



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL ECONOMY, TRADE AND LABOUR MATTERS

ON A

REVIEW OF ZAMBIA'S MINING LICENSING FRAMEWORK

FOR THE

FOURTH SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Published by the National Assembly of Zambia

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Item		Page
	Foreword	ii
1.0	Composition of the Committee	1
PART I		
2.0	Consideration of the topical issue	
2.1	A Review of Zambia's Mining Licensing Framework	1
2.1.1	Background	1
2.1.2	Objectives	2
2.2	Summary of Submissions	
2.2.1	Adequacy of the Policy and Legal Framework in the Mining Industry in Zambia	2
2.2.2	Criteria used to award Licences in Zambia	4
2.2.3	Mechanisms in place to enhance efficiency in the awarding of licences in the mining industry	7
2.2.4	Capacity of the licensing Authorities to Monitor Compliance by a Licensee	9
2.3	Tours	
2.3.1	Local Tour	12
2.3.2	Foreign Tour	20
2.4	Committee's Observations and Recommendations	25
PART II		
3.0	Consideration of the Action – Taken Report	28
4.0	Conclusion	37
	Appendix I – List of National Assembly Officials	38
	Appendix II – List of Stakeholders	39

FOREWORD

Honourable Madam Speaker, the Committee on National Economy, Trade and Labour Matters has the honour to present its Report for the Fourth Session of the Thirteenth National Assembly. The functions of the Committee are stipulated in Standing Order 207 of the National Assembly of Zambia Standing Orders, 2024.

In accordance with its Programme of Work, the Committee undertook a detailed study on the topical issue, namely: “*A Review of Zambia’s Mining Licensing Framework.*” The Committee held **twenty-seven** meetings to consider the topical issue. To fully interrogate the topical issue, the Committee requested detailed memoranda from various stakeholders, who also appeared before it to clarify issues contained therein. The list of stakeholders is at Appendix II.

The Committee’s Report is organised in two parts: Part I gives the background, objectives of the study, a summary of submissions from stakeholders, findings from the local and foreign tours, and the Committee’s Observations and Recommendations. Part II of the Report contains the Committee’s Observations and Recommendations on the Action-Taken Report on the Report of the Committee for the Third Session of the Thirteenth National Assembly.

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



Ms Sibeso K Sefulo, MP
CHAIRPERSON

June 2025
LUSAKA

1.0 COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee consisted of: Ms Sibeso K Sefulo, MP (Chairperson); Mr Joel Chibuye, MP (Vice-Chairperson); Mr Davison Mungandu, MP; Mr Walusa Mulaliki, MP; Mr Simon Banda, MP; Mr Wesley Kolala, MP; Mr Kabwe T Chewe, MP; Dr Simon Mwale, MP; Mr Gary Nkombo, MP; and Mr Derricky Chilundika, MP.

The Composition of the Committee changed following the appointment of Mr Simon Banda, MP and Mr Gary Nkombo, MP, to replace Mr Ronald K Chitotela, MP and Mr Gift S Sialubalo, MP, respectively.

PART I

2.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE TOPICAL ISSUE

2.1 A REVIEW OF ZAMBIA'S MINING LICENSING FRAMEWORK

2.1.1 Background

Licensing is a form of Government regulation that imposes on businesses (or individuals) a range of conditions, obligations and rights that regulate entry into markets and conduct within markets. Therefore, licensing is one of several themes within the overall administration of regulations that affect the mining sector and has a bearing on its growth.

Mining in Zambia has been a significant component of its economy since the early 20th Century. The country was renowned for its substantial deposits of copper, which was a key export product. The industry began to develop in the early 1900s with the discovery of copper on the Copperbelt Province. During the colonial and post-independence era, mining played a crucial role in Zambia's economy, although it faced challenges such as fluctuating global copper prices and political instability.

In the 1970s, the Zambian Government nationalised the mining sector, but this led to inefficiencies and economic difficulties. The sector was privatised in the late 1990s and early 2000s, which helped attract foreign investment and led to modernised operations. Zambia still remained one of Africa's largest copper producers, and the mining industry continued to be a major economic driver, although it also faced issues like environmental concerns and the need for sustainable practices.

In the Eighth National Development Plan (8NDP), the Government intended to promote traditional and non-traditional minerals, which would be achieved through the opening up of new mines and increased production in existing ones. For copper, the aim was to increase production to 3 million metric tonnes by 2032. To contribute to the diversification of the mining sector, the Government intended to promote exploration and exploitation of minerals such as gold, gemstones and manganese as well as petroleum resources.

However, there had been frequent changes in regulatory requirements and policies, creating an unpredictable environment for investors. This inconsistency complicated compliance and increased operational risks for mining companies. Additionally, the licensing process was characterised by bureaucratic delays and inefficiencies. These procedural hurdles, to a certain extent, prolonged the time required to secure licences, which affected project timelines and potentially leading to lost opportunities.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee on National Economy, Trade and Labour Matters resolved to review Zambia's mining licensing framework.

2.1.2 Objectives

The objectives of the study were to appreciate the:

- (i) adequacy of the policy and legal licensing framework governing the mining industry in Zambia;
- (ii) criterion used by the licensing authorities, to award the licences;
- (iii) mechanisms put in place to enhance efficiency in the awarding of licences in the mining industry;
- (iv) capacity of the licensing authorities to monitor compliance by a licensee; and
- (v) challenges and opportunities, if any, and make recommendations on the way forward.

2.2 SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS FROM STAKEHOLDERS

The submissions made by the stakeholders were as summarised below.

2.2.1 The adequacy of the Policy and Legal Licensing Framework in the Mining Industry in Zambia

The Committee was informed that the policy and legal framework governing the mining industry in Zambia had evolved significantly over the years. While Zambia was one of Africa's largest producers of copper and had considerable mineral wealth, its policy and legal licensing framework in place required review and strengthening.

Below, is an assessment of the existing policy and legal framework in Zambia.

2.2.1.1 Policy Framework

The Committee learnt that the Government had formulated and implemented various policies, such as the National Mineral Resources Development Policy of 2022, which was an overarching policy in the mining sector. The Policy intended to ensure that there was enhanced development and management of mineral resources. The Policy also intended to facilitate increased productivity in the mineral-value-chain through, among others, efficiency and effectiveness in the licensing system, while managing the negative social and environmental impacts.

The Policy adequately provided for the institutional setup, which enhanced efficiency, effectiveness and transparency in the management and issuance of mining licences. Some of the measures outlined in the Policy were to:

- i. facilitate the development and application of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the management and licensing process;
- ii. strengthen transparency and accountability mechanisms in the management and issuance of licences;
- iii. enhance stakeholder collaboration in the management and issuance of licences;
- iv. strengthen institutional capacity for an improved licensing system; and
- v. enhance capacity development programmes.

2.2.1.2 Legal and Regulatory Framework

The Committee was informed that primarily, the mining sector in Zambia was governed by the *Mines and Minerals Development Act, No. 11 of 2015* and other related pieces of legislation.

The Act regulated exploration for, mining and processing of, minerals and petroleum; safety, health and environmental protection in mining operations. The Act was reviewed in 2015 to address emerging issues in the sector, including inefficiencies in the licensing process. It outlined clear criteria for the awarding of licences and provided for transparency and accountability. It further outlined procedures for licensing, exploration, extraction, processing and decommissioning of mining operations. It also defined how mining rights were allocated and how royalties and taxes were levied. One of its significant provisions was the recognition of the Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA), to oversee the environmental aspects of mining.

In terms of the licensing process, the Act provided for the issuance of mining and non-mining rights, which included mining licences, exploration licences, mineral processing licences and mineral trading permits. The legal framework also provided for institutional setup for regulation of the mining sector, which included the Mining Cadastre Department, Mines Safety Department, Mines Development Department and the Geological Survey Department.

For environmental regulations, the *Environmental Management Act, No. 12 of 2011*, required Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) before commencement of operations. This framework intended to ensure that mining activities were carried out responsibly and sustainably in line with environmental and social governance practices.

In terms of land ownership and community rights, land was vested in the State and therefore, mining companies must obtain permission, in form of licences, from the Government and consent from an appropriate authority such as traditional leadership, to access land for exploration and extraction.

To ensure social responsibility to the local communities, the legal framework provided for the Government to ensure improved relationships between the mine houses and communities through social responsibility policies, which required mining houses to contribute to local development.

However, stakeholders were of the strong view that the legal and regulatory framework governing the licensing regime was inadequate given the cancellation of over 2,604 licences, by the Government, in April, 2024. It was submitted that while the move was commendable, the action raised a few adequacy considerations. The disclosure did not cover the specific reasons on a mine-by-mine basis, neither did it disclose for how long the licences were inactive. In addition, the fact that many operators did not commence operations was a sign that due diligence was not undertaken before the licences were issued.

Other stakeholders submitted that the legal framework did not involve sub-national structures-thereby resulting in confusion and limited capacity for compliance monitoring. The Committee was informed that this could be done with local authorities, but were not involved at any point in the mining licensing system and yet the day-to-day activities of mining and any activities occurred in their jurisdiction.

Further, stakeholders observed that the legal framework was not ideal for artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM), with regard to availability of geological information. This was because formalisation was largely defined as provision of licences to cooperatives and ASM faced licence requirements, which were out of reach of most would-be operators. These requirements included a high cost of environmental compliance, which had in most cases been abrogated by the ASM. They were of the view that the Government should consider developing a mechanism that would enable Zambians to participate in ASMs. Some stakeholders submitted that the existing licensing regime presupposed that consent for use of land for mining was obvious, a notion that needed to be addressed as mining did not supersede other land uses.

2.2.2 The criteria used by the licensing authorities, to award the licences

The Committee was informed that mining licences were awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition, the Act had provided for auction or competitive bidding where applicants were expected to submit their bids and the best evaluated bidder was capable of being awarded the licence.

a) Requisites for Mining and Non-Mining Rights

The *Mines and Minerals Development Act, No. 11 of 2015* had provided for requisites for awarding of mining and non-mining rights as outlined below.

i) Financial Capability

- Financial Capacity: The Committee was informed that applicants needed to demonstrate that they had sufficient financial resources to undertake the

mining project. This included having access to capital for exploration, development and operations.

- **Technical and Managerial Competence:** It was also submitted that applicants needed to prove that they had the technical expertise, experience and management capabilities to operate the mine responsibly.

ii) Compliance with Regulatory and Legal Requirements

Legal Compliance: The Committee was informed that applicants needed to comply with all applicable domestic laws, including those related to land ownership, tax obligations and labour rights.

Environmental Impact Assessment: The applicant was required to submit a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and demonstrate their ability to mitigate negative impacts on the environment and surrounding communities.

The Government required that all mining companies submitted an EIA before receiving a mining licence. The Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) ensured that these assessments were carried out comprehensively, which included public consultations. The public participation process allowed stakeholders, including local communities and civil society organisations, to voice out their concerns about mining projects. This mechanism helped improve the credibility of the licensing process and ensured that licences were awarded to companies with sound environmental and social management practices.

iii) Exploration and Development Plans

Exploration Work Programme: The Committee was informed that applicants should outline a comprehensive exploration programme, demonstrating a clear understanding of the mineral resources in the area.

Development Plan: It was a requirement that an applicant provided a detailed development plan that outlined the steps for mineral extraction, processing and sustainable mining practices.

iv) Community Engagement and Social Responsibility

The licensing authority considered whether the applicant had established effective communication with local communities and proposed plans to address local development needs, such as infrastructure, health, education and employment.

Social Licence to Operate: It was a requirement for applicants to demonstrate their commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR) and engage in consultations with affected communities, ensuring their social licence to operate.

v) Conformance with Safety Standards

Occupational Health and Safety (OHS): The applicant needed to outline measures for ensuring the health and safety of workers, in accordance with Zambia's Mining Safety regulations.

Risk Mitigation: The applicant needed to show that they had plans in place to manage potential risks associated with mining operations, including those related to tailings, water management and mine accidents.

vi) Sustainability and Reclamation Plans

Rehabilitation and Closure Plans: A comprehensive mine closure and land reclamation plan was required, detailing how the mining site would be rehabilitated post-mining to ensure that it did not pose long-term environmental risks.

Sustainable Mining Practices: The applicant needed to demonstrate how their operations would promote sustainable use of mineral resources, while minimising environmental damage.

vii) Existing Land Use and Rights

Land Tenure: The Committee was informed that applicants needed to prove that they had the legal right to access and use the land for mining purposes. This included acquiring land rights or agreements with landowners, especially in cases of community land or protected areas.

No Conflict with Existing Licences: The application needed to show that the proposed mining activities did not conflict with existing mining licences or other land uses.

viii) Payment of Fees and Mineral Royalty

Licence Fees: It was submitted that applicants needed to pay the required licence fees, which varied depending on the type of licence.

Mineral Royalty: It was a requirement that applicants paid mineral royalty to the Government.

However, other stakeholders submitted that the first-come first-served approach of awarding licences required revisiting, as it was susceptible to manipulation due to various reasons which included insider dealings, absence of an automated system and undue influence by politically exposed persons who had in some cases been reported to dictate the pattern of licence allocation.

Other stakeholders also submitted that the composition of Mining Licensing Committee (MLC) required enhancement, to include oversight bodies such as the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to observe and guide on corruption related

matters. They also submitted that the power of the Minister of Mines and Minerals Development deserved to be reduced, on making appointments to the Commission.

2.2.3 The mechanisms put in place to enhance efficiency in the awarding of licenses in the Mining Industry

The Committee was informed that the Government had put in place several mechanisms to improve the efficiency and transparency of the licensing process for mining operations. These mechanisms aimed at streamlining the process and ensuring that licences were awarded fairly and in accordance with the law. As such, the Government was undertaking various reforms aimed at enhancing efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, accountability and integrity in the management and issuance of licences. These reforms included the use of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs), development of Integrated Management Information Systems (IMIS), training of staff in ICTs and use of various online platforms as well as entrenching transparency and accountability in the Mining Cadastre System, among others. The key mechanisms that had been put in place were as outlined below.

2.2.3.1 Zambia Integrated Mining Information System

The Committee was informed that the E-Government Division (Smart Zambia Institute) along with the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, was finalising the Zambia Integrated Mining Information System (ZIMIS), an online platform designed to centralise the application process for various mining and non-mining rights. By shifting from paper-based applications to an online system, the portal would help reduce delays, increase transparency and minimise the potential for corruption. This was because applicants could submit and track the status of their applications electronically, which also improved communication with the relevant authorities.

Automation and Standardisation: The portal automated several aspects of the application process, such as document submission, review workflows and status updates which streamlined the processing time and reduced human error.

a) Role of Various Existing Legal Frameworks

The *Mines and Minerals Development Act, No. 11 of 2015*, for instance, mandated that applications for mining licences should be processed within the stipulated period of 90 days, improving predictability and reducing unnecessary delays.

b) Stakeholders' Role in Enhancing Efficiency in Mining Licensing Framework

Technical Assessments: The Committee was informed that various stakeholders played a critical role in the review of mining and non-mining rights applications, particularly the Geological Survey Department (GSD).

Efficiency in Mapping and Data Collection: It was submitted that with modernised data collection and mapping tools, the GSD was able to provide faster and more accurate assessments, leading to quicker decision-making in the licensing process.

One-Stop-Shop: The Committee heard that the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) played a significant role in facilitating investment in Zambia’s mining sector, including the processing of licences. The Agency helped investors navigate the bureaucratic process, reduced the number of Government agencies involved and offered a: one-stop-shop” for obtaining permits and licences.

Investment Promotion: It was explained that the ZDA worked with mining companies and other investors to provide them with the necessary approvals, permits and licences, while ensuring that all regulations were met. This integration helped speed up the process for companies entering Zambia’s mining industry.

c) Capacity Building and Training

Training for Licensing Authorities: The Committee was informed that to improve efficiency and reduce errors in the licensing process, the Government had invested in training the relevant personnel in the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, ZEMA, and other regulatory bodies. This ensured that staff were well-equipped to handle applications in a timely and effective manner.

Awareness Campaigns: It was submitted that the Government and regulatory bodies also conducted awareness campaigns to educate mining companies, investors and the general public on the requirements and procedures for obtaining licences.

d) The Role of Technology and Data Analytics

Data-Driven Decision Making: The Committee was informed that various stakeholders were leveraging data analytics and other technologies to improve decision-making in the licensing process. These tools helped to track applications, monitor the status of mining licences and identified bottlenecks in the system that could delay the issuance of licences.

Geospatial Technologies: It was explained that modern mapping and satellite technologies were used to assess the suitability of mining areas and monitor compliance with environmental regulations. These technologies provided more accurate data for decision-making, enhancing the efficiency of the licensing process.

e) Promotion of Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Licensing

Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: The Committee was informed that to encourage participation in the mining sector, particularly among local entrepreneurs, the Government had prioritised licensing for artisanal and small-scale miners. This included fast tracking licensing and the approval process.

Training and Support: Artisanal and Small-scale miners were also offered training and support in areas like compliance with environmental standards, improving their ability to obtain and maintain mining licences.

f) Regulatory and Institutional reforms

The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development faced challenges with regard to regulation, monitoring compliance and carrying out enforcement activities which had created the need for the Ministry to separate its policy and regulatory functions in order to effectively manage the sector.

In this regard, the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development was undertaking institutional reforms, which included restructuring of the Ministry to establish the Mineral Regulation Commission and revamping of the Geological Survey Department. The Commission would handle the regulation aspect of the mining sector, while the Ministry would accelerate geological mapping and mineral; and petroleum exploration. Compliance and enforcement were expected to improve, which would in turn result in enhanced management of the mining sector in general.

2.2.4 The capacity of the Licensing Authorities to monitor compliance by a Licensee

The Committee was informed that the licensing authority of regulating the mining industry was primarily under the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Development, through the Mining Licensing Committee (MLC), however various stakeholders played critical roles in the licensing framework, which included among others, ZEMA and the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA). Although the capacity of these authorities to monitor compliance by mining licensees (both large and small-scale operators) had been characterised by challenges, they had recorded notable progress in enhancing monitoring and enforcement over the years.

Key aspects with regards monitoring of compliance of licensees included the following:

a) Regulatory Framework: The Committee was informed that the existing legal frameworks had set clear expectations for compliance in areas such as safety, environmental protection, financial reporting and corporate governance; and also guided operational standards.

b) Inspections and Audits: The Committee heard that the Ministry and various institutions conducted regular inspections of mining operations to monitor compliance with environmental standards, health and safety regulations and resource management. This included checking for proper waste management, water usage, air quality, and worker safety practices. Environmental audits and assessments were mandatory for new mining projects.

c) Permit and Licence Monitoring: The Committee was informed that the Ministry regularly monitored mining licences and ensured that licensees adhered to conditions stipulated in their licences. These conditions included reporting requirements, royalty payments and compliance with environmental and safety standards.

d) Data Management Systems: It was submitted that the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development had been working to improve its mining industry data

management systems, with some progress in digitising records and improving transparency. The Self-Service Online Mining Cadastre System (SSOMCS) was one such effort to centralise mining data, making it easier for authorities to monitor licences, royalties and other key indicators. This system allowed for better tracking of mining activities and its effectiveness was dependent on consistent data input and proper system integration.

e) Collaboration with Other Institutions: The Committee was informed that various institutions played a role in monitoring compliance, including the ZRA for tax compliance, ZEMA for environmental oversight and Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) on beneficial ownership. These agencies collaborated with the Ministry, but coordination challenges and jurisdictional overlaps sometimes complicated enforcement efforts.

2.2.5 The challenges and opportunities

The Committee was informed that despite the existing policy and legal frameworks around the mining licensing framework in Zambia, there were challenges and opportunities that existed, as set out below.

a) Capacity Constraints: The Committee learnt that there were significant capacity challenges in enforcing regulations and monitoring compliance effectively on account of limited resources. Both human and financial resources for conducting inspections, audits and enforcement were often inadequate, which was a result of a shortage of qualified personnel, especially in remote mining areas, and insufficient funding for adequate monitoring infrastructure.

Complex Ownership Structures: The Committee learnt that many mining companies operated under complex ownership structures, often involving international investors, posing a challenge to trace and hold individuals or entities accountable for non-compliance.

b) Penalties and Enforcement: There was need to put in place stronger enforcement mechanisms that would ensure that penalties were effectively applied and that companies were held accountable for violations.

c) Delays in the Licensing Process: The Committee was informed that the licensing process was characterised by delays in granting licences or renewing them, which posed challenges to attracting investments.

d) Inadequate Land Tenure Security: It was submitted that disputes over land ownership and access rights to mineral-rich areas could delay the licensing process, particularly in cases where traditional landowners and communities were involved. These disputes could also delay exploration and development activities, ultimately reducing the attractiveness of Zambia as a destination for mining investment.

e) Environmental and Social Concerns: The Committee learnt that mining operations had often been associated with environmental degradation and adverse social impacts on local communities, such as displacement, poor working conditions and inadequate compensation. These issues could lead to resistance from local communities, non-Governmental organisations (NGOs) and international investors, creating reputational risks and additional compliance costs.

f) Limited Technological Adoption: The Committee was informed that the mining industry had not fully adopted modern technologies in exploration, extraction, and environmental management. This limited operational efficiencies, increased costs and reduced Zambia's competitiveness relative to other mining jurisdictions that were adopting cutting-edge technologies.

It was worth noting that the mining licensing framework presented opportunities in various ways such as the following:

i. Resource Potential

The Committee was informed that Zambia was endowed with rich deposits of copper, cobalt, emeralds, and other minerals, which were on high demand at global markets. This provided a strong foundation for attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) into the mining sector. With a growing global emphasis on clean energy, the demand for copper (used in renewable energy technologies, such as solar panels and electric vehicles) offered a significant growth opportunity. In this regard, the need to strengthen policy, institutional and regulatory framework aimed at ensuring an effective and efficient mining licensing framework was critical for attracting local and foreign investment in the mining sector.

ii. Infrastructure Development

The Committee learnt that Zambia had strong political-will to invest in infrastructure development, including ICT infrastructure and Internet of Things (IoT), which could reduce operational costs for the mining companies and the licensing authorities.

iii. Mineral Beneficiation and Value Addition

The Committee learnt that there was a significant opportunity for Zambia to move up the value chain by focusing on mineral beneficiation and value addition. This could create jobs, increase revenues, and attract investment in downstream industries. By fostering effective and efficient licensing system for the mining sector, Zambia stood to benefit from local and foreign investment in the mineral value chain.

iv. Sustainable Mining Practices

It was observed that as the global mining industry moved towards more sustainable practices, Zambia could position itself as a leader in sustainable and responsible mining. By adopting and embracing efficient and effective licensing mechanisms involving the use of advanced ICTs in the issuance and administration of mining licences as well as in

compliance monitoring. This had potential to attract investors who were increasingly prioritising Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) factors.

v. Strengthening Regional Integration

It was also reported that Zambia's location in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) offered opportunities for cross-border collaboration in mining, with access to regional markets and resources. Enhanced mining licensing systems could help streamline the process and create a more stable policy environment through harmonised mining laws and consequently presenting prospects for attracting regional and continental players thereby promoting integration at regional and continental level.

2.3 TOURS

2.3.1 Local Tour of the Copperbelt and North Western Provinces

In order to consolidate its findings from the meetings with stakeholders on its topical issue on the *Review of Zambia's Mining Licensing Framework*, the Committee undertook a local tour of the North Western and Copperbelt Provinces. In North Western Province, the Committee held a stakeholder meeting with Small Scale Miners Association, toured Kansanshi Mining Plc in Solwezi, and First Quantum Minerals Trident Limited in Kalumbila District. On the Copperbelt, the Committee toured Mingomba Mining Limited in Chililabombwe District, Mimbula Minerals Resources in Chingola, Mopani Copper Mines PLC in Kitwe, CNMC Luanshya Copper Mines PLC, and held a stakeholder meeting with the Federation of Small-Scale Miners.

2.3.1.1 Tour of North-Western Province

2.3.1.1.1 Large Scale Mines

The Committee toured Kansanshi Mining Plc and First Quantum Minerals Trident Limited. Generally, the two large scale mines did not have major challenges in the adherence to their operational mining licences. They submitted that the major challenge was the low grade of copper ore which required mining more tonnes to meet production targets in comparison to the Copperbelt Province based mines.

The Committee was informed that the issuance of a mining licence was preceded by the following:

- i. meeting the requirements of the *Environmental Management Act, No. 12 of 2011*, the *Minerals Development Act, No. 11 of 2015*, and other relevant Zambian laws;
- ii. contribution towards the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF);
- iii. submission of a pegging certificate;
- iv. submission of statutory reports, records and any other information concerning mining operations; and
- v. payment of the mineral royalty.

In addition to meeting the requisite licences before the issuance of the mining licence, the mines also had to meet other commitments that promoted sustainable mining as set out hereunder.

a) *Local Content Commitments*

Both mines submitted that they were committed to using local suppliers for goods, and local workforce especially from within the Province. However, for supply of heavy machinery, the local people had low capacity, coupled with lack of access to international mining procurement value chains. Nonetheless, the large-scale mines prioritised Zambian citizens' owned companies and preferably from North-Western Province. For instance, Kansanshi Mine Plc was earmarked to spend about K164 million for a cable procured from ZAMEFA, a Zambian owned company for its S3 Expansion Project which was expected to be completed within 2025, and further spent about K1.7 billion on Zambian registered suppliers in 2024. On the other hand, Trident Minerals Limited had 900 active suppliers out of which 81 per cent of its expenditure was on the 550 active Zambian suppliers.

Regarding cooperation with small-scale and artisanal miners, large-scale mines were not required by law to assist those miners. They did, however, support locals through a number of initiatives, including corporate social responsibility (CSR), as well as local farmers who supplied the mines with their produce and other local vendors of goods and services.

b) *Environmental Protection Licensing Commitments*

The two large-scale mines had positive relationships with authorities such as Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) and Water Resources Management Authority (WARMA) since they met all environmental impact assessment standards with regard to emissions discharge, hazardous waste, tailing dam, and toxic substance management as they took efforts to prevent contamination of underground, surface water bodies, and the environment near the mines. They were also consistent in reporting supplier compliance from the National Council for Construction, Engineering Institution of Zambia, Workers Compensation Fund Control Board, and Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA), as well as partnering with Government in developing a cohesive small and medium enterprise strategy and smart invoicing support for SMEs. Other initiatives included the following:

- i. both First Quantum Minerals Trident Limited, and Kansanshi Mining Plc were promoting sustainable environmental management through rehabilitation of mine sites;
- ii. Kansanshi Mine's external audits of the environmental impact evaluations (impact caused by operations) had improved from 66 per cent in 2016 to 92 per cent in 2024;

- iii. Trident Minerals Limited Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) included 513 commitments with 98 per cent environmental protection audits and a closure liability of US \$100 million; and
- iv. Kansanshi Mine planned to implement a 430 MW solar and wind energy project by 2027, which was a clean energy power source and environmentally friendly that was expected to reduce dependence on the 193 MW sourced from third parties at emergency rates.

2.3.1.2 Tour of the Copperbelt Province

2.3.1.2.1 Large-Scale Mines

The Committee toured Mopani Copper Mines Plc (MCM) in Kitwe, CNMC Luanshya Copper Mines PLC, Mingomba Mine in Chililabombwe and Mimbula Mine in Chingola. The Committee's findings on mining licensing were as set out below.

a) Environmental Protection Requirements

- i. In order to comply with various Zambian laws, the mines were required to possess various licences from specific licensing bodies such as WARMA, ZEMA and the Mines Safety Department, with each licence coming with specific conditions for compliance.
- ii. The Mines Safety Department (MSD) sent demand letters to the mines at predetermined intervals requesting them to complete Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) audits by a set date. In compliance with the letters specifications, the mines were required to hire a qualified, independent third-party consultant to conduct EPF audit, which was then forwarded to the MSD for approval and confirmation. They had to start making contributions to the EPF as soon as the letter was approved. The large-scale mines were of the view that having all bank guarantees for environmental protection being held by banks domiciled in Zambia, would ensure that money was easily accessible in the event of an environmental disaster.

b) Non-Operational Mining Licences

- i. Out of 179 large-scale mining licences, only 50 per cent were operational, resulting in non-operational licence holders holding land for up to 25 years. To discourage speculative holding, licence fees for large-scale mining needed to be increased as this practice was prohibiting genuine investors from engaging in mining.
- ii. In some instances, some mining licences were relinquished by some non-operational licence holders but those records were not showing in the Cadastre. That resulted in more capable investors not having access to large scale mining licences as non-operational mining land was still showing as if it had active licence holders. The stakeholders recommended that once an

abandonment had been reported, there was need to compel the Cadastre Department to degazette those mines and published in the media.

- iii. Stakeholders submitted that the penalty per hectare for exploration that went beyond the exploration period was too low. That resulted in some licence holders having exploration rights in perpetuity as they easily paid for penalties, thereby, hindering more serious investors from possessing that particular land for mining investments.

c) Issuance of Mining Licences on other Existing Mining Licences

- i. The Committee was informed that there were instances when a mining licence was issued on another existing mining licence. For instance, there was a time when people with a newly issued mining licence stormed and attempted to claim the mining land belonging to MOPANI Plc in Mufulira. CNMC Luanshya Copper Mines was also in the past stormed by a group of young men who claimed to have obtained a mining licence on the land that was already possessed by CNMC Luanshya Copper Mines which was an active licence holder for the same land. In that regard, there was need for licensing authorities to verify information on validity of existing mining licences before issuing licences.
- ii. The Committee was also informed that the issuance of mining licences on dump sites without consulting the principal licence holder posed a challenge to large-scale mines as they would have no place to dump their mine waste, and that had the potential to halt mining operations if that was not stopped. Stakeholders were of the view that no mining licence should be issued for dumpsites or land without first consulting the principal licence holders.

d) Maintenance of Mining Licences

The Committee was informed that the large-scale mines did not face any challenges with regard to initial mining licences applications. However, they had challenges with submitting the monthly mineral production returns report as they were only given fourteen days, which was a bit too short. They recommended at least twenty-one days so as to give them ample time to reconcile the reports since ZRA charged a K200,000 penalty for late submission.

2.3.1.3 Small Scale and Artisanal Miners in North -Western and Copperbelt Provinces

The Committee interacted with the Federation of Small- Scale Miners from North-Western and Copperbelt Provinces. The Federation's submissions on the adherence to mining licensing was as set out below.

- i. Most small-scale and artisanal miners were holding on to mining licences but not mining due to lack of operational capital to undertake exploration and mining

activities. As a result, questions of adherence to mining licences could only come into play where there were mining activities.

- ii. The process of acquiring mining licences took too long and when they found material for mining, they just started mining without waiting for the processes to be exhausted as it proved difficult to formalise. As a result, many small-scale and artisanal miners were deemed illegal as they commenced mining, due to expired licences caused by the slow issuance and renewal of mining licences by the Cadastre Department in the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development.
- iii. There was need to decentralise the issuance of a mining licences as they were only issued in Lusaka at the Cadastre Department. This made it difficult for struggling small-scale and artisanal miners to formalise their activities due to the costs and time involved in travels to and from Lusaka. This further resulted in high costs for complying to mining regulations.
- iv. Requisite fees for ZEMA licences before issuance of a mining licence were too high, as the small-scale and artisanal miners were required to pay about K13,000 to ZEMA and K30, 000 to a consultant before their application could be considered by the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development.
- v. Since mining was very important to economic growth for Zambia, contributing about 70 per cent to GDP annually, the facilities extended to farmers should be extended to small scale miners in terms of mining equipment for the local people to engage in meaningful mining activities. There was also need to consider allocating a portion of the CDF in areas where mining activities were common to support small scale and artisanal mines.
- vi. The Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development was sometimes issuing mining licences on land already occupied by another licence holder, and in other instances without the consent of traditional leaders. In that regard, there was need to revise the legal framework on mining rights which ignored the surface rights held by other parties. Such laws were orchestrated by the colonisers to take away the rights of indigenous land owners at the time.
- vii. Most locals were holding licences but foreigners especially from neighbouring countries were the ones mining, particularly in the gemstone and precious minerals mining areas as they had portable mineral detecting equipment which the Zambian small-scale miners lacked. In addition, those foreigners were not even paying necessary taxes to the Government. In that regard, there was need for the Government to support small-scale miners with similar equipment in order to avoid blind mining and increase the success rate for small-scale miners. Once this was done, it would be easier to fend off the foreigners who had flooded the gemstone and precious minerals mining areas.

In addition to their submissions on the adherence to mining licensing, the small scale-scale and artisanal miners through representation by the federations of small-scale miners made other general submissions as set hereunder.

- i. Small scale and artisanal miners who mined copper ore had no capacity to process the ore into copper cathodes. However, there was a small smelter in Kasempa owned by a Chinese company where they took their ore as they could not sell their ore to large scale mines. Since the ore also contained other essential minerals such as gold and cobalt, they were not given back the other minerals in their ore when they took the ore for smelting. In that regard, the small-scale and artisanal miners dealing in base metals were being exploited. To avoid that, there was need to set up Government supported small smelters for small scale and artisanal miners.
- ii. For community environmental complaints, ZEMA also took too long to resolve such issues. For instance, there was need for ZEMA to follow up on Imbonge and Kabwela communities near Kansanshi Mining Plc. The community in the two areas had complained about environmental pollution from the mine and Government needed to intervene as it had taken too long to resolve the issue.
- iii. ZEMA had challenges in identifying illegal miners and needed to work with the Federation of Small-Scale Miners in North-Western Province as they knew where to find the illegal miners. All they needed was mobility through the provision of a motor vehicle. They could also help with collection of mining information which included pits not buried after mining activities, cutting of trees, pollution which could be brought to the attention of ZEMA. All the challenges in identifying all the small-scale mining activities were due to limited interactions between Government institutions and small-scale miners.

2.3.1.4 Stakeholder Engagement with ZEMA and the Mine Safety Department

In addition to touring the mines and having had engagements with the small -scale miners, the Committee also interacted with ZEMA and the Mine Safety Department based on the Copperbelt as set out below.

2.3.1.4.1 Zambia Environmental Management Agency

i Obligations Prior to Commencement of Mining Activities

The Committee was informed that all mining activities were required to undergo an Environmental Impact Assessment, as no mining or exploration could take place without written approval from ZEMA, as per section 29(1) of the *Environmental Management (Amendment) Act, No. 8 of 2023*. Consequently, other authorities such as the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development were obligated not to issue licences without ZEMA environmental approval or could make their issuance conditional upon such approval as per section 29(2) of the Act.

ii Regulatory Framework

The regulations governing environmental management included:

- the Environmental Management (Licensing) Regulations of 2013; and
- the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 1997.

iii Permits/licence categories issued by ZEMA

The permits issued by ZEMA were:

- Waste Management Licences (management of Industrial waste only);
- Hazardous Waste Management;
- Emission Licences (emission to water, air and land);
- Pesticides and Toxic Substances Licences; and
- Ozone Depleting Substances Licences.

2.3.1.4.2 Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development

The Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development issued all categories of mining permits through the Mining Cadastre Department, in accordance with Sections 5 (6) and 6 of the Mines and Minerals Development Act No. 11 of 2015.

The Mines Safety Department under the Ministry was responsible for certifying, authorising, and issuing approvals/permits for facilities, installations, and equipment in the interest of health, safety, and environmental protection, as specified in Section 5 (4) of the *Mines and Minerals Development Act, No. 11 of 2015*. The Department was further responsible for regulating the manufacture, use, transit, and disposal of all civil explosives as mandated by the *Explosives Act, No. 10 of 1974* and its related rules. The regulatory framework that governed the issuance of mining licences and other operational related certifications/permits/authorisation was as indicated in the table below.

Table 1

S/N	Legislation	Guiding Principal	Type of Licences Issued
1	Mines and Minerals Development Act No. 11 of 2015	The Act revised laws on mineral exploration, mining, and processing, safety, health, and environmental protection, establishing the mining appeals tribunal, and repealing the Mines and Minerals Development Act, 2008.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Large Scale Exploration Licences ii. Small Scale Exploration Licence iii. Large Scale Mining Licences iv. Small Scale Mining Licences v. Artisanal Mining Rights vi. Mineral Processing Licences vii. Mineral Trading Permits viii. Mineral Export Permit ix. Mineral Import Permit x. Mineral Analysis Certificate xi. Mine Closure Certificate
2	Mining Regulations of 1973	It provides guidance to safety and health in operations for licenced mining areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Authorisation of Rock Drill Equipment ii. Certification of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Authorisation of Cranes and other Lifting Appliances iv. Certification of Lifts v. Certification of Winder Plants vi. Certification of Winder Ropes vii. Certification of Winder Engine Drivers viii. Authorisation of Boilers ix. Authorisation of Air Receivers
3	Mines and Minerals (Environmental) Regulations, SI No. 29 of 1997.	It provides for safe operations of mining installations and environmental protection in mining areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approval of Fuel Storage Facilities ii. Approval for Mine Wastes Dumps iii. Mine Closure Certificates
4	Mines and Minerals (Environmental Protection Fund) Regulations, SI No. 102 of 1998.	It provides the mechanism of setting up and operating the Environmental Protection Fund which is supposed to be used for rehabilitation of mines sites during closure or when there is uncontrolled pollution where the developer fails manage.	
5	Mines and Minerals Development (General) Regulations, SI No. 7 of 2016.	It provides for guidance on administration of mining and non-mining rights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Large Scale Exploration Licences ii. Small Scale Exploration Licence, iii. Large Scale Mining Licences, iv. Small Scale Mining Licences, v. Artisanal Mining Rights, vi. Mineral Processing Licences.
6	<i>Explosives Act, No. 10 of 1974</i> and its Regulations	It provides for matters pertaining to manufacturing of civil explosives, transportation, storage, handling, usage and disposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Explosives Manufacturing Licences, ii. Explosives Magazines Certificates, iii. Blasting Licences, iv. Explosives Import and Export Permits, v. Motor Vehicle Authorization for Transportation of Explosives.

a) Major Challenges in Mining Licensing

The stakeholders identified the following as being among the major challenges faced in mining licensing:

- i. delayed feedback in the licensing process when applying or renewing for the mining licence;

- ii. continuously changing legal frameworks over the period of investment which made planning difficult; and
- iii. multiple pre-requisite environmental licences which slowed down mining licensing issuance. They stated that most countries world over did not have prohibitive standards as required by ZEMA and WARMA.

2.3.2 Foreign Tour of the United Republic of Tanzania

The Committee on National Economy, Trade and Labour Matters undertook its benchmarking visit to the United Republic of Tanzania, where it interacted with the Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy and Minerals; the Minister of Minerals and his staff; and Commissioners and staff from the Mining Commission.

The findings of the Committee are set out below.

a) Standing Committee on Energy and Minerals

The Committee learnt that the Standing Committee on Energy and Minerals, was a Committee of Parliament, whose Members were appointed by the Speaker at every Session of the Assembly. The Committee was composed of twenty-three Members drawn from various political parties, including those holding special seats. The Committee formed its quorum when seven Members were present for a meeting. The Chairperson of the Committee could come from either the ruling or opposition party, as this was prescribed in the Standing Orders.

The Committee provided oversight on the operations and management of Government Ministries and departments responsible for Energy and Minerals. It was submitted that the Committee sat for three weeks prior to the budget session, to scrutinise the estimates of revenue and expenditure for every financial year.

b) Ministry of Minerals - Mining Commission

The Committee was informed that the Mining Commission was established, under Section 21, of *Mining Act, Chapter 123*. The Commission had twenty-two responsibilities as outlined in Section 22 of the Act, which included the issuance of mineral rights and trading licences; inspection of minerals and mines; revenue collection; mineral dispute resolutions; minerals indicative prices; valuation of minerals; monitoring of local content; and Corporate Social Responsibility.

The Commission consisted of four Committees, namely: Technical, Local Content, Accounting and Human Resources. The Commission also had seven directorates that included Licensing, Mineral Trade, Corporate Services and Legal Department.

The Committee learnt that according to the *Mining Act, Chapter 123*, minerals were in six categories, namely: metallic, gemstones, kimberlitic, industrial, energy and building.

Metallic minerals included gold, iron, copper, silver, nickel, lithium while gemstone minerals included tanzanite, sapphire and ruby. Kimberlitic diamond included diamond,

while industrial minerals included graphite, limestone, gypsum, and salt. Energy minerals included uranium and coal, while building minerals included sand, aggregates, stones and clay.

1. Mining Rights and Trading Licences

With regards to mineral rights and trading licences, the Committee was informed that there were four types of licences, namely: Prospecting Licences (PLs), Mining Licences (MLs) which included *Special Mining Licences (SMLs)*, *Mining Licences (MLs)* and *Primary Mining Licences (PMLs)*.

Other types were mineral beneficiation and value addition licences, which included Processing Licences (PCLs), Refining licence (RFLs), Smelting Licences (SLs), Lapidary Licences.

The fourth types of licences included Mineral Trading licences, which consisted of Dealer Licences (DLs) and Brokers Licences (BLs).

The Committee learnt that the applicant's requirements for obtaining a licence were as follows:

- (a) above 18 years old;
- (b) no history of bankruptcy;
- (c) not a mineral right defaulter;
- (d) no history of criminal charges;
- (e) registered company with an official address in Tanzania; and
- (f) non-Tanzanian citizens to be ordinarily residents for not less than four years.

Other licensing procedural requirements included, a dully filled in application form, accompanied by, a payment of non-refundable prescribed application fee, financial and technical capabilities, local content plan and integrity pledge. The licences were issued on the first-come first-served principle.

2. Licence Types and Key Details

PMLs-Exclusive only for Tanzanian Citizens

The Committee learnt that Primary Mining Licences were only issued to Tanzanian citizens. It was submitted that more than one PML could be amalgamated and converted to a Mining licence. Amalgamated PMLs were issued a certificate of amalgamation by a responsible Resident Mines Office.

The Committee was informed that Dealer Licences were issued to Tanzanian and non-Tanzanian citizens through joint ventures. Dealers were permitted to buy, sell and export minerals.

With regard to Broker Licences, the Committee was informed that the licences were exclusive to Tanzanian citizens and were permitted to buy and sell minerals within a region but not permitted to export.

Meanwhile, the Committee learnt that the Licensing Authority may suspend or cancel a licence due to a number of reasons, which included the:

- i. failure to comply with the provisions of the Mining Act and related regulations;
- ii. failure to comply with the licence terms; and
- iii. failure to uplift issued Default Notice.

3. Demarcated Areas for Small Scale Mining

The Committee was informed that areas suitable for small-scale mining activities were identified and demarcated by the Commission. Areas designated for small-scale mining activities were derived from among licences that had been surrendered or reverted to the Government. One of the criterion considered was the mining history of those areas, geological information and through recommendations made by the Geological Survey of Tanzania (GST).

With regard to dispute resolutions, the Mining Commission had a responsibility to resolve disputes relating to mining activities, in accordance with Section 22 of the Mining Act Chapter. 123.

c) Overview of the Mineral Sector in Tanzania

It was submitted that Tanzania was one of Africa's most mineral-rich countries covering approximately 945,087 Km². The country had nine active large-scale mines, of which six were for gold, one for diamond, one for Tanzanite and one for coal. The country also had twenty-eight active medium-scale mines and a number of small-scale mines mainly for gold, diamonds and coloured gemstones.

1. Formalisation of the Mineral Sector

The Committee was informed that Tanzania had amended the Mining Act of 2010, and its regulations and guidelines; which resulted into the establishment of mineral markets and formulation of exportation procedures. Other outcomes included the construction of Mirerani Wall (Mirerani Controlled Area); the introduction of Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018, and the increase in royalty rates and introduction of clearance fees of 1 per cent to all minerals except salt.

2. Positive Impacts of Formalisation

The Committee learnt that in just four years, the mining sector grew to 11.3 per cent in 2023 from 6.7 per cent in 2020. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) contribution grew to 9.0 per cent in 2023 from 6.8 per cent in 2019. Sector contribution to the GDP was projected to be 10 per cent in 2025.

Small-scale mining (SSM) percentage contribution to the Government revenue significantly increased from 34.55 billion shillings in 2018/19 to 181.73 billion shillings in 2023/24, before the establishment of mineral markets.

There was significant increase in Government revenues collected from the mineral sector,

such as royalties; inspection fees; annual rent; geological fees; laboratory services; and fines and penalties.

3. Establishment of the Mineral Markets in Tanzania

The Committee was informed that the Mining Act, Chapter 123, Section 27C, required the mining commission to establish Tanzania Gem and Mineral Markets. The Mining (Mineral and Gem Houses) Regulations, 2019 led to the establishment of buying stations and mineral markets in various regions within the country. There were forty-three mineral markets and 109 buying centres.

These markets had been established in the designated regional or district areas by the relevant Regional/District Administrative Secretaries after consultation with other stakeholders including the Mining Commission, in accordance with Regulation No. 4 (3) of the Mining (Mineral and Gem Houses) Regulations 2019.

4. Why Mineral Markets

The markets provided reliable platform where miners could sell their minerals. Previously, miners and small-scale mineral traders were selling their minerals secretly, leading to small-scale miners not benefiting from the real-world price of minerals. The Committee learnt that mineral market was easy to regulate and control. It served as a means of tracking production and maintaining of proper statistical data. It brought many buyers at one place and curbed mineral smuggling. The establishment of mineral markets was partly due to a major challenge of smuggling and illegal trade of minerals that the mining sector had been facing for a long time.

5. Operations of Tanzania Markets

The registration of people entering markets and mineral purchasing centres was the first step followed by the registration of dealers and/or brokers at mineral markets and buying centres. All mineral traders (except non-citizens and non-permanent residents) were required to have an office and identity at a market or buying centre. It was mandatory that daily indicative prices were published on the notice board, for both global and local.

With regard to valuation of minerals, raw gold sellers were granted permission to smelt the minerals in the smelters located within the mineral market building. The Mining Commission officers conducted valuation of minerals and signed special valuation forms. The sellers of minerals were required to submit the completed and filled-in mineral valuation forms for the preparation of payment. Sellers were issued with a declaration form for minerals that did not get a buyer. Buyers were issued with a domestic use permit form for minerals purchased for domestic use/disposal.

With regard to sealing and transportation of minerals, the Committee was informed that local transport permit was issued for the transportation of minerals from one market to another, while the export permit was issued for exports out of the country.

With regard to mineral indicative prices, dealers who were stationed at all markets bought at 10 per cent discount from the world market prices but carried the liability of paying Government dues such as royalties and service levies.

Brokers at buying stations bought from the miners at 12 per cent discount. Mineral indicative prices for other metallic minerals were as per Argus Media, Asian Metals, Rappaport for Diamond and Gem guide for other gemstones.

The Committee was however, informed that market centres experienced challenges, such as:

- i. lack of enough capital for local dealers and brokers;
- ii. unfaithful and untrustworthy sellers and buyers; and
- iii. some of the buying centres were remotely located, making it difficult to use electrical devices like weighing scales, printers and computers.

d) Mineral Trading Activities at Dar Es Salaam Mineral Market

During the familiarisation tour at the Dar Es Salaam Mineral Market, the Committee learnt as set out below.

1. Establishment of the Mineral Markets

The Dar Es Salaam Mineral Market was established following the publication of the Mining (Mineral and Gem House) Regulations, 2019. The Market was a one-stop centre for all mineral transactions with exception of building, industrial and energy minerals.

2. Types of Minerals Sold at the Market

Metallic minerals such as gold, silver, copper, diamonds, tanzanite, spinel and tourmaline, were traded at the market.

3. Exportation of Minerals

The market undertook mineral identification, valuation, sealing for transportation to other regions and/or exportation.

4. Mineral Valuation

The market was well equipped with all mineral valuation equipment such as XRF machines, weighing balances and gemmological laboratory kits.

5. Information Provision

The centre also offered market information on mineral value estimates; and maintained all mineral market trading information. It also conducted market intelligence for metallic, industrial, precious metals and gemstones, among other functions.

2.4 COMMITTEE'S OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Having considered the submissions made by various stakeholders and taking into consideration the findings from the local and foreign tours, the Committee makes the observations and recommendations set out below.

i) Lengthy Mining Licensing Processes

The Committee observes that mining licensing involves multiple requisite licences that make the mining licensing application processes lengthy and tedious, and difficult to adhere to all the requirements. This has promoted illegal small-scale and artisanal mining.

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, working together with other regulatory authorities such as ZEMA should streamline the application process to reduce on multiple licences.

ii) Consultation with Communities on Corporate Social Responsibility Projects

The Committee observes that in as much as CSR is regulated by the law, there is need for mining companies to undertake the projects in consultation with the communities for impactful development results.

Therefore, the Committee recommends that CSR is done in consultation with the community to enhance cohesion and appreciable social contract that promotes acceptance and mutual benefits to both the mines and communities.

iii) Provision of Basic Mining Equipment and Financing for Small-Scale and Artisan Miners

The Committee observes that small-scale miners, particularly those in precious minerals and gemstones, often lack basic equipment and may engage in illegal mining and are classified as such. However, foreign nationals with basic equipment reap more benefits from mining than local small-scale miners.

The Committee recommends that the Government should provide support to small-scale miners in terms of equipment and finances similar to the support provided to farmers for them to increase their production. In addition, the Government through the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development should provide a market for their minerals by aggregating all the minerals and reselling to international markets at a premium price.

iv) Environmental Emissions

The Committee observes that the community environmental complaints by Imbonge and Kabwela communities near Kansanshi Mining Plc have taken too long to be resolved by ZEMA.

In this regard, the Committee recommends that the ZEMA should expeditiously resolve the matter regarding adherence to environmental emissions that has un duly delayed.

v) Decentralise the Cadastre Department Licensing

The Committee notes that the mining licensing is centralised and only done in Lusaka by the Cadastre Department. This not only adds to the cost of renewing mining licences but slows down the licensing processes.

In light of this, the Committee recommends that the Cadastre Department should be decentralised to provincial level as the current state of affairs makes it difficult for small-scale and artisanal miners to formalise their activities due to the cost and time involved in travels to and from Lusaka.

vi) Establishment of Mineral Markets

The Committee observes the need to legislate and establish mineral markets. The Committee is of the view that this will enable miners and small-scale mineral traders to do business openly and benefit from the real global price of minerals. The Committee is also of the view that establishing mineral markets will serve as a means of tracking mineral production; and will bring buyers to one place and curb mineral smuggling.

The Committee, therefore, urges the Executive to put in place mining regulations that will promote the establishment of minerals markets in all key mining regional centres, without delay.

vii) Regulations to Codify Standard Operating Procedures

The Committee observes that the existing mining legislation does not codify the standard operating procedures of the licensing process or mining cadastre operations. The Committee is of the view that this erodes the confidence of financial investors in Zambia.

In this regard, the Committee urges the Government to come up with regulations to codify the standard operating procedures of cadastre processes which are globally acceptable.

viii) Tracking of Exploration Process and Reporting

The Committee observes the need for automation of tracking of exploration progress and reporting to minimum standard levels. The Committee is of the view that failure to do this will lead to loss of public resources by duplication of exploration activities; and increase social, environmental, legal and regulatory risks, among other ratifications.

The Committee, therefore, recommends that the SMART Zambia Institute workflow system should focus on the automation of tracking of exploration progress and reporting in order to ensure that accountability for each licence tracking sits with a single officer.

ix) Formalisation of Mining Transactions

The Committee observes that most licence areas awarded do not have defined mineral indications, resources or let alone reserves (in the appropriate category) and hence making it difficult for would be operators to raise finance to commence mining.

In this regard, the Committee urges the Government to put measures in place that will ensure that licences are only awarded for areas with defined mineral indications and also ensure the formalisation of evidence-driven transition from exploration to mining.

x) Issuance of Licences in Reserved Areas

The Committee observes that reserved areas of the State should be licenced transparently and be made open to scrutiny processes such as open bidding with a clear and objective awarding criterion. The Committee is of the view that licences granted under discretionary and extra-legal MoUs with the Government disadvantage genuine investors and lock away areas that would otherwise see swifter exploration and generate revenue for the State.

In this regard, the Committee urges the Government come up with relevant regulations that will ensure transparency and open to scrutiny processes of awarding licences in reserved areas.

xi) Discretionary Grant of Licence by Minister

The Committee observes, with concern, the legal provision that grants the Minister of Mines and Minerals Development authority to discretionarily award licences, where consent is denied, to applicants over licenced areas. The Committee is of the strong view that this creates insecurity of tenure and discourages investment and therefore, needs to be revised.

In this regard, the Committee urges the Executive to review the relevant provision in the *Geological and Minerals Development Act, No. 33 of 2024*, and amend the provision that empowers the Minister to discretionarily award licences.

xii) Access to Geological Data

The Committee observes that in order to stimulate exploration and development of new mines in the country, there is need to make geological data accessible, through various platforms, to prospective investors.

The Committee, therefore urges the Executive to come up with regulations that will compel the Director of Geological Survey to develop platforms of accessing geological information, without delay.

xiii) Protect the stability built by the Mining Flexi Cadastre System

The Committee notes the Government's intention to replace the existing Mining Flexi Cadastre System with the Government Service Bus System (GSB), by the SMART Zambia Institute. The Committee is however concerned that if the transition is not handled with caution, the replacement can lead to significant negative impacts on Zambia's mining industry and the economy.

The Committee therefore, urges the Government to proceed with caution by ensuring that system aspects that pertain to responsibility, accountability, consultation and information dissemination are not compromised in the Government Service Bus System.

xiv) Resource Constraints by Regulatory Authorities

The Committee observes that regulatory authorities in the mining industry lack corresponding resources such as funds, manpower, laboratories, vehicles, and equipment, to monitor exploration and mining operations of licence holders, effectively. The Committee is of the view that this if this is not urgently addressed, there will be continued abrogation of environmental and safety regulations.

In this regard, the Committee urges the Government to prioritise funding of the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development as it is core to the Treasury and to national security.

PART II

3.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE ACTION-TAKEN REPORT ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL ECONOMY, TRADE AND LABOUR MATTERS FOR THE THIRD SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

CONSIDERATION OF THE TOPICAL ISSUE: FISCAL DECENTRALISATION IN ZAMBIA AND ITS IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY

i) Grant in lieu of rates

The Committee had observed that Government properties were exempt from paying property rates. Instead, local authorities received a grant in lieu of rates. However, this was only a tiny fraction of the ratable value of government properties, and was rarely paid on time. In this regard, the Committee had recommended that the Central Government should revise the grant in lieu of rates to make it more reflective of the market value of government properties in local authorities.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the Government through the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development had noted the recommendation to increase the allocation of the Grant in Lieu Rates and this would be presented for consideration as the Ministry planned of 2025.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee will await a progress report on the increased allocation of the Grant in Lieu Rates.

ii) Personal Levy

The Committee had observed that Personal Levy had been K15 per annum since 1997 when it was revised under the *Personal Levy Act, Chapter 329 of the laws of Zambia*. The Committee was of the view that the value of personal Levy had diminished due to

inflation and depreciation of the kwacha. The Committee had therefore, recommended that Personal Levy should be adjusted upwards in order to increase the revenue raised by the local authorities.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development working with the Ministry of Finance and National Planning commenced the review of the Personal Levy Act, Chapter 329 of the laws of Zambia to address issues around the Act which included the static rate (K15 per annum since 1997). The review commenced with the consultation of stakeholders to establish whether to:

- i. maintain the status quo;
- ii. revise the Act upward on the basis of inflation and depreciation of the Kwacha, or
- iii. abolish the Act.

The Ministry was still undertaking consultations with stakeholders to analyse the impact of each option and determine the best course of action.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee will await a progress report of the finalisation of the revision of the *Personal Levy Act, Chapter 329 of the laws of Zambia*.

i) Equal Allocation of CDF Across all Constituencies

The Committee had noted with concern that the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) was administered across constituencies equally, without taking into consideration the size of a constituency, population, infrastructure development and other factors. In view of this, the Committee had recommended that the Government should review the approach, and adopt an equitable mechanism for the allocation of CDF. Additionally, the Committee had recommended that Line Ministries should provide additional funds to support different sectors of the economy and not solely rely on the CDF.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the Government through the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development had taken note of the submission for equity in the disbursement of CDF to be considered. The Ministry would engage stakeholders on how this may be considered. It was reported that additional funding to support different sectors were available. For instance, in the 2024 Budget, K55 Million was allocated to the construction of market and bus stations and K30 million was allocated to roads or crossing points in rural areas. Further, the National Road Fund Agency had a budget for township roads and feeder roads.

The Government was cognisant of the equal allocation of CDF across all constituencies. This was premised on the fact that equal allocation ensured that all constituencies, regardless of size or wealth, received a baseline level of funding for development projects, this could be seen as a way to promote fairness and reduce regional disparities.

The Government had been developing an equity formula that considered and utilised various factors or variables like population size, poverty levels, and geographic location, gender and age among other demographical variables that could be determined by the nature of the CDF component to allocate funds. However, the Government had observed that CDF funds were being provided to Constituencies that were not at the same level of development and endowment, therefore, utilising the demographic variable would still pose some negative and inverse results to the desired outcomes that the CDF policy required to achieve. The preferred variable among others was the infrastructure variable. This variable had been difficult to implement because of the absence of infrastructure deprivation data across Constituencies. Consultations had continued on the best options for allocating CDF funds equally.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee will await a progress report on the consultation, on the review of the approach, and adoption of an equitable mechanism for the allocation of CDF.

CONSIDERATION OF THE ACTION-TAKEN REPORT ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL ECONOMY, TRADE AND LABOUR MATTERS FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

3.1 PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN ZAMBIA

i) Legal Impediments

The Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the process of developing guidelines on the utilisation of preference and reservation schemes.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the Ministry of Finance and National Planning had begun the process of revising the Statutory Instrument (SI) on Preference and Reservation Schemes Regulations. The SI was undergoing consultations.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the consultations and the subsequent revision of the Statutory Instrument on Preference and Reservation Schemes.

ii) Infrastructure Development

The Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the upgrading of 2G sites for Zamtel; the progress regarding the procurement of ICT equipment by procuring entities in readiness for full implementation of the e-GP system; and the expansion of the optical fibre network to the thirty-two districts that did not have it.

The Executive in the Action-Taken Report submitted that the Government through the Zambia Information and Communications Technology Authority (ZICTA) was upgrading forty-four communication towers from 2G and 3G to 4G. In addition, more

upgrades and new 4G sites were planned to be undertaken and supported by the Universal Access and Services Fund.

On the expansion of optical network to the thirty-two districts that did not have point of presence by 2024, the country's fiber coverage assessment data had been updated. Therefore, it had been established that ninety-four districts had a fiber point of presence, eight districts had transit fiber, while fourteen districts lacked coverage. ZICTA was working with ICT Sector players to expand fiber access to unserved and underserved areas, aiming to connect the entire country. An additional 1,324.4 kilometers of fibers was needed for the remaining districts. To support this, a Government exemption on fiber import duty until 2025, was secured.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the upgrading of 2G sites for Zamtel; the procurement of ICT equipment by procuring entities in readiness for full implementation of the e-GP system; and the expansion of the optical fibre network to the thirty-two districts that did not have it.

3.2 ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION: THE CASE OF THE ZAMBIAN MINING SECTOR

i) Geological Exploration and Mapping

The Committee had requested for a progress report on its recommendation to have the rest of country surveyed.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that during the period under review, the Ministry completed the additional 0.8 per cent coverage and the total geologically mapped area stood at 58 per cent. Additionally, the Ministry through X-Cullibar, was undertaking a countrywide High Resolution Aerial Geophysical Survey (CHRAGS). The Survey in Block 1 covering parts of Chavuma, Zambezi, Lukulu and Kalabo Districts in Western and North Western Provinces had been completed. Further, the company was flying over Block 2 of the same zone encompassing Nalolo, Sioma, Mulobezi and Mwandu areas in Western Province. The countrywide survey was expected to be completed in the next eighteen months.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

In noting the submission, the Committee resolves to await a progress report on the countrywide survey.

ii) Employment in the Non-Copper Mining Subsector

The Committee had requested for a progress report on the development of a concept note, which would aid the development of a module that would be internationally comparative for inclusion in future labour force surveys.

The Executive in the Action-Taken Report submitted that consultations were made with International Labour Organisation (ILO) on a number of measurements of various labour market parameters in order to meet international standards for comparison purposes.

Based on requests in the concept note in respect to various labour matters, the ILO lined up a series of trainings, one of which, was on status in employment of workers which had already been conducted in 2023.

The Ministry through Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) awaited the remaining trainings including one on the development of a module to analyse subsectors in the future labour force surveys.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the development of a concept note.

iii) Working Conditions in the Non-Copper Mining Subsector

The Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the review of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

In the Action-Taken Report, the Executive stated that the process of reviewing *Occupational Health and Safety Act, No. 36 of 2010* and the *Factories Act, No. 24 of 1975* had reached an advanced stage, where the Ministry was receiving comments from various ministries through the e-Cabinet system.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

In noting the response from the Executive, the Committee awaits a progress report on the review of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act No. 36 of 2010*.

iv) Gold Exploration and Mining

The Committee had requested for a progress report on the creation of gold marketing centres in Rufunsa, Vubwi, Lusangazi, Mumbwa, Chisamba, Luano and Mpika districts.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development was constructing two mineral market centres in Mumbwa and Rufunsa districts. The exercise would be extended to the other districts, funds permitting.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the construction of market centres in Vubwi, Lusangazi, Chisamba, Luano and Mpika districts.

v) Corporate Social Responsibility

The Committee had requested a progress report on the promulgation of the Statutory Instrument on Local Content that would address matters pertaining to local participation in the mining sector.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the Ministry of Finance and National Planning had begun the process of revising the Statutory Instrument on Preference and Reservation Schemes Regulations. The SI was undergoing consultations. The proposed regulations provided for margins of preference for local content. Therefore, preferential treatment would apply to products that were produced within Zambia.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the revision of the Statutory Instrument on local content.

3.3 THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON ZAMBIA'S ECONOMY

i) Reduce Public Debt Obligations to Sustainable Levels

The Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the reduction of the country's debt to sustainable levels.

In the Action-Taken Report, the Executive submitted that Zambia's total public sector debt excluding arrears stood at USD25,155.30 million by the end of the first quarter of 2024. This amount included USD14,661.31 million, the Government external debt, USD1,391.55 million, Government guaranteed SOE external debt, and K226,792.94 million (USD9,102.44 million) in Central Government domestic debt.

The Government external debt stock increased by 0.61 per cent to USD14,661.31 million at the end of the first quarter of 2024 from USD14,572.92 million as at end of the fourth quarter of 2023. This was mainly driven by disbursements from multilateral creditors.

As at the end of the first quarter of 2024, the stock of Government guaranteed (SOE) external debt reduced by 1.11 per cent to USD1,391.55 million from USD1,407.14 million, as at end 2023. The reduction was mainly due to exchange rate variations and principal repayments.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

In noting the response from the Executive, the Committee resolves to await a progress report on the reduction of the country's debt to sustainable levels.

3.4 FINANCIAL INCLUSION VIS A VIS THE USE OF DIGITAL PAYMENT PLATFORMS IN ZAMBIA

i) Amendment of the *National Payment Systems Act, No. 1 of 2007*

The Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the amendment of *National Payment Systems Act, No.1 of 2007*.

In the Action-Taken Report, the Executive submitted that Cabinet at its meeting held on 25th September, 2023 approved, in principle, to repeal and replace the *National Payments*

System Act, No. 1 of 2007. The Ministry of Finance and National Planning and the Bank of Zambia conducted stakeholder consultations for input into the Bill.

The Ministry of Finance and National Planning in collaboration with the Bank of Zambia were in the process of drafting the layman's Bill, which would be submitted to the Ministry of Justice for finalisation and further processing.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the submission and resolves to await a progress report on the repeal and replacement of *National Payment Systems Act, No.1 of 2007*.

ii) National Social Protection Bill

The Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the review of the National Social Protection Policy and the domestication of social-protection-related international protocols and conventions.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) submitted that the:

1. Government, through the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) requested for the withdrawal of the National Social Protection Bill, 2018, to allow for further consultations on a number of contentious issues. The most contentious issue was how to deal with the huge actuarial deficits sitting with the Public Service Pension Fund (PSPF) and the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (LASF);
2. process to review the National Social Protection Policy was under the leadership of the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services. The review process had reached an advanced stage and the final draft of the revised policy was ready for submission to Cabinet for consideration; and
3. Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) was facilitating a process of ratification of relevant social security international instruments including ILO Convention 102 and 183.

The Ministry had **been facilitating** stakeholder consultations on the ratification process and **concluded these processes** by December, 2024.

Committees' Observations and Recommendations

The Committee in noting the submission made by the Executive, resolves to await a progress report on the review of the National Social Protection Policy and the domestication of social-protection-related international protocols and conventions.

3.5 THE REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE COMPLIANCE AUDIT ON THE AWARDING AND MONITORING OF THE MINING RIGHTS FOR 2017 ACCOUNTS FOR THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE TWELFTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

i) Inspections and Monitoring to Ensure Compliance by Mining Rights Holders: Non Submission of Quarterly Reports

The Committee resolved to await a progress report on the review of the *Mines and Minerals Development Act, No. 11 of 2015*.

In the Action-Taken Report, the Executive stated that the *Mines and Minerals Development Act, No. 11 of 2015* was under review and would be replaced by the Minerals Regulation Commission Bill, 2024, and the Geological and Minerals Development Bill, 2024. Once enacted, the Bill would strengthen the penalties applicable to non-compliant mining rights holders. A progress report would be awaited once the review process was completed.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the response from the Executive and resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

ii) No Fine Paid for Operating a Mineral Processing Plant Without a Licence

The Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the guidance that had been given by the Ministry of Justice regarding the fine owed by Mineral Junction and Transport Limited.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report, the Executive submitted that the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development had engaged the Ministry of Justice to help recover the money from the said company. In this regard, the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development had been making follow ups with the office of the Attorney General on the matter.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the payment of the fine owed by Mineral Junction and Transport Limited.

3.6 CHINA - ZAMBIA RELATIONS VIS A VIS TRADE AND INVESTMENT

i) Citizens Economic Empowerment Act, No. 5 of 2021

The Committee had requested for a progress report on the review and presentation to Parliament, of the Citizens Economic Empowerment (Amendment) Bill.

The Executive in the Action-Taken Report stated that the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprise Development had concluded the national wide stakeholders' consultations on the *Citizens Economic Empowerment Act, No. 9 of 2006*. The Ministry was compiling the

issues raised by stakeholders for onward submission to the Ministry of Justice to commence the draft Citizens Economic Empowerment (Amendment) Bill.

Committee's Observations and Recommendations

In noting the submission, the Committee resolves to await a progress report on the review of the Act.

3.7 THE ROLE OF MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN ZAMBIA

i) Poor Road Network

The Committee had resolved to await for a progress report on the completion of the road works on the remaining 64 kilometres of the Matebeke to Shangombo Road.

It was reported in the Action-Taken Report that the Government through the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development that the Sioma-Matebele-Shangombo, RD 463 Road was an important road link, which provided connectivity between Shangombo District with Mongu the Provincial Headquarters for Western Province and all other districts in the Province and the rest of the country. The road further connected Zambia to Angola through the Livungu Canal, which had since been constructed, thereby facilitating commerce and trade between the two countries.

The above road section had several bad sections where trucks transporting relief food to Nangweshi and the surrounding areas were getting stuck and eventually getting damaged. Arising from this condition of the road and the challenges faced by road users, the Road Development Agency (RDA) Western Regional Office had been undertaking maintenance works on the road and the intervention measures for the road was that the road received spot improvement of an estimated 71 kilometres of the bad spot sections from Matebele junction to Shangombo District. The emphasis was mainly spot improvement such as a stretch of 25 kilometres from Nakabunze to Matebele on M10 and the stretch of 45 kilometres from Matebele to Mengo area on RD463 towards Shangombo District.

The RDA was considering the Matebele-Shangombo Road in Western Province in the future Road Sector Annual Work Plans (RSAWPs), the Regional Office would continue to undertake spot improvements on the affected sections.

The Western Regional Office assessed a spot improvement on the 64 kilometres of the remaining section, which had been estimated at K5,678,549.67. These works would be done once Treasury released the funds.

The Government through the RDA shall prioritise the road for full rehabilitation once Treasury secured funds.

Committees' Observations and Recommendations

The Committee notes the response from the Executive and awaits a progress report on the completion of the road works on the remaining 64 kilometres of the Matebeke to Shangombo Road.

3.8 MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

i) Implementation of the 20 Percent Sub- Contracting Policy

The Committee had resolved to await a progress report on the implementation of the Statutory Instrument (Regulations) on Subcontracting and Joint Ventures.

The Executive in the Action-Taken Report submitted that the Ministry of Justice commenced the drafting of the Statutory Instrument and noted a number of issues which had been raised with the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development. The Ministry of Justice awaited a response from the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development. However, the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, under whom the draft National Council for Construction (Subcontracting) Regulations, 2024, fell, was better placed to respond to the issue of implementation.

Committees' Observations and Recommendations

The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the implementation of the Statutory Instrument (Regulations) on Subcontracting and Joint Ventures by the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development.

4.0 CONCLUSION

Zambia has made significant strides in improving the efficiency of its mining licensing process. The Committee is cognisant of the efforts the Government has made which include the introduction of an online portal, clearer legislative framework, enhanced transparency, capacity-building initiatives and the use of technology, all aimed at ensuring that there is a more efficient and equitable process for awarding mining licences. While the country has established the necessary legal and policy framework, and regulatory bodies to monitor compliance in the mining sector, the effectiveness of enforcement remains a challenge due to various factors. Therefore, the Committee urges the Government to put measures in place that will address enforcement challenges. The Committee is of the view that by putting measures in place such as legal and policy reforms in the mining sector, Zambia can create a more attractive environment for investment, while ensuring that its mining sector anchors the diversification agenda through an effective and efficient licensing system.



Ms Sibeso K Sefulo, MP
CHAIRPERSON

June, 2025
LUSAKA

APPENDIX I – LIST OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OFFICIALS

Mr Stephen Chiwota, Director (FC)
Mrs Angela M Banda, Deputy Director (FC)
Ms Chitalu Mulenga, Senior Committee Clerk (FC2)
Mr Moses Chuba, Committee Clerk
Mrs Racheal M Kanyumbu, Administrative Assistant
Mr Daniel Lupiya, Senior Committee Assistant
Mr Muyembi Kantumoya, Committee Assistant
Ms Taona Chawinga, Committee Assistant

APPENDIX II – LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS

Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development
Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative
Zambia Chamber of Mines
Association of Zambian Mining Exploration Companies
Federation of Small-Scale Mining Associations of Zambia
The Copperbelt University
Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry
Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises
Zambia Development Agency
Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines-Investment Holding
Zambia Environmental Management Agency
Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research
Publish What You Pay (PWYP) Zambia
Radiation and Protection Authority
Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA)
Mr Pavyuma Kalobo, MP