

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR THE THIRD SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY APPOINTED ON THURSDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2013

Consisting of:

Rev Lt Gen R Shikapwasha, MP; (Chairperson); Ms S Sayifwanda, MP; Mr L C Bwalya, MP; Mr E J Muchima, MP; Mr S Sianga, MP; Mr H S Chansa, MP; and Mr S Katuka, MP.

The Honourable Mr Speaker
National Assembly
Parliament Buildings
LUSAKA

Sir,

Your Committee has the honour to present its Report for the Third Session of the Eleventh National Assembly.

Functions of the Committee

2.0 In addition to any other duties conferred upon it by the Honourable Mr Speaker, or any other order of the House, your Committee oversees operations of the Ministries of Defence, Home Affairs and Foreign Affairs.

In overseeing the activities of these ministries, your Committee carries out the functions as set out below.

- i. Study, report and make recommendations to the Government, through the House, on the mandate, management and operations of the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs, departments and/or agencies under their portfolios.
- ii. Carry out detailed scrutiny of certain activities being undertaken by the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs, departments and/or agencies under their portfolios and make appropriate recommendations to the House for ultimate consideration by the Government.
- iii. Make, if considered necessary, recommendations to the Government on the need to review certain policies and/or certain existing legislation.
- iv. Consider any Bills that may be referred to it by the House.

Meetings of the Committee

3.0 Your Committee held seventeen meetings during the year under review.

Programme of Work

4.0 At its second meeting held on 7th October, 2013, your Committee considered and adopted the programme of work as set out below.

- i. Consideration of the topical issue: Local Integration of Angolan Refugees.

- ii. Consideration of the Report on the 68th Session of the United National General Assembly (UNGA).
- iii. Consideration of Reports from Parliamentary delegations.
- iv. Foreign Tour: Angola.
- v. Consideration of the Action-Taken Report on the Committee's Report for the Second Session of the Eleventh National Assembly.
- vi. Consideration of the Committee's Draft Report for the Third Session of the Eleventh National Assembly.

Procedure adopted by the Committee

5.0 Your Committee requested detailed memoranda on the issues it considered from concerned stakeholders and invited them to appear before it in order to give verbal submissions and clarifications on issues arising from their submissions. Your Committee also undertook a foreign tour during the year under review.

PART I

TOPICAL ISSUE

Local Integration of Angolan Refugees

Background

6.0 After the closure of the organised repatriation of Angolan refugees arising from the 2003 Zambia, Angola and UNHCR Tripartite Agreement and the subsequent invocation of the cessation clause of the refugee status of Angolan refugees on 30th June, 2012, the Government had to find alternative legal status to those refugees who still remained in Zambia and were not willing to repatriate. The Government made a decision through Cabinet to offer local integration to the Angolans still in the country after the cessation of their refugee status. This decision to offer local integration to the Angolan refugees has brought with it a number of challenges. As a result of this, your Committee resolved to study the process of local integration of Angolan refugees.

Objectives

The objectives of this study were to:

- i. ascertain whether the legal and policy framework governing the integration of refugees was in place;
- ii. ascertain whether there were programmes in place for the successful integration of the Angolan refugees;
- iii. ascertain whether there were any diplomatic and economic agreements between Zambia and Angola for the sustenance of the integrated refugees;
- iv. assess what challenges, if any, the Government was facing in implementing the local integration process; and

- v. make recommendations to the Executive on the way forward.

In order to achieve these objectives your Committee interacted with the following institutions that made both written and oral submissions.

- i. the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);
- ii. the International Organisation for Migration (IOM);
- iii. the Southern African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (SACCORD);
- iv. the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ);
- v. CARITAS Zambia;
- vi. the Human Rights Commission;
- vii. University of Zambia - School of Law;
- viii. Professor B J Phiri, University of Zambia - Department of History;
- ix. Ministry of Justice;
- x. Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- xi. Ministry of Home Affairs - Commissioner for Refugees; and
- xii. Ministry of Home Affairs: Department of National Registration, Passports and Citizenship.

Consolidated Summary of Submissions

6.1 Your Committee received and considered written and oral submissions from stakeholders as outlined below.

Your Committee was informed that as of 10th December, 2013, Zambia hosted 53, 045 persons of concern, comprising 23, 498 Angolans housed mainly at Mayukwayukwa and Maheba Refugee Camps, 6, 064 Rwandans, 21, 437 Congolese, 16, 463, Burundese, 2, 425, Somalis, 2, 213 and 336 other nationalities in small numbers. There were 1, 974 asylum-seekers, mainly Congolese, Burundians, Somalis and a few other nationalities.

It was also informed that from 2003 to 2007, UNHCR, working with the Government and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), undertook the organized voluntary repatriation of Angolan refugees. Over 150, 000 Angolans returned home under this programme. From 2008 to date, UNHCR and the Government, together with IOM have been helping Angolans return home under, initially, facilitated returns and, currently, spontaneous, but financially supported repatriation. The successful repatriation of Angolans led to the closure of Nangweshi Refugee Camp in 2006, in Shang'ombo District.

Although the refugee status of Angolans ended on 30th June, 2012, they were still of concern to UNHCR as the Agency pursued durable solutions for them, such as local integration and spontaneous repatriation.

Your Committee was informed that there were three types of durable solutions provided by UNHCR, working with the host Government. The durable solutions were voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement.

Your Committee heard that the one durable solution UNHCR had always given precedence over the others was *voluntary repatriation*. This was when a refugee willingly decided to go back home without force or coercion. However, voluntary repatriation could only be possible if there were lasting fundamental and positive changes in the situation of the country of origin that prompted people to flee in the first place. UNHCR ensured that refugees returned in peace and dignity and monitored the well-being and safety of returnees.

Your Committee further learnt that the second durable solution which is local integration involves assimilating former refugees in the host country so they could enjoy the same rights as the citizens of that country. It was stated that, normally, local integration was considered for a refugee who had lived in the host country for a protracted period of time and ties to their country of origin weak. Refugees who had stayed long in the country of asylum often learned the languages of the communities of the host country and adopted their way of life. The following generations would normally not recall much of the country of origin and would not even be able to speak their country's local languages. These refugees normally integrated socially and economically in the communities of the host country and expressed no desire to repatriate. Refugees were then accorded the legal right to reside permanently in the country of asylum.

Your Committee was informed that at the Ministerial meeting in 2010, to mark UNHCR's 60th anniversary, the Government of Zambia pledged to locally integrate 10, 000 Angolans, after the invocation of the cessation clause, which came into effect on 30th June, 2012. The Government of Zambia had since come up with local integration criteria for Angolans. The Zambian Government considered and allowed local integration for former Angolan refugees who arrived in Zambia between 1966 and 1986. Others who qualified were those who had Zambian spouses and children with them.

It was submitted that the third durable solution involving resettlement to a third country was considered only for a very limited number of refugees who had compelling reasons preventing them from returning to their countries of origin, but also of remaining in the host country. It was stated that this was a solution available only to persons with refugee status.

It was learnt that the UNHCR, working with the Government, had been sensitizing the Angolan refugees on the local integration process. It has also been liaising with the Angolan Government to follow-up on issues related to the issuance of national passports, a prerequisite to the release of residence permits in Zambia. The Government of Zambia had put in place District Joint Operations Committee (DJOC) - an inter-ministerial team - in Solwezi, Kaoma and Lusaka to screen all applicants for local integration and accept or reject such applications based on approved criteria.

Your Committee heard that as at September, 2013, about 5, 588 former Angolan refugees had been screened and approved by the DJOC as eligible for local integration in both Mayukwayukwa and Maheba, based on the established criteria. The UNHCR and the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees had recruited a national consultant tasked to develop a comprehensive local integration strategy detailing all the programmes that were needed for

the successful implementation of the strategy. The programmes would start being implemented once maps of the identified resettlement areas have been finalised.

Your Committee was informed that in the meantime, in order to ensure acceptance of refugees and former refugees in the settlements and recognise the years of warm hospitality offered by the surrounding host communities, UNHCR had sponsored some small development projects in the chiefdoms surrounding both settlements.

Under local integration, your Committee was informed that many socio-economic projects had been undertaken in the refugee hosting communities in Mwene Mutondo, Matebo and Mumena Chiefdoms in Kaoma and Solwezi. The projects included construction of fish ponds, poultry rearing for egg production, beekeeping, rehabilitation of schools, provision of grinding mills, animal draft for ploughing and transport, goat rearing for income generation and provision of irrigation systems to improve vegetable growing in the host communities. These projects were all in the spirit of thanking the Zambian host community for the hospitality they had shown in sharing their natural resources with the refugees.

To make these local integration projects long term and comprehensive, your Committee was informed that the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees and UNHCR had engaged a consultant to come up with a Strategic Framework for the local integration of former refugees living in Zambia designed to assist the Zambian Government fulfill its commitment to a comprehensive durable solutions approach for refugees in the country. The document outlined priority actions, specified responsibilities and resources required to effectively and fully implement the Government's pledge to integrate about 10,000 former Angolan refugees in a manner that promoted socio-economic harmony between the host communities, former refugees and remaining refugees in settlements.

Your Committee was informed that UNHCR, in conjunction with the Zambian Government and IOM, continue to encourage former Angolan refugees who did not qualify for local integration to consider repatriation. In 2013, 720 Angolans had been repatriated spontaneously from Maheba, while 241 had returned home from Mayukwayukwa, with some cash grant assistance from IOM.

Legal Framework for Local Integration in Zambia

6.2 Your Committee was informed that in Zambia, the legal framework relating to aspects of refugees includes:

- i. the Constitution;*
- ii. the Immigration and Deportation Act, No 18 of 2010;*
- iii. the Citizenship of Zambia Act Cap 124;*
- iv. the Refugee (Control)) Act 19 Cap 120;*
- v. the Convention and Protocol Relating to Status of Refugees 1951,1967; and*
- vi. the OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problem in Africa 1969.*

Criteria for Determining Refugees for Local Integration

6.3 The criteria for determining refugees being considered for local integration were as set out below.

i. *Children of citizens of Zambia*

Article 5 of the Constitution of Zambia, Cap 1 of the Laws of the Republic makes provision for children born in or outside Zambia to become citizens of Zambia if at least one parent is a citizen of Zambia.

ii. *Angolans Married to Zambian Nationals*

Section 23 of the *Immigration and Deportation Act No. 18 of 2010* provides for the issuance of a spouse permit by the Director General of Immigration to a spouse of a citizen or an established resident. Angolan refugees married to Zambian spouses are eligible to apply for a spouse permit by completing Form 14 as stipulated in Regulation 14 of Statutory Instrument No. 129 of 2011.

The permit is issued initially for a two year period after which it is subject to renewal for three years. After five years, a holder of a spouse permit qualifies to apply for a residence permit in accordance with section 20(1) (g) of the *Immigration and Deportation Act*.

iii. *Investor's permit*

Section 29 of the *Immigration and Deportation Act No. 18 of 2010* provides for the issuance of an investor's permit to any foreign national by the Director General of Immigration if they intend to establish a business or invest in Zambia.

A holder of an investor's permit operating a viable business for a period exceeding three years qualifies to apply for a residence permit. After ten years on a residence permit, they qualify to apply for citizenship. If the business is not viable, the applicant is advised to apply for renewal of the investor's permit. All family members aged eighteen years and below may be included in the permit. An applicant for an investor's permit is required to complete Form 28 as stipulated in Regulation 31 of Statutory Instrument No. 129 of 2011.

iv. *Employment Permit*

Section 28 of the *Immigration and Deportation Act No. 18 of 2010* provides for employment permits to refugees who have a professional qualification as prescribed in Class A of the 1st schedule to the Act to be considered for issuance of employment permits.

A holder of an employment permit is eligible to apply for a residence permit after ten years and thereafter, one is eligible to apply for citizenship. Family members aged eighteen years and below may be included in the permit. Applicants are required to complete Form 43 pursuant to Regulation 27 of Statutory Instrument No. 129 of 2011.

v. *Long Stay/Continuous Residence*

This category caters for refugees who arrived in Zambia between 1966 and 1986 and have lived continuously in Zambia for a period of twenty to thirty years. Individuals who meet the criteria qualify for a residence permit. A recommendation will be made to the Minister of

Home Affairs to issue residence permits (which the Minister has power to do under Article 20(4) of the *Immigration and Deportation Act No. 18 of 2010*).

vi. ***Second and Subsequent Generation Refugees***

Children born from Angolans who arrived in Zambia between 1966 and 1986, may be considered to apply for residence permits. As is the case for long stayers in (e) above, a recommendation will be made to the Minister of Home Affairs as provided in -Section 20(4) of the *Immigration and Deportation Act No. 18 of 2010*.

Regional and International Covenants signed by Zambia relating to the Integration and Repatriation of Refugees

6.4 Zambia is a State party to the international conventions set out below.

i. **Regional Convention**

OUA Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa made in the city of Addis Ababa on 10th September, 1969.

Article II (1) provides that *"member States of the OAU shall use their best endeavours consistent with their respective legislations to receive refugees and to the settlement of those refugees who, for well-founded reasons are unable or unwilling to return to the country of their origin or nationality."*

ii. **International Convention and Protocol**

- a. Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28th July, 1951 (Entry into force - 22nd April, 1954).

The 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees which in Article 34 provides as follows

"Naturalisation – the Contracting States shall as far as possible facilitate the assimilation and naturalisation of refugees. They shall in particular make every effort to expedite naturalisation proceedings and to reduce as far as possible the charges and costs of such proceedings."

Furthermore, the Statute of the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees *"calls upon Governments to co-operate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees by promoting the assimilation of refugees, especially by facilitating their naturalisation."*

- b. Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees of January, 1967 (Entry into force - 4th October, 1967)

Rights-based Approach to Integration

6.5 Your Committee was informed that refugees are a vulnerable group of people. The fact that they have left their homelands to seek asylum and refuge in other countries places refugees in a situation where they are completely at the mercy of the host society. They have usually lost everything, including important identity documents in the process of escaping persecution, calamity or other situations that have triggered their forced exodus. As has been

observed, refugees could end up living in their state of refuge, having families and learning the local languages. That notwithstanding, they are not full citizens and despite their lengthy stay in a state of refuge, their lives are not fully fulfilled and they depend, not only on adequate international and domestic legal frame work for ensuring their rights as human beings, but also on the goodwill of the local population.

The Adequacy of Zambia's Legislation Governing the Refugee Integration Process

6.6 Arising from the above, it is evident that the refugee integration process in Zambia is, as of now, based on derivative legislation. It means that integration is only available to the refugees that can bring themselves within the ambit of the categories mentioned above. To that extent, therefore, but not limited thereto, the legislation governing the refugee integration process may not be said to be adequate.

In the absence of adequate domestic legal framework in relation to the integration of refugees, it is useful to resort to Zambia's obligations under international refugee law and international human rights law. As a State Party to a number of key international instruments for the promotion and protection of human rights, Zambia has an obligation to respect and ensure the human rights of everyone within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction. This includes duly recognized refugees. International human rights standards, in addition to refugee laws are relevant to ensuring a meaningful and successful integration process. This point has been put aptly by the Executive Committee of the UNHCR in its conclusion No. 82 of 1997, where, *inter alia*, it reiterates the obligation to treat asylum seekers and refugees in accordance with applicable human rights and refugee standards as set out in relevant international instruments. In this regard, while the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1969 OAU Refugee Convention remain the primary and most specific instruments to rely upon regarding the rights of refugees, including integration rights, international human rights. There is a minimum core content of rights which apply to everyone regardless of their legal status. Some of the international and human rights instruments also have added advantage of addressing specific issues and rights not elaborated upon in the 1951 convention. It is notable that most key human rights instruments were drafted and adopted years after the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and even the 1969 OAU Convention.

Furthermore, process of integration should ensure as far as possible that all the universally recognised human rights are directly applicable to the refugees. These include the right to life, protection from torture and ill treatment, the right to freedom of movement and the right not to be forcibly returned. Zambia has an obligation to affirm and assure all the civil, political, social and cultural rights for the integrated refugees. For example, while the refugees could successfully be integrated, they remained of foreign origin and some sections of the local community still viewed them as such. It would, therefore, be important to ensure that measures including the legal framework were put in place to check any xenophobic aggression or tendencies. Zambia's implementation of local integration of refugees would thus have to employ a rights based approach respecting the full range of international and regional human rights standards.

Your Committee was also informed of the UNHCR's Executive Committee conclusion on local integration No. 104 which provides *inter alia* that local integration:

- i. in the refugee context is a dynamic and multifaceted two-way process which requires efforts by all parties concerned, including preparedness on the part of refugees to

- adapt to the host society without having to forego their own cultural identity, and a corresponding readiness on the part of the host communities and public institutions to welcome refugees and to meet the needs of a diverse population;
- ii. needs to be undertaken in a manner that sustains the viability of local communities affected by the presence of refugees and that failure to do so may result in an unreasonable burden placed on host countries (Zambia in this case);
 - iii. affirms the value of strengthening capacities in host countries (in this case Zambia) as well as of initiatives enhancing the ability of refugee communities to become self-reliant; and
 - iv. recognises the positive contributions including economic benefits which refugees who integrate locally make to host countries (Zambia) and communities.

Challenges faced in the Process of Local Integration

6.7 According to the office of the Commissioner for Refugees under the Ministry of Home Affairs, there have been no serious challenges in so far as the identification process was concerned. The bio-data of the former Angolan refugees was in the data base and shared with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The data base was used for verification of applicants in line with the criteria and procedures document.

However, your Committee was informed that the challenges faced in the local integration process, include the need for timely issuance of Angolan national passports for the applicants, the need for prospects for those former refugees who did not meet the criteria for local integration and, at the same time, were not willing to voluntarily return to Angola, the need for availability of sustained support and funding from the Government and the international community to successfully implement the local integration strategy and ensuring the continuous support of the local population.

Recommendations on the Way forward

6.8 It has been observed that the current Zambian legislation does not have adequate provisions on the aspect of local integration of refugees. Zambia has been hosting refugees for a long time and has clearly established itself as a safe country. It was recommended that relevant pieces of legislation should be reviewed so that Zambia could adopt national refugee legislation that was based on international standards. This legislation should as far as possible borrow from established international law and human rights law principles. This was key to strengthening asylum, making protection more effective and providing a basis for seeking lasting solutions to the plight of refugees including local integration.

Your Committee was further informed that the Angolan Government would need to expedite the issuance of national passports to eligible former Angolan refugees to enable them to obtain residency permits. There was need for the Surveyor General's Office to expedite survey works and demarcation of the area within the two settlements designated for resettlement purposes of former refugees and Zambians and finally the UNHCR and the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees would need to intensify the lobbying for the support of Government line Ministries, cooperating partners and other development partners to the local integration programme.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

After scrutinising the submissions, your Committee observes that:

- i. the current Zambian legislation does not have adequate provisions on the aspect of local integration of refugees;
- ii. Zambia has not domesticated the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees which is being used for the local integration process;
- iii. the economic and social rights in the current Constitution are not justiciable;
- iv. more pressure will be put on the existing social amenities in the refugee resettlement areas which might be a source of conflict with the locals if not handled properly;
- v. the Angolan Government has been slow in the issuance of national passports to eligible former Angolan refugees to enable them to obtain residency permits;
- vi. there is no registration and profiling of spontaneously resettled Angolan refugees living in the host communities;
- vii. there is an absence of a local integration individual profile database for the establishment of a skills based local integration plan;
- viii. the support rendered to the refugees should not be in excess, but just to help them blend into the community;
- ix. there is a danger of security risk if integrated refugees live in areas that are exclusively inhabited by the same refugee community;
- x. the Surveyor General's Office has not completed survey works and demarcation of the area within the two settlements designated for resettlement purposes of former Angolan refugees and Zambians;
- xi. the UNHCR and the Commissioner for refugees are not putting in much effort in lobbying for the support of Government line ministries, cooperating partners and other development partners to mobilise adequate resources for the sustainable implementation of the Local Integration programme; and
- xii. the draft Refugee Bill of 2003, which was withdrawn, is a progressive piece of legislation which needs enactment.

In light of the above observations, your Committee recommends that:

- i. Government should review existing legislation which impacts on the integration of refugees in order to bring it in line with existing international norms;
- ii. Zambia needs to domesticate the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees which is being used for the local integration process;
- iii. the Government to move quickly and make the economic and social rights justiciable;

- iv. the Government needs should work with cooperating partners and other stakeholders to provide adequate social amenities to cater for both the resettled refugees and the local host community;
- v. the Angolan Government needs to expedite the issuance of national passports to eligible former Angolan refugees to enable them to obtain residency permits;
- vi. the Commissioner for Refugees should ensure that there is registration and profiling of spontaneously resettled Angolan refugees living in the host communities;
- vii. the Government should provide a local integration individual profile database for the establishment of a skills based local integration plan;
- viii. the Government should ensure that the support rendered to the refugees is not in excess, but enough to help them blend into the community;
- ix. the Government should ensure that there are no security risks by making sure that integrated refugees as much as possible live in areas that are not exclusively inhabited by the same refugee community;
- x. the Surveyor General's Office should expedite survey works and demarcation of the area within the two settlements designated for resettlement purposes of former Angolan refugees and Zambians;
- xi. the UNHCR and the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees need to intensify the lobbying for the support of Government line ministries, cooperating partners and other development partners to mobilise adequate resources for the sustainable implementation of the local integration programme; and
- xii. the draft Refugee Bill of 2003, needs to be brought back to Parliament for enactment as it is a progressive piece of legislation.

THE 68TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA) OVERVIEW OF THE 68TH UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA)

7.0 Your Committee was informed by the Zambia's Permanent Representative to the UN General Assembly that Zambia attended the 68th Session of the General Assembly which opened on 17th September, 2013, with the general debate running from 24th September to 4th October, 2013. Zambia's Delegation at the UNGA general debate was headed by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr. Michael Chilufya Sata.

Other high level delegates included the Minister of Foreign Affairs; the Minister of Commerce; Trade and Industry; the Minister of Community Development, Mother and Child Health; and the Minister of Defence.

The theme of the 68th Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly was: ***"Post 2015 Development Agenda: Setting the Stage."***

The Secretary-General's Remarks

Your Committee was informed that the Secretary-General (SG) of the UN, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, in opening the General Debate, said the world was in an “era of wondrous opportunity”, as it was the first generation that could wipe out poverty from the face of the Earth. He expressed concern over increasing pressures on the planet, youth unemployment, climate change and unresolved conflicts which were increasing in numbers with all these events on the ground outpacing the institutions and systems designed for another age.

The Secretary-General stated that Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), “captured the imagination, generated remarkable gains and beat back doubts,” but progress on some lagged badly and inequality grew. The new development agenda must inspire like the MDGs, with sustainable development at its core, and governance as its glue.

On climate change, the Secretary-General informed the Assembly that it posed a threat to sustainable development, as the poorest and most vulnerable were first to suffer and suffered the most. The Climate Summit to be held in New York in September, 2014 will be a chance to bring bold pledges to innovate, scale-up, cooperate, and deliver concrete action to close the emissions gap and put the world on track for an ambitious agreement through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Statement by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zambia

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia indicated that Zambia had registered good progress in meeting a number of the MDGs. One of the notable achievements included access to education. He also stated that his Government was promoting policies that encouraged financial organisations to extend their lending to farmers and to small and medium scale enterprises in an effort to reducing poverty. He expressed concern that Zambia was losing an alarming rate of hectares of forest to deforestation every year, due to overexploitation and conversion of forests to other uses driven by population growth, economic development and the need for people to meet their basic energy needs, which include wood fuel and charcoal, both of which arise from poor availability of alternative energy.

His Excellency the President re-affirmed the need to have a single set of universally agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) reflecting sustainable development priorities which are:

- i. actionable;
- ii. concise; and
- iii. whose implementation will resonate with the different development and economic levels of Member States.

He also called upon the United Nations to expedite the reforms of the Security Council.

Other messages from the General Debate delegations

The terrorist attack that took place in Nairobi was denounced. Attention was also drawn to the global network of electronic espionage with delegations highlighting the fact that citizens' personal data, corporate information of high economic and strategic value, and

diplomatic information had been intercepted, as well as communications of the Office of the Presidents. All constitute a breach of international law and an affront to national sovereignty.

High Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Special Events on MDGs

Your Committee heard that during the opening session, the Secretary- General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon called on Member States to intensify efforts to define a post-2015 development agenda, including a single set of goals for sustainable development that will address the complex challenges of this new era and capture the imagination of the people of the world, as the MDGs did. He announced his intention to convene a high-level summit meeting on climate change. He urged the support of Member States and requested World Leaders to participate at the said meeting.

Other messages

Leaders re-affirmed their commitment to achieving the MDGs and emphasised that MDGs were critical for meeting the basic needs of their peoples especially in developing countries. Delegations called on donor countries to meet their Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitments, including the provision of reliable and timely financial resources in order for the developing countries to achieve the MDGs.

High Level Meeting on Persons with Disabilities

Your Committee was informed that Member States and the development community addressed existing gaps in translating commitments to disability rights into economic and social development policy and actions. Many people with disabilities live in poverty and more often suffer from social exclusion including access to education, employment, health-care and social and legal support systems and called for removal of barriers, and equality of opportunities.

The meeting adopted an outcome document entitled, “*The Way Forward: A Disability Inclusive Development Agenda Towards 2015 and beyond*”, which calls for the advancement of the rights of all persons with disabilities, which are deeply rooted in the goals of the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

High Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament

The High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament took place in New York on 26th September, 2013. This was the first-ever high-level meeting on nuclear disarmament held by the General Assembly. During the said meeting, Member States emphasised the importance of seeking a safer world for all and achieving peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons.

Annual Treaty Event 24th September, 2013

The Treaty-Event provides a distinct opportunity for States to sign or deposit instruments of ratification of those treaties that they are not yet a party to. During the said event, Zambia’s Minister of Foreign Affairs signed the Arms Trade Treaty and deposited an Instrument of accession to the 1980 United Nations Convention on Prohibition or Restriction on the use of Certain Conventional Weapons.

The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) is a multilateral treaty that regulates the international trade in Conventional Weapons and opened for signature on 3rd June, 2013. During the Annual Treaty Event held on 25th September, 2013, more countries signed including Zambia, bringing the number of countries to ninety-six. This gives the Zambian Government additional mandate to regulate which guns can and cannot enter or exit the country.

Special Event by the Clinton Foundation

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Mission staff attended a luncheon hosted by Hilary Clinton on 26th September, 2013, dedicated to make commitments to the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) on Partnership to save Africa's Elephants. Clinton joined the Presidents of several African nations and wildlife preservation advocates to unveil an \$80 million, three-year program aimed at ending ivory trafficking, including new park guards at major elephant ranges and sniffer-dog teams at global transit points. In her opening remarks, Clinton said the slaughter of elephants for their ivory tusks had reached crisis proportions. She said unless the killing stops, African forest elephants are expected to be extinct within ten years.

Eradication of Poverty

Your Committee was informed that the General Assembly also discussed issues relating to eradication of poverty as it remains a major global challenge, with most vulnerable countries continuing to grapple with issues of extreme poverty, poor access to quality education, inadequate health care, rampant unemployment and growing inequality. Poverty in sub-Saharan Africa continues to increase. The General Assembly further noted that poverty eradication and rural development were intricately intertwined. Investing in women and youths, and human resource development was key to reducing poverty especially in rural areas and must be an integral part of national development policies. Persistent gender inequality has hampered women's labour market opportunities. Member states in this regard must promote decent work, strengthen the formal labour market and provide skills-based programmes.

Sixth High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development

Your Committee was informed that the Assembly also noted that a framework needed to be put in place to build on the Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration in view of the slow progress made towards meeting the targets of the MDGs. This framework will address new challenges such as fragilities of the world financial and economic systems, and crisis spilling over from developed to developing countries, high levels of unemployment and the slow pace of poverty reduction among others.

The United Nations Secretary-General emphasised on the importance of predictable levels of ODA and urged all developed countries to fulfill their pledges and meet their ODA targets. He called for broadening of the tax base in public finance and enhancement of the private sector. He emphasised the need to join forces to eliminate illicit financial flows, enhance the regulation of secrecy jurisdictions and promote asset recovery.

Financing for Development

Your Committee was informed that the Assembly further noted Green Climate Fund would play a key role, as would remittances for development, debt relief and the bolstering of

international trade. Systemic shortcomings of international monetary, financial and economic institutions should be addressed through serious reforms. A more inclusive framework of global economic governance was required to improve the functioning, stability and resilience of financial institutions, requiring a strengthened role and increased effectiveness of the United Nations, including high-level engagements with relevant international and regional financial institutions and other stakeholders. Innovative financing is needed. Countries should look for new sources of financing complementary to traditional official development assistance. Countries should take ownership for their own development and mobilise domestic financing for development. The involvement of the private sector should be increased with having a boosted private sector that is host nationals led. Unpaid care work has gained prominence as a human right issue as women provide most household, child and elder care thereby constraining women's ability to participate fully in education and formal work. In this regard it has been advocated that it is time to add value to unpaid work carried by women and that this should be recognized in policy.

Information and Communications Technologies for Development

Your Committee was informed that the Assembly also noted that Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector is a critical enabler of development which has potential to contribute to poverty eradication and the socio-economic advancement of developing countries. The digital economy is a source of innovation and productivity therefore there is need to address the predictability, availability, and accessibility of broadband access issues.

A concern was raised that if the current widening of the digital divide continues, only about 31 per cent of the population in developing countries would have access to the Internet by the end of this year compared with seventy-seven per cent in developed countries.

Recommendations

Zambia should invest and enhance development of ICTs to close the digital divide and utilise ICTs for development, while at the same time putting in place cyber-security and internet governance in light of cybercrimes. Zambia should further invest in manufacturing of ICT tools especially given the change in Education policy to local languages for the first four years of education.

Zambia should strive to promote the spirit of entrepreneurship. In doing so, the Government should put in place the right incentives and provide a stable environment for entrepreneurs to prosper.

Advancement of Women

Your Committee was informed that the Assembly approved by consensus of draft resolutions to further the advancement and empowerment of women. Among the resolutions on this issue were:

- (i) Female Genital Mutilation and the call among member States to eradicate the vice;
- (ii) Gender Based Violence: calling for total elimination and encouraging strong legislation to prevent its occurrence;

- (iii) combating Human Trafficking especially among women and girls; and
- (iv) eradication of Obstetric Fistula.

Resolution on Child Early and Forced Marriages

The UNGA considered a resolution dedicated to ending child marriages. The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations and the Permanent Mission of Canada co-facilitated this draft resolution entitled Child, Early and Forced Marriages (CEFM). The proposal recognises child marriage as a human rights violation and specifically calls for its elimination. A crucial milestone in global efforts to eliminate child marriage also calls on the Secretary General to convene a panel discussion on the same and to give a report at the 69th Session of the GA. The proposal links CEFM to health conditions including maternal mortality. The UN predicts that child marriages will lead to more than 140 million girls becoming child brides in the decade leading up to 2020, if allowed to continue.

The Post 2015 Development Agenda and Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

Your Committee heard that as a follow up to the Rio+20 Conference outcome of June, 2012, *The Future We Want*, the General Assembly Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) [intergovernmental process] had been established by the Secretary General and began its sessions for stocktaking in March 2013. It composed of thirty member states including Zambia and Zimbabwe representing Southern African countries [but open to participation of all member countries]. The OWG will submit a report, to the General Assembly at its 69th session, on Sustainable Development Goals for consideration.

Thematic Areas Discussed by the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

During the eight sessions, the OWG developed the method of work for the period March, 2013 up to February, 2014 and discussed topics that included:

- i. poverty eradication;
- ii. food security and nutrition;
- iii. sustainable agriculture;
- iv. desertification, land degradation and drought;
- v. water and sanitation;
- vi. employment and decent work for all, social protection and youth;
- vii. education and culture;
- viii. health and population dynamics;
- ix. water and sanitation;
- x. sustained and inclusive economic growth;
- xi. energy, infrastructure development and industrialization;

- xii. macroeconomic policy questions (including international trade, international financial system and external debt sustainability);
- xiii. means of implementation (science and technology, knowledge-sharing and capacity building);
- xiv. global partnership for achieving sustainable development; and
- xv. needs of countries in special situations, African countries, LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS as well as specific challenges facing the middle-income countries.

The open working group first developed and adopted its methods of work and agenda in the first meeting of March 14 and 15, 2013. The Zambia Mission in New York developed a proposal with recommendations on effective national participation in the process. A government inter-ministerial committee at the national level has been providing input through the delegations that have attended the various sessions.

Sustainable Development Goals Process Key Messages

The Assembly resolved that these goals should be universally applicable with full cognisance of the different levels of development for Member States. A single, coherent development agenda with poverty eradication as the over-arching goal was necessary. SDGs process should track and communicate with the other processes of the post-2015 development agenda.

Convergence of the MDGs and the Post 2015 development agenda through a transformative process

Your Committee was informed that the Member States have called for equitable sustainable development which is people centered, with decent jobs and work for the youths and women in particular. On Education, while appreciating the massive gains in the MDG 2 with many countries already on target, the SDGs urged to focus on quality, standards, skills building, and move beyond primary education to secondary and tertiary. Science and technology base should also be strengthened in order to enhance and encourage innovation. Social Protection received a lot of calls for it to appear as a goal on its own for the post 2015 development agenda. Zambia and others proposed to have a social protection index on each and every goal due to its cross cutting nature. There was repeated emphasis on the need for disaggregated data to address inequalities and track progress in reaching vulnerable populations. Culture was highlighted as a source of resilience, strength and adaptability of societies.

Food Security and Nutrition

The Assembly further noted that food security and nutrition have become a global challenge and, therefore, called for a holistic approach in addressing the problem. Issues of food security and nutrition required a human rights based approach given its negative impact especially on the vulnerable groups in society. There was a need for increased investment in sustainable agriculture systems to increase food production. Some Member States requested that Food Security and Nutrition be a stand-alone goal in SDGs.

Agriculture

Sustainable agriculture was also given prominence at the Assembly for sustained economic growth and development. Green sustainable agriculture has a strategic importance in the

development of rural areas and employment creation. Countries were urged to adopt sound agricultural policies that support sustainable food production in order to support and protect the environment. The need for adequate protection of agricultural land and efficient use of water for irrigation, including productive use of soil resources for sustainable growth development was emphasised.

Water and Sanitation

The Assembly also noted that water is at the core of sustainable development. Water and sanitation are central to the achievement of many development goals, including agriculture, health and education. While the world has met the target of halving the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water five years ahead of schedule, the task of providing universal, reliable access remained far from complete. Water and sanitation issues were still unfinished business from the MDGs and required continuity in the SDG agenda. As the world population increased, additional water and energy resources were needed, and there was need for proper and advance planning. The Water- Energy and Food Nexus was outlined which showed the centrality and interconnectedness of water with other key sectors of energy and agriculture. Water and sanitation being cross-cutting needed to be looked at and managed in an integrated manner. It was reiterated that the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach needed to be implemented. Extending improved sanitation facilities in rural areas and poor urban communities remained a major challenge, with insufficient progress realised to date towards the MDG 7 target. There was also a strong case for continuing to link sanitation with safe drinking water, as the two were intimately linked health determinants. The importance of trans-boundary cooperation in water management was underscored. Technologies, infrastructure improvements and incentives are needed for reducing water losses, wastage, and pollution, in order to free up supplies for productive uses. Technologies are needed to use water efficiently, reduce water pollution and treat polluted waters.

Employment and Decent Work for all, Social Protection, Youth and Culture

Unemployment, the Assembly acknowledged especially among the youth, is a serious problem. It was pointed out that decent and productive work is the most direct route out of poverty, based on robust, inclusive, job creating growth. Enterprises and entrepreneurs are principal job creators. A goal or targets related to jobs would need to address the situation of the working poor as well as the unemployed.

Health and Population dynamics

The Assembly also reiterated that health is a right and a goal in its own right, as well as a means of measuring success across the sustainable development agenda. Calls for universal health coverage; equitable access to quality basic health services; health promotion, prevention, treatment. Health MDGs could be integrated as targets in an overarching universal health goal. Communicable diseases still burden many countries, but non-communicable diseases increasingly affect all countries, highlighting the need to promote healthy diets and lifestyles and health needs of persons with disabilities. The discussions highlighted the importance of equal access of women and girls to health-care services, including addressing women's sexual and reproductive health.

Economic growth, infrastructure development and industrialization, macroeconomic policy

The Assembly noted further that economic growth is a prerequisite for poverty eradication, which remains the overriding priority. Growth needs to be inclusive, sustainable, and cognisant of the need to promote harmony with nature. Industrialization is a key driver of productivity, growth and job creation. Inclusive growth and sustainable industrialisation was proposed as a goal.

The importance of resource efficiency

Many countries particularly in Africa highlighted the need for economic diversification, moving from reliance on primary commodity exports to value addition and strengthening of productive capacities and technological capabilities. Small- and medium enterprises (SMEs) are engines for job creation, requiring better integration into national and global value chains. Infrastructure development and industrialization are critical for Africa's development including efficient internal financial resource mobilization

Energy

The Assembly noted that access to safe, affordable and reliable energy is a pre-requisite for growth and poverty eradication. Energy is an enabler for development and is linked to all dimensions of sustainable development. Universal access to modern energy services was broadly supported to be a standalone goal. The High Level Meeting at the Assembly discussed and indicated that the means of implementation are crucial for the achievement of sustainable development. Science, technology and innovation are drivers of social and economic development and have potential to be a game changer for countries efforts to achieve sustainable development.

Human Rights, the Right to Development and Global Governance

The Assembly also acknowledged that human rights are universal and multi-dimensional, encompassing civil, political, social, economic, environmental and cultural rights. The High Level Meeting discussed that human rights are cross-cutting and had to be mainstreamed.

Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee takes note of the briefing on the deliberations of the 68th United Nations General Assembly and recommends as follows:

- i. Zambia needs to focus, beyond the MDGs process to the post -2015 development agenda and the SDGs in order to reposition itself to benefit as well as contribute to this agenda;
- ii. Zambia should enhance the policy environment to strengthen the science and technology capacities of relevant institutions in order to prepare for technology transfer and for further build up of science and technology;
- iii. as the country industrialises, there is need for Government to ensure policy direction that could build relationships with investors involved in value addition and technology with the training schools such as schools of sciences and engineering so as to build a strong base for kick starting the science and technology transformation;

- iv. Zambia's future national development plans should also include and benefit from the contributions made to the process of formulating the SDGs that will form part of the post- 2015 development agenda and clearly develop a strategy to feed into the country's next National Development Plan;
- v. Zambia should invest and enhance development of ICTs to close the digital divide and utilise ICTs for development, while at the same time putting in place cyber-security and internet governance in light of cybercrimes; Zambia should further invest in manufacturing of ICT tools especially given the change in Education Policy to local languages for the first four years of education;
- vi. Zambia should strive to promote the spirit of entrepreneurship. In doing so, the Government should put in place the right incentives and provide a stable environment for entrepreneurs to prosper; and
- vii. Zambia has signed the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) which is a multilateral treaty that regulates the international trade in conventional weapons; this gives the Zambian Government additional mandate to regulate which guns can and cannot enter or exit the country and it is imperative upon the Zambian Government to domesticate the treaty to allow for the inclusion of this mandate into national laws.

REPORTS FROM PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

8.0 Your Committee received five reports in total, comprising of one report from Zambia's Parliamentary delegation to the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), one from the Forum of Parliaments of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (FP/ICGLR), one from the African, Caribbean, and Pacific - European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly (ACP-EU JPA) and two reports from the Southern African Development Community - Parliamentary Forum (SADC-PF).

ZAMBIA'S PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO THE PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT (PAP) REPORT

8.1 Resolutions passed by the Plenary

The Pan-African Parliament passed the resolution set out hereunder.

Resolution to pay tribute to *the Late Hon Dr Moussa Idriss Ndele*

On the need to pay tribute to the late Hon Dr Moussa Idriss Ndele, the PAP plenary resolved to:

- i. pay glowing tribute to the late former President of the Pan-African Parliament His Excellency Hon Dr Moussa Idriss Ndele who passed away on 19th May, 2013; and expressed its greatest appreciation for the mature and skilful manner he steered the 2nd Parliament and his great service for the people of Africa; and
- ii. name the Pan-African Parliament Chamber after Hon Dr Moussa Idriss Ndele Hall.

Resolution on the fundamental Principles and policy priorities in family polices in Africa

That core African family values and need to strengthen the African family should be emphasised.

Resolutions on making Agriculture Investment Work for Africa

On making Agriculture Investment work for Africa, the plenary resolved to:

- i. mobilize public opinion and governments on the question of land grabs and raise awareness among citizens through public campaigns and special Parliamentary debates;
- ii. advocate at national and international level with a view to mobilise resources to promote agriculture in Africa and at each National Parliament level during the study and voting of the budget in order to secure the implementation of the 2003 Maputo Declaration;
- iii. undertake to call on the African and all other African regional institutions and organisations to support the implementation of the program of making investments in agriculture work for Africa; and
- iv. advocate for the creation of a network of parliaments on responsible governance of investment and land under the auspices of the Pan-African Parliament, East African Legislative Assembly, West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA)-Parliament, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) - Parliament, Economic Community of Central African States (CEMAC) - Parliament, Southern African Development Community (SADC) - Parliamentary Union and European Parliamentarians with Africa (AWEPA).

Resolutions on the dialogue on the existing relationship between PAP and UNAIDS on AIDS response

On the dialogue on the existing relationship between PAP and UNAIDS on AIDS response, the plenary resolved:

- i. to develop the Parliamentarians Hand Book on AIDS for Africa;
- ii. to create a continuous information sharing medium to support learning and continuous information flow;
- iii. to develop a concrete action-plan to operationalise the Memorandum of Understanding;
- iv. to organise a leadership session during ICASA 2013 in Cape Town whose primary audience would be regional parliaments and partner parliamentarians of the Continent. The purpose of the session was skills building and an opportunity to review the implementation of the AU road map on shared responsibilities and plan next steps;
- v. to build capacity of PAP members to understand drug production and pharmaceutical issues including TRIPS;
- vi. to establish a PAP members network on HIV to enhance networking and exchange of experiences;
- vii. to encourage male parliamentarians to play a leading role in the HIV response;

- viii. to harmonize and strengthen the capacity of the African Parliamentary committees involved in HIV response;
- ix. that PAP members monitor the implementation of continental commitments including the AU roadmap on Shared Responsibilities; and
- x. for UNAIDS and PAP Secretariat to develop country score cards that specifically include gender and HIV indicators for use by Parliamentarians which cards will provide status of country HIV epidemic and responses including implementation of continental and global commitments.

Resolution on the Dispatch of a fact-finding mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Rwanda

On the dispatch of a fact-finding mission to the DRC and Rwanda, the plenary resolved:

that a fact-finding mission be sent to the DRC and Rwanda without further delay in order to gather all information on the situation prevailing in Eastern DRC.

Resolution on the Dispatch of a Mission of Goodwill to Kenya

On the dispatch of a Mission of Goodwill to Kenya, the plenary resolved:

to send a goodwill mission to Kenya to express profound gratitude and demonstrate solidarity with political leaders and the people of Kenya for the fruitful and peaceful elections held in March 2013.

Resolutions on the Fact-Finding Mission to the Central African Republic (CAR)

On the fact-finding Mission to the CAR, the plenary resolved:

- i. to organise an inclusive dialogue between all strata of the CAR society for the establishment of a peaceful climate before the organisation of elections;
- ii. to call on the African Union to organise a continental meeting with all stakeholders of the conflict;
- iii. to call on the African committee on Human and People's Rights to respond to the grievous violation of human rights; and
- iv. on the need to lift economic sanctions against the CAR after the various warring factions have embraced peace.

Resolutions on the Board of External Auditors of the Pan-African Parliament

On the Board of External Auditors of the Pan African Parliament, the plenary resolved:

- i. that the Pan-African coordination be more responsive and transparent by making its financial statements and any requests available to the auditors on demand and any current or previous documents that may be required;

- ii. that a comprehensive inventory be taken on all moveable and immovable assets of the Secretariat and duly marked and documented and reviewed periodically to ensure that the asset base of the Parliament is accounted for;
- iii. that services and purchases of US\$5,000 and above subject to a competitive bidding by tender selection process in accordance with the Financial Rules and Regulations of the African Union;
- iv. that goods and services must be confirmed to have been carried out and payments made only on the production of original documents before settlement;
- v. that a proper management of the stores with stock cards and periodical stock taking be introduced and the Accounts Department work in synergy with Stores. A qualified store keeper should be employed;
- vi. that an IT audit be carried out to investigate the purported CRASH and report to the appropriate authority;
- vii. audit and budget management should be taken more seriously and standard accounting processes as recommended by the auditors be put in place in earnest;
- viii. all matters bothering on staff debts, school fees by staff should be resolved by the affected staff without further delays; and
- ix. that the issue of the money for the implementation of PAP programs to the tune of USD2, 288 173 be duly investigated.

Resolutions on the Improvement of the Energy Industry in Africa for Sustainable Development

On the improvement of the Energy Industry in Africa for Sustainable Development, the plenary resolved:

- i. to explore setting up mechanisms to address the challenge of policy deficiency regarding ratification of national contracts/agreements to address the challenges of poor or lack of accountability by Governments to parliaments as well as compromised oversight by parliaments;
- ii. to develop a continental energy policy framework with research on different energy sources and carries as well as technology options through the convening of a Continental Energy Conference on Africa; and
- iii. to encourage national parliaments to pay attention to good governance in handling energy contracts, environmental impact and fair share of services to various communities.

Resolutions on the re-commitment to the centrality of the African Family

On the re-commitment to the centrality of the African family, the plenary resolved:

- i. to conduct a series of workshops on family-centred policy making for all its Committees;

- ii. to call upon Member States to ensure the urgent and effective implementation of the tenants of the Plan of Action on the Family (2004) and to assess potential effects of all proposed socio-economic policies on the welfare of families; and
- iii. that in light of Agenda 2063 and the 50th Anniversary of the OAU coinciding with the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family, to call for the year 2014 to be the Year of the African Family and to encourage AU-institutions and Member States to pay special attention to this year by undertaking concrete action for the protection of the family in Africa.

Recommendations of the Plenary

The plenary made the recommendations set out below.

On the situation in the Central African Republic

- i. the African Union should speed up the deployment of the International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (ISMCA) throughout the national territory in order to facilitate a conducive environment for the organisation of transport, free and fair elections and the holding of electoral campaigns as well the provision of humanitarian services;
- ii. the Transition Government should take appropriate and rapid measures to resettle people displaced from their homes in order to facilitate the provision of humanitarian aid and other social services such as health services, education , water, food, etc, which were destroyed during the crisis;
- iii. the African Union should take measures for the lifting of the economic sanctions imposed on the Central African Republic in order to enable the Transition Government to organize the mobilization of financial resources towards the functioning of public services, the payment of salaries, and the preparation and organisation of planned credible elections as well as provision of basic public infrastructure, and to take action, as soon as possible, in order to guarantee the return of the technical and financial partners of the Central African Republic for the resumption of their financial support to the country;
- iv. the Transition Government should give urgent priority to the disarmament of Central African militia and the expulsion of heavily armed foreign mercenaries who are roaming freely and are widespread in the country, in order to create a conducive environment for free and are widespread in the country, in order to create a conducive environment for free and secured electoral campaigns;
- v. the African Union should put pressure on the three main actors mandated to manage the transition in order for them to work in close collaboration in the national interest of all the Central African people;
- vi. the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights' should urgently react to the serious human rights violations and impunity that reign in the Central African Republic;
- vii. the Transition Government should organize an inclusive dialogue between all the strata of the Central African Society for the installation of a peaceful climate before the organization of elections; and

- viii. the African Union should urgently organize a continental meeting with all the stakeholders of the Central African conflict.

On the Situation in the Republic of Mali

- i. the new Government of Mali to take urgent and appropriate measures to promote national reconciliation and the integration of refugees and displaced persons;
- ii. the African Union urgently equip and render operational the African Alert Force (AAF) to be able to cope with the crisis and fight against extremism and radicalism in Mali;
- iii. the African Union encourage African countries to mobilize themselves in order to support the United Nations Mission for Stabilization in Mali (Minusma) in its fight against terrorism and extremism which have become transnational;
- iv. the African Union develop and implement a coherent strategy for the establishment of lasting peace in the Sahel; and
- v. African leaders improve their collaboration through the sharing of information and effective border control in order to put an end to the attacks of terrorist groups on the African Continent.

On the Situation in Guinea

- i. the African Union should strive to maintain an open dialogue between the Guinean political forces;
- ii. special envoys of the UNO, the AU and the ECOWAS should remain committed to the management of the crisis in Guinea;
- iii. the Guinean political forces should engage themselves in a dialogue geared towards reconciliation and unity in the country; and
- iv. the Government should pursue and finalize its investigation of the reform in the mineral sector in order to create an atmosphere conducive for the kick start of the Guinean economy.

On the Situation in Kenya

The African Union should seek an urgent regional solution that will address the menace of radicalism and prevent recruitment by terrorist groups in Africa.

On the Situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

- i. the United Nations Organisation and the African Union should organise and supervise a political dialogue between all the national and regional actors involved in the Eastern DRC crisis; and
- ii. that the UNO and the AU impose sanctions on any country engaged in the destabilization of its neighbours.

On the Situation in Somalia

- i. the Somali Federal Government (SFG) should consider, as a matter of urgency, the establishment of a platform for dialogue with leadership of the Al-shabaab members to denounce the acts of terrorism and extremism to make concessions that would put an end to terrorist operations in the country;
- ii. the Somali Federal Government should develop a peace process taking into account all stakeholders from all regions of the country which will be initiated as a non-military option in the search for peace; and
- iii. African countries should mobilise to support Somalia by sending military troops to the country.

On Climate Change, Poverty and Energy

- i. the Members of Parliament should urge their respective governments to put institutions in place for climate financing and renewable energy;
- ii. REFIT and other positive policy incentives should be extended to the rest of Africa to assist the development and refinement of policy options to prepare African countries for the transition to sustainable renewable energy;
- iii. climate change financing instruments should be reviewed to ensure Africa improves her direct access to these funds and encourage African countries to access all these available funds;
- iv. parliamentarians should be empowered with up-to-date and relevant information in order to ensure they continue to play a meaningful role in improvement of livelihoods; and
- v. Heinrich Boll Stiftung, the Climate Parliament, the World Future Council and other relevant partners should with Pan-African Parliament (PAP) convene a special meeting, to continue providing support to PAP to continue facilitating an annual meeting as a follow-up to address the issue of climate change in Africa.

On African illegal Immigration

- (i) African States should sensitize and inform the youth of their respective countries on the serious risks involved in African illegal immigration relating to means that the different contingents use in travelling;
- (ii) African Heads of State should create employment opportunities for the youth in order to curb poverty and unemployment on the African continent;
- (iii) the African States should focus on the policy of reform and enhancing of development and service delivery in order to create within African countries conditions and contexts that attract young people in the diaspora; and
- (iv) the African Union should urge Member States of the European Union and in particular those receiving illegal African immigrants to develop and implement more flexible immigration policies.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

While noting the PAP recommendations, your Committee urges the Zambian Government to:

- i. support efforts of transforming the PAP into a legislative body and urge Parliament to push for Government to ratify the outstanding protocols; and
- ii. collaborate with other African countries through the sharing of information and effective border control in order to put an end to the attacks of terrorist groups on the African Continent.

REPORT OF THE FORUM OF PARLIAMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION (FP/ICGLR)

8.2 THE SECURITY SITUATION IN ICGLR MEMBER COUNTRIES

The Democratic Republic of the Congo

Your Committee was informed that the Plenary Assembly noted the current situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo in which the Government Defence Forces in collaboration with the United Nations Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO), “the Intervention Brigade”, defeated the M23 that led to them to declare a ceasefire. It also noted the efforts being undertaken by Uganda in mediating between the Government of the DRC and the M23 in trying to find a lasting solution to the conflict.

The Plenary Assembly thereafter urged Parliaments and Governments of member countries of the ICGLR to:

- i. strongly condemn acts of violence and criminal activities perpetrated by all foreign and Congolese armed groups operating in the eastern part of the DRC;
- ii. encourage all member States of the ICGLR to effectively support the efforts made by the United Nations, African Union, the ICGLR and the international community in order to restore peace, security, stability and development in the DRC and entire Great Lakes Region ;
- iii. take necessary measures in order to secure the implementation of both the Framework Agreement signed in Addis Ababa on 24th February, 2013 and the Resolution 2098 on 28th March, 2012 by the United Nations Security Council which were the only genuine frameworks to restoration of peace, security and stability in the DRC and in the Great Lakes Region;
- iv. encourage the DRC Government and the M23 to conclude the Kampala talks, to adopt and implement in good faith the decisions which will definitively put an end to their disputes in the interest of peace, stability and development in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes Region; and
- v. encourage the DRC Government to take political measures designed to guarantee and assure all national stakeholders and ensure that they were involved in all sectors of the nation.

The Central African Republic

The Plenary Assembly noted that the current security situation in the Central African Republic (CAR) was causing a serious threat against the security, stability and development of the country and in the Great Lakes Region as a whole despite the Agreement of 11th January, 2013. The Plenary Assembly also noted the humanitarian and economic crisis facing the CAR. Further, it was noted that the crisis in the CAR could lead to genocide.

The Plenary Assembly thereafter urged Parliaments and Governments of member countries of the ICGLR to:

- i. urge the Heads of State to put on their agenda at their next Summit of Heads of State issues relating to the CAR;
- ii. call upon the UN Security Council through the African Union to pass a resolution for a peacekeeping mission for the CAR;
- iii. provide urgent humanitarian assistance and financial and other material support to the people of the CAR; and
- iv. call upon different political leaders and other stakeholders to dialogue in order to find a lasting peaceful solution to the crisis in the CAR.

The Sudan and South Sudan

The Plenary Assembly, while noting that the current situation between the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan constituted a serious threat against security, stability and development in both countries and throughout the Great Lakes Region, was satisfied with all the efforts made by the United Nations and the African Union to consolidate peace, security and stability between the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan.

The Assembly also noted with satisfaction the conclusion of several agreements between the Governments of the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan for achieving peace, stability and cooperation between the two countries.

The Plenary Assembly thereafter urged Parliaments and Governments of member countries of the ICGLR to:

- i. take action at both governmental and parliamentary level to encourage the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan to continue dialoguing in order to respect and implement in good faith all agreements signed by them in the interest of peace, security and stability in the two countries and in the Great Lakes Region;
- ii. assist and encourage the Governments of the Sudan and South Sudan to proceed without delay in the demarcation of the international boundary between their respective territories and resolve, by entering into a definitive agreement on a win-win basis, the question of the exploitation and export of oil produced in South Sudan through the Sudan; and
- iii. support all efforts exerted by the Presidents of the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan to reach solutions to unresolved and controversial issues between the two countries, and the fruitful results of the bilateral visits between the two

Presidents that have reflected on the strong will to implement agreements signed between the two countries that will lead to normalisation of relations between them.

The Sudan

The Plenary Assembly, while noting that the current situation in the Republic of the Sudan had improved, strongly condemned any use of violence in the Sudan by armed groups, irrespective of their origin, as a means to achieve political objectives.

The Plenary Assembly thereafter urged Parliaments and Governments of member countries of the ICGLR to:

- i. take action at both governmental and parliamentary level to encourage the Republic of the Sudan and the rebel movements to initiate and continue inclusive political negotiations in order to find, through peaceful means, a comprehensive political solution to all conflicts and achieve peace, security and stability in the Sudan and in the Great Lakes Region;
- ii. encourage the Government of the Sudan to conclude a special final peace agreement with the armed rebellion in the provinces of South Kordofan and Blue Nile in order to achieve peace, security and stability in the country;
- iii. support all efforts of the UN, AU and the international community to bring peace, security and stability in the Sudan; and
- iv. call upon the rebel groups to refrain from hostilities and adhere to the peace initiatives and join the peace talks.

The Plenary Assembly implored the Secretary General to monitor the security situation in the Eastern DRC, the CAR, the Sudan and South Sudan and to report progress to the next Session of the Assembly.

The fight against the illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region

The Plenary Assembly noted with concern that most civil strife in ICGLR Member States was as result of natural resources despite having a Protocol Against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources which intended to address the problem.

The Plenary Assembly urged member Parliaments and Governments to effectively use the Protocol that has international and regional initiatives to curb the illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Region.

Status of domestication of Protocols contained in the Pact on Peace, Stability and Development in Member States of the Great Lakes Region

The Plenary Assembly noted that the ten Protocols were undergoing internal consultations.

The Plenary Assembly thereafter urged member Parliaments and Governments to ensure that the ten Protocols were domesticated in their countries.

International Conference on the Great Lakes Region Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre on Democracy and Good Governance

The Plenary Assembly noted that the Centre was established under the Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance and was a think tank research for Member States of the ICGLR. The Plenary Assembly also noted that the Centre would be hosting a workshop for Parliamentarians on the role of Parliaments in Economic and Natural Resources Governance in the ICGLR Member States to be held in Lusaka in December, 2013 organised by the Centre and the Forum of Parliaments of the ICGLR in partnership with the AU Commission and UNDP.

Status of Domestication of Protocols by Zambia

The status of domestication of the Protocols with regard to Zambia is as elaborated below.

- i. Protocol on Non-aggression and Mutual Defence in the Great lakes Region.

The Protocol has undergone legal audit and relevant Ministries are being consulted before domesticating it.

- ii. Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance

The Protocol has undergone legal audit and relevant ministries are being consulted.

- iii. Protocol Against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources

The Protocol has undergone legal audit and relevant ministries are being consulted before domesticating it.

- iv. Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children

The Protocol has undergone legal audit and relevant ministries are being consulted before domesticating it.

- v. Protocol on Judicial Cooperation

The Protocol is yet to undergo legal audit.

- vi. Protocol for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and all forms of Discrimination

The Protocol is yet to undergo legal audit.

- vii. Protocol on the Specific Reconstruction and Development Zone

The Protocol is yet to undergo legal audit.

- viii. Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to internally Displaced Persons

The Protocol is yet to undergo legal audit.

- ix. Protocol on Property Rights of Returning Persons

The Protocol is yet to undergo legal audit.

x. Protocol on the Management of Information and Communication

The Protocol is yet to undergo legal audit.

Recommendations of the Zambian delegation

Following the deliberations of the 4th Plenary Assembly of the FP/ICGLR, the delegation wishes to bring the following points to the attention of the National Assembly of Zambia Management:

- during the 4th Plenary Assembly Session, Zambia paid her contribution of US \$ 193,625.00.
- Zambia would be hosting a workshop for Parliamentarians on the role of Parliaments in Economic and Natural Resources Governance in December, 2013; and
- there is need for Zambia to be aware of the date and venue of the next Plenary Assembly to be held in 2014 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

Your Committee notes the submission and:

- i. urges the Zambian Government to continue monitoring the security situation in the eastern DRC, the CAR, the Sudan and South Sudan; and
- ii. urges the Government to expedite the domestication of the various protocols contained in the Pact on Peace, Stability and Development in Member States of the Great Lakes Region that the Zambian Government has signed.

REPORT OF THE AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN, PACIFIC, EUROPEAN UNION JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (ACP-EU JPA)

8.3 Resolution 1 on security in the Great Lakes region

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly meeting which was held in Addis Ababa from 25th to 27th November, 2013:

- i. condemned once again, in the strongest possible terms, the acts of violence, crimes, human rights violations, acts of rape and recruitment of child soldiers that have taken place, and reiterated its support for the peoples of the Great Lakes region who have been exposed to the atrocities of war; encouraged states to promote dialogue, mediation, and negotiation in internal conflict resolution as a means of eliminating the causes of dissension which lead to attempts to depose democratically elected governments;
- ii. called on the DRC Government to exercise its full authority throughout the territory of the DRC and to improve the general governance of the country, including in the human rights field, as well as to identify and implement appropriate means of ensuring that all sections of Congolese society have the same rights;

- iii. calls on parliaments of the Great Lakes region to work with their governments and political parties to promote social justice to ensure lasting peace;
- iv. called on parliaments and governments to ensure equal participation by all categories of society, including women and young people, minorities and vulnerable groups in the democratic process and governance;
- v. called on the international community, including the AU, the EU and the UN, to continue to provide substantial, coordinated and more effective aid to people affected by the security situation in the Great Lakes region and to remain ready to respond to the humanitarian disaster in the region;
- vi. re-affirmed its steadfast commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of the countries of the Great Lakes region in general and to the DRC in particular, and stressed that these needed to be respected in order to promote the peace, security and development of the Great Lakes region;
- vii. re-affirmed the inalienable and indefeasible right of each of the peoples of the region to benefit fully from their national assets and to dispose of them in a completely sovereign manner in accordance with their own laws;
- viii. expressed its support for the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Region signed in Addis Ababa, and called on all the signatory parties to honour their commitments swiftly and in good faith; therefore called on the UN Security Council to take appropriate measures pursuant to paragraph 6 of its Resolution 2098 (2013) in respect of any parties that have not complied with the commitments set forth in that framework;
- ix. welcomed the EU's support for the framework agreement and encouraged it to make every effort, together with other international organisations, to promote peace and improve cooperation between the DRC, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania;
- x. expressed its support for all the measures aimed at restoring peace and security in the Great Lakes region instigated and carried out by the UN, the AU, the EU, the ICGLR and the SADC, and urged them to continue their efforts and in particular to set up a programme for the harmonious development of the region, in order to offer young people and the population of the Great Lakes region in general an alternative to war that will provide them with a better future;
- xi. welcomed UN Security Council Resolution 2098 (2013) on the DRC and urgently called on the leaders in the Great Lakes region and on the international community as a whole to work to ensure that that resolution was appropriately and fully implemented;
- xii. welcomed the deployment in North Kivu of troops from the Intervention Brigade established under that resolution within MONUSCO; welcomed that brigade's active involvement in putting down the M23 rebellion, and called on it to continue to provide support for Congolese Government troops, with a view to disbanding all other armed groups on DRC territory and putting an end to their criminal activities in the Great Lakes region;

- xiii. urged the international community, in particular aid donors, to support efforts by the DRC authorities, following the military victory over the M23, to carry out institutional, political, economic and social structural reforms, in particular in the defence, security and justice spheres, with a view to strengthening democracy, the rule of law and good governance at all levels of public administration;
- xiv. called on the DRC and its neighbours to engage in closer and more effective regional cooperation, in order jointly to address the consequences of the recurring conflicts in the region and, in addition to dealing with security-related and political issues, to promote economic development in the Great Lakes region; and called on the international community, in particular the ICGLR, the AU, the EU, the UN and the US to support such cooperation;
- xv. emphasised, with a view to this, the need to revitalise the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries and to provide it with the wherewithal to promote peace, integration, economic growth and job creation, in order to give the people of the region a better life;
- xvi. welcomed the progress made in the Kampala negotiations under ICGLR auspices and urges the mediator and all the parties to conclude those talks swiftly, so as to settle urgent matters such as the extradition of former M23 rebels who had taken refuge in neighbouring countries and people cited for war crimes, crimes against humanity and serious human rights abuses;
- xvii. called for the demobilisation, disarmament, rehabilitation and reintegration (DDRR) of former rebels to be carried out in strict accordance with both the basic international standards in this area and the specific demands of soldiering, as referred to in the ACP-EU JPA resolution on the threats posed by military coups to democracy and political stability in the ACP countries, and the role of the international community;
- xviii. took note of the national consultations in the DRC between the presidential majority, the political opposition and civil society convened by President Joseph Kabila and encourages the DRC authorities to act on the conclusions and recommendations of those consultations, with a view to promoting national reconciliation and removing once and for all the root causes of the recurrent political crises in the DRC;
- xix. emphasised the need to lose no time in identifying, with the assistance of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Red Cross, former M23 rebels and Congolese refugees in Rwanda and Uganda, so that they may be voluntarily repatriated to their country of origin and that anyone so wishing may take part in the DDRR programme;
- xx. emphasised that ending impunity is one of the preconditions for restoring peace and security in the Great Lakes region and repeated its call on the judicial authorities of the member states of the ICGLR and on the International Criminal Court to prosecute and punish the perpetrators of human rights violations, crimes against humanity, war crimes, rape and the recruitment of child soldiers in the Great Lakes region;
- xxi. insisted that all armed groups roaming the Great Lakes region that have not yet done so must lay down their arms immediately and undertake to return to normal civilian life in their respective countries;

- xxii. urged all of the countries in the Great Lakes region that have taken in civilian or military refugees from other countries to adhere strictly to the provisions of the 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Convention of 1967 Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, in particular the ban on such persons engaging in political and military activities against their countries of origin;
- xxiii. called on the World Bank to follow up the promise made by its President on 22nd May, 2013 in Kinshasa to invest the sum of USD 1 billion for development projects in the Great Lakes region, and recommended that this funding be earmarked as a priority for the areas affected by the conflicts;
- xxiv. urged the AU, the ICGLR and its member states, the UN and the EU to take firm and effective steps to combat the illegal exploitation of and trade in natural resources of the DRC and other countries in the Great Lakes region, and in particular to impose penalties on companies involved in such practices, in accordance with the transparency principles adopted at international level; and
- xxv. instructed its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the African Union, the ACP-EU Council, the Council and Commission of the European Union, the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the UN Secretary-General, the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region, the member states of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and the Presidents, Heads of State and Government and parliaments of the states concerned.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

Your Committee notes the submission and welcomes the resolutions of the ACP-EU JPA.

REPORTS OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICA DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY -PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (SADC-PF)

8.4 Your Committee was informed that in accordance with the Constitution of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, two Plenary Assembly Sessions were held by the SADC Parliamentary Forum in 2013.

33RD PLENARY ASSEMBLY SESSION, GABORONE, BOTSWANA

12.1 The 33rd Plenary Assembly Session was held from 16th to 23rd June, 2013. The theme of the 33rd Plenary Assembly Session was "*Enhancing the Implementation Capacity of SADC - What Parliaments can do to Facilitate Regional Integration in SADC.*"

Proceedings

The 33rd Plenary Assembly Session received an expert presentation from Dr. Angelo Mondlane, Director of Policy, Planning and Resource Mobilisation at the SADC Secretariat on the theme of the Plenary Assembly. In his presentation, Dr Mondlane affirmed that SADC has adopted a common agenda aimed at promoting sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development that would ensure poverty alleviation with the ultimate objective of poverty eradication. He added that SADC was committed to enhancing the standard and

quality of life of the people of Southern Africa and to support the socially-disadvantaged groups through regional integration. The Plenary Assembly noted that these would be achieved through democratic, legitimate and effective institutions which promoted common political values and systems. The role of Parliament in supporting the implementation capacity of SADC was, therefore, critical.

Review of SADC PF Constitution and Rules of Procedure - The Plenary Assembly underscored the need for the Rules of Procedure and the Constitution of the Forum to be amended and aligned accordingly in order to facilitate operating like a Parliament and the implementation capacity of SADC through greater involvement of Parliamentarians in the affairs of SADC. The Assembly thus resolved that it was expedient to repeal the current Constitution and Rules of Procedure rather than amending them. The Assembly further assigned the Secretary General to identify and liaise with one Member Parliament for it to move a motion for the amendment of these two instruments during the 34th Plenary Assembly scheduled to be held in Tanzania in line with the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure.

Constitution Referendum Observation Mission to Zimbabwe - The Plenary Assembly noted that the Forum had deployed a forty-member Mission to observe the 16th March, 2013 Constitution Referendum in Zimbabwe. The Mission, which was in Zimbabwe from 11th to 19th March, 2013, was led by His Royal Highness, Hon. Prince Guduza Dlamini, the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Swaziland. The Mission judged the 2013 Zimbabwe Constitution Referendum to have been a credible reflection of the will of the people of Zimbabwe

Renovation of the SADC PF Headquarters by the Government of Namibia - The Plenary Assembly noted with gratitude that the Government of the Republic of Namibia, through the National Assembly of Namibia, had set aside N\$2.9 million from its budget to carry out much needed renovations and provide for more office space at the Forum's Headquarters. Further, the Assembly paid tribute to the Government and people of Namibia for their continued support to the work of the Forum.

The 33rd Plenary Assembly also received and deliberated on a number of administrative reports submitted by the Secretary General. A synopsis of these reports is given below.

Meetings of Standing Committees - It was proposed that SADC PF Standing Committees should meet ahead of the Plenary Assembly sessions. The proposal entailed that Standing Committee members should arrive a day before their meeting day. The schedule would allow sufficient time for the preparation and translation of Standing Committee reports into the three official languages of the Forum. After considerable debate, it was resolved that meetings of the Standing Committees should be held in Windhoek ahead of each Session of the Plenary Assembly as resolved at the 32nd Plenary Assembly.

Membership and Election of Office Bearers to the New SADC PF Standing Committees - The Plenary Assembly noted that nomination of Members of Parliament to the five (5) new Standing Committees of SADC PF as approved by the 32nd Plenary Assembly would be finalised with the election of Office Bearers for the new Committees once the new Constitution and Rules of Procedure were adopted by the 34th Plenary Assembly.

34TH PLENARY ASSEMBLY SESSION

8.5 The 34th Plenary Assembly Session of the SADC Parliamentary Forum was held from 15th to 24th October, 2013. The theme of the 34th Plenary Assembly Session was “*Benchmarking the Conduct and Assessment of Elections in Southern Africa.*”

Official Opening

The 34th Plenary Assembly Session was officially opened on Sunday, 20th October, 2013 by His Excellency, Dr Mohammed Gharib Bilal, Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania. In his official opening address, His Excellency Dr Bilal lauded the theme of the 34th Plenary Assembly Session as free and fair elections were the bedrock of democracy, buttressing a government derived from the consent of the governed. In this regard, credible elections were an important pillar for sustainable democracy. He added that flawed elections were often a harbinger of conflicts and could in fact be a threat to democracy, good governance and development in general. He, therefore, called upon all SADC countries to adopt best practices and internationally accepted benchmarks in the management of elections. He, further, commended the SADC PF for its aspiration of transforming into a Regional Parliament, noting that once such transformation was attained, the legislative body could help strengthen and facilitate the effective implementation of SADC policies and programmes, and would maximise the implementation capacity of SADC by involving Parliamentarians in SADC activities. He urged the leadership of the Forum not to relent in their quest for the transformation of the Forum and further pledged the support of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania to the realisation of this noble goal.

Other speakers who addressed the Official opening ceremony asserted that in the quest to enhance democratic practices in the governance process in SADC countries through the promotion and adoption of international best practices in the conduct and management of elections, the work of the SADC PF Election Observation Programme had resulted in considerable improvements in the conduct and management of elections in the region. They observed, however, that much more still needed to be done.

Proceedings

Adoption of Benchmarks for Democratic Elections in Southern Africa - In line with its chosen theme, the Plenary Assembly considered and adopted the *Benchmarks for Assessing Democratic Elections in Southern Africa*. The Benchmarks were developed after a comprehensive review of a wide variety of existing instruments, and focused on the current regional and global trends in the area of democracy and election management in particular. The Benchmarks would complement the *Norms and Standards for Elections in SADC Region* (2001) as the guiding instrument for the Forum’s Election Observation Programme and it would reinforce member states’ commitments to regional and international human rights obligations. Further, the Benchmarks included a Code of Conduct for SADC PF Election Observers, further strengthening SADC PF’s professionalism in Election Observation. The Plenary Assembly resolved that all members participating in SADC PF Election Observation Missions should be compelled to execute an undertaking to abide by the Code of Conduct for MPs, and that any failure to comply with the Code of Conduct should result in such a member being withdrawn from the Mission and a report on the matter being sent to the respective national parliament for appropriate action.

Adoption of Barometer for Natural Resources Governance in Southern Africa - The 34th

Plenary Assembly Session also considered and adopted the *Barometer for Natural Resources Governance in Southern Africa*. The Barometer was an instrument that Parliaments, civil society groups, labour organisations, media and communities could use to monitor how governments and companies were managing natural resources. It would help to increase transparency, accountability, respect for human rights and protection of the environment and promote real and sustainable development that would benefit all SADC citizens. For the Forum, the Barometer would set the framework for capacity building for effective oversight of the natural resources sector and, in particular, the extractive industry, by member Parliaments.

Review of SADC PF Constitution and Rules of Procedure - On a proposal by Zambia, and in line with its decision to adopt a parliamentary operational framework in order to support the implementation capacity of SADC, the 34th Plenary Assembly unanimously adopted the revised Constitution and Rules of Procedure. In the same vein, the 34th Plenary Assembly reiterated the need for greater collaboration between the SADC PF and the SADC Secretariat and, therefore, called for the speedy conclusion of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two institutions in order to accelerate the implementation of the SADC Common Agenda. It was further resolved that, in the meantime, efforts aimed at lobbying the Heads of State as regards the transformation of the Forum into a Regional Parliament should continue.

Consideration of Standing Committee Reports - In considering the Reports of the Forum's Standing Committees, the Plenary Assembly urged all SADC Parliaments through effective oversight, to contribute to the fulfilment of their respective governments' commitments in relation to HIV and AIDS, enhance natural resource governance, enhance inter parliamentary cooperation and advance parliamentary capacity as a means to ensure greater citizen representation, improved law making processes and oversight.

Zimbabwe Elections, July, 2013 - The Plenary Assembly commended the Government and the People of Zimbabwe for holding elections that were judged to be peaceful, credible, free and fair by a significant number of international Election Observation Teams, on 31st July, 2013. The plenary Assembly noted that the elections were held under the new (March, 2013) Constitution which was developed and adopted by the Government of National Unity formed under the SADC-mediated and AU guaranteed Global Political Agreement, thereby confirming the practical plausibility of the philosophy of African solutions to African challenges.

Swaziland Elections, September, 2013 - The Plenary Assembly further paid tribute to the Government and the People of Swaziland for the peaceful manner in which the 20th September 2013 National Elections were held and urged them to continue engaging in dialogue on issues of gender equality and multi-party democracy to further strengthen political participation and the full enjoyment of related rights.

The 34th Plenary Assembly Session further sent a message of goodwill to SADC member states holding elections in 2014, namely Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa and Namibia. It was hoped that the elections would be peaceful and credible. Furthermore, the Assembly urged all SADC member states to prioritise the elimination of all forms of impediments to gender equality and women's advancement, through the review of electoral systems and the constitutional and legislative frameworks.

Newly Appointed SADC Executive Secretary - The 34th Plenary Assembly congratulated Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax on her appointment as the Executive Secretary of SADC. The Assembly pledged the Forum's support to Dr Tax in all her endeavours during her term of office.

Conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo - The 34th Plenary Assembly Session also noted with deep concern the ongoing conflict in some parts of the DRC which has resulted in the untold suffering and death of innocent civilians. In this regard, the Plenary Assembly expressed appreciation and support for the efforts by SADC, AU and the international community towards a peaceful end to the conflict.

Adoption of SADC PF Flag - The 34th Plenary Assembly Session approved in principle the design of an official flag for SADC PF. The flag would incorporate the Coats of Arms of all SADC member countries. It was resolved that the Secretariat be tasked to undertake appropriate inquiries and obtain necessary approvals so as to avoid the possibility of copyright infringement by the Forum in its use of the Coats of Arms of the SADC countries.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

Your Committee notes the submission and urges the Zambian Government to continue supporting the work of the SADC-PF.

PART 11

TOUR FOR THE THIRD SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - FOREIGN TOUR TO ANGOLA

9.0 Your Committee undertook a foreign tour to Luanda, Angola from 30th March 2014 to 5th April 2014. The tour was in line with the topical issue of the Local Integration of Angolan Refugees.

FINDINGS

The findings of your Committee during its tour are set out below.

- i. The Angolan Parliament welcomed the decision that Zambia made to locally integrate the 10,000 Angolan refugees.
- ii. The Zambian delegation expressed worry on the delay in expediting the process of issuing documentation from the Angolan Government and the Angolan Government stated that it was open to suggestions on how to speed up the process.
- iii. An inter-ministerial committee from Angola was scheduled to visit Zambia to come and assess the situation and try to expedite the process of issuing documentation.
- iv. On the future of those who have not made a decision whether to return to Angola or not, the Angolan Government was non-committal as it said the issue of repatriation was voluntary but it offered to sensitise its nationals on the need to return as there was peace in Angola noG
- v. There was need for Zambia and Angola to meet more often to deepen the relations in sorting out the refugee issues.

- vi. The Angolan Government expressed worry on the status of the refugees who will opt to be locally integrated in Zambia seeing that; whereas Angola allows dual citizenship, Zambia, under the current Constitution does not.
- vii. The Angolan Government made a request for Zambia to provide detailed profiles of the returnees for them to be better redirected e.g. professional and educational qualifications of the refugees.
- viii. There was concern from the Angolan Government on those who would like to remain in Zambia but do not meet the criteria set.
- ix. The Angolan Government made a request for Zambia and Angola to engage in an exchange programme for prisoners who were in custody in both countries.

Your Committee also met with the Ambassador and the members of staff at the Zambian Embassy in Angola and the findings are set out below.

- i. Owing to the high cost of living obtaining in Angola, funding releases by the Ministry to the Embassy were mainly used for rentals and staff allowances, leaving the Embassy with no funds for other relevant activities.
- ii. The Embassy was renting the chancery in a congested and expensive area.
- iii. There was some discontentment among the locally engaged staff at the chancery i.e. the security officers and drivers because of the poor salaries and conditions of service thereby posing a security challenge on the Embassy.
- iv. Medical expenses in Angola were extremely high and even with the subsidy provided to the Embassy staff this was still not adequate.
- v. The Embassy currently had no Accountant and this posed a challenge with accounting issues as none among the available staff at the station was a qualified accountant.
- vi. The security of tenure for officials at the Embassy was uncertain and this affected the smooth operations of the missions abroad.
- vii. There was uncertainty over the ownership of the Ambassador's residence in Angola.

Recommendations

Following the findings above, your Committee recommends as set out hereunder.

- i. The Government of Zambia should work with its Angolan counterparts in sensitizing the refugees who have not yet made a decision whether to return to their country or to stay in Zambia to do so as soon as possible to avoid legal repercussions.
- ii. The Zambian Government needs to review the Constitutional and legal framework to bring it in conformity to cater for the local integration process.
- iii. The Governments of Zambia and Angola, together with UNHCR, should work together in finding a durable solution for those who will remain in Zambia but do not meet the set criteria and those who do not comply.

- iv. The Zambian Government should urgently provide profiles for the returnees to the Angolan Government to assist in settling them quickly.
- v. The Zambian Government should help the identification teams from Angola when they come to provide documentation to the refugees as most of the refugees may not be found in the capital city but in the outskirts.
- vi. Government should treat the Embassy in Angola as a special case and provide additional funding for smooth operations owing to the high cost of living in Angola.
- vii. The Government should improve the conditions of service for local staff at the Zambian Embassy in Angola.
- viii. The Government should urgently fill the vacant position of accountant at the Embassy as there were reported difficulties in handling finances.
- ix. In order to reduce on the costs of running the Embassy in Angola, the Government should seek for land and build its own chancery, thus the Zambian Government should urgently engage the Angolan counterparts to compel them to assist the Zambian Embassy in Angola to acquire land to build its own chancery;
- x. The Zambian Government should engage with its Angolan counterparts on the way forward regarding the exchange programme for prisoners.
- xi. The Government should guarantee security of tenure for staff sent to work at missions abroad.
- xii. The Government needs to sort out the issue of the Ambassador's residence in terms of ownership of the property.

PART III

CONSIDERATION OF THE ACTION-TAKEN REPORT ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

10.0 Legislative and Regulatory Framework Relating to Regulation of Organisations in Zambia

10.1 Your previous Committee had urged the Executive to ensure that the budgetary allocation to the Office of the Registrar of Societies was increased so as to address issues of manpower, office space, transport, computerisation and decentralisation.

In its response in the Action-Taken Report, the Government stated that the office of the Registrar of Societies had a core function of monitoring, regulating and randomly inspecting the non-registered and registered societies in the country. In order to ensure adherence to the Societies Act cap 119, there was need for the Department to lobby for more funding or partnering with other foreign Governments in order to facilitate the acquisition of adequate operational equipment in order to provide effectiveness and efficiency in the departments operations.

The response also stated that once the Department was empowered with an increased budget allocation, it would be able to collect more revenue throughout the country which would in turn go towards the development of the nation.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee is not satisfied with these responses and wishes to get an update on the matter.

An update on the operations of Zambia's Missions abroad

10.2 Your previous Committee, while appreciating the role that Zambian Missions abroad played, had observed that Zambia's foreign policy had not been reviewed for some time and urged the Executive to ensure that it was reviewed in order to bring it in line with current trends world-over.

In its response, the Government stated that the Ministry had reached an advanced stage in the process of reviewing the Foreign Policy and would be engaging with the relevant stakeholders in order to undertake broad based consultations prior to finalizing the document.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee urges the Government to expedite the process of reviewing the Foreign Policy and awaits a progress report on the matter.

10.2.1 Your previous Committee had also observed that funding to Zambia's Missions abroad was inadequate leading to dilapidation of their infrastructure. Your Committee, had therefore, urged the Government to increase the budgetary allocation to its missions abroad in order for them to carry out urgent and massive maintenance repairs to buildings belonging to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs abroad.

In its response, the Government stated that in order to deal with the dilapidation of the infrastructure in missions abroad, the Ministry had put a system in place, where it would budget for two Missions per year to cater for rehabilitation works. In the 2013 Budget, the Ministry had a budget for two Missions and these were; Brussels and Lubumbashi. This was due to huge amounts involved for rehabilitation works and the number of the Missions requiring rehabilitation.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to have an update on how far rehabilitation works have gone in Brussels and Lubumbashi. Your Committee further requests the Government to build a new Embassy in Lubumbashi as the current one is unsuitable due to its location and dilapidation.

10.2.2 Your previous Committee had further urged the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to make a budgetary line specifically for maintenance of its properties abroad and enhance its visitations to the Missions abroad so as to ascertain their status.

In its response, the Government stated that on the issue of the Ministry allocating a budgetary line for the maintenance of mission properties abroad, the Ministry had a budgetary line specifically for the maintenance of its properties abroad. Since there were a number of

properties in missions abroad requiring renovations, the Ministry was, therefore, prioritizing these renovations. The Ministry's objective in the long run was to own most of the properties instead of relying on rented office and residential accommodation. The Ministry had also enhanced its visitations to the missions abroad in order to assess the works needed for rehabilitation.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee takes note of the response and wishes to get an update on how many properties abroad had been acquired.

The 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

10.3 Your previous Committee had noted that Zambia remained under-represented within the UN Commissions, Boards and Funds as it seemed to pass and miss the opportunities for filling up UN positions. It had urged Cabinet Office, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to devise a strategic/plan to advance Zambia's participation in UN matters.

In its response, the Government stated that in the case of the United Nations Secretariat, the normal range of employment quotas for a least developed country such as Zambia, basing on the contribution to the UN Regular Budget was between 4 - 15 persons. Any figure within this range was deemed acceptable by the UN.

During the month of July, 2013, the Secretary to the Cabinet constituted an inter-ministerial committee to look into the question of increasing Zambia's representation in multilateral organizations, including; the United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization, African Union and African Development Bank. The Government stated that this Inter-Ministerial Committee would draft a strategy on the placement of Zambian nationals in the above indicated multilateral organizations. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs was a member of this Committee.

Committee's Observation and Recommendations

Your Committee notes the response and wishes to have an update on how many positions have been filled on the quota allocated to Zambia and whether as a country we have a directory which can be used to lobby for more positions on the UN organizations.

Your Committee also wishes to get an update on the establishment of the Committee drafting the strategy on the placement of Zambian nationals in the multilateral organizations and when it would become functional.

10.3.1 Your previous Committee had urged the Government to ensure that it continuously reviewed legislation with regard to nuclear energy and security so as to stay continuously compliant.

In response your, Committee was informed that Zambia acceded to the non-Proliferation Nuclear, Weapons Treaty commonly known as the Non-proliferation Treaty or NPT, whose objective was to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and complete disarmament. As a signatory to this Treaty, there was

therefore, a need for the Zambian Government to domesticate this Treaty by reviewing current legislation in line with the resolutions of the Treaty.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to have an update on the domestication of the Treaty by the review of current legislation for it to be in line with the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

10.3.2 Your previous Committee had urged the Zambian Government to continue to support resolutions which foster international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and sharing of information on how to deal with effects of atomic radiation. The resolutions should be supported as long as they were aimed at promoting international cooperation and information sharing in sectors which are of common heritage and interest to humanity and all nations.

In its response, the Government submitted that the Ministry was currently in the process of establishing a committee on matters patterning to international cooperation and information sharing in the peaceful uses of outer space.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to have an update on the establishment of the Committee on matters pertaining to international cooperation and information sharing in the peaceful uses of outer space.

10.3.3 Your previous Committee had urged the Zambian Government to invest in the required equipment and Peace Keeping training for the Zambian military, police and civilians as Peace-Keeping missions got more and more competitive and complicated.

In its response, the Government submitted that the following efforts towards peace-keeping mission were currently in progress:-

- i. procurement of equipment for the military including armoured personnel carriers, recovery vehicles, armoured ambulance, water and fuel bowsers, camp equipment, communications equipment, medical facilities as well as electrical and mechanical components meant for deployment; and
- ii. plans to set up a peace support operations training centre included, among others, the introduction of programmes namely the Peace and Conflict Studies at the Dag Hammarskjöld Institute and the Defence and Security Programme at the University of Zambia. Furthermore, plans were in place by the Joint Secretariat of the Ministry of Defence and the Foreign Affairs to host the Peace Support Centre at the Zambia Institute of Diplomatic and International Studies in Lusaka.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

While noting the response, your Committee wishes to get an update on the matter.

10.3.4 Your previous Committee had urged the Zambian Government to consider establishing a department of peace keeping and embrace the competences of various stakeholders such as the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Home Affairs and other civilian competences.

In its response, the Government stated that the Ministry was yet to engage the stakeholders on the establishment of the said department.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to get an update on the matter.

10.3.5 Your previous Committee urged the Zambian Government to prepare to settle the outstanding debt for the UN Peace Keeping Operations' contributions at an increased rate.

In response the Government stated that the Ministry noted your committee's recommendation and was currently settling outstanding debt arising from contributions towards United Nations Peacekeeping Operations.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to get an update on the dismantling of arrears in terms of how much has been paid and what amount is remaining.

10.3.6 Your previous Committee urged the Zambian Government to urgently repair or preferably purchase a new Residence for Zambia's Mission in New York which was in a prime area but in a deplorable state.

In its response, the Government submitted that the request to get a mortgage to finance the purchase of a new residence for the Zambian Mission in New York was authorised by the Secretary to the Treasury. The mortgage would be for a period of three (03) years. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs had not yet secured the mortgage that was authorised to purchase a new Residence for the Zambian Mission in New York. The Ministry had however, written to the Ministry of Finance requesting for clearance to proceed with the mortgage. This was because the Ministry of Finance was responsible for the management of all international debt in the country.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to get an update on whether clearance to proceed with the mortgage has been obtained.

10.3.7 Your previous Committee had urged the Government to look at the old Chancery structure of five (5) storey building in was your New York which was in a deplorable state and needed urgent repairs.

In response the Government stated that the Ministry had taken note of the need to repair the old chancery structure of five storey building in New York.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee is not satisfied with the response and wishes to get an update on what the deadline for repairing the old Chancery building is.

10.3.8 Your previous Committee had requested the Zambian Government to increase support to the Zambian Mission in New York as the cost of living in New York was very high in terms of medical expenses.

In its response, the Government stated that the matter was under active consideration. Currently, the Ministry was in the process of finalizing the Foreign Service Regulations and Conditions of Service and matters relating to the high cost of living and medical expenses in the Missions, New York inclusive.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee urges the Government to treat the issue of the New York Mission as a special case which requires immediate decisions. Your Committee recommends urgent interim relief for the New York Mission.

THE SECURITY SITUATION IN ICGLR MEMBER COUNTRIES

10.4 Your previous Committee had urged the Zambian Government to continue monitoring the security situation in the eastern DRC, the CAR, the Sudan and South Sudan.

In response, the Zambian Government stated that they would continue to monitor the security situation in the eastern DRC, the CAR, the Sudan and south Sudan. The Action Plan for the implementation of the Kampala Declaration of Heads of State and Government on the fight against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in the Great Lakes Region-the role of Parliamentarians in the ICGLR member countries.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to get an update on the situation in the Great Lakes Region.

10.4.1 Your previous Committee had noted that Zambia was in arrears in contributing to the FP/ICGLR and urged her to meet her budgetary contributions towards the FP/ICGLR.

In its response, the Zambian Government stated that it was currently dismantling its arrears to the FP/ICGLR.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to get an update on how Zambia is dismantling its arrears, with details of how much has been paid already and how much is remaining to be paid.

Tours for the Second Session of the Eleventh National Assembly

10.5 Your previous Committee had urged the Zambian Government, through Joint Permanent Commissions, to seriously address the various challenges Zambia was facing regarding her international border boundaries with the DRC and Tanzania. It had stated that this could be done by quickly reclaiming Zambian land that had been encroached upon along the Zambia/DRC and Tanzanian international border boundaries so that life and security for Zambians living along these border boundaries could return to normal.

In its response, the Government submitted that the misunderstanding over the common border between Zambia and Congo-DR was resolved by the signing of the Boundary Delimitation Treaty of 1989. What remained to be concluded on this border was the physical placement of boundary beacon pillars along the agreed international boundary between Lake Mweru and Lake Tanganyika. However, this had not been accomplished bilaterally to date due to instability in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The two countries had agreed to hold bilateral technical meetings in Congo and Zambia in 2013 to plan for the physical demarcation during the year 2014.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to get an update on the matter and a confirmation about the reclaiming of the 35 kilometres of land encroached upon along the Kaputa-Nsumbu/DRC border.

10.5.1 Your previous Committee had urged the Zambian Government to deploy more security personnel to Zambia's international boundaries especially the ones with DRC and Tanzania.

In its response, the Government stated that the Department of Immigration recruited new officers to man various border posts countrywide in 2012, including the International boundaries between DRC and Tanzania.

The Department of Immigration further hoped that authority would be granted in 2014 for it to recruit more officers for deployment to various border posts countrywide.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee is disappointed with the responses given as it had emphasised on the need for armed military personnel in terms of the Army, the Zambia Police and Zambia National Service who would provide security at the borders and not immigration personnel. It therefore, seeks an update on the matter.

10.5.2 Your previous Committee had urged the Zambian Government to ensure that the tempered beacons were reinstalled and visible intermediate beacons put in between the colonial ones.

In response, the Government stated that the Zambia/Tanzania border was defined by the colonial concrete beacon pillars. However, there was need to put additional intermediate beacons between the big boundary pillars which were located far apart. Zambia had been making preparatory meetings with Tanzania to start the physical building of additional intermediate beacons and repair of boundary beacon pillars in 2014.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee is disappointed with the response and seeks to get a specific response and update of the situation on the ground concerning the reinstallation of the beacons on the Zambia Tanzania border.

10.5.3 Your previous Committee had requested the Zambian Government to provide communication facilities and both land and water transport to security personnel manning Zambia's international border boundaries with DRC and Tanzania.

In response, the Government stated that the Ministry of Home Affairs through the Immigration Department had supplied communication facilities to the security personnel manning the International boundaries between DRC i.e. Kipushi, Nakonde, Sakania, Chembe, Kasumbalesa and Mokambo border posts, and Tanzania by providing radios to them.

Also, communication radios had been supplied to the following immigration regional offices in Mansa, Kasama, Solwezi and Ndola. The remaining radios were supplied to the following Immigration district offices: Zambezi, Mwinilunga and Chavuma.

Furthermore, boats to ease their transportation problems were supplied to the following border posts:

- i. Nsumbu Border Post/DRC;
- ii. Kilwa Border Post/DRC; and
- iii. Namafulo Border Post/Zimbabwe.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee seeks to know when the radios were supplied, to whom and whether they were operational. It also wishes to know whether the security concerns have been addressed.

10.5.4 Your previous Committee had urged the Zambian Government to construct infrastructure in terms of accommodation and office space at Zombe and Lumi border posts. It had also urged the Government to also seriously consider re-locating Lumi Border Post which was currently located ten kilometres away from the borderline to near Mosi Border Post in Tanzania. Zombe and Lumi Border Posts in Zambia share border boundaries with Kaseshya and Mosi Boarder Posts in Tanzania, respectively.

In its response, the Government stated as set out below.

- i. Zombe Border Post
 - Staff Accommodation

The Control currently had one house. The Department through the housing project under the Ministry of Home Affairs had earmarked one medium and two low cost houses for construction.

- Office Accommodation

The Control did not have an office space. However, the department had budgeted a modest sum of K1, 200,000.00 for the construction of a modern office block.

- ii. Lumi Border Post

The Control did not appear in the Gazetted border posts for 2013. However, the Provincial Joint Operation Committee in liaison with the Command at Immigration Headquarters was working out modalities of establishing offices for all security wings at Lumi.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee is not satisfied with the response from Government. It seeks specific responses on the need to re-locate Lumi Border post which is located 10 kilometres away from the borderline.

10.5.5 Your Committee had urged the Zambian Government to provide staff and office accommodation to security personnel at Nsumbu. In addition, there was need to provide both land and water transport to security personnel at Nsumbu.

In its response, the Government stated as set out hereunder.

- i. Nsumbu Border Post
 - Staff Accommodation

The Ministry/department acknowledged the challenge of staff accommodation at Nsumbu border post. Through the Ministry of Home Affairs Housing Project, the Control had been allocated one medium and two low cost houses.

- Office Accommodation

The Department of Immigration managed to secure K100, 000,000.00 for mobilization purposes. This would go towards the construction of an office block at Nsumbu border post. The Department had managed to secure land. Therefore, K1, 200,000.00 had been budgeted for the construction of an office block in the 2014 Estimates of Expenditure.

- Land Transport

The Control as noted by your Committee did not have land transport. As rightly observed, it was not the only department without transport at Nsumbu. The Department was currently working out modalities on how to secure transport for all the Controls in remote areas.

- Water Transport

Nsumbu Border Control was recently purchased a speed boat worth K151, 909.95. This was a 10 seater speed boat which would make the patrol of Lake Tanganyika relatively smooth. The Housing Project under the Ministry of Home Affairs had started.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee takes note of the response and wishes to get an update on these matters.

10.5.6 Your Committee had urged the Zambian Government to provide maps, for not only the Districts visited, but to all Districts bordering international boundaries depicting beacons.

In its response, the Government stated that it, through the Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection under the Office of the Surveyor-General, would soon distribute maps to all District bordering international boundaries. The Office of the Surveyor-General would also be sensitising the communities living along the border on the physical marking of the international boundaries in all Districts bordering international boundaries during its Joint exercise with the neighbouring countries.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee will await an update on how soon the provision of maps depicting beacons on international boundaries will be done.

Current Status of Zambia's International Boundaries

Zambia and Tanzania International Boundary

10.6 Your previous Committee, while appreciating the response had resolved to have an update on the matter.

In response, your Committee was informed that the Government of Zambia received an invitation from the Government of Tanzania and the Zambian Government was making preparations for the Joint Survey Team meeting in Nakonde, scheduled for the third week of September, 2013.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee will await an update on the matter.

Zambia/Zimbabwe International Boundary

10.6.1 Your Committee, while appreciating the response, had awaited an update on the matter.

In response, the Government stated that the Joint Technical Committee met in Harare, Zimbabwe on 20th and 21st May, 2013 and agreed that the offices of the Surveyors' General from the two countries should meet in August, 2013 in Livingstone, Zambia to come up with work plans and budgets for the common boundary affirmation exercise. Zambia had already sent an invitation letter to Zimbabwe.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee awaits an update on the matter.

Zambia/Botswana International Boundary

10.6.2 Your Committee, while appreciating the response had resolved to wait for an update on the matter.

In its response, your Committee was informed that Zambia had not received any information on how Botswana resolved the boundary interpretation with Zimbabwe. Zambia had received invitation from Botswana and the Joint Survey Team would meet in the first week of October 2013.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

Zambia/Malawi International Boundary

10.6.3 Your Committee, while appreciating the response, resolved to have an update on the outcome of the Joint Survey meeting held in August, 2012.

In response, the Government stated that Zambia and Malawi were going to meet in the first week of September to discuss how and when the Impact Assessment should be undertaken as well as Static Observations.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee wishes to have an update on the matter.

Zambia/the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) International Boundary

10.6.4 Your previous Committee while appreciating the response had resolved to have an update on the matter.

In response, your Committee was informed that during the Joint Permanent Commission (JPC) meeting held in Lubumbashi, DRC, between 20 to 25 May, 2013, it was resolved that Zambia should again extend another invitation to the DRC for the 20th Session of the Zambia - DRC Special Joint Committee of Experts on Boundary issues.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

10.6.5 Your previous Committee had wished to be updated on the Delimitation Treaty of September, 1989, between Zambia and the DRC.

In response, the Government stated that during the Joint Permanent Commission (JPC) meeting held in Lubumbashi, DRC, between 20th to 25th May, 2013, it was resolved that Zambia should again extend another invitation to the DRC for the 20th Session of the Zambia - DRC Special Joint Committee of Experts on Boundary issues.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

Donor Support in the Demarcation of Her International Boundaries

10.6.6 Your previous Committee while appreciating the response had resolved to have an update on the matter.

In response, the Government stated that it, through the Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection had been engaging the Federal Republic of Germany through GIZ to extend the financial support to other international boundary projects such as the Zambia/DRC and the Zambia/Tanzania.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Zambia's Participation in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations

10.7 Your previous Committee, in noting the response, had resolved to have an update on whether the component on peace support operations had been established as a budget line under the Ministry of Defence and whether specialised equipment for the defence and security sector had been procured.

In its response, the Government stated that the budget line shall be established soon after feasibility studies of the peace support component are concluded. The specialized equipment was yet to be procured.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Cessation Clause on Rwandese Refugees

10.8 Your previous Committee, while appreciating the response, had resolved to have an update on the matter.

In response, your Committee was informed that the Government of the Republic of Zambia completed the exemption procedures for the Rwandan caseload. Those exempted would continue to enjoy refugee status while those not exempted had appealed to the Minister of Home Affairs for final decision. The Government of the Republic of Zambia with the support of the UNHCR further engaged the Government of Rwanda in April 2013, at a meeting in Pretoria, to consider issuing national passports to their citizens who were refugees in Zambia.

The foregoing meeting yielded positive results as a Rwandan delegation led by the Minister for Disaster Management and refugees visited the country from 3rd to 7th July, 2013.

In a joint communiqué, the Government of Rwanda agreed to facilitate the issuance of national passports to their citizens by allowing the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees to stock the application forms to facilitate easy access by the Rwandan refugees whose refugee status ceased on 30th June, 2013. The Rwandan delegation further said that arrangements shall be made between the Rwandan and the Zambian Revenue Authorities and an appointed Local Bank on the handling of passport fees for Rwandan passports. Once completed, the application forms with attached proof of payment shall be relayed to Rwanda through diplomatic mail and that passports shall also be delivered to the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees via diplomatic mail.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

CONSIDERATION OF THE ACTION-TAKEN REPORT ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE TENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, APPOINTED ON THE 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2010

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Attachment of Drug Enforcement officials to Zambia's Missions Abroad

10.9 Your previous Committee had noted the response and awaited an up-date on the matter.

In response, your Committee was informed that a meeting was held with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, among other issues discussed was to the effect that Drug Enforcement

Commission Officers to serve in missions abroad would be upgraded to the level of First Secretary (SALARY SCALE Y). They would receive allowances commensurate with the level of First Secretary but would maintain the same salary scales of Assistant Commissioner at (SALARY SCALE K) for Missions in Brazil and India (PSS 05) for Missions in South Africa and Kenya.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

Involvement of Women in Drug Trafficking

10.9.1 Your previous Committee had noted the response and resolved to have an up-date on the outcome of the study undertaken by the Ministry of Home Affairs through the Research, Planning, and Information Department.

In response, your Committee was informed that the Consultants submitted the draft report of the Study. The draft report had been reviewed by a Ministerial Committee and comments had since been sent to the Consultants to finalise the report.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

FOREIGN TOUR TO INDIA, 16TH TO 23RD APRIL, 2011

Mutual Agreement to combat Drug Trafficking

10.10 Your previous Committee, while noting the response, had resolved to have an up-date on the revival of the mutual agreement with India.

In response, your Committee was informed that the Commissioner (Drug Enforcement Commission) held a meeting with His Excellency, the Indian High Commissioner to Zambia last year to discuss the revival of the mutual agreement between Zambia and India. Due to lapse of time, the Commission was in the process of sending a copy of the Mutual Agreement to the High Commissioner's office for scrutiny.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee takes note of the response and resolves to get an update on the matter.

ACTION-TAKEN REPORT ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE TENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Delivery of boats to Kalabo District

10.11 Your previous Committee had wished to be updated when the boats equipped with VHF radios would be bought and delivered to Kalabo District.

In response in the Action-Taken Report, your Committee was informed that boats equipped with VHF radios would be bought and delivered to Kalabo District when funds for this exercise were sourced.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

OPERATIONS OF THE KAMFINSA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ORDER AND MAINTENANCE (KAMFINSA POLICE MOBILE UNIT-TRAINING SCHOOL)

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

10.12 Your previous Committee had resolved to have a progress report on the rehabilitation of Kamfinsa School of Public Order and Maintenance.

In response, the Government stated that Kamfinsa-Mobile Unit was constructed in the early 1960s and generally the state of infrastructure was in a deplorable state. Most of the roofs of the houses were rotten which put the lives of the officers in danger especially in the rainy season. The ablution blocks for the trainees were in a deplorable state, the sewer system needed a complete overhaul.

The Government allocated K340, 282.00 for the rehabilitation works of Kamfinsa-Mobile Unit in the 2013 Financial Budget. So far, K115, 205 had been released and the following activities were being undertaken:

10.12.1 Rehabilitation of Sewer System

The entire sewer line at Kamfinsa-MU had blockages and the contents were not going into the sewer system but were going into a nearby stream. The ponds had weeds which had overgrown. This activity was being carried out in phases. The first phase which involved cleaning the ponds was completed.

The second phase which involved clearing part of the sewer line and replacing sewer pipes was being done and would be completed before the end of year.

The last part which involved clearing the remaining sewer line and replacing the sewer pipes had commenced and would be completed before the end of the year.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

10.12.2 Rehabilitation of the Police Camp (Houses)

The second activity involved the rehabilitation of houses in the police camp. This rehabilitation involved the replacement of roofing sheets (Asbestos sheets) which were dilapidated due to old age and had caused some houses to develop cracks due to leakages and had become a danger to the officers.

The rehabilitation of houses was also being done in phases. So far, forty-one houses in A1 Platoon have had their roofs replaced in the first phase. The second phase which involved rehabilitation of 150 houses in HQ section was still going on.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

10.12.3 Rehabilitation of Water Reticulation System

The fourth activity that had been undertaken under rehabilitation was the procurement of a seventy-five horse power water pump, panel and the cables. These had been installed and other works were still ongoing.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

LOCAL TOUR REPORT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Erratic water supply

10.13 Your previous Committee had resolved to wait for an up-date on the matter.

In response, the Government informed your Committee that following the above status, Lusaka Water and Sewerage Company had compiled a Design Report for network Rehabilitation and Bill of Quantities amounting to Kwacha Six Million Eight Hundred Forty One Thousand Four hundred Forty Six Ngwee Eighty Nine (ZMW 6,841,446,89). Furthermore, the water utility company had recommended that an independent contractor be found to undertake the said works as Lusaka Water and Sewerage Company had no capacity to undertake works of this magnitude.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

Army Barrack at Kawambwa

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

In response your Committee was informed that a team of experts comprising Surveyors from the Surveyor-General's Office and officers from the Army was in place as earlier reported. This team was on standby awaiting funding to carry out the exercise of Beacon verification and submission of applications for Title Deeds.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the exercise.

Kamfinsa School of Public Order and Maintenance-Firing Range

10.13.2 Your previous Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the acquisition of title deeds on the firing range for Kamfinsa School of Public Order and Maintenance.

In response, the Government stated that the institution had engaged land surveyors to survey the Firing Range as well as the whole land area for the Kamfinsa School of Public Order and maintenance. The land was on map and once the surveyors completed their work, the process of acquiring title deeds for the land would commence.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

Your Committee resolves to get an update on the matter.

PART IV

CONCLUSION

11.0 Your Committee considered one topical issue during the current sitting of the House. The topic was the Local integration of Angolan Refugees. In addition, your Committee received five Reports from Parliamentary delegations. It also undertook a foreign tour to Angola in line with the local integration process of Angolan refugees.

Mr Speaker, your Committee wishes to extend its gratitude to you for the support rendered to it throughout the year.

It is indebted to all the stakeholders who appeared before it for their cooperation in providing the necessary memoranda and briefs.

Your Committee is hopeful that the observations and recommendations contained in this Report will be favourably acted upon by the Executive.

Finally, Sir, your Committee wishes to express its appreciation to the Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly for the invaluable and tireless assistance rendered throughout its deliberations.

June 2014

LUSAKA

Rev Lt Gen R Shikapwasha, MP;

CHAIRPERSON

APPENDIX 1

LIST OF OFFICIALS

National Assembly

Mr S C Kawimbe, Acting Principal Clerk of Committees

Ms M. K. Sampa, Acting Deputy Principle Clerk of Committees

Mr M F Kateshi, Acting Committee Clerk (SC)

Mrs M. K. Siwo, Assistant Committee Clerk

Mrs G M C Kakoma, Stenographer

Mr R Mumba, Committee Assistant

Mr C Bulaya, Committee Assistant