



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

FOR THE

SECOND SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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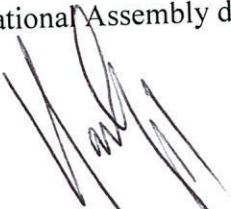
FOREWORD

Honourable Madam Speaker, the Committee on Government Assurances has the honour to present its Report for the Second Session of the Thirteenth National Assembly. The functions of the Committee are as set out in Standing Orders No.194 of the National Assembly of Zambia Standing Orders, 2021.

In line with its Programme of Work for the Second Session of the Thirteenth National Assembly, the Committee received submissions from various Ministries and Parastatal bodies whose assurances were made under their portfolio. The Committee held fourteen meetings to consider submissions from both the new and outstanding assurances. In order to fully interrogate the action taken on the assurances, the Committee requested detailed memoranda from various stakeholders. The stakeholders were also invited to appear before the Committee and speak to their memoranda in order to afford the Committee an opportunity to make clarification on issues contained in the memoranda. The list of stakeholders who provided memoranda and appeared before the Committee is at Appendix II.

The Committee Report is arranged in two Parts. Part I deals with consideration of submissions on new assurances while Part II deals with outstanding assurances from the Action-Taken Report on the Committee's Report for the First Session of the Thirteenth National Assembly.

The Committee is grateful to all the stakeholders who tendered both oral and written submissions. The Committee further wishes to thank you, Madam Speaker, for affording it an opportunity to carry out its work. The Committee also appreciates the services rendered by the Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly during its deliberations.



Mr Elliot Kamondo, MP
CHAIRPERSON

June, 2023
LUSAKA

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PART I
CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS ON NEW ASSURANCES

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

09/22 Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Sectors

On Friday, 29th October, 2021 the Minister of Finance and National Planning, during the Budget presentation, made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the Government will promote the establishment of large-scale agriculture estates across the country that will produce and process agricultural products that are suitable in the respective areas. The vehicle for doing so will be the farm blocks, which are sometimes also called growth poles. The task of the Government in realising this initiative is to provide the necessary infrastructure for farm blocks to be operational.

Executive's Response:

In its update to the Committee, the Executive submitted that in July 2022, the World Bank Board approved support to Zambia amounting to USD 300 million to implement an agriculture program entitled Zambia Growth Opportunities. The program would be implemented over a period of five years from 2023 to 2027. The Government would develop the necessary infrastructure to operationalise three main farm blocks namely Nansanga in Central Province, Luena in Luapula Province and Luswishi in Copperbelt Province. The programme was aimed at enhancing diversification, sustainability and job creation in the agro-food sector in Zambia, as well as accelerate growth and rural development.

In order to facilitate achievement of these objectives, the Government would enhance policies, institutions services and improve rural infrastructure and assets with a view to accelerating a diversified, resilient and inclusive agricultural growth.

The Committee was further informed that some of the key interventions under the Zambia Growth Opportunities Programme would include:

- (i) development of key infrastructure within the farm blocks to make them operational;
- (ii) rehabilitation of farm feeder roads in high agricultural potential areas;
- (iii) training of farmers on climate smart agricultural practices;
- (iv) enhancing the legal and regulatory environment for input markets;
- (v) development of farm block specific investment plans; and
- (vi) facilitation of an annual percentage change in the budgetary allocation towards the Ministry of Agriculture over the five – year period as required under the programme.

In view of the above, the necessary preparations were actively being undertaken at the technical level of the key line ministries and institutions in preparation for the first disbursement in the year 2023.

In addition, a project steering committee comprising Permanent Secretaries from key line ministries had been appointed to facilitate effective monitoring and implementation of the

programme. The Project Steering Committee would be required to regularly report to the Council of Ministers.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission observes that the necessary preparations for the implementation of the project are still being undertaken at the level of the key line ministries. The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that the project is fully implemented and therefore, resolves to await for a progress report.

13/22 Monetary Sector

The Minister of Finance and National Planning, during the 2022 Budget presentation, made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the Government is committed to lowering the cost of living for our people by reducing the current high level of inflation. In this regard, the Bank of Zambia will take all the necessary action to bring inflation down to the target band of 6 to 8 percent by mid-2023, at the latest. Further, implementation of the Monetary Policy will continue to rely on the forward-looking framework anchored on the Monetary Policy Rate. This will consider subdued economic activity and existing vulnerabilities in the financial system.

Executive's Response

In updating the Committee, the Executive submitted that since August 2022, annual inflation had been on a downward trend. This made the Bank of Zambia to maintain the policy rate at 9 percent for the first three quarters of 2022. In the first quarter of 2022, annual overall inflation continued on a downward trend. It declined to 14.1 percent from 18.9 percent in the last quarter of 2021. The fall in inflation was largely driven by the lagged pass-through from the appreciation of the Kwacha against the US dollar as well as improved food supply.

Further, inflation declined in the second quarter of 2022 to 10.5 percent from 14.1 percent recorded in the first quarter of 2022. Inflation continued on the downward trend in the third quarter of 2022. Annual average inflation declined to 9.7 percent in the third quarter from 10.5 percent in the second quarter. This was largely due to the impact of the appreciation of the Kwacha against the US dollar on prices of several non-food products.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that although the Executive had projected that inflation will continue to decline in 2023, this is not the case as some of the upside risks to the inflation outlook has set in. The Committee, therefore, resolves to await for a progress report on the measures the Government will put in place to bring the inflation rate to projected levels.

63/22 Countrywide Budget Data Collection Tool

On Friday, 1st April 2022, the Minister of Finance and National Planning made an assurance set out below:

Madam Speaker, the Government, through the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, has developed a data-capturing tool for monitoring progress on projects, programmes and services being provided by the Government through budgetary expenditures both through

the Central Government and local Government through the Constituency Development Fund (CDF). In 2022, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning will embark on collecting data in the education sector, as a starting point. Thereafter, this effort of collecting data will be rolled out to other key ministries, which service our people.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Treasury went ahead and developed a data collection tool for the education sector. In the second quarter of 2022, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning in collaboration with the Ministry of Education embarked on a countrywide data collection exercise to obtain and validate data from various schools.

The tool had different data sets pertaining to the actual conditions and state of all schools in the country. So far, data had been collected from over 8,000 schools. Due to the bulkiness of the data collected, the department was at the time of reporting sieving and analyzing the information that was entered in the database. The collection tool was very informative for the Treasury as it brought out the deficiencies in different areas ranging from teacher pupil ratio, infrastructure inequalities and school capacity in terms of classroom space.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that the assurance has been actualised with regard to the Ministry of Education, but is yet to be rolled out to other key ministries that provide services to the public. In this regard, the Committee recommends that the Government should expedite the roll-out to the remaining ministries in order to enhance the monitoring of progress on projects. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

34/22 Pending Electricity Connections in Kalabo

On Tuesday, 22nd February, 2022, the Minister of Energy made an assurance detailed hereunder.

Madam Speaker, ZESCO Limited is aware of some of the clients who are yet to be connected in Kalabo, and is currently preparing materials and logistics to have them connected. However, I should assure the House that customers whose applications for new connections were pending as at 31st December, 2021, will be connected by the end of 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was updated that ZESCO Limited had procured connection materials and were in the process of connecting all the paid-up customers. The backlog had since reduced from 162 to 33 which would be completed by 31st December, 2022.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that as at January, 2023, there was still some work pending to be completed. The Committee, therefore, urges the Executive to expedite the process of connecting the remaining paid up customers. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

42/22 Electrification of Some Schools in Feira Constituency

On Friday, 25th February, 2022 the Minister of Energy made an assurance as follows:

“Madam, a scoping exercise to establish the works needed for electrification of some schools in Feira Constituency was conducted and concluded in August 2020. The scoping exercise reviewed that the cost of electrifying all the schools is K7,670,260.48. As soon as the funds are available, all the schools will be connected as part of the 60,000 connections that are outstanding. ZESCO Limited has set up a dedicated directorate to ensure that all the 60,000 outstanding connections are done this year without topping up on amount they already paid.”

Executive’s Response

The Committee was informed that Rural Electrification Authority (REA) had set aside funds to electrify Janeiro Rural Health Center, Mandombe and Chimutengo Primary Schools under the 2023 Work Plan and Budget. The initial number of households to be connected was 84 at a total cost of K1,430,000. Some of the funds would be dedicated to the electrification of the schools. As soon as the funds were available, all the schools would be connected as part of the 60,000 connections that were outstanding under ZESCO. The Committee was also informed that ZESCO had been able to connect over 80 percent of the 60,000 customers that were pending. However, ZESCO was still working towards connecting the remaining 20per cent.

Committee’s Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission urges the Executive through Rural Electrification Authority to find an alternative source of funds to connect the named schools in Feira Constituency. The Committee further, urges ZESCO to ensure that material procurement processes are concluded in time to connect the remaining 20per cent. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

45/22Electrification of Chiefdoms in Milanzi Constituency

On Tuesday, 1st March, 2022, the Minister of Energy made an assurance asset out hereunder.

“Madam Speaker, the Government of the Republic of Zambia, through the Rural Electrification Authority (REA), has plans of electrifying Kathumba and Kawaza chiefdoms in Milanzi Constituency. According to the REA Master Plan, Kathumba and Kawaza chiefdoms were earmarked for electrification this year. However, due to limited resources, only Kathumba Chiefdom will be electrified this year, while Kawaza Chiefdom will be included in next year’s Budget once feasibility studies are concluded.”

Executive’s Response

The Committee was informed that the Government, through REA, had plans of electrifying part of Milanzi constituency in 2023. The works involved included; the electrification of Kalimeta Primary School, Kamphambe Primary and Secondary School, Agric Camp, RHC and community, Chilingodi Primary School and surrounding communities with an initial target connection of 255 houses at a total cost of K3,280,000.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee takes note of the response and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

55/22 Electrification of Schools in Mulobezi Parliamentary Constituency

On Thursday 3rd March 2022 the Minister of Energy made an assurance as follows:

Madam Speaker, the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) has plans to electrify Sanembo and Kamanga primary schools, Bwina and Nawinda secondary schools in Mulobezi Constituency under the Rural Electrification Programme.

Executive's Response

The Committee was updated that the REA had plans to electrify Sanembo and Kamanga Primary Schools, Bwina and Nawinda Secondary Schools in Mulobezi Constituency under the Rural Electrification Programme. According to the Rural Electrification Master Plan, the electrification schedule for the mentioned schools was as follows:

- (a) Senembo and Kamanga Primary Schools and Bwina Secondary School were scheduled for electrification in the year 2027 and would be visited before the end of the year 2026 to ascertain the scope of works and the cost of electrification; and
- (b) Nawinda Secondary School was scheduled for electrification in the year 2030 and would be visited before the end of the year 2029 to ascertain the scope of works and the cost of electrification.

According to the Rural Electrification Master Plan, Sanembo rural growth center was scheduled for electrification using solar home system technology, while Kamanga, Bwina and Nawinda rural growth centers were scheduled to be connected to the national grid.

The Committee was also informed that the Rural Electrification Master Plan was launched in 2008 and a lot of factors had changed over time. In this regard, REA would engage all Local authorities and Members of Parliament at an appropriate time to see if they could use CDF funds to electrify the schools and surrounding communities in their constituencies.

Committee's Observations and Recommendation

The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

75/22 Unstable Electricity Supply at Lumezi Mission Hospital

On Wednesday, 20th July, 2020 the Minister of Energy made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, Government has been made aware of the erratic and unstable electricity supply at Lumezi Mission Hospital. The hospital is supplied by Malawi's electricity utility company known as Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi (ESCOM). The supply is unstable because of load shedding in that country. In order to enhance security of supply to the hospital, ZESCO Limited has engaged the hospital to ensure that the standby generator installed at the hospital is available for use during times when the hospital experiences grid supply interruption.

Executive's Response

The Committee was updated that ZESCO Limited engaged the hospital to ensure availability of the standby Generator. Further, ZESCO Limited has signed the contract for the construction of the 132kV transmission line from Chipata to Chama as well as the installation of the 132/33kV distribution substations. The Project will continue as scheduled and the likely delay maybe due to challenges in contract effectiveness.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission by the Executive urges ZESCO Limited to expedite the construction of the 132kV transmission line and the installation of the 132/33kV distribution substations which will supply power to the hospital to mitigate the problem. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

THE MINISTRY OF WATER DEVELOPMENT AND SANITATION

03/22 Makululu Water Project

On Thursday 7 October, 2021 the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation made an assurance on the Floor of the House as set out below.

Madam Speaker, the Makululu Water Project is scheduled to commence in 2022, once the funds are made available. 35,000 people in Makululu Compound and surrounding areas are expected to directly benefit from the project. The estimated cost of the project is K34.5 million. The contract was signed on 15th January, 2019, for a duration of twelve months. There has been a time lapse, and my ministry will carry out a review to ascertain the way forward. The House will be informed accordingly after the review has been done.

Executive's Response

The Ministry informed the Committee that the Makululu Water supply improvement project was estimated at 64.5 Million Kwacha and was supposed to be implemented in Makululu compound of Kabwe. The scope included:

- (i) rehabilitation and equipping of three boreholes with a total production capacity of 500 thousand litres of water per day;
- (ii) installation of an elevated tank of about 500 thousand litres of water per day; and
- (iii) extension of network and connection of about 1200 houses and five public kiosks.

This was expected to directly benefit more than 35000 people in Makululu and surrounding areas. On the other hand, there had arisen an emergency to repair the main transmission pipeline supplying water to more than 150,000 people in Kabwe including sensitive Government installations such as the two strategic military barracks in Kabwe. The transmission line had failed because it was sold and there had been no funds to replace it.

In the 2022 Budget only 10 million Kwacha was provided for Makululu Water improvement project which, however, was inadequate to successfully implement the project.

As part of its program of work, the Committee visited this project in order to appreciate its implementation.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee noted at the time of the tour that Cooperating partners such as UNICEF and Humanity for Habitat have been supplementing Government efforts by sinking boreholes in Makululu compound. Therefore, the Committee urges Government to finance this project by considering it in the next budget so that it can be implemented in order to eradicate the water problem in Kabwe township, especially Makululu compound which is highly populated. The Committee further urges Lukanga Water and Sewage Company to secure the title deeds for all the water sources in order to avoid encroachment of the area by the local people. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

06/22 Water and Sanitation in Matero Constituency

On Tuesday, 12 October, 2022 the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation assured the Nation on the Floor of the House as set out below.

“Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to provide running water to all the residents of Lusaka, including those in George, Desai, Paradise, Chunga and Zingalume townships under Matero Parliamentary Constituency. This will not only facilitate access to clean and safe water, but also the use of flushable toilets by our people in those areas. The estimated cost for the water supply project is K90 million while that for the Lusaka Sanitation Programme is K28.3 million, bringing the total to K118.3 million. Further the estimated timeframe for the completion of the Kafue Bulk Water Supply Project is the fourth quarter of 2021 while the Lusaka Sanitation Programme will be completed in 2022.”

Executive's Response

The Ministry informed the Committee that the Lusaka Sanitation Programme (African Development Bank Component) project was still underway and earmarked to be concluded on 23rd September 2023 although the initial completion date was 14th July, 2022. This was because the scope was increased to cover additional sewer lengths of 2.3 km for trunk mains and 36 km for household sewer connections due to some savings realised on the project.

Thus far, 86 km of sewer and all the civil works for the three pump stations had been completed leaving pending works of 36 km of sewer network. When completed, the project was earmarked to benefit approximately 65,000 people who would have the opportunity to connect their flushable toilets to the sewer network. Further, construction works of the faecal sludge treatment plant had substantially been completed (98 per cent complete) with only the installation of the weighbridge remaining.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission resolves to await for a progress report.

14/22 Water Reservoirs Construction in Chiengi

On Friday, 5th November, 2022, the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation assured the Nation on the Floor of the House as follows:

Madam Speaker, the construction of three water reservoirs in Chienge District will commence within the fourth quarter of 2021. The cost of the project is K30 million and the time frame for the completion of the project is twelve months. The project is envisaged to be completed in June, 2022."

Executive's Response

The Ministry updated the Committee that funds for the remaining balance of the advance payment to the contractor to facilitate the recommencement of the construction works of the water reticulation system in Chienge district was made, however the contract had expired and therefore, the project had to be re-scoped.

The Committee was further informed as follows:

- (i) the project was under procurement using the direct bidding model of procurement;
- (ii) the pre-bid meeting was held on Thursday 17th November, 2022; and
- (iii) the tender closing date was Friday 25th November, 2022. Thereafter, there was awarding of contract. Since the project was re-scoped, the first step was to redesign the project and thereafter begin construction. The process of redesigning was scheduled for the beginning of the first quarter of 2023.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes that the procurement process has been completed and what remained is redesigning the project and awarding of the contract. The Committee urges the Executive to expedite the remaining processes so that the project can be implemented. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

15/22 Shortage of Water in Kawama West Township

On Tuesday, 23rd November, 2022 the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation assured the Nation on the Floor of the House as set out below.

Madam Speaker, the Government is aware of the critical shortage of water in some parts of Kawama West Township, especially the areas around Kawama Primary School and Kansuswa Hydro Electricity Sub-Station in Mufulira Parliamentary Constituency.

As a long-term intervention, the Government is implementing a project to rehabilitate and extend water supply to about 8,900 residents in Kawama West Township. The project, which commenced in August, 2020, is at 75 per cent and is expected to be completed in March, 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was updated that Government was aware of the critical shortage of water in some parts of Kawama West Township, especially the areas around Kawama Primary School and Kansuswa Hydro Electricity Sub-Station in Mufulira Parliamentary Constituency. The works were not completed as scheduled in March, 2022 due to delayed disbursement of funds and the subsequent changes in the timelines for the procurement of materials to complete the works as scheduled.

Funding was only released in June 2022 and thus the subsequent shift in the completion of the work. The works that stood at 75 per cent and scheduled to be completed in March 2022 were now at 90 per cent and scheduled for commissioning by end of January, 2023.

Committee’s Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the progress made and resolves to await for a progress report on the project.

35/22 Sinking of Boreholes in Milanzi

On Tuesday, 22nd February, 2022, the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

“Madam, there were 137 functional boreholes in Milanzi Parliamentary Constituency as of September, 2021. Thirty-one additional boreholes have been planned to be sunk in Milanzi Constituency in 2022 by various players and I will explain later. In addition to the thirty-one, we will also drill five boreholes in the same constituency”.

Executive’s Response

The Ministry reported that the Government had plans to sink an additional thirty-six boreholes in Milanzi Constituency. The plans would be implemented in 2022/2023 Annual Work Plan. So far fifteen boreholes had been drilled and equipped as of 22nd November 2022. In addition, ten boreholes out of 20 allocated in Katete District would be drilled in Milanzi constituency under the 2022 MWDS annual work plan. The Contractor had mobilized to Katete District to start drilling the boreholes.

Committee’s Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and implores the Executive to accelerate completion of the project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

36/22 Sinking of Boreholes in Chama South

On Wednesday, 23rd February, 2022, the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

“Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to sink boreholes in Chikwa, Tembwe and Chifunda chiefdoms in Chama South Parliamentary Constituency. The plans will be implemented in the second and third quarters of the year 2022”. The numbers of boreholes earmarked for sinking in each of the three chiefdoms are as follows:

<i>Name of Chiefdom</i>	<i>Number of Boreholes</i>
Chikwa	08
Tembwe	13
Chifunda	02

Executive’s Response

The Committee was informed that the Government had plans to sink boreholes in Chikwa, Tembwe and Chifunda chiefdoms in Chama South Parliamentary Constituency. The Government had procured the contractor to sink 24 boreholes in Chama District. Twelve boreholes were earmarked to be sunk in Chama South Constituency (in Chikwa, Tembwe and Chifunda

Chiefdoms). The contractor had mobilized and was currently in Muchinga Province and the work was expected to be implemented in the 2023 Annual Work Plan.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes with concern the slow pace at which the project is being implemented and urges the Executive to expedite the commencement of the project in order to actualise the assurance. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

40/22 Provision of Piped Water to Mufulira

Thursday, 24th February, 2022 the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation assured the Nation on the Floor of the House as follows:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to provide piped water to Kansunswa, Kawama West, Kalukanya, Kamuchanga, Francis Mukuka and Bwananyina areas in Mufulira Parliamentary Constituency. To avert water-borne diseases, the Government is already supplying clean water to Kansunswa, Kawama West and Kalukanya as a result of the progress that the project has so far attained. While in Kamuchanga, Francis Mukuka and Bwananyina, the Government is providing water using the existing infrastructure and supported by water bowsers.

Executive's Response

The Ministry in its update to the Committee reported that the Government had been implementing the plans to provide piped water in the above-named areas as follows:

- (i) The water supply network extension works in Kansuswa that stood at 75 percent and was scheduled to be completed in March 2022 were now at 99 per cent and scheduled for commissioning by end of January 2023;
- (ii) the water supply network extension and rehabilitation work in Kawama West that stood at 75per cent and was scheduled to be completed in March 2022 were now at 90 per cent and scheduled for commissioning by end of January, 2023;
- (iii) the extension of water supply network works in Kalukanya that stood at 90 per cent and was scheduled to be completed in June 2022 were now at 99per cent and scheduled for commissioning by end of January 2023;
- (iv) In Bwananyina also known as Kawama East, the water supply network extension and rehabilitation of 4.2 km, construction of a 100m³tank, rehabilitation of two water kiosks, construction of two additional kiosks and the construction of two stand taps started in July 2022, and had now reached 50 per cent completion level. These works were expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2023.
- (v) In Kamuchanga and Francis Mukuka, the Government would implement the plans in 2023, subject to the availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to urgently complete the remaining works in Kawama and Bwananyina and to actualise the Kamuchanga Project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

43/22 Stalled Construction of Phase II of the Nkana Water Supply and Sanitation Project

On Tuesday, 1st March, 2022 the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

“In the 2022 Budget, money has been allocated to cater for a number of projects which stalled under this sector. We are waiting for the funds to be released so that we can direct some of them towards Phase II of the Nkana Water Supply and Sanitation Project and many other projects. This project is being financed by the Government of the Republic of Zambia through a loan from the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China”.

Executive’s Response

The Ministry in its update to the Committee reported that Government made available a sum of US \$ 59.9 million for implementation of the prioritized outstanding works on the second phase of the Nkana Water Supply and Sanitation project (NWSSP II). A total of US \$ 5 million had been made available for the project in 2022 and the balance would be prorated in 2023, 2024 and 2025. Pursuant to the above, Nkana Water Supply and Sanitation Company (NWSC) prepared an addendum to the NWSSP II contract for execution of the re-scoped NWSSP II. The addendum needed Attorney General’s approval before execution of the re-scoped NWSSP II.

Committee’s Observation and Recommendation

The Committee urges the Executive to speed up the process of approval by the Attorney General’s Office, so that the project can be executed. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

51/22 Sinking of Boreholes in Kabendwe

On Wednesday, 2nd March, 2022 the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation assured the Nation as follows:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to drill boreholes in Kabendwe area, Chitunda Ward of Chienge Parliamentary Constituency in Luapula Province. The contractor has been engaged and is currently in Chienge District drilling boreholes. In addition, the borehole in Kabendwe area in Chitunda Ward will be drilled within the second quarter of 2022. There has been no delay because the implementation will take place within the project period.

Executive’s Response

The Ministry informed the Committee that Government had plans to drill a borehole in Kabendwe area, in Chitunda ward of Chienge Parliamentary Constituency in Luapula Province. The Contractor was on site and the borehole would be drilled in the 4th quarter of 2022.

Committee’s Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

52/22 Provision of Clean Water in Bwana Mkubwa

On Wednesday, 2nd March, 2022 the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation assured the Nation as follows:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to provide clean water to the residents of Bwana Mkubwa Constituency, particularly, in Upper Ndeke and Katondo. The plans are

implemented and works commenced in July 2018 and is expected to be completed in the year 2022

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Government had a plan to provide clean water to the residents of upper Ndeke and Katondo. The plan was being implemented and construction commenced in July 2018 and was expected to be completed in the year 2023. The plan included the implementation of the Kafulafuta Water Supply System Project (KWSSP) under which the Kafulafuta dam was being constructed. Under this project, construction of a reservoir tank, network extension and replacement in selected areas, customer connections and installation of prepaid meters would be undertaken.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

59/22 Sinking of Boreholes in Chama North Constituency

On Wednesday, 16th March 2022 the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation assured the Nation as follows:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to sink boreholes in Chisunga Ward, Luangwa Ward and Ndunda Ward under Chama North Parliamentary Constituency. The plans will be implemented in the second and third quarters of 2022. The Government has an ongoing programme for the construction of dams and weirs national wide, which also includes Chama District. The plans will be implemented after conducting a pre-feasibility study in the district for the identification of potential dam sites, as and when funds are available."

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Government had procured the contractor (DDYPE-Lot-15) to sink 24 Boreholes in Chama District. Twelve boreholes were earmarked to be sunk in Chama North constituency where Ndunda, Chisunga and Luangwa wards were to benefit from. The contractor had mobilized to Muchinga Province and work was expected to be implemented in the 2022/2023 annual work plan.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and urges the Executive to speed up the procurement process to ensure that the project is executed within the contract time frame. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

67/22 Water Supply in Kamfinsa Parliamentary Constituency

On Friday, 10th June, 2022 the Minister of Water Development and Sanitation assured the Nation on the Floor of the House as set out below.

Madam Speaker, Government has plans to install a new pump at the raw water intake within the third quarter of 2022 in Kamfinsa Parliamentary Constituency. This will result in increased hours of supply to, approximately, twelve hours and beyond to affected communities. Plans are also underway to repair and commission the third pump within the course of June, 2022. The pump will serve as a boost and standby measure. The installation of the third pump will enable reliable supply of water to customers around Kitwe.

Executive's Response

The Ministry reported progress as follows:

(i) Procurement of critical spares to reduce downtime in maintenance.

Nkana Water and Sanitation Company (NWSC) obtained approval from the Ministry of Water Development and Sanitation (MWDS) to utilise Institutional Support funds to procure critical pump spares to reduce downtime on maintenance. The procurement process was in progress and spares like bearings, thyrist or panel cards, and mechanical seals were already received. Other spares like pump impellers were still under procurement.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and urges the Executive to speed up the procurement process in order to actualise the project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

Medium to Long Term Measures

(i) Procurement and installation of raw water pump at Nkana East Intake.

The second raw water pump was installed and commissioned mid-July 2022. Plans were underway for procurement and installation of a third (Standby) pump at the same facility. The pump was under procurement and expected to be delivered by late 4th quarter of 2022.

(ii) Overhaul of dilapidated water supply networks in Ndeke, Wusakili, Chamboli and Luangwa.

The low pressure and no water situations being experienced in parts of the above-mentioned areas was mainly due to dilapidated water supply networks. In order to improve water supply to an estimated population of 850,000 in these areas, overhaul of water supply networks had been planned under the re-scoped NWSSP II.

(iii) Expansion of water storage capacity at Ndeke water distribution centre

Demand for water in Kitwe South had increased due to settlement expansion. In order to meet the increased demand, Ndeke water distribution centre was planned to be expanded. This work was planned to be done under the re-scoped NWSSP II.

Committer's observation and recommendation

The Committee in noting the submission urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured to facilitate the overhaul construction of dilapidated water infrastructure in Ndeke, Wusakili, Chamboli and Luangwa respectively. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

46/22 Staled Construction of the Magistrates Court Building in Feira District

On Tuesday, 1st March, 2022 the Minister of Justice made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the construction of the magistrate court building in Feira District has stalled as funds which were budgeted for the project have not been completely granted to the Judiciary by the Treasury. The contract was awarded to Yashhab Contractors in the year 2011 at a contract sum of K1, 215,857.80. The Building works commenced during the same year but stalled in the year 2014 due to lack of funds needed to complete the project.

Executive's Response

The Committee was updated that the Judiciary entered into a contract with Trymate Zambia Limited on 11th October, 2022 for the purposes of completing the construction of the court building in Feira district and remedying any defects on the building. The contract was awarded at the sum of K 2,997,939.26 and was valid for a period of four months. Trymate Zambia Limited had commenced the works for the completion of the construction of the court.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission urges the Executive to ensure that the project is closely supervised to ensure that it is completed as scheduled. The Committee further urges the Executive to ensure disbursement of funds is consistent to avoid additional cost due to price fluctuations and surcharge due to standing time. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the full completion of the project.

76/22 Construction of Mini Hospitals in Kalabo District

On Tuesday, 26th July, 2022, the Leader of Government Business made an assurance on the Floor of the House as follows:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to construct mini-hospitals in Kalabo District and other parts of the country. At the moment, one mini-hospital is earmarked for construction at Sisekano in Kalabo District and the plans will be implemented in the second quarter of 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the construction of Sisekano Mini Hospital in Kalabo District was being constructed under the project to construct one hundred and fifteen mini hospitals and five district hospitals countrywide using the United Kingdom Export Finance (UKEF) and the contractor was NMS infrastructure Limited. The contractor moved on site in the last week of November, 2022 and clearance of the site had been done and transportation of materials was underway. The construction of the mini hospital was expected to be done in April, 2023.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

01/22 Great North Road Rehabilitation

On Wednesday, 6th October, 2021, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the Government plans to rehabilitate the Great North Road between Serenje and Chinsali, a distance of 396.4 km, once funding is secured for the works. To keep the stretch between Serenje and Mpika from further deterioration, because it is in a bad state, while the Government mobilises resources for the complete rehabilitation, it has engaged China Geo Engineering Corporation at a cost of K95.66 million to conduct emergency maintenance works. So far, K18 million has been paid to the contractor who is on site out of the certified K23million. The contractor has so far covered 81 kilometres of pothole patching and selected reconstruction.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the contract was awarded to Messrs China Geo-engineering Corporation (CGC) for the emergency maintenance works on road T2, the section between Lukulu bridge to Chinsali turnoff (300km) in Muchinga Province, which commenced on September 27, 2019 at the initial contract sum of K95.66 Million and a contract duration of 18 months. However, owing to delayed payments towards interim payment certificates, works stalled in March, 2020 with the contractor achieving 25 per cent completion of the total scope of works.

Through variation orders No. 5 and 6, the works were re-scoped to cater for further deterioration of the road during the time that the project stalled, and the contract amount was revised to ZMW 102.66 Million. Execution of works had been extended up to 27th April, 2023. The works were emergency maintenance aimed at improving the bad condition of this part of the Great North Road (T2) especially during the rainy season when some sections became impassable. The contractor had since been paid ZMW 22.8 Million out of the certified amount of ZMW 23 Million and was currently undertaking temporary works. So far, the temporary works had been undertaken on sections between Lukulu bridge and Mpika with those between Mpika and Chinsali undertaken during the month of December, 2022 to ensure that the road remains motorable during the 2022/2023 rainy season after which the severely deteriorated sections will be reconstructed, and double surface dressing applied to these sections. Pothole patching works commenced in the month of December, 2022 and is currently on-going.

As part of its program of work, the Committee visited the stretch between Serenje and Chinsali on this assurance in order to appreciate its implementation.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee observed that pothole patching was underway at the time of the tour in portions of the road which was extensively damaged. The Committee urges the Government to totally rehabilitate the Great North-Road which includes edge widening especially the stretch between Serenje and Mpika which is in a deplorable state. In addition, the Executive is urged to consider financing this road using Public Private Partnership (PPP). The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

07/22 Rehabilitation of Mbesuma /Kafwimbi Road

On Thursday, 14th October, 2021, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, Government has plans to rehabilitate the Mbesuma/Kafwimbi Road in Chinsali District. Government, through the Road Development Agency (RDA), is currently undertaking spot improvement works on the Mbesuma/Isoka Road. The cost of the works is estimated at K2.4 million and the works are expected to be completed by 31st December, 2021.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the Mbesuma/ Kafwimbi Road which stretched 60km was being implemented using Force Account. The scope of works included maintenance and spot improvements of the Road. The initial amount of ZMW 2,349,501.83 had so far been released and

exhausted on the works initially envisaged on the project. A total of 30km road formation has been undertaken. Seven kilometers of road had been re-graveled and five lines of culverts had been installed on sections which were pending and on some vandalized culverts. It was further reported that The RDA required more funds to undertake additional works on the road. The scope of the additional works included gravelling of a 20km section and replacement of the stolen and vandalized culverts. The estimated cost for the additional works was approximately ZMW 5,000,000.00.

In order to appreciate implementation of the Assurance, the Committee visited this project and made the following observations:

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee urges the Executive to urgently do the rehabilitation of the Mbesuma /Kafwimbi Road and resolves to await for a progress report on the project.

08/22 Luwingu/Nsombo/Chaba Road

On Wednesday, 20th October, 2021, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the Government will consider upgrading to bituminous standard the Luwingu/Nsombo/Chaba Road in Chilubi District once funds for the project have been secured. Currently, the Government is upgrading the road to an engineered gravel road. The estimated cost for this project US\$8,040,000. The estimated time frame for the completion of the project is sixty calendar months comprising twenty-four months for rehabilitation and a further thirty-six months for maintenance.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the works on the Luwingu-Chaba Road were initially awarded to Messrs China Geo Engineering Company. The project was, however, terminated due to fiscal challenges. At the time of termination, the Contractor had completed rehabilitation of 80km out of the 120km envisaged under the scope of works on the project. The Government was aware of the poor state of the remaining 40km of the road and would endeavor to undertake works on it in future work plans once the required financing had been secured.

In order to appreciate the implementation of the Assurance, the Committee visited the project and came up with the following recommendations:

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee noted that the remaining 40km of the road was in a very poor state and urges Government through RDA to urgently consider completing the remaining stretch to make the road motorable. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

20/22 Construction of Nyimba District Hospital

On Tuesday, 15th February, 2022, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made the assurance as follows:

Madam Speaker, the construction of the Nyimba District Hospital as at September 2021, was at 65 percent. The hospital will be completed by June, 2022. The estimated cost of completing the outstanding works is estimated at K18,450,000. There mining scope of works will be done within six months, ending 31st June, 2022.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the construction of Nyimba District Hospital had not been completed as earlier assured because the contractor delayed to remobilise on site after prolonged suspension due to delayed payments. The contractor was paid all outstanding payments and the Ministry of Health had since started charging the contractor liquidated damages for the period that the works remained uncompleted. If the amount of liquidated damages reached 10per cent of the contract sum, the contract would be terminated and the remaining works would be re-tendered to other contractors.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the response and resolves to await for a progress report.

21/22 Construction of Bridges in Lundazi

On Tuesday, 15th February, 2022, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made an assurance as follows:

Madam Speaker, the works on the Lundazi Bridge are at 75 per cent and will be completed before the end of the first quarter of 2022. The contractor is currently fixing steel for the final lift before the installation of steel girders. All materials necessary for the remaining works are on site. The works on the Msuzi have progressed to about 88 percent. Msuzi and Lundazi Bridges are part of the works under the project for emergency maintenance works on the Chipata/Lundazi Road, which was awarded to Messrs Shachitari Contractors at a contract sum of K369,435,328.20, which includes the Value Added Tax (VAT). The works on the project, on the main road, commenced on 6th April, 2020, and are scheduled for completion on 5th October, 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Progress of works at Lundazi bridge was 92per cent as at 31st December, 2022. The concrete deck for Lundazi bridge was completed on 15th November 2022. The stabilization of the base on the two approaches which was initially scheduled to be completed by December 31, 2023 was still outstanding due to heavy rains which had affected progress. The base stabilization works were now envisaged to be completed within the first quarter of 2023 prior to sealing and would be allowed to cure for 7 days before sealing of both the approaches and the bridge deck. It was envisaged that the Lundazi bridge would be completed and commissioned before the end of the first quarter of 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes with concern the slow pace at which the project is being implemented and urges the Executive to closely supervise the project so that it can be completed in the time frame

given without any further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

28/22 Completion of construction of Kalungwishi Boarding School in Chiengi District.

On Thursday, 17th February, 2022, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the construction of the Kalungwishi Boarding Secondary School in Chiengi District will be completed using a phased approach by targeting selected structures to facilitate the partial opening of the school. Phase I is scheduled to be completed in quarter one of 2022.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the construction of Kalungwishi Boarding Secondary School in Chiengi District, as earlier assured, would be completed using a phased approach by targeting selected structures to facilitate the partial opening of the school.

In the first phase, two 1 x 3 classroom blocks, four teachers' houses, ablution block, and construction of two septic tanks and soak away were targeted and had since been completed. The school was partially opened in the fourth quarter of 2022 as a day School. The contractor was currently working on the construction of boarding facilities and a water line from the river to the school. The outstanding works would now be completed in the fourth quarter of 2024.

The delay in the completion of this project was due to the Government's policy which had earlier guided to target projects that were above 80percentcomplete.Kalungwishi Boarding Secondary School was at 50per cent at the time. However, due to the critical nature of infrastructure and being the only boarding secondary school the district was going to have, Government has continued funding the project in a phased approach.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the project.

30/22 Stalled Construction of Limulunga District Administration Offices and Auxiliary Structures.

On Thursday, 17th February, 2022, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the construction of the Limulunga District Administration offices and auxiliary structures had stalled due to the delays in payments on interim payment certificates (IPC) to the contractor on time and delayed power connection to the area. However, the contractor has since been paid all outstanding payments and has been instructed to complete the works in one month, save for power connection. The total cost of the project is K7,360,850.10.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the Limulunga District Administration block was completed in November, 2022, although, awaiting connection to the power grid or rural electrification. The official handover awaited the supply and installation of a Generator Set.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission by the Executive and recommends that the Limulunga District Administration block is connected urgently so that it can be handed over for use. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

31/22 Construction of the Monze / Niko Road

On Friday, 18th February, 2022, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made the assurance as detailed hereunder.

Madam Speaker, as of September 2021, 55 per cent progress had been recorded on the Monze/Niko Road Project in the Southern Province. The project will resume in 2022 as it has been budgeted for in the 2022 Annual Work Plan. The cost of the outstanding works based on the original contract sum was K232,024,030.18 and the outstanding works are scheduled for completion twelve months after the time of resuming.

Executive's Response

The Committee was updated that the work for upgrading to bituminous standard of the Monze to Niko road were awarded to Messrs Unik Construction Engineering Zambia Limited in joint venture with Build con Investment Limited. The contract lapsed in July, 2022 due to funding challenges with progress of works at 55 per cent. The Government through the RDA had commenced a new procurement for a consultant to review the designs for the project after which a new procurement for a contractor to undertake the remaining scope of works would be launched.

In the interim, the office of the Regional Manager, RDA Southern Province and Zambia National Service were undertaking maintenance interventions on the road while the upgrading works were being awaited.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to expedite the procurement process for a consultant so that a contractor is awarded for the project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

60/22 Stalled construction of District Administration Block in Mulobezi District.

On Thursday, 17th March, 2022, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made the assurance detailed hereunder.

Mr Speaker, the construction of the district administration block in Mulobezi District stalled because of delayed payment of outstanding interim payment certificates for works done. Works, on the project, have resumed following the payment of K1,738,970.03 towards the outstanding certified amount and the contractor re-mobilised in September,

2021. The cost of the project is K13,864,230.90 and the timeframe for the completion of works is twelve months, in which case, we expect completion by end of December, 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that construction of the Mulobezi district administration block had reached 80 percent with roofing works done. The contract was on-going. The contract had been extended to 31st July, 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and urges the Executive to ensure that the remaining works are completed urgently. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

70/22 Completion of Senior Chief Mununga's Palace

On Thursday, 7th July, 2022, The Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development made the assurance detailed hereunder.

Madam Speaker, the construction of Senior Chief Mununga's Palace in Chiengi District, which is at 90 percent, will be completed on 31st December, 2022 subject, of course, to the availability of fund. The cost of the outstanding works is K776,275.3. Completion of the outstanding works is three months.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the construction of senior Chief Mununga's Palace in Chiengi district, which was still at 90 percent was not yet completed due to financial constraints. The Provincial Administration had resolved that the outstanding works would be undertaken by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development through Constituency Development Fund. The works were expected to be completed by the end of the second quarter of 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and urges the Executive to expedite the completion of the remaining works. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK

54/22 Youth and Women Empowerment Programmes

On 22nd March 2022, the Minister of Fisheries and Livestock made an assurance on the Floor of the House as stated below.

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to implement women and youth empowerment programmes in fish farming countrywide. My ministry is implementing empowerment plans along the aquaculture value chain programmes through projects, some of which are implemented in collaboration with other line ministries. These projects include the Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project (ZAEDP), the Enhanced Smallholder Agribusiness Promotion Programme (ESAPP) and the Agriculture Productivity Marketing Enhancement Programme (APMEP). An additional project, the Zambia Aquaculture Project (ZAP), supported by the European Union (EU) is expected to commence later this year.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the Government had plans to implement youth and women empowerment Programmes countrywide. The programmes would be implemented through the Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project (ZAEDP), the Enhanced Smallholder Agribusiness Promotion Programme (ESAPP), the Agriculture Productivity Marketing Enhancement Programme (APMEP) and the Zambia Aquaculture Project (ZAP).

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee observes that the Executive simply has plans to implement, but did not explain how and when the implementation will commence. The Committee urges the Executive to move from planning to implementation in accordance with the assurance, which was made on the floor of the House. The Committee awaits for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

04/22 Paul Mushindo University

On Tuesday, 12th October, 2022, the Minister of Education made an assurance on the Floor of the House as set out below.

Madam Speaker, I inform the House that the construction of Paul Mushindo University was at 50 per cent, as at 31st August, 2021. The details are as follows:

- (a) 2 hostel blocks are at 70 per cent;*
- (b) 2 x 8 double story blocks of lecture rooms with toilet facilities are at 60 per cent;*
- (c) 10 lecturers' houses are at 50 per cent; and*
- (d) external works are at 20 per cent.*

The outstanding works will be completed in seventeen months, subject to the availability of funds.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the status quo remained the same. However, the Government had allocated funds for university infrastructure projects under construction in the 2023 budget, and Paul Mushindo University was no exception. The total allocation to each project would be known once the projects were fully handed over from the Ministry of Technology and Science to the Ministry of Education.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and urges the Executive to ensure that the outstanding works on this project are completed urgently so that the University can become operational. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

11/22 Education and Skills Development

On Friday, 29th October, 2021 the Minister of Finance and National Planning, during the 2022 Budget presentation, made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, to increase access to education, the Government will construct an additional 120 secondary schools in 2022.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the Ministry, in collaboration with the provincial and district education stakeholders, identified the disadvantaged areas where the schools were to be built based on criteria agreed upon between the Government and the World Bank. The allocation of the 120 schools by province was as follows:

1. Central Province – 7
2. Copperbelt Province – 15
3. Eastern Province – 8
4. Luapula Province – 11
5. Lusaka Province – 4
6. Muchinga Province – 10
7. Northern Province – 15
8. North-Western Province – 21
9. Southern Province – 7
10. Western Province – 22

Verification of all the proposed sites was under way and to date the confirmation of sites in Copperbelt, North-Western and Western Provinces had been done in accordance with the parameters stipulated by the selection criteria agreed upon between the World Bank and the Ministry of Education. The verification teams endorsed all the sites proposed in the three provinces.

Through the District Education Board Secretary's office, the administration for the school that would oversee the construction of the new secondary school was requested to initiate the process of opening up a project account to facilitate the disbursement of project funds. All 58 expansion schools opened bank accounts, and issuance of the first tranche of funding was expected to be done by the end of August, 2022. However, the release of funds was halted due to the request by the Government in August to restructure Zambia Education Enhancement Project (ZEEP) so as to increase the number of infrastructures to be built at each of the schools. The Negotiations between the Government and World Bank relating to the restructuring was concluded. In view of the above, the construction of 120 secondary schools was scheduled to commence in 2023.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the progress being made and urges the Executive to expedite the implementation of the assurance. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

13/22 Blown off Roofs in Kalomo

On Tuesday, 2nd November, 2021, the Minister of Education made an assurance on the Floor of the House as set out below.

Madam Speaker, the Government is aware that 1 x 3 classroom blocks at Malala and Katundalu schools in Kalomo Parliamentary Constituency had their roofs blown off on 7th and 14th October, 2021, respectively.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the Government had released funds amounting to K150,000 for the rehabilitation of the 1 X 3 classroom block at Malala school, and the works had

since commenced. However, the 1 x 3 classroom block at Katundalu school was scheduled to receive funds under the 2023 budget for rehabilitation in respect of blown-off roofs.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission by the Executive and resolves to await for a progress report regarding the release of funds for Katundalu school.

16/22 Completion of Michael Chilufya Sata Girls School in Isoka

On Wednesday, 1st December, 2022, the Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development on behalf of the Minister of Education made an assurance on the Floor of the House as detailed below:

Madam Speaker, the construction of Michael Chilufya Sata Girls Boarding school in Isoka Parliamentary Constituency which commenced in 2013 has reached 55 per cent and will be completed in 2022, subject to availability of funds. The cost of the outstanding works is K31,470,243.95. The timeframe for completing the project is within a period of twelve months. The project has been delayed because of erratic funding.

Executive's Response

The Ministry informed the Committee that the status quo was the same. However, the Government had released funds amounting to K322, 093.44 for the construction of Micheal Chilufya Sata boarding school. The contractor was on-site, and work had since resumed.

As part of the program of work for its local tour for the Second Session of the Thirteenth National Assembly, the Committee visited this assurance.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee found that the contractor had demobilized and was not on-site contrary to what was earlier reported by the Ministry of Education. The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that the contractor re-mobilises and complete all the remaining works. In addition, the first structures embarked for partial completion should be completed so that the school can be operationalised as for the time being, the learners are squatting at Isoka Secondary School. The school has been operationalised and is functional with incomplete structures, hence the need for completing the remaining structures to fully realise the benefit of the investment. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

17/22 Additional Secondary Schools in Nalolo District

On Friday, 18th February, 2022, the Minister of Education made assurances on the Floor of the House as detailed below.

Madam Speaker, I wish to inform the House that the Government plans to construct secondary schools countrywide and Nalolo District is no exception. The plans to construct secondary schools will commence in 2022, and will be implemented by the Ministry of

Education and the Zambia Education Enhancement Project (ZEEP) over a period of five years.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the Government allocated a total of 22 secondary schools to be constructed in Western Province by the Zambia Education Enhancement Project (ZEEP). Among the beneficiary districts in the province was Nalolo, where a school would be constructed at Likuma. The Ministry successfully undertook verification of Likuma site in July 2022. The administration at Likuma Primary School, responsible for the project management, had concluded the process of opening a project account to facilitate the disbursement of funds by ZEEP as the restructuring negotiations between World Bank and the Ministry were concluded.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission by the Executive and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

32/22 Construction of Secondary School in Nkombwa Ward

On Friday, 18th February, 2022, the Minister of Education made assurances on the Floor of the House as detailed below.

Madam Speaker, the Government plans to construct secondary schools countrywide and Nkombwa Ward in Isoka Parliamentary Constituency is no exception. The plan will commence in 2022 and will be implemented under the Zambia Education Enhancement Project (ZEEP) over a period of five years.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the Government through the Ministry of Education affirmed its commitment to construct 120 secondary schools countrywide under the Zambia Education Enhancement Project. This included Isoka district and specifically in Nkombwa Ward of Isoka Constituency where a school would be built at Lualizi. Construction works would start in 2023 since the restructuring negotiations between the Government and World Bank were concluded.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission by the Executive and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

61/22 Plans to Construct a Secondary School in Bwana Mkubwa Constituency

On Thursday, 17th March, 2022 the Minister of Education made assurances on the Floor of the House as detailed below.

Mr Speaker, the Government has plans to construct a secondary school in Bwana Mkubwa Parliamentary Constituency in partnership with Promoting Equality in Africa Schools (PEAS). The implementation of the project will commence this year 2022, as soon as the rains stop and will be done in three phases namely:

- (a) phase one includes 1x4 classroom block, two ablution blocks for girls and boys, 1x2 science laboratories, administration block and kitchen;*

- (b) phase two consist of 1x4 classroom block, teacher's housing, library, Information Communication Technology (ICT) laboratory, and 2 ablution blocks; and
- (c) last phase has 1x4 classroom block, additional teacher's housing, and 2 ablution blocks.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the Government, through the Ministry of Education, in partnership with Promoting Equality in Africa Schools (PEAS), was constructing Mushili Hillside Secondary School, in a phased approach, in Bwana Mkubwa Parliamentary Constituency of Ndola District.

The Committee was informed that the project was progressing well, and the following had been attained:

Building/Work section:	Work Progress:	
Specialised Classroom Block: 48% complete	Item	%Completion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Substructure	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Blockwork	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Roofing	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry and Ironmongery	0%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Work	75%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Glazing	0%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Installations	50%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Floor, Wall and Ceiling Finishes	25%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Painting and Decorating	0%
Girls Hostels Block: 98% Complete	Item	%Completion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Substructure	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Block work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Roofing	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry and Ironmongery	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Glazing	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Installations	100%

Building/Work section:	Work Progress:	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Floor, Wall and Ceiling Finishes	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Painting and Decorating	90%
	<input type="checkbox"/> External Works	100%
Boarding Sanitary block: 93% Complete	Item	%Completion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Substructure	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Block work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Roofing	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry and Ironmongery	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Glazing	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing Installations	85%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Installations	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Floor, Wall and Ceiling Finishes	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Painting and Decorating	95%
	<input type="checkbox"/> External Works	100%
Boundary wall fence to the Dormitory- 100%Complete	Item	% Completion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Foundation	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Block work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Coping	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Razor Wire	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Gate	100%
Girls & Boys day Sanitary block 97% Complete	Item	% Completion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Substructure	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Block work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Work	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Roofing	100%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry and Ironmongery	65%
	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Work	100%

Building/Work section:	Work Progress:										
	<input type="checkbox"/> Glazing 100% <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Installations 100% <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing Installations 100% <input type="checkbox"/> Floor, Wall, and Ceiling Finishes 100% <input type="checkbox"/> Painting and Decorating 100% <input type="checkbox"/> External Works 100%										
Incinerator-100% Complete	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="586 596 1104 651">Item</th> <th data-bbox="1104 596 1546 651">% Completion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="586 651 1104 705"><input type="checkbox"/> Substructure</td> <td data-bbox="1104 651 1546 705">100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="586 705 1104 760"><input type="checkbox"/> Brickwork and Block work</td> <td data-bbox="1104 705 1546 760">100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="586 760 1104 814"><input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Work</td> <td data-bbox="1104 760 1546 814">100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="586 814 1104 871"><input type="checkbox"/> Metal Work</td> <td data-bbox="1104 814 1546 871">100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Item	% Completion	<input type="checkbox"/> Substructure	100%	<input type="checkbox"/> Brickwork and Block work	100%	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Work	100%	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Work	100%
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<input type="checkbox"/> External Electrical Reticulation	100%										
Challenges so far:	<input type="checkbox"/> Power source - Power source remains the greatest challenge for all contractors on site and a making it difficult to execute certain type of works because there is no reliable power source with enough load. Quotations have been collected from private electrical contractors, but they are far much higher than the budget.										
Concerns:	<input type="checkbox"/> The concern is still around power source especially that the school will be opening in January, and we are remaining with just about two (2) months										

Committee’s Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that the project is almost at completion, but notes that the power source was the greatest challenge on site. The Committee urges the Government to resolve this problem urgently to enable the completion of the project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

24/22 Construction of the Kamuchanga Modern Market in Mufulira

On Wednesday, 16th February, 2022, the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development made an assurance on the Floor of the House as detailed hereunder.

Madam Speaker, the construction of Kamuchanga Market will be completed at the end of December, 2022. The progress at the time the project stalled was at 85 per cent. The delay was occasioned by lack of funds.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development funded Mufulira Municipal Council with K2.2 million to finish off the remaining works. Unfortunately, the Market had not yet reached completion level but standing at 93%. The failure to finish the works had been due to administrative challenges that the Local Authority had been facing. The Ministry had written reminders to the Local Authority to speed up the works and ensure completion before end of 2022. These instructions had not been actualised by the Local Authority.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission with displeasure that the project was funded by the Ministry to finish off the remaining works but work stalled. The Committee strongly urges the Executive to ensure that Mufulira Municipal Council is closely supervised in order to complete the project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

27/22 Completion of Construction of Fire Station in Kabwata Constituency

On Thursday, 17th February, 2022 the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development made an assurance on the Floor of the House as detailed hereunder:

Madam Speaker, we want to inform this August House that the construction of the fire station in Kabwata Parliamentary Constituency will be completed at the end of 2022, subject to funds being available. The cost of outstanding works on the current contract stands at K2,713,659.18.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the process to renew the contract took longer than planned and therefore, the contractor did not resume works. The new contract was only signed on 7th December, 2022. The contractor had since moved on site to commence works which were expected to be completed by end of April, 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes with concern the slow pace at which the project is being executed and urges the Executive to ensure that the project is closely supervised. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

38/22 Construction of Bridges in Kamfinsa

On Thursday, 24th February, 2022 The Minister of Health on behalf of the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development made an assurance on the Floor of the House as detailed hereunder.

Madam Speaker, I inform the House that the Government through the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development intends to construct bridges at Kwesha and Catholic Church crossing points connecting Mulenga compound and Ndeke township in the 2023 Annual Work Plan. The current estimated cost is K3 million for each bridge.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development had not been able to mobilise adequate resources to put the two bridges under the 2023 budget. However, the Kitwe City Council through CDF had already commenced works on bridges in Kamfinsa under the 2022 financing, starting with a 26m by 1.4m Foot Bridge across Kamate mate stream between Ndeke Changa changa Sub A and Mulenga Compound at St Augustine Church in Ndeke Ward, Kamfinsa Constituency. It was envisaged that with the increased CDF financing, the other bridges could be considered for construction during the year 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

58/22 Infrastructure Development in Siavonga District

On Wednesday, 16th March, 2022 the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development made an assurance on the Floor of the House as detailed hereunder.

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to construct a modern bus station and a modern market. The plans will be included in the 2023/2024 Budget and implemented subject to availability of funds.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the Ministry had not been able to mobilise adequate resources to include the market and bus station under the 2023 budget. It was envisaged that with the increased CDF financing, the market and bus station could be considered for construction during the year 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes that the Executive had made an assurance on the Floor of the House and yet resources were not available to actualise the assurance. Therefore, the Committee strongly urges the Executive to urgently look for alternative source of funding to finance this project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

68/22 Construction of Township Roads in Mkushi District

On Thursday, 30th June, 2022 the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development made an assurance on the Floor of the House as detailed hereunder:

Madam Speaker, the construction of township roads in Mkushi will be completed in 2022, depending on the availability of funds. The cause of the delay has been erratic funding. However, should there be any leverage, our intention is to complete this work this year, 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the contractor for Mkushi township roads had not been able to progress with the works leading to expiration and consequently termination of the contract by Government.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee observes that the Executive did not give the reason as to why the contractor was unable to progress with the works. The Executive is urged to give full details of the failure to progress on the project by the contractor. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

69/22 Measures to Enhance Rural Development

On Thursday, 30th June, 2022 the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development made assurances on the Floor of the House as detailed hereunder:

Madam Speaker, to enhance rural development, the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development is working to promote human and social development through the decentralisation planning and provision of various infrastructure in rural areas. To this effect, a total amount of K130 million has been allocated in the 2022 Budget to facilitate the implementation of programmes and projects under rural development.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed as follow:

(a) formulation of a rural development policy

The Ministry scheduled to commence the formulation of the Rural Development Policy in 2023. Preliminary activities would include the development of a concept note and roadmap for the activity.

(b) facilitate the preparation of integrated development plans for rural districts

Under this programme, formulation of 19 integrated development plans had commenced in rural districts as follows:

- (i) Four each in Western and Central Provinces;
- (ii) One each in Lusaka and Eastern Provinces;
- (iii) Three in Northern Province; and
- (iv) Two each in Luapula, Copperbelt and Muchinga Provinces.

(c) facilitate the preparation of participatory land use plans and local area plans for rural settlement

The Ministry facilitated the development of five Local Area Plans (LAPs) in Mnukwa Chiefdom and in the Mwase Mpangwe Chiefdom in Chipangali district, Ben compound in Nyimba district, Chibolya compound in Katete district and Kanyama Compound in Lusaka City. The Kanyama LAP has since been completed.

(d) Conduct sensitisation programmes for traditional leadership on participatory rural development.

The Ministry had been engaging traditional leaders on the importance of their participation in rural development. In this regard, the Ministry facilitated the participation of traditional leaders capacity

building programmes for the development of Integrated Development Plans for Pemba, Chirundu, Chama, Mpongwe, Chisamba, Lukulu, Mulobezi, Lufwanyama, Luangwa and Lupososhi.

(e) implement planning agreements in accordance with the urban and regional development plans.

The Ministry conducted technical backstopping meetings and facilitated the development of four planning agreements in Mnukwa Chiefdom, Mwase Mpangwe Chiefdom in Chipangali district and Choma District.

(f) support rural youth cooperatives

Government had facilitated access to empowerment grants for the youth in rural districts as well as bursaries for skills training through the Constituency Development Fund. Through this programme, youth in 96 districts, which were predominantly rural, had received grants under the expanded scope of the CDF.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission by the Executive and resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTER OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE

25/22 Construction of Communication Towers in Chama North Constituency

On Wednesday, 16th February, 2022, the Minister Agriculture on behalf of the Minister of Technology and Science made an assurance on the Floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, I wish to inform this August House that the construction of communication towers in Chibale and Lundu Chiefdoms of Chama North Constituency will be undertaken in Phase III of the Universal Access Tower Project after an assessment has been undertaken in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Technology and Science had earmarked the construction of communication towers in all un-served and underserved areas including Chibale and Lundu Chiefdoms of Chama North Constituency. While the Ministry had targeted to construct towers in the fourth quarter of 2022, it was reported that delay in constructing the towers in the two sites was due to the Ministry's commitment to completing the national gap analysis. Following the completion of the gap analysis in the fourth quarter of 2022, it was established that the two sites needed towers. Only one will be constructed in the first quarter of 2023 as a matter of priority and the Committee would be updated on the progress.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission by the Executive and resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

22/22 Operating Theatre at Senanga General Hospital

On Tuesday, 15th February, 2022, the Vice-President on behalf of the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, the construction of the operating theatre at the Senanga General Hospital stalled due to inadequate fund. The project has been included in the 2022 Ministry of Health Infrastructure Operational Plan and the construction is expected to resume as soon as funds are made available. The outstanding works have been estimated to cost K950,000.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that due to changes in prices on the market and passage of time, funds amounting to K1,350 000.00 had been disbursed instead of K950,000 for the construction of the operating theatre at Senanga General Hospital in April 2022. The Committee was further informed that the tendering processes had begun with the latest being the site visits by potential bidders in January, 2023. The exact time frame and cost to complete the works would only be known after the contract had been awarded to the best evaluated bidder.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

23/22 Procurement of Equipment for Kabwe Central Hospital

On Wednesday, 16th February, 2022, the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, the procurement of the Computerised Tomography (CT) scan for Kabwe Central Hospital is planned for the second quarter of 2022. The Ministry of Health has a budget line in 2022 for procurement of medical equipment and Treasury has already started releasing these funds in line with the Ministry of Health cash flow projections. The renal dialysis machines at Kabwe Central Hospital will be acquired through placement agreements, which allows the vendor to install the equipment while the Government procures reagents. The installation of the renal dialysis is expected to be undertaken in the second quarter of 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was updated that procurement of all equipment was underway and was tendered and evaluation was finalised. Delivery was expected in the third quarter of 2023 and the Government had already acquired and installed the renal unit through placement agreement with the vendor at Kabwe Central Hospital that had since been operationalised. The renal unit had four dialysis machines including the Reverse Osmosis (RO) water purifier. The equipment was installed in the third quarter of 2022.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that while dialysis machines for the renal unit were procured, the CT Scan machine was yet to be procured. The Committee recommends that the Executive should expedite the procurement process of remaining equipment at Kabwe Central Hospital. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

26/22 Deployment of Doctors to Health Facilities in Nalolo District

On Wednesday, 16th February, 2022, the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to deploy doctors to all the districts across the country, including health facilities in Nalolo District. The deployment of doctors to health facilities in Nalolo District will be implemented this year, 2022.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update informed the Committee that according to the establishment for Nalolo District, only Nalolo District Hospital and Arthur Win a Memorial Mini Hospital qualified for deployment of medical doctors and as such, during the distribution of 11, 276 health workers only the two facilities were allocated Senior Resident Medical Doctor positions as follows; two under Nalolo District Hospital and one under Arthur Win a Mini Memorial Hospital. So far, out of the allocated positions, the Ministry managed to fill two positions one for each facility and one Doctor for Nalolo District Hospital had reported and was working while the other Doctor for Arthur Wina Memorial Mini Hospital was yet to report for duty.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that out of the establishment of three doctors for Nalolo, only two had been filled up. The Committee urges the Executive to expedite the filling up of the remaining vacancy. The Committee resolves to await progress report.

29/22 Procurement of Ambulance for Senanga General Hospital

On Thursday, 17th February, 2022, the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to procure ambulances to cater for all the health facilities across the country including Senanga General Hospital and the procurement of ambulances will be implemented in a phased approach commencing in 2022. The Government has plans to rehabilitate the infrastructure at Senanga General Hospital and the plans will be implemented in 2023.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update informed the Committee that the procurement of the ambulances was underway, the procurement was tendered and evaluated, but there was no successful bidder, and was scheduled to be re-tendered in February, 2023. The Government was still committed to rehabilitating the infrastructure at Senanga General Hospital. However, with the shift in policy, the rehabilitation works would be implemented once the construction of the 36 district hospitals country-wide are completed.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission urges the Executive to urgently conclude the re-tendered procurement process for the ambulances. The Committee resolves to await progress report.

47/22 Rehabilitation of the Kabwe Central Hospital

On Tuesday, 1st March, 2022, the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to rehabilitate Kabwe Central Hospital. However, the implementation will be in 2023. The House, however, may wish to note that Ward 6, which is within Kabwe Central Hospital, has been rehabilitated using the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIMA) funds.

Madam Speaker, the paving of the hospital grounds will be completed in the second quarter of this year 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the contract for paving of the hospital grounds at Kabwe Central Hospital which were undertaken under the supervision of the RDA was terminated in 2022 due to poor workmanship. The works were at seventy percent complete. The works would be completed in the next lots of construction to be determined by RDA.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee observes that there is no certainty as to when the works will resume and be completed. The Executive is urged to expedite the process of engaging another contractor in order to finish the remaining works at the hospital. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

49/22 Procurement of Beds and Furniture for Lundazi Hospitals

On Wednesday, 2nd March, 2022 the Minister of Information and Media on behalf of the Minister of Health made an assurance as set out below:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to procure beds and furniture for health facilities countrywide, including the old and the new Lundazi District Hospitals. The implementation of the plans to procure beds and furniture for Lundazi is expected to be done in the third quarter of 2022.

Executive's Response

It was reported that the Government was committed to the procurement of the beds and furniture for health facilities country wide. The procurement of all beds and furniture was underway. The procurement was tendered and evaluation was being finalized, the delivery was expected in the third quarter of 2023.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

50/22 Construction of Yeta School of Nursing

On Tuesday, 1st March, 2022, the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, Yeta School of Nursing was opened in 2015 when it enrolled its first intake. The school enrolled over 400 students against limited buildings. The Government has in the 2022 Infrastructure Operation Plan budgeted for commencement of construction of the skills laboratory, four hostel blocks, ten offices for tutors, two twin lecture rooms and a school boundary wall fence.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that funds amounting K1,500,000.00 for the construction of the classroom block at Yeta Nursing School were disbursed in April 2022 to the Provincial Health office. The tendering processes begun with the latest being the site visits by potential bidders in January, 2023. The time frame and cost to complete the works would only be determined after the contract had been awarded to the successful evaluated bidder.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission with displeasure at the slow pace at which the construction of this important school was moving and urges the Executive to urgently award the project to a contractor to complete the remaining works so that the school can become operational. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

57/22 Stalled Construction of the Maternity Ward at Mushindamo Clinic

On Tuesday, 15th March 2022 the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, the construction of the maternity ward in Mushindamo Clinic stalled because of the non-availability of funds. The House may wish to note that this was a labour based project where the provincial health office was the client. The project will resume in 2023. The total cost for the outstanding works will be determined at the time of planning for the 2023 works.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Government had provided in the infrastructure operational plan for 2023 a total amount of K150, 000.00 for the construction of the maternity ward at Mushindamo Clinic. The tender process to resume the works on the completion of the maternity ward at Mushindamo clinic was underway. The Provincial Office under the Ministry of Housing and Infrastructure Development was preparing the Bill of Quantities to enable the procurement committee to tender the said works. The completion date for the works would only be known after the contract had been awarded to the successful bidder.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and urges the Executive to ensure that construction of the maternity ward at Mushindamo Clinic was done without any further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

65/22 Procurement of medical equipment at University Teaching Hospital

On Tuesday, 7th June, 2022 the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, Government has plans to procure anesthetic machines and autoclaving machines for the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) in Lusaka and also for other health facilities countrywide in order to improve health service delivery. The procurement of these medical equipment will be implemented in a phased approach starting this year, 2022. The procurement of emerging and maternal health equipment will continue for other types of medical equipment in 2023 and beyond.

Executive's Response

It was reported that the procurement of medical equipment for health facilities countrywide would be implemented in a phased approach starting in 2022. An allocation of K196,000,000 was made in 2022 for the procurement of various medical equipment and maintenance services and procurement of all equipment was underway. The procurement was tendered and evaluation was almost completed, and delivery was expected in the third quarter of 2023.

In 2023, the Government had allocated a total of K900,000,000 for the procurement of various medical equipment and maintenance services. It was expected that the procurement of an aesthetic and autoclave machine for health facilities countrywide would commence in the first quarter of 2023 of which UTH was expected to benefit from.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

71/22 Procurement of Ambulances for Health Facilities in Sioma District

On Thursday, 7th July, 2022, the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to procure ambulances to cater for health facilities countrywide that do not have adequate ambulance services and the procurement will be implemented in a phased approach and health facilities in Sioma District are expected to benefit from this Government initiative. The implementation of the procurement process has already started and is expected to be implemented within this year.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that procurement for the ambulances was underway and was tendered and evaluated but there was no successful bidder, and was scheduled to be re-tendered in February, 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

73/22 The Drug Fund

On Thursday, 12th July, 2022, the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, guidelines on the management of the Drug Fund have already been done as follows:

- (a) it will consist of resources from the Government which this Parliament has allocated;*
- (b) it will come from the National Health Insurance Management Authority (NHIMA); and*
- (c) it will come from donors and indeed, any other sources that would like to support us.*

The system has already started and in due course, hopefully, in the next few months, we will see the operationalisation of this Drug Fund.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Drug Fund regulations were finalised and operationalization was expected before end of February, 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

76/22 Construction of Mini Hospitals in Kalabo District

On Tuesday, 26th July, 2022, the Minister of Health made an assurance on the floor of the House as set out below:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to construct mini-hospitals in Kalabo District and other parts of the country. One mini-hospital is earmarked for construction at Sisekano in Kalabo District and the plan will be implemented in the second quarter of 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the construction works at Sisekano in Kalabo district had commenced and all works to do with the substructures such as the Mini Hospital, staff houses, water tank, incinerator, borehole and the external works were completed as at 21st January, 2023. The Committee was further informed that the construction of the 115 mini hospitals and 5 level I hospitals under the United Kingdom Export Finance (UKEF) was awarded to one contractor NMS Infrastructure. The works for the superstructure was scheduled to be completed in the first quarter of 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

09/22 Establishment of Farm Blocks across the Country

On Friday, 29th October, 2021 the Minister of Agriculture made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the Government will promote the establishment of large-scale agriculture estates across the country that will produce and process agricultural products that are suitable in the respective areas. The vehicle for doing so will be the farm blocks, which are also called growth poles. The task of the Government in this initiative is to provide the necessary infrastructure for blocks to be operational.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the Government identified Agriculture as one of the engines to economic development. It was against this background that Government embarked on development and commercialisation of agriculture land as the Farm Block Development Programme in 2002. The programme entailed availing land for large scale agribusiness investment for the private sector. One farm block was targeted for development in each province. The total catchment area for each farm was 100,000 hectares. Each farm block was designed to have four blocks of farms namely small scale, medium, commercial and a core venture.

The following farm blocks had been targeted for development;

1. Nansanga Farm Block (Serenje) Central Province
2. Kalumwange Farm Block (Kaoma) Western Province
3. Luena Farm Block (Kawambwa) Luapula Province
4. Munshya Farm block (Shiwan'gandu) Muchinga Province
5. Kalungwishi Farm Block (Lunte) Northern Province
6. Mushindamo Farm Block (Solwezi) North-Western Province
7. Luswishi Farm Block (Lufwanyama) Copper -Belt Province
8. Shikabeta Farm Block (Rufunsa) Lusaka province
9. Musokotwane Farm Block (Kazungula) Southern Province
10. Chikumbilo Farm Block (Lundazi) Eastern Province

Kindly note that 6 farm blocks have been targeted for development in the current phase and these are Luena, Nansanga, Luswishi, Kalumwange, Shikabeta and Chikumbilo

The main Developments and the status of the 10 farm blocks was as follows:

No.	Name of Farm Block	Location	Status
1.	Nansanga	Serenje Central province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nansanga farm block has an extent of 100,000hectres and has had the largest investment in terms of infrastructure development. • 151km of trunk road and 3 bridges constructed. 103km of 33kv power line and 30km of 11kv power line constructed. • Parts of the farm block are serviced by an Airtel and Zamtel mobile communication towers. • 3 dams and a 4 km irrigation canal were constructed. • 33 boreholes drilled and equipped with hand pumps • 357 farms demarcated and cadastral surveyed. • 290 farms allocated to successful applicants in 2010 leaving 67 farms smallholder farms unallocated. • This represents 77% farm allocation in the farm block. • 1600 hectares' commercial farm has been allocated to the Correctional Services. Developing 700 hectares under 9 center pivot irrigation systems.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serenje properties with about 5000 hectares (under BDL group of companies) is the largest investor so far growing macadamia nut, wheat, soya beans and seed maize. • The 6,000 hectares' core venture hectares been allocated to the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) but are yet to clear the land in order to commence production. • Farm occupancy and utilization rates are still as low as 20% of the allocated farms • Major rivers - Luombwa, Munte, Sasa and Musangashi
2.	Luena		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luena Farm block is a 186,235hectres in size where soil and land capability survey conducted • initially 816 farms were demarcated out of the planned 920 farms. • Twelve (12) commercial farms where allocated in December 2020 which included the development of the state-of-the-art Agricultural Service Training Centre (ASTC) which was developed by Green 2000 DK of Israel. • The firm has developed 16 center pivots where each pivot will irrigate a minimum of 65hectres growing maize and various horticultural products such as onions, egg plants, tomatoes, potatoes, cabbages and fish farming. • The farm block currently has 2 large scale core venture farms (10,000 hectares each) namely Sunbird Bio-energy which is predominantly into cassava production and Kawambwa sugar which is here marked for sugar cane production. • There has being an influx of un authorized settlers in the farm block, as a result there has been need to re-plan the farm block to cater for this constituency of settlers.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven irrigation dams were planned, for. However, only two Milindu and Kasumba earth dams have been constructed. • The area is serviced by Airtel (2), MTN (2) and Zamtel (2) mobile communication towers though the coverage does not extend to all parts of the farm block. • 112 km stretch of road has been upgraded to bituminous standard while 40km which branches off at Chisembe, has also been upgraded to an all-weather gravel road. • Total land officially allocated by the Ministry of Agriculture is 42,760 hectares while 143,475 hectares is still available through a large part of it is settled by the local settlers. • Existing settlements /Roads / waterbodies occupy about 20,000 hectares • Major rivers: Pambashe, Luwo, Lufubu, Lubulafita, Mupoposhi and Kalungwishi
3.	Solwezi	Mushindamo (North –western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100,000 hectares identified from Senior Chief Mujimanzovu (40,000 hectares) and Senior Chief Kalilele (60,000 hectares). • There are 67 properties with a total area of 50,591 hectares the hectares have so far been demarcated and numbered by the Ministry of Lands. • Therefore, the remaining available land is approximately 47,000 hectares. • So far only one large scale investor hectares commenced meaningful production mainly in soya bean and stevia crops. • A partial inventory of local settlers and sensitization campaigns were conducted in 2008 while feasibility studies such as soil and land capability surveys are yet to be conducted. • However, the inventory hectares been overtaken by events as the number of settlements hectares increased since then.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The farm block hectares have access to nearby electricity power lines which supplies power to the palace of his Royal Highness Senior Chief Mujimanzovu. ● But the voltage of this power may not be adequate to power large scale agricultural operations since it is only a 33Kv power line. ● The Farm block is not serviced by any mobile telecommunication networks. ● Major rivers in this farm block include Lunga river, Mikilingi river, Luanzhila river and Kipushi river
4.	Luswishi	Lufwanyama (Copperbelt)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 87,836 hectares have been identified and soil surveyed. ● 7 Large scale commercial farms hectares have been allocated. ● 6 large scale commercial farms are currently on the ground undertaking various activities. ● 807 small and medium plots were planned, demarcated and surveyed. ● All the planned and demarcated farms in the entire farm block hectares have since been allocated. ● There are two major farms that have commenced agricultural production namely; South Central Agri Limited which produces soy beans and maize while Xantium dairy is in livestock and wheat production. ● 88 - 33 Kv network of power lines exists up to the Global Plantations Farm. ● Hence, there is no available land in the farm block for would be prospective investors. ● The farm block is serviced with a 35 km stretch of an all-weather trunk road which is in fairly good condition. ● Strategic environmental assessment done. ● Detailed Feasibility study was done.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major rivers include Luswishi, Lumwana, Mushingashi and Mirumbi rivers.
5.	Manshya	Shiwang'andu (Muchinga)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 147,000 hectares was identified part of this is already allocated to small holder farmers. Therefore, the available remaining land is 79,823 hectares. Currently none of the successful applicants has commenced production due to lack of infrastructure investments especially road network. Resource surveys have been completed. 39 farms of various sizes have since been allocated as at 16th November, 2020. A preliminary land capability survey was undertaken for part of the farm block. The farm block is not serviced by any mobile telecommunication network. There are two major rivers namely Manshya and Chambeshi.
6.	Kalungwishi	Lunte- Mporokoso (Northern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a 200,000 hectares Farm Block situated in Lunte District of Northern province Feasibility Studies have been undertaken. So far 185 farms of various sizes amounting to 152,200 hectares have since been allocated to various applicants. The remaining 47,800 hectares is available for agro investment. Currently none of the successful applicants' hectares commenced production due to lack of infrastructure investments especially road and power network. The farm block is not serviced by any mobile telecommunication network. It has no access to the national power grid The major rivers include Kalungwishi river, Luangwa river with many other perennial streams
7.	Musokotwane	Kazungula / Livingstone (Southern)	<p>100,000hectres identified in Musokotwane area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to unsatisfactory progress in the development of the farm block, intentions to

			withdraw the consent have been intimidated by traditional leadership.
8.	Chikumbilo	Lundazi (Eastern Province)	About 58,000 hectares' land secured and soil and land capability survey was conducted in Chief Zumwanda in 2008. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the slow progress in developing the Farm block, the area is now heavily encroached by the local communities. • Hence, the farm block remains largely on paper without any tangible progress on the ground.
9.	Shikabeta	Rufunsa (Lusaka)	About 36,308 hectares of land has been identified but the processes and formalities of transferring this land from customary tenure to state land is still ongoing to date.
10.	Kalumwange	Kaoma (Western)	146,000 hectares of land was identified for Farm Block Development programme. However, the processing of land acquisition from the traditional authorities is still ongoing.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and urges the Government to finalise the process of securing both technical and financial support from co-operating partners for the development of these farming blocks. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

53/22 Procurement of motor vehicles and motor cycles for the Department of Agriculture in Mwinilunga District

On Thursday 3rd March 2022, the Minister of Agriculture made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

Madam speaker the Government, indeed has plans to procure motor vehicles and motor cycles for the Department of Agriculture in all districts including Mwinilunga to enhance its operations. In the 2022 annual budget, the Ministry of Agriculture has allocated funds to procure 100 motor bikes which will be distributed to various districts across the country. These motor bikes will be procured by the third quarter of 2022.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the contract of procuring 145 motor bikes was awarded to Honda Zambia Limited at a total cost of K7,588,366.00 in December, 2022. The motorbikes would be distributed to various districts in the country including Mwinilunga district.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee observes that the contract to procure 145 motor bikes was awarded, but distribution to Mwinilunga is yet to take place. The Committee, therefore, resolves to await for a progress report.

64/22 Recapitalisation of Nitrogen Chemicals of Zambia (NCZ)

On the 7th June, 2022, the Minister of Agriculture made the following assurance on the Floor of the House:

Madam Speaker Government has plans to recapitalize Nitrogen Chemicals of Zambia (NCZ) and the plan is already being implemented. The Government has allocated K 684,000 towards the recapitalization of the company out of which K480, 000,000 has already been given to NCZ. The balance of K2000, 000,000 will be disbursed as soon as the process of the acquiring certain equipment that NCZ is currently undertaking is done. The money is there just waiting for NCZ to reach the process and the funds will be released.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) was committed to recapitalise NCZ by injecting K684 Million which would be used as working Capital, When the exchange rate was about K22.00 to US\$1.00 in October 2021, the amount in Kwacha reduced to K582,603, 192.00 due to the appreciation of the Kwacha to about K17.00 to US\$1.00.

As at 30th April 2022, IDC paid K538,975.237.28 out of the K582,603, 192.00 commitment which left a balance of K43, 627,954.72 which was reserved for the procurement of a blending plant at NCZ. The process of procuring the blending plant was almost complete. The Ministry of Agriculture and NCZ would engage IDC to pay the remaining balance of K43, 627,954.72. The Ministry of Agriculture and NCZ would continue engaging IDC on the need to honour that financial obligation in full.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission urges the Executive to pay the remaining balance of K43, 627,954.72 for the procurement of a blending plant at NCZ. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

PART II

CONSIDERATION OF THE ACTION -TAKEN REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

02/21 Infrastructure Construction in Chipili District

On Wednesday, 30th September, 2020, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the construction of the District Administration Block in Chipili District is at 76 percent completion and the project was expected to be completed by December, 2020.

Mr Speaker, the construction of the Civic Centre in Chipili District is at 38 percent completion and the project was expected to be completed by December, 2020.

Sir, the construction of a Post Office in Chipili District has reached 90 percent completion and works were expected to be completed in December, 2020. The delay in completion of the projects had been due to financial constraints.

The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the construction of infrastructure in Chipili District.

Executive's Response

District Administration Block

Concerning the District Administration Block, the Committee was informed through the Action Taken Report that works on this project had progressed to 80 percent completion. The delay to complete these works were attributed to delayed honouring of interim payment certificates and the challenges being faced by the contractor with regard to fluctuation of the cost of building materials. The Ministry had since paid all outstanding interim payment certificates to the contractor. Furthermore, the challenge regarding the fluctuation of the cost of buildings materials was being addressed. So far, the Ministry managed to get guidance from Ministry of Justice and authority from Zambia Public Procurement Authority for contract price adjustment. Negotiations with the Contractor on price of material fluctuations had been held and concluded. Authority from the Ministerial Tender Committee had also been granted and now awaiting clearance of the Addenda for price adjustment from the Attorney Generals Chambers. The project was expected to be completed before the end of June, 2023 subject to availability of funds.

Civic Centre

Concerning the Works on this project, the Executive responded that works had attained practical completion except for ZESCO power connectivity that was being addressed. In the meantime, the facility was solar powered and had been partially handed over. The delay to complete these works was attributed to delay in honouring of outstanding interim payment certificates by Government.

Post Office

The Executive also submitted that works on this project were still at 90 percent completion. The delay to complete these works were attributed to delayed honouring of interim payment certificates and the challenges being faced by the contractor with regard to fluctuation of the cost of building materials.

The Ministry had since paid all outstanding interim payment certificates to the contractor. Furthermore, the challenge regarding the fluctuation of the cost of buildings materials was being addressed. So far, the Ministry managed to get guidance from Ministry of Justice and authority from Zambia Public Procurement Authority for contract price adjustment. Negotiations with the Contractor on price of material fluctuations had been held and concluded. Authority from the Ministerial Tender Committee had also been granted and now awaiting clearance of the Addenda for price adjustment from the Attorney Generals Chambers. The project was expected to be completed before the end of June, 2023 subject to availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to expedite the process of completing and handing over all the three projects in Chipili District including; the District Administration Block, Post Office Block and the Civic Centre. The Committee awaits for a progress report.

15/21 Kabwe-Mukobeko / Ngabwe Road

On Tuesday, 9th February, 2021, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the Government is aware of the current condition of the Kabwe/Mukobeko/Ngabwe Road. Sir, the Government through the Road Development Agency (RDA), is preparing to undertake emergency maintenance works on the Kabwe/Mukobeko/Ngabwe Road. The works were scheduled to commence after the rainy season and would be undertaken by the RDA under the Force Account.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that the outstanding balance is released to facilitate the completion of the remaining works. The Committee had resolved to aawaita progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded through the Action Taken report that the RDA undertook an assessment of the road and prepared cost estimates in the sum of K 4,853,263.17 for the spot improvement works on the road using the force account method (i.e. carrying out works in-house by the Regional Engineers Office). So far K 750,000 out of the budgeted amount had been released and spot improvement of the worst sections stretching a total of 20km had since been completed. The continuation of the outstanding works still awaited release of more funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee expresses concern at the failure by the Executive to expedite the process on the maintenance works. The Executive is urged to ensure that the matter is given attention by sourcing for funds required and works completed expeditiously to open up the area for development. The Committee awaits for a progress report on the matter.

18/21 Rehabilitation of Katete / Chanida Road

On Tuesday April 27, 2021, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made an assurance on the floor of the House as follows:

Mr Speaker, the rehabilitation of the Katete/Chanida Road commenced with the signing of the works contract on 21st August, 2020. Rehabilitation works have commenced and are ongoing.the contractor on the project is Messrs Buildcon Investment Limited. As of January, 2021, the contractor had been paid K17.8 million towards the advance payment.the completion of the project is eighteen months from the date of commencement.

The previous Committee had observed with concern the slow progress in the rehabilitation of the Katete /Chanida Road due to financial challenges when at the time the assurance was being made on the floor of the House, it was submitted that rehabilitation works were ongoing. Further, the Committee observed with concern that only nine per cent of the road works were done despite the contractor having been paid K17.8 million towards the advance payment. In this regard, the Committee had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured for the rehabilitation of the Katete/Chanida Road. The previous Committee resolved to aawaita progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The works on the Katete - Chanida Road project had stalled due to funding challenges. The project had, however, been allocated a fifty million kwacha under the 2022 Supplementary Budget and the contractor had since been instructed to submit the revised work schedule and resume works immediately. It was envisaged that works would be expedited in view of the funds allocated to the project.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and is concerned at the continued delay in completing the project. The Committee await for an update on full completion of the project.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

10/21 Nakonde Crime Rate

On Tuesday, 23rd February, 2021, the Minister of Home Affairs made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform this August House that, indeed, the Government is aware that Nakonde Police Station did not have adequate transport to service the area. The Government has provided a Turnland Foton pick-up vehicle to mitigate transport challenges in Nakonde. Further, a platoon from Kamfinsa Mobile Unit was currently in Nakonde District to beef up operations. The Government is also in the process of engaging the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) Division to beef operations in the area.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that an additional vehicle was taken to Nakonde as was promised on the floor of the House as the lone Toyota Land Cruiser pick-up available in the District was not sufficient. Further, the Committee urged the Executive to ensure that more police officers were deployed to Nakonde district as the 114 officers in the district were not sufficient to cater for the population. The previous Committee resolved to await progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the Government would provide an additional motor vehicle to Nakonde District to improve police operations when motor vehicles were procured for the Zambia Police Service in all constituencies using CDF. In addition, more police officers would be deployed to Nakonde District after recruitment of additional officers was conducted.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await for an update on the matter.

12/21 Luapula Police Officers' Houses

On Tuesday, 26th January, 2021, the Minister of Home Affairs made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to construct 12,000 housing units for police officers across the country through the Ministry of Home Affairs Housing Project, which was being done in phases. Accordingly, districts in Luapula Province, which include Mansa, Samfya, Mwense, Nchelenge, Kawambwa and Chipili would be considered. The

Government has just completed the first phase of the project consisting of 2,350 housing units.

Madam Speaker, the Government would embark on the second phase of the project as soon as fiscal space allows.

Madam Speaker, the following is the breakdown of houses earmarked for construction:

District	No. of Houses
<i>Mansa</i>	<i>113</i>
<i>Samfya</i>	<i>96</i>
<i>Mwense</i>	<i>93</i>
<i>Nchelenge</i>	<i>102</i>
<i>Kawambwa</i>	<i>93</i>
<i>Chipili</i>	<i>93</i>

Madam Speaker, I want to hasten to state that, currently, a police station and ten housing units are under construction in Chipili District.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were made available without further delay to facilitate the construction of the remaining 9,650 housing units. The previous Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the construction of housing units for police officers in Luapula Province.

Executive's Response

The construction of 590 housing units for police officers in Luapula would be done when funds were made available.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes with concern that the project to construct houses for the police had stalled on account of non-availability of funds. The Committee urges the Executive to prioritise the construction of police houses by making budgetary provisions for the project, in view of the acute shortage of police houses across the country. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

01/21 Gwembe Health Posts Construction

On Tuesday, 15 September, 2020, the Minister of Fisheries and Livestock, *on behalf of the Minister of Health* made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the construction of the ten health posts in Gwembe Parliamentary Constituency under the 650 health posts project commenced with three out of the ten designated health posts, which are at 90 per cent completion. The contractor is on site and was expected to complete all the ten health posts by the end of December 2020, as per programme.

The previous Committee had noted with concern that materials already on site were going to waste due to suspension of works. The previous Committee had therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that the termination of the contract with Megha Engineering was expedited to facilitate the

engagement of another contractor to complete the remaining works. The previous Committee resolved to aawaita progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the Ministry of Justice had guided to terminate the contract and the Ministry was in the process of terminating the contract in order to engage another contractor.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee finds it unacceptable that the matter related to termination of the contract can take such a prolonged time. The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that a new contractor is engaged and works completed without any further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

03/21 Maponde - Luamfula Health Post Construction in Solwezi East

On Friday, 2nd October, 2020, the Minister of Health made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the construction of the Maponde-Luamfula Health Post in Solwezi East Parliamentary Constituency is amongst the 650 health posts that were to be constructed under the Indian line of credit, and this construction was expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2021. The new contractor, Jaguar Oversees Limited, was now on site in the North-Western Province and had been building health posts in various parts of the province.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that works commence at Luamfula Health Post immediately the contractor remobilises within 2022 and resolved to aawaita progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded through an Action Taken report that Luamfula health post in Solwezi East Parliamentary Constituency which was under the 650 health posts project that were to be constructed under the Indian line of credit would be completed once the contractor Jaguar Overseas remobilises. The delay had been due to the contractor's refusal to remobilise until he was paid the mobilisation and remobilisation compensation. The Committee was also informed that to that effect, Government had entered into negotiations with the contractor Jaguar Overseas Limited to agree on the amount to be compensated for them to move to sites. Once the negotiations were concluded and the contractor remobilised, Luamfula health post would be completed.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes with concern the delay in the implementation of the project. The Committee urges the Executive to expedite the full completion of construction and operationalisation of Luamfula Health Post. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

17/21 University Teaching Hospital Bone Scanning Machine

On Thursday, 29 April, 2021, the Minister of Health made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to procure two modern state-of-the-art bone scanners and has secured a loan from the Austrian Government for that purpose. The tender processes were done three weeks ago. One of the machines is a single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT-CT) costing about US\$1.1 million while the other costs US\$900,000. Both machines would be installed at the UTH and, on average, would serve 2,400 patients with various health conditions, including renal and cardiac ones, yearly.

Madam, in the absence of the machine, alternative machines, including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines, computerised tomography (CT) scanners and specific markers in the laboratory, had been used to guide diagnosis. The two machines are expected to be installed in the third quarter of 2021. The supplier is AME International of Austria.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to expedite the process of securing the loan approvals to facilitate for the procurement of the bone scanning machine. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed through the Action-Taken Report that the AME International Austria loan for nuclear medicine equipment particularly the *single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT-CT)* did not appear on the list of approved loans by Ministry of Finance.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee finds it unacceptable that the SPECT-CT did not appear on the list of approved loans by the Ministry of Finance. The Committee urges the Executive to explain if there has been a change in policy regarding this matter so that it can be closed. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND ARTS

16/21 Declaration of Barotse Flood Plain as World Heritage Site

On Friday, 30th April, 2021, the Minister Tourism and Arts made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the Government of the Republic of Zambia has plans to declare the Barotse Flood Plain in the Western Province as a world cultural landscape in line with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) World Heritage Convention.

The previous Committee in noting the progress made on the plain to declare the Barotse Flood Plain in the Western Province as a world cultural landscape in line with the UNESCO World Heritage Convention resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The progress made on the plan to declare the Barotse Flood Plain in the Western Province as a World cultural landscape in line with the UNESCO World Heritage Convention.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee reiterates its earlier position and urges the Executive to expedite the process of declaring the Barotse Flood Plain in the Western Province as a world cultural landscape in line with the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE

13/21 Mkushi North Communication Towers Construction

On Tuesday, 26th January, 2021, the Minister Transport and Communication made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to construct twelve communication towers in Mkushi North Constituency. The plans were completed in 2017 and shared with all relevant stakeholders, including Hon. Members of Parliament. Three towers are on air while nine are yet to be brought on air. The project was expected to be completed within the course of 2021.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had resolved to await a progress report on the construction of the remaining eight communication towers earmarked for construction within 2022.

Executive's Response

The Ministry took note of the Committee's observation and reported that as stated in the previous report, all the twelve towers were constructed in 2021 with four towers commissioned and put on air in the same year, leaving eight towers to be commissioned. Of the eight towers pending commissioning, two were commissioned within 2021 bringing the total number of commissioned towers to six. The remaining six were planned for commissioning in the fourth and first quarters of 2022 and 2023 respectively. The delay in commissioning the remaining six towers was attributed to budgetary constraints. The Committee would be updated once the remaining communication towers were commissioned.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

ROAD DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

07/21 Submerged Kapata Road

On Wednesday, 7th April, 2021, the Minister in the Office of the Vice-President made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the Government is aware of the submerged part of the Kapata Road between Bulongwa and Chisanka in Bangweulu and that the submerged part of the road is about 300 m in length.

Sir, to mitigate the situation, the Government, through the Road Development Agency (RDA), had been on site to assess the situation and commence works. At present, the technical team is waiting for the water to subside before the works can commence. The expected works would cover the entire stretch of the road from Samfya to Twiingi and branch off to Mpanta area. This would be executed as a project once the rains have subsided.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that rehabilitation works commenced without further delay and resolved to await progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee's recommendation had been noted. The works on the Samfya to Twiingi road were currently on going with full gravelling underway on the first 18.9km of the road. The budget for the work was K6.2 million which was initially envisaged to cover a scope of works consisting of spot improvement of the 74km stretch of the road. The scope of works had, however, been changed from spot gravelling in view of the worsening condition of the road due to passage of time. This coupled with the increase in the cost of fuel would result in reduction in the stretch of the road to be covered by the budgeted amount from 74km to approximately 30km. Additional funds would be required to ensure that 74 km road was fully gravelled. So far, K 5.3 million had been released for the works.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to explore all available options and secure more funds to work on the full length of 74 km road stretching from Samfya to Twiingi which will open up more areas for development. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

11/21 Rehabilitation of Ngabwe District Feeder Roads

On Wednesday, 31st March, 2021, the Minister Local Government made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the rehabilitation of 55km of feeder roads in Ngabwe District commenced in March, 2020, after the Government signed the contract through the Ministry of Local Government, at a total cost of K59, 366,861.34.

Madam Speaker, the contractor for the project is Tonlex Investments Limited and the project was expected to take about twenty-four months to be completed.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had observed with concern the slow pace at which the rehabilitation of feeder roads in Ngabwe District was going. The previous Committee had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured to facilitate the completion of rehabilitation of feeder roads. The previous Committee resolved to await progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that there had been no progress on the construction of roads in Ngabwe. This had been due to financial constraints. Thus, Government was reducing on commitments on projects on feeder roads.

Committee's Observation and recommendations

The Committee observes that the Government is reducing on commitments on feeder road projects, although the Executive did not state clearly if Ngabwe is affected by this change in policy. The Committee, therefore, requests that the Government should explain clearly whether or not the feeder roads in Ngabwe will be attended to. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

08/21 Mkushi District Roads Rehabilitation

On Thursday, 18 February, 2021, the Minister Local Government made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform this august House that the rehabilitation of township roads in Mkushi District was due to be completed in December, 2020. However, due to budgetary constraints, the time frame for the completion of works had been adjusted to December 2021. The name of the contractor is Stalwart Investment Limited and the time frame for the completion of the project was initially 14 months. However, having adjusted the completion date, the time frame was now 26 months.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured to facilitate the completion of remaining works on the rehabilitation of township roads in Mkushi District. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that there had been no progress on this project. Government was reviewing the contract and would decide on the way forward considering the financial constraints.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

04/21 Chadiza District Day Secondary Schools Construction

On Tuesday, 13 October, 2020, the Minister of General Education made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, Kalemba and Chanida Day Secondary Schools are among the eighty-two low-cost day secondary schools which are being constructed by the Ministry of General Education with a loan facility from the World Bank.

Sir, the total cost of each of these schools was estimated at K3, 500,000. The work content for each of these projects at each of these schools includes the construction of a 1x2 classroom block, one home economics and science block, one boys' toilet block, a 1x3

classroom block, an administration block, a girls' toilet block, two blocks of semi-detached teachers' flats, furniture, a water reticulation system and water supply.

Mr Speaker, the project period was expected to last three years from January 2018 to December 2020. However, due to the late commencement of Phase I works, the two schools that the hon. Member asked about are expected to be fully completed with all the piped water and power supply systems in place by the end of March 2021.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that Kalemba and Chanida Day Secondary Schools were fully completed with all the piped water and power supply systems in place without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Education took note of the Committee's Observations and Recommendations and reported the following:

Kalemba Day Secondary School

Phase 1

- (a) 1x2 laboratory was completed and in use.
- (b) 1x2 classroom block was completed and in use.
- (c) Painting was in progress for the boys' ablution. The septic tank and soak-away were completed.
- (d) Borehole: The borehole was drilled and fitted with a hand pump, and the tank was procured.
- (e) Furniture: The school received 45 stools for the laboratory, 45 stools for home economics and 90 single-seater desks.

Phase 2

- (a) 1x3 classroom block was at painting level.
- (b) Administration block was at glazing level.
- (c) Staff houses were at gable level, and roofing would be done soon.
- (d) The girls' ablution was at painting level, and the septic tank and soak-away were under construction.
- (e) Tank stand and tank were at procurement level.
- (f) The school received 135 single-seater desks and office furniture.

The expected date of completion for Kalemba was 30th December 2022.

Chanida Day Secondary School

Phase 1

- (a) 1x2 laboratory was completed and in use.
- (b) 1x2 classroom block was completed and in use.

- (c) Boys ablution was completed; however, it was not used because of water reticulation. The septic tank for the boys' ablution was also completed, but the soak-away was being backfilled with stones.
- (d) Furniture: The school received 45 stools for the laboratory, 45 stools for home economics and 90 single-seater desks.
- (e) Borehole: The borehole was drilled and fitted with a hand pump. The tank stand was erected, and the tank was procured.

Phase 2

- (a) The 1x3 classroom block was completed and in use.
- (b) Staff houses were completed and painted, and second fixing of electrical fittings was in progress. The septic tank and the soak-away are under construction.
- (c) Girls' ablution is at glazing level, and the septic tank is under construction.
- (d) The administration block is at painting level.
- (e) The school was supplied with 135 single-seater desks and office furniture.
- (f) Electricity: The power supply to the school was not yet done despite making several follow-ups to ZESCO and the contractor. So far, electrical poles had only been erected up to the classrooms and not to the staff houses. Power was paid for in February 2021. Water reticulation had also been delayed by the non-supply of electricity.
- (g) The tank stand and tank are at procurement stage.

The expected date for completion was 30th December, 2022.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to only close the matter after all the works are completed.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

02/20 Construction of Hospital at Msolo in Chief Nyampande's Chiefdom

On 5th March, 2020, the Minister of Health made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the Government, through the Ministry of Health, has already broken ground for the construction of the mini-hospital at Msolo.

The previous Committee had expressed concern at the growing tendency by the Executive of making assurances on the floor of the House when funds were not available. The previous Committee thus urged the Executive to ensure that the construction of a mini hospital at Msolo in Chief Nyamphande's area commenced within the 2022 – 2024 Medium Term Expenditure. The previous Committee resolved to aawaita progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed through the Action-Taken Report that the Government was still committed to the construction of a mini hospital at Msolo in Chief Nyampande's area where the ground breaking took place as stated in 2022 – 2024 mid-term expenditure. The works were planned for 2024 budget.

Committee Observation and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the construction of a mini hospital at Msolo in Chief Nyampande's area.

03/20 Upgrade of Health Centres in Mkaika

On 5th March, 2020, the Minister of Health made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the Government would add additional infrastructure to Vulamkoko and Chimtende health centres so that they can operate at mini hospital status by the third quarter of this year.

The previous Committee had observed with concern that the Executive had continuously failed to implement projects as they were promised on the floor of the House due to financial constraints. In this regard, the Committee had urged the Executive to ensure that assurances were only made when funding was made available to avoid the accumulation of outstanding assurances. Further, the Committee urged the Executive to seriously treat assurances with the seriousness they deserved and ensure that the construction of additional infrastructure at Vulamkoko and Chimtende health centres commenced within the 2022 – 2024 Medium Term Expenditure Framework. The previous Committee resolved to aawaita progress report .

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the construction of additional infrastructure at Vulamkoko and Chimtende health centres which were rescheduled to commence in the 2022 – 2024 Medium Term Expenditure Framework had been budgeted for in the Infrastructure Operational plan for 2023 and the project would be undertaken as such.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the construction of additional infrastructure at Vulamkoko and Chimtende health centres.

01/19 Resumption on the Construction of Health Posts under the 650 Health Posts Project

On 18th September, 2018, the Minister of Health made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, by way of giving a background, the contract for the construction of health posts covering the Northern Province, the Luapula Province, the Muchinga Province and the North-Western Province was terminated and works stalled two years ago. Mr Speaker, I am happy to report that the Government has completed the procurement process for the construction of the 201 health posts in the four provinces. Construction would resume between 30th September and 10th October 2018.

Sir, the contractor is Overseas Jaguar Limited and the contract was signed on 30th August, 2018 and would run for eighteen months.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had bemoaned the slow pace at which the Executive was implementing this project and urged it to ensure that the remaining forty-seven health posts were completed within 2022 as they had been budgeted for. The previous Committee resolved to aawaita progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed through the Action-Taken Report that the completion of the forty-seven health posts which were being constructed by the contractor Jaguar Overseas would be

completed once the contractor remobilised. The contractor had pushed in a claim for demobilising and remobilising to site which was at negotiation stage with the Ministry. Once the negotiations were concluded and the contractor remobilised, all the forty-seven health posts would be completed.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to expedite the negotiations regarding the contractor's remobilisation to sites and completion of the forty-seven health posts. The Executive is further urged to indicate the time frame for completion of the projects. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

06/19 Nakanyaa Health Centre

On 18th June, 2019 the Minister of Health made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government has plans to upgrade Nakanyaa Health Centre in Nalikwanda Parliamentary Constituency into a mini-hospital and it intends to do this in the fourth quarter of 2019.

The previous Committee had noted the submission with concern considering that the upgrading of Nakanyaa Health Centre into a mini hospital had been outstanding for the past three years. The Committee, therefore urged the Executive to ensure that the construction of Nakanyaa Health centre commenced within the 2022 – 2024 Medium Term Expenditure Framework. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded through the Action-Taken Report that the construction works to upgrade Nakanyaa Health Centre in Nalikwanda Parliamentary Constituency into a mini-hospital had commenced and were being undertaken by NMS Infrastructure and currently the contractor was on site and working on the foundation bases for the mini hospital and the staff houses. The borehole had been sunk.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the full upgrade of the mini hospitals and the staff houses.

33/19 Theatre at Chimwemwe Mini Hospital/Local Tour

On 13th February, 2019, the Minister of Health made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the theatre at Chimwemwe Mini Hospital would be operational by the end of the first quarter of 2019. Currently, the Government is in the process of procuring equipment required to operationalise the theatre. Sir, the theatre was handed over by the contractor in September, 2017. The Ministry of Health has plans to procure and install a generator set at the theatre annex, as backup power for optimal operations of the theatre and the x-ray department.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that the x-ray and a back-up power supply was procured within the 2022 - 2024 Medium Term Expenditure Framework. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the procurement process of both the x-ray equipment and the backup power supply was planned to be procured in the 2022-2024 Medium Term Expenditure Framework. Funds were available and the procuring entity which was ZAMMSA had already commenced the procurement process.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee observes that the procurement process is in motion as funds are available for the same. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

42/18 Construction of a Clinic in Nashinga Area

On 4th July, 2018, the Minister of Health made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Health is working with the Chinsali Municipal Council to construct a clinic in Nashinga area in Lubwa Ward in Chinsali Parliamentary Constituency. Sir, we expect to commence the construction works within 2018.

The previous Committee had noted the submission with concern considering that the status quo had remained the same for the past three years. The previous Committee therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that the construction of a staff house, water and ventilated improved pit latrines was implemented within the 2022-2024 Medium Term Expenditure Framework. The previous Committee resolved to await progress on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded through an Action-Taken Report that the following progress had been made towards the completion of the staff house, water and ventilated improved pit latrines (VIPs) at the clinic:

- (a) Staff house was at window level as at September, 2022
- (b) VIPs at foundation level
- (c) Borehole for water paid for 100 percent but not yet drilled

The works were expected to be completed by end of First quarter of 2023.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that works were in progress and thus resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

57/18 Construction of Chalokwa Health Post in Siavonga District

On 12th July, 2018, the Minister of Health made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the health post at Chalokwa was being constructed by Megha Engineering Limited of India under the 650 Health Posts. The delay in completing the project was due to the suspension of works by the contractor in 2017 as a result of inadequate funding on the project. The Indian Government has however, approved refinancing of the project and the works were expected to resume by June, 2018.

The previous Committee had expressed disappointment at the failure by the Executive to actualise the project, four years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The previous

Committee further expressed its displeasure at the waste of some building materials which were already on site but were getting damaged due to passage of time. The previous Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that the termination process was expedited to facilitate the commencement of the construction of Chalokwa Health Post. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Justice had guided to terminate the contract and the Ministry of Health was in the process of terminating the contract in order to engage another contractor.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee is disappointed at the laissez-faire approach to matters of development exhibited by officers charged with the responsibility of contract termination. The Committee recommends for disciplinary action against erring officers who failed to supervise the contractor and further cause a delay on the implementation of a well-meant activity. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

24/16 Update on Construction of 650 Health Posts Countrywide/Local Tours

On 19th April, 2016, the Minister of Health made the following assurance:

“Mr Speaker, thank you very much for granting me this opportunity to update the House and nation at large on the construction of 650 health posts across the country. As the House would recall, these health posts are being constructed at a total cost of US\$55.9 million, of which US\$50 million is the Indian Government concession loan to the Government of Zambia. The Government of Zambia would contribute the balance of US\$5.9 million. The loan agreement was signed on 29th March, 2012.

Mr Speaker, this project involves the following:

- (i) construction of 650 pre-fabricated health post buildings, staffhouses and ventilated latrines;*
- (ii) provision of basic medical equipment to 650 health posts to be constructed; and*
- (iii) provision of solar power, boreholes and hand pumps to the facilities.*

Mr Speaker, for easy management of the contracts, the 650 health posts were split into three lots in order to minimise the risk that may result if all the health posts were awarded to one contractor. These contracts were signed on 3rd July, 2013. The lots were awarded as follows:

- (i) Lot 1, covering the construction of prefabricated structures, supply and installation of essential equipment for 208 health posts in the Central, Copperbelt and Eastern provinces, was awarded to Jaguar Overseas Limited at an amount of US\$19,468,236;*
- (ii) Lot 2, covering the provinces of the North-Western, Northern, Muchinga and Luapula, was awarded to Angelique International Limited at US\$18,100,735; and*
- (iii) Lot 3, covering construction of health posts in the Western, Southern and Lusaka provinces, was awarded to Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited at an amount of US\$18,387,160.*

Mr Speaker, the site handovers for this project were done in the first quarter of 2014 in all the provinces. The project was expected to be undertaken over a period of twenty-four months from April, 2014, to April, 2016. However, it had since suffered some major challenges that have warranted it to be extended by an additional six months.

Sir, the major setback that the project suffered was the termination of the contract for Angelique International Limited, covering 270 health posts in the Northern, Luapula, North-Western and Muchinga provinces. The termination was done following recommendations by the Indian Government.

Mr Speaker, despite the above-mentioned challenge, progress had been as follows:

- (i) out of the 650 sites, contractors had been granted possession of 547 sites, representing coverage of 84 percent across the country;*
- (ii) a total of 266 super structures had been completed countrywide, out of which 102 had been operationalised and are being used by the local communities. We expect an additional 100 health posts to be operational within the course of the month;*
- (iii) all medical equipment and construction materials had been shipped into the country to facilitate completion of the remaining health posts; and*
- (iv) health posts that were under the Angelique International Limited component had been retendered and recommendations had been submitted to the Indian Government for its approval to proceed with the new contractor.*

Sir, in view of the above-mentioned progress, completion of all health posts was now expected to be accomplished by October, 2016.”

The previous Committee during its tour had observed with concern the poor workmanship and recommended that the Government should ensure that projects were closely monitored to avoid additional costs due to rehabilitations. Further, the Committee recommended that the Government should consider erecting two staff houses per health centre for effective discharge of duties once the clinics were operationalised. The above notwithstanding, the Committee in appreciating the progress made on the construction of the 650 health posts urged the Executive to ensure that the remaining eighty-seven health posts countrywide were urgently completed with close supervision and probably an additional staff house per post. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive’s Response

The Executive responded that the status on the progress of the remaining Health Posts remained as reported earlier on because the contractor refused to remobilise not until he was paid the mobilisation and remobilisation compensation. The Committee was also informed that to that effect, the Government had entered into negotiations with the contractor Jaguar Overseas Limited to agree on the amount to be compensated for them to move to sites.

Committee’s Observations and Recommendations

The Committee reiterates its earlier position by encouraging the Executive to ensure that the remaining eighty-seven health posts countrywide are urgently completed with close supervision

and probably an additional staff house per post. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

06/20 Nabwalya / Mfuwe Road Construction

On 1st October, 2019, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Madam Speaker, the construction of the Nabwalya/Mfuwe Road was expected to be completed in October, 2020, subject to availability of funds. The delay had been due to financial constraints. As of July, 2019, the contractor had been paid K29,962,454.13 out of the total of K165 million certified for the works done.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that works were completed by 5th April, 2022, as submitted and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee through the Action-Taken Report that the contract for the construction works on Nabwalya-Mfuwe Road stalled due to funding challenges for the project which resulted in the lapse of the contract. The works on the project would be considered under a new contract in future work plans subject to availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission but encourages the Executive to consider Public Private Partnership mode of financing to promptly open up the Nabwalya and Mfuwe areas for development. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

08/20 Stalled Chama-Matumbo and Chama/Lundazi Road Rehabilitation

On 1st October, 2019, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the House that the timeframes for the completion of rehabilitation of each of the four lots under the Chama-Matumbo and Chama Lundazi Road are as follows:

- (a) July, 2020 for Lot 2 (118 km);*
- (b) October, 2021 for Lot 3 (90 km);*
- (c) February, 2021 for Lot 4 (84 km); and*
- (d) June, 2020 for Lot 5 (56 km).*

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured to facilitate the completion of works on all the four lots as submitted. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that works on the Isoka Muyombe Chama Lundazi Lot 2 lapsed on January, 17, 2022 with progress standing at 10 percent. The works on the Isoka Muyombe Chama Lundazi Lot 3 was mutually terminated on October 31, 2021 with progress standing at 5 percent. The works on the Isoka Muyombe Chama Lundazi Lot 4 lapsed on August

3, 2022 with progress standing at 5 percent. The works on the Isoka Muyombe Chama Lundazi Lot 5 lapsed on December, 26, 2021 with progress standing at 11 percent. The project had not been provided for either in the 2022 Annual Work Plan or the 2022 Supplementary Budget. Government had prioritised the execution of part of the Road using the Public Private Partnership mode of financing subject to viability.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

In noting the submission, the Committee reiterates its earlier position and urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured to facilitate the completion of works on all the four lots as submitted. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

09/20 Washed Away Bridges in Msanzala

On 27th February, 2020, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the Government is aware of the washing away of the Chipungu/Mbulamala Bridge across Msanzala River and Mkonda Bridge across Mkonda River on Msolo Road in Msanzala Parliamentary Constituency.

Sir, the Government, through the Road Development Agency (RDA), has carried out an assessment of the damage at the Chipungu/Mbulamala Bridge and submitted a budget to the National Roads Fund Agency (NRFA) in order to facilitate release of funds for the required works. Further, an assessment of the damage at Mkonda Bridge is scheduled to be undertaken before the end of March, 2020.

The previous Committee was pleased to note that the RDA had completed the rehabilitation of the Chipungu/Mbulamala Bridge. The Committee, however, observed with concern that the Mkonda bridge had not been rehabilitated due to lack of funds and urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured to facilitate the commencement of rehabilitation works of the bridge and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed through the Action-Taken Report that rehabilitation of the Chipungu-Mbulamala Bridge was completed in January, 2021. Mkonda Bridge was still yet to be undertaken owing to funding challenges being faced in the road sector. The available budget line for emergencies in the 2022 Road Sector Annual Work Plan had been exhausted owing to the many emergencies experienced. The Government would endeavor to explore alternative sources of funds to finance the works.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured to facilitate the completion of works on the Mkonda Bridge. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

10/20 Damaged Infrastructure Rehabilitation in Msanzala Constituency

On 27th February, 2020, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the rehabilitation works on Manda/Vuvye Bridge along Nyamphande/Mwape Road would be undertaken in the second quarter of 2020, once the water levels on the stream go down.

The previous Committee had expressed disappointment over the failure by the Executive to pay the contractor for the certified works. The previous Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that the balance on the outstanding certified works was paid and funds urgently secured to facilitate the rehabilitation of the Manda-Vuvye bridge. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive, in its update to the Committee, submitted that the works for the construction of the 4-Span 120 m long composite bridges across Mvuvye River in Nyimba District of Eastern Province had stalled due to funding challenges. Funds for the project were not provided for in the 2022 Road Sector Annual Work Plan due to limitations in available funds to the road sector. The contract lapsed and, therefore, terminated as a final account was being prepared. The progress recorded on the project was at 10 percent. The works, under a new contract would be considered for inclusion in future work plans once funds were made available.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured to facilitate the completion of works on the 4-Span 120 m long composite bridges across Mvuvye River in Nyimba District of Eastern Province. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

11/20 Bridge Construction

On 13th February, 2020, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, an assessment of the works required at Chamatonye crossing point in Mkaika Constituency would be undertaken before the end of the first quarter 2020.

Sir, procurement of a contractor to undertake the civil works at Lupande would commence in the second quarter. It was envisaged that the civil works on Lupande Bridge would commence in the fourth quarter of 2020.

The previous Committee had observed with concern that works on the Chamatonye crossing had not been completed due to non-disbursement of the project fund. The Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured to facilitate the commencement of construction works without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee indicated that the K250, 000 had so far been released for the works on the Chamatonye crossing point out of the budgeted amount of K1,076,715.25. The works had commenced and had now stalled as the released funds had been exhausted. The works would continue once more funds had been released. The contract for Lupande Bridge was

still yet to be signed due to limitations in available funds to the road sector. The project had not been included in the 2022 Road Sector Annual Work Plan due to the limited resource envelope. The project would be included in future work plans subject to availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured to facilitate the construction of bridges across Lupande and Chamatonye crossing points in Mkaika Constituency, Eastern Province. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

12/20 Kanchibiya Constituency Bridges Reconstruction

On 14th February, 2020, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker works to reconstruct Kabinga and Kopa bridges in Kanchibiya Parliamentary Constituency that were damaged during the 2018/2019 rainy season have commenced under the Kanchibiya-Chalabesa Project which was being implemented by the Ministry of Local Government. Works commenced in March, 2019 and are scheduled to be completed by September 2020.

The previous Committee had observed with concern the inconsistency by the Executive in the disbursement of funds to expedite the reconstruction of Kabinga bridge in Kanchibiya Constituency. The previous Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to urgently source for some funds for the reconstruction of the bridge before lives are lost. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the Kabinga Bridge in Kanchibiya Parliamentary Constituency was part of the scope of works for the Kanchibiya/Chalabesa Project which was being implemented by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development. The rehabilitation of the existing bridge and the replacement of the relief culverts on the approaches to the bridge were yet to be completed. The works on the project had currently stalled due to erratic funding for the project.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured to facilitate for the rehabilitation of the existing bridge and the replacement of the relief culverts on the Kabinga and Kopa bridges, respectively. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

13/20 Kafue River Worn Out Bridge

On 20th February, 2020, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, contrary to the assertion that the temporary bridge on the Lusaka/Mongu Road at Kafue River is worn out and is on the verge of collapse, the said temporary bridge is not worn out, and, therefore, not on the verge of collapsing. Consequently, the bridge did not pose any danger to the travelling public.

Sir, the contractor engaged to construct the Kafue Hook Bridge had been undertaking maintenance works to keep the temporary bridge safe. The rehabilitation of the Kafue Hook Bridge is scheduled to be completed on 26th June, 2020.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that the project was undertaken as submitted, considering that the project was already over a year and half behind the completion schedule. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The works on the Kafue Hook Bridge were currently ongoing with progress standing at 55 percent. The works were scheduled to be completed on 24th December, 2022. The project had been provided for in the 2022 Road Sector Annual Work Plan in conjunction with the 2022 Supplementary Budget and it was envisaged that the works would be completed by the end of the year, subject to consistent disbursement of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

15/20 Vubwi Boarding School Completion

On 20th February, 2020, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the construction of Vubwi Secondary School in Vubwi District was expected to be completed by the end of December, 2020.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to urgently consider securing funds to complete the remaining works at the school, especially that the Ministry has plans to partially open the school. The previous Committee further urged the Executive to reconsider the application of the 80 per cent complete policy when it came to funding of rural schools where the majority of children stopped school due to long distances to be covered going to schools. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The previous Committee was informed that one of the objectives of the Infrastructure Plan Budget for 2022 – 2023 was to complete the ongoing projects before considering embarking on new projects. In view of this, Vubwi Secondary School project had been allocated funds amounting to K4, 327,334.71, and the contractor had since moved on site. The works had resumed and progressing well.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the full completion of the Vubwi Secondary School project.

04/20 Construction of FTJ Chiluba and Ntumpa Universities

On 16th October, 2019, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the construction of Ntumpa University in Lukashya Parliamentary Constituency commenced in the year 2018. The estimated cost of the project is US\$225 million for the two universities. Ntumpa in Lukashya of Kasama and the Frederick Titus Jacob (FTJ) Chiluba University Mansa Districts, respectively. The time frame for the completion of the project is thirty months. The university in Lukashya Parliamentary Constituency was expected to be officially opened to the public during the 2021/2022 academic year.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had expressed concern over the tendency by the Executive to make assurances on the floor of the House when funding was not certain. In this regard, the Committee urged the Executive to ensure that assurances are made on the floor of the House only when funding is certain and that implementation should be as promised on the floor of the House, failure to which the oversight role of Parliament would be rendered ineffective. The previous Committee resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the construction of the two universities.

Executive's Response

In its update to the Committee, the Executive submitted that the status quo had not changed. However, the Ministry was committed to ensuring that the infrastructure that started sometime back was completed. To this effect, the Government had allocated huge sums of money to complete infrastructure at 80 percent completion and above, in line with the Government's policy.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee reiterates its earlier position and urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured expeditiously and utilised for the intended purpose. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the full completion of the two universities.

02/19 Construction of Lwela Bridge in Milenge District

On 18th September, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of the Lwela Bridge in Milenge District was expected to commence in November, 2018, subject to an advance payment of K2, 870,325.73 to the contractor. The contract was awarded to Messrs Tomorrow Investment Limited at a total contract sum of K28, 703,257.30.

Mr Speaker, the project has delayed because the advance payment required by the contractor to commence the works had not yet been paid. The estimated completion period for the project is twelve months after commencement. The contract was signed on 27th December, 2017. The scope of works includes, but not limited to the following: foundation works; reinforcement of concrete works in abutments and piers; installation of the pre-stressed beams; reinforcement of concrete deck; and approach embankment.

The previous Committee noted the submission and urged the Executive to ensure that funding was secured and constantly disbursed to the project to avoid additional cost due to standing time and increase in the cost of building materials. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the contract sum for the project was revised from K28 million to K47 million due to the passage of time resulting in an increase in cost of the materials. The Contractor commenced the works in September, 2021 and attained progress of four percent on the project. The project could, however, not be accommodated in the 2022 Road Sector Budget due to limitations in available funds hence the project stalled. The current contract lapsed and therefore terminated and a final account was being prepared. The works would be considered for inclusion in future Road Sector Work Plans subject to availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured expeditiously and utilised for the intended purpose. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the project.

30/19 Samfya/Mpanta/Kasoma Lunga Road Construction

On 13th October, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Sir, the construction of the Samfya–Katanshya-Mpanta (D449/D450) Road would only commence upon completion of the feasibility studies and detailed engineering designs, securing of funding for the project and procurement of a contractor to carry out the works. A consultant had been engaged to carry out the feasibility study in order to produce detailed engineering designs. The contract commenced on 19th April, 2018 and expected to be completed in February, 2019.

The previous Committee had noted with concern the failure by the Executive to implement the project three years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. Further, the Committee observed with concern that the procurement of a works contractor would be undertaken in future RSAWPs subject to availability of funds. Going with the response by the Executive, the Committee was of the view that the Executive did not take assurances seriously and urged it to expeditiously secure funds for the actualisation of the project. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted through the Action-Taken Report that the Consultant engaged to undertake the feasibility studies and detailed engineering designs completed the assignment. The procurement of the works contract would be considered in future work plans subject to availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee reiterates its earlier position and urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured expeditiously and utilised for the intended purpose. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

32/19 Tarring of Mung'anga/Mwenda/Kashiba Road

On 13th February, 2019, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the tarring of the Mung'anga-Mwenda-Kashiba Road was initially scheduled to commence in February, 2019. However, the contractor requested for an extension of the

commencement date to November, 2019 and the Government was currently considering the request.

Sir, the contractor is Messrs Groupe European De Development (GED) Africa Zambia Limited. The total cost of the project is US\$180 million. The construction period is thirty-six months. The project would be funded through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement using the Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) Model.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that financial closure was expeditiously obtained and the project actualised. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the the concessionaire Messrs GED Africa was yet to attain financial closure. The concessionaire had requested for an extension on commercial close from September 30, 2022 to March 2023. The request was under adjudication and would be considered after necessary approvals were sought from the Public-Private Partnership Council and the Attorney General.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the length of time taken to actualise this assurance. The Committee reiterates its earlier position and urges the Executive to ensure that financial closure is expedited and that approvals are secured from the PPP Council and Attorney General. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

08/18 Construction of Bridges in Mkaika Constituency

On 4th October, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of bridges at Mnyamanzi and Mtezezi crossing points in Mkaika Parliamentary Constituency would commence in the third quarter of 2018 upon procurement of the works by the contractor. The repair works at the bridge at Chisale and Kalowe would be undertaken using the Force Account once funds are made available by the Road Development Agency (RDA). This would be undertaken after a comprehensive assessment of the works had been done.

Sir, the completion period for the bridges at Mnyamanzi, Chisale, Kalowe and Mtezezi crossing points in Mkaika Parliamentary Constituency is nine months from the date of commencement of the works.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had bemoaned the slow pace at which the implementation of the project was being implemented, which may result to a new assessment to be undertaken to accommodate the change in the scope of works due to passage of time. The previous Committee is further disappointed to note that four years from the time the assurance was made on the floor of the House the Chisale and Kalowe crossings works could not commence due to unavailability of funds. The previous Committee urged the Executive to urgently secure funds to facilitate the full implementation of the project without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the procurement of a contractor to carry out works on the Munyamanzi crossing under the acrow bridge programme had not been concluded due to funding challenges. The works on the two crossing points would be considered as Government rolled out the implementation of the acrow bridge programme. The 2022 Road Sector Supplementary Budget had an allocation of K 95 million for acrow bridge programme with a plan to implement the construction of selected bridges using force account approach.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes with concern the failure by the Executive to secure funds for the acrow bridge programme. The Executive is strongly urged to explore all available options and complete the project without any further delay. The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

09/18 Tarring of Katunda Turn-off/Lukulu/Watopa/Mumbeji Turn-off and Manyinga/Mwinilunga Roads

On 11th October, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the Government has plans to upgrade to bituminous standards both the Katunda Turn-off/Lukulu/Watopa/Mumbeji Turn-off and Manyinga/Mwinilunga Roads under the Link Zambia 8,000 Kilometre Road Project. The roads had been included in the 2018 Road Sector Annual Work Plan (RSAWP) and the projects would be implemented using the Contractor Facilitated Initiative (CFI).

Madam Speaker, the Road Development Agency (RDA) has completed the engagement of the contractors, but implementation awaited the finalisation of the financing agreement by the Ministry of Finance.

The previous Committee had noted with disappointment the failure by the Executive to actualise the promise made on the floor of the House four years after it was made and urged it to ensure that only financially backed projects were undertaken. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the works on the Katunda Turn-off/Lukulu/Watopa/Mumbeji Turn-off and Manyinga/Mwinilunga roads had not commenced due to the postponement of the contraction of debt in order to keep the country's debt at sustainable levels. This was, however, one of the projects which the Government had prioritised for execution using funds from the Treasury subject to availability of funds. The Government would continue carrying out holding maintenance works to ensure that the road was passable.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to explore all available options including financing through PPP and tar the Katunda Turn-off/Lukulu/Watopa/Mumbeji Turn-off and Manyinga/Mwinilunga roads without any further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

11/18 Rehabilitation of Local Courts in Chitambo Constituency

On 20th October, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the Government was committed to rehabilitate Mpelembe and Muchinka Local Courts in Chitambo Parliamentary Constituency. The rehabilitation works would commence in 2018.

The previous Committee had noted the submission with concern considering that rehabilitation works were supposed to commence in 2018 and since then the Executive had been citing fiscal space as the cause of the delay in implementation of the project. The previous Committee is therefore, of the view that assurances are made but without a view of implementation but rather to appease the general populace. The previous Committee hence, urged the Executive to ensure that financial resources are made available before assurances are made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update informed the Committee that the Government reiterated its commitment to commence the rehabilitation works of Mpelembe and Muchinka Local Courts in Chitambo Parliamentary Constituency. Currently, the Government was focusing on completing all on-going infrastructure projects that were at least eighty percent complete and above before undertaking projects that were below eighty percent complete such as the two Local Courts.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to quickly look for money in order to complete the rehabilitation works of Mpelembe and Muchinka Local Courts in Chitambo Parliamentary Constituency without any further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

13/18 Rehabilitation of Mpika/Kasama Road

On 1st November, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, for purpose of periodic maintenance, the Mpika/Kasama Road had been divided into two lots. The contract for Lot 1, which is 131 km long and starts from Mpika to Chambeshi Section, was awarded to Keren Motors while the contract for Lot 2, which is 86 km long and covers the stretch from Chambeshi to Kasama Section, was awarded to China Geo-Engineering Corporation.

Sir, the works on Lot 1 had stalled because the contractor had demonstrated a lack of seriousness and capacity to complete the project. The Ministry had since directed the Road Development Agency (RDA) to consider terminating the contract. On Lot 2, the works were ongoing, with the contractor currently working on the urban roads in Kasama, which are part of the scope of works and are expected to be completed in December, 2017. The completion date for Lot 1 was supposed to be 15th November, 2017, but it now has to be revised because of the stalled works. The completion date for Lot 2, which is making good progress, is 7th January, 2019. Sir, the estimated cost for the project is K647,103,068.

The previous Committee had observed with concern the failure by the Executive to consistently disburse funds to the project which in turn results in additional cost due to standing time and increase in the cost of building materials. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the contract for the works on the Mpika - Kasama Road was currently undergoing termination due to funding challenges faced by the project. The works would be considered for execution under a new contract in future work plans subject to availability of funds. Government would continue carrying out holding maintenance works to ensure that the road was passable.

In order to appreciate what has been done on this project, the Committee made a spot check on the project.

Observations and Recommendation

The Committee found that pothole patching works was on-going at the time of the tour in some portions which are severely damaged just to make the road motor able. The Committee urges the Government to urgently source for funds to reconstruct this road which is of economic value. Further, the Committee notes that pothole patching being done was a temporal measure which to some extent is expensive. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the project.

14/18 Construction of Sinda Day Secondary School

On 16th November, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of Sinda Day Secondary School was supposed to be completed in 2015. However, this had not been achieved because the Ministry had not been receiving funding as projected and the honouring of the Interim Payment Certificate by the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) who is the client.

So far, all the structures had been roofed and the contractor is working on completing the ten teachers' houses which is likely to lead to the partial opening of Sinda Day Secondary School in January next year. That would see the enrolling grades eights and tens in January, 2018. With availability of funds, the school was expected to be completed and handed over to the Government by the end of 2018.

Sir, what has caused the delay in the completion of the school is due to the financial constraints.

The previous Committee in noting the progress made had urged the Executive to ensure that the remaining external works were completed to facilitate the full operationalisation of the school. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update informed the Committee that one of the objectives of the Infrastructure Plan Budget for 2022 – 2023 was to complete the ongoing projects before considering embarking on new projects. In view of this, Sinda Secondary School project had been allocated funds

amounting to K6, 060,475.16 and the contractor had since moved on site to resume works. The works were progressing well.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee encourages the Executive to expedite the completion of all outstanding works on the Sinda Secondary School project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

17/18 Nalolo, Mongu/Limulunga, Muoya, Libonda and Lyambai Roads

On 21st February, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of Muoyo Road in Nalolo Parliamentary Constituency had stalled owing to funding challenges. Sir, it was expected that works would resume within the second quarter of 2018. Mr Speaker, the total cost of the whole project, which includes Mongu/Limulunga, Muoya, Libonda and Lyambai roads, is estimated to be US\$32,708,958. The project was expected to be completed within one year and six months after the date of commencement.

The previous Committee had noted with concern the slow pace at which the project was being undertaken and urged the Executive to ensure that resources were put together to guarantee the speedy implementation of the project. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

In its update to the Committee, the Executive submitted that the works on the Mongu Limulunga Road were currently ongoing with progress standing at thirty percent. The works were scheduled to be completed on 30th March, 2023. The project had been provided for in the 2022 Supplementary Budget and it was envisaged that the works would be completed by the first quarter of 2023, subject to consistent disbursement of funds.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee encourages the Executive to ensure adequate and timely funding to the project to expedite construction of the *Nalolo, Mongu/Limulunga, Muoya, Libonda and Lyambai roads* without any further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

21/18 Mbesuma Bridge in Chinsali Constituency

On 27th February, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the House that the construction of Mbesuma Bridge is scheduled to be completed in November, 2018. The contractor for the Bridge is Messrs China Railway Seventh Group Company Ltd. The contract sum is K84,185,816.99. Approximately, K6, 313,936.27 has so far been paid to the contractor.

The previous Committee was saddened to note the failure by the Executive to pay the contractor for the certified works resulting in delay in the completion of the project. The previous Committee therefore, urged the Executive to urgently secure funds to facilitate the commencement of works

as continued delay would result in additional cost due to standing time and increase in the cost of building materials. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive, in its update to the Committee, submitted that the works on the Mbesuma Bridge had stalled owing to unavailability of funds. The progress stood at 28 percent. The project had been provided for in the 2022 Supplementary Budget and it was envisaged that the works could be completed by the end of 2023, subject to consistent disbursement of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission but urges the Executive to consider other available options to fund this project without delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

23/18 Bridges in Mufumbwe District

On 27th February, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the construction of Musowenji Bridge would commence in the first quarter of 2019, upon procurement of the works contractor. The bridge is covered under the ACROW Bridges Project. Designs were currently being prepared and are scheduled to be completed by the fourth quarter of 2018. The construction of Miluji (Chitwa) Bridge would commence in the first quarter of 2019, upon procurement of the works contractor. The bridge is covered under the ACROW Bridge Project. Designs were currently being prepared and are scheduled to be completed by 4th April, 2018. The cost of constructing the two bridges would be determined once the designs had been completed and the contractor had been found. The timeframe for the completion of the project would be nine months from the commencement date.

The previous Committee had noted with disappointment the failure by the Executive to actualise the project owing to limited fiscal space three years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to expedite the procurement of a contractor for Musowenji and Miluji (Chitwa) bridges to facilitate the actualisation of the project. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

In its update to the Committee, the Executive submitted that the procurement process for the works on the Musowenji and Miluji bridges had not been concluded due to funding challenges faced by the road sector. The works on the two crossing points would be considered as Government rolled out the implementation of the Acrow Bridge programme. The 2022 Road Sector Supplementary Budget had an allocation of K95 million for Acrow Bridge programme with a plan to implement the construction of selected bridges using Force Account approach.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for an update on the matter.

25/18 Secondary School in Chief Kucheka's Chiefdom in Zambezi West

On 28th February, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of Liyovu Boarding Secondary School in Chief Kucheka's Chiefdom in Zambezi West Parliamentary Constituency stalled due to financial constraints. The progress of the project was also affected by seasonal flooding. However, the construction works resumed in November, 2017. The contractor for the project is Hua Jiang Investment Limited, and the total cost of the project is K48, 709,354.05 and the time frame for the completion of the project is thirty-two months.

The previous Committee had expressed dismay that nothing was done by the Executive in the period under review due to the implementation of the Government's policy of only funding projects which were at 80 per cent and above complete. The previous Committee was of the view that the 80 per cent and above complete policy should not apply to assurances made on the floor of the House, as doing so frustrated the mandate of the Committee. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Education was committed to ensuring that the infrastructure that started sometime back was completed. To this effect, the Government was considering these projects in the infrastructure budget plan of 2023-2025, in line with the Government's policy.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the failure by the Executive to implement projects despite making pronouncements. The Committee strongly urges the Government to desist from over-committing itself without requisite resources to implement the projects pronounced in the House. The Committee reiterates its earlier position by stating that the 80 per cent and above complete policy should not apply to assurances made on the floor of the House, as doing so frustrates the mandate of the Committee.

27/18 Upgrade of Airport Road

On 6th March, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, we would begin upgrading that road to a dual carriageway before the end of this year.

The previous Committee had noted the submission with concern given that it had taken the Executive over three years to have the project actualised and urged it to expedite the negotiation process so as to facilitate the commencement of works. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the upgrade of the Airport road.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the upgrading to dual carriage way of the Kenneth Kaunda International Airport (KKIA) road which was envisaged to be undertaken under the Contractor Facilitated Initiative (CFI) model of financing had not been able to

commence due to the postponement of all contraction of debt by Ministry of Finance and National Planning in order to keep the Country's debt at sustainable levels. The Government would continue carrying out maintenance works and upgrade to dual carriageway once adequate resources were mobilised to ensure that the project was implemented at the right price, within time and acceptable quality.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

28/18 C400 Road Project in Ndola

On 13th March, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the construction of roads under the Copperbelt 400 km Road Project (C400) in Ndola District would commence as soon as the financial arrangements for the 15 per cent advance payment, which is the Government of the Republic of Zambia counterpart funding, is finalised. The financing arrangement was expected to be concluded soon. Works would commence by the end of this rainy season.

The previous Committee had found the response by the Executive unacceptable as it appeared that assurances made on the floor of the House were taken as mere pronouncements, as no definite funds were set aside for their implementation. In this regard, the Committee urged the Executive to ensure that some mechanisms be put in place to allow the implementation of assurances as and when they were made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that Copperbelt 400 km Road Project (C400) which was envisaged to be undertaken under the Contractor Facilitated Initiative (CFI) model of financing had not been able to commence due to the postponement of all contraction of debt by Ministry of Finance and National Planning in order to keep the Country's debt at sustainable levels. The contract on the project had since lapsed due to the passage of time and the scope under the project would be considered in future work plans subject to availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Government to consider prioritising the road network in Ndola Urban Area to facilitate economic activities in the area. The Committee is of the view that the City is a hub for industries including the biggest petroleum companies and hence needs a good road network to facilitate efficient commerce and trade. The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

36/18 Construction of Bridges in Zambezi West

On 12th June, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government had a plan to construct bridges on Kashiji River, connecting Kanyeva to Chief Kucheka's Palace and Liyovu Primary School, and connecting Muyembe to Chief Ndungu's Palace. A bridge would also be constructed on Litapi River, connecting Kalengwa to Chief Chinyama's Palace using Acrow Corporation of America.

Sir, the designs for the bridges had been completed, and the contract had been signed. The Government is awaiting the delivery of the bridge components before the construction of the bridges can commence by the fourth quarter of 2018.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that works for the three contracts already signed comprising of seven crossings in Zambezi District commenced without further delay, as delay in commencement of works would attract additional costs due to standing time. The previous committee resolved to await a progress report on the construction of bridges in Zambezi West.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the works on the two out of the six bridges on the Kashiji and Litapi rivers which were awarded to Messrs MUCO Trading Ltd under the Acrow Bridge Project had still not commenced due to funding challenges faced by the road sector. The works on the two bridges would be considered in future work plans subject to availability of funds. The works on the crossing points would be considered as the Government rolled out the implementation of the Acrow Bridge programme. The 2022 Road Sector Supplementary Budget had an allocation of K 95 million for Acrow Bridge programme with a plan to implement the construction of selected bridges using force account approach (i.e. using the RDA Regional Managers office to do the actual construction works).

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the failure by the Executive to honor its promises made in the House. The Committee reiterates its earlier position and urges the Executive to ensure that works for the three contracts already signed comprising of seven crossings in Zambezi District commence without further delay, as delay in commencement of works would attract additional costs due to standing time. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the project.

51/18 Construction of Infrastructure in Siavonga District

On 13th July, 2018, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of the Police Station, staff houses for police officers, district administration office block, post office, civic centre, medium cost housing units and low-cost housing units for civil servants was expected to be completed by December, 2018, subject to availability of funds.

The previous Committee had observed with concern that all projects in Siavonga District were below 80 per cent complete four years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that funds were urgently secured to facilitate the full implementation of the project as continued delay would result in additional cost due standing time and rehabilitation works as a result of vandalism of already constructed structures. The previous Committee resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

In its update to the Committee, the Executive submitted the following:

(a) Construction of District Administration Office Block

The contract for the Construction of the District Administration Office block in Siavonga District was awarded to Antiochy Noble Limited in 2015. This was at a contract sum of K 5,897,230 and completion period of 10 months. The works commencement date was 11th February, 2015 and the project was expected to be completed by 20th January, 2016. Progress of work was up to ring beam level and the Contractor had since been paid all outstanding Interim Payment Certificate (IPCs), but had failed to perform and, therefore, the contract was in the process of being terminated. Funds allowing, the completion of works of this project would only be established when projects that were at 80 percent and above were completed.

(b) Construction of the Civic Centre and two High Cost Houses in Siavonga District.

The contract for the Construction of the Civic Centre and 2 high cost houses in Siavonga District was awarded to Endita Enterprises Limited in 2015. This was at a contract sum of K6, 471,548.40 with a completion period of 10 months. Works on this project commenced on 10th March 2015 and were expected to be completed by 28th February 2016. Progress was currently at 20 percent completion. The contract period had been extended several times with the latest completion date being 31st December, 2022. The delay in completing the projects is attributed to inadequate resources due to over commitment in the infrastructure development which resulted in the Government directive to prioritise payments to projects that were at 80 percent and above progress. Arising from the above the completion of works for this project would only be established when projects that were at 80 percent and above were completed.

(c) Construction of Post Office

The Contract for the Construction of the Post Office in Siavonga District was awarded to Contech Engineering Company Limited in 2015 at the contract sum of K2, 203,505 with a completion period of 12 months. The works on this project commenced on 10th March, 2015 and were expected to be completed by 12th February, 2016. However, due to delayed payments of interim payment certificates, works could not be completed as originally planned and only achieved progress of 20 percent completion. The contract period had been extended several times with the latest completion date being 31st December, 2022. Funds allowing, the completion of works of this project would only be established when projects that were at 80 percent and above were completed, and projects below this stated threshold were considered.

(d) Construction of Police Station, 2 Medium Cost Houses and 8 Low Cost House

The contract for the Construction of the Police Station in Siavonga District was awarded to Woodlock Limited in 2015 at the contract sum of K22, 593,131.12 with a contract period of 12 months. Works on this project commenced on 16th March 2015, and were expected to be completed by 22nd February 2016. However, due to adverse site conditions and delayed payments of interim payment certificates, works could not be completed as originally planned and the contract period had been extended several times with the latest completion date being 31st December, 2022. These works were at 95 percent completion and the remaining works include power and water connections to the houses. The project was scheduled to be completed by 31st December, 2022.

(e) Construction of 10 Medium Cost Houses

The contract for the Construction of 10 Medium Cost Houses in Siavonga District was awarded to Netweb Investment Limited in 2015 at the contract sum of K 8, 244,684 with a contract period of

12 months. Works on this project commenced on 12th March 2015 and were expected to be completed by 22nd March, 2016. However, due to delayed payments of interim payment certificates, works could not be completed as originally planned and the contract period had been extended several times with the latest completion date being 31st December, 2022. The progress of works for the project stands at 25 percent completion. Funds allowing, the completion of works of this project would only be established when projects that were at 80 percent and above were completed.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the projects.

20/15 Rehabilitation of Gwembe /Chisekesi Road

On 22nd October, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance:
Mr Speaker, feasibility studies of this nature take about nine months to be completed and the contract was signed in September, 2015. So, the road construction would commence before the end of 2016.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had bemoaned the failure by the Executive to implement the project six years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House and found the failure by the Executive to actualise the project unacceptable and frustrating to the mandate of the Committee. The previous Committee therefore, urged the Executive to desist from making assurances when financial backing is not certain. Further, the Committee urged the Executive to define the timeframe in which this project would be undertaken. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the rehabilitation of the Gwembe-Chisekesi Road had not yet commenced due to funding challenges. The project would be considered in future work plans once resources had been mobilised to undertake the works at the right price, within time and acceptable quality.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to urgently look for an alternative source of money in order for the rehabilitation of Gwembe/Chisekesi Road to be done. The committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

01/16 Masangano/Fisenge Road

On 4th May, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance:
Mr Speaker, the Masangano/Fisenge Road Project on the Copperbelt Province is at the procurement stage and its works were expected to commence in the third quarter of 2016. The project would be executed using the public-private partnership (PPP) model. The delay in the rehabilitation of the road is attributed to the limited resource envelop due to competing needs.

The previous Committee had observed with concern the inordinate time it had taken the Executive to implement the project and urged it to ensure that the termination of the contract is expedited to

facilitate for the procurement of the new contract. The previous Committee further urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured for the full implementation of the project without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the contract for the Lusaka-Kapiri Mposhi - Ndola Dual Carriageway including the Masangano-Fisenge section project which was awarded to Messrs China Jiangxi Corporation for International Economic and Technical Cooperation was terminated following Ministry of Finance and National Planning's guidance. This was in order to keep the country's debt at sustainable level. The project had since been earmarked for execution using the PPP mode of financing. The procurement process for the project was currently at negotiation stage. It was envisaged that the concession agreement would be signed in the third quarter of 2022 and that the works would commence once financial closure had been attained.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

02/16 Kalabo/Kalongola Road

On 9th March, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of the Kalabo/Kalongola to Sitoti Road is scheduled to commence in the second quarter of 2016. The contract had been awarded to China State Construction Engineering Corporation Limited for a sum of K1,695,918,648.60 for the duration of forty-eight months. Sir, the Government, through the Road Development Agency (RDA), has plans to construct the above-mentioned crossing points under the same contract. Mr Speaker, the works on the crossing points would be implemented under the same contract and are scheduled to commence in 2016.

The previous Committee had observed with dismay the failure by the Executive to implement the project as was promised on the floor of the House over six years ago and urged it to expeditiously proceed with the termination of the aforesaid contract to facilitate for the procurement of a new one. The previous Committee further, urged the Executive to secure funds for the full implementation of the project. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update to the Committee submitted that the Kalabo/Kalongola to Sitoti Road project which was to be financed using the Contractor Facilitated Initiative (CFI) mode of financing had been terminated in order to keep the country's debt at sustainable levels. The road was one of the projects which Government had prioritised for execution using the funds from the Treasury subject to availability.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to urgently look for an alternative source of funding in order for Kalabo/Kalongola road to be done. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

06/16 Construction of Civil Servants' Houses in Mitete

On 10th March, 2016, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government is constructing forty-two houses and other buildings in Mitete District. The categories of the housing units are broken down as follows: two high-cost, twelve medium-cost and twenty-eight low-cost.

Sir, the construction of twenty low-cost houses would be completed by the end of October, 2016, while the construction of ten medium-cost houses would be completed by the end of May, 2016, and the construction of two high-cost houses was supposed to had been completed by the end of February, 2016, but is likely to be delayed due to non-performance by the contractor. The contract for the construction of a police station and ten houses for police officers, comprising two medium-cost and eight low-cost houses, has just been awarded and construction, which would commence as soon as possible, would be completed by the end of 2016.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to secure funds for the completion of the projects' remaining works to avoid additional cost due to currency fluctuation and increase in building materials. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Government was still constructing a total of 42 houses in Mitete District. These included:

Construction of 20 Low cost houses

The Construction of twenty Low Cost houses was being done by Kaps Hardware at a contract sum of K12, 213,378.95. However, the project had stalled due to delayed settlement of payments in the early stages of construction and the challenge being faced by the contractor regarding fluctuation of the cost of construction materials. The contractor did request for negotiation and adjustment of the contract sum. Arising from the above, the Ministry got guidance from the Ministry of Justice and authority from Zambia Public Procurement Authority for contract price adjustment. Negotiations with the Contractor on price of material fluctuations had been held and concluded. Authority was now being awaited from the Ministerial procurement Committee before engaging Attorney Generals Chambers for clearance of the Addenda for contract price adjustment. The project was expected to be completed before the end of December, 2022 subject to availability of funds.

Construction of Civic Centre and 2 High cost houses

Completion of the Construction of two High cost houses alongside the Civic Centre being done by Kaps Hardware at a contract sum of K9, 972,382.66. Works on this project were at forty percent completion. Kaps Hardware Contractors took over from Kampe Investments whose contract was

terminated. The delay in completing the projects was attributed to inadequate resources due to over commitment in the infrastructure development which resulted in the Government directive to prioritise payments to projects that were at eighty percent and above progress. Arising from the above the completion of works for this project would only be established when projects that were at eighty percent and above were completed.

Construction of 10 Medium Cost houses

The Construction of ten Medium Cost houses being done by Muco Trading Limited at contract sum of K7, 622,428.95. The contractor moved to site in 2015. Works on site were eighty percent completion. However, the project had stalled due delayed settlement of payments in the early stages of construction and the challenge being faced by the contractor regarding increased fluctuation of the cost of construction materials. The contractor did request for negotiation and adjustment of the contract sum. Ministry got guidance from Ministry of Justice and authority from Zambia Public Procurement Authority for contract price adjustment. Negotiations with the Contractor on price of material fluctuations had been held and concluded. Authority was now being awaited from the Ministerial tender Committee before engaging Attorney Generals Chambers for clearance of the Addenda for contract price adjustment. The project was expected to be completed before the end of June, 2023.

Police station, 2 Medium Cost Houses and 8 Low cost houses

Construction of a Police Station, two Medium Cost Houses and eight Low cost houses was being done by Simuliya Contractors at a contract sum of K14, 433,222.30. Works on this project was at fifty percent completion. The delay in completing the projects was attributed to inadequate resources due to over commitment in the infrastructure development which resulted in the Government directive to prioritise payments to projects that were at eighty percent and above progress. Arising from the above the completion of works for this project would only be established when projects that were at eighty percent and above were completed.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

13/16 Construction of Masaiti District Administration Offices

On 15th April, 2016, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of the District Administration Offices in Masaiti would commence now that the land had been allocated for the proposed new district administrative centre. Survey drawings for the old Masaiti Boma area had been completed, but the provincial administration decided to relocate the new district to an area near the Kapiri Mposhi/Ndola Highway.

Sir, the contractor would be identified after tender evaluation. The contract sum would be known after the selection of the successful bidder. As regards the time frame, this project should be done within ten to twelve months.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had observed with the concern the inordinate time it had taken the Executive to fully implement the project. In this regard, the Committee urged

the Executive to ensure that it defined the timeframe in which the project would be undertaken. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive in its update submitted that the Government was still committed to the construction of the district administration offices in Masaiti district. The procurement process was completed. However, award and commencement of works was deferred to a later date due to Government directive to focus on completing on-going projects that were above eighty percent completion. Funds allowing, its Government desire to quickly expedite completion of all projects that were eighty percent and above, before the end of 2023, then proceed with those that were below eighty percent and later start new projects like Masaiti administration block.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the failure by the Executive to implement the project within the period promised. It is disappointing to the Committee that the Executive is using a new policy shift of completing firstly projects that are eighty percent and above as a justification yet the same was recently issued five years after the pronouncement of this assurance. While it is appreciated that the policy affected such contracts, the Committee is of the view that other available options must be explored so as to avoid loss of funds due to escalating costs of materials with time. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

17/16 Post Office in Mitete

On 16th February, 2016, the Deputy Minister of Transport and Communication made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of the post office and associated external works in Mitete would be completed by the end of March, 2017 and the contractor undertaking the construction of the post office is Eldermain Business Solutions.

Mr Speaker, the completion period for the construction of the post office is nineteen months, running from October, 2015, to the end of March, 2017. The contractor had since drilled a borehole and the foundation had been excavated.

The previous Committee had observed with concern the failure by the Executive to pay the contractor the advance payment due to financial constraints five years behind the promised completion date. The previous Committee therefore, urged the Executive to urgently secure funds for the immediate implementation of the project and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded through the Action-Taken Report that an advance payment certificate amounting to K 1,675,173.86 had been certified but not yet honored. Milestone Technical Service took over from Eldermain Business Solutions whose contract was terminated and works were at foundation stages only. The delay in commencing the completion of this project was attributed to inadequate resources and the Government's directive to prioritise payments to projects that were at 80 percent and above progress. Arising from the above the completion of works for this project would only be established when projects that were at eighty percent and above were completed.

Committee's Observations and Recommendation

The Committee urges the Executive to find other available funding mechanisms in order to implement the project promptly. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

32/16 Rehabilitation of the Tateyoyo Gate/Katunda Road Turn-Off

On 24th February, 2016, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, it was envisaged that the works on the Tateyoyo Gate to Katunda/Lukulu Junction would commence in the second quarter of 2016.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had expressed concern at the inordinate time it had taken the Executive to actualise the project and urged the Executive not to take assurances made on the floor of the House as mere pronouncements. The previous Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to urgently secure funds for the project to be actualised without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted through the Action-Taken Report that they had plans to undertake full rehabilitation of the approximately 87.3km of the Lusaka-Mongu Road (M9) from Tateyoyo Gate to Katunda/ Lukulu Junction in Western Province. The Government had engaged a Consultant Bari Zambia Limited to conduct engineering studies and prepare designs required for construction of works. The designs were expected to be concluded by the second quarter of 2022 once resources had been mobilised for the works.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee finds it unacceptable that the project which should have been implemented and completed in 2016 was still under feasibility studies stage. The Executive is urged to ensure that all available options are explored to facilitate for prompt implementation of the project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

33/16 Road Signage between Chongwe and Luangwa Bridge

On 29th April, 2016, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance:

Sir, there are plans to put up road signs on this stretch in the second quarter of 2016 through the routine maintenance contracts on the same stretch.

The previous Committee had noted with concern the slow pace in which the project was being undertaken considering the time it had taken for the Executive to implement the project. The previous Committee urged the Executive to ensure that road signage between Chongwe and Luangwa Bridge was installed without further delay as continued delay would be disastrous due to poor signage. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that signs on the first 60 km of the road had been installed by the routine maintenance contractors on the same sections. Routine maintenance contractors on the remaining sections were being engaged with the view to install signs once funds permit.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

43/17 Construction of Bridges in Chitambo Constituency

On 30th June, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurances:

Madam Speaker, the Road Development Agency (RDA) has targeted to construct a bridge across the Loumbwa River in Chitambo Parliamentary Constituency under the Acrow Bridge Programme. Preparation for detailed designs has reached an advanced stage, and was expected to be completed by the end of the third quarter of 2017. The construction of the bridge was expected to commence in 2018 upon procurement of a contractor. Only one bridge across the Loumbwa River is earmarked for construction in 2017. Other bridges in the Constituency would be considered in the 2018 Road Sector Annual Work Plan when funds permit.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had observed with concern that despite the contractor having established camp and incorporated the engineer's facilities, works did not commence due to funding challenges. The previous Committee found the failure by the Executive to facilitate the construction of bridges in Chitambo Constituency five years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House unacceptable. The previous Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that resources were secured to construct bridges in Chitambo Constituency before without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that works on the bridge across the Loumbwa river in Chitambo Parliamentary Constituency under the Acrow Bridge Programme had still not commenced due to funding challenges. The works would be considered in future work plans subject to availability of funds. Further, works on the crossing points would be considered as Government rolled out the implementation of the Acrow Bridge programme. The 2022 Road Sector Supplementary Budget had an allocation of K 95 million for Acrow Bridge programme with a plan to implement the construction of selected bridges using Force Account approach (i.e. using the RDA Regional Managers office to do the actual construction works).

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to source for alternative funding in order for the project to be done. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

44/17 Tarring of Mukobeko Maximum Correctional Facility/Ngabwe Road/Local Tour

On 5th July, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the tarring of the road might be considered in the 2018 Road Sector Annual Work Plan (RSAWP), funds permitting. However, the Road Development Agency (RDA) has varied the scope of the contract for the periodic maintenance of the T2 Road from Kabwe to Chibombo to include spot improvement of the Kabwe/Ngabwe Road and facilitation of the continuous flow of traffic on the road. Consultancy for the preparation of the detailed design of the bridge across the Kafue River at Ngabwe was currently in

progress and the design would be completed by the fourth quarter of 2017. The construction of the bridge was expected to commence in 2018, upon completion of the designs and procurement of a contractor.

The previous Committee had observed with concern that the Government had continuously been spending money on this road without a lasting solution being found. The previous Committee, therefore, recommended that funds were urgently secured so that the road can be brought to an all-weather standard, as a long-term plan to have the road tarred was being advanced. The previous Committee reiterated the need for the Executive to make assurances only when funds were available. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the RDA undertook an assessment of the road and prepared cost estimates in the sum of K 4,853,263.17 for the spot improvement works on the road using the force account method. So far K 750,000 out of the budgeted amount had been released and spot improvement of the worst sections stretching a total of 20km had since been completed. The continuation of the outstanding works still awaited release of more funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to promptly release funds to enable the contractor work on the remaining spots. A progress report is being awaited by the Committee.

45/17 Implementation of Link Zambia 8,000 Kilometre Road Project

On Wednesday 5th July, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made an assurance:

Madam Speaker, the implementation of the Link Zambia 8,000 Kilometres Road Project is behind schedule because the target was to complete all the 8,000 km by 2020. The project time frame was ten years. The major challenge to the implementation of the project had been budgetary limitations. However, the Government is exploring various options for financing the project, such as the contractor-facilitated initiative (CFI), public-private partnerships (PPPs) and engineering, procurement, construction plus finance (EPC+F).

Madam, on the construction of the Mtetezi/Msoro Road also known as the Katete/Msoro/Chipata Road, we have received proposals from two contractors who have expressed interest to work on the project road under a CFI, and we have submitted them to the Ministry of Finance for consideration. The Ministry has also started preparing for the possibility of procuring the works under the Government financing in the next financial year in the event of it not being given the authority to do some works under a CFI. In that regard, the Ministry has started preparing the designs and hopes to complete them by December, 2017. If authority to procure the works under a CFI is granted, we should be able to conclude the project by the end of 2017.

Madam, the time frame for completing the Mtetezi to Msoro Road would only be determined once the designs had been completed and the contract works signed.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had expressed concern that it had taken the Executive inordinately long to actualise this project and urged it to expeditiously secure funds to

implement the project as continued delay would lead to additional cost due to standing time. Further, considering that the contract has already been signed consistency in the disbursement of funds to the project is necessary. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the final design report for the upgrading of the Katete to Msoro to Chipata road was not completed owing to funding challenges. This resulted in the consultancy contract lapsing due to the passage of time. The completion of the detailed designs would be considered in future work plans once resources had been mobilised for the activity.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that funding is mobilised using all available options to avoid delays further. The Committee resolves to await a progress report.

37/17B Staff Houses for Agricultural Camps in Chitambo

On Friday 16th June, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of agricultural camp houses in various parts of the country would be considered for inclusion in the 2018 budget. Priority would be given to newly-created districts such as Chitambo.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured for the construction of the district infrastructure in Chitambo. The previous Committee further urged the Executive to reconsider applying the 80 per cent and above policy to assurances made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Government submitted that they were aware of the lack of accommodation for Camp Extension Officers in agricultural camps in Chitambo. The delay in commencing works for the construction of staff houses in Chitambo district was attributed to inadequate resources and Government's directive to prioritise payments to projects that were at eighty per cent and above progress. Arising from the above, the commencement of new projects that included staff accommodation in Chitambo would only be established when projects that were at 80 per cent and above were completed.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to look for alternative source of funding in order for the programme to be done. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

41/17 Lundazi/Chama Road

On 28th June, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the tarring of the Lundazi/Chama Road was divided into five lots for ease of implementation as follows:

Lot Activities

- 1. a 65 km surface was substantially completed;*
- 2. the progress is at 10 per cent and the contractor is on site awaiting to continue 'works when funds are made available; and*
- 3. the works were on-going and the progress was currently at 8 per cent. It was anticipated that the contractor would complete a 10 km stretch of the road by the end of the fourth quarter of 2017.*

The previous Committee had observed with dismay that limited funds are the reason that the implementation of the project had been delayed. the previous Committee therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that assurances made on the floor of the House are given priority when it comes to funding. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that works on the Isoka Muyombe Chama Lundazi Lot 2 lapsed on January 17, 2022 with progress standing at 10 percent. The works on the Isoka Muyombe Chama Lundazi Lot 3 was mutually terminated on October 31, 2021 with progress standing at 5 percent. The works on the Isoka Muyombe Chama Lundazi Lot 4 lapsed on August 3, 2022 with progress standing at 5 percent. The works on the Isoka Muyombe Chama Lundazi Lot 5 lapsed on December 26, 2021 with progress standing at 11 percent. The project had not been provided for either in the 2022 Annual Work Plan or the 2022 Supplementary Budget. Government had prioritised the execution of part of the Road using the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode of financing subject to viability.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to promptly find a lasting solution to connect the Eastern and Muchinga Provinces which, in turn, would encourage economic growth and reduce the cost of doing business in the two provinces. The Committee urges the Executive to expedite the process of finding an investor to work on the road through a PPP contract. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

31/17 Tarring of Muyombe/Isoka Road

On 23rd March, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Isoka/Muyombe Road Project was divided into five lots for ease of implementation. The works on Lot 1 are substantially complete while those on Lot 2 were currently ongoing, although the progress had been minimal due to financial limitations. The contracts for Lots 3, 4 and 5 had been signed and the initial completion dates are 9th June, 2017, 3rd March, 2018, and 26th July, 2017. These dates would be reviewed if the contractors request for extensions.

The previous Committee had acknowledged the submission with concern considering that it had taken over four years for the project to be actualised due to cash flow challenges. the previous Committee urged the Executive to ensure that a mechanism to ensure that assurances are

implemented within the promised time was devised. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that works on the Isoka/Muyombe Road Project had still not resumed due to funding challenges. The works would be considered in future work plans subject to availability of funds. Government had prioritised the execution of part of the road using the PPP mode of financing subject to viability.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

32/17 Mbesuma/Kafwimbi Road

On 23rd March, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Sir, the Government has plans to upgrade to bituminous standard the road from Mbesuma in Chinsali District to Kafwimbi in Isoka District and to construct a bridge across Chambeshi River to connect Mbesuma to Kafwimbi in Isoka District.

Sir, the Ministry intends to commence the construction of the Mbesuma Bridge in 2017, funds permitting, and we have requested Treasury authority from the Hon. Minister of Finance because we have already engaged a contractor.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had expressed concern that little had been done to ensure that the assurance is fully implemented and found the spot improvement works which are being undertaken not good enough. The previous Committee therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured for the upgrade to bituminous standard of the road from Mbesuma in Chinsali District to Kafwimbi in Isoka District and to construct a bridge across Chambeshi River to connect Mbesuma to Kafwimbi in Isoka District. The previous Committee resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that upgrading of the Mbesuma to Kafwimbi road which was earmarked to be procured under Contractor Facilitated Initiative (CFI) model of financing had been put on hold due to the indefinite postponement of debt contraction. The Government would consider undertaking the project once resources had been mobilised.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to consider other options of funding including PPP to expedite the processing of upgrading this economic road. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

42/17 Infrastructure Development in Ngabwe

On 29th June, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the House that all the staff houses had been roofed and plastered. All things being equal, the construction of the houses was expected to be completed by the fourth quarter of 2017.

Sir, the contract for the construction of the post office was recently terminated. The contractor had since challenged the termination and the matter was being looked into by the Ministry. Funds permitting, the construction of the post office was expected to be completed by the end of 2017.

Mr Speaker, the contract for the construction of the civic centre was terminated and the process of engaging another contractor to finish the works is underway. Funds permitting, the project was expected to be completed by December, 2017.

Sir, the contract for the construction of Ngabwe District Administration had been recommended for termination due to poor performance by the contractor. The completion date would be known after the engagement of a new contractor. The construction of the police station and ten associated houses are at an advanced stage and was expected to be completed by December, 2017.

The previous Committee had expressed concern at the slow pace at which the construction of infrastructure in Ngabwe was going the previous Committee hence, urged the Executive to urgently secure funds to facilitate the completion of the infrastructure development in Ngabwe. Further, the Committee urged the Executive to expedite the process to terminate the contract for the construction of administration block, to facilitate for the procurement of the new contract. As already alluded to, continued delay would result to additional cost due to the increase in the cost of building materials and rehabilitation due to vandalism of the existing structures. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

1. Construction of District Administration Office Block

The Executive responded that the contract for the Construction of the District Administration Office block in Ngabwe District was awarded to Stardy Construction at a contract sum of K4, 047,806.08 in 2015. Works were at 30 percent completion and the works had stalled due to contractor's non-performance. Arising from the above, the contract had since been terminated due to contractor's poor performance. Considering the stage at which the works were, completion of the remaining works on this project would only be established when projects that were at 80 percent and above were completed and a new contractor was identified.

2. Construction of the Civic Centre and 2 High Cost Houses in Ngabwe.

The contract for the Construction of the Civic Centre and 2 high cost houses in Ngabwe District was awarded to VBS General Dealers at a contract sum of K8, 956,032.88 in December, 2017 with a completion period of 12 months. Delayed completion of works was attributed to late honouring of interim payment Certificates. The completion date had been revised and extended to December, 2022. VBS General Dealers took over from Furntrade Limited whose contract was terminated for non- performance. The contractors had since executed works to about 50 percent completion. Funds allowing, the project was scheduled to complete by June, 2023.

3. Construction of 10 Medium Cost Houses

The contract for the Construction of the Ten (10) medium cost houses in Ngabwe District was awarded to Stardy construction at a contract sum of K6, 819,526.32 in 2015. Works had stalled due to contractor's non - performance. Arising from the above the contract had since been terminated. Considering the stage of the works the completion of works of this project would only be established when projects that were at 80 percent and above were completed.

4. Construction of Post Office

The contract for the Construction of the Post Office in Ngabwe District was awarded to Diamond palace at contract sum of K6, 832, 549. 64 in 2019. This followed termination of the earlier contract that was being executed by the same contractor after an appeal. A total of K1, 540,845.92 advance payment was certified that is not yet honoured. The delay in honouring the advance payment for this project is attributed to inadequate resources and Government directive to prioritize payments to projects that were at 80 percent and above progress. Arising from the above the completion of works for this project would only be established when projects that were at 80 percent and above were completed.

5. Construction of Police Station, 2 Medium Cost Houses and 8 Low Cost House

The contract for the Construction of the Police Station in Ngabwe District was awarded to Canbert Enterprise ltd in 2015 at the contract sum of K14, 673,995.30 with a contract period of 16 months. Works on this project have progressed to 80 percent completion. However, the project had stalled due delayed settlement of payments in the early stages of construction and the challenge being faced by the contractor regarding increased fluctuation of the cost of construction materials. The contractor did request for negotiation and adjustment of the contract sum. Arising from the above, the Ministry managed to get guidance from Ministry of Justice and authority from Zambia Public Procurement Authority for contract price adjustment. Negotiations with the Contractor on price of material fluctuations had been held and concluded. Authority was now being awaited from the Ministerial tender Committee before engaging Attorney Generals Chambers for clearance of the Addenda for contract price adjustment. The project was expected to be completed before the end of June, 2023 subject to availability of funds.

6. Construction of 20 Low Cost Houses

The contract for the Construction of 20 Low Cost Houses in Ngabwe District was awarded to Chusaka Contractors ltd in 2015 at the contract sum of K10, 774,510.94 with a contract period of 16 months. Works on this project had been executed to over 90 percent completion. However, the project had stalled due delayed settlement of payments in the early stages of construction and the challenge being faced by the contractor regarding increased fluctuation of the cost of construction materials. The contractor did request for negotiation and adjustment of the contractsum. Arising from the above, the Ministry managed to get guidance from Ministry of Justice and authority from Zambia Public Procurement Authority for contract price adjustment. Negotiations with the Contractor on price of material fluctuations had been held and concluded. Authority was now being awaited from the Ministerial tender Committee before engaging Attorney General's Chambers for clearance of the Addenda for contract price adjustment. The project was expected to be completed before the end of June, 2023.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to promptly release funds to enable the contractors to finish all projects that are eighty percent and above while other options must be explored to work on the other projects that are below eighty percent. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

13/16 Upgrading of Mkushi Roads

On 17th November, 2016, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Sir, the Masansa/Luano/Kabwe/Ndola Road is part of the project to upgrade the Kabwe/Kapiri/Mkushi Road (D200/D207/D214) and including the Mpula/Masansa roads in the Central Province to bituminous standard. The detailed designs for the projects were completed in September, 2016, at a cost of K6.2 million. The Government intends to use the contractor facilitated initiative (CFI) model in financing this project. In this model, the contractor mobilises funds for the project.

Sir, it was envisaged that the works on this project would commence upon the finalisation of the procurement of the contractor and the financing arrangements in the third quarter of 2017.

The previous Committee had observed with disappointment that the Executive did almost nothing during the year under review to ensure that the project is undertaken. The previous Committee found the efforts by the Executive in the implementation of the project sluggish which should not be the case six years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that a lasting solution was found for the project to be fully implemented without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the contract for upgrading of the Mkushi roads which was supposed to be financed using the Contractor Financing Initiative (CFI) model of Financing lapsed due to the failure to reach financial closure owing to the postponement of the contraction of new and pipeline debt in order to keep the country's debt at sustainable levels. The Government had prioritised the project for execution using funds from the Treasury subject to availability.

Committee Observation and Recommendation

The Committee observes with concern the failure by the Executive to implement projects that were planned way before the new policy shift.. The Committee, therefore, reiterates its earlier position and urges the Executive to ensure that a lasting solution is found for the project to be fully implemented without further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

18/16 Bridges in Lunte Constituency

On 7th December, 2016, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, it was expected that the works on the Lukulu Bridge would be carried out at the end of the 2016/2017 rainy season. The Road Development Agency (RDA) has already undertaken a conditions survey on the crossing point and had since submitted the cost requirement to the National Fund Agency (NRFA) for possible funding. The crossing point was expected to be worked on after the rainy season.

Sir, it was expected that the works on the Luangwa Bridge would be undertaken at the end of the 2016/2017 rainy season. The RDA has already undertaken a condition survey of the crossing point and had since submitted the cost estimate to the NRFA for possible funding so that the works can commence after the rainy season.

The previous Committee had observed the submission with disappointment considering that the failure by the Executive to commence works on the Lukulu bridge due to financial constraints had lasted six years after the assurance was made on the Floor of the House. The previous Committee urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured to facilitate the implementation of the project and resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the bridges in Lunte Constituency.

Executive's Response

The works on the access road to Lukulu crossing point were undertaken by a Contractor. However, due to budgetary constraints, the works were not included in the 2022 RSAWP and the Contract was earmarked for termination. The commencement of works on the Luangwa bridge was still awaiting mobilisation of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that a lasting solution is found for the projects to be fully implemented without further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

06/17 Construction of Mulambwa and Kaunga Bridges

On 21st February, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the works on the Mulambwa and Kaunga Bridges are scheduled to be undertaken as a variation order under the project for the upgrading to bituminous standard of 91 km of the D145 Road from the Great East Road at Luangwa Bridge to Luangwa (Feira) in Lusaka Province. The works would be undertaken during the course of 2017 by Messrs China Geo Engineering Corporation.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that henceforth assurances should only be made on the floor of the House if the requisite funding is available so as to avoid a backlog of outstanding assurances. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the works on the Mulambwa and Kaunga bridges which were scheduled to be undertaken as a variation order under the project for the upgrading to bituminous

standard of 91 km of the D145 Road from the Great East Road at Luangwa bridge to Luangwa (Feira) in Lusaka Province had not been undertaken due to funding challenges. Consequently, the said contract lapsed. In view of the foregoing, the works on the Mulambwa and Kaunga bridges would be considered for execution in future work plans subject to availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that the matter is brought to its logical conclusion without further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

18/17 Upgrading of Kafubanshi/Milenge Road

On 2nd March, 2017, the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, the Kafubanshi Road in Bangweulu Constituency is part of the Kasanka/Milenge Road, which is on the Road Sector Annual Work Plan for 2017. We floated the tender under unsolicited proposal for execution by contractor-facilitated initiative (CFI) model. We had since received the proposal and were currently reviewing it.

The previous Committee had observed the submission with concern considering the inordinate time it had taken the Executive to actualise the project and urged it to urgently secure funds to fully implement the project as continued maintenance works would not bring closure to the matter. The previous Committee further implored the Executive to prioritise funding assurances made on the floor of the House and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that 40km out of 74km of the road had been completed under force account having received 4.837 Million Kwacha as at end of 2021. The scope of the works comprised installation of culverts and spot gravelling on the entire 74km of the stretch. Currently, works had stalled due to funding challenges.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission resolves to await for a progress report on the remaining part of the road.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

11/15 Connection of Luena Barracks to new Water System

On 4th March 2015, the Deputy Minister of Defence made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, Luena Barracks, which was initially constructed with an independent water supply system, would be connected to the Western Water Company (WWC) system in the 2016 budget cycle.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that Western Water and Sewerage Company comply with the provisions of the contract without further delay. Further, the Committee was of the view that if Western Water and Sewerage fails to comply with

the conditions of the contract then it should be terminated and given to another contractor who can do the works. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the project of connecting Luena Barracks to the new system had not yet been done.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the failure by the Government to connecting water supply to Luena Barracks as assured on the floor of the House. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

30/13 Resuscitation of Mulungushi Textiles/Local Tour

On 7th December, 2012, the Vice President made the following assurance

Mr Speaker, the project to get Mulungushi Textiles working again is underway. There are negotiations between the Ministry of Defence, which happens to have a chunk but, did not own the majority, it owns a significant chunk of about 30 percent or 34 per cent. They were expecting it to be open, again, as a textile factory, and not as a dairy or piggery, within the next year.

The previous Committee had observed that the 66 per cent Chinese shareholding was negatively working against the Zambian Government, considering that most of the decisions are made by the majority shareholder at the expense of the locals. In this regard, the Committee urged the Government to consider revisiting the agreement to benefit both parties. The previous Committee further observed with concern that an aid grant amounting to US\$2 million was contracted to renovate the administrative block, Chinese quarters and Garment factory without the knowledge of the equity partner. The previous Committee, therefore, recommended that Chinese aid grants must be managed to some extent by both the Zambian and Chinese equity partners, failure to which the Mulungushi Textiles would never be able to function profitably. The previous Committee further observed with concern that 80 per cent of the equipment and machinery at the factory was declared obsolete by the Chinese team. Therefore, the Committee was of the view that in order to sustain the industry, there was need to integrate the cotton out grower scheme with soya beans and sunflower. To achieve this, a total business re-engineering must be adopted considering the market competition. Further the Committee urged the Executive to engage business consultants to assess the viability of the whole project. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the full operationalisation of Mulungushi Textiles.

Executive's Responses

The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Defense would engage the Zambia-Chinese Mulungushi Textiles (ZCMT) Board of Directors to revisit the issue of 66 percent Chinese shareholding in the Company, because this matter was embedded in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by both the Government and the People's Republic of China in the joint venture business enterprise. The Executive also informed the Committee on the Chinese aided grants management that the aid grants would be, managed by both parties to enhance transparency and accountability. The previous Committee was also informed that the 80 percent obsolescence state of the equipment in the plant still awaited the Chinese engineers to come and strip off the

machinery which were declared obsolete in order to create space for the new ones. The Executive also informed the Committee that management was in support of the idea of the integration of cotton out grower project with soya beans and sunflower to enable the company generate multiple streams of income to sustain its operations. However, their equity partner who was the majority shareholder was not yet ready to integrate the cotton out grower project with soya beans and sunflower. The Zambia-Chinese Mulungushi Textiles (ZCMT) Board of Director would be advised to table the issue of engaging the Business consultants to access the viability of the whole project.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the slow pace at which the Executive is taking this matter, as the engagement with the business partner is being awaited in perpetuity. The Committee strongly urges the Executive to ensure that the matter is brought to its logical conclusion without further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

20/20 Rural Roads Infrastructure Development in Kanchibiya

On 13th March, 2020, the Vice-President made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Mr Speaker, this Government was committed to improving the road network infrastructure, including feeder roads in the country. As soon as the rains end, the Government would embark on rural roads infrastructure development in Kanchibiya and many other parts of the Northern Province.

Sir, this is a programme that had been funded already, so it was a matter of time when mobilisation of contractors would start. We are concerned about the state of rural roads, especially with the heavy rains that we are experiencing this year. The roads in that part of Zambia are in a deplorable state and the Government is doing something about it.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured for the approved 500km roads under phase II National Feeder Programme to facilitate their implementation as submitted. The previous Committee further urged the Executive to ensure that the procurement of the contractor to carry out emergency maintenance works of 60km of Mpika – Kopa-Mwinikashi Road (RD51) in Kanchibiya District is expedited. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that Mpika/Kopa – Mwinikashi road (RD51) in Kanchiyia District of Muchinga Province stretched a total length of about 120km. The stretch was split into two Lots namely, Lot I with a total 60 km and Lot 2 with a total of 60 km respectively. Preparations for the procurement process commenced in 2021 but could not be completed due to funding challenges. The works would be considered in future work plans subject to availability of funds. Further the works on the phase II of the National Feeder Roads Programme had stalled due to limitations in available funds to the road sector resulting in the project not being able to be accommodated in the 2022 Road Sector Annual Work Plan.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

02/19 Upgrading of Mansa/Milambo Road

On 4th October, 2018, the Minister of Local Government made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government has plans to work on the Mansa/Milambo Road under the Improved Rural Connectivity Project supported by the World Bank. This project was being implemented under the Road Development Agency (RDA). Sir, the procurement process under Luapula Province is scheduled to commence in 2019 using the output and performance based road contract.

The previous Committee had observed with disappointment the failure by the Executive to actualise the upgrading of Mansa/Milambo road due the constrained budgetary provisions four years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured to facilitate the implementation of the project and desist from making assurances as a means of pleasing the Members of Parliament and the general public. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The road had not been done due to financial constraints.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

16/18 Public Libraries in Ndola

On 20th February, 2018, the Minister of Local Government made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the House that Ndola City Council has plans to construct one library in each of the following constituencies: Ndola Central Kanini, Chifubu Misundu, and Bwana Mkubwa Ndeke. Mr Speaker, according to the Council's strategic plan, three libraries would be constructed in three years with effect from 2018.

The previous Committee had observed with concern that four years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House, the Executive had failed to secure funds for the construction of the three public libraries in Ndola. The previous Committee therefore, urged the Executive to take seriously assurances made on the floor of the House and refrain from making assurances when there was no financial backing to a project. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that Ndola City Council had not constructed the Libraries due to financial constraints.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that the status quo has remained the same since the assurance was made. The Committee is of the view that if Government policy on the matter has changed, the Executive should come back to the House and explain its position, rather than simply citing financial constraints as the reason for not starting the project, without offering any further details as to what the Government is doing to source for funds. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

40/18 Tarring of Township Roads in Mkushi District

On 29th June, 2018, the Minister of Local Government made the following assurance:

Sir, the cause of the delay in completing the works on the tarring of township roads in Mkushi District had been the delay in making advance payments. However, this has now been settled. The contractor has already started mobilising equipment on site and works were expected to commence next month in July and are expected to be completed in 2019. The contract duration is fourteen calendar months.

The previous Committee had noted the submission with concern considering the inordinate time it had taken the Executive to actualise the project. The Committee, thus urged the Executive to ensure that the contractor was constantly funded to facilitate the mobilisation of construction materials, project key personnel on site and the finalisation of the installation of aggregate crusher plant. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the challenges highlighted earlier in this project still continued. The Government was reviewing the contract and would decide the way forward considering the financial constraints.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee is very disappointed with the Executive's failure to implement the project despite promising the nation that it was to be completed in 2019. A progress report is being awaited by the Committee.

44/14 National Fire Service Training School

On Wednesday, 10th December, 2014, the Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform this august House that in an effort to improve the operations and training at the National Fire Service Training School, the Ministry of Local Government and Housing has acquired land in Kafulamase in Kabwe in order to construct a modern training school that would have modern facilities. The Procurement and Supply Unit in the Ministry was currently studying the terms of reference for consultancy services for the development of construction designs for the modern training school.

The previous Committee had observed with concern that eight years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House, the Executive had resolved to put on hold the construction of the National Fire Service Training School due to austerity measures on loan contractions. In this regard, the Committee urged the Executive to secure funds for the construction of the school as the assurance was made way before the austerity measures were put in place. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Government had not constructed the said Fire Service Training School in Kabwe due to financial constraints.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes with concern that the project has delayed to start, hence urges the Government to include this project in the next budget so that a modern National Fire Service Training School can be constructed. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

26/14 Rehabilitation of Kabwe Venus Theatre

On Wednesday, 2nd October, 2014 the Deputy Minister of Tourism and Arts made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, all works were being done and would be completed in January 2015.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had observed with concern the tendency by the Executive of treating assurances in a casual way and urged it to take seriously the promises made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The rehabilitation of Kabwe Venus Theatre could not be done due to lack of funds.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee recommends that the Executive should consider including this project in the next budget to ensure that the project is completed as soon as possible. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

22/16 Upgrading of Township Roads in Western Province

On 18th February, 2016, the Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance:

"Mr Speaker, the following are the roads earmarked for upgrading and the estimated completion dates:

Name	Status	Estimated Completion Date
<i>Mongu Urban Roads</i>	<i>Works in progress</i>	<i>30th April, 2016</i>
<i>Kaoma Urban Roads</i>	<i>Contract signed and site handed over to contractor on 15th September, 2015. The contractor is mobilising</i>	<i>31st December, 2016</i>
<i>Senanga Urban Roads</i>	<i>Contract signed and the site handed over to contractor on 4th September, 2015. The contractor is mobilising.</i>	<i>31st December, 2016</i>
<i>Sesheke Urban Roads</i>	<i>Roads Project is at procurement stage</i>	<i>To be advised</i>
<i>Kalabo Urban Roads</i>	<i>Contract is awaiting signing</i>	<i>To be advised</i>

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the township roads in Mongu were completed in 2015 and the defects liability ended in 2016. The roads had since been handed over to the council for care and maintenance. For the other Districts, the contracts had since been closed due to lack of funds.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee bemoans the failure by the Executive to actualise the project six years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The Committee observes that the contracts cannot be closed without formally informing the House and therefore, urges the Executive to source for resources required to fulfill the assurance. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

05/14 Solwezi Township Roads

On 25th February, 2014, the Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government has got money to work on those roads.

Executive's Response

The previous Committee was informed that the Ministry was highly constrained and solely depended on financing from the Treasury. With the continued reduced financing for the township road projects, it had not been able to continue with projects that were procured and was no longer receiving financing. Works would be attended to once the fiscal situation improved.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission, urges the Executive to honour the assurances made on the floor of the House by finding alternative sources of funding for the project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

09/14 Modern Market for Solwezi

On 26th February, 2014, the Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Sir, the Ministry intends to construct a multi-storey market in Solwezi District.

The previous Committee was disappointed to note that eight years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House, the Executive had continuously failed to find means of funding this project. The previous Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured without further delay as it had taken inordinately long for it to actualise this project. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The project was based on a public private partnership concept, however, the concept failed to materialise as the council could not find a partner to finance the project. The project had since been overtaken by events as two shopping malls had since been constructed in Solwezi by private developers.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee urges the Government to formally withdraw the assurance in view of the new developments that have necessitated events to be overtaken. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

09/17 Feeder Road Rehabilitation in Lumezi Constituency

On 22nd February, 2017, the Minister of Local Government made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Ministry would be able to commence the rehabilitation works for feeder roads in Lumezi Parliamentary Constituency once funds are secured. The roads in question are among priority roads that had been earmarked to be worked on in the 2018 Annual Work Plan and budget. Sir, the time frame for the completion would only be determined after the completion of the feasibility studies and signing of the contract. The total cost was currently unknown and would only be known when the feasibility studies are conducted.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that works were completed by end of 2022 as submitted and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the Ministry responsible had been constrained in executing the road projects due to financial limitations. It had therefore, been resolved to terminate a number of feeder road contracts including the Lumezi contracts.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and urges the Government to inform the House on the steps taken regarding this assurance. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

28/17 Modern Bus Station and Three Market Shelters Construction in Katete

On 15th June, 2017, the Minister of Local Government made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Local Government, with the help of the German Development Cooperation, plans to construct a modern bus station and three market shelters in Katete District, under the Strengthening of Local Governance System in Zambia Project. Sir, the construction of a modern bus station and three market shelters would commence by January, 2018. The estimated cost of the project is K15 million.

The previous Committee had, in noting the submission, urged the Executive to expeditiously process the procurement of the contractor to facilitate the commencement of the works. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the KFW financed project had advanced and completed the detailed designs. The project was now at procurement stage for the works and supervision contracts.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF WATER DEVELOPMENT, SANITATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

19/20 Mufumbwe Constituency Borehole Sinking

On 25th February, 2020, the Minister of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

Sir, the sinking of Boreholes in Miluji, Lalafuta, Kaminzekezeke, Mushima, Musonweji, Kabipupu, Kalengwa and Matushi Wards in Mufumbwe Parliamentary Constituency had been planned to commence in 2020 because that is the time when the financing agreement would take effect.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that the project was implemented within 2022, as the Ministry had planned and budgeted for the works. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the financier for the implementation of phase II of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project was availed the audit report and a request for a "No Objection" was also submitted to the financier. As of July, 2022, the financier had not yet responded to the request for "No Objection" to commence the project as they were still reviewing the Audit Report. As stated in the previous update, Government through the Ministry had planned and budgeted for the drilling and equipping with hand pumps of 10 boreholes in Mufumbwe District and these boreholes were earmarked to be sunk in the aforementioned wards (Miluji, Lalafuta, Kaminzekezeke, Mushima, Musonweji, Kabipupu, Kalengwa, and Matushi) of Mufumbwe Parliamentary Constituency. These boreholes were currently under procurement.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee in noting the submission recommends that Government should make a follow up on the report submitted to the financier. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

24/18 Boreholes in Mushindamo District

On 27th February, 2018, the Minister of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government has planned to sink a total of ten boreholes in Mushindamo District in 2018.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that the project is actualised and fully implemented within the 2022 fiscal year. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the financier for the implementation of Phase II of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project availed the audit report and a request for a "No Objection" was also submitted to the financier. As of July 2022, the financier had not yet responded to the request for a "No Objection" to commence the project as they were still reviewing the audit report. However, Government through the Ministry has planned and budgeted for the drilling of 20 hand pumps boreholes in Mushindamo District and these boreholes are earmarked to be sunk in Mushindamo Parliamentary Constituency. The Boreholes were currently under procurement.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee observes that the Government has the responsibility to be pro-active and urges the financier regarding the request for a "No objection" for the project commence. The Committee urges the Government to take the necessary steps to ensure implementation of the

project without anymore delays. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

29/16 Sinking of Boreholes in Lumezi

On 21st April, 2016, the Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance:

Sir, the number of boreholes earmarked for sinking in Lundazi District in 2016 is seventy-one, out of which seventeen would be sunk in Lumezi Constituency.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that Lumezi was also attended to within the course of 2022. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that considering that the contract took long to be executed, the Ministry retendered the seventeen boreholes and additional eight boreholes had been allocated to Lumezi in 2022 work plan totalling the number of boreholes to twenty five. The evaluation had been concluded and the Ministry was in the process of awarding the contract to the best evaluated bidder. Works were expected to commence in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee in noting the submission bemoans the slow pace at which the project is being implemented and urges the Government to complete the project as assured on the floor of the House. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

33/17 Water Reticulation System for Chiengi District

On 23rd March, 2017, the Minister of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection made the following assurance:

"Mr Speaker, yes, the Government has plans to construct a water reticulation system in Chiengi District. The implementation of the project had been planned for in the 2017 Annual Work Plan (AWP), once funds are released from the Treasury."

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that the remaining amount from the requested advance payment be made without further delay. The previous Committee also urged the Executive to ensure that there was consistency in the disbursement of funds to facilitate a complete water reticulation system for Chiengi District and avoid additional cost due to standing time charges. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Ministry had since disbursed K 3,000,000 bringing the total to K20, 000,000. The Ministry had re-scoped the project to be implemented in phases to be completed by 2024 in view of the budget constraints.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee in noting the submission bemoans the slow pace at which the project is being implemented and urges the Government to expedite completion of the work since it has taken longer than expected. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

17/16 Dams and Boreholes in Nyimba District

On 30th November, 2016, the Minister of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government has budgeted for ten boreholes in 2016 in Nyimba under the National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme. Out of the ten potential dam sites, the one in Kacholola is undergoing feasibility studies and is likely to be constructed in 2017.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that the site verification and procurement of the contractor was done immediately after the rainy season as submitted. The previous Committee resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that funds for the construction of Kacholola dam had been set aside in the 2022 budget year. The Ministry planned to commence the process of construction of Kacholola Dam, since all preliminary works such as feasibility studies were concluded in the previous year. The focus for 2022 would be the procurement of a contractor, therefore, it was expected that construction would begin at the end of the rainy season in 2023.

Committee's Observation and Recommendation

The Committee in noting the submission the resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

14/13 Construction of Dams in Mapatizya Constituency

On Friday, 22nd February, 2013, the Deputy Minister of Mines, Energy and Water Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government, through the Department of Water Affairs, plans to rehabilitate the mentioned dams in 2013. This would be done after the rainy season.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that works to construct dams in Mapatizya Constituency commence immediately after the rain season as it had taken the Executive inordinately long to actualise the project. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that funds to undertake the feasibility studies for Siambelele and Chuunduwe dams had been set aside in the 2022 budget year. The feasible studies for Siambelele and Chuunduwe were underway and a report would be prepared once the field activity was completed.

Committee’s Observation and Recommendation

The Committee urges the Executive to expedite the commencement of the project to ensure that it is done within the scheduled timeframe. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

05/16 Improvement of Water Reticulation in Samfya

On 10th February, 2016, the Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government has plans to improve the water supply and sanitation situation in Samfya District. Sir, the Government has already engaged the African Development Bank (AfDB) to finance the rehabilitation and construction of water and sanitation infrastructure in Samfya District. The Bank has just undertaken its preparatory mission to Samfya and, once it approves the project proposal, the implementation of the project would commence in the third quarter of this year.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that the project was fully implemented within the scheduled timeframe. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive’s Response

The Executive responded that the overall progress of the Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Samfya as at 30th October 2022 stood at 97 percent complete and works were scheduled to be completed by 30th March 2023.

Committee’s Observation and Recommendation

The Committee in noting the submission resolved to await for a progress report on the remaining works.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

04/19 Construction of University Colleges

On 19th September, 2018, the Minister of Higher Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Ministry has made notable progress on the construction of the three university colleges in Kabompo District, Nalolo District and Katete District. The tender processes have advanced with the evaluations to choose the consultant that would design the university colleges concluded in May, 2018. The report had been submitted to the funder for a “no objection” before the contracts for the designing can be awarded. Once the “no objection” is received, the Ministry would award the contract for designing of the works and would allocate a maximum period of three months to the consultant to complete the designs. Thereafter, the tender for the construction would be floated to choose the contractors that would construct the institutions. If the “no objection” is received within the month of September, construction was expected to commence in the first quarter of 2019.”

The previous Committee had expressed dismay at the failure by the Executive to actualise the construction of the University College in Kabompo District, even after the cancellation of the construction of university colleges in Nalolo and Katete Districts. In this regard, the Committee

implored the Executive to ensure that funds were urgently sourced to facilitate the construction of Kabompo University College. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the Ministry of Education took note of the Committee's recommendations regarding the construction of a university college in Kabompo District. The Ministry informed the Committee that the status quo had remained the same. However, the Committee was informed that one of the objectives of the infrastructure plan budget for 2023 – 2025 was to complete the ongoing university projects before embarking on new projects.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to actualise the construction of the university college in Kabompo District and to look for other sources of funds to facilitate full implementation of the project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

29/19 Milenge Trades Institute

On 11th December, 2018, the Minister of Higher Education made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, the Ministry had been in negotiations with the contractor for Milenge Trades Institute on the revised contract sum. The negotiations were concluded the week beginning 8th October, 2018 and the contracts had since been submitted to the Ministry of Justice for clearance. As soon as the contracts are signed, the contractor would move on site and commence works. It was envisaged that the work would resume by January, 2019.

Madam Speaker, the cost of completing the outstanding works stands at K31,863,322.90.

The previous Committee had noted with concern the failure by the Executive to actualise the construction of Milenge Trades Institute seven years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House due to financial constraints. The previous Committee bemoaned the tendency by the Executive to make assurances when financial backing is not certain and urged the Executive to find alternative means to ensure that the project is actualised without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the Ministry of Education took note of the Committee's observations and recommendations regarding the construction of the Milenge Trades Training Institute in Milenge District. The Ministry reported that the status quo was the same. However, the Government was committed to ensuring that the projects under construction and stalled infrastructure were completed before embarking on new projects.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with disappointment the failure by the Executive to actualise the project years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The Committee urges the Executive to look for alternative sources of funding in order to implement the project. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

16/19 Frozen Staff Positions

On 5th March, 2019, the Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, as at 31st September, 2018, the Ministry had frozen 6,631 positions. Mr Speaker, the main reason for the freezing of the positions was delays in the filling of vacant positions and lengthy processing points of human resource matters. With enhanced decentralisation, the Ministry hopes that there would be timely decision-making and reduced number of processing points.

Mr Speaker, the impact of the freezing of the positions was:

- (a) the quality of education was compromised, as schools were manned by fewer teachers than provided for on the establishment;*
- (b) some teachers became fatigued and demotivated; and*
- (c) there is a high teacher-pupil ratio, which had a negative impact on both the learning and the teaching outcomes.*

Mr Speaker, in 2018, the Ministry was given Treasury authority to unfreeze 1,035 promotional positions, as the unfreezing of positions is dependent on the availability of funds. The Ministry would continue to consult and collaborate with the Ministry of Finance on the disbursement of funds for unfreezing positions.”

The previous Committee in noting the progress made in the unfreezing of frozen promotional position had urged the Executive to ensure that the remaining frozen positions were unfrozen without further delay so that the deserving officers are promoted as a way of motivating them. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive’s Response

The Executive responded that the Ministry of Education had a number of positions that were frozen on its payroll. This had affected teacher morale and also created shortage of teachers in schools where these positions were frozen. In order to ensure that the backlog of frozen positions was dismantled, the Ministry embarked on the process of unfreezing positions using treasury authority for teachers’ recruitment. For example, in 2023, the Ministry had planned to unfreeze 900 promotional positions in all parts of the country.

Committee’s Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured for unfreezing of the positions which have been frozen for a long time so that deserving teachers are promoted. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

19/18 Kaniki Primary School in Chifubu, Ndola/Local Tour

On 23rd February, 2018, the Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Ministry has upgraded Kaniki Primary School to a secondary school in Chifubu Parliamentary Constituency. The Ministry would work with the Provincial Education Office (PEO), the Parents and the Teachers’ Association (PTA) to construct additional classroom blocks at Kaniki Primary School.

Mr Speaker, the Government would consider deploying more teachers at the school in 2018 once Treasury Authority to undertake new recruitment of teachers is granted by the Ministry of Finance.

The previous Committee had expressed disappointment at the slow pace at which the Government was helping in ensuring that the project was completed. In this regard, the Committee recommended that the Government urgently mobilises funds to enable the completion of the classroom block. The previous Committee further, urged the Executive to ensure that funding was prioritised to this project so as not to continuously disadvantage the learners. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that Ndola City Council using CDF, had allocated K 250,000 towards the completion of the 1 x 3 classroom block. It was expected that the construction would be completed before the end of the first quarter of 2023.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the utilisation of K 250,000 from CDF. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

26/18 Kasaba Day Secondary School

On 6th March, 2018, the Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Madam Speaker, yes, the Government plans to transform Kasaba Day Secondary School in Chifunabuli Parliamentary Constituency into a boarding school due to its ideal location and distance from feeder schools. Madam Speaker, the provision of boarding facilities at the school would only be done once the Government mobilises funds for the construction of the required infrastructure. For now, the Government is concentrating on completing on-going projects, which includes the school in question.

Madam Speaker, the Ministry would deploy an account assistant and a typist at the school once the province receives officers under this cadre of staff.

The previous Committee had in noting the progress made, urged the Executive to ensure that the disbursement of funds was consistent so as to facilitate the completion of the project, as continued delay would result in additional cost due to increase in building materials and standing time charges. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the status quo was the same. However, the contractor was on-site, and works had since commenced.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

31/18 Computers for Gwembe Schools

On 13th March, 2018, the Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, since the introduction of the teaching of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the education system, the Government has in a phased approach been supplying computers to schools, especially in the primary sub-sector. It desires to ensure that all the children have access to computers. However, in the face of limited resources, the rollout had been phased. For 2018 budget, the Ministry plans to procure computers that would be supplied to twenty-four schools in each province. Gwembe District would be one of the beneficiaries of these computers.

The previous Committee in noting the progress made had urged the Executive to ensure that computers were distributed to the remaining schools. The previous Committee was also of the view that details with regards how many schools were remaining should be availed to the Committee and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the status quo had remained the same. However, the Ministry had been distributing computers to schools on the first schedule and remained committed to ensuring that all schools had adequate computers for improved teaching and learning. In addition, the Minister of Education was engaging stakeholders to help provide the much-needed service in the schools.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to prioritise the distribution of computers to the remaining schools and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

05/15 Construction of Teachers' Houses in Chasefu Constituency

On Thursday, 29th October, 2015, the Deputy Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, twenty-eight staff houses were currently being constructed in Chasefu Constituency at Chasefu Boarding Secondary School, which is under construction. Sir, the estimated cost of building the houses is K8. 4 million.

Mr Speaker, as already stated in (a), Chasefu Boarding Secondary School would benefit from the construction of the staff houses.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had expressed concern that limited fiscal space had continuously been the reason why construction of teachers' houses in Chasefu Constituency had not been fully actualised seven years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee was therefore, of the view that the Executive should find a lasting solution of ensuring that assurances made on the floor of the House were actualised within the promised timeframe. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the status quo was the same. However, the contractor was on-site, and works had since commenced.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee expresses disappointment over the failure by the Executive to commence in time as per scheduled period and urges it to expedite and supervise the project accordingly to avoid further delays. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

07/16 Chasefu Boarding Secondary School

On 12th April, 2016, the Deputy Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of Chasefu Boarding Secondary School in Chasefu Parliamentary Constituency was expected to be completed in the last quarter of 2016. The delay in completing the project is due to insufficient budgetary allocation to on-going project implementation.

Mr Speaker, the school was expected to open in January, 2017, after completion of the works in the fourth quarter of 2016.

The previous Committee had bemoaned the slow pace in which assurances were being implemented due to limited fiscal space and urged the Executive to come up with measures to ensure that assurances made on the floor of the House were implemented within the promised timeframe. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the status quo was the same. However, the contractor was on-site, and works had since commenced.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee expresses disappointment over the failure by the Executive to commence in time as per scheduled period. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

21/16 Classroom Blocks for Schools in Sikongo Constituency

On 17th February, 2016, the Deputy Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the mentioned schools are at varying levels of construction. The biggest problem had been limited resources. In terms of completing the projects, the officers in Sikongo are trying to secure funding from the Constituency Development Fund (CDF). The Ministry of General Education is also committed to including some of the schools in its 2016 Infrastructure Development Plan (IDP). Sir, the construction of the 1x2 classroom block at Simbuu Primary School was expected to commence in 2016.

The previous Committee had expressed disappointment over the failure by the Executive to commence construction of a 1 x 2 classroom block at Simbuu Primary School during the period under review. In this regard, the Committee urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured for the project to be implemented. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the status quo was the same. However, the Ministry was considering taking advantage of the 2023 CDF to implement the project.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee expresses disappointment over the failure by the Executive to commence construction of a 1 x 2 classroom block at Simbuu Primary School during the period under review. In this regard, the Committee urges the Executive to ensure that funds are secured for the project to be implemented. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

31/16 Ncheka Primary School in Malambo

On 23rd February, 2016, the Deputy Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the blown off roof at Ncheka Primary School would be rehabilitated this year because it had been provided for in the 2016 Annual Work Plan. The works would be undertaken as soon as the funds are released.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had found the response by the Executive unacceptable as the issue of a blown off roof should have been treated as an emergency, but six years down the line, the Executive had failed to rehabilitate the blown off roof at Ncheka Primary School. The previous Committee urged the Executive to ensure that the roof at Ncheka Primary School was rehabilitated without further delay, so as not continuously disadvantage the learners. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Ministry of Education reported that the Ministry, working with a cooperating partner, Project Luangwa, renovated one 1 by 3 Classroom block. In addition, three out of the seven staff houses with roofs blown off had since been rehabilitated using CDF. The Ministry planned to finish the remaining structures in 2023.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission but urges the Executive to expedite the process of completing the remaining works at Ncheka Primary School. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

13/15 Laboratories at Secondary Schools in Chasefu

On 23rd September, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Ministry, through the National Science Centre, has approved the supply of mobile science laboratories to Lusuntha and Emusa Day Secondary Schools while funds are being sourced for the construction of permanent laboratories. Hoya Day Secondary School might be considered in 2016.

The previous Committee in appreciating the progress made on the supply of mobile science laboratories at Lusuntha and Emusa Day Secondary School had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured for the construction of permanent laboratories at Lusuntha, Emusa Day Secondary School and Hoya Day School in Chasefu Constituency. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the Ministry, with assistance from the Church of Central African Presbyterian, Hoya Day Secondary School, was constructing two laboratory rooms. So far, only plumbing works were yet to be done, including installing sinks and water lines. Through the Zambia Education Project Implementation Unit (ZEPIU), the Ministry remained committed to securing funds to actualise the construction of permanent laboratories so as not to disadvantage the learners in the teaching and learning of science.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee reiterates its position and urges the Executive to ensure that the construction of permanent laboratories is expedited so as not to disadvantage the learners in the teaching and learning of science. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

30/14 Construction of Nakonde Secondary School

On 7th October, 2014, the Deputy Minister of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of Nakonde Secondary School is planned to be completed in 2015.

The previous Committee in appreciating the progress made had urged the Executive to ensure that the remaining works were completed within the scheduled timeframe. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the status quo had remained the same. However, the contractor was back on site, and works had since commenced.

As part of the program of work for its local tour for the Second Session of the Thirteenth National Assembly, the Committee visited this assurance:

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee discovered that the project has stalled and the contractor had demobilised; and was not on site at the time of the tour contrary to what was earlier reported by the Ministry of Education. The school has been partially opened though most of the infrastructure has remained uncompleted. The school has no ablution blocks for both boys and girls but uses the pit latrines. The Committee urges the Executive to urgently ensure that the remaining works at the school is completed as soon as possible. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

21 /17 Mufumbwe Day Secondary School Laboratory/Local Tour

On 3rd March, 2017, the Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the House that the Government has plans to refurbish the laboratory at Mufumbwe Day Secondary School in Mufumbwe District to replace the one which was gutted by fire three years ago. Sir, plans to carry out the refurbishment are expected to be implemented in 2017.

During the tour, the previous Committee learnt with disappointment that pupils at Mufumbwe Day Secondary School were since 2012 been learning science using dry laboratory and that the school had not been provided with a mobile laboratory as was submitted. The previous Committee had

expressed dismay at the failure by the Executive to refurbish the laboratory eight years after the laboratory was gutted by fire. The previous Committee therefore, urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured to facilitate the refurbishment of the laboratory so as not to continually disadvantage the learners.

Further, the Committee urged the Executive to ensure that in the meantime as the Executive was still sourcing funds a mobile laboratory be provided as a short-term measure of mitigating the absence of the permanent laboratory. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the status quo had remained the same. However, the Ministry was considering options to resolve the matter.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee expresses disappointment at the failure by the Executive to actualise the assurance six years after it was made. The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that in the meantime before resources are sourced, a mobile laboratory is provided as a short-term measure of mitigating the absence of the permanent laboratory. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

17/17 Electrification of Chama South Schools

On 2nd March, 2017, the Minister of General Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, Chikwa and Chitheba Day Secondary Schools would be electrified or provided with generators after they are fully constructed. In the meantime, there are plans to provide them with solar panels with the capacity to meet their electricity demands. Mr Speaker, the schools would be electrified by the end of 2017.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure the two schools were connected to the national grid without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the electrification of the two Secondary Schools.

Executive's Response

The Executive through the Ministry of Education informed the Committee that the status quo had not changed. However, the Ministry was committed to ensuring that schools were connected to the main grid, which would ultimately promote, among others, the use of ICTs.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee expresses disappointment at the failure by the Executive to actualise the assurance. The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that schools are connected to the main grid, which will ultimately promote, among others, the use of ICTs. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report.

14/15 Mumbwa Trades Training Institute

On Friday, 6th March, 2015, the Minister of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the House that the construction of Mumbwa Trades Training Institute would commence in 2015.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had bemoaned the failure by the Executive to complete the remaining works at the Mumbwa Trades Training Institute three years after the works stalled. The previous Committee urged the Executive to ensure that once a project was started, disbursement of funds should be consistent to avoid addition cost due to standing charges and rehabilitation as a result of vandalism and cracking due to long period of non-occupancy. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the status quo had not changed. However, the Ministry was committed to ensuring that the infrastructure that started sometime back was completed. To this effect, the Government's policy to complete infrastructure at eighty percent completion and above was prioritised.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee expresses disappointment at the failure by the Executive to actualise the assurance. The Committee urges the Executive to ensure that once a project is started, disbursement of funds should be consistent to avoid addition cost due to standing charges and rehabilitation as a result of vandalism and cracking due to long period of non-occupancy. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

40/14 Construction of King Lewanika University

On 2nd December, 2014, the Deputy Minister of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of King Lewanika University in the Western Province would commence in January, 2015. The contractor, by the name of Datong Construction Limited, had been identified. The project is estimated to cost K160 million. The project would be constructed within a period of three years.

The previous Committee had expressed disappointment at the failure by the Executive to actualise the assurance seven years after it was made on the floor of the House and urged it to urgently secure funds to facilitate the commencement of works at King Lewanika University site. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Ministry of Education informed the Committee that the status quo had not changed. However, the Ministry was committed to ensuring that the infrastructure that started sometime back was completed. To this effect, the Government's policy to complete infrastructure at eighty percent completion and above was prioritised.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee expresses disappointment at the failure by the Executive to actualise the assurance seven years after it was made on the floor of the House and urges it to urgently secure funds to

facilitate the commencement of works at King Lewanika University site. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

34/13 Construction of Chalimbana, Mukuba and Kwame Nkrumah Universities/Local Tour

On Friday, 22nd February, 2013, the Vice-President assured the House as follows:

Mr Speaker, according to the latest information I have, and it was very hot-off-the-press, I think, this morning, in fact, the progress in the construction of Chalimbana, Mukuba and Nkrumah Universities is good. They would open as universities this year, 2013.

The previous Committee had observed with concern the slow pace at which the construction of Mukuba University the first Stem University was going. The previous Committee also observed with concern the limited science laboratories considering that it was a stem university. In view of the above, the Committee recommended that the Executive should without delay source funds to facilitate the completion of both phases I and II construction works. Further, the Committee urged the Government to take keen interest considering that most programmes at the school were in natural science and desperate needs the laboratories for effective learning.

The previous Committee expressed concern at the limited number of students who could be accommodated at the school. Out of 1,500 students enrolled at the school only 800 were accommodated while the others had to find alternative boarding houses in the neighbouring compounds which was not safe for the students, especially that the area was isolated.

In addition, the Committee noted the submission from Ministry of Education with concern taking into consideration the inordinate time it had taken the Executive to fully implement the project. It was the view of the Committee that the Executive changes the way it attended to assurances made on the floor of the House and further registered its disappointment at the failure by the Executive to fully implement this project nine years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee also urged the Executive to prioritise the construction of the three universities and resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive informed the Committee that the status quo of the projects at Nkrumah, Mukuba and Chalimbana Universities had not changed. However, at Nkrumah, the contractor had mobilised and had since resumed work. The project at Mukuba had stalled, and the contractor had since demobilised, while the Chalimbana University project's contract had since been terminated.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes with disappointment that the project has taken longer than expected and urges the Executive to look for other alternative sources of financing the project without any further delay. The Committee urges the Executive to clearly explain the implication of the termination of the contract regarding Chalimbana University. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

47/18 Geological Mapping Programme

On 29th September, 2017, the Minister of Finance through his budget address made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, to enhance information provision and planning, the Government would, in 2018, continue with the geological mapping programme for the remaining 40 per cent of the country. In addition, to promote inclusiveness in the sector, the Government would continue to support artisanal and small-scale miners through the Development Mineral Capacity Building Programme. Further, promotion of downstream value chains would be emphasised.

The previous Committee had observed with disappointment that the funding of the geological mapping programme was to be included in the budget four years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to urgently secure funds for the mapping programme and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Treasury had taken note of the Committees' observations regarding funding towards geological mapping and was aware of the importance of geological mapping in unlocking the nation's mineral resource potential. The Committee was informed that the Treasury provided ceilings to institutions such as the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, being the sector ministry for mineral resources development and management, to budget for priority programmes. In this regard, it was reported that geological mapping fell under the Mineral Resource Development and Management Programme which had a geological mapping sub-programme that had an allocation of K6.9 million in the 2022 Budget. The Committee was also informed that the Treasury would endeavour to allocate more funds to the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development once revenues permitted.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

48/18 Energy Regulation and Electricity Bill

On 29th September, 2017, the Minister of Finance in his budget address made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, stable and reliable energy supply is critical to the welfare of our people and productivity of business. Priority in the electricity sub-sector would, therefore, be on increasing the energy mix through the promotion of off-grid electricity generation and alternative energy sources. In this regard, the Government would continue with on-going reforms in the sector to boost private sector participation. Sir, in 2018, the Government would present the Energy Regulation and Electricity Bills to this august House for enactment. The Energy Regulation Bill would allow for enhanced supervision and regulation of the energy sector while the Electricity Bill would, among other outcomes, allow for participation of other players in the industry. To ensure cost reflectivity in tariffs and encourage investment in the sector, the Government would, in 2018, finalise the cost of service study. The results would provide the basis for future adjustments to electricity tariffs.

The previous Committee had in appreciating the progress made, urged the Executive to ensure that the Cost of Service Study was expeditiously completed so that the matter be closed. The previous Committee resolved to await progress report on the completion of the Cost of Service Study.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed by the Executive that the Electricity Cost of Service Study was completed in December, 2021. The study results including the Government Green Paper highlighting Government's preliminary position on the recommendations of the cost of service study were released to the Public in August, 2022. The Committee also heard that the Ministry of Energy, together with the Ministry of Finance and National Planning as well as the Energy Regulation Board, had embarked on a provincial dissemination exercise of the cost of service study results and the Government Green paper to solicit comments and input from the public. After the dissemination exercise was complete, the intention was to develop a Government White paper which would give Government's final position on the recommendations of the Electricity Cost of Service Study.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee reiterates its earlier position in appreciating the progress made and urges the Executive to ensure that the Cost of Service Study was expeditiously completed so that the matter be closed. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the completion of the Cost of Service Study.

50/18 Dam Construction at Kafue Gorge Lower Project and Maamba Thermal Plant

On 29th September, 2017, the Minister of Finance in his budget address made the following assurance:

Sir, I am glad to inform this House that the dam construction of the 750 MW Kafue Gorge Lower Project is progressing well. Further, the work on the second phase of the 300 MW Maamba Thermal Plant was expected to commence in 2018. In addition, the 250 MW Kalungwishi Hydro Power Project would commence in 2018.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that remaining works were implemented with the timeframe submitted to the Committee. The previous Committee resolved to await comprehensive report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded as set out below:

1.Kafue Gorge Lower (KGL)

Currently, four generator units producing 600 MW of power had been commissioned and put into commercial operations whilst the assembly of the last generator unit (150MW) was in progress. Generator Unit No. 5 was expected to be commissioned by the end of 2022. The Committee was also informed that the delay in commissioning all 5 units as per time frame was due to financing challenges with the lenders which were now being addressed.

2. Kalungwishi Power Project

The Committee heard that the impasse which was surrounding the development of the Kalungwishi Hydro Project was now being concluded to pave way for the developer to initiate works.

3. 300 MW Maamba Phase II

The Committee was informed that feasibility studies for the second phase (additional 300 MW) of the Maamba Thermal Plant had been completed. However, the developer, Maamba Collieries was still mobilising funds for the project and was, therefore, yet to commence the construction.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

51/18 Implement the Renewable Energy Feed-in Tariff Regulatory Framework

On 29th September, 2017, the Minister of Finance, through his budget address, made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, in the 2017 budget address, the Government indicated its intention to disengage from direct procurement of finished petroleum products by March 2017, to remove the burden of oil procurement from the Treasury, attain efficiencies and promote private sector participation. The measure would take effect in the first quarter of 2018.

The previous Committee had in noting the progress made urged the Executive to ensure that the remaining processes are expedited so as to facilitate the urgent disengagement of the Executive from direct procurement of finished petroleum products. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded on the progress made on the Government Assurance as set out below.

- i. The Petroleum Development and Management Bill had been drafted and was undergoing internal stakeholder review. In addition, the Ministry of Energy was in the process of developing a national mechanism supply model anchored on private sector led fuel procurement whilst ensuring that security of supply was maintained. The model was expected to be finalised by the end of the first quarter of 2023.
- ii. From 1st October 2022, the Government reinstated Excise Duty and Import Value Added Tax (VAT) on petrol and diesel. On the other hand, Customs Duty on petrol and diesel was suspended in order to support the continued importation of the two products by licensed Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). In light of this initiative, it was worth noting that since October 2022, the private sector had been responsible for supplying over 90 percent of the petroleum products on the local market.
- iii. In November 2022, the Ministry of Energy wrote to all Government contracted finished petroleum product suppliers instructing them to discontinue the supply of petroleum products until a verified reconciled position of the outstanding amounts owed by Government to each supplier was ascertained and also to curb the contraction of further debt through the accumulation of subsidies. Further, the Government had engaged the suppliers in order to consider the options to terminate all supplier contracts and achieve Government's aim of disengagement from the procurement of petroleum products.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the progress made, reiterates its earlier position and urges the Executive to ensure that the remaining processes are expedited so as to facilitate the urgent disengagement of the Executive from direct procurement of finished petroleum products. The Committee resolves to await progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK

09/19 Chadiza Dip Tanks

On 18th June, 2019, the Minister of Fisheries and Livestock made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of a dip tank and a borehole in Kapilimpika in Chadiza District was awarded to Fadem Construction, Transport and Suppliers. So far, the contractor has completed drilling the borehole and construction of a dip tank is about 85 per cent complete. The remaining works of the walkways and the roof are scheduled for completion this year. The construction of a dip tank at Chaphuka in Chadiza District was awarded to Lukomi Enterprise Limited. The contractor has completed the construction of the tank, walkways and the roof. The project is about 95 per cent complete and is scheduled to be completed this year (2019).

The previous Committee had resolved to await progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the status quo on the Chaphuka and Kapilimpika dip tanks had remained the same due to financial constraints. The Ministry had, however, commenced a comprehensive assessment of all incomplete dip tanks across the country, including the Chaphuka and Kapilimpika dip tanks in Chadiza District, in order to ascertain the full cost and extent of the works to be undertaken. Further, the Ministry had been engaging the Treasury for financing and in this regard, an allocation of K 21,741,973.14 for infrastructure development had been provided for in the 2023 National Budget for the Department of Veterinary Services and part of this allocation would be used to complete the remaining works at Chaphuka dip Tanks and rehabilitate the blown off roof at Kapilimpika dip Tank. The Committee was also informed that the K21 Million provided was insufficient to complete all the dip tanks in the country and the Ministry would, therefore, continue to engage the Treasury for additional financing. The Ministry was also exploring avenues that included community participation in the completion of these facilities through the support of the CDF.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

04/17 Electrification of Chiefdoms in Mpika District

On 21st February, 2017, the Minister of Energy made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the electrification of Chiundaponde, Kabinga and Kopa are earmarked for 2019 in the Rural Electrification Master Plan (REMP).

Mr Speaker, the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) was currently implementing a project to connect public institutions in Mpepo Chiefdom at a cost of K1 million. The beneficiaries of that project are Chief Mpepo's palace, the market area, Mpepo Primary School and Mpepo Secondary School. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2017.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured to facilitate the completion of the remaining works for the electrification of Chiefdoms in Mpika District. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that as at 31st August 2022, Kopa Grid Extension Project was at 85 percent complete. Pending works included transformer installation and the project was expected to be completed by the end of 2022. With regards to the electrification of Chief Kabinga and Chief Chiundaponde Chiefdoms, the projects would be undertaken once funds were available.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that while Kopa grid extension project was on course, the electrification of Chief Kabinga and Chief Chiundaponde Chiefdoms had not commenced. The Committee, therefore, urges the Government to source funds for the project to be implemented as was assured on the floor of the House. The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

38/17 Rural Electrification Programme in Kasama

On Friday 16th June, 2017, the Minister of Energy made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, based on the Rural Electrification Master Plan, the following areas that fall under Kasama Parliamentary Constituency were identified for electrification: Chisanga; Kachuma; Chilubula; Chishimba; Munkonge; and Lukulu North.

Based on the priority list of the Rural Electrification Master Plan, Chisanga, Lwabwe and Musa were scheduled to be electrified in 2009. However, Musa and Lwabwe were electrified in 2013, while Chisanga would be electrified when funds are made available. Further, the remaining areas are scheduled to be electrified in 2018. However, this is dependent on the availability of funds.

The previous Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the matter and urged the Executive to ensure that Chisanga, Chiba, Chishipula, Chilubula, Chishimba and Luyeye areas in Kasama were electrified as was promised on the floor of the House five years ago.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the Rural Electrification Authority had set aside funds to undertake the electrification of Chilubula in the 2022 budget. The project involved electricity supply to Mulinda and Chitenge Villages at Chilubula Mission in Kasama District. The work involved construction of 1,828m of 11kV of overhead lines from an existing 11kV line supplying power to Chilubula Mission and 5,227m of 400V overhead lines. The project was currently under procurement and was expected to be completed by end of the second quarter of 2023. With regards to the other areas, the option of having the areas electrified under the World Bank funded Electricity Services Access Project (ESAP) was still envisioned. Nonetheless, the areas would be electrified once funds were made available.

As part of the program of work for its local tour for the Second Session of the Thirteenth National Assembly, the Committee visited this assurance:

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee discovered that nothing much has been done on this assurance as the contract was at procurement stage. This is because the first contract was terminated due to time lapse. The Committee urges Government to expedite the procurement process and ensure that construction of 1,828m of 11kV overhead lines from an existing 11kV line supplying power to Chilubula Mission and 5,227m of 400V overhead lines are done as soon as possible. The Rural Electrification Authority (REA) assured the Committee that the project is expected to be completed by August, 2023. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

05/18 ZESCO Office for Chitambo District

On 26th September, 2017, the Minister of Energy made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government has plans to establish a ZESCO Office and a sub-station in Chitambo District, as reflected in the District Development Master Plan for Chitambo. To that effect, a plot had been allocated for the construction of the office and sub-station, and ZESCO was currently in the process of formalising the acquisition of the plot. The company has submitted the application to Chitambo District Council and was currently awaiting feedback from the Council.

Sir, the implementation of the project was expected to commence in the middle of next year, once funds are made available through the ZESCO budget for 2018.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that funds were urgently secured for the construction of the Zesco office in Chitambo District, considering that the assurance had been outstanding for over four years. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that funds for the construction of the new ZESCO office in Chitambo District were not available in 2022 due to budget constraints and would thus be made available in the 2023 budget.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the delay to construct a new ZESCO office in Chitambo District. Therefore, the Committee urges the Executive to treat this matter with the urgency it deserves and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

08/15 Construction of Filling Station in Kalabo

On 25th September, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Mines, Energy and Water Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government of the Republic of Zambia has plans to facilitate the construction of a filling station in Kalabo in 2016. The Hon. Member of Parliament would wish to note that, in fact, we have already gone ahead and written to the Permanent Secretary (PS) for Western Province to facilitate the acquisition of a suitable place or land

for us to ensure that this facility is put up. Further, the Government continues to promote public-private partnerships (PPPs) in terms of filling stations in areas such as Kalabo. Sir, the funds for the works in 2016 had been put aside by the Government.

The previous Committee had noted the submission and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that land for both Kalabo and Lukulu filling stations was acquired and designs for both filling stations were completed. A team of experts had also been set up to develop Bill of Materials for both sites. The Ministry of Energy was exploring options of private sector partnership with the Government in construction of filling stations across the country as per policy direction of the Government.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the delay by the Executive to construct filling stations in Kalabo and Lukulu Districts. The Committee urges the Executive to treat this matter with the urgency it deserves. The Government is strongly urged to prioritise this assurance and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

07/15 Construction of Electricity Power Plants

On 25th September, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Development made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, it was with this background that the Ministry is pursuing several programmes and projects to reduce the impact of load shedding. The following are the programmes that my Ministry would continue implementing in the 2016 financial year: 40 MW Kabompo Gorge Hydro Power Project - This was being developed by the Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC). Preliminary works have already been done.

The previous Committee had resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the GET FiT programme was yet to be fully implemented as fresh negotiations surrounding the financing impasse were being resolved.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the delay by the Executive in implementing the GET FiT programme and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

38/19 Installation of Border Markers/Local Tours

On 26th February, 2019, the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Government has plans to install border markers on its boundaries with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and with Angola. Sir, planning for the exercise would commence in the first quarter of 2019.

Sir, the works would commence in the second quarter of 2019. Mr Speaker, the border markers to be installed are 1.5m high concrete pyramid pillars and 50 cm concrete cubical pillars. Sir, the cost of marking the Zambia-DRC Boundary is US\$4,049,609”.

The previous Committee had resolved to await a comprehensive progress report on the installation of border markers on the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Angola boundaries.

Executive’s Response

The Executive responded that the Governments of Zambia and Democratic Republic of Congo provided the funds for the exercise covering the distance between Lake Tanganyika and Lake Mweru which was undertaken in three different phases with the first one being the Joint Special Technical Meeting held in Chibanga (Zambia) and Mulilo (DRC) in 2020. The second phase involved; sensitisation campaign and reconnaissance survey while the third phase included boundary reaffirmation which consisted of boundary pillars that were constructed consisting of primary and secondary pillars covering the distance of 140km from the total distance of 188km between lake Tanganyika and lake Mweru. However, the remaining 48km which consisted of rivers and the crest line of Kapimbi mountain range was not done due to different views by the two delegations to agree on whether to place beacons along the river boundary of Choma, Musongwishi and Lunchinda. For Angola the initial exercise, reconnaissance survey was scheduled to take place before September,2020; Zambia was ready but awaited its counterpart Angola to confirm when the exercise could be undertaken.

Committee’s Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

37/19 Judgment for Public Service Retrenched Workers

On 15th February, 2019, the Minister of Justice made the following assurances:

Mr Speaker, the judgment was delivered on 23rd December, 2011, and the state started liquidating debt instalments on 1st June, 2016. Sir, the outstanding balance for plaintiffs whose benefits have already been verified is K44, 677,909.

Sir, the total number of affected former employees in the matter was 1,925. Benefits for 1,162 retrenched staff had been verified while those for 404 retrenched staff were currently being computed with the aim to conclude the same by the end of the first quarter of 2019.

Mr Speaker, 359 plaintiffs were ineligible for payment as they were either not civil service employees or had been paid under other court matters over similar claims. Sir, the outstanding balance would be paid as and when funds were available to liquidate the outstanding amounts verified.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that a permanent solution was found to liquidate the outstanding balance of K77, 768,649.56 owed to the retrenches without further delay. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed in the Action-Taken Report that as at April, 2021 the outstanding balance on the matter was K 77,768,649.56 and the Ministry of Justice paid the sum of K 1,700,000 in August 2021. In February, 2022, the Ministry of Justice paid the sum of K 11,072,407.96. In May, 2022, the sum of K 4,000,000 was paid and in July, 2022 the sum of K2,500,000 was paid. From the K 77,768,649.56 which was outstanding, the Ministry of Justice paid the sum of K 19,272,407.96 and the amount outstanding currently was K 58,496,241.60. The said amount would be liquated as soon as the Ministry of Justice received more funding.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

27/14 Kaputa Local Courts Staff Establishment

On Wednesday, 2nd October, 2014, the Deputy Minister of Justice made the following assurance:

"Mr Speaker, eleven positions were vacant as of May, 2014. The Judiciary would consider filling them once the Ministry of Finance grants Treasury Authority for recruitment in the 2015 Financial Year. Please, note that Nsumbu Local Court is non-operational as the court building collapsed."

The previous Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the Judiciary had not yet been granted Treasury Authority by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning to enable the recruitment of the five remaining positions at Nsumbu Local Court. The Judiciary remained committed to ensuring that all vacancies were filled in order to enhance efficiency.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

08/15 Local Court in Chief Chisomo's area in Muchinga

On Friday, 27th February, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Justice made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the local court in Chief Chisomo's area in Muchinga, which would include two low cost houses, is earmarked for construction in 2016 at a cost of K1.5 million.

The previous Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed through the Action-Taken Report that the Judiciary had not been able to make a budgetary provision due to the Budget Call Circular of 2021-2023 whose guidelines were that, only ongoing capital projects that were at eighty percent and above completion should be budgeted for. The Judiciary had since received funds in the 2022 budget line, for the completion of stalled capital projects and the tendering processes were underway.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

09/13 Local Court at Nsumbu Business Centre

On Thursday, 21st February, 2013, the Minister of Justice made the following assurance:

“Mr Speaker, the Government was committed to constructing the Nsumbu Local Court in Nsama District in 2013, in accordance with the strategic plan of the Judiciary and subject to the availability of funds.”

The previous Committee in noting the submission had observed with dismay the failure by the Executive to secure funds to construct Nsumbu Local Court nine years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee urged the Executive to ensure that an alternative building for rent was found without delay and the construction of a new court building expedited to avoid additional costs. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive’s Response

The Executive submitted that preparation of drawings and Bill of quantities were completed by the then Ministry of Works and Supply. However, due to limited resources the construction of Nsumbu Local Court could not commence. Additionally, the Judiciary had not been able to make a budget provision for the construction of Nsumbu Local Court due to the Call Circular of 2017 which provided that the only projects to be budgeted for were capital projects which were at eighty percent and above complete. Despite the above, the construction of Nsumbu Local Court would be included in the 2023 budget. In the interim period, the Judiciary had secured a building which it was renting and using as a court and the court had been operating since 2014 to date.

Committee’s Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

10/13 Local Courts in Nakonde District

On 19th February, 2013, the Minister of Justice made the following undertaking:

Mr Speaker, in accordance with the strategic plan for the Judiciary, the local court at Ntolondo in Nakonde District is earmarked for construction this year, 2013.

The previous Committee had expressed disappointment at the failure by the Executive to have the project actualised for over nine years. The previous Committee hence, urged the Executive to ensure that funds were secured for this project without further delay considering the inordinate time it had taken for it to have the project implemented. The previous Committee was also of the view that an alternative building to rent was not a lasting solution as it was an additional cost. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive’s Response

The Executive submitted that preparation of drawings and bills quantities were completed by the then Ministry of Works and Supply. However, due to limited resources the construction of Ntolondo Local Court could not commence. Additionally, the Judiciary had not been able to make a budget provision for the construction of Ntolondo Local Court due to the Call Circular of 2017 which provided that the only projects to be budgeted for were capital projects which were at eighty percent and above completion. Despite the above, the construction of Ntolondo Local Court would

be included in the 2023. In the interim period, the Judiciary had secured a building which it was renting and using as a court and the court had been operating since 2018 to date.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

07/18 Chitambo Mission Police Post

On 28th September, 2017, the Minister of Home Affairs made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, we are, indeed aware of the logistical challenges that the police is having in Chitambo As regards the construction of holding cells, we have a slight challenge. As the Honourable Member is aware, Chitambo Mission Police Post is sitting on land that belongs to Chitambo Mission Hospital. Therefore, we would like the Honourable Member to work with us to see if we can find an alternative where we can then place a Police Post with all the necessary facilities. However, that might not be done this year due to unavailability of funds.

Sir, administrative arrangements are being made by the Regional Command to have additional officers sent to Chitambo Mission Police Post in response to the status of district. As I stated earlier, ... in 2017, our focus would be on planning for the construction of the new Police Station for the new district and housing units for our officers who would be deployed to Chitambo District.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to expeditiously commence the construction of the Chitambo Mission Police Post considering that it had taken inordinately long for the project to be implemented. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that preliminary procurement procedures for the construction of a modern police station and ten housing units in Chitambo had been completed. However, construction works would only commence when funds were made available.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes with concern the long period of time it has taken to start the implementation of the project and urges the Government to source for funds and prioritise this assurance. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

12/15 Construction of North-Western Province Police Administration Block

On 24th September, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs made the following assurance:

"Mr Speaker, the Government has started the construction of the Zambia Police Division Headquarters in Solwezi, North-Western Province. The project is at the excavation level and was being supervised by the Buildings Department. Sir, the project time frame is eighteen months. As the works started on 8th January 2015, they are expected to be completed by 30th June 2016."

The previous Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that construction of the North-Western Provincial Police Administration Block had stalled at 45 percent due to lack of funds. Construction would continue when funds were made available.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes with concern the slow pace at which the project is being undertaken and urges the Executive to expedite the construction of North-Western Provincial Administration without further delay. The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

31/15 Construction of Milenge Police Post

On 1st October, 2015, the Minister of Home Affairs made the following assurance:

"Mr Speaker, the Government has plans to construct a police post, not a police station, in Milenge. The police post would be built with three staff houses. Construction would begin this month, October, 2015, after we announce the contractor."

The previous Committee had observed with disappointment that it had taken the Executive inordinately long to implement the assurance made on the floor of the House seven years ago. The Committee then resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the contractor for the Milenge Police Post was paid for all the works done but the project stalled at 38 percent completion. The Ministry had since sought the opinion of the Attorney General on the way forward.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes that the Executive has not provided the reasons why the project stalled after the contractor had been paid for the works done. The Committee urges the Government to address this matter expeditiously as it has been outstanding for over seven years. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

14/16 National Registration Office in Kalabo

On 16th April, 2016, the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs made the following assurance:

"Sir, the contractor engaged to construct the National Registration Office block in Kalabo District is back on site and construction works resumed on 30th December, 2015. The completion of the project has delayed due to lack of financial resources to commence the works. The contractor was waiting for an up-front payment in order to mobilise and start the works. However, this had been resolved and the contractor is back on site. The time frame for the completion of the project is eighteen months. Therefore, it was expected that the office block for National Registration in Kalabo would be handed over to the Government in July 2017."

The previous Committee had expressed concern at the failure by the Executive to actualise this project, five years after the assurance was made on the floor of the House. The previous Committee, therefore, urged the Executive to expeditiously terminate the contract so that another contractor is procured to complete the remaining works. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the project to construct the National Registration Office in Kalabo was terminated to enable it to be retendered at current market price. Construction would commence when funds were made available.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the slow pace at which the project is being undertaken, and urges the Executive to expedite the construction of a National Registration Office in Kalabo without further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

12/15 Construction of Police Stations and Posts in Magoye Constituency

On Thursday, 5th March, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs made the following assurance:

“Mr Speaker, the Government, through the Zambia Police Force, has plans to construct a police post in Magoye Township in 2016.”

The previous Committee had observed with concern the failure by the Executive to actualise the assurance seven years after it was made on the floor of the House and urged it to ensure that funds are urgently secured to facilitate the implementation of the assurance. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Government submitted that plans to construct a police post in Magoye were still active and construction would commence when funds were available. The Government intended to take advantage of the availability of Constituency Development Fund to start the project.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to expedite construction of Police Stations and Posts in Magoye Constituency without further delay. The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

16/15 Construction of office block and housing units for Police in Rufunsa District

On Friday, 13th March, 2015, the Minister of Home Affairs made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the House that the Government has plans to construct an office block and ten housing units in Rufunsa District in 2015. Funds for the construction of an office block and the ten staff houses had been set aside under the Ministry of Transport, Works, Supply and Communication.

The Committee had, in noting the submission, urged the Executive to ensure that the termination of the contract be expedited to facilitate for the procurement of a new contract and the commencement of works on the construction of the office block and housing units for Police in Rufunsa District. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Government responded that the contractor had not mobilised back to the site even after being paid in full for the works done. The Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development had since commenced the contract termination process.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING SERVICES

02/18 ZNBC Offices in Chinsali/Local Tour

On 19th September, 2017, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Ministry had a plan to build a provincial broadcasting station in Chinsali District. This project is part of the implementation of phases two and three of the Digital Migration Project. The provincial broadcasting stations would be utilised by the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) as local offices as well.

Mr Speaker, the implementation of the plan has already started. At the moment, the contractor has started building the transmission house and tower. The works on the main provincial broadcasting station in Chinsali would commence once the contractor has completed the construction of the transmission house on or before 15th October, 2017. The commencement of the construction works in Chinsali, Mongu, Mansa, Chipata, Kabwe and Kasama would, therefore, start before the end of October, 2017.

The previous Committee had recommended that the process to re-scope the works be expedited to facilitate the completion of the remaining works as continued delay would result in the vandalism of already complete structures and equipment.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the Government through the Treasury had announced the cancellation of the Digital Migration Project Phase II and III under which the infrastructure the Committee had raised concerns on were being constructed. In that regard, the Ministry was awaiting guidance from the Treasury on how the completion of the entire infrastructure that had not been completed under the said project would be financed.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF CHIEFS AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

24/13 Construction of Palaces for Traditional Leaders in Serenje

On 1st March, 2013, the Minister of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs made the following undertaking:

Mr Speaker, the construction of palaces would commence this year, 2013, after the completion of preparatory work. As we all know in this august House, there is a provision in the 2013 budget for the construction and rehabilitation of palaces in amounts totalling to K11, 215,500. The Ministry of Transport, Works, Supply and Communication has submitted the plans for palaces which would be discussed by the House of Chiefs as it convenes on 18th March, 2013.

Let me also take this opportunity, Mr Speaker, to say to this august House that our assessment around the country depicts that we do not have many palaces as per the English

dictionary. What we have are just little huts in some places or just what would be a house. So, I think we have a lot of work to do to construct these palaces. We have decided, as a Ministry, to do a lot of preparatory work of assessment, proper drawings, and to listen to histories of particular chiefdoms so that the palaces depict this history. We also want to add value to the palaces so that, like everywhere else in the world, they are part of our tourist attractions.

The Chiefs in Serenje District were as follows:

1. Senior Chief Muchinda;
2. Chief Kabamba;
3. Chief Chisomo;
4. Chief Chitambo;
5. Chief Mailo;
6. Chieftainess Serenje;
7. Chief Muchinka; and
8. Chief Chibale.”

The previous Committee had urged the Executive to ensure that resources were secured to expedite the implementation of the project and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive’s Response

The Government submitted that Chieftainess Serenje’s palace was completed and handed over in 2021. Chief Moono’s and Chief Chipepo’s palaces were at eighty percent completion. Works on other palaces in Serenje District had not yet commenced.

Committee’s Observations and Recommendations

The Committee bemoans the slow pace at which the project is being undertaken and urges the Executive to ensure that funds are released for the construction of Chiefs’ palaces without further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

16/16 Chieftainess Kanyembo’s Palace

On 23rd November, 2016, the Minister of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the construction of Chieftainess Kanyembo’s Palace, which encompasses the main house and queen’s quarters and was currently standing at wall plate level, is earmarked for completion in 2017.

The previous Committee had bemoaned the slow pace at which the project was being undertaken, and urged the Executive to ensure that release of funds for the construction of Chieftainess Kanyembo’s palace is consistent, considering that the project has reached an advanced stage. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive’s Response

The Executive reported that Chieftainess Kanyembo’s palace was still at 92 percent completion. This was one of the palaces that were earmarked for completion before the end of 2022.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes with concern the inordinate delays by the Executive to implement this assurance and urges the Executive to ensure that the completion of works at Chiefteness Kanyembo's Palace is expedited. The Executive is also urged to use all available options to expedite the process. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

05/17 Rehabilitation and Electrification of Palaces for Chiefs Shibwalya Kapila and Mukupa Kaoma

On 21st February, 2017, the Minister of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs wrote to the Provincial Administration Office requesting it to assess the state of dilapidation of the palaces and, thereafter, provide the Ministry with a bill of quantities (BoQ). We had since received the BOQs from the Northern Province Administration and have permitted the Provincial Administration to commence the tendering process. So, the works would be executed.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that funds are consistently disbursed for the rehabilitation and electrification of the two palaces as further delay would result in additional costs due to standing time. The previous Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that rehabilitation of Shibwalya Kapila Palace was completed and handed over while the palace at Mukupa Kaoma also of Northern Province stood at over 60 percent completion.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the response and urges the Executive to ensure that the remaining works at Mukupa Kaoma's Palace are also completed without any further delay. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND ARTS

08/12 Restocking of Game Management Areas (GMAs)

On Friday, 16th March, 2013, the Minister of Tourism and Arts made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, all GMAs whose stocks are depleted are being considered for restocking." Lusaka National Park (2010 to 2013); Mosi-Oa-Tunya National Park (2011 to 2013); and Nsumbu National Park.

The previous Committee had urged the Executive to ensure that the restocking exercise was expedited without further delay and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that with the support of Game Rangers International works to improve the water supply at the Lusaka National Park had commenced. Thirteen Permanent boreholes had been sunk in various points of the park and this exercise was on-going. The Committee was also informed that the restocking exercise for Nsumbu National Park was successfully undertaken in the second quarter, 2021.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the response and urges the Executive to ensure that the restocking exercise for the Lusaka and Mosi-o-Tunya National Parks is done without any further delays. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

37/17 Irrigation Schemes in Feira Parliamentary Constituency

On 13th June, 2017, the Minister of Agriculture made the following assurance:

“Mr Speaker, the Government has identified two sites with 800 hectares and 1,000 hectares of land in Yapite Agricultural Camp for possible establishment of irrigation schemes in addition to the existing schemes at Chafukula in Kaunga A and Tiyeseke in Kaunga B camps which are used for banana production.

In addition, the Government, in collaboration with Child Fund, is establishing an irrigation scheme at Kavalamanja Agricultural Camp. Three villages, namely Kavalamanja, Tinkolo and Kandembwele would benefit from the scheme. Farmers under this scheme would be growing vegetables.

The previous Committee in noting the submission had urged the Executive to ensure that the installation of the irrigation facilities were expeditiously completed considering the time it had taken for the project to be fully actualised. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the implementation of the assurance was on course albeit slightly behind schedule due to the Covid-19 pandemic which disrupted the planned activities from commencing on time. However, the Executive also submitted that procurement process for the works to construct irrigation schemes at the three sites had reached an advanced stage. The tenders were advertised and closed in August 2022. The bids were currently awaiting evaluation and award to the responsive bidders by September 2022.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the response and resolves to await for a progress report.

MINISTRY OF LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

01/16 Construction of Dip Tanks in Nangoma

On 24th February, 2016, the Minister of Fisheries and Livestock made the following assurance:

Madam, there was no construction of dip tanks in Nangoma Constituency in 2011, as the construction of dip tanks countrywide started in 2012. The construction of the four dip tanks in the constituency started in 2014. Site identification and the development of the technical specifications was done between January and September, 2014, while the contract was approved in September, 2014. Thereafter, the site was handed over to the contractor, DDYPE Drilling and Construction Company, on 16th October, 2014. To date, 85 per cent of the works on the four dip tanks had been completed and the Ministry has engaged the Ministry of Finance for the release of the funds needed to complete the remaining works in 2017.

The previous Committee had urged the Executive to ensure that once funds for the rehabilitation of the dip tanks were secured, works should be closely supervised to avoid additional costs through rehabilitations because of poor workmanship. The previous Committee resolved to await for a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that as part of the procedure for contract termination and blacklisting of contractors, the Ministry had written to the contractor for self exculpation over the poor workmanship. Further, the Government secured some funds in the 2023 budget for the purpose of project monitoring and inspections to ensure value for money was realised for projects implemented in the Ministry. The Committee was also informed that the Ministry would use part of the K 21, 741, 973.14 allocations for infrastructure development in the Department of Veterinary Services in 2023 budget allocation to rehabilitate the dip tanks in Nangoma Constituency.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

MINISTRY OF WORKS AND SUPPLY

32/14 Construction of Lunsemfwa River Bridge in Rufunsa Constituency

On Friday, 7th October, 2014, the Deputy Minister of Transport, Works, Supply and Communication made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Road Development Agency (RDA) has engaged Messrs Roughton International for the design and construction supervision of the Lunsemfwa and Chipaba bridges in Old Mkushi at a combined contract sum of K5, 693,309. The contract was signed on 12th August, 2013, and was expected to be completed in October, 2014. The construction of a bridge across the Lunsemfwa River, which connects the Chiefdoms of Shikabeta and Mbosha in Rufunsa Parliamentary Constituency, was expected to commence in the second quarter of 2015, after the conclusion of the procurement process.

The previous Committee therefore, had urged the Executive to ensure that funds to facilitate the construction of the two bridges connecting Chief Shikabeta and Mbosha in Rufunsa Parliamentary Constituency were secured without further delay. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive responded that the construction of both Lunsemfwa and Chipaba bridges in old Mkushi had not taken off due to funding challenges. The works would be considered for execution in future work plans subject to availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee expresses concern at the failure by the Ministry to implement activities promised to be undertaken on the floor of the House. The Executive is strongly urged to use all available options and secure enough resources to work on the bridges as assured. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

42/14 Construction of Immigration Department Offices at Nsumbu Border Post

On Friday, 5th December, 2014, the Deputy Minister of Transport, Works, Supply and Communication made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, the Immigration Department has budgeted for the construction of an Immigration office block and medium-cost house, and the sinking of a borehole and water tank at Nsumbu Border Post in Nsama District in the 2014 budget. The procurement process for the works, which would cost K3, 400,000, is in progress and construction would start in 2015, after the procurement process had been completed.

The previous Committee had urged the Executive to ensure that funds to complete the construction of essential auxiliary works such as drilling of a borehole and erecting of a tank and other outstanding works and variations at Nsumbu Border Post, Immigration Department Offices were consistently disbursed to facilitate the completion of the project without further delay. The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Committee was informed that the Contract for the completion of the construction of Nsumbu border post in Nsama District was awarded to Platinum Stone Limited in May 2021 at a contract sum of K427, 358.94 and completion period of 4 weeks. The scope of works included painting, electrical and plumbing works, external works and drilling of boreholes. The contractor moved to site in May, 2021 and was expected to complete the works by end of June, 2021. However, works had stalled due to the contractor's failure to perform and the contract had since been recommended for termination. As of 31st July, 2022, only 30 percent of works had been done. The works included interior and exterior painting to the office block, drilling of one out of the planned two boreholes. The remaining works had been assessed and bill of quantities had also been prepared in readiness to engage a replacement contractor to continue with works.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee is disappointed that works that should have been carried seven years ago are yet to be completed. It is the Committee's view that the Executive must consider utilising the Zambia Army or Zambia National Service to expeditiously implement such projects. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

03/15 Mbala-Kasaba Bay-Nsumbu Road

On 25th February, 2015, the Deputy Minister of Transport, Works, Supply and Communication made the following assurance:

Mr Speaker, works to upgrade the road would commence after the completion of the feasibility studies and the detailed design, whose funding would be considered for inclusion in the 2016 budget.

The previous Committee was saddened to note that not much progress was made to ensure that the project was finalised and resolved to await a progress report on the matter.

Executive's Response

The Executive submitted that the construction works on the 61km of the Mbala to Kasaba bay road had stalled due to funding challenges. The project would be considered in future work plans subject to availability of funds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee finds it unacceptable that the Executive failed to implement its assurance in view of the fact that the road in question is a very important economic road that would open up the northern tourism circuit to tourists. The Committee strongly urges the Executive to explore all available options including Public Private Partnerships to finance these works expeditiously. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

FOREIGN TOUR REPORT

ICT in primary and secondary schools

The previous Committee had observed that for the education sector to fully implement the teaching and learning of ICT in primary and secondary schools in order to achieve the objective of a digitalized society, the Government required to invest in the ICT back born infrastructure throughout the country and prioritise the ICT sector as an enabler of development in all sectors of the economy. With regards, the learning and teaching of ICT in primary and secondary schools, the Committee observed that it was imperative that the Government invests in infrastructure and provision of computers as well as teacher capacity especially in primary schools.

In view of the above, the Committee recommended that the Government should expedite the rate of investment in ICT equipment in order to ensure that the learners got the quality education required in ICT. In this regard, the Committee recommended that all schools should have at least two computer laboratories with fifty computers each, a projector and internet connectivity. The previous Committee also emphasised the need for the Government to ensure that primary schools were not left out in the provision of computer laboratories and computers;

Executive's Response

The Executive reported through the Action-Taken Report that the Ministry of Technology and Science had recently finalised the ICT Policy which had taken into account support to the education sector in the provision of ICT equipment and devices. The Government would endeavor to engage a wide range of stakeholders to collaborate on the provision of labs and ICT devices.

Further, the Government through the Ministry of Education was collaborating with key stakeholders to develop a multi-sectorial master plan for constructing Computer Laboratories country-wide. For example, the Ministry, in partnership with ZICTA, commenced the acquisition of ICT equipment for schools under the Connecting Learning Institutions Project. This stakeholder engagement was the ministry's mechanism to drum up support as the cost to provide schools with at least two computer laboratories with fifty computers each, a projector and internet connectivity across the country was enormous.

Regarding Internet connectivity, the Ministry, in conjunction with ZICTA and SMART Zambia Institute, had embarked on connecting learning institutions to the Government Wide Area Network in fibre-accessible areas. The learning institutions in rural and remote areas would be connected using the ZICTA satellite Hub.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee observes the efforts being made by the Government to fulfill the assurance albeit at a slow pace. The Committee strongly urges the Government to prioritise the matter so as not to disadvantage the country in competing fairly in the area of ICT with other countries. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

Electricity and Internet Connectivity

The previous Committee had recommended that the Executive should ensure that all schools had power and those where power could not be connected through the national grid, they should be connected using off-grid solutions such as solar power.

Executive's Response

The Executive reported that the Ministry was in the process of engaging stakeholders such as the Rural Electrification Authority to facilitate power connectivity to the GRID or to any other source as deemed possible.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and urges the Executive to expedite the process of installing electricity in all rural schools. The Committee resolves await for a progress report.

Connectivity for Remote and Rural Schools

The previous Committee had recommended that the installation of communication towers should be expedited in underserved and unserved areas of the country as a means of enhancing connectivity and the teaching and learning of ICT in primary and secondary schools in rural areas.

Executive's Response

Government through the Ministry of Technology and Science took note of the recommendation and reported that the huge cost associated with tower construction was a limiting factor to the deployment of communication towers on large scale basis. The Ministry would, however, continue to mobilise resources and engage other stakeholders including the private sector. More importantly, the Ministry was undertaking an ICT gap analysis survey to determine ICT infrastructure needs across the country.

The survey result would aid in the planning and prioritisation of infrastructure projects countrywide.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee urges the Executive to expedite the process and explore all available options. The Committee resolves to await for a progress report on the matter.

CONCLUSION

The Committee notes with concern that most of the assurances especially under the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Housing, Infrastructure and Urban Development and Ministry of Education have remained outstanding for a long time despite further assurances being made by the Government. The Committee is further displeased that a number of projects whose commencement and completion dates were assured to the nation through the House by the Executive, do not even appear in the work plans so that implementation would commence. As a result, these projects are either never commenced or not funded which negatively impacts on their completion. The Committee wishes to urge the Executive to only make assurances once finances are available for the assurances to be actualised and brought to their logical conclusions.



Mr Elliot Kamondo, MP
CHAIRPERSON

June, 2023
LUSAKA

APPENDIX 1

LIST OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OFFICIALS

Mr Francis Nabulyato, Principal Clerk of Committees (SC)

Mrs Chitalu K Mumba, Deputy Principal Clerk of Committees (SC)

Mr Geoffrey Zulu, Senior Committee Clerk (SC)

Mr Fanwel Mpundu Chiwama, Acting Committee Clerk

Ms Catherine Chibuye, Administrative Assistant

Ms Eneless Njobvu, Typist

Mr Daniel Lupiya, Committee Assistant

Mr Katumoya Muyembi, Parliamentary Messenger

APPENIX II
LIST OF WITNESSES

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr Gregory Kabwe, Ag. Permanent Secretary
Mr Joseph Chanda, Principal Economist
Mr Runka Bwalya, Senior Economist
Mrs Ndayanja Mwale Daka, Budget Analyst
Ms Zamiwe Sakala, Budget Analyst
Ms Mukuni C Zudna, Planner
Ms Abigail Banda, Planner

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

Mrs Francesca Zyambo, Permanent Secretary
Mr Arnold Simwaba, Director
Mr Linus Chanda, Chief Executive Officer, REA
Mr Alex Mbumba, Director, REA
Mr Peter Chamfya, Director, ZESCO
Mr Ozirior Chaila, Chief Planner, MOE
Ms Frida Ngu'ni, Senior Planner Business, MOE
Mr Victor Chingangu, Ag Senior M& E, MOE
Mr KangwaKafwanka, Planner, MOE

MINISTRY OF WATER DEVELOPMENT AND SANITATION

Eng. Joe Kalusa, Permanent Secretary
Mr Melvin Sikazwe, Ag. Director Planning
Mr Ulanda Nyirenda, Assistant Director
Mr Charles Mwale, Principal Engineer
Mr Albert Chonde, A.g. Assistant Director
Mr MweshiKatongo, Senior Planner
Mr Noel Kunda, Principal Engineer

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

Ms Thandiwe Daka Oteng, Permanent Secretary
Mr George Kamaji, Quantity Surveyor, Judiciary
Mr Siloka Sililo, Registrar

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

Mr Naliwa Mutelo, Permanent Secretary, Office of The Vice-President
Mr Norman Chikakupaku, Permanent Secretary, Defence
Mr Kalobwe Soko, Parliamentary Liaison Officer
Col. E Kunda , Deputy Army Secretary

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Mr John Mulongoti, Permanent Secretary
Mr Sunday Chikoti, Director
Mr Akashi L Mwalye, Principal Economist

Mr Mike Chivumo, Principal Planner
Ms Carolyn Chella, Economist
Dr Stephen Chundama, Manager Policy Research, ZDA

MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Mr Danny Mfunu, Permanent Secretary
Mr Clive Khan, Director
Mr Emmanuel Mpundu, Senior Architect
Mr Chisau Musonda, Principal Engineer
Mr Yobe Mwalula, Senior Manager, Planning, RDA
Mr Steven Sondashi, Senior Manager, RDA
Mr Richard Mwape, Senior Manager, Construction, RDA

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK

Mr William Katongo, Ag, Permanent Secretary
Mr Harris Phiri, Director
Dr Geoffrey Muuka, Director
Mr Succeed Mubanga, Director, Planning
Mr Daniel Chonde, Ag Director, Livestock Development
Mr Lizzen Moono, PROFAT Coordinator, ZAEDP
Mr Kondwani Gondwe, Parliamentary Liaison Officer

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Ms Noriana Muneku, Permanent Secretary
Mr William Nyundu, Director Planning and Information
Mr Ignatius Daka, Director, Human Resource and Administration
Mr Stephen Zimba, Coordinator – Zambia Education Enhancement Project
Mr Kapyra Mwewa, Assistant Director - Zambia Education Project Implementation Unit
Mr Chrispin Kabwe, Parliamentary Liaison Officer

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr MaamboHamaundu, Permanent Secretary
Mr Ackson Habanji, Director, Local Government Administration
Mr Funizani Phiri, Ag Director
Mr Patson Phiri, Ag Director
Mr Silvia Masabo, Principal Planner

MINISTER OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE

Dr Brilliant Habeenzu, Permanent Secretary
Mr Milner Makuni, Director, Communication
Mr Mulung Shimbela, Director, Planning & Information
Mr Muzano A.K Simumba, Director, VET
Mr Bonaventure Mutale, Senior Planner

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Prof. Lackson Kansonka, Permanent Secretary

Mr Evans Malika, Assistant Director, Health Policy
Mr Patson Mwanza, Assistant Director, Public Policy
Mr Nixon Siloongo, Principal Planner
Ms Nalishebo Siyandi, Pipeline Manager

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

Mr Green Mboози, Permanent Secretary
Mr Chizumba Shepande, Director, Agriculture