minister, in her update to your Committee, reported that the Ministry noted that though there had not been much progress made to the construction of the National Cultural Centre, after the architectural plans for the Centre and the Provincial Cultural Villages were done in 2005, it had, nevertheless, not lost focus of the issue. The Ministry was still looking for resources to embark on the construction of the Centre and that it was a matter of time before resources were found.

The Ministry wished to reiterate that there was no major change in the strategy for construction of the centre. However, there was a change in the financing strategy stemming from the two main factors, that the inadequate resources under the vote for provision of cultural infrastructure fell far below the construction cost for the Centre and that there was need to utilize the little resources available on the vote in such a manner that the general public were not unnecessarily denied the immediate benefits therefrom. Therefore, the Ministry decided in late 2005, in line with the Fifth National Development Plan, that there was need to empower people as quickly as possible and the only way this could happen in the shortest time possible was to build the Cultural Centres in the Provinces. The Ministry was aware that the need for a National Cultural Centre could not be replaced by the construction of Provincial Cultural Villages.

Nevertheless, the delay in the construction of the National Cultural Centre was a lesser evil compare to withholding benefits from the public for a long time that was associated with the construction of the National Cultural Centre. In all this, the Ministry was also mindful of the Presidential Directive of 2005 that “development must not start and end in Lusaka” when it decided to channel resources to the Provincial Cultural Villages. This did not mean that it had lost focus on the need for a National Cultural Centre but simply had restrategised to meet this cost from other sources. So far, the Ministry had submitted proposals to the Chinese Government when the Chinese President was visiting Zambia and to the Koreans through their development agency. Hopefully, responses for funding to these applications might be available in 2008.

The Ministry was hopeful that it would find resources to begin the construction of the National Cultural Centre in line with its assurance.

On whether there was policy shift on the construction of the National Cultural Centre in Lusaka to the construction of Provincial Cultural Villages, the Hon Minister reported that there was no policy shift as they had only put in abeyance the construction of the National Cultural Centre. Once resources were adequate for the project, they would start working on it. In the meantime, the Ministry deemed it fit to use the little resources available to construct the Provincial Cultural Villages.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe that the Hon Minister was actually saying there was a policy shift in that the assurance was on the National Cultural Centre and not on Construction of Provincial Cultural Villages. In view of the foregoing, they resolve to close the matter.

### **14/04 – Construction of New Maramba Cultural Village in Livingstone**

On 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2004 the Honourable Deputy Minister of Community Development and Social Services informed the House as follows:

*“The Ministry in conjunction with the office of the Permanent Secretary, Southern Province, has since been allocated 250 by 300 metres plot in the Livingstone showgrounds by the Livingstone City Council. This is to cater for the construction of the Maramba Cultural Village that will accommodate villages depicting architectural designs from the nine provinces. It will also accommodate a multi purpose performing arena, crafts and curio shop and other cultural tourism facilities.”*

The construction of Maramba Cultural Village commenced with the construction of the Multi Purpose Theatre, which was the first building to be constructed on the site. So far, the stage, dressing rooms and other backstage facilities have reached roof level. What remained was the amphitheatre and roofing for the

whole Multi Purpose Theatre. However, funds had been set aside in this year's budget to meet expenses for its completion.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that the assurance is being addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **59/05 – Sinking of Boreholes and Purchasing of Hammer Mills-Resettlement of Persons with Disabilities**

The Minister of Community Development and Social Services, on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, made the following statement on the floor of the House:

*“Mr Chairman, the Ministry has spent a total of K59,995,700 on sinking of boreholes, construction of houses, purchase of hammer mills and clearing of land at the resettlement centres. This programme will continue even this year.”*

As a follow up to ensure the successful resettlement of disabled persons, the Ministry further spent a total of K116,398,320.00 to facilitate cultivation of crops, provision of farming inputs (2 bags fertilizer, and 10kg maize seed per household) as well as clearing some arrears incurred for land clearing and building of houses in 2005. The breakdown of funds spent on the fifteen families was as follows:

1.	Land Clearing and others	K19,850,000.00	-	2005/6 Farming Season
2.	Cultivation	K38,180,000.00	-	2006/7 Farming Season
3.	Purchase of inputs	K 58,368,320.00	-	2006/7 Farming Season
	<b>Total</b>	<b>K116,398,320.00</b>		

This was besides other assistance given to them under programmes run by the Ministry such as the Public Welfare Assistance Scheme and the Food Security Pack Programme.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee are satisfied that the assurance is being addressed. They resolve to have the matter closed.

#### **60/05 – Reduction of Duty on Musical Instruments used by Zambian Musicians**

The Minister of Community Development and Social Services, on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, made the following statement on the Floor of the House:

*“Mr Speaker, when they present their problems to the Government, we shall consider them.”*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that progress had been made in that Government in 2006 reduced tax on pancakes (raw materials used for the manufacturing of audio computer discs) from 10 per cent to 5 per cent.

On why rebates on musical instruments used by Zambian musicians were restricted to only pancakes and not any other instruments such as guitars, drums, pianos, keyboards and audio-video tapes, the Permanent Secretary wondered why the Ministry of Finance and National Planning restricted reduction on duty to pancakes only. He pledged to follow-up the matter with the Ministry of Finance and National Planning.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observe that other musical accessories such as guitars, pianos, keyboards, drums, flutes and audio-video tapes are not accorded a duty reduction apart from pancakes. They resolve to await an update report on the matter.

**APPENDIX I**

**2005/6 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

<b>CULTURAL VILLAGE</b>	<b>AMOUNT ALLOCATED</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
Kabwata-Lusaka	K50 Million	Water reticulation Terraces	Done Done
Masala-Ndola	K150 Million	Conference Hall Water reticulation Access Road Security Services	Partially Done Done Done Continues
Kapata-Chipata	K150 Million	Conference Hall Excavation of Arena Wire Fence Security Services	Done Done Done Continues
Yuka-Mongu	K50 Million	Drawing Plans Tender Papers	Done Done
Cultural Pavilion Lusaka Show Grounds	K30 Million	Drawing Plans Bill of Quantities Tender Papers	Done Done Done
Maramba-Livingstone	K100 Million	Drawing Plans Tender Papers Surveyor Fees Holding Meetings	Done Done Done Done
Zambezi-Zambezi	K32 Million	Drawing Plans Holding Meetings	Done
Project Vehicle	K105 Million	Monitoring Projects	Done
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>K665 Million</b>		

**APPENDIX II**

**2007 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

<b>CULTURAL VILLAGE</b>	<b>AMOUNT ALLOCATED</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
Maramba-Livingstone	K650 Million	Completion of Amphitheatre	Funds are yet to be disbursed
Kapata-Chipata	K72.5 Million	Finishing touches to the Conference Hall	K40 Million had been disbursed
Yuka-Mongu	K72.5 Million	Completion of Conference Hall	Funds are yet to be disbursed
Project Vehicle	K105 Million	To monitor Yuka and Kapata Projects	Done
Project Progress Monitoring	K100 Million	To Monitor Yuka and Kapata Projects	Work in Progress
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>K1.005 Billion</b>		

**PART II**  
**TOURS OF THE PREVIOUS COMMITTEE**  
**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATIVES**  
**TOUR OF LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (FORMERLY BATOKA DIARY CATTLE BREEDING BRANCH) – CHOMA**

Your previous Committee observed as follows:

- (i) the Government did not subsidise dairy farming in Zambia. Subsidies were concentrated only on crops like maize;
- (ii) there was no dairy board in Zambia to co-ordinate the dairy farming activities and there were no dairy and livestock credit schemes as reported in the assurance; and that
- (iii) on the reported financial support of US\$21,000 from the Netherlands Livestock Support Facility, it was stopped because it was problematic in terms of paying back particularly by men, and was difficult to continue with it, hence the funds were diverted to other ventures such as buying livestock feed, chemicals for dipping animals and diversifying into goat rearing and breeding.

Arising from the above observations, your previous Committee made the following recommendations that:

- (i) the Government should subsidise or simply remove tax on dairy farming as a way of boosting the industry until such a time as the industry was firmly competitive and widely established; and
- (ii) the Government should put in place a dairy board to co-ordinate dairy farming activities in Zambia. A deliberate policy should be put in place to ensure that there were dairy and livestock credit schemes in the country to enable dairy and livestock farmers access them easily as a way of encouraging dairy and livestock farming in Zambia;

Though the assurance was closed on the verbal submission that the financial submission of US \$21,000 from the Netherlands Livestock support facility was effectively and appropriately used. The Committee resolved to urge the Government to supplement the efforts of the Netherlands Livestock Support Facility to adequately fund the Livestock Development Centre so that they implemented the Livestock and dairy credit schemes for the farmers as reported in the assurance. It was in this perspective that the Committee felt that the assurance had not been honoured. Therefore, Government should endeavour to honour the assurance.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that Value Added Tax needed to be removed from the inputs that were used in the production of dairy and dairy related products until such time the industry was well established. This would increase production and consumption of milk in the country. However, taking such a measure had revenue implications and hence was subject to approval by the Treasury. The idea of subsidizing the production of dairy though was good but under the present situation, would be very difficult to administer.

The recommendation of your previous Committee that Government should put in place a dairy board to coordinate dairy activities and to put in place dairy and livestock credit scheme was accepted in principle. However, the implementation of such a recommendation should be driven by stake holder in the livestock sector and government's role would be to regulate.

On the observation of your previous Committee that Government should supplement efforts of the Netherlands Support Facility to adequately fund the Livestock Development Centre, the Committee was informed that Government had provided support to Golden Valley Research Trust which was responsible for the running of the Livestock Development Centre, with funds under the Poverty Reduction Programme. The support which was provided was to construct a Milk Collection Centre at the Livestock Development Centre and to train farmers in dairy husbandry. Other financial support was through Heifer International, Zambia Agric Business Technical Assistance Centre (ZATAC) and Livestock Development Trust to undertake dairy restocking, construction of milk centers and training of farmers. The activities were undertaken and had greatly boosted the participation of small holder farmers in dairy production.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to have the matter closed.

### **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

#### **Tour of Livingstone School of Nursing - Livingstone**

Your previous Committee made the following observations that:

- (i) the rehabilitation works taking place at the Livingstone Nurses Training School were unsatisfactory, and hence the assurance was being addressed in a non-committal manner as evidenced by substandard works and lack of immediate direction and supervision by the architects and the consultant of the project;
- (ii) there was no time frame with regard to the completion of the rehabilitation and this understandably served as a betrayal of the assurance which was well meant.

Arising from the above observations, your previous Committee made the following recommendations:

- (i) the Government should show seriousness in addressing the assurance with regard to rehabilitation works in the identified nurses training schools and the consultant supervisor engineers and architects should be on site to direct the rehabilitation works to avoid substandard rehabilitation works as seen at Livingstone Nurses Training School; and
- (ii) the Government should give a time frame with regard to the completion of the rehabilitation works in the identified Nurses Training Schools, allowing the project to go on indefinitely was a source of concern and suspicion for unwarranted activities such as corruption and theft.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that your previous Committee's concern regarding none completion of rehabilitation works in the Nursing Schools was appreciated. Your previous Committee was however, informed that most of the rehabilitation works in Nursing Schools such as Kabwe Nursing Schools and Livingstone Nursing School were 70 percent complete.

As regards the quality of work and your previous Committee's recommendation that the consulting engineer should be on site regularly, the Ministry of Health had requested health specialists in those areas to be checking on quality of work done on a weekly basis to detect anomalies accordingly.

As regards your Committee's recommendation that they should be a time frame given in which to complete rehabilitation works, the non payment of 20 percent contribution to the projects by the Government made it difficult to give an exact time frame in which the rehabilitation works would be completed.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee request for a progress report on the rehabilitations of Nursing Schools in question.

### **MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Tour of Victoria Falls Power Rehabilitation Project - Livingstone**

Your previous Committee observed that the demand for speeding up and completing the rehabilitation was increasing with the increasing demand for electricity in the new mines being opened. Further, that there had been tremendous progress in the rehabilitation of the Victoria Falls Power Project. They were satisfied with the progress in the rehabilitation works and subsequently observed that the assurance had been successfully honoured.

In view of the above observation, your previous Committee urged the Ministry of Energy and Water Development to open up power stations in the country to address the increased consumption of energy due to increasing demand of electricity. Further, they recommended that they should be availed an opportunity to also tour Kariba North Bank and Kafue Gorge Power Stations to fully appreciate the rehabilitation works

at the power stations going on in the country otherwise they were of the view that the assurance had fully been addressed and should be closed forth with.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that Government appreciated the commendation by your previous Committee on the rehabilitation works of generating infrastructures. Your Committee were informed that the Ministry of Energy and Water Development would facilitate your Committees tour of Kariba North Bank and Kafue Gorge Power Stations if requested to do so.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to have the matter closed.

### **MINISTRY OF LANDS**

#### **Tour of Provincial Lands Department - Livingstone**

Your previous Committee observed that the Department of Lands and Deeds registry was not in existence in Livingstone. However, the Lands Departments as a whole had received two computers and had adequate staff, which would enable them open the Lands and Deeds Office. It was observed that only Lusaka and Copperbelt Provinces had Lands and Deed Registries.

Therefore, your previous Committee resolved not to close the assurance because the Department of Lands and Deeds in the Provinces had not yet been established apart from Lusaka and Copperbelt Provinces. They resolved to await a progress report on the same.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that Government appreciated the need to have the Land and Deeds Registry office in Livingstone. However, to open the Land and Deeds Registry office in Livingstone required a Registry office and a strong room to keep all the legal documents. In addition there was a requirement for offices for the Registrars and the Lands and Deeds Registry officers. There was need to rent offices, should the Ministry not be able to build its own offices.

Once the offices had been secured, there would be the requirement to link the Livingstone office with the Lusaka office so that officers in Livingstone would have access to all the information in Lusaka as well as operate exactly as they would operate in Lusaka.

All the afore-mentioned requirements needed a lot of resources. The Ministry was currently concentrating in the opening of the Ndola office and would look into the question of the Livingstone office after successful opening the Ndola office.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **MINISTRY OF WORKS AND SUPPLY**

#### **Tour of Livingstone Weigh Bridge, Proposed Sites of Kazungula Weigh Bridge and the Proposed Site of the Bridge over Zambezi River - Livingstone and Kazungula**

Your previous Committee (2005) made the following observations that:

- (i) the portable weighbridge was found in operation. However, the material of the portable weigh bridge was not strong as it got damaged easily when an overweight truck went over it; and
- (ii) that the portable weighbridge mounted on that particular day was stage managed for the purpose of your Committee to think that the assurance was being honoured.

In view of the above observations, they made the following recommendations that:

- (i) the Government must put a permanent weighbridge at Kazungula to cater for traffic/truck flow; and

- (ii) the assurances should not be closed because the portable weighbridge shown to your Committee was stage-managed and the construction of the bridge across Kazungula crossing point had not as yet been implemented.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report as follows:

- (i) the portable weigh bridges were designed in such a way that they were able to withstand overweight trucks;
- (ii) the portable weigh bridges were used for random checks. In this regard the weigh bridge which was mounted on that particular day during the tour of your Committee was not stage managed for the purpose of your Committee to think the assurance was being honoured;
- (iii) authority had been given by the Zambia Tender Board (ZNTB) to engage a contractor to start the construction of the permanent weigh bridge at Kazungula;
- (iv) the construction of the bridge across Kazungula crossing point had been on the drawing board since 1999. To that effect a feasibility study was undertaken by the Japanese Government. The outcome of which was the fact that the project was not viable at the time.

However, the Government of Zambia and Botswana realized the importance of the project for the regional economies and, hence, in 2004, they jointly advertised for the Expression of Interest (EOI) from would be investors for the implementation of the project on a Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Six firms were short listed. However, the implementation awaited the conduct of detailed engineering design study of the project. This study would assist in making the costing and engineering aspect of the project clearer. The African Development Bank (ADB) was keen to support the project. The Bank was willing to consider providing grant to conduct detailed engineering design of the project upon request by the two Governments. A request for a grant of US\$3.5 Million to finance the detailed design study had been sent to ADB in form of a joint letter by the two Governments. The response from ADB was being awaited.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **MINISTRY OF FINANCNE AND NATIONAL PLANNING**

#### **Tour of Central Statistical Office (CSO) - Lusaka**

Your previous Committee observed that the pace at which the re-organisation of CSO into a Bureau of Statistics with enhanced capacities was moving rather slow because of this, they resolved not to close the assurance, and to wait for a progress report on the matter.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the reorganization of the Central Statistical Office was in progress and the Committee would be informed once the process was complete.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

#### **Tour of Small Enterprises Development Board (SEDB) Offices-Lusaka**

Your previous Committee made the following observations that:

- (i) the Government was committed to see Small Enterprises Development Board (SEDB) operations continuing; this was the reason why the Government had continued to release about K 1 billion per year to the organization;
- (ii) the picture which the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry was creating in their oral submissions before the Committee was that funding given to Small Enterprises Development Board (SEDB) was adequate;

- (iii) Small Enterprises Development Board (SEDB) had been getting K1 billion since 1999 to date despite its operational costs rising yearly, and as such funding to SEDB had been inadequate; and
- (iv) The assurance's objectives had not been achieved.

They recommended that the assurance should be revisited because many issues which led to its closure were still pending.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that Government was committed to assisting SEDB resolve its outstanding debts. Further SEDB was one of the five statutory bodies that would be dissolved to form Zambia Development Agency and as such the clearing of liabilities of the five statutory bodies was part of the process of creating ZDA.

The resources for this exercise were expected to come from both government and some cooperating partners.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee resolve to have the matter closed.

### **MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

#### **Tour of Sikanze Police Camp-Lusaka**

Your previous Committee made the following observations that:

- (i) they were disappointed with the rehabilitation taking place in Sikanze Police Camp; in essence, there was no activity of rehabilitation going on as there was no contractor on site executing the rehabilitation, as the few houses purported to be rehabilitated were in a pathetic state already;
- (ii) they were disappointed with the quality and design of demonstration houses and were of the view that there was no serious consideration of the Zambian family set-up in the design of those model houses;
- (iii) individual Police Officers had extended communal toilet blocks into own accommodation in Sikanze Police Camp without expert advice from the architects, building engineers and scientists. The Committee were of the view that was a risk and health hazard for the occupants of those self made structures to live on top of human excreta.

In view of the above observations, they made the following recommendations:

- (i) Government should speed up the rehabilitation works in police camps and the rehabilitation should be of quality and well designed;
- (ii) Government should take the rehabilitation works at the Police Camp seriously by ensuring that the contractors were on site and able to perform the work;
- (iii) Government should consider the Zambian family set up in the rehabilitation of the houses in Police Camps as those colonial built houses were designed for a person who was thought to be subhuman;
- (iv) Government should engage established architects and building engineering companies to assess the suitability, design and structure of the self-renovated houses in Sikanze Police Camp with a view to providing better accommodation for the affected families; and
- (v) the practice of renovating houses at one's own initiative should be discouraged at all costs as that would make the Police Camp untidy and create death traps for occupants.

Consequently, your previous Committee resolved not to close the assurance until rehabilitation work in Police Camps was taken seriously by the Government.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that:

- (i) during your Committee's Tour, the Permanent Secretary, the Inspector General of Police and the Commissioner of Police were part of the entourage. The Command had since issued instructions to the Inspectorate in liaison with the Ministry of Works and Supply to ensure that works done were of quality and well designed;
- (ii) the Government had taken this matter seriously, hence, annual budget provision for rehabilitation works and the head of Inspectorate would be there to regularly monitor progress;
- (iii) the Government and the Police Command had taken note of your Committee recommendation on the Zambian family set up;
- (iv) again, the Government had taken note of the advice on engaging established architects and building engineering companies; and
- (v) on the practice of renovating houses at one's initiative, this had been stopped forthwith. In fact if an officer was found doing that he/she would be disciplined immediately.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission and that the programme of rehabilitation of Police Stations and Police Camps is going-on, your Committee resolve to await a progress report on the matter.

### **PART III TOURS OF THE COMMITTEE**

As part of their programme of work for the year 2007, your Committee undertook the following tours from Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> August to Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2007:

- A. Mkushi**
  - Mkushi Farmer Training Centre
  
- B. Serenje**
  - Serenje Farmer Training Centre
  - Serenje Farmer Satellite Depot
  
- C. Mpika**
  - Zambia College for Agriculture (ZCA)
  - Mpika Farmer Training Centre
  - Mpika Central Farmer Satellite Depot
  - Mpika Food Reserve Agency (FRA) Warehouse
  
- D. Chinsali**
  - Chinsali Farmer Training Centre
  - Chinsali Farmer Satellite Depot
  
- E. Isoka**
  - District Commissioner's Office
  
- F. Mongu**
  - Mongu Central Police Station
  - Mongu Central Police Camp
  - Mongu Food Reserve Agency (FRA) Warehouses
  - Namushakende Farmer Training Institute
  
- G. Senanga/Nalolo**
  - Ministry of Health
  - Nalolo
  
- H. Shang'ombo**
  - Shang'ombo Hospital under construction
  - Shang'ombo Police Station
  - Proposed site for High School Construction Project
  - Nangweshi Farmer Training Centre
  - Sioma High School
  
- I. Sesheke**
  - Sesheke District Police Station
  - Sesheke Farmer Training Centre
  
- J. Kazungula**
  - Kazungula Bridge site over the Zambezi River
  
- K. Livingstone**
  - Livingstone Institute for Business and Engineering Studies (LIBES) – old campus premises.
  
- L. Lusaka**
  - ZAF Twin Palm Housing Project
  - Lusaka West L85 Military Camp
  - ZNS Lusaka West Sopelo Camp

The details of each of the above tours are as follows:

Mkushi, Serenje, Mpika, Chinsali, Mongu, Shang'ombo and Sesheke.

Your Committee toured the Farmer Training Centres, Crop marketing facilities in those districts as a consequence to the following assurances:

**15/05 – Marketing Facilities for Maize Growing Farmers**

On 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives made the following assurance on the Floor of the House.

*“Mr Speaker, my Ministry is the process of registering all farmers involved in Maize growing and once we have this done, we will do the best to provide marketing facilities as quickly as possible.”*

**16/05 – Rehabilitation of Training Institutes and Farmer Training Centres**

On 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives made the following assurances on the Floor of the House.

*“Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives had drawn up a plan to rehabilitate all Training Centres in the country. As soon as funds are available, rehabilitation works start.”*

**A. Mkushi**

Your Committee toured the Farmer Training Centre on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2007 and held a meeting with the management team of the Farmer Training Centre where the District Agricultural Coordinator (DACO) was also present.

Your Committee requested the District Agricultural Coordinator (DACO) to give them a brief on the implementation of the above cited assurances, particularly with regard to the exercise of registration of farmers, crop marketing facilities in the district and the rehabilitation of the farmer training centre.

In his brief, the DACO reported that farmer registration was taking place in Mkushi. He produced evidence to attest to that fact in form of registration forms which they were using. He reported that 7,312 farmers had been registered so far in the district over a cultivation area of 42,208.43 (Ha). The number was inclusive of small, medium and large scale farmers.

Regarding crop marketing facilities, the DACO reported that the district had a number of satellite depots where farmers take their bags of maize to sell to the Food Reserve Agency (FRA). Those bags were then taken to the warehouse in readiness for transportation to Lusaka Food Reserve Agency (FRA) Main Depot. Your Committee heard that Mkushi Farmers had been urged to sell only maize and soya beans to FRA and not any other crop.

Further, your Committee heard that rehabilitation of the Farmer Training Institute had been done. Money in the sum of K101 million was given in 2005 for that purpose. They managed to paint the Farmer Training Centre infrastructure and bought some furniture for the conference/classroom. They even built a pigsty and were also building two poultry houses from that same money. Further, they used part of that money to fence the production unit area and bought a water pump and two water tanks.

Asked why money meant for rehabilitations went into other uses such as poultry farming, the DACO explained that they had a revolving fund which actually safeguarded the misuse of funds meant for rehabilitation. Even if money meant for rehabilitation had been used for poultry farming, that money would be pumped back to what it was initially meant through the mechanism of revolving fund. Otherwise, a total of K40 million was meant for rehabilitation of the AFTC.

Asked whether building new structures was part of the rehabilitation, the DACO reported that the Ministry Headquarters asked them to provide a budget for various projects given including rehabilitation. They did so and were given K101 million and part of that money went into rehabilitation.

Thereafter, your Committee were led on a conducted tour of the Agriculture Farmer Training Centre (AFTC) to check on the reported rehabilitations.

Your Committee were shown the fence built around the AFTC Production Unit area, the new tanks which had been mounted, the area where the submersible pump had been put, the new structure or the poultry house and another one being rehabilitated. Your Committee also saw quarry dust at the AFTC Officer in Charge's house which raised concern as it suggested abuse of materials under the custody of the Officer in Charge.

Asked what crops were being bought by FRA in Mkushi, the DACO reported that FRA only bought soya and maize in Mkushi.

Asked whether all farmers who delivered their produce had been paid within two weeks as it was assured in the House, the DACO reported that up to date, they had not paid farmers who delivered their produce from 5th August 2007. He reiterated that they received K400 million every week instead of K2.5 billion to ably pay off the farmers within the targeted timeframe. In short, farmers were owed K2.1 billion every week. He reported that this could de-motivate farmers as they would get discouraged due to delayed payments. This could result in farmers failing to access adequate resources to buy the requisites for the next production year.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe as follows:

- i) work on rehabilitation was not as comprehensive as they had anticipated. The type of rehabilitations which were done are like mere "window dressing" ventures;
- ii) the exercise of registering farmers is actively being adhered to as evidence to that effect was physically shown to your Committee in form of Farmers' Register and individual Farmers' records;
- iii) marketing facilities are well in place as your Committee were informed that there are a number of satellite depots in the district where Maize and Soya Beans can easily be sold. Mkushi even has good and big warehouses where storage of Maize from depots are stored in readiness for transportation to Lusaka FRA Main Depot; and
- iv) your Committee are, however, of the view that the two weeks period in which farmers will be paid off their dues after delivering their produce to a marketing depot, is not being adhered to by the Government.

Arising from the above observations, your Committee make the following recommendations:

- i) the Ministry should ensure that rehabilitation works in institutions like the Mkushi AFTC are adequately supervised by competent staff, preferably from Ministry of Works and Supply; this will prevent shoddy and wrong rehabilitations to be carried out to the super structures;
- ii) they commend the Ministry for ensuring that the exercise of registration of farmers is seriously implemented in districts like Mkushi; and
- ii) they urge the Government to honour its pledge of paying the farmers their dues within two weeks of delivery to the satellite depots as assured on the Floor of the House by the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives. Having arrears of K2.1 billion in unpaid dues to farmers every week, is quite a de-motivating situation to farmers.

**B. Serenje**

In Serenje, your Committee toured the Agriculture Farmer Training Centre (AFTC) and Serenje Farmers Satellite Depot being run by the Food Reserve Agency (FRA).

On arrival in Serenje, your Committee were met by a team led by the District Commissioner who handed them over to the District Agricultural Coordinator (DACO) at Agriculture Farmer Training Centre (AFTC). While at the AFTC, your Committee had a briefing from the DACO in the Conference/Classroom. The DACO informed the Committee that a total amount of K143,757,000 was allocated by the Government for rehabilitation works for the centre. The following were some of the works undertaken during the period.

- (i) Rehabilitation of the water system
- (ii) General renovations
- (iii) Establishment of an agro-commercial and on-site demonstrations
- (iv) Purchasing of hostel beddings and classroom furniture.

It was also heard that the works were completed in the first quarter of 2006.

The DACO particularly referred to general renovations which included the 12 roomed hostel and the ablution unit; the Kitchen and dining room under one block; and the classroom block.

The DACO concluded his presentation on the rehabilitations by stating that the purchase of beddings and classroom furniture were made in order to make a conducive environment for living and learning for both agricultural staff and farmers.

Thereafter, the DACO reported that Farmer registration exercise was quite active in the district. He displayed the farmers' register to the Committee for the whole district and reported that a total of 11,319 farmers had been registered already.

Regarding the existing crop marketing facilities, the DACO reported that they had thirteen (13) satellite depots in the districts. However, about six (6) depots were in good condition, six (6) required some rehabilitation and one had collapsed. About ten (10) satellite depots were operational in the district. He reported that the district was in dire need of construction of the main holding shed for both agro inputs and produce. Currently, agro produce was transported outside the district (to Mkushi) for storage.

Other constraints included, delayed verification of maize by the District Cooperative Union due to lack of transport, the FRA agents purchasing maize, had not been supplied with chemicals to treat maize; and maize at the satellite depots was being kept on an open area awaiting collection to Mkushi.

Thereafter, your Committee were led on a conducted tour of the AFTC, starting with the classroom block. Then they toured the hostel block, the ablution block, the dining room and the kitchen. There was adequate rehabilitation of all the places toured. The buildings were well painted including the ceilings. There had been an improvement in the outlook of the centre. Further, the DACO reported that the centre was now able to compete with other private institutions offering workshops and hospitality.

Then the DACO led your Committee to Serenje Main Satellite Depot to check on the marketing facilities in existence there. While on site, the DACO reported that there were inadequate marketing facilities in Serenje. He reiterated that small scale farmers needed to be supported by putting up adequate marketing facilities. Further, he reported that people in the area grew cassava and beans but FRA only bought maize and not any other crop.

On why Serenje farmers could not use the storage facilities in Kanona and the other one along Mansa-Serenje road, the DACO reported that those were full to capacity.

On whether FRA received information from the District Agricultural Officer with regard to what they were able to buy in terms of farm produce from farmers, the DACO reported that FRA had its own arrangements where they buy certain crops from particular areas and not everything in one region. For example, cassava could be bought from Mansa, maize from Serenje and rice from Nakonde.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee make the following observations:

- (i) the rehabilitation works which were done at Serenje AFTC are quite good and exemplary;
- (ii) the registration of farmers in the district is actively taking place; and
- (iii) there is inadequate marketing facilities for the existing small scale farmers in Serenje.

Arising from the above observations, your Committee make the following recommendations:

- (i) they commend the District Agricultural Management team for putting to good use funds meant for rehabilitation;
- (ii) they commend the District Agricultural Office for adhering to the policy of registering all farmers. This is in line with what was assured; and
- (iii) they urge the Government to provide adequate marketing facilities for farmers in Serenje and possibly urge FRA to include other crops such as cassava as one of the farm produce to buy in Serenje. This will encourage farmers to grow not only maize but other crops as well.

### **C. Mpika**

Your Committee toured Zambia College for Agriculture (ZCA), Mpika Farmer Training Centre, Mpika Central Farmer Satellite Depot and the FRA Main Holding Shed (the Warehouse).

- (i) *Zambia College for Agriculture - Mpika*  
While at the Zambia College for Agriculture, your Committee were briefed by the Principal of the College. The Principal reported that since last year, the college did not have capital funding for any major projects except the usual Recurrent Departmental Charges. He pointed out that such state of affairs had directly affected them in their smooth operations. If there were any rehabilitation done currently, they used a small portion of Recurrent Departmental Charges (RDCs).

It was further revealed to your Committee that between 2004 and 2005, the college received K500 million for the rehabilitation of the college although they were promised K1.5 billion. That money facilitated the rehabilitation of college classrooms, college hostels and ablution blocks as well as the kitchen. It was further revealed that information was there on files for all payments and transactions which took place to that effect. TAZARA contractors were hired to do the rehabilitation works for ZCA classroom, kitchen and dining hall while ZNS contractors were hired to do the student hostels.

TAZARA contractors managed to do their part fairly well while ZNS did not finish their part despite being paid in full.

Asked why the college used more than one contractor to do the job, the Principal reported that the college had no control over the choice of contractors as that was done from their provincial office in Kasama.

Thereafter, your Committee were led on a conducted tour of the college. Your Committee toured the female student hostels. It was noticed that the rehabilitation works

were done but the maintenance thereafter, was not good. This served to explain the missing of door handles, broken windows, dirty walls and a few rooms with vandalized burglar bars.

Your Committee were also led to male student hostels. The student hostels for the males were also rehabilitated though not all of them. ZNS contractors left some of the student hostels unattended to. Overall, all male student hostels appeared vandalized to an extent where it was learnt that students referred to them as “Baghdad area” to stress the extreme state of dilapidation. The Committee noted that if at all rehabilitation was done two years ago, then it was of substandard because there was no sign of rehabilitation of the male hostels.

Your Committee urged the College Principal to make good regulations for the students to ensure cleanliness was rewarded and uncleanliness was punished. This was to ensure good maintenance of the college premises after rehabilitation works.

Your Committee also toured the classroom area. Here, traces of rehabilitation works were seen as the walls were well painted and the windows were well fixed. Even furniture in the classroom was reasonably of good material. The TAZARA contractors at least did their work well.

Finally, your Committee toured the dining hall and kitchen areas. There were also well attended to. Good rehabilitation works were done on those two units.

(ii) *Farmer Training Centre (AFTC) - Mpika*

Your Committee also toured the Farmer Training Centre. While in the company of the Acting DACO, they were met at the AFTC by the Officer in Charge of the Centre,

The Acting DACO then briefed the Members about the rehabilitation works taking place at the Centre. He pointed out that K250 million was given to the Centre for rehabilitation in 2005. They had contracted TAZARA Contractors to do the job. He further reported that they constructed the wall fence in front of the Centre by the roadside at K46 million. Other notable rehabilitation works made were that of the poultry, pigsty and painting of the entire building and some minor repairs here and there. He pointed out that the latter works cost K117 million.

On whether construction of wall fence also meant rehabilitation, the DACO reported that there was need for a wall fence for security reasons as the centre premises had been besieged by squatters some of whom were actually workers at the centre.

Thereafter, the Acting DACO led your Committee on a conducted tour of the centre. The areas of the centre visited were; the classroom where K52 million was spent for rehabilitation of the ceiling and the walls including painting. The rehabilitation works appeared shoddy and of substandard. Paint was actually peeling off the walls.

Your Committee also visited the ablution area. The ceiling of the ablution showed signs of serious leakages during the rainy season. Even air ventilators were completely blocked or shut.

Thereafter, your Committee toured the hostels where rehabilitation works appeared quite shoddy except the floor which was well done. While on the tour, it was heard that the TAZARA Contractors who did the works were fully registered with the National Construction Company (NCC).

Other areas where your Committee visited were the poultry houses, the pigsty and the garage area. The buildings which house those areas were said to have been rehabilitated.

However, there were big cracks and the floor was still roughcast. One of the buildings was not rehabilitated at all.

(iii) *Mpika Central Farmer Satellite Depot*

Your Committee had also a privilege to tour one of the farmer satellite depots to determine the viability of the marketing facilities for farmers. The District Administrative Secretary in company of the DACO, took the Members round for the conducted tour of one of the satellites depot within Mpika town.

The Members noticed that 18,000 bags of maize had already been delivered to the depot and 17,000 bags had already been transported to the warehouse. While at the depot, the Members noticed that farmers were asked to unpack and clean their maize before it was accepted as sellable to FRA. Members found this quite strange as they knew that FRA had paid the depot for ensuring maize was cleaned not by farmers themselves, but, by the depot staff.

Asked why that satellite depot was in town, the Acting DACO reported that it was placed at a central point for farmers in Mpika Central.

On how often the farmers were paid, the acting DACO reported that they were paid weekly on first come, first served basis.

On why farmers were made to clean their own maize before it was bought, the Acting DACO reported that they had no tester to ensure that maize delivered was clean. It was also a way of training farmers to ensure that only high quality maize was marketable and fit to be sold.

On whether the depot was ready to keep the maize safely during the rainy season, the Acting DACO reported that they had no tent to protect the maize from being soaked in case it rained.

(iv) *Mpika Food Reserve Agency (FRA) Warehouse*

The Acting DACO eventually led your Committee to the FRA, Mpika Central Warehouse. This is where holding of all maize from satellite depots is done. Maize is transported to Lusaka Main Depot from this warehouse.

On why Mpika Administration was not keeping the collected maize for local consumption, the Acting DACO reported that all they did was to carry out instructions regarding the sale of maize as given by FRA in Lusaka.

As to whether farmers were paid extra money when they brought maize in their own bags, the Acting DACO reported that they were still paid K38,000 for each bag brought. However, those bags could be given back to the owner because maize was repacked into FRA bags.

On who paid for moving maize from satellite Depots to the warehouse, the Acting DACO reported that FRA paid for that service.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your committee observe and recommend as set out below.

(a) **Zambia College for Agriculture (ZCA)**

- (i) money in the sum of K500 million was released in 2005 for rehabilitation works; and
- (ii) the contractors who were engaged to do the works were TAZARA and ZNS contractors.

The works done by TAZARA contractors was of high quality. The administration block, dining hall, kitchen and library were a pleasing spectacle as they were well rehabilitated.

The works done by ZNS contractors were of substandard and were incomplete despite them being paid in full. The male hostels did not even reflect any serious rehabilitation that could have taken place. Some hostel rooms were not even rehabilitated at all and had since been abandoned due to their being inhabitable.

Arising from the foregoing, your Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) Government is urged to continue showing seriousness in the rehabilitation of farmer training institutions by ensuring constant release of funds for the works;
- (ii) Rehabilitation works need to be supervised by competent staff from the Ministry of works and Supply in liaison with staff from the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. A situation where contractors such as TAZARA and ZNS contractors are left unsupervised should not arise lest shoddy and substandard works are produced as was in the case of ZNS contractors; and
- (iii) Government is being urged to quickly intervene in the rehabilitation of student hostels particularly for the males as they were in a deplorable and inhabitable state. Rehabilitation should be of a high quality and not as a matter of ‘window dressing.’

**(b) Mpika Agricultural Farmer Training Centre (AFTC)**

- (i) The rehabilitation works of the AFTC in 2005 was assigned a sum of K250 million;
- (ii) However, the rehabilitation works are of low quality and substandard particularly of the old dormitory, classroom and ablution block; and
- (iii) The money for rehabilitation was also used for building new structures such as the wall fence at the frontage of the centre, pigsty and rehabilitation of the poultry house.

Arising from the above observations, your Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) Due to apparent wastage of resources, Government is being urged to supervise the rehabilitation works through the use of competent and skilled staff from the Ministry of Works and Supply; and
- (ii) Government should quickly send in audit staff from the Office of the Auditor General to monitor the effective and efficient use of funds meant for rehabilitations in institutions such as the Mpika AFTC.

**(c) Mpika Central Farmer Satellite Depot**

- (i) In case of rains, the Maize would be soaked due to lack of tents or tarpaulins to cover them;
- (ii) Maize is cleaned manually and is being packed in bags without treatment chemicals; and
- (iii) Farmers are not necessarily paid within two weeks of delivery at the depot as it was assured on the Floor of the House.

Consequently, your Committee make the following recommendations:

- (i) Marketing facilities need improvement particularly with regard to packing and storage; and

- (ii) All satellite depots should be provided with testers, treatment chemicals and ready transport to the warehouse. This will avoid bothering farmers to clean their own maize at the depot before it is sold to FRA agents.

**(d) Mpika FRA Warehouse**

- (i) Your Committee observe that the movement of Maize from the satellite depots is being paid for by FRA in Mpika while in Serenje, such a venture is borne by the farmers themselves; and
- (ii) Your Committee also observe that FRA only buys maize from farmers and not any other crop.

In view of the above, your Committee make the following recommendations:

- (i) they urge Government to direct FRA to stop playing double standards in their marketing strategies. There is need to standardize their operations in all areas. If FRA is paying farmers for moving bags of Maize in Mpika, the same should apply in other districts like Serenje; and
- (ii) they urge Government to direct FRA to be buying crops other than maize, particularly those which are predominantly grown by the local community, as a way of encouraging and motivating farmers.

**D. Chinsali**

Prior to the conducted tour of Chinsali Agricultural Farming Centre (AFTC), your Committee were briefed by the DACO in his office on the operations and rehabilitation works at the AFTC. Thereafter, your Committee were led on a conducted tour of the AFTC and the satellite depot within Chinsali town.

In his brief, the DACO reported that agriculture was the main activity in Chinsali, followed by fishing and trading. The main crops grown included: maize, finger millet, rice, cassava, groundnuts, field beans and sweet potatoes. Other crops include soya beans, sunflower, cowpeas, sugar cane, sorghum and fruits.

Further, the DACO reported that the district had a farmer training centre which was established in 1977 and was meant to train farmers on agricultural practices. The centre had a classroom/office, kitchen/dining, poultry, storeroom and hostels. The compound of the AFTC had twelve (12) staff houses, which were currently in a deplorable state due to lack of funds to maintain them. He also reported that plans to construct five (5) self contained rooms and portioning five (5) hostel rooms were underway.

The DACO also reported that the centre had no transport except for two (2) old bicycles. He reiterated that the centre needed a motorbike, motor vehicle, a tractor (trailer implements) to adequately carryout farm operations.

The DACO further informed your Committee that the centre started receiving Government support for the rehabilitation works in March 2005. Since then, the institution had improved in its operation. However, the centre required more funds in order to improve the current situation.

Regarding farmer registration, the DACO informed your Committee that farmer registration exercise began in the second week of June, 2007 and was almost completed by the time your committee visited Chinsali.

With regard to crop marketing for the 2007 marketing season, the DACO reported that it was ongoing. He informed your Committee that there were ten (10) satellite depots designated to purchase three crops, maize, cassava and rice. However, currently, it was only maize which was being purchased. Funds for the other two crops had not yet been released. He reported that a total

of 67,853 x 50Kg bags of maize equivalent to 3,393 metric tons had been collected by Food Reserve Agency (FRA). The exercise started on 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2007 and was expected to close on 30th September, 2007.

The DACO reported that there were problems which were being encountered regarding crop marketing namely; delayed and inadequate release of funds to pay maize farmers upon delivery of produce, rice farmers unable to sell their produce and access the needed funds to enable them prepare for procurement of inputs for the next season time.

**(i) Chinsali Agriculture Farmer Training Centre (AFTC)**

The DACO led your Committee on a conducted tour of the AFTC. They toured the classroom block and the offices, the kitchen, dinning hall, the hostels and the ablution block. The rehabilitation works to the superstructures were of high quality. If added funding, was given, they would have worked on water reticulation which was quite bad.

Your committee noted that Chinsali District Agriculture Administration had put to good use the K68,333,234 million released for rehabilitation and other uses in running the Centre. Chinsali FTC was comparable to Serenje in many respects. The buildings were well rehabilitated and well painted. Registration of farmers was actively being pursued and the registration register was shown to your Committee to that effect. The only complaint they had on registration of farmers was to do with critical shortage of staff to effectively cover the twenty seven (27) agricultural stations.

**(ii) Chinsali Satellite Depot**

Your Committee was also led to Chinsali Satellite Depot. While there, the DACO reported that FRA had already bought 38,319 x 50Kg bags of maize. He reiterated that the buying exercise was still going on.

However, 35,245 of the 67,916 x 50Kg bags of maize had not yet been paid for.

Further, the DACO reported that some farmers who had delivered their Maize by 1st August, 2007, had not yet been paid. He pledged that he would ensure that all farmers got their dues in good time.

Asked whether they had tents or tarpaulins to cover the stocks of maize in case it as the rained, the DACO reported that they did not have any. They would appreciate if the tents or tarpaulins were supplied to them early before the rainy season started early in the area.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee make the following observations and recommendations as set out below.

**(a) Rehabilitation Works**

- (i) Your Committee note with satisfaction the high quality of rehabilitation works taking place at the centre. The management has done well with little funding with regard to rehabilitation works.
- (ii) The water reticulation system is still not worked on and is thus quite bad.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) they commend Chinsali Agricultural Administration for the job well done in utilizing little resources effectively and efficiently in doing rehabilitation works for the AFTC; and

- (ii) there is need to provide adequate transport to the centre for their many projects including speeding up of rehabilitation works.

**(b) Farmer Registration Exercise**

Your Committee noted that Chinsali District is behind in farmer registration. Your Committee were able to access only the full register where all farmers were recorded. However, they were not able to access the individual registration forms as was the case with Serenje and Mkushi.

In view of the above, Your Committee recommend that Chinsali District should speed up the process of farmer registration so that the benefits should reach even those in the remotest parts of Chinsali. More officers should be recruited to offset the critical shortage of staff for the exercise.

**(c) Crop Marketing Facilities - Satellite Depot**

- (i) Your Committee note that the maize sheds do not have tents or tarpaulins to protect the maize from being soaked in case of rains;
- (ii) Your Committee note with sadness that the farmers who delivered their maize in July and by 1st August, 2007 have not yet been paid their dues; and
- (iii) Your Committee note with dismay that crops such as rice and cassava have not been bought to date due to failure to release funds for the crops.

In view of the above, your Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) all marketing depots should be supplied with tents or tarpaulins to prepare for the rains;
- (ii) the urge Government to pay off farmers who delivered their Maize in July and by 1st August, 2007 before they consider those who delivered theirs later. They advise that Government consider the principle of first come, first served in paying farmers; and
- (iii) they urge Government to direct FRA to speed up the release of funds to buy off other crops such as rice, beans and cassava so that farmers could quickly prepare for the next farming season. It is actually demotivating to farmers not to buy other crops but only Maize.

**E. Mongu**

In Mongu, your Committee toured the Warehouse and Namushekende Farmer Training Institute

**(i) FRA Warehouse in Mongu**

On arrival at the FRA Warehouse, your Committee were met by the Provincial Agricultural Coordinator (PACO) and his team. The PACO briefed the Committee that in Mongu, the FRA had been instructed to only buy rice and maize from farmers around the area. The PACO informed the Committee that it was the first time maize was bought from around the area by FRA in Mongu. In the past years, only rice was bought by FRA in Mongu area. Maize used to come from Kaoma area.

Further, the PACO reported that in terms of storage capacity, Mongu FRA warehouse could accommodate up to 100,000 metric tones. There were also three extra sheds at foundation level.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee express happiness and satisfaction for the good storage facilities obtaining at Mongu FRA Warehouse. Your Committee are of the view

that the sheds are being under-utilised as they cannot understand why at the time of their tour, the sheds are not filled to capacity.

**(ii) Namushekende Farmer Training Institute**

Your Committee were led to Namushekende Farmer Training Institute to check on the rehabilitation which had taken place there.

The PACO briefed your Committee that the objective of the Training Institute was to train Extension Officers in husbandry and crop management.

The PACO further informed your Committee that Namushekende Training Institute had received approximately K100 million in 2005 for rehabilitation of the institute.

They used the money to put burglar bars on the windows of the classrooms, kitchen, dining hall and offices at the institute. Further, the chairs were covered in linen material. The PACO informed your Committee that the institute was prone to vandals and as such, they needed tight security to protect property from being vandalized. Currently, the whole institute needed serious rehabilitation.

Asked whether K100 million was used for putting burglar bars only, the PACO reported that there were other works such as painting the classroom, doing the canal works and sealing off the cracks on the wall and floor of the Institute.

Asked whether there were any records to indicate how the K100 million meant for rehabilitations was broken down, the PACO reported that so far he had no information to that effect.

Thereafter, the PACO led your Committee on a conducted tour of Namushekende Farmer Training Institute. Your Committee visited the Project Room, Dining Room and the classroom blocks. They inspected the level of rehabilitation of this part of the institute and were found to be in deplorable state. One would think that no rehabilitation had taken place at the institute, except for the burglar bars which were fitted to the whole building.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee make the following observations:

- (i) the rehabilitation of Namushekende Farmer Training Institute, if it ever took place, is poorly done; and
- (ii) your Committee are not satisfied with the low quality of rehabilitation done for the K100 million released for the purpose.

In view of the above observations, your committee make the following recommendations:

- (i) there is need for Government to supervise rehabilitation works where Government money has been allocated and released; and
- (ii) since your Committee are dissatisfied with the low quality of rehabilitation works embarked upon for K100 million, they resolve to request the Office of the Auditor-General to audit Namushekende Farmer Training Institute without further delay.

**F. Shang'ombo**

In Shang'ombo, your Committee toured Nangweshi Farmer Training Centre. This was by suggestion from the PACO after your Committee showed open dissatisfaction with the rehabilitation works at Namushekende Farmer Training Institute in Mongu. The PACO requested your Committee to also visit the Farmer Training Centre in Shang'ombo since the Nangweshi Training Centre was on the way to your Committee's next stop at Sioma High School. Your Committee resolved to do as requested.

While at Nangweshi Farmer Training Centre, the PACO briefed the Members about the rehabilitation works at the centre. The areas rehabilitated were the ablution block, the classrooms with good furniture, the office and a guest wing. The PACO reported that construction work and rehabilitation was done by local skilled labour every time that money was released. For instance, in 2005, K92 million was received by the centre and this money went into painting of the walls and some went into rehabilitation works of the ablution block and water reticulation.

The guest wing was well renovated. They had bought new mattresses and beds. Some of those works were done by the centre staff themselves as they discovered that subcontracting sometimes delayed the works.

Finally, the PACO informed your Committee that the centre which was previously run down had been revamped after 2005 when the exercise of rehabilitating Farmer Agriculture Centres started.

Thereafter, he led your Committee on a conducted tour of the centre. The Committee toured the classroom, student hostels which were also called the guest wing, the kitchen and the dining hall. All these places are well rehabilitated in terms of paintings, improvement of water reticulation system and other fittings on the building.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe as follows:

- (i) Nangweshi Farmer Training Centre has been well rehabilitated. It is comparable to Serenje Farmer Training Centre in as far as quality renovations are concerned; and
- (ii) Nangweshi Farmer Training Centre relied almost entirely on own labour force even in as far as supervision of works was concerned when doing rehabilitation works.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) the centre should be commended for putting to good use the meager resources given for rehabilitations; and
- (ii) though exceptional as the case may be for Nangweshi, where their own labour force was used to do rehabilitation works, they urge the Centre to engage expert personnel from the Ministry of Works and Supply to supervise the remaining works.

#### **G. Sesheke**

Your Committee, upon a request from the district administration to tour Sesheke Farmer Training Centre, visited the centre to check on the rehabilitation which had taken place there.

The Sesheke District Agricultural Coordinator (DACO) briefed the Members that Farmer Registration in the district started three months ago and about 12,000 farmers had been registered out of a target of 15,000 farmers. They were only remaining with four Agricultural Camps to finish the farmer registration exercise.

Further, the DACO reported that Sesheke Farmer Training Centre had received money from the Head Office in Lusaka for renovations. However, he did not have the information of the amount at hand.

Having said that, he led your Committee on a conducted tour of the Centre. The places toured included the classroom, the student hostels, the dining hall and the kitchen. These were fairly well rehabilitated.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe and recommend as follows:

- (i) Government should make timely releases of funds to the agricultural centres such as Sesheke to expedite the completion of rehabilitation works;
- (ii) As for other agricultural centres visited by your Committee, Sesheke Farmer Training Centre's rehabilitation works should be supervised by competent staff from the Ministry of Works and Supply in liaison with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives; and
- (iii) farmer registration is actively being pursued in the district, your Committee wish to commend the District Agricultural Administration on a job well done.

## **H. Isoka**

Your Committee toured Isoka with the intention of checking the tsetse fly eradication programmes being implemented in Chief Muyombe's area. The tour was a follow-up action of the following assurance:

### **66/86 – Tsetse Fly Eradication**

On 27<sup>th</sup> March, 1986, the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives informed the House that the tsetse infested area in the western part of Chief Muyombe's area in the Isoka East Parliamentary Constituency were included in the five provinces of Central, Eastern, Luapula, Northern and Southern which were infested with the fly.

Upon their arrival in Isoka, your Committee were met by the District Commissioner and his team in his office. Among the District Commissioner's team, there was a Provincial Agricultural Coordinator (PACO) for Northern Province and the Principal Tsetse Control Biologist from the Provincial Administration Office.

The PACO reported that tsetse transmitted trypanosomiasis was a disease that affects livestock (animal trypanosomiasis) and humans (sleeping sickness). In Zambia, several areas of sleeping sickness had been reported. However, the extent of the problem remained unknown largely due to lack of surveys in humans. He reported that about 37% of Zambia's land was tsetse infested.

In 1985, a financing agreement was signed between the European Economic Community (EEC) (now called European Union) and four countries in Southern Africa (Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe) for a programme aimed at eradicating tsetse flies from a 320,000Km<sup>2</sup> area common to the local countries. The first phase of the programme was a preparatory and exploratory one and was started in 1986. The second phase was started in 1992 and was initially designed for the actual tsetse eradication.

In the course of 1992, the objectives of phase 2 of the programme changed from 'Tsetse eradication' to 'Development of a comprehensive strategic plan which linked tsetse and trypanosomiasis control to sustainable rural development.' Phase two came to an end in 1999 when the Regional Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Control Programme (RTTCP) came to an end.

In Isoka East, the latest trypanosomiasis survey in the area (July-August, 2007) did not detect any cases of the diseases in cattle. The results could be due to the reported frequent treatment of animals with trypanocides (drugs) in the area.

Further, the PACO reported that, lately, a planning workshop was hosted by Zambia under the sponsorship of the African Union's Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC). The aim of the workshop was to establish a project similar to the RTTCP to focus on the eradication of tsetse and trypanosomiasis from the tsetse belt shared by the four countries (Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe). Isoka East fell within the area under the planned project.

Asked when the Department of Veterinary was expected to carry out surveillance of trypanosomiasis in human beings, the PACO reported that the Department of Livestock and Diseases was specifically for animals such as cattle. He pointed out that possibly the Ministry of

Health could handle the situation dealing with human beings. All what the Department of Livestock and Diseases did was to verify that one individual died of trypanosomiasis in Isoka East recently.

Asked why tsetse flies were not controlled in the game park, the PACO reported that, by their regulations, they were not allowed to control tsetse flies in the game park. He added that they needed to look at that issue seriously if they were to eradicate tsetse flies. Tse tse flies were a menace to animals and human beings alike.

On the concern of your Committee that Government was doing little on the eradication of tsetse flies because they had not mounted any traps or controls in Isoka East, the PACO reported that these were done in 1986 or there about. At the moment, only structures where these traps and controls were mounted were visible. He further hinted that if your Committee wanted to visit the sites in Isoka East (Muyombe's area), they should be prepared to go and check on the sites only as the traps or controls were not there.

On whether trypanosomiasis had economic effects on the well being of society, the PACO reported that trypanosomiasis had a negative effect on animals and draught power. The animal became weak thereby compromising the immunity of that animal. The animal was not able to work as effectively as before. In short, trypanosomiasis was indeed an economic disease.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe as follows:

- (i) tsetse fly is a dangerous insect on both animals and human beings. It is fatal and depletes the energy of the animals and human beings. It is an economic disease; and
- (ii) your Committee are concerned with lapses in the eradication of tsetse fly in Zambia, they are not pleased to learn that there are no traps or any other controls being put in place in Isoka East (Muyombe's area).

In view of the above, your Committee make the following recommendations:

- (i) Government is being urged to put in place all necessary measures to eradicate tsetse flies; and
- (ii) Government is being urged to control tsetse flies, not only outside game parks, but also within game parks where the tsetse fly is found.

#### **I. Mongu**

Your Committee toured Mongu Central Police Station, Mongu Central Police Camp, Shang'ombo District police Station and Sesheke District Police Station as a consequence to the following assurance:

##### **48/87 – Renovation of Police Camps throughout the country**

On 8<sup>th</sup> December, 1987, the Hon Minister of Home Affairs assured the House that his Ministry was making every effort to secure funds to carry out necessary renovations of police camps throughout the country.

The details of the places visited as set out below.

##### **a) Mongu Central Police Station**

Your Committee toured Mongu Central Police Station on 1st September, 2007. Your Committee requested the Commanding Officer to brief them on the rehabilitations works of the police station and the police camp in line with what was assured by the Minister on 8th December, 1987.

The Commanding Officer, Western Province submitted as set out below.

(i) *Mongu Police Camp*

The camp which was built in 1920s had not been renovated for quite a long time. Most of the houses were in a deplorable state as some had serious cracks and in some cases the houses were falling. However, government had allocated K30 billion to the police service this year for construction of police houses countrywide. The Commanding Officer hoped to benefit out of this funding since the camp had good space reserved for the extension. The Police High Command had also sourced some building materials to start the project of mending severely cracked houses in the camp. The project would start soon after all other logistics were put in place.

(ii) *Water*

A bore hole was sunk in March, 2007 in the police camp at a cost of K67,700,000. Since that time, the bore hole had been serviceable, catering for 85 families. There was need for another bore hole to be sunk.

(iii) *Sewerage*

The sewer system was out of service and the families were using pit latrines which they dug behind their houses.

(iv) *Electricity*

At the time the camp was constructed, electricity was installed only for lighting purposes. As time went on, officers started buying electrical appliances thereby causing overloading leading sometimes to short circuits.

**(b) Shang'ombo Police Station/Camp**

The police camp was built in the 1970s and since that time, it had not been renovated. The police station block was sometime back blown off by wind in 1986 where by all the roof sheets were blown off, leaving the wall alone. For nearly 20 years, the station had not been attended to until 2000 when the police High Command sourced money to start rehabilitation. This was after the tour of Shang'ombo Boma, by the then Inspector General of Police, who initiated the project of rehabilitation of the police stations.

In 2002, assessments were done for both the renovation of the police station and the camp by the Ministry of Works and Supply. The Police High Command sourced some money to start the construction work at the police station block. The inspections Department of Zambia Police carried out the works in 2004. So far, the police station was near completion. The remaining work was only electrical wiring and construction of the cell block. The materials for the cells had already been sourced awaiting transportation. The amount spent on the renovations was K68,812,989.

(i) *Police Camp*

The camp requires maintenance and also electrical wiring since ZESCO would soon light the boma.

On whether money was given to undertake rehabilitation works of the police camp in Mongu, the Commanding Officer reported that there was no funding received for the police camp in 2005. The little money received was for the rehabilitation of the police station.

Asked to indicate which areas of the police station in Mongu were rehabilitated, the Commanding Officer mentioned office, the cells, the enquiries section and the operations office.

Thereafter, the Commanding Officer, Western Province, led the Committee on a conducted tour of the police station and the police camp. Your Committee were shown operations and staff offices. The were dirty while the ceiling in the operations and staff offices showed signs of serious leakages during the rainy season. The enquiries office was also in bad shape.

Your Committee were also led to the cell section. Here, it was observed that nothing of substance was done to renovate the cells. Even a suggestion for the construction of female cells could not be carried out.

Further, your Committee were taken to inspect the sewer system. This was well rehabilitated along with the water reticulation. The little money received for rehabilitation was extensively used to rehabilitate the sewer and water reticulation system.

Your Committee were led to Mongu Central Police Camp. Your Committee observed that there was practically nothing done on the rehabilitation of the police camp except for the putting up of a bole hole and two water tanks to supply water to the police camp. Most of the houses in the police camp had huge cracks. In some other cases, even the walls of some rooms had completely fallen off.

Your Committee also noticed that some rubbish pits and pit latrines were built within the camp. This posed a health hazard as contaminated water in pit latrines might find its way to the bole hole.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe as follows:

- (i) except for the rehabilitations of the sewer and water reticulation at the police station, there had been no rehabilitation which took place at Mongu Police Station since 2005;
- (ii) the police camp has never been rehabilitated except for the putting up of a bole hole and two water tanks;
- (iii) the use of pit latrines in police camps should be avoided at all cost as they are a health hazard; and
- (iv) pit latrines and rubbish pits were close to the bole hole area.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) before doing any sort of rehabilitation in Mongu Police Camp, Government should start addressing the issue of sanitation in the camp. The sewer and water reticulation system should be worked on urgently to save life and make the camp habitable;
- (ii) they urge the Government to pull down all the houses in the camp which are dangerously cracked as some of them are death traps. The demolition of such houses should be done in close liaison with the specialists from the Ministry of Works and Supply;
- (iii) they urge the Government to ensure that pit latrines which are being built in the police camp are far away from the bole hole lest water for drinking is contaminated; and
- (iv) they urge the Government to honour the assurance of rehabilitating all police camps. Mongu Police Camp has never benefited from this rehabilitation exercise since it commenced in 2005.

**J. Shang’ombo Police Station**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2007, your Committee toured Shang’ombo Police Station. Your Committee were met by the Commanding Officer, Western Province and the Police Officer in charge of Shang’ombo Police Station.

Your Committee had a brief meeting with the Officer-in-Charge of Shang’ombo Police Station. The Officer-in-Charge, through the Commanding Officer, Western Province, informed the Committee that the camp had forty-three (43) houses. Out of those, only eleven (11) houses were renovated.

With regard to the police station, the Officer-in-Charge reported that since the police station was built in 1970, it had not been renovated until 2000. In that year, renovation works started with the putting up of a roof over the whole police station building. The old roof was blown off by the strong wind in 1986, leaving the wall alone. Other areas of the police station benefited in terms of rehabilitation such as enquiries section, the cells and the offices. Doors to the cells were fixed, windows were also fixed and the ceiling was painted. The only thing which remained undone to date was the unblocking of the sewer system.

Thereafter, your Committee were led on a conducted tour. They visited the enquiries section, the cells and the office of the Officer-in-Charge. The renovations as pointed above were quite impressive. However, your Committee observed that the police station and camp had no borehole for water.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observed and recommended as follows:

- (i) Shang’ombo Police Station should be commended for using meager resources to bring out impressive renovations;
- (ii) there is need to make timely release of funds for the remaining rehabilitation works for Shang’ombo Police Station and Police Camp; and
- (iii) Shang’ombo Police Station should be provided with a bore hole to enable steady flow of water in the police station and camp. This will motivate officers working in such a far flung place.

**K. Sesheke Police Station**

Although this particular police station was not in their initial programme, your Committee resolved to inspect it. Further, they deemed it fit to do so because they were after all, checking on rehabilitation of police stations and camps throughout Zambia as assured by the Minister of Home Affairs on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 1987. Thirdly, the District Administration, through the Provincial Permanent Secretary, who accompanied your Committee from Mongu to Sesheke, requested to be inspected by your Committee. They requested your Committee to check on a number of projects in Sesheke namely the Immigration and Customs, the Farmer Training Centre and the District Police Station. Your Committee obliged and went ahead to inspect those units in Sesheke.

At the meeting of the previous day, where the request to visit the police station was made, the District Police Officer-in-Charge informed your Committee through the Provincial Permanent Secretary that Sesheke District Police Station had not received any funding specifically for rehabilitation. All, the Officer-in-Charge reported to remember, was that they received some materials from the High Command in Lusaka for rehabilitation. They had since painted the police station and carried out minor rehabilitation using Recurrent Departmental Charges funds from the main treasury.

In the morning of 4th September, 2007, your Committee made a physical inspection of the reported rehabilitations of the police station. They visited the office of the Officer-in-Charge, Sesheke, the office of the Public Prosecutor, the CIDs Records Office. They found huge cracks and ripped off ceiling in the public prosecutor’s and CID’s offices.

Other areas visited were the criminal investigations office, where they found broken windows, office corridors had cracked floor, and the enquiries section, where the ceiling was completely ripped off in the south-end part of the roof. The ripped off ceiling, was an eye-sore. The doors to most of the offices were broken. The cells were equally in a deplorable state as even the sewer system and water reticulation were in a bad state at the police station and the police camp. Your Committee were informed that the police camp was equally dilapidated with serious cracks which needed serious sealing.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your committee observe as follows:

- (i) there had been no rehabilitation at Sesheke Police Station and Camp, despite the assurance being issued in 1987, twenty years down the line, nothing had been done for Sesheke Police Station; and
- (ii) the sewer and water reticulation is equally not worked on, this poses a health hazard.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee recommend that Government should urgently attend to the police station and camps along border areas as these give immediate bad image of the country as people are entering the country. Government should be seen to honour the assurance of rehabilitating police stations and camps throughout the country. Your Committee are of the view that Sesheke District Police Station has been neglected where rehabilitation works are concerned.

#### **L. Mongu/Senanga/Nalolo – Office of the Vice President, Ministry of Health/Ministry of Communications and Transport**

Your Committee toured the harbour on the banks of the Zambezi River in Mongu, Senanga – Ministry of Health offices and Nalolo by the bank of the Zambezi River. The objective of touring those places was to check on the provision and availability of motorized boats for the Ministry of Health in Senanga, Nalolo Constituency in particular, as assured by the Hon Deputy Minister in the office of the Vice President on 10th February, 2005 as follows:

##### **04/05 – Provision of motorized Boats in Senanga and Nalolo Parliamentary Constituency**

*“Mr Speaker, I wish to further, report that, at the moment, there are only motorized boats in Senanga Constituency under the Ministry of Health while Nalolo Constituency has none. It is, however, worth noting that the Government is making every effort to procure various boats under the Department of Maritime and Inland Transport to facilitate the servicing of the affected areas.”*

As a follow up to the above assurance, your Committee toured the areas set out hereunder.

##### **a) The Mongu Harbour**

The tour of the harbour was made in company of the Provincial Permanent Secretary, the Harbour Master and his team under the Department of Maritime and Inland Transport as well as the Regional Officer from the Office of the Vice President-Disaster Management Office. Your Committee requested the Harbour Master to show them the boats for Senanga – Ministry of Health which was also servicing Nalolo Constituency.

The Harbour Master indicated that there were four banana boats. The Harbour Master informed your Committee that Senanga and Lukulu were serviced by two boats.

Asked why one boat could not simply be stationed at Senanga to service Nalolo, the Harbour Master reported that the boats were given by the Office of the Vice President – Disaster Management due to the floods which had hit the area during the previous rainy season. In fact, the Department of Maritime and Inland Transport were simply custodians of the boats and the ones who service the waterways and regulate on safety of the waterways.

**b) Senanga – Ministry of Health Offices**

Your Committee had a meeting with medical staff and the District Administration Officers in Senanga at Senanga Safari Lodge. The District Director of Health represented the District Commissioner of Senanga.

The District Director of Health reported that the reported motorized boat was non-existent. It used to be there from 1989 to 1990. Since then, Senanga has had no motorized boat belonging to the Ministry of Health. What had remained of that motorized boat was a total scrap of an engine which was shown to your Committee.

Your Committee wondered why the Deputy Minister in the Office of the Vice President could make such an assurance and yet there was no single motorized boat in Senanga, because even the one which used to be there broke down sometime in 1990 and the assurance was made in 2005.

**c) Nalolo – By the Bank of Zambezi River**

Your Committee requested the Provincial Permanent Secretary to explain why Nalolo did not have a motorized boat up to now and yet the Deputy Minister in the Office of the Vice President assured the House that as soon as funds were made available, Nalolo Constituency would be provided with a motorized boat.

The Permanent Secretary reported that there were three boats to service the area, but the only thing which could not yet be done was to station a boat in Senanga as the same boat serviced other remote areas along the river.

The Permanent Secretary showed to your Committee the Nalolo Clinic across the Zambezi River. Your Committee noticed that the Clinic premises by the river side were slowly being washed away.

**Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe as follows:

- (i) there are boats stationed at the harbour in Mongu belonging to the Office of the Vice President – Disaster Management. It is reported that two of them service Senanga and Lukulu and the other two service Kalabo and Mongu;
- (ii) there are no motorized boats belonging to the Ministry of Health in Senanga, which is in contrast to what was reported in the assurance, the last time there was a motorized boat in Senanga was in 1990 and what remained of that is a scrap boat engine; and
- (iii) Nalolo is situated in the Zambezi plains and it is difficult to access by road due to sand during the dry season and floods during the rainy season.

In view of the forgoing observations, your Committee recommend as set out below.

- (i) Out of the four boats launched at the harbour in Mongu, government should station one boat at Nalolo specifically to service the Clinic and the community there.
- (ii) Government should endeavour to fulfill the assurance of providing the motorized boats in Senanga for the Ministry of Health or else a Ministerial Statement should be given to clarify Government position on the issue.

**d) Shang’ombo – Ministry of Health**

Your Committee toured Shang’ombo Hospital under construction by Tomorrow/Emsworth Contractor to check on the level of construction of the hospital and the performance of the contractor.

The tour was embarked upon as a follow-up action to the submission made by the Permanent Secretary when he appeared before the committee on Friday, 8th June, 2007 to address assurance No. 05/91 – Rehabilitation of Chipata, Kasama, Kabwe and Livingstone Nurses Training Schools. In the course of that submission, he referred to the contractor, Tomorrow/Emsworth, as one whose works were of substandard. Further, the contractor was fond of delaying the works as the case was for Kasama Nursing Training School and Shang’ombo Hospital.

When the Committee arrived at Shang’ombo Hospital, which was under construction, they were met by the Provincial Permanent Secretary, the Health Director and other staff from the Ministry of Health, Building Engineers from the Ministry of Works and Supply and staff from Shang’ombo District Administration along with the Contractor officials of Tomorrow/Emsworth.

The Acting District Commissioner reported that the hospital was being constructed at an extremely low pace. He further reported that the constructor was even failing to pay salaries to the workers.

The Project Architect from the Ministry of Works and Supply, Lusaka, informed your Committee that the contract sum of building the hospital was K11 billion. He informed your Committee that the Contractor was supposed to finish building the hospital in July, 2005. However, to date, the hospital construction had not been completed because of a number of factors such as floods during the rainy season, more structures were added to the initial work (i.e. scope of work increased), and the change of consultant from DANIDA to the consultant from Ministry of Health. Further, the previous consultant did not do proper handover. Despite all those factors, the contractors were expected to be on site in January, 2007, but they had not been on site. They were last seen on site in November, 2006.

The Project Architect further reported that the Contractor requested to be given adequate time to remobilize. The Contractor remobilised in November, 2006. However, when the contractor was about to take cement to Shang’ombo, the pontoon over the Zambezi River broke down.

He also reported that in due course, it was realized that the structural drawings were wrong for that area.

Asked why there were variations to the initial contract, the Project Architect reported that demands change as building was going on and the cost of materials also changed with time so much that variations were inevitable.

Asked to state which consultant noticed that the structural adjustments were wrong, the Project Architect reported that ASCO Consultant, who did the initial structural drawing, informed the Ministry of Works and Supply that the drawings were wrong because they were meant for areas which were not sandy.

On whether the Provincial Administration was aware of the initial transactions leading to the contract between Ministry of Works and Supply, Ministry of Health and DANNIDA and ASCO, the Provincial Permanent Secretary reported that they were not involved in the initial happenings. But they acknowledged that the discussions leading to the contractor being awarded to Tomorrow/Emsworth was between the Ministry of Health, DANIDA and ASCO.

The Contractor reported that the contract was awarded through bidding since it was advertised in the news paper in 2005. When they were awarded the tender, there were three partners namely Dalton who was a Chinese partner, Emsworth and Tomorrow. The

bid sum was K11 billion. However, in the course of mobilizing to commence works for constructing Shangombo Hospital, the Chinese partner failed to honour his part of the agreement of raising the guarantee. Therefore, he left the pact and started downplaying other partners thereby making others appear as if they never knew the job well. He reiterated that it appeared the Chinese partner was given a lot of attention as stories started going round that Tomorrow/Emsworth were doing shoddy work and delaying the construction of the hospital unnecessarily.

The contractor added that your Committee would judge by themselves as they toured the hospital if their work was of high quality or substandard. Otherwise, they had persevered in that terrain and harsh conditions. They never planned for wear and tear on the vehicles.

When they started the work, they were given an advance payment of K2.2 billion through ASCO commutatively. They had so far spent K9 billion which translated into 15% worth of work remaining to be done.

Asked how much would go into extra variation works, the Contractor reported that about K4 billion would be needed to undertake extra variation works.

As to what usually made them absent from the site, the Contractor reported that the rains, particularly floods. After the floods secede, sometime in May, they remobilized.

On how much material they already had in order to commence the job and do away with the remaining work, the contractor reported that they had almost all the materials needed before the floods of the next rainy season though it was dependent on all parties involved.

Sensing that the Contractor was not free to release some information, your Committee resolved to hold the discussion with the Contractor in Camera.

Asked to clearly indicate why they had delayed the construction of Shang'ombo Hospital, the contractor gave negative reports on them as one factor and then added that costs due to variations of the project was the other factor. He reiterated that if only Government gave them at least K500 million in relation to funds owed to them, they would remobilize and accelerate the work.

On why Government was holding on to his payment because payment of the same would enable him finish off the work early, the Contractor did not understand why, because Government had done the same for the schools he worked on in Luapula Province until when he declared a dispute and the ruling was in his favour, that was when he was paid.

Asked whether it was possible to divert funds from other projects to the construction of Shang'ombo hospital, the contractor reported that such a thing was never done. Professional ethics did not allow that.

On the amount meant for the delayed salaries to workers at Shang'ombo hospital, the Contractor reported that it was about K98 million. He reported further that he might pay out that sum of money to workers in two (2) instalments.

Asked whether 17,000 pockets of cement which were brought on site could finish the construction of the hospital by December 2007, the contractor agreed in the affirmative.

On the accusation that their name as Tomorrow/Emsworth Contractors was dented because they were fond of delaying their works, the Contractor submitted that they had just learnt that the Zambian people seemed to appreciate more the works being performed by expatriates than the local experts.

On why Tomorrow/Emsworth could not network with talented local contractors such as Killian/Musonda Associates to speed up their work, the Contractor reported that they would need to explore that avenue.

Thereafter, your Committee were led on a conducted tour of Shang'ombo District Hospital which was under construction. Your Committee saw the tender model of the Hospital, Administration and outpatient department and the mortuary. Though some cracks were seen in some few places, your Committee were of the view that the workmanship was good and that there was tremendous good quality work done. If it was not for those hurdles named above; work by now would have been completed.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe and recommend as follows:

- (i) the beginning of the contract between the contractors, DANNIDA and the Ministry of Health was not well defined. The situation was made worse by the internal wrangles between the contractors and the Chinese partner who pulled out of the pact;
- (ii) the Contractor is owed K2.2 billion for the work already done. Pleas to have that money remitted to him appear to fall on deaf ears and yet he only required K500 million to remobilize and accelerate the work;
- (iii) Tomorrow/Emsworth are local contractors and yet they are putting in their very best in construction work; Unsubstantiated negative reports are tarnishing their reputation;
- (iv) variations of structural designs should be foreseen during planning phase to avoid unexpected expenditure which can delay the work progress as the case has been with Shang'ombo Hospital. The cost of variations is estimated at K4 billion; and
- (v) the construction was being supervised by two consultants. Firstly it was DANNIDA. After DANNIDA pulled out unexpectedly, Ministry of Health became the new consultant. Lately, they are trying to involve the Ministry of Works and Supply to supervise the works.

Arising from the foregoing observations, your Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) they urge the Government to ensure that when a contract is drawn, it must be clear to all parties involved, lest it delays the implementation of the project;
- (ii) they urge the Government to pay the contractor at least half the money owed to him plus the variation sum of K4 billion so that he could remobilize and finish off the remaining work which stands at 15% only;
- (iii) local contractors showing signs of seriousness and expertise should be supported at all costs and they advise Government that any foreign contractor who comes to Zambia should find a local contractor to work with;
- (iv) supervision of any Government Construction should be done by competent staff from the Ministry of Works and Supply. In fact, any contract dealing with Government construction should always go through the Ministry of Works and Supply; and
- (v) Tomorrow/Emsworth contractors should be commended and supported in their efforts to finish constructing Shang'ombo Hospital, as the work seen at Shang'ombo by Tomorrow/Emsworth is of high quality as opposed to unsubstantiated negative statements against their work performance.

#### **M. Shang'ombo – Ministry of Education**

Your Committee toured the proposed site for a High School construction project at Shang'ombo Main and Sioma High School which was said to be at 85% of completion. The objective of the

tour was to assess the level of construction of the proposed high schools in the new district of Shang'ombo.

The tours were necessitated by the assurance made by the Hon Deputy Minister on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2004 that:

**09/04 – Building of high Schools in New Districts**

*“The Policy of the Government is to build high schools in districts that do not have high schools and upgrade some basic schools with adequate facilities to high schools in order to increase places in Grade 10-12. However, this will depend on the availability of funds.”*

**(a) Proposed Site for High School Construction Project**

Your Committee were met at the site by the Provincial Permanent Secretary, the Provincial Educational Officer, (PEO) and the Chief Planner from the Ministry of Education Headquarters and the officials from the district administration.

The PEO submitted that Shan'ombo has already a High School in Sioma Mission area. However, it was felt that Sioma High School was far away from the main boma. Therefore, there was need to have a high school located within Shang'ombo main boma. He reported that the site as seen by your Committee was 50Ha. He appealed to Government to release the money to commence construction of the High School in Shang'ombo.

Your Committee were shown the site where the school would be. Currently, it was still not cleared of trees and grass.

Asked whether the Western Water and Sewerage Company had installed water reticulation on the site, the PEO reported that the Water and Sewerage Company had indicated that they could do so only if structures were in place.

**(b) Sioma High School**

On Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2007, your Committee toured Sioma High School. Your Committee were met by the Provincial Permanent Secretary, the Provincial Education Officer (PEO), the Chief Planner from the Ministry of Education, Headquarters, the School Headmaster, staff and pupils. Thereafter, a meeting was convened in one of the classrooms.

The PEO reported to your Committee that Sioma High School was situated some 80Km south-west of Senanga Boma, along Sesheke-Kalongola Road and was proposed to be opened in 1981 as a Junior Secondary School to provide boarding facilities for children in the then Senanga West. Senanga was later divided into two districts, namely, Shang'ombo and Senanga Districts. Sioma High School fell under Shang'ombo district.

Sioma High School Project was funded by the World Bank, and the contract was initially awarded to PANCHAL Construction Ltd. (contract # BRD 1251). This initial construction began on 6th March, 1987, and was completed in March, 1989. However, the World Bank withdrew the funding of the project.

The following were the targets:

- a) 16No. Staff houses type 311
- b) 8No. Staff houses type 302
- c) 1No. Heads house type 321
- d) 4No. 1x3 classroom blocks
- e) 1No. Home craft room
- f) 1No. Science laboratory and library

- g) 1No. Industrial arts room
- h) 1No. Administration block
- i) 1No. Ablution block
- j) 2No. Ablution blocks for boys and girls
- k) 1No. Kitchen and dining hall
- l) 6No. Dormitories (3 for boys and 3 for girls)
- m) Sewer ponds
- n) Water reticulation and erection of elevated water tank
- o) Electrification of the whole school

After two years of inactivity, the Zambia Project Implementation Unit (ZEPIU) took over the project on 30th August, 1991. ZEPIU, too, did not complete the works. The works at the school could not be completed due to the withdrawal of the World Bank funding to the project. Also, due to the lapse of time, the price of building materials continued skyrocketing.

#### **Opening of the School**

The PEO submitted that despite not being completed, the school was opened on 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2004 with the following structures semi completed:

- a) 1No. Head Teacher's house
- b) 8No. Teacher's houses
- c) 8No. Ancillary staff houses
- d) 6No. Dormitories
- e) 2No. Ablution blocks
- f) 4No. 1x3 classroom blocks
- g) 1No. Administration block
- h) 1No. Water tank

Other works that were not well done include the following:

- a) Water reticulation
- b) Standby kitchen
- c) Electrical connections and fittings

#### **HIPC Funding 2004**

The PEO reported that following the HIPC funding that was received through the Provincial Permanent Secretary in 2004, K300,000,000 was allocated to Sioma High School for the completion of selected structures. The following were the targets, which had since been completed:

- a) Completion of 1No. Head Teacher's house
- b) Completion of 4No. Dormitories
- c) Completion of 1No. Teacher's house
- d) Completion of 1No. Industrial arts room
- e) Construction of 4No. VIP latrines

#### **Completion of Laboratory Infrastructure**

The PEO submitted that in addition, in March, 2004, the Ministry of Education allocated K700 million for rehabilitation of science laboratories in the province, out of which K100 million was allocated to Sioma High School for the rehabilitation/completion for the laboratory. The works had also since been completed.

#### **Completion of Additional Structures**

The Permanent Secretary reported that this year, 2007, the Ministry of Education had contracted ZAM-CHIN Construction Company at a contract sum of K2,651,193,424 for the following works:

1. Rehabilitation of 4No. 1x3 classroom blocks
2. Rehabilitation of 1No. 1x2 home economics block
3. Completion of kitchen/dining hall
4. Completion of 16No. Staff houses

The contractor was on site, and works commenced on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2007 and were expected to be completed by February, 2008.

The Permanent Secretary also reported that works that would remain uncompleted at the expiry of the present contract were as follows:

1. Power connection to the national grid
2. Water reticulation
3. 2No. Ablution blocks
4. 6No. Ancillary staff houses
5. Plumbing works at the Heads house
6. Administration block (ceiling boards and plumbing works)
7. Staff room
8. Provision of furniture (including mattresses)

The Provincial Education Officer reported that the Ministry of Education had, however, availed an additional K300 million for the completion of some of the structures above that had not been targeted for in the current project.

He submitted that the people of Western Province, and Shang'ombo District in particular, appreciated the support Government had been providing towards the completion of remaining works at the school. Government was committed to completing the remaining works within the Fifth National Development Plan period (2006-2010).

On whether the school had adequate supply of water, the PEO reported that they use a diesel engine to pump water directly from the Zambezi River.

On why the school was not getting uncontaminated water from the drilled bore holes, the PEO reported that it was a matter of resources. He added that the school had a big tank but it was not being used because it was not connected to any water source. The fact that the school had got K300 million from HIPC funds, they would now work on water reticulation.

As to what led to the World Bank to pull out from funding the school project, the PEO reported that it was a time when relations between Zambia and the World Bank got bad.

On whether there was a Committee or group of experts to check the work of ZAM-CHIN, the PEO reported that there was a projects committee which had been constituted by the school to check on the contractor.

On being advised that the projects committee was not supposed to supervise the Contractor as it was not part of the tender agreement, the PEO reported that the Ministry had established an Infrastructure Department. The department hired expert engineers who had been tasked to supervise the construction projects under the Ministry of Education. He explained that they did so in full liaison with the Ministry of Works and Supply. So the Projects Committee's work drew its authority from the Infrastructure Department and assisted in making the process transparent and helped boost the aspect of ownership by the local community.

The Provincial Permanent Secretary added that each Ministry was advised to create an inbuilt system to ensure checks and balances in their various works and projects. He nevertheless,

admitted that the Principal Advisor of all building works in the Government was the Ministry of Works and Supply.

On why the Ministry of Education was splitting or varying the work and resources, the PEO reported that they were not varying the work/resources. He, however, submitted that he had taken note of the advice of completing the given works within the specified period without allowing other contractors intermittently to do other jobs on the same project. He reported that a situation of that nature was good for accountability and transparency.

Thereafter, your Committee was led on a conducted tour of the school. Your Committee inspected the rehabilitation of cracks in the classrooms. This was badly done as the Chinese contractor on site was simply placing a wire mesh over the cracks. Asked why he was doing that as it was poor workmanship, the contractor could not express himself well in English. Your Committee wondered how he got the contract and how well he was working with his employees because he could not communicate.

Your Committee also inspected two ablution blocks which were abandoned in 1989. Your Committee heard that those would not be worked on even by the Chinese contractor because they were not included in the contract. Teachers' houses were also inspected. These were almost complete although they were already cracking due to poor workmanship. Your Committee even inspected the bricks by throwing two on the ground, which broke easily, implying that the curing aspect of the bricks was bad. Consequently, the buildings would not last long. Your Committee observed that there was need for a Clerk of Works to be on site.

Your Committee also visited the site where there was a diesel generator which supply the school with electricity. They also visited the water tank area. It was learnt that the big water tank was installed by the department of Water Affairs – Southern Division. Your Committee advised that water going in the tank should first be pumped into a reservoir for treatment.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe as follows:

- (i) the Contractor is all by himself on site doing the construction and rehabilitation of the teacher's houses and classrooms respectively. He was doing the work unsupervised by neither officials from Ministry of education nor from Ministry of works and Supply;
- (ii) the workmanship of the contractor, ZAM-CHIN, in terms of construction and rehabilitation is poor;
- (iii) the water reticulation and sewer system is not good for a big school like Sioma. Sioma High School is a boarding school; and
- (iv) the language inadequacy of the Chinese contractor on site is of concern to your Committee; and Your Committee wonder how such a contractor negotiated for the contract and how he is able to give instructions to his workers.

In view of the foregoing observation, your Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) Government should ensure that there is a Clerk of works on the site at all times to check the works of a contractor to ensure good workmanship. A situation like Sioma High School where the contractor does all the works unsupervised should not be allowed to continue;
- (ii) Government should reconsider the contract drawn between ZAM-CHIN and itself in constructing and rehabilitating Sioma High School as the workmanship is poor. There is need to engage tested experts in construction;
- (iii) Government should ensure that all key officers and the contractors are conversant with the English language or the local Language of the era to ensure instructions are properly carried out; and

- (iv) Government is urged to quickly work on the water reticulation and the sewer system at Sioma High School to prevent possible waterborne disease outbreaks.
- (v) Government is being commended for honouring the assurance of providing a high school in new districts such as Shang'ombo.

**N. Kazungula – Ministry of Works and Supply**

Your Committee toured the bridge site over the Zambezi River on Tuesday, 4th September, 2007. The objective of the tour was to assess the extent of bridge construction over the Zambezi River as assured on the floor of the House by the Hon Minister on 30th September, 1997 as follows:

**59/97 – Livingstone/Kazungula/Four Ways road Bridge**

*“Plans are underway between the Zambezi and Botswana Government to construct a bridge across the Kazungula Crossing Point.”*

As a follow up to the above assurance, your committee visited Kazungula to check on the bridge construction over the Zambezi River.

However, before the tour was undertaken, your Committee had a meeting in the Council Chamber at Kazungula. Present in the meeting were the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works and Supply and his team, the District Commissioner and his team, the Council Secretary and his team as well as a delegation of officials from Botswana, led by the Commissioner from Kasani Town. The town shares the border with Kazungula District.

In his submission, the Permanent Secretary reported that countries in the SADC region were working together to promote economic and regional trade through free and unobstructed movement of goods and services within the region. Free movement of goods and services between Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe and beyond had been constrained by the lack of a bridge across the Zambezi River at Kazungula.

In August, 2000, the Government of the Republic of Botswana and the Government of the Republic of Zambia commissioned a consultant to undertake a feasibility study of the Road Bridge across the River Zambezi at Kazungula. The Road Bridge was intended to replace the existing ferry at the border crossing which had been in operation since 1979. The study which was completed in March 2001, was financed by the Government of Japan and implemented through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The feasibility study conducted by Nipon Koi Consulting Engineers concluded that the construction of the bridge was technically and economically feasible in the case of high traffic growth scenario. Under this scenario, the Internal Rate of return obtained was 13.7% which was higher than 12% official discount rate adopted in the SADC region for the development of infrastructure projects. The engineering and construction cost of the bridge including border control facilities were estimated at US\$70.3 million. It was recommended that Botswana and Zambia should share the cost of the design and construction of the bridge on a 50/50 basis.

Further, the Permanent Secretary submitted that they awaited the resolution of the Zambia ministerial delegation that traveled to Botswana in mid June 2002 and held talks with their Botswana counterparts. Botswana and Zambia agreed in principal to find ways of financing the construction of the Bridge including the Build, Operate and Transfer Method. Botswana was given a lead role in sourcing financing from sources such as NEPAD through SADC.

In November, 2004, Botswana and Zambia agreed to invite Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the construction of the Kazungula Bridge using Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) method. The EOI were advertised by Zambia National Tender Board on 11th February, 2005 and bids were opened on 1st April, 2005. Nine firms expressed interest but only six were short listed.

In June 2005, an African Development Bank (AfDB) Mission visited Botswana and Zambia. The mission informed the two governments that the ADB was keen to support the Kazungula Bridge

Project as a Multinational project designed to promote trade and regional economic integration. The Bank was willing to consider providing grant resources (possibly through SADC) to conduct detailed engineering and architectural design studies for the entire project upon request by the two Governments. The study would also determine the optimum financing operational arrangements most beneficial to the two countries. Under the traditional project loan financing, the bank had the necessary financing instruments to provide 50% of the funds to Zambia through the African Development Fund (ADF) Multinational window (outside the ADF country allocation), and 50% of the funds to Botswana through the AfDB window. The private sector window of the Bank would also consider other financing arrangements involving public private partnerships.

The Permanent Secretary further, submitted that Zambia and Botswana held a meeting from 5th to 7th August, 2005 in Livingstone at which the two Governments welcomed the proposal from AfDB and was of the view that the study would assist in making the costing and engineering aspects of the project clearer. It was also agreed to prepare Terms of Reference (TOR) and be forwarded to AfDB for No objection. It was also agreed that a request for a grant of US\$3.5 million to finance the detailed design study be sent to AfDB in the form of a joint letter by the two Governments.

A joint letter signed by Botswana and Zambia requesting for a grant to undertake the detailed design study was sent to AfDB on 17 August, 2005. In addition, separate letters of request for financial assistance were also submitted by the two countries to SADC on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2005 and 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2005, respectively for on-ward transmission to AfDB.

Another AfDB Mission visited Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe from 24th June to 8th July, 2006. The conclusions of the mission were as set out below.

The AfDB agreed in principal to finance the detailed engineering study subject to the project approval by the AfDB Board which was scheduled for October, 2006. It was anticipated that the detailed design study project was to be implemented in 14 months including the aspect for procurement of consulting services.

During the mission, the following outstanding issues were identified:

- the border issue at the Kazungula project site between Botswana and Zimbabwe had not been resolved. The mission urged the concerned government to resolve the issue as the implementation of the project could be affected if this issue was not resolved;
- the appointment of a Project Coordinator by SADC and secondment of two officers by Botswana and Zambia (One from each country) to constitute the project Implementation Team; and
- the appointment of the Joint Steering Committee.

The tentative milestones for the project implementation was agreed upon. As a result of concerted efforts to resolve the border problem setback, their Excellencies, the Presidents of the Republics of Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe met in Harare, Zimbabwe on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2006 and signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The following were the highlights of the Agreement:

1. the three governments would construct and maintain a bridge at Kazungula across the Zambezi River;
2. the parties acknowledged that the location of the bridge might transverse the boundaries of their respective territories at Kazungula, and thereby agreed that this issue would not affect the construction of the bridge;
3. in the event that the bridge was located, wholly or a greater part of it, in the territory of any one of the parties, the parties agreed that, notwithstanding anything, the bridge would be jointly owned by the parties;

4. any of the parties which might have outstanding issues concerning the common boundary agreed to continue consultations on the demarcation and delimitation of their common boundary at Kazungula, in an effort to reach a final and binding agreement; and
5. the parties would make equal contributions towards all cost of the design and construction of the bridge and the border control facilities.

Thereafter, the permanent Secretary submitted that based on the MOU, the Kazungula bridge project would jointly be worked on by the three countries, namely, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The procurement process commenced on the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2006 with the publication of the General Procurement Notice. The call for expressions of interest was advertised on schedule on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2007. The adverts were published in Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe local papers, SADC website and in the United Nations Development Business with a closing date of 16<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

The evaluation of the Expression of Interest had been completed and six consultants had been short listed and Request for Proposals Documents had since been issued. Submission of the proposals was on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.

The Permanent Secretary further showed a pictorial site of the crossing point over the Zambezi River. He reiterated that the crossing points would host one stop border arrangement.

On whether AfDB had agreed to fund the construction works of the bridge, the permanent Secretary reported that Botswana and Zambia had been active in sourcing funding for the bridge. Already, a lot of companies had expressed interest to fund the bridge. There was future in that aspect.

On whether the parties involved in the construction of the bridge were fully prepared for any variations, the permanent Secretary reported that when a Project was mooted and money secured, that was sufficient to cover for any variations.

On whether the bridge would be strong enough so as not to experience a disaster as it happened in the United States of America where the bridge collapsed, the Permanent Secretary reported that all necessary measures had been taken and were still being taken to ensure a strong bridge which would stand the test of time was constructed.

Thereafter, your Committee were led on a conducted tour of the bridge site over the Zambezi River. Your Committee observed that on both sides, clearing was being done. While on the pontoon, your Committee heard that the bridge would be 720 metres in length while water covered a length of 420 metres when in flood.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe as follows:

- (i) the construction of the bridge will start on 1st February, 2010 and will be completed on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2013; and
- (ii) the main obstacle to the construction of the bridge has been sorted out; as Zimbabwe has agreed to the construction of the bridge over the Kazungula Crossing Point.

In view of the foregoing observations, your Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) they urge the Government to adhere to the proposed schedule in the construction of the bridge on Kazungula Crossing Point over the Zambezi River;

- (ii) Government should be commended for making frantic efforts to bring on board Zimbabwe as one of the major stakeholders alongside Zambia and Botswana in the construction of the bridge; and
- (iii) they urge the Government to take note that the assurance would remain open until 2013 when the bridge over the Zambezi River is expected to be completed.

**O. Livingstone – Ministry of Science, Technology and Vocational Training**

Your Committee toured the premises of the Old Campus of the Livingstone Institute of Business and Engineering Studies (LIBES) in Livingstone. The tour took place on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2007. The objective of the tour was to assess the establishment of the University of Science and Technology within the premises of the LIBES. The tour came as a consequence to the following assurance which was made by the Minister on the Floor of the House on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1998 as follows:

**15/98 – Establishment of the University of Science and Technology**

*“I can assure you that I am taking up the challenge to ensure that Zambia has got a third University but this time, of Science and Technology.”*

As a follow up on the above assurance, your Committee visited the old Campus premises of LIBES.

Your Committee were met by the incoming Chairperson of the Victoria Falls University of Technology (VUT), the Director from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Vocational Training and the Principal of Livingstone Institute of Business and Engineering Studies (LIBES) at the old campus premises of LIBES. The Committee requested the incoming Chairperson of VUT to brief them on the status of establishing the Victoria Falls University of Technology.

In her submission to your Committee, the incoming Chairperson reported that the University had already promoters of the University. She then showed a site map of VUT and reported that the University would have three campuses namely, Livingstone Campus, Kazungula Campus and Nakatindi Road Campus. She then revealed the vision objectives and mission statement of the University. The vision was to be the top University of Science and Technology devoted to the advancement of Africa while the objectives were to be a private University generating revenue from its products and services, deliver very high quality academy products and consulting and research services and strive to be a centre of knowledge in technologies through its research. The Mission statement was to prepare young men and women into leadership roles in community affairs and wealth creation enabled by science and technology.

Further, the incoming Chairperson went into justifying the establishment of the Victoria Falls University of Technology as being that of offering capacity development, reducing the burden of human capital flight, providing private sector development and developing high quality tourism industry.

The incoming Chairperson also explained to your Committee that the VUT would be organised in such a way that there would be a Board at the apex of the organizational structure. In addition, there would be a President assisted by two Vice President, one in charge of Finance and Administration while the other would be in charge of Academic Affairs. Under the Vice President of Finance and Administration, there would be managers of Finance, student Affairs, Human Resources Management and Health Services. Under the Vice-President-Academic Affairs, there would be Deans of Information and Communication, Applied Science and Engineering, Languages, Tourism and International Relations, Agricultural Science and Food Technology and Technical and Training College.

She further informed your Committee that the University would offer diplomas, undergraduate degrees, graduate degrees and post graduate programmes in the courses as referred above in line with the office of the Vice President Academic Affairs.

The incoming Chairperson also reported on the strategic management plan of the institution. These were put into three phases. Phase I (2007-2010) dealt with renting LIBES old campus and the Nakatindi Road campus. It also had to do with renovating the property in phases and commencement of short term courses in November, 2007. The commencement of diploma and degree programmes would be in January 2008. Phase II (2008-2015) dealt with the development of Kazungula and Livingstone campuses while phase III (2009-2030) dealt with constructing other amenities. Thereafter, the incoming Chairperson availed the implementation plan to your Committee.

Finally, the incoming Chairperson revealed to your Committee the partners which the VUT had contacted. These include the Ministry of Science, Technology and Vocational Training, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Tourism, Microsoft, HP, Oracle, Troy University, USA, UNZA and Middlesex University, UK. She reported that VUT responded to the Government policy of increasing University education in the country as well as to the public call to establish a University in Livingstone. She reiterated that the school programmes would meet the labour market needs. The possible financiers included, VUT itself through self financing projects, Development Bank of Zambia and Donor countries such as Netherlands and Norway through partnership with Government.

Thereafter, your Committee were led on a conducted tour of the old LIBES campus by the incoming Chairperson of VUT. They visited the classrooms, the Library and the Administration block which were under rehabilitation.

On whether the envisaged undertaking of VUT would be realised with such ambitious plan, the incoming Chairperson reported that the resources which had already gone into the establishment of VUT were so immerse to fail to undertake the venture.

On why such an area was chosen to host the VUT, the incoming Chairperson reported that Livingstone town was situated in an area where the University would capture students from the neighbouring countries.

On whether the programme in Mining would be sustained at VUT as Livingstone was primarily a tourist town, the incoming chairperson reported that in 1969, a course in Mining Engineering at UNZA was introduced and yet the surrounding environment in Lusaka had no mining activities. Further, she reported that to avoid producing Mining graduates who were irrelevant to the economy of Zambia, they would endeavour to attach mining students to mining companies on the Copperbelt as well as to the Nickel Mine in Mazabuka, Munali Hills area.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission, your Committee observe as follows:

- (i) the forthcoming VUT is private-sector driven as opposed to Government driven; and
- (ii) the infrastructure of VUT was entirely Government property. VUT got it through a contract of fifty (50) years.

In view of the forgoing, the Committee recommend as follows:

- (i) the assurance of having a third University on Science and Technology is not being realised as VUT is a private driven University where Government is simply one of the stakeholders. Government is being urged to revisit the assurance with a possibility of honouring it entirely; and
- (ii) your Committee request to be availed a contract document where Government has leased the old LIBES campus to VUT for 50 years. Only then will they appreciate Government involvement in the establishment of VUT.

**P. Lusaka – Ministry of Defence**

Your Committee toured ZAF Twin Palm Housing Project, Lusaka West L85 Military Camp and ZNS Lusaka West Sopelo Camp on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2007. Your Committee toured the three wings of the Defence Force as a consequence to the following assurance which was made on the floor of the House by Hon Minister on 15th July, 1993:

**164/93 – Soldiers Accommodation**

*“The Hon Minister informed the House that the programme of constructing houses for officers and servicemen was already in motion and that construction was underway in Lusaka West while architectural drawings in Mufulira had been completed although construction work had not yet commenced.”*

**a) ZAF Twin Palm Housing Project**

In the company of the Assistant Secretary and Senior Servicemen from Zambia Air Force, Zambia Army and Zambia National Service, your Committee visited ZAF Twin Palm to inspect the housing project there.

The station commander reported that the Ministry of Defence through the Zambia Air Force had embarked on the rehabilitation and construction of additional houses in its bases with the objective of providing quality and better living conditions for their personnel. The infrastructure had over the years deteriorated and became in most cases below the acceptable standard of living conditions.

The Station Commander reported that the infrastructure had not expanded to cater for the increased number of personnel in the bases resulting in the limited facilities to deteriorate. The single quarters which were designed for single personnel, now accommodated large families because of lack of other alternative accommodation for married people. The other service personnel were forced to live outside the bases in rented accommodation at a great cost to the Zambia Air Force.

He, therefore, reported that the completion of construction of houses at ZAF Twin Palm would not only result in many service personnel being provided with decent and affordable accommodation but would also greatly improve their living conditions.

The Station Commander, then referred to the background of the ZAF Twin Palm Housing project. He reported that in 1979, an Air Defence Unit called 71 ADU was formed for the purpose of strengthening Zambia Air Defence Systems. Zambia Air Force Twin Palm was selected as a site to construct a new Base to accommodate this unit. A Yugoslav Company called “UNICO” in 1979 worked out a Master Plan for the construction of the Base.

He went on to report that in the early 1980’s, APOLLO, BEHRENS and ZECCO construction companies were contracted to implement the Civil and Electrical works of the Master Plan. However, only the roads, street lighting, water reticulation, sewerage, drainage and 21 houses were completed before the project was abandoned.

He submitted that in 2004, the Zambia Air Force within its resources constructed 06 semi-detached housing unites (Type4) to accommodate personnel. In 2006, the Ministry of Defence authorized the Air Force to contract DATONG Construction Limited to construct at least one housing unit (type 4) every month using Air Force resources.

From that programme, 11 semi detached housing units had been constructed at an average cost of about K215 million. This had resulted in the creation of accommodation 22 families. Currently, DATONG Construction Limited were constructing two additional housing units (type 4) while, the personnel from the Zambia Air Force were also constructing one officers’ married quarter (type 3).

A number of Bills of Quantities had been compiled by various companies to complete the Twin Palm housing project. In 2002, architects put the cost estimate to complete the project at K5.5 billion. Currently, the project was valued at K2 billion.

Further, the Station Commander reported that when all the 920 housing units are completed, 754 families and 410 single personnel would be accommodated in the Twin Palm Base. This would bring the total number of service personnel to be accommodated to 1,330. This represented an annual savings in rental bills of K48 billion.

He also pointed out that currently, the station was renting 121 houses all over town and their rental bill stood at K300 million per month. The bill fluctuated every so often due to landlords increasing their rentals and postings of new personnel to the station.

Finally, the Station Commander reported that the advantages of completing the construction of the housing project would be as follows:

- a) all Lusaka based officers and men would have been accommodated within the station;
- b) if all the personnel were accommodated in camp, a lot of savings in terms of bills and maintenance costs on transport would be achieved; and
- c) mobilisation of personnel in times of emergencies would be much easier.

Thereafter, your committee were led on a conducted tour of ZAF Twin Palm Housing Project. Your Committee inspected areas where houses for Junior and non-commissioned officers would be based as well as areas for social amenities. They also inspected areas of the administration block. They were told that the administration block was a makeshift as it was inherited from the contractors of the camp. The lawns were nicely done.

Your committee were also shown few completed houses for type 1, 2 and 3. However, type 4 houses which were meant for single officers were not yet constructed. These were meant to be high-rise buildings.

Your Committee also toured an area where houses were being built using ZAF own resources. One house was being worked on at the time. The Station Commander reported that eight houses in this area were abandoned at foundation level by the contractor, forcing ZAF to start using own resources to build them. They intended to build at least a house per month of that type.

Later, your Committee proceeded to see the Clinic which used to be a storeroom for the contractor. The Station Commander reported that it was also a makeshift Clinic.

Asked what was the cost for the whole project, the Station Commander reported that it was \$58 million.

Asked how much was spent on rented houses for ZAF personnel per month outside the camp, the Station Commander reported that K350 million was spent per month for rented houses.

Asked whether the Station Commander knew where money was coming from for the construction of the houses, he reported that he did not know as he was not the authority on that issue. Commanders had discretion to use funds as and when necessary for the intended ZAF projects.

Asked whether ZAF could manage to build houses without contractors if given money to do so, the Station Commander reported that they could not as the services of the contractor were still needed, because a contractor like DATONG could continue building even when he was not paid or paid late.

On whether ZAF was restricting itself to standard housing in their building of houses through using own resources, the Station Commander reported that they were, however, the houses of different structure as seen in the camp were those inherited from the contractors.

**b) Lusaka West L85 Military Camp**

Your Committee toured Lusaka West L85 Military Camp on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2007. They were met by the Commandant of L85 Military Camp and his team at the Officers' Mess. Your Committee requested the Commandant to brief them on the status of house construction for the army personnel.

The Camp Commandant informed your Committee that the camp came into being as a result of Government's initiative to expand the army infrastructure and indeed meet the new challenges of accommodating the serving members and their families. In this connection, Government decided to contract the APOLLO Company, which commenced work in 1985, with a task of putting up 3,000 houses. The company was only able to construct 171 housing units, which were occupied by military personnel in 1990. The company was also expected to build other facilities such as sports complex, cinema-hall, shops, market, schools, canteens, Qm offices and workshops, parade ground, workshops and a hospital. These were not done until APOLLO Company completely re-located to Chingola in 1992 after the project was halted by Government. Due to the abrupt termination of the contract, the Apollo Company was unable to maintain its workforce thereby abandoning them. The workers opted to illegally occupy Army land.

The Commandant also reported that the camp had been over the years infiltrated by illegal settlers, who apart from the former workers of Apollo, included families from all over Zambia. These illegal settlers had since named the place 'MUZABWERA.' By 2003, there were 20 households of illegal settlers with a population of approximately 120 people. This population had increased to 30 households making the current numbers to approximately 200 people. This posed security risk to the camp, because these families were not officially vetted and permitted. The current population stands at 1,389 women and children inclusive.

Regarding medical facilities, the Commandant reported that the camp was using a house as a Clinic. However, it was not adequate since the services were also extended to civilians from nearby villages and farms who had an average population of 1,660. They requested for a hospital to be put up for them to provide a better service to all.

With regard to education, the Commandant reported that the camp had a basic School which run from Grade one to Grade nine. The school also catered for outlying areas such as farms and villages. They requested that this school be completed up to Grade twelve. Once completed, the current problem of sending the children as early as 05:00hours to other schools in town would be a thing of the past.

On water reticulation, the Commandant reported that the source of water was at ZNS Sopelo Camp where they had two submersible pumps. These pumps operated concurrently, feeding the booster tank which had a capacity of approximately 15,000 to 20,000Litres. It took about 2 hours 30 minutes to fill and 18 minutes to reach the Reservoir Tank situated in the camp, which had the capacity of approximately 100,000 to 200,000 Litres. Currently, they were experiencing erratic water supply due to the

complexity of the water system which required urgent attention. The proposed immediate solutions included the following:

- (i) additional submersible pumps (industrial) (02) to support the existing pumps; and
- (ii) sinking boreholes and installation of hand pumps in L-85 Camp.

Finally, the Commandant reported that the road from the 5km junction to their camp was constructed by Apollo in 1985. Since then, it had not been maintained. They would appreciate it if Government came to their aid.

Asked whether all soldiers who were not accommodated in the barracks and camps would fit in if 3,000 housing units were completed, the Commandant reported that if those housing units were completed; it would go along way in alleviating the accommodation though not entirely.

On whether L85 Military Camp was funded for rehabilitation and construction of houses, the Commandant reported that since 2005, L85 Military Camp had not been funded for construction of the houses for soldiers. However, the Commandant expressed hope that with the allocation of K18 billion to the Ministry of Defence, it was hoped that priority would be given to L-85 Military Camp and ZAF Twin Palm Housing Project.

The Commandant led your Committee on a conducted tour of L85 Military Camp. Your Committee toured the area where construction of houses was to take place and the Clinic. The Commandant reported that they needed a hospital to cater for the growing population in the camp.

Your Committee were also shown where the school was built. That area was initially reserved for the sports complex.

On whether money used for rentals for soldiers outside the barracks or camps could not be diverted to construction works, the Commandant agreed that they spent too much money on house rentals. If only those monies were directed to actual construction works, soldiers housing problem would be minimized.

**c) ZNS Sopelo Camp**

Your Committee toured ZNS Sopelo Camp on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2007. They were met by the Commanding Officer, ZNS Sopelo Camp and his team of officers in his office. Your Committee requested the Commanding Officer to brief them on the status of house construction for the ZNS personnel.

The Commanding Officer reported to your Committee that the camp was established in 1975 and was to develop into a state farm. The camp was initially under ZNS Safaris and was being called new farm. It was being run by an Administration Officer who was directly under the Commanding Officer, ZNS Safaris. However, in 1986, after the command decided that the unit be independent, the ZNS Sopelo Camp was established and he first Officer Commanding was the appointed. The name Sopelo was derived from the stream which crosses through the camp and divides the camp into two halves.

Further, he reported that the camp had a total strength of 68 staff. He went on to report that the unit was seated on a 1,400Ha plot which was farm No. 1461. The Commanding Officer then reported on production. He submitted that production was the main stream of the unit. The unit was involved in field crop, garden and poultry production.

Thereafter, the Commanding Officer reported on the camp infrastructure that the unit had very few permanent structures. Most of the servicemen were accommodated in almost

collapsing muddy houses. Those houses were constructed starting in 1984 and were grass thatched up to and as late as 2001 when the last grass thatched house was roofed with iron sheets from demolished poultry houses.

Regarding the self help structures, the Commanding Officer reported that those structures were constructed with camp resources and, in certain instances, by the servicemen themselves.

In conclusion, the Commanding Officer reported that men in uniform would be motivated if permanent structures were constructed. Thereafter, your Committee were led on the conducted tour of the camp.

Your Committee saw for themselves the temporal mud houses which were roofed and electrified. Your Committee were not pleased with that type of accommodation for the officers who were rendering military and food security to the country.

On whether they had capacity to implement their various activities with the K24 billion once released, the Commanding Officer reported that they did have the capacity as ZNS as long as capital funding was given.

On whether Sopelo ZNS Camp also needed accommodation for officers accommodated outside the camp, the Commanding Officer reported that Sopelo ZNS Camp was a production Unit and not necessarily a Military Camp like Kafue ZNS Camp. So at this camp, all their staff were within the camp. Nevertheless, even those staff are military staff who required decent houses for better living.

On why money realized from sale of agricultural produce was not ploughed back to build decent houses for staff, the Commanding Officer reported that it was a good suggestion because after all, the idea of production camp was to promote self-sustaining ventures. However, he reported that the level of production had not grown to support that mechanism.

Asked if ZNS Sopelo Camp could build a house per month as ZAF Twin Palm was doing, the Commanding Officer reported that this arrangement was being done in Mansa and Katete ZNS Camps. In a way, ZNS was also doing the same.

### **Observations and Recommendations**

In noting the submission from all three wings of Defence Forces, your Committee make the following observations:

- (i) construction work in most barracks has stalled for one reason or the other. If it is taking place, then it is at an extremely slow pace;
- (ii) areas designated for construction in the barracks (ZAF Twin Palm and L85 Military Camp) had all the service facilities for the earmarked houses i.e. roads done, sewer system and water reticulation done. In the case of L85 Military Camp, where there has been no construction at all, facilities have even deteriorated as water supply has become erratic and the sewer system has been blocked in some cases;
- (iii) there are a lot of makeshift arrangements in most of the camps visited. At ZAF Twin Palm, the Administration Block and the Clinic are all makeshift arrangements. At L-85 Military Camp, the Clinic and the school are all makeshift arrangements. At ZNS Sopelo Camp, nearly all the houses particularly for Junior Officers are said to be makeshift houses including the Officers' Mess;
- (iv) the Commands are spending a lot of money to pay for rentals for officers not accommodated in the barracks;

- (v) ZNS Sopelo camp has been discovered to be a production Unit camp and not necessarily a Military Camp, which is affected in terms of soldiers' accommodation outside the camp as is the case for ZAF Twin Palm and L-85 Military Camp;
- (vi) the demand for house construction for Defence Forces is 9,000 housing units. But in the Fifth National Development Plan (FDNP), there are only 109 housing units to be built. If we divide 109 into 9,000, it will take 45 years to finish the houses;
- (vii) the money going to rentals of soldiers' accommodation outside the barracks or camps will be saved if houses are constructed for soldiers in the barracks or camps; and
- (viii) as much as your Committee are sympathetic with the type of housing units for officers at Sopelo ZNS Production Unit Camp, they are of the view that the camp is not in the category of ZAF Twin Palm and L85 Military Camps.

In view of the foregoing, your Committee make the following recommendations:

- (i) there is need to commence or speed up construction of housing units for soldiers of all categories to avoid compromising state security because of the soldiers staying in compounds or any other undesignated places;
- (ii) Government is urged to maintain the constructed service facilities in the barracks earmarked for house construction to avoid incurring huge costs once house construction commenced;
- (iii) there is need for supervision of the construction works by competent staff from the Ministry of Works and Supply in close liaison with officials from Ministry of Defence;
- (iv) Government is urged to instruct all barracks and camps to do away with makeshift arrangements as they are an eyesore in the barracks or camps. Ministry of Defence should insist on permanent structures at all times; and
- (v) within ZAF, there is reasonable income which was used for building a house each month at ZAF Twin Palm; and hence they urge Government to probe the source of funding for such initiative in ZAF.

Your Committee resolve not to close the assurance until soldiers living in compounds or any other undesignated places are accommodated in the barracks or camps.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, your Committee wish to express their gratitude to all Controlling Officers and supporting staff who appeared before them.

Your Committee also observe that some assurances have not been adequately addressed by relevant Ministries. In such cases, your Committee advise the Government to impress upon the relevant Ministries to show seriousness to the observations and recommendations advanced by your Committee. They implore Government to constantly release funds for the many Governments projects which are incomplete or neglected due to lack of sufficient funds.

Finally, Sir, your Committee wish to thank you for allowing them to serve on your Committee and for giving them an opportunity to undertake tours to check on various projects. Further, Sir, your Committee wish to also thank the Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly for the guidance and expert assistance rendered during the course of the year.

R M Muntanga, MP  
**CHAIRPERSON**

LUSAKA  
**NOVEMBER, 2007**