

## **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES FOR THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE TENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY APPOINTED ON 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2011**

Consisting of:

Mr D M Syakalima, MP (Chairperson); Dr B E Chishya, MP; Mr S Chisanga, MP; Ms M M Mwape, MP; Mr S Chitonge, MP; Mr J B Chongo, MP; and Mr E Kasoko, MP.

The Honourable Mr Speaker  
National Assembly  
Parliamentary Buildings  
**LUSAKA**

Sir

Your Committee has the honour to present its Report for the Fifth Session of the Tenth National Assembly.

### **FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE**

2. Under Standing Order No. 155(2) of the House, your Committee is mandated to scrutinise all assurances and undertakings made by Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers on the floor of the House with the objective of ensuring that the same are implemented.

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

### **PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE**

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

Upon receipt of submissions from the ministries and Government departments on the assurances, your Committee then invited the respective permanent secretaries and chief executives to appear before it and give updates on the implementation of the assurances under their respective portfolios.

## **MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE**

4. Your Committee held twelve meetings during the period under review. This Report deals with both outstanding and new assurances ministry by ministry.

### **PART I**

## **CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS ON VARIOUS ASSURANCES**

### **MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

#### **07/09 – Redesigning and Expanding of Roads**

On 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2009, the Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, my Ministry has plans to assist not only the Lusaka City Council but all authorities to redesign and expand road infrastructure, whose carriage capacity has been exceeded by the ever increasing volume of motor vehicles."*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported to your Committee that the Master Plan for the Greater City of Lusaka was the guiding document for the development of the City and as such all developmental activities had to be in line with the city's comprehensive plan. It was expected that various donors would buy into the master plan to assist Government develop the city infrastructure in general. Because of the huge cost associated with the development of infrastructure, the implementation would be done in phases and funding was expected to come from various sources which would include donor funds as well as local resources such as the National Road Fund.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the implementation of the assurance will require both donor support and local resources due to the huge cost associated with the project.

Your Committee also observes that the update is just on Lusaka Roads, despite the assurance extending to other cities as well.

Your Committee, therefore, urges the Government to step up its efforts in sourcing the required finances so that the project can commence sooner rather than later. Your Committee also seeks to be updated on road expansion plans for other cities, if any.

Your Committee resolves to await a further progress report on the matter.

#### **33/09 – Improvement of Drainage in Kanyama Compound**

On 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Madam Speaker, it is true that the issue of lack of drainage system in Kanyama is becoming perpetual and there is a need to have a long term solution to this particular problem. The House will be interested to know that the ministry is undertaking an exercise to look into what long-term solutions can be reached with regard to Kanyama."*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported to your Committee that the current contract covered the major drainages in Kanyama compound. An original assessment of the area indicated that about K30 billion was required to completely resolve the problem of drainage in the township. However due to limited funding, current works were focusing more on the major drainages as stated above.

In terms of progress, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that overall progress for the physical works currently stood at about 20%.

Your Committee also heard that the project would not be finished within the original six months contract period due to the following reasons:

- (i) works were suspended for a period of three months during the rainy season due to unprecedented weather patterns that negatively affected the project as drainages and roads were submerged due to flooding, making it impossible to work until the water had receded in April/May, 2010;
- (ii) more rock had been encountered in the drainages in comparison to the original estimated quantities, coupled with the slow and tedious drilling and blasting process to avoid damaging people's houses; and
- (iii) initial hostilities towards the Contractor by the community during the early stages of the project also contributed to delays as equipment had to be withdrawn to save it from being burnt.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the problem of drainage in Kanyama can only be resolved if the Government can spend about K30 Billion Kwacha.

Your Committee further observes that during the dry season, works generally stall and are only heightened immediately prior to the on-set of the rainy season.

Your Committee also observes that the problem of floods in Kanyama had become a perennial issue, which has not received adequate attention from the Ministry of Local Government and Housing.

In light of the above observations, your Committee recommends that the Government should adequately budget for this project so that the problem of floods and other problems incidental to it can be resolved permanently.

Your Committee also recommends that the Ministry of Local Government and Housing should take advantage of the dry season and cover substantial work during that period, to avoid undertaking too much work during the rainy season.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **45/07 – Upgrading of Misisi Compound in Lusaka**

The Honourable Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing on 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2007, assured the House as follows:

*"Mr Speaker, I wish to inform this August House that the larger part of Misisi Compound will not be demolished, but instead, will be upgraded. My Ministry through the Lusaka City Council, has already started an upgrading programme for Misisi Compound that is expected to commence before the end of the year."*

The Permanent Secretary updated your Committee that the Ministry of Local Government and Housing had set aside resources under Squatter Upgrading to improve Misisi Compound, although these resources were not adequate. In this regard, the Ministry was working with Lusaka City Council and National Housing Authority and the Public Private Partnership Unit in the Ministry of Finance and National Planning to promote to investors, the upgrading and re-development of Misisi and Kuku Compounds. In this regard, project proposals and surveys had been conducted in readiness for implementation.

The Permanent Secretary further stated that in this project, about 50,000 squatters who were currently occupying 230 hectares of prime land would be grouped and re-housed in multi-storey accommodation complete with requisite amenities on forty hectares. This would free 190 hectares of this prime land for commercial and industrial development aimed at creating employment for the people of Lusaka.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the money reserved by the Government for the upgrading of Misisi Compound is inadequate.

Your Committee also observes that there are attempts to attract a private investor to buy into the project, so as to develop or upgrade the compound.

Your Committee urges the Government to endeavour to find adequate resources to implement its own programmes instead of always involving private or foreign investors to implement such projects.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report since implementation of the project has not yet commenced.

### **01/07 – Devolving of Functions to Local Authorities**

On 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2007, the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Housing assured the House as follows:

*"Mr Speaker... it is important we decentralise some of the functions to the local authorities and the communities so that they can undertake such jobs as supervising contractors in an effective manner."*

In updating your Committee, the Permanent Secretary reported that following the approval of the Decentralisation Implementation Plan (DIP) by Cabinet on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2009, the Ministry through the Decentralisation Secretariat, had continued enhancing the implementation of the National Decentralisation Policy through the implementation of the DIP.

The Permanent Secretary submitted that the 2011-2013 Budget Call Circular by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning instructed all the fourteen devolving ministries to include the cost of completing their Sector Devolution Plans in preparation for sector devolution effective 2012. Thus, all the fourteen ministries including the Ministry of Local Government and Housing would complete their devolution plans by the end of the year 2011.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that since 2007 when the assurance was made, very little progress had been made towards realising what was assured.

Your Committee also observes that the Ministry of Local Government and Housing has committed to complete its devolution plan by the end of 2011.

In view of the foregoing observations, your Committee urges the Ministry to earnestly work towards completing its devolution plan by the end of the year 2011.

Your Committee also resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **12/04 – Construction of Houses through Municipal Bonds**

On 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, I would like to state that this administration is trying to construct houses by raising finances through Municipal Bonds. Our programme is to use "Special Purpose Vehicles" meaning that we will create some form of organs that, indeed will be used for purposes of Municipal Bonds."*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that the programme to construct houses in Councils through municipal bonds had been halted and the National Housing Trust Board, which was entrusted with the construction of houses, had been dissolved.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the Government is no longer working towards the implementation of this assurance. It is, therefore, recommended that the Minister should formally inform the House about the change of policy to construct Houses through municipal bonds.

Your Committee awaits a progress report.

### **41/05 – Building Modern Markets in all Provincial Centres**

On 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, it is the intention of the Government to build markets like the Soweto Market in all Provincial Centres and, also in big cities like Livingstone, Kitwe and Ndola."*

In his update, the Permanent Secretary reported that Government had not commenced the construction of modern markets in all Provincial Centres because of inadequate budget provisions to undertake this noble programme. Government was however, currently using its meagre resources to construct markets in some districts as prioritised by councils.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that despite the assurance being made six years ago, the Government had not commenced construction of markets in all provincial centres due to inadequate budget provision.

Your Committee is concerned at the lack of commitment on the part of Government to fulfill what was assured on the floor of the House. Your Committee, therefore, urges the Government to source for funds required to implement this assurance so that traders can conduct their business in a conducive environment.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter

## **42/05 – Welfare of Chiefs**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2005, the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Housing made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, currently, we are working on a policy of chiefs' affairs and this policy will take into account issues such as building and maintenance of chiefs' palaces and whether or not chiefdoms that were abolished in the past should be resuscitated."*

In updating your Committee, the Permanent Secretary stated that the Chiefs' Policy had not yet been approved by Cabinet. Cabinet had made comments on the draft Chiefs Policy which was now being addressed by the newly elected members of the House of Chiefs. Your Committee would be informed when the Policy will be approved.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that even projects that do not require substantial amounts of money to implement such as coming up with a policy for chiefs' affairs has taken six years without any significant progress being made by the Government.

Your Committee urges the Ministry to urgently conclude its consultative processes so that the policy can be in place to address the well-being of chiefs. A progress report is being awaited on the matter.

## **07/10 – Completion of Building at Freedomway and Katondo Street Junction**

On 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Housing assured the House as follows:

*"Madam Speaker, it's the hope of our Ministry that the building will be completed within reasonable time and add beauty to the city."*

The Permanent Secretary informed your committee that the building was originally the property of Zambia State Insurance Corporation, which failed to complete it and was later sold to a private company which also failed to complete it citing financial constraints as the major contributing factor to the non completion of the building. The Lusaka City Council had since written to the new owner to complete the construction of the building and had indicated further to the Commissioner of Lands to commence the process of re-entry in the event that the new owners failed to complete the structure.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the building in question has remained incomplete for many years making the surrounding look ugly.

Your Committee is alive to the fact that developers of real property by law are required to complete their construction within a stipulated time frame, failure to which the Commissioner of Lands can re-enter such property.

Your Committee, therefore, recommends that the property be re-entered forthwith and re-allocated to a more serious developer.

Your Committee awaits a progress report.

### **25/07 – Land Dispute between Chief Moomba and Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the land dispute between Chief Moomba and Senior Chief Inyambo could not be resolved because the matter was before the courts of law.

The Ministry had resumed dialogue with the Chiefs regarding withdrawal of the matter from the court so that arrangements could be made for the two Chiefs to meet the Minister.

The Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

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

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

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

In his update, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the comprehensive Pay Policy was approved by Cabinet in 2009. Since the approval of the policy, the Government had undertaken the following steps:

- (i) embarked on the procurement of a consultancy to undertake a job evaluation exercise for the Public Service and negotiations for the consultancy had since been concluded and the contract was yet to be signed;
- (ii) revised the implementation plan for Pay Policy in order to align the activities to current dates and to cater for the outcome of the findings of the Salaries Review Commission; and

- (iii) appointed an Interim Secretariat for the Public Service Remuneration Board whose responsibility was to implement the Pay Policy activities before the appointment of the Remuneration Board and the Board would be responsible for reviewing and harmonising compensation in the Public Service.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the Pay Policy was approved by Cabinet and steps to implement it are in motion.

Your Committee, therefore, resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT**

### **29/06 – Developing of Available Hydro Electricity Potential Sites**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2006, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, in the electricity sector, my Ministry has stepped up efforts to develop the available hydroelectricity potential sites, which include Kafue Gorge Lower 600 mw, Itezhi-tezhi 120 mw, Kalungwishi 200 mw, Kariba North Bank extension 360 mw and several mini hydros... The sequencing of the projects will be as follows:*

- (i) Itezhi-tezhi, within the next two years;*
- (ii) Kariba North Bank extension within the next two to five years;*
- (iii) Kalungwishi, within the next two to five years; and*
- (iv) Kafue Gorge lower, within the next five years.*

In updating your Committee, the Permanent Secretary stated that the progress set out hereunder had been made on the projects.

#### **(i) Itezhi-tezhi Hydro Power Project (120 MW)**

The Government was developing the project through Partnership of ZESCO Limited and TATA Africa Group Plc. In order to show Government commitment towards the development of the energy project, the Government had sourced US\$50 Million from the Indian Government for onward lending to ZESCO Limited. Other finances for the other activities would be sourced by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) formed by the two parties (ZESCO and TATA). The development of this project was expected to add 120 Mega Watts to the system.

## **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that implementation of the Itezhi-tezhi Hydro Power project is still in the initial stages although no time frame has been given as to when the current works will be concluded, although the assurance was to be completed within two years.

Your Committee, therefore, resolves to await a progress report on the project and urge the Government to step up efforts to complete the project as it is way behind schedule.

### ***(ii) Kariba North Bank Extension Hydro Power Project (360 MW)***

The Government commenced construction of the Kariba North Bank Extension and a lot of progress had been made so far. The completion of the project was expected to add 360 Mega Watts to the system. Currently Sino Hydro Corporation of China was on the ground doing the construction works.

In line with its mandate to carry out on-the-spot checks of the extent of implementation of assurances, your Committee undertook a tour of the Kariba North Bank Extension Hydro Power Project.

Your Committee was received by officials from ZESCO, Ministry of Energy and Water Development and Kariba North Bank Extension Corporation Limited (KNBE).

The Project Director of KNBE informed your Committee that the project was being implemented by KNBE Corporation Limited a 100 percent subsidiary company of ZESCO Limited.

Your Committee heard that financing for the project was from two main sources; namely, China Exim Bank and the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA).

Financing from the former institution was US\$ 315 million. A Loan Agreement to that effect was signed in November, 2009, with the first disbursement done in January, 2011.

The DBSA funding of US\$ 105 million was agreed and signed for in September, 2010, with the first disbursement in March, 2011. Your Committee was also informed that the Government had issued a guarantee in favour of DBSA as part of the loan security while the initial works were funded from a bridging finance from ZESCO before the Financial Agreements were closed.

In terms of the implementation status of the project, your Committee heard that excavation works for surfaced and underground works had progressed to 70 per cent, while construction and installation of steel parts would start in the last quarter of 2011.

Your Committee was also informed that construction of the substation began in December, 2010. Manufacturing of turbines and generators was still in progress.

During the conducted tour, your Committee was shown among others, the intake tunnels and cofferdam, the headrace tunnels, outfall tunnel and the construction of the concrete lining for the tailrace. Your Committee was also shown parts of the excavation works where the power house will be located.

Your Committee was informed that all works will be completed in the last quarter of 2012.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes and appreciates that substantial works have been done towards completing the Kariba North Bank extension project albeit works are behind schedule.

Your Committee, therefore, resolves to await a progress report since construction works are still in progress.

#### ***(iii) Kalungwishi Hydropower Project (210 MW)***

On the Kalungwishi Hydropower project, your Committee was informed that the Implementation Agreement had been finalised after legal opinion was sought from the Attorney General's Office. With this development, the project developer (Lunzua Power Authority) was expected to mobilise financial resources and engage the services of an Engineering Procurement Construction and thereafter commence construction works once the Implementation Agreement (IA) was signed by the end of 2010. The project would be commissioned in 2016. The project entailed construction of two power stations on the Kalungwishi River at Kabwelume and Kandubwika Falls with capacities of 83MW and 135MW respectively. The project was estimated to cost US\$ 500 million.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the Kalungwishi hydropower project will be commissioned in 2016, contrary to the two to five years, which was assured on the floor of the House.

Your Committee urges the Government to carryout detailed consultations with experts on the ground before making assurances of this nature.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

#### ***(iv) Kafue Gorge Lower Hydro Power Project (600 MW)***

Your Committee was informed that the Government engaged International Finance Cooperation (IFC) to package Kafue Gorge Lower Project so that the project was bankable. Feasibility studies for the development of the project at site 5A, 8 km downstream of the existing Kafue Gorge Power station had been completed. The project was expected to cost K 1.5 billion. The investors in the project would have to look to project revenues in order to meet debt obligations and have a return on investment.

Your Committee heard that the Government was now sourcing funds for the implementation of the project. To this end, the Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SINOHYDRO Corporation Limited and China-Africa Development Fund (CADFUND) for the financing and construction of the project on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis. A Special Purpose Company (SPC) would be created in which SINOHYDRO, CADFUND and ZESCO would be equity partners.

Your Committee visited Kafue Gorge Power Station, but could not reach the site for the Kafue Gorge lower Hydro power project because parts of the 21 km temporary access road to the site had been washed away by the rains.

That notwithstanding, your Committee was briefed by the Project Director that the project will inevitably displace people that have settled down stream of the Kafue River. In this regard, ZESCO had started putting in place measures to resettle the people who will be displaced.

He informed your Committee that the affected people will be moved to an area called Hachipilika where ZESCO has committed to construct houses, a school and a health centre for them.

In terms of execution of this plan, ZESCO had already done the following; joint site visit with the host community, infrastructure designing of houses, school and health centre, valuation of affected property and crops and meetings with, the affected people, host community and the chief.

ZESCO undertook to start construction works in July, 2011, and complete by November 2011.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the access road to the proposed site has been washed away and will further delay the commencement of works at the site.

Your Committee also observes that the construction of the Kafue Lower Hydro-Power project will inevitably lead to the displacement of people. Your Committee, therefore, urges the Government that the people should be resettled first before the project is implemented, to avoid what happened many years ago during the construction of Kariba North Bank Hydro Power Station in Siavonga.

Your Committee also urges the Government to always endeavour to adhere to its implementation period as assured to the Nation through the House.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

## **08/08 – Five Year Recapitalisation Programme for Indeni Petroleum Refinery Company**

In his update, the Permanent Secretary informed the Committee that as the sole shareholder in the Petroleum Refinery, Government through the Ministry of Energy and Water Development had instructed Indeni to submit detailed project documents for revamping of the Bitumen plant as well as addition of other refining units such as the de-sulphurising unit to enable production of low sulphur diesel. Once these documents are submitted, the Government would then consider the available options for sourcing of funding during the 2011 financial year, for execution of the projects.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that once the Bitumen Plant is revamped, it will drastically reduce the costs of constructing roads in Zambia as bitumen will be sourced locally.

Your Committee also urges the Government to ensure that the operationalisation of the de-sulphuring unit at Indeni is budgeted for to enable the Refinery start producing low sulphur diesel, which is more environmentally friendly.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

## **24/08 – Enhancement of Shiwang'andu Mini Hydro Project and Kaputa Biomass Gasification Project**

With respect to this assurance, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that according to the planned schedule of implementation, the contractors (ICHP) were supposed to mobilise in May/April, 2010, following the commissioning of the project. However, when the contractors came to Zambia, the money was not ready, so they went back to China. During the same period, equipment required for construction work was sent and was currently at the site. Later an Agreement was reached with ZESCO to pay the required down payment of US\$1.5 million in six equal installments, which ZESCO did. After ZESCO paid the US\$1.5 million, they requested the contractor to mobilise, but the contractor could not do so because the contractor needed time to hire skilled workers, who were initially hired but disbanded due to the fact that mobilisation could not be done at the time it was supposed to be done. The contractor could also not commence civil works due to the rainy season.

The total project was estimated at US\$3, 841, 153, if the project had been completed in 2010. Now the cost had gone up to US\$4.1 million. So far, ZESCO had contributed about US\$1, 500, 000 while United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) had contributed US\$560, 000 which was obtained from the UNIDO/GEF fund. In October, 2010, the Chinese contractor started manufacturing the equipment for the power plant. ZESCO would pay the remaining US\$2.1 million needed to complete the project and the money would be paid in installments over the construction period of the project. UNIDO and ZESCO were currently working on finalising an Agreement, which would allow ZESCO to make payments in installments. Further, a new implementation schedule had been developed.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes with disappointment that the project could not start as scheduled despite the contractor having mobilised at site, due to lack of money. This has since increased the cost of the whole project from US\$3, 841, 153 million to US\$4.1 billion.

Your Committee strongly recommends that the Government, through ZESCO, should adhere to the new implementation schedule to avoid any further increases in the cost of implementing the project.

Your Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

### **Kaputa Biomass Gasification Project**

With regard to this assurance, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Government had decided to discontinue the development of the project because ZESCO would extend the Grid to Kaputa district.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that there has been a shift in the implementation of the assurance. Your Committee, therefore, recommends that the assurance be withdrawn on the floor of the House by the Minister of Energy and Water Development.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **27/06 – Dismantling ZESCO into Separate Units: Generation, Transmission and Distribution**

The previous Committee observed that while the idea of separating ZESCO into smaller units may be a good idea, it recommended that Government should consider the matter very carefully.

Your Committee was informed through the Action Taken Report that the Ministry needed to give much thought on the view of separating ZESCO into smaller units. In the meantime, it was Government's intention to retain the current status of ZESCO.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **27/07 – Construction of Dams in Konkola and Kalama Wards – Magoye Parliamentary Constituency**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that funds for Konkola dam were released to facilitate detailed survey, design and preparation of tender documents to pave way for the commencement of dam construction.

It was further reported that construction works would begin as soon as the Ministry of Energy and Water Development received additional funds from the National Treasury. So far only thirty per cent of the budgeted funds had been received.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves not to close the assurance, but await a progress report on the matter.

### **14/09 – Electrification of Chasefu Constituency and Chief Mwanya's Palace**

It was revealed in the Action Taken Report that Chief Mwanya's palace had been electrified while electrification of Chasefu Constituency was steadily going on well.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

In view of the foregoing, the Committee resolves to await a progress report on the electrification of Chasefu Constituency.

## **MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

### **164/193 – Soldiers' Accommodation**

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

The Permanent Secretary provided the statistics set out hereunder with regard to accommodation for the Zambia Army, Zambia Air Force and the Zambia National Service.

### **Zambia Army Accommodation**

#### **Rented Houses**

1. Number of Personnel	-	686
2. Number of Houses	-	686
3. Financial implication per annum	-	K17, 868, 930, 000

#### **Housing Allowance/Own Arrangements**

1. Number of Personnel	-	5, 815
2. Number of Houses	-	5, 815
3. Financial Implication per annum	-	K21, 600, 000, 000

#### **Housing under Construction**

##### *Lusaka West L 85*

(a) Personnel	-	2, 920
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- (b) Number of Houses - 2, 830 (medium cost Housing Units)
- (c) Number of Houses - 90 (Low cost Housing Units)

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- (a) Personnel - 275
- (b) Number of Houses - 275
- (c) Financial implication - Ministry of Defence to advise

*1 CDO*

- (a) Personnel - 225
- (b) Number of Houses - 225
- (c) Financial Implication - Ministry of Defence to advise

*Engineering Regiment*

- (a) Personnel - 125
- (b) Number of Houses - 125
- (c) Financial implication - Ministry of Defence to advise

*Kaoma*

- (a) Personnel - 30
- (b) Number of Houses - 30
- (c) Financial implication - US\$ 1, 079, 888.44 @ K4, 800  
(funded by Government) K5, 183, 464, 512
- (d) Institutional Houses
  - Number of Personnel - 4, 945
  - Number of Houses - 4, 945
- (e) Housing under Construction
  - Lamsat Flats
    - Number of Flats - 40
    - Number of Personnel - 40
    - Financial implication - US\$ 10, 500, 000 @ K4, 800  
K50, 400, 000, 000
  - Palm Drive (Makeni)
    - Number of Flats - 10
    - Number of Personnel - 10
    - Financial implication - K12, 000, 000, 000
- (f) Housing Shortfall
  - Number required (rented houses, projected recruitment and own arrangement) – 9, 801
  - Financial implication per annum – K89, 868, 930, 000

With regard to the Zambia Air Force, the Permanent Secretary availed the statistics set out below.

S/N	Station/Formation	Housing Units on Base		Since Quarters		Rented Housing	Owner Occupier		Own Arrangement	
		Officers	Men	Officers	Men		Officers	Men	Officers	Men
1	Air Headquarters Estates	0	0	0	0	28	2	0	4	0
2	Air Headquarters Station	0	0	0	0	445	4	6	2	23
3	Air Defence Command	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	1	0
4	Logistics Command	0	0	0	0	61	1	0	1	3
5	ZAF Lusaka	66	293	50	122	38	2	0	1	6
6	ZAF Twin Palm Air Base	21	38	0	0	137	0	6	2	0
7	ZAF MT Eugenia Air Base	0	115	8	60	109	0	0	2	0
8	ZAF Livingstone Air Base	0	28	0	0	170	0	6	0	5
9	ZAF Mumbwa Base	65	167	81	91	12	0	0	0	13
10	ZAF Kabwe Air Base	0	65	0	100	170	0	0	0	12
11	ZAF Samora Air Base	77	130	9	50	3	0	0	0	0
12	Air Traffic Liaison Unit	0	0	0	0	18	1	0	0	0
13	ZAF CED	0	0	0	0	35	1	0	0	0
14	ZAF 15 Squadron	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	1
15	ATSC	0	0	0	0	11	0	0		0
<b>16</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>40</b>
	Summary									H/Units Required
	Type of House									Officers
1	Executive									0
2	High Cost									203
3	Medium									306
4	Low Cost									700
	Total Officers/Other Ranks									509
	<b>TOTAL HOUSES</b>									<b>1, 734</b>

### Constructed Houses – ZAF Twin Palm

S/N	Description	Quantity	Remarks	Period
1	<b>Units done by ZAF work force</b>			
a	Semi detached units	6	Completed	2004 – 2005
b	Medium cost units	1	Completed	2004 – 2005
2	<b>Units done by Datong Construction (under ZAF funding)</b>			
a	Semi detached units	19	Completed	2006 – 2008
b	Medium cost units	5	Completed	2006 – 2008
3	<b>Units being done by Zamchin Ministry of Works funding</b>			
a	Semi detached units	5	Almost complete, final touches	2008 to date
b	Medium cost units	4	Almost complete, final touches	2008 to date
c	High cost units	1	Almost complete, final touches	2008 to date
d	Single quarter	1	Almost complete, final touches	2008 to date
4	<b>Units being done by Wang Kong (under Ministry of Defence funding )</b>			
a	Semi detached units	5	Incomplete	2008 to date
b	Medium cost units	4	Incomplete	2008 to date
c	High cost units	1	Incomplete	2008 to date
d	Single quarter	1	Incomplete	2008 to date
	<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>		

## Rented Accommodation

S/N	Station/Formation	Housing	Balance As At 31/12/2010
1	AHQ States	28	350,000,000.00
2	ADC	30	210,000,000.00
3	Logistics CMD	61	817,000,000.00
4	ATSC	11	98,000,000.00
5	AHQ Station	445	3,519,794,580.52
6	ZAF Lusaka	38	204,740,938.38
7	ZAF Mt Eugenia	109	880,509,394.52
8	ZAF Mumbwa	12	30,000,000.00
9	ZAF Samora	3	8,000,000.00
10	ZAF Twin Palm	137	1,174,860,885.04
11	ZAF Livingstone	170	1,383,223,338.22
12	ZAF Kabwe	170	896,192,493.00
13	ZAF CED	35	229,687,658.00
14	15 Squadron	16	116,179,767.55
15	ZAF Atlu	18	112,517,647.40
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,283</b>	<b>10,030,706,702.63</b>

## Acquired Houses – Air Force Headquarters

S/N	Description	Quantity	Remarks	Period
1	Air House on Independence Avenue	3	From Ministry of Works and Supply	1996
2	Plots No S/D 378/A/641 to 670 off Gardenia Road, Avondale	30	From Ministry of Works and Supply	1996
3	Plot No 9056 off Kariba Road, Kansenshi, Ndola	1	Airmens' Guest House	1996
4	Plot No F/L523/A/1/0256 No 14 Kafue Road Itawa, Ndola	1	Officers' Guest House	1996
5	Hellen Kaunda, Plot No 50/8137	1	Warrant Officer's Married Quarter	1996
6	Plot No F378A/240 SMK Avondale	1	Officers' Married Quarter	2004
7	33/1956, Lusaka West, Lusaka West, Lusaka	1	Mt Eugenia Single Officers' Quarters	2004
8	Stand No 74/10424, Great East Road Cassanova Flats, Chainama	9	Various Officers	2009
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>47</b>		
	<b>ZAF Kabwe</b>			
S/N	Description	Quantity	Remarks	Period
1	Plot No 1 Chishimba Falls Road	1	Co-Official Residence	1996
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1</b>		
	<b>ZAF Livingstone</b>			
S/N	Description	Quantity	Remarks	Period
1	Plot No 1, Government House	1	AOC Official Residence	1996
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1</b>		
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>		

With regard to the Zambia National Service (ZNS) accommodation, the following statistics were provided:

### Accommodation

Total Institutional Houses	348
Rented Houses	876
Personnel in Barracks/Single Quarters	546

Personnel on Housing Allowance	2, 465
Total Strength for ZNS Personnel	4, 235

### **Rented Accommodation**

Service Personnel in Rented Houses	876
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### **Amount involved in Housing Requirements**

The Service required K925, 000, 000 housing allowance on monthly basis and K958, 000, 000 to pay house rentals on monthly basis

### **Houses under Construction**

- (a) 40 medium cost housing units at ZNS Makeni;
- (b) 04 medium cost housing units at ZNS Kabwe;
- (c) 03 x 02 semi detached flats at ZNS Kabwe;
- (d) 01 x 02 semi detached flats at ZNS Kabwe;
- (e) 03 medium cost houses at ZNS Munsakamba;
- (f) 01 semi detached flat at ZNS Munsakamba; and
- (g) 46 low cost housing units at ZNS Mansa.

### **Houses that have been completed**

- (a) 20 medium cost units at ZNS Makeni out of the 40 housing units; and
- (b) 16 medium cost units at ZNS Makeni.

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the old soldiers' houses in the barracks were in a dilapidated state and required immediate renovation. For this reason, some soldiers were living outside the barracks making it difficult for mobilisation, if need arose.

Your Committee was also informed that to completely address the accommodation problem, the Ministry required approximately K2 billion.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that there is still a critical shortage of accommodation for the men and women in uniform.

Your Committee also observes that the Defence Forces have sufficient trained manpower that have the necessary skills to build or construct their own houses at a reduced cost, albeit K2 Billion is required to complete the project.

Your Committee urges the Government to urgently address the problem of accommodation for soldiers as not doing so demoralises the officers who are critical to keeping national security.

Your Committee also urges the Government to make all efforts possible and source for K2 billion required to complete the project. Further, your Committee recommends that the Ministry should re-introduce the builders' brigade in the Defence Forces as was the case in the First Republic.

## **MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

### **32/06 – Developing Border Control Computerised System throughout the Country**

On 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2006, the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"The Department is in the process of developing a border control computerised system aimed at enhancing the monitoring of movement of persons. As a pilot project, the Lusaka International Airport is being computerised with the assistance of the International Organisation for Migration."*

Your Committee was informed that the Ministry of Home Affairs was committed to computerising all border controls and this was an on-going project. The Immigration Headquarters, Victoria Falls Border, Livingstone Regional Office, Chirundu Border, Lusaka and Livingstone International Airports had been computerised and this programme would be rolled out to other border controls.

#### **Tour of Livingstone International Airport Immigration Office**

In line with its mandate, your Committee undertook an on the spot check at Livingstone International Airport to verify whether or not it had been computerised.

Your Committee was met by the officer in charge of the Immigration Office, who informed it that the Livingstone International Airport had been computerised, but the system had been dysfunctional for over one year. Experts had started working on it three days prior to your Committee's tour.

Your Committee was informed that the system was linked to Lusaka International Airport and was meant to capture vital information from travelers which enabled the Immigration Office to keep track of every passenger who passed through the Airports and possibly could be used to trace those suspected to have involved themselves in some criminal activities such as drug trafficking and illegal entry into Zambia.

Your Committee, however, learnt that when the system was functional, it was tremendously slower than manual capturing of data, much to the annoyance of the travelling public.

In view of this, your Committee was informed that once the system was repaired, it must as a matter of urgency be rooted to the optic fibre system to enhance its efficiency.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that despite the Livingstone International Airport, Immigration Office being computerised, the system has not been functioning for over one year.

Your Committee also observes that the Permanent Secretary might have been unaware that the said system was dysfunctional because in her submission to your Committee, she omitted to mention this vital piece of information.

Your Committee also observes that computerisation is vital in safeguarding the security of the nation, although the system is inefficient.

In view of the above, your Committee urges the Government to urgently repair the system and equip it with the necessary programme to improve its operations and efficiency.

Your Committee also urges the office of the Permanent Secretary to constantly be in touch with her officers on the ground so that she is fully aware of operations in her Ministry, being the Administrative Head of the Ministry.

#### **41/08 – Construction of a Border Post at Namafulu in Chief Mweemba’s Area, Sinazongwe**

On 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2008, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Home Affairs made the following undertaking on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Home Affairs is not reluctant to build a border post at the said place. The delay has been due to a lack of financial resources. The border post shall be constructed once funds are available."*

Your Committee was updated to the effect that the construction of border infrastructure at Namafulu in Chief Mweemba’s area in Sinazongwe district commenced on 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2010. The construction consists of two projects, construction of an office block and two staff houses.

The progress on the project was reported as follows:

##### **(a) Office Block**

The office block comprised two offices, two halls (for entry and exit), kitchen, store room and toilets. The office block had since been roofed, plastered and fitted with door and window frames and doors. Electrical wiring and plumbing had also been done. The contractor was still on site working on the sewer system and fittings.

##### **(b) Staff Houses**

The staff houses had been roofed, plastered and fitted with door and window frames. The contractor was still on site painting the houses and fitting window panes.

## **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that tremendous progress has been done in the project, although no definite time for full completion has been provided. Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **13/08 – Averting Delays in Issuance of Passports**

On 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2008, the Honourable Minister assured the House in the following words:

*"Madam Speaker, queuing up will be eradicated totally because the new equipment that we have put in place produces more than 1, 000 passports in 24 hours. Therefore, because of this new technology, there is no need for our people to queue up."*

With regard to this assurance, your Committee was informed that the Ministry of Home Affairs at all its passports issuing offices no longer experienced the congestion which was experienced during the migration from old type of passport to the new one. Congestion has tremendously reduced at all the three issuing offices (Lusaka, Livingstone and Ndola). However, the Ministry has put in place measures to mitigate delays that may occur and these include:

**(a) Express Service**

Issuance of passports within five working days has been introduced for travelers who want to be issued with passports in a short period of time.

**(b) New Passport System**

The new passport system has an increased capacity to produce 500 passports per day per centre.

### **Tour of Livingstone Passport Office**

Having toured the Lusaka and Ndola Passport Offices in the last programme of work, your Committee decided to undertake a tour of Livingstone Passport Office as well.

Your Committee was briefed by the Head of the Regional Office that in terms of production of passports, his office had received new equipment which had helped to shorten the period within which to process passports thereby decongesting the office.

Your Committee learnt that it took less than seven working days to process a passport although the prescribed waiting period was twenty-one days.

In terms of operational difficulties experienced by the Livingstone Passport Office, your Committee was informed that the office lacked a Registry where files could be kept and easily accessed. Currently, files were being kept in sheds at the nearby Government stores. Your Committee heard that sometimes it was impossible to access the sheds

when the owners of the premises were unavailable even if a particular file was urgently required.

Your Committee heard that representations had been made to Headquarters in numerous reports on the need to construct or acquire a Registry for the office, but nothing had been done.

Your Committee also heard that despite the office managing to decongest, it experienced poor funding from the Government for its day to day operations. In 2010, for example, funding was so poor making it difficult for the office to collect receipts and other materials from the Headquarters in Lusaka.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that generally, the new equipment for processing passports, has greatly assisted in averting delays in the issuance of passports, not only for Livingstone but for Lusaka and Ndola as well.

Your Committee however, urges the Government to urgently look into the problems of funding and storage being experienced at the Livingstone Passports Office.

Your Committee resolves to await an update report on the matters raised.

### **12/09 – Expansion and Decongestion of Prison Facilities**

On 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"As a Government, we are not sitting back because this year in the 'Yellow Book', there is money allocated for prison expansion and we hope that when our prisons are expanded, we are going to decongest them."*

Your Committee was informed that the Ministry of Home Affairs has embarked on a number of projects and programmes to expand and decongest the prison facilities in the country.

The Ministry was currently expanding Mwembeshi Prison with a view to decongesting Mukobeko Maximum Prison and Lusaka Central Prison, among others. The cells under construction at Mwembeshi could accommodate up to 200 inmates. The project was still on-going.

An extra cell has been constructed at Mpima Prison in Kabwe and this would decongest the said prison.

Prisons such as Livingstone Central, Kalabo and Luwingu were being rehabilitated and this would result in some disused cells being habitable once the renovations were completed.

In addition to the expansion of prison facilities, the Ministry has constituted a Parole Board to release deserving prisoners on parole and serve the last six months outside the prison. This has contributed greatly to the decongestion of prisons.

### **Tour of Livingstone Central Prison and Katombora Reformatory School**

#### ***(i) Livingstone Prison***

Your Committee visited Livingstone Central Prison to assess whether or not the assurance to decongest prisons was being implemented at the prison.

Your Committee was received by the Deputy Commissioner of Prisons, a Senior Superintendent and other prison officers from Livingstone Central Prison.

Your Committee was informed that the prison was built in 1960 with a capacity of 400 inmates, although now it had in excess of 700 inmates.

The prison was undergoing rehabilitation works although they were not meant to increase capacity. Your Committee inspected the Administration Wing which had been fully rehabilitated.

Your Committee was taken on a conducted tour and inspected the kitchen and laundry that were still under rehabilitation. Your Committee also visited the female wing which was ideally meant for detainees. Your Committee found, at the female section, that cells meant to keep one prisoner were keeping four prisoners some of whom had been incarcerated together with their infant children and were subjected to use one lavatory facility.

Your Committee also learnt that the prison did not have a juvenile section, consequently, juveniles were mixed with adult prisoners contrary to the law.

Your Committee was also informed that the total budget for rehabilitation works was K3.5 billion of which K1.1 billion was remaining to be released to complete the rehabilitation.

In terms of staffing levels, your Committee was informed that the prison has about seventy officers of which forty were uniformed as against 700 prisoners. This posed a great security risk to the prison as the recommended ratio was one officer to five prisoners, which was not the case at Livingstone Central Prison.

Your Committee heard that to train a prison warder, it took six months while training an officer required nine months. The prison service has made several representation to the Ministry of Home Affairs concerning the critical shortage of staff, but nothing has been done.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that generally the problem of decongesting prisons country-wide requires construction of new prisons rather than rehabilitation works only.

Your Committee observes with regard to Livingstone Central Prison that the current number of prisoners far exceeds the capacity of the prison. Your Committee also notes that the prison does not have a suitable female section, as female prisoners are being kept in a section meant for detainees.

Your Committee also bemoans the blatant abuse of the rights of infants being kept with their mothers in prison on account of their mothers' incarceration. Your Committee observes that it is Government's responsibility to find ways and means to remove the infants from such inhuman conditions and look after them if their immediate families cannot be traced.

In the interim however, your Committee recommends that female prisoners with babies should immediately be allocated an alternative place at the prison, which is better than the current one and conducive for the wellbeing of infants as not doing so predisposes the babies to communicable diseases and is an abuse of their fundamental rights and freedoms as enshrined in the Republican Constitution.

Your Committee is also concerned about the welfare of juveniles who are being kept together with adult convicts contrary to the law. Your Committee urges the Government to separate the juveniles at Livingstone Central Prison from adult prisoners as not doing so also amounts to an infringement of the juveniles' rights.

In view of the above, your Committee recommends that the prison service in general should be given priority in terms of funding so that new prisons can be constructed. Your Committee also recommends that the Government should urgently begin to recruit and train prison officers to mitigate the critical low staffing levels.

**(ii) Katombora Reformatory School for Juveniles**

Your Committee also visited Katombora Reformatory School in Kazungula Districts to assess the conditions of the school in terms of expansions and juvenile welfare.

Your Committee was informed that the school had seventy-five juveniles in its custody. In terms of skills training, your Committee found that some juveniles were being trained in plumbing, carpentry and joinery, bricklaying and plastering and tailoring.

Your Committee was also informed that twelve youths were enrolled at Katombora Basic School at Government's expense.

Your Committee was informed that in terms of agriculture production, the school was currently growing tomatoes, okra and cabbages for sale. The school also keeps some livestock such as cattle, pigs and chickens.

In terms of major challenges, the school experienced inadequate funding to conduct most of its operations. The dormitories were very old and required a face lift. The access road from Livingstone-Sesheke Road covering about seven km was in a deplorable state.

Your Committee was also informed that a secondary school should be constructed at the Reformatory because currently it was extremely difficult to find space for the juveniles in the nearby schools, because they were viewed as delinquents who may disturb the regular students.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the Reformatory School is the only facility in the whole country to cater for juvenile offenders from all over Zambia.

Your Committee notes that the institution is doing a commendable job in reforming juvenile offenders, although it is inadequately funded by the Government.

Your Committee also observes that the access road to the Reformatory School is in a deplorable state including the dormitories for the juveniles. Your Committee is saddened that juveniles are being refused to be enrolled in the nearby regular secondary schools on account of their current status as juvenile offenders.

In view of the above, your Committee recommends that construction of another juvenile Reformatory School to cater for juvenile offenders should be considered by the Government. Your Committee also urges the Government to urgently source funds for the repair of the seven km access road and the dormitories for juveniles. Your Committee also recommends that since the school has sufficient carpentry and building skills from the juveniles, funds should be provided to the School for the construction of their own one by three classroom block to mitigate the difficulty in getting school places in regular secondary schools.

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

The Committee had previously requested for an update report on this assurance, since the Government had not finished paying for the consignment of riot gear.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the contract for the supply of non-lethal anti-riot equipment was valued at K6, 053, 137, 500 of which about seventy-five percent had been paid to necessitate shipment of part of the consignment. Inspection of some of the items had taken place, therefore, part of the equipment was expected in the country soon.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

The Committee notes that this assurance has taken too long to be addressed. The Committee also observes that despite seventy-five per cent of the contract sum being paid, none of the consignment had been delivered. The Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **28/97 – Establishment of a Police Air Wing**

The Committee had previously observed that the assurance had not been addressed for almost thirteen years.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that a ministerial statement regarding the assurance would be issued in Parliament soon.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves to await the ministerial statement before considering any further progress reports.

### **13/06 – Establishment of Forensic Laboratory**

Having observed that it had taken nearly four years from the time the assurance was made for any meaningful progress to be made, the Committee was informed in the Action Taken Report that construction of phase one had commenced and would be completed in January, 2011, subject to availability of funds. Phases two and three were still pending.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

The Committee while expressing concern at the slow pace at which the assurance was being implemented, resolves to request for a progress report.

### **17/03 – Completion of Mwembeshi State Prison**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report, that the dormitories had been completed in addition to a block of four cells, a kitchen, a dining room and a borehole. What remained was a perimeter security wall fence and an office block.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

The Committee agrees to tour the prison at an appropriate time, after which it would consider closing the assurance.

### **05/99 – Building of Two Juvenile Centres**

Having expressed deep concern about implementation of this assurance, the Committee was informed through the Action Taken Report that the status quo had remained the same as there was no progress made since the Government was pursuing possible financing from the Access to Justice Project.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that it was abundantly clear that the Government has failed to deliver on this assurance, as no efforts are being made to effectively address the assurance. Your Committee resolves to await a progress report since there is still one more avenue for possible funding.

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

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that a motor vehicle had been procured and regarding the upgrading of the post, the drawing and Bill of Quantities had been considered in the 2011 budget.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

The Committee resolves to await a progress report since construction of the Border post had been budgeted for.

### **11/09 – Building of Houses for Police Officers in Rural Areas**

The Committee had previously noted that the exercise should have started with rural areas where the situation of shortage of accommodation was more desperate.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that Government was committed to building houses for the police both in urban and rural areas. Consideration would, however, be given to rural areas after current projects had been completed subject to availability of funds.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves that since the project was yet to be extended to the rural areas, it will await a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND NATIONAL PLANNING**

### **02/96 – Reorganisation of Central Statistical Office**

On 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1996, the Honourable Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Our national statistical system needs to be strengthened in order for it to give the relevant and timely data that we will require for decision making, plans are underway to re-organise the Central Statistical Office into a Bureau of Statistics with enhanced capacities."*

Your Committee was informed that the re-organisation of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) involved the finalisation and the implementation of the National Strategy for the

Development of Statistics (NSDS). The main components of the NSDS include the restructuring of the CSO and the revision of the *Census and Statistics Act*. The NSDS Roadmap consist of the following components:

- (a) the finalisation of the Situational Analysis and Statistical Needs Assessment Report together with its annexes;
- (b) the finalisation of NSDS main document; and
- (c) the revision of the *Census and Statistics Act*.

In terms of progress made, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Situational Analysis and Statistical Needs Assessment Report together with its annexes had been finalised and were ready for printing. Based on this, a layman's draft *Census and Statistics Act* had been prepared but would remain a working document until after the finalisation of the NSDS report. The draft NSDS, which had also been prepared, would need to be updated, especially its major components, which include: the five year costed statistical work programmes and the capacity building programmes.

Your Committee heard that the re-organisation of the Central Statistical Office impinged on the finalisation and implementation of the NSDS. As the roadmap had indicated, a series of activities were scheduled to be undertaken in 2011 and once these activities had been fulfilled, it would enhance the operations of the Central Statistical Office.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that this assurance has not yet been addressed in full since 1996. Your Committee urges the Ministry to bring finality to the assurance before the end of 2011.

Your Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

### **23/06 – Bursaries Committee vis-à-vis Student Loans**

On 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2006, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Finance and National Planning made the following undertaking on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker... the Bursaries Committee has taken steps towards strengthening its operations to ensure that students' financial requirements are adequately met. The Committee has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of Government and the Finance Bank to allow the bank administer the funds under the loans recoveries of funds given to students at the two universities."*

With regard to this assurance, your Committee was informed that a lot of work has been done on the issue of the Bursaries Committee vis-à-vis Student Loans as follows.

- (a) the introduction of a students loan scheme in 2004, which is meant to relieve the financing pressure on public funds by replacing the Bursary Scheme, whose cost had increasingly become unaffordable and unsustainable;

- (b) the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in June 2004 between the Government of the Republic of Zambia (acting through the Ministry of Education) and Finance Bank Zambia Limited; under the MoU, the Government (as principal) appointed the Bank (as agent) to administer the Scheme under the terms and conditions set out in the MoU.
- (c) the Zambia Higher Education Loans Board (ZAHLEB) was in the process of being established. The Board is to be a one-stop shop for the administration of all higher education loans and scholarships offered by the Government.

In view of the above developments and undertakings, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Government would soon be proposing to repeal the old legislation and replace it with a new one. Specifically, Statutory Instrument No 192 of 1973 under the *Education Act*, (Cap 234) would be repealed to pave way for the enactment of a new law to administer the new loans scheme under the Loans Board.

Your Committee was informed however, that the MoU between Government and Finance Bank had not yet been operationalised. This was because the new institution (ZAHLEB) which was supposed to be mandated with the responsibility of managing the student loan scheme, was not yet established. Further, the Ministry of Education was in the process of engaging another bank to administer the scheme, since early in the year Finance Bank dropped out of the short listed banks that were eligible to deal with Government institutions.

At present, a document has been formulated on the establishment of ZAHLEB and its proposed functions. The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Justice were in the process of finalising the document and appropriate legislation would be drafted and presented to Parliament by April, 2011. The current delay in establishing the Loans Board was due to the technical work still being carried out by the experts.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes the progress so far made to realise the assurance although it has taken long.

Your Committee observes that the Government is still in the process of finalising the relevant documents for the enactment of appropriate legislation to fully realise the assurance.

In view of the above, your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **06/10 – Delay in Payment of Retiree Benefits and Payment of Pension Arrears**

On 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Finance and National Planning made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, I do agree that at the moment it takes a bit of time before the payments are made... there is a time lag between the entitlement of the payment. We are working on both of these lags so that we can come back to the normal situation."*

With regard to this assurance your Committee was informed that the problem of delays in the payment of retiree benefits and pension arrears was a complex one. While the Government had managed to clear almost all pension arrears, the Public Service Pension Fund (PSPF) still faced financial challenges due to the reasons set out hereunder:

- (a) there were no new members being introduced and contributing to the Fund, hence its financial capacity to generate more funds through contributions had been reducing;
- (b) more members continued to retire from the civil service further reducing the financial capacity of the fund;
- (c) salary/wages increases effected every year implied huge cash outlays and this reduced the number of retirees to be paid in any given year;
- (d) the completion of liquidating pension arrears and the reduction of the contribution to the fund had reduced the financial capacity of the fund to mobilise resources; and
- (e) the present formula employed in the computation of lump sum pension payments placed a huge financial burden on the fund as more money was required to pay terminal benefits.

As a way forward, the Government was working on ways and means of improving the financial situation at the fund and these measures were both short and long term. One medium-term measure was the provision of an annual allocation of K450 billion (or K150 billion each year) for the financing gap during the 2011-2013 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) period. Another measure would be to amend the *National Pension and Social Security Authority (NPSSA) Act* so that new employees in the civil service could join and contribute to NAPSA. The long term measure lies with the complete overhaul of the Public Pension Fund to make it sustainable and avoid any possible financial crisis. This measure would require a change to the current Constitution

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the short term measures which the Government has put in place to mitigate delays in payments of pension with regard to the Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF) may not be sustainable given that there are no new entrants on the fund. The operations of PSPF have become costly and will be difficult to sustain overtime.

Your Committee also observes that Constitutional provisions relating to public service pensions are not cast in stone and are, therefore, amenable to amendments.

Your Committee, therefore, recommends that the Government should consider beginning the process of scraping off the PSPF with a view to having one pension system for all public workers to be administered by the National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA). This will ensure that retirees are paid their benefits without undue delays.

## **MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT**

### **20/08 – Development of New Railway Lines**

On 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2008, the Honourable Minister of Communications and Transport made the following undertaking on the floor of the House:

*"The Ministry will continue to collaborate with the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry in further exploring the possibilities of attracting private sector investment opportunities for the development of new railway lines such as the Chingola-Lumwana, Nseluka-Mpulungu, Chipata-TAZARA, Mulobezi-Caprivi and the Lions Den Kafue Railway lines."*

Your Committee was informed by the Permanent Secretary that since the railway projects were being promoted under Public Private Partnership (PPP's), the Government could not give a time frame to potential investors. A progress report as requested was given to your Committee as set out hereunder.

#### **(a) Chingola-Lumwana**

The Government signed an MoU with a consortium comprised of three companies namely China Railway Engineering Corporation (CREC), AYP (Australia) and Trans Zambezi Railway Company Limited to develop the railway line in August 2008. However, works on the project did not commence due to litigation by an interested party.

The courts have since made a ruling on the matter in favour of Government but the plaintiff has appealed to the Supreme Court, which was yet to decide on the matter. The Ministry has written to the Ministry of Justice to seek their legal opinion on the matter and was still awaiting official response on the outcome of the matter before it could proceed with the project. However, consultations with the consortium on the way forward were still being pursued.

#### **(b) Nseluka-Mpulungu, Chipata-Tazara, Mulobezi-Caprivi**

The intention of Government on the above Railway links was to have them developed through private sector participation.

To this effect, the adverts were floated but there was still no response from the private sector.

Government was looking for funds to carry out feasibility studies on these projects or investors who could undertake these projects on turnkey basis.

Nevertheless, the Ministry had submitted these projects to the Public Private Partnership Unit at the Ministry of Finance and National Planning for processing and re-advertising.

**(c) Kafue to Lions Den Railway Links**

As earlier indicated to the previous Committee, the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) was interested in partnership with the Governments of Zambia and Zimbabwe to undertake the project on a turnkey basis. The Ministry has, therefore, formally written to DBSA and was awaiting a response. Furthermore, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has also prioritised this railway link and has included it in the SADC Infrastructure Master Plan. The Ministry has also continued to have discussions with other potential investors interested in the above railway spur.

**Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that efforts to implement the assurance through private sector participation has proved challenging. Your Committee, therefore, requests that the Government should indicate whether or not it has capacity to implement the projects using its own resources, failure to which it would be advisable to drop the assurance.

Your Committee resolves to await an update report on the matter.

**21/08 – Resumption of Njanji Commuter Services**

On 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2008, the Honourable Minister of Communications and Transport made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Further, the Ministry intends to resume the operations, through private sector participation, of the Njanji Commuter Services, which will provide alternative mass transit transport to the road sector."*

Your Committee was updated that the Government through the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) invited expressions of interest from the private sector to develop and operate the Njanji Commuter Services in Lusaka. None of the bidders were responsive thus stalling the entire project. The Ministry working with ZDA has, therefore, re-advertised the Njanji Commuter Services so that a quality concessionaire is chosen to manage and operate the urban train service. The Ministry would keep your Committee informed on the matter.

**Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the position regarding this assurance is as it was in 2010. Nothing has been done at all to address the assurance as the Government was hoping to implement through private investors.

Your Committee urges the Government to step up its efforts in addressing this assurance as it has become abundantly clear that the Government has failed to attract any investors to develop the railway lines.

Your Committee further recommends that if the Government completely fails to market these projects for possible investment, the Government should endeavour to provide funds and develop them itself.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **05/09 – Conversion of Lusaka International Airport into an Air Cargo Hub**

On 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2009, the Minister of Communications and Transport, made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, there are also plans to turn Lusaka International Airport into an air cargo hub to cater for the anticipated traffic from the economic zones."*

Your Committee was informed that the Master Plan for the Lusaka International Airport was delivered in September, 2010. It was being drawn up by Leigh Fischer (formerly known as Jacobs Consultancy) who had been contracted through a US\$725, 000.00 grant from the United States Technical Development Agency (USTAD) to provide master plans for the four international airports, namely, Lusaka, Livingstone, Ndola and Mfuwe International Airports.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes the availability of the Master Plan for Lusaka International Airport, although no time frame was availed as to the commencement of implementation of the said plan.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **05/09 – Construction of Terminal Building at Mbala Airport**

On 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Communications and Transport, made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, the Government will also construct a new terminal building at Mbala Airport to facilitate commercial and civil operations."*

Your Committee was informed that the decision to construct a terminal building at Mbala was considered by Government with the sole purpose of trying to improve and enhance tourism within and around the Northern Tourism Circuit. However, after a number of consultations with Zambia Air Force, it was concluded that it would not be prudent for the Military Base to co-exist with the Civilians Terminal Building. It was this reason that Government decided to embark on a programme to upgrade the Kasaba Bay Airport on the shores of Lake Tanganyika in Northern Province to international standards.

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Ministry would clarify its position on the matter through a Ministerial statement as requested by your Committee.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee awaits the Ministerial statement to formally withdraw the assurance.

#### **16/02 – Kasama Airport Rehabilitation**

The Committee had made a follow-up tour in 2010 and noted that although the terminal buildings erected at Kasama Airport were of acceptable standards, the rest of the facilities were substandard.

However, it was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry was aware, but could only work on the facilities once funds were made available.

The Committee resolves not to close the assurance, but await a progress report on the matter.

### **MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

#### **14/98 – Normalisation of Border Trade between Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo**

On 14<sup>th</sup> July, 1998, the Honourable Minister informed the House that in order to ease cross-border smuggling between Zambia and the former Zaire, the two countries had held consultations on the normalisation of trade between them.

Your Committee was informed that the slow progress at arriving at a conclusion to the trade agreement was attributed to the fact that the DRC authorities found the issue sensitive due to the likelihood of revenue losses on their part in terms of customs duties levied on bulky imports from Zambia. As a strategy to try and push the process forward, the Ministry was considering handling the non-tariff issues first, and then tariff issues which seem to be sensitive. In terms of addressing concerns over cross border smuggling, the Ministry had engaged the authorities of the DRC on the possibility of signing a Simplified Trade Regime (STR) Agreement that would ease cross border trading. This was being done within the broader framework under COMESA. Furthermore, work had begun towards the establishment of a One-Stop-Border Post at the Kasumbalesa Border which was expected to facilitate efficient movement of goods between the two countries.

Other efforts being pursued included engaging the Congolese Government at a Provincial level, to discuss whether or not a partial Free Trade Area between the Copperbelt Province and the Katanga Province could be feasible pertaining only to agricultural and mining products.

## **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes the progress being made, albeit under very difficult circumstances.

Your Committee, therefore, resolves to await a progress report on them matter.

### **14/05 – Zambia-Malawi-Mozambique Growth Triangle Feasibility Study**

On 17<sup>th</sup> February 2005, the Hon Minister made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Chairman, this is a joint study among Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique on the growth triangle that was signed about two years ago in Nacala. The programme has been attracting adequate donor financing to create activities in the growth triangle. I agree with Honourable Kapita that the money is not sufficient but at least it will get our work started".*

Your Committee was informed by the Permanent Secretary that a pre-feasibility study was undertaken under the auspices of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the UN Office for Project Services (OPS) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) offices in Zambia. Projects identified for Zambia included the following:

- (i) completion and commissioning of the Chipata-Mchinji Railway;
- (ii) developing fish handling and processing facilities in the Bangweulu Tanganyika areas;
- (iii) development of the Msandila Irrigation project;
- (iv) upgrade of the Karonga-Chipata-Nakonde-Mpulungu road;
- (v) upgrading of the Chipata Airport; and
- (vi) development of Timber processing capacity in Eastern and Northern provinces.

The findings of the pre-feasibility study were expected to be endorsed by the stakeholders in order to provide the basis of the feasibility study but this process has delayed. One of the challenges had been the high staff turnover at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) offices in Lusaka. UNECA offered assistance to implement the ZMM-GT.

## **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that the feasibility study is yet to be undertaken. Your Committee, therefore, resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY**

### **32/09 – Employment of Zambians at Luanshya Copper Mines Plc (LCM)**

On 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Labour and Social Security made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, the new owners are in the process of settling down. We hope as they settle down, more Zambians and less Chinese will be employed."*

The Permanent Secretary submitted to your Committee that there were currently twenty-three Luanshya Copper Mine ex-employees on the re-employment waiting list meaning nine from the thirty-two had already been re-employed. The Luanshya Copper Mine Management had shown willingness to consider Government's request to give priority to ex-employees wherever there were vacancies in the mining Company.

However, it should be noted that it was a prerogative of the employer to choose people to employ as the law did not compel the employer to re-employ workers who were declared redundant when the Company was resuscitated.

The Ministry would, therefore, continue appealing to Luanshya Copper Mine Management to consider re-employing the remaining twenty-three workers.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that the Government is now claiming issues of employer's prerogative to employ whomever they want, when in the first place, the Minister assured the House that the new Mine would take up ex-employees.

Your Committee urges the Government to ensure that as many Zambians as possible are absorbed by the Mine taking into account what the people of Luanshya have gone through in the past as the company kept changing hands.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **39/07 – Review of the Zambia Institute of Human Resource Management Act**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the proposed amendments to the *Zambia Institute of Human Resources Management Act No. 100 of 1997* were adopted by the Tripartite Consultative Labour Council (TCLC) meeting held in March, 2010.

The proposed amendments were yet to be submitted to Cabinet Office.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

#### **40/07 – Recruitment of labour officers and inspectors and opening up of new labour field stations**

The Action Taken Report revealed that the Ministry requested the Ministry of Finance and National Planning for adequate funds in the 2011 Budget in order to meet demands for recruiting labour officers and inspectors countrywide.

The issue of opening up new field stations was extremely difficult for the Ministry to undertake because of inadequate funding as well as mass exodus of staff that ordinarily would have been deployed to the earmarked field stations such as Kalulushi, Mumbwa, Siavonga and Kapiri Mposhi. However, only one field station had been opened in Chirundu.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

The Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

### **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

#### **44/07 – Education for the Vulnerable and Physically Challenged**

Your Committee was informed that Government had a plan to construct only One Centre of Excellence for learners with special educational needs at Munali Girls High School. This is a special school that will cater for all the learners with disabilities. In addition, Government planned to construct nine Special Education Resource Centres, one in each province. These resource centres were meant for assessment, production of specialised materials and training purposes.

Recommendations had been made to Zambia Public Procurement Authority (ZPPA) for approval of award of contract for construction of the Munali Centre of Excellence. Once approved, the Ministry will embark on the construction of the Centre of Excellence.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that the Government will construct one Centre of Excellence and not nine as was stated by the Minister of Education.

Your Committee also notes that the tender processes for the construction of the said Centre of Excellence have just commenced, therefore, your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **23/07 – Ntambu and Lunga high schools science laboratory stocks and high school construction in Chief Chibwika’s Area - Mwinilunga**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Government was committed to rehabilitate the laboratories and stock them when funds were available. The Government had also commenced construction of a high school in Chief Chibwika’s areas called Kanyama High School with progress made so far as outlined below:

- (i) 20 houses roofed and window frames fitted on 10;
- (ii) 4 classroom blocks at gable level;
- (iii) toilets for classrooms at gable and slab levels;
- (iv) dining and kitchen excavation done;
- (v) 4 boys hostels, excavation done;
- (vi) 4 girls hostels, slabs cast;
- (vii) ablution at ring beam and slab levels;
- (viii) administration block at ring beam level;
- (ix) library at gable level;
- (x) tuck-shop and sickbay at gable level; and
- (xi) home economics block at gable level.

#### **Committee’s Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves to await another progress report since laboratory stocks have not yet been procured for Ntambu and Lunga High Schools and construction is on-going at Kanyama High School in Chief Chibwika’s area.

### **01/96 – Provision of Sixteen Secondary Schools**

Your Committee had noted previously that despite the assurance having been made as far back as 1996, construction of schools under the assurance was still on-going.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that construction was still on-going for most of the schools at various stages, as indicated in the table provided.

#### **Committee’s Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee agrees to request for a further progress report and undertake tours to some of the schools to verify the extent of implementation of the assurance.

### **13/03 – Kapiri-Mposhi Girls Technical School**

Your Committee had expressed concern that the school was taking long to be completed.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that construction was still on-going as set out below:

- (i) 20 houses at ring beam level;
- (ii) 4 classroom blocks at gable level;
- (iii) 2 toilets at classroom area at gable level;
- (iv) dining, kitchen, sickbay and 4 hostels at ring beam level;
- (v) 4 hostels at gable level;
- (vi) 2 ablution blocks at gable and ring beam levels respectively; and
- (vii) administration block, library, tuck-shop and Home Economics at gable level.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves to await another progress report, since the school is still under construction.

### **21/03 – Kabulu and Mung'omba Community Schools**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that a 1 x 3 classroom block at Kabulu was being plastered. The Mung'omba Community School was budgeted for under the 2010 Annual Work Plan and immediately funds were distributed to the school, construction works of a 1 x 3 classroom block would commence.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that works are still in progress and resolves to request for a progress report on the matter.

### **18/05 – Teacher Graduates**

Following an impressive trend in employment of graduate teachers, the Committee had requested for an update report.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that in 2010, the Ministry of Education recruited 2, 500 as per treasury authority. The majority of the teachers were posted to rural areas in an effort to mitigate the shortage. The Ministry would start recruiting directly from colleges and would continue absorbing 5, 000 teachers every year up to 2013, subject to availability of funds.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolved that since the process of recruiting graduate teachers was on-going until 2013, subject to availability of funds, update reports would be requested annually, so as to monitor progress on this project.

### **15/07 – Teachers' Houses Construction – Mubende Basic School – Mwense District**

Having previously noted that only one staff house had been receiving attention, your Committee was informed in the Action Taken Report that only one teacher's house had been constructed, roofed and plastered.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves not to close the assurance, but await a progress report since only one house has been constructed.

### **27/08 – Rehabilitation of Basic Schools in Shiwang'andu Constituency**

Your Committee had previously noted that of the six schools reported on, three were still being rehabilitated, namely; Lwanya, Mwenge and Lupande.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that one teacher's house had been rehabilitated at Mulilansolo Basic School, with 1 x 3 classroom blocks fully rehabilitated at the following basic schools: Mulopa, Matumbo, Chikulwa, Esau, Lumpene, Mukungwa, Abangwa and Chitundu.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that the response in the Action Taken Report is totally different from what it had requested for on the three basic schools still pending to be rehabilitated. Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the three schools as earlier requested.

## **MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING SERVICES**

### **14/96 – Decentralisation of Printing Presses**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1996, the Honourable Minister assured the House that plans were underway to decentralise the printing presses in provincial centres for publishing of vernacular newspapers fortnightly.

Your Committee was informed that while the Chipata Printing Press had already been procured, the building to house it was under construction. It had taken longer than was expected to complete the building due to the erratic funding experienced by the Ministry in 2010. This, therefore, meant that the machine would not be operational immediately. In addition, as a result of the erratic funding, the accessories needed to enable the machine operate effectively had not been procured. These included a folder, a guillotine and a camera, among others.

Your Committee was further informed that the Kasama Printing Press had also been procured but not yet operational because there was no structure to house the machine. The activity to construct the building had been delayed partly due to financial constraints caused by erratic funding but also because of the slow process in tendering the works by the Northern Provincial Administration.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that from 1996 to date, this assurance has not been addressed fully. It is observed that the failure to implement the assurance is due to erratic funding.

Your Committee, therefore, urges the Government to attach more seriousness to the matter by adequately funding the process in the Ministry's budget for the next financial year.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **08/98 – Press Attaches for Zambian Missions Abroad**

On 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1998, the Honourable Minister assured the House as follows:

*"It is my Ministry's intention to station properly qualified, professional and experienced journalists as Press Attaches at Zambian's High Commissions and Embassies strategically all over the world."*

With regard to this assurance, your Committee was informed that the Ministry was still consulting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the need to have Press Attaches in most missions. However, the shortage of financial resources has had a negative impact for the Ministry to fulfill this assurance.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that the assurance was made over twelve years ago and yet the Ministry is still consulting.

Your Committee is disappointed that the matter is not receiving any serious attention at all. Your Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

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

### **10/09 – Rehabilitation of Chishimba Zambia National Service Camp in Kasama**

On 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, the Minister of Sport, Youth and Child Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Madam Speaker, the Government through my Ministry has plans to expand the street children rehabilitation and reintegration programme... as soon as we mobilise adequate resources, my Ministry will start the rehabilitation of facilities at Chishimba ZNS Camp in Kasama."*

Your Committee was informed by the Permanent Secretary that the rehabilitation of Chishimba Zambia National Service Camp has been on the agenda of the Government of the Republic of Zambia as one of the priorities.

The project was very important to the Government of the Republic of Zambia. This is because once completed there would be an increase in the capacity to absorb large numbers of street and vulnerable children and train them in various vocational skills.

Your Committee was informed that in the 2011 budget K498, 202, 414 had been provided for the project as compared to K220, 000, 000 in 2010. Furthermore, it is worth mentioning that the project had also been provided for in the Sixth National Development Plan which will start from 2011 and end in 2015.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes the progress made and resolves to await an update report since some funding has been allocated to the project.

### **17/09 – Rehabilitation Works at Independence and Maramba Stadia**

The Action Taken Report revealed that Shanghai Construction of the People's Republic of China was awarded the contract to construct a new stadium adjacent to the old one. It was also reported that in the Sixth National Development period covering 2011 – 2015, there is a plan to construct a new stadium in Livingstone.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF WORKS AND SUPPLY**

### **16/07 – Replacing pontoons with Bridges**

On 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2007, the Honourable Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance on the floor of the House.

*"Mr Speaker, it is the Government's policy that all pontoons must be replaced with bridges eventually. At the moment, with limited resources, we are replacing them and one example is Chembe."*

### **Kazungula Bridge**

The Permanent Secretary submitted that the African Development Bank (ADB) was financing the consulting services for the detailed engineering survey and detailed engineering design for the construction of the Kazungula Bridge. He stated that the contract was signed on 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2008, with Egis BCEOM of France.

Your Committee was further informed that the consultant was expected to submit the final design report including documents by end of January 2011, but failed to do so due to delays attributed to the finalisation of geo-technical investigations. The Permanent Secretary stated that due to this setback, it was envisaged that the final design report and bidding documents would be submitted by March 2011 and the works tender would be launched in July, 2011. The civil works would be funded from the proceeds of a loan from the ADB in collaboration with the Japanese International Corporation Aid (JICA).

### **Chiawa Bridge**

Your Committee was informed that the Government of the Republic of Zambia received funding from the World Bank to meet the cost of constructing the Chiawa Bridge. The detailed design was supposed to have been completed in February, 2011. It was however, delayed because of the lengthy procurement procedures from the World Bank. It was expected that bids would only be launched in May, 2011 and the successful contractor identified by July, 2011. The proposed duration for the works has been estimated at fifteen months with an intended completion date of October, 2012.

### **Mufuchani Bridge**

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the contract for design of the Mufuchani Bridge was scheduled to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2011. The works tender were expected to be launched by May, 2011 and a successful contractor would be identified by July, 2011. The proposed duration for civil works has been estimated at eighteen months with an intended completion date of December, 2012. These works would be funded by the World Bank.

### **Mbesuma Bridge**

Your Committee was informed that the Ministry of Works and Supply was eager to construct a bridge across the Chambeshi River at Mbesuma to replace the existing pontoon despite the cancellation of the previous contract that was awarded to Messrs Miller Limited in October, 2000. The Permanent Secretary stated that in the 2011 Annual Work Plan for the Road Development Agency (RDA), there was a provision of K22 billion to construct Mbesuma Bridge, which had already been awarded to Sable Transport at the cost of ZMK49 billion with a contract duration of fifteen months and works were expected to commence in April, 2011, after the end of the rainy season.

### **Zambezi Bridge in Senanga**

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Ministry of Works and Supply was desirous of building a bridge across the Zambezi River at Sioma/Maziba in Western Province and considered this as an important element of communication for the people of Western Province. This is because the bridge would serve as an alternative to the Kalongola crossing which becomes impassable during the rainy season. He informed your Committee that the contract had already been awarded to China Henan International Cooperation Group Co. Limited (CHICO) at a cost of K75 billion for a duration of twenty-four months. The project would be funded by the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) loan and was expected to commence in April, 2011, after the rainy season.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that despite the assurance being made in 2007, contracts for the construction of the various bridges under the assurance were only signed this year, 2011.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report as implementation is scheduled to commence this year for all the bridges.

### **18/04 – Kasempa Turn Off–Zambezi–Chavuma Road**

On 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2004, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Finance and National Planning made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"The estimated total cost of Kasempa Turn-off/Zambezi/Chavuma road is US \$80 million, which is approximately K383 billion. Efforts are being made to seek support from co-operating partners."*

Your Committee was informed that the Ministry of Works and Supply was desirous to see the famous Mutanda-Chavuma Road completed. As a result, four private contractors were engaged and the works were expected to be completed in twenty-four (24) months.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that the project has commenced with four different contractors doing different portions of the road. Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **12/09 – Lusaka-Chipata (Great East Road)**

On 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2009, the Honourable Minister assured the House as follows:

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

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Government had signed a loan agreement with the ADB to finance part of the planned rehabilitation works on the Great East Road. The works would start in the course of 2011 since the detailed engineering design has been completed and approved.

The portion of the Great East Road from Lusaka to Luangwa Bridge underwent periodic maintenance in 2008 through to 2010 by Raubex Construction Zambia Limited at a cost of K56 billion. The works have been substantially completed.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that the rehabilitation works are scheduled to start in the course of 2011, for that reason, your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **06/97 – Luampa-Machila Road**

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

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

Your Committee was informed that the bids for the Luampa-Machila Road were received on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 and evaluated. The evaluation report was completed on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2009. However, the contract for the works could not be signed because of financial constraints in the 2008, 2009 and 2010 Annual Work Plan, but could only allow for the completion of on-going projects with very limited or no funding for new projects at all in the years mentioned. The contract for the works would only be signed when funds were available.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that despite the assurance being made in 1997, nothing had been done and yet a much more recent assurance of 2009, namely, the Lusaka-Chipata Road was receiving attention.

Your Committee is, therefore, of the view that the Ministry is being economical with the truth when they attribute failure to start the project to a lack of finances in the 2008, 2009 and 2010 annual work plan.

Your Committee urges the Government to urgently source for funds and begin the rehabilitation of the Luampa-Machila Road.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **63/97 – Chama-Matumbo Bridge**

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

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

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Chama-Matumbo Bridge project could not commence in 2010 because the amounts provided were not sufficient to start the construction which would give rise to the construction of the Chinsali-Matumbo-Chama Road due to over commitment in the 2008/09 Annual Work Plan.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that the same excuse as in the Luampa-Machila project is being advanced for this assurance as well.

Your Committee urges the Government to attach great importance to the assurance seeing as it was made over thirteen years ago.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

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

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

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

Your Committee was informed that the upgrading of the Mansa-Luwingu Road to bituminous standards was expected to commence after the completion of the Kasama-Luwingu Road.

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Kasama-Luwingu Road was an upgrading project to bituminous standard awarded in 2001 and revised in 2008 to Sable Transport Limited. He stated that the negotiated contract for carrying out and completion of the upgraded 96km of the Kasama-Luwingu Road was scheduled to be complete in December, 2010. However, due to budgetary constraints, the road would be completed in 2011. At the moment, about 10 km of the road was remaining to be completed.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the portion of the project covering Mansa to Luwingu is yet to receive some attention. Your Committee, however, notes that works on the Kasama to Luwingu stretch are in progress although they are behind schedule.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

## **28/02 – Lundazi-Chipata Road**

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

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

Your Committee was informed that the section of the Great East Road from Mwasempangwe to Lundazi, which is a stretch of 79 km, would be rehabilitated using funds from the DBSA by Sable Transport Limited at a cost of K97 billion. The duration for the works was estimated to be eighteen months which would include the rehabilitation of 15km of urban roads within Lundazi Town.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the commencement date of the project has not been disclosed by the Ministry, although works will take eighteen months.

Your Committee also observes that most of the road rehabilitation projects under the Ministry have been awarded to Sable Transport Limited. Your Committee is, therefore, of the view that the said contractor could be overwhelmed to complete all the projects in time since they require to use the same set of equipment and personnel for all projects awarded to them.

## **29/02 – Monze-Niko Road**

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

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Ministry, through the RDA, completed rehabilitation and maintenance works on the Monze-Niko Road through funds from the 2008 Annual Work Plan. The works were financed under the European Union Periodic Maintenance of trunk, main and district roads by Performance Contract. China Jiangxi was awarded the contract at a cost of K24 billion with a completion period of six months. The works were completed in 2009 and covered a stretch of 88km and was, currently, under routine maintenance.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee is impressed that rehabilitation and maintenance works have been completed on the Monze-Niko road. Your Committee resolves to close the assurance subject to a physical tour at an appropriate time.

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

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

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

Your Committee was informed that the Government was in the process of signing a loan agreement with the European Union – European Investment Bank to finance part of the planned rehabilitation works on the Great East Road Mwami Border whose works were expected to resume in 2012 after the EU resumes its funding to the Road Sector.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that implementation of part of this assurance is tied to a loan agreement yet to be signed between the Government of the Republic of Zambia and the European Union (EU) and was expected to resume in 2012 after the EU resumes its funding to the road sector.

Your Committee emphasises the need for the Government to invest in the rehabilitation of a Bitumen Plant at Indeni Refinery so as to obtain bitumen locally thereby reducing the cost of working on roads and desist from depending on donors for funding of road rehabilitation.

Your Committee notes that if the (EU) does not resume funding to the roads sector for whatever reasons, this assurance will continue to remain unattended to.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **18/02 – Chipata-Chadiza Road**

On 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2002, the Honourable Deputy Minister informed the House that:

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

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Government could not allocate funds to the Chipata-Chadiza Road in the 2010 and 2011 Annual Work Plan because of severe budgetary constraints. He said the 2010 and 2011 budgets could only allow for the completion of on-going projects with limited or no funding for new projects. However, the Government through the RDA would prioritise these roads when resources are available.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that despite the assurance being made some nine years ago, it did not make it on the Ministry's priority list. As a result no effort to work on the road has been made at all.

Your Committee urges the Government to desist from making assurances if there are no matching resources. Your Committee resolves to await a progress report.

#### **11/03 – Chipata-Mfuwe Road**

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

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

Your Committee was informed that the works for the upgrading of the 104Km Chipata-Mfuwe Roads commenced on 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2009. The works were expected to last 40 months and by 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2010, the contractor had completed 11.0 Km.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that over a period of almost nine years, 11 km of the Chipata-Mfuwe road has been done. This was not impressive as the road will not be finished in the estimated period.

Your Committee urges the Ministry through the RDA to effectively supervise the contractor so that substantial progress can be made.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **12/03 – Chiengi-Kaputa Road**

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

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

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that no funds were allocated for the rehabilitation of the Chiengi-Kaputa Road in the 2011 Annual Work Plan because of financial constraints. This was because the 2011 Annual Work Plan could only allow for the completion of on-going projects with limited or no funding for new projects. However, the Ministry of Works and Supply, through the RDA, would endeavour to prioritise these roads as and when funds become available.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that just like in the case of the Chipata-Chadiza road, the Chiengi-Kaputa road was not prioritised despite the assurance being made about ten years old. At the time of the assurance, the House was informed that it had been included in the 2004 budget, yet to date, nothing has been done.

Your Committee urges the Government to consider allocating resources to this road sooner rather than later. Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **01/10 – Valuation of Government Buildings**

On 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"In next year's Budget, we will allocate money for the valuation of all Government Buildings"*

Your Committee was informed that due to budgetary constraints, the Ministry of Works and Supply was unable to allocate money for the valuation of all Government buildings.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that it is not certain how many buildings were valued from the resources that might have been allocated.

Your Committee recommends that the Ministry should avail information as to how many buildings have been considered for valuation in the resources allocated.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

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

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

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

The Permanent Secretary submitted that in 2007, the Ministry awarded the contract for the full maintenance of the Solwezi-Lumwana Road to Messrs Raubex Construction (Z) Limited, at a cost of K46 billion and the works were expected to be completed in 2009.

In 2008, the RDA saw the need to carryout periodic maintenance of the 191 km stretch from Lumwana Turn Off to Mwinilunga Town. The contract was awarded to Messrs Roads and Paging Zambia Limited at a contract sum of K67.9 billion. The duration of the project was to be eighteen months and so far, 162 km had been done. However, the contract has been terminated due to lack of funds.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that no explanation has been advanced by the Ministry for the termination of the first contract with Raubex Construction and the consequences if any on the contract sum. Your Committee observes that the project has stalled due to lack of funds.

Your Committee urges the Government to attend to this road sooner rather than later in view of the fact that the assurance has been outstanding for over ten years. Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **47/07 – Improvement of Ntambu Road and Kabompo Bridge**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2007, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"The Ministry has plans to improve the existing Ntambu Road including the Kabompo Bridge."*

Your Committee was informed that the Ministry of Works and Supply, through the RDA did not allocate any funds for the rehabilitation works on the Ntambu Road in the 2011 Annual Work Plan because of budgetary constraints. The 2011 Budget could only allow for the completion of on-going projects, but with limited funding or none at all for new projects. However, the Government would prioritise these roads as and when funds are available.

The Permanent Secretary submitted that when the Kabompo Bridge was assessed, the estimated cost for the works was K1.2 billion, but the works could not commence because of budgetary constraints. This was because the 2011 Budget could only allow for the completion of on-going projects with limited or no funding for new projects at all. However, the Government would consider these roads as and when funds are available.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that no funds have been allocated for this project and it is not clear when funds will be availed or whether or not it is being priotised for any work plan for the near future.

Your Committee warns the Ministry to refrain from making hasty promises when it is aware that there are no funds to implement the assurances.

Your Committee strongly recommends that if the Government has failed to fulfill its assurances, the same should be reversed on the floor of the House, otherwise funds should be found to implement these projects.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

## **22/08 – Rehabilitation of the D56 Kasama-Safwa-Chinsali Road**

On 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2008, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply assured the House as follows:

*"Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the House that the Ministry has immediate plans to upgrade the existing Kasama – Safwa – Chinsali road to bitumen standard."*

Your Committee was informed that the Ministry of Works and Supply, through the RDA, contracted Sable Transport at a cost of K27, 424, 786, 004.00 to carryout periodic maintenance on the 125 km portion of the Kasama-Safwa-Chinsali Road and the duration for the works was eight months. The contractor commenced the works on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2008 and the works had substantially been completed.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that this assurance was for construction of a bituminous road and not periodic maintenance.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the actual assurance.

## **34/09 – Completion of Mongu to Kalabo Road**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2009, the Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"It has been the intention of the Ministry to alleviate the difficulties being faced in travelling by the people between Mongu and Kalabo. The Ministry is still desirous to complete the project."*

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Ministry of Works and Supply was desirous to oversee that works on the Mongu-Kalabo Road commenced in 2011 after the floods subsided on the Zambezi flood plain. He stated that preliminary surveys have already been completed and the Government has provided K240 billion in the 2011 Budget to complete the funding from Exim Bank of China. The contract was awarded to Avic International Holding Corporation of China at the cost of US\$287 million with duration of forty-eight months.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that since the contract has been awarded and it will await a progress report on the matter.

## **02/10 – Rehabilitation of Mungwi Road**

On 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Madam Speaker, the Ministry of Works and Supply, through the Road Development Agency, has plans to rehabilitate the existing Mungwi Road to link it to the Lusaka-Mongu Road at Situmbeko as part of the ring road network around Lusaka."*

Your Committee was informed that it was the desire of the Government to construct ring roads to decongest the City of Lusaka. However, the Ministry of Works and Supply through the RDA, had not been able to allocate any funds for the rehabilitation works on the Mungwi Road to link the Lusaka-Mongu Road at Situmbeko in the 2010 and 2011 Annual Work Plans because of insufficient funds. Due to limited resources, only on-going projects could be funded with limited or no funds for new projects, but the Government would prioritise these roads as and when funds are available.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that it is not clear when funds will be made available for the commencement of works on this project. Your Committee notes that this is another typical example of an assurance made without verifying with experts on the ground as to the availability of resources to undertake such huge capital projects.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS DEVELOPMENT**

### **35/07 – Replacement of a Rotary Kiln at Ndola Lime Company Limited**

On 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2007, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Mines and Minerals Development made the following undertaking on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, there are plans that are already being implemented to replace the old rotary kiln at Ndola Lime Company Limited in order to increase the production levels and meet the growing demand for lime... The project has commenced and is expected to be completed by March, 2009."*

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Government was going to examine the company's business plan in order to develop intervention measures. The measures would include sourcing loans and providing guidance and identification of a possible equity partner in order to increase the Company's capital base.

In terms of the status of the recapitalisation, the Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the project required installation of a new 55 tonnes per day vertical kiln to be fired by either coal or heavy fuel oil (HFO) and 15 tonnes per hour Hydrant Plant. The other equipment to be installed was a Hydrant Lime Packaging and Bagging Plant and other supporting infrastructure.

Your Committee was further informed that from the US\$6 million bridge loan, payments were made for the:

- (i) Vertical Kiln steel structures;
- (ii) Hydrant Plant;
- (iii) Coal Handling Plant; and
- (iv) Packaging and Bagging Plant.

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the manufacture of the Hydrant Plant was completed and final inspections of the equipment prior to its shipment were undertaken by Ndola Lime Management in Italy in July, 2010. The first batch of the eleven containers of the Hydrant Plant were shipped on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2010, whilst the second batch of four containers comprising the Ball Mill, Process Panel and MCC were shipped on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, respectively. He stated that the eight of these containers have since been cleared and five of them have been received on site.

Your Committee was informed that civil and structural designs of the Vertical Kiln and Hydrant Plant have been finalised. Earthworks (excavation) for the Hydrant Plant were almost completed and the excavation for the Vertical Kiln foundations would commence shortly. The Permanent Secretary submitted that the manufacture of the Vertical Kiln steel structures has commenced while that of the rest of the equipment awaits payments.

The Permanent Secretary submitted that due to the delays that were being experienced in securing project funds, the Vertical Kiln was now projected to be commissioned between August and September, 2011.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that since its visit to Ndola Lime in the 2010 programme of work, tremendous progress has been achieved and continues to be achieved.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **30/09 – Resumption of Operations at Nkana Smelter**

On 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Mines and Minerals Development made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker... I would like to inform the House that as Government, we are engaging Konkola Copper Mines to resume operations at the Nkana Copper Smelter so that they can take up excess concentrates."*

The Permanent Secretary submitted that Nkana Smelter was put on care and maintenance for two major technical reasons:

- (i) very high cost of operations, that is, 56.56 cents/lb compared to 15 cents/lb at the New Nchanga Smelter; and
- (ii) low recovery of 92 percent compared to 96 percent at the new plant.

Your Committee was informed that the third reason was that the Nkana Smelter had become a major environmental liability spewing unacceptably high levels of sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere. He said, on the other hand, the smelter captured more than 95 per cent of this gas and converted it into sulphuric acid.

The Permanent Secretary further informed your Committee that the productive use of the Nkana asset was dependent on the following arrangements:

- (i) firm and committed availability of concentrates from other mining houses for continuous production at Nkana Smelter on a long term basis and the smelter needed a guaranteed cumulative quantity of 330,000 tonnes of copper in concentrates for a period of five years;
- (ii) Nkana Smelter recovery being very low, at 92 percent, Konkola Copper Mines could only pay 91 per cent for the copper in concentrates for the operations to be profitable; and
- (iii) firm contracts had to be signed so that KCM could plan the investment required in the next financial year.

Your Committee was informed that the Government was prepared to work with KCM to find a way to resume operations at Nkana Smelter.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes the submission and awaits a progress report since the Government has made a commitment to work with KCM to revamp operations of the Nkana Smelter.

### **68/07 – Geological Mapping**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Geological Survey Department had continued to carryout geological mapping of the country, but this was being hampered by inadequate funds and a lack of Geologists.

However, mapping of Mulungushi and Mwense were completed in 2009, while Kasempa and Luela areas in Milenge District was still going on.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

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

## **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

### **22/07 – Procurement and Delivery of Ambulances to Hospitals and Health Centres Country Wide**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2007, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Health made the following undertaking on the floor of the House:

*"Mr Speaker, the tendering process for procuring ambulances has already been identified and done. The order has already been made and we are waiting for Toyota Zambia to deliver the ambulances. Therefore, until such a time that Toyota Zambia delivers the ambulances, we are not able to say exactly when they will arrive."*

The Acting Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the Ministry signed a contract in June, 2010, with Med 1 Partners of the United States of America (USA) to supply seventy ambulances of which eleven would be fitted with advanced life support equipment while fifty-nine would be fitted with general life support equipment. In addition, another contract was signed with Avic of China to supply twelve marine ambulances and six passenger boats. The twelve marine ambulances were to service districts in water bodies.

He further informed your Committee that as part of the Public Service Management (PSM) support to the Ministry of Health, Management Development Division at Cabinet Office procured ten ambulances at a cost of US\$612, 845.22. These ambulances were purchased as an additional support under the Service Delivery Improvement Fund (SDIF) initiatives that were being implemented by the Ministry and were distributed as follows:

#### **1. Obstetric and Neonatal Care Project**

The ambulances had been procured and allocated as follows:

- (i) Chipata 02, Toyota Land Cruiser Registration number GRZ 845 CF and 846 CF;
- (ii) Monze 02, Toyota Land Cruiser Registration number GRZ 847 CF; and 848 CF; and
- (iii) Kasama 03, Toyota Land Cruiser Registration number GRZ 855 CF; 856 CF; and 857 CF.

#### **2. Integrated Community Mobile VCT Project**

- (i) Itezhi-tezhi 01, Toyota Land Cruiser Registration number GRZ 862 CF

#### **3. Strengthening Maternal Referral System Project**

- (i) Masaiti 01, Toyota Land Cruiser Registration number GRZ 863 CF

#### **4. Community participation for Safe Motherhood and Child Health Project**

- (i) Mpika 01, Toyota Land Cruiser Registration number GRZ 864 CF.

## **Tour of Siavonga District Hospital and Livingstone General Hospital**

In line with this assurance, your Committee as part of its programme of work, undertook a tour of Siavonga District Hospital and Livingstone General/Batoka Hospitals.

### **(i) Siavonga District Hospital**

Your Committee was received by the Director of the Hospital with other medical staff.

The Director submitted to your Committee that Siavonga District Hospital is a first level hospital which services more than seventy-eight thousand people from Siavonga District, surrounding areas and from the Islands on Lake Kariba.

Your Committee was informed that the hospital did not have an ambulance in the medical sense except three land cruisers which were used to ferry patients as well as utility vehicles to run hospital errands. Your Committee inspected one land cruiser which was said to be reliable and usually used as a makeshift ambulance. The said ambulance was not fitted with any basic life support equipment or comfortable beds for patients.

Despite being largely surrounded by Lake Kariba, Siavonga District Hospital did not have a marine ambulance to access the Islands and other areas that are hard to reach by road. The Hospital sometimes borrowed a boat from the Office of the President or depended on the good will of people to hire a boat to evacuate patients from the Islands to the Hospital.

Your Committee was taken on a conducted tour of the Institution and found that the hospital had a small mortuary that could only accommodate four adult bodies. This issue had been raised in several reports to Headquarters but to no avail.

The Hospital infrastructure was generally dilapidated and required a face lift. The Hospital did not have incubators despite delivering premature babies from time to time.

Despite the increase in the population of Siavonga, staffing levels had remained the same, thereby creating a strain on the staff and inevitably affecting the patients.

The Hospital also lacked adequate accommodation for its personnel and, therefore, staff retention was difficult.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes from the Permanent Secretary's submission that contracts have been signed for the supply of seventy ambulances and twelve marine ambulances.

Your Committee notes the purchase and delivery of the ten ambulances and their distribution by the Management Development Division at Cabinet Office.

Your Committee urges the Government not to omit Siavonga District Hospital as the ambulances are being distributed.

Your Committee observes that the need for a marine ambulance for Siavonga can not be over emphasised, given that the District is surrounded by Lake Kariba and in some places has a rugged terrain, which is difficult to traverse by road.

Your Committee also observes that the Hospital has other pressing needs as highlighted above. Your Committee urges the Government to prioritise the said problems so that the Hospital can deliver its services efficiently and effectively.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

#### **(ii) Livingstone General and Batoka Hospital**

Your Committee was received by the Executive Director of the Hospital and other members of staff. Your Committee was informed that the two hospitals had been merged and were under one administration.

The Executive Director briefed your Committee as set out hereunder.

The Livingstone General Hospital is a provincial hospital with a bed capacity of 325. The Institution provides second level services to districts of Southern region of Zambia and first level services to two towns namely; Livingstone and Kazungula Districts. The coverage further extends to the Southern part of Western Province and the three neighbouring countries namely; Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana.

The Hospital has five major departments namely; Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology and a Training School for Registered Nurses. The Hospital also offers sub-specialty in Ophthalmology and Dentistry. It also has support services that include Radiology, Physiotherapy, Occupational therapy, Laboratory services, Laundry, Pharmacy and Catering.

In terms of new infrastructure development, the Hospital has an inpatient medical block, which was built with bed capacity of fifty and commissioned in 2009, an inpatient paediatrics block with a bed capacity of forty was built and commissioned in 2009, medical licentiates block comprising of twelve rooms, a kitchen and lounge, which were built in 2010, an administration block with eleven offices built for the school of nursing, a classroom with eighty sitting capacity built for the school of nursing in 2010, a hostel with eighteen rooms built for the school of nursing in 2010 and a laboratory currently under construction.

In terms of renovations, tilling of the ground floors for the surgical and casualty departments, renovations of the medical clinic, setting up of a modern eye clinic, renovation of the female medical admission ward and setting of a circumcision clinic have been concluded.

With regard to staffing, the Government posted four specialists in the major disciplines, the staffing levels in the nursing departments has increased from 160 in 2008 to 173. In 2010, the number of general medical officers increased from twenty in 2008 to twenty-five in 2010. The numbers of tutors at the school of nursing increased from

eight in 2008 to ten in 2010, while the number of paramedics increased from thirty-five in 2008 to thirty-eight in 2010 and all the positions for the supporting staff had since been filled.

During the conducted tour, your Committee was made aware of the fact that the Hospital had no ambulance but used only one utility vehicle without any life support equipment.

Your Committee learnt that the same utility vehicle which served as a make shift ambulance, provided transport to deliver hospital supplies and from time to time and used by the Executive Director to travel to Lusaka for meetings as and when they arose.

Your Committee also visited the kitchen whose equipment was in extremely poor state and required constant repairs.

Your Committee also learnt that the equipment in the laundry was obsolete and needed complete overhaul. The laundry trolleys were dysfunctional forcing the laundry staff to use wheel chairs to move linen from the wards to the laundry.

The washing machines were as old as the Hospital itself which was constructed in 1906. When the washing machines break down, the linen was sent to Choma to be laundered at a cost of about K2 million per single trip.

Your Committee was also alerted to the fact that the elevator which was equally as old as the Hospital itself has been out of service for a long time. The elevator was so obsolete that it required complete replacement. Due to lack of an elevator, patients were carried on stretchers or were lifted by Hospital staff to the upper levels of the Hospital using steep stairs. This was risky to both staff and patients in case they slipped and fall.

Your Committee was informed that the upper floors of the hospital housed the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), theatre and maternity ward. It was, therefore, always a delicate task to carry patients to these sections of the hospital using stairs, owing to their critical state or condition.

Your Committee was also informed that the mortuary units were old and in a poor state leading to constant breakdowns.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes with shock that Livingstone General Hospital, which is a second level Hospital with a huge catchment, does not have a single ambulance.

Your Committee also observes that the Hospital continues to hold onto dysfunctional laundry equipment which is approximately 105 years.

Your Committee urges the Government to urgently provide at least two ambulances for the Hospital for it to adequately attend to its patients.

Your Committee also urges the Government to immediately invest in modern equipment and elevators for the Hospital. The need for an elevator at the hospital is critical otherwise patients risk being dropped as they are being carried on stretchers, which may result in serious fatalities.

Your Committee notes that there are several other challenges as highlighted above which require the immediate attention of the Government.

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **15/09 – Establishment of a Medical School at Ndola Central Hospital and a Nursing School at Chitambo Mission Hospital**

On 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Health made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"Madam Speaker, at the moment, we are considering starting a medical school at the Ndola Central Hospital and this has reached quite an advanced stage... we also want to start a Nursing School at Chitambo Hospital."*

#### **Medical School**

With regard to the establishment of the Ndola Medical School, your Committee was informed that a lot of progress had been made towards addressing the assurance. The following were the key milestones:

- (i) Cabinet has approved the establishment of the Copperbelt University School of Medicine;
- (ii) the Secretary to the Cabinet appointed a multi-sectoral technical committee co-chaired by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health to oversee the entire process of establishing the school;
- (iii) the curriculum for the two faculties of dental and medicine were developed and approved by the Senate of the Copperbelt University;
- (iv) the Ministry of Education requested the Treasury for authority to recruit academic and administrative staff to run the school and the activity had been included in the 2011 Budget;
- (v) international stakeholders such as the University of Nebraska of the United States of America (USA) and KLE University of India committed themselves to training Zambians. The University of Nebraska offered to train Zambians in anatomy and physiology and also donated books which should be arriving in the country soon;

- (vi) the Ministry of Health in conjunction with the Provincial Buildings Engineer, has already quantified the Bill of Quantities for the renovations of the laboratory, library, kitchen, cafeteria and lecture theatre at Ndola Central Hospital and rehabilitation works were scheduled to commence in January, 2011; and
- (vii) the school would open in April, 2011 with an initial intake of fifty students, that is, forty in general medicine and ten in dental surgery.

### **Chitambo Nursing School**

Your Committee was informed that efforts were being made to reopen the school and the Ministry of Health, under the 2008 Infrastructure Operational Plan, released K355, million for the rehabilitation works. The funds were used to rehabilitate the hostel block, sewer system and a staff house which had all been completed.

The Ministry of Health also appointed a principal tutor to be in-charge of the school on transfer from Kabwe School of Nursing. Furthermore, in the Ministry's 2010 Infrastructure Operational Plan, an additional K870, 427, 248 was released for the construction of a second classroom, library, skills laboratory, staff accommodation and procurement of teaching and learning materials. Your Committee was informed that the school was scheduled to reopen in July 2011, after all these facilities and appropriate staff were put in place.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that tremendous effort has been made to address the assurance from the time your Committee toured the two institutions.

Your Committee also notes that the two institutions under the assurance will be opened in 2011. Your Committee, therefore, resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **25/06 – Expansion of Chainama Hills Hospital into a Second Level Provincial Hospital**

The Committee had previously observed that Government shifted from the initial assurance of expanding Chainama Hills Hospital into a second level hospital, to construction of an independent second level hospital and works had progressed very well.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that Government with support from the Chinese Government decided to establish a separate second level hospital in Lusaka. Though being in a same area, Chainama Hills Hospital and Lusaka General Hospital are separate institutions which would provide different levels of care, that is, third level and second level, respectively. Additionally, Lusaka General Hospital would help to decongest the University Teaching Hospital through provision of second level referral services.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

The Committee resolves to close the assurance, subject to undertaking a tour of the Hospital.

### **05/01 – Rehabilitation of Chipata, Kasama, Kabwe and Livingstone Nurses' Training Schools**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that tremendous progress had been made on the rehabilitation works on the Kasama Nurses Training School, with about seventy per cent of the works done.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF LANDS**

### **01/09 – Land Audit and Re-Allocation of Land**

On 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Lands assured the House as follows:

*"Mr Speaker, we are aware that there is a lot of idle land that foreigners are selling. As a result, we have started a land audit of the whole country to find out which land is not developed with a view of repossessing it so that the Government can re-allocate it to other developers."*

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that land audit and re-allocation was an on-going exercise which helped the Ministry to identify idle and undeveloped land. She stated that once such pieces of land were identified, the process of making them available to other deserving Zambians was undertaken. Your Committee was informed that previously, pilot projects were conducted in four provinces namely: Lusaka, Central, Copperbelt and Southern.

Your Committee was further informed that the exercise involved repossession of properties which was a legal process that allowed a property owner a chance to explain why the property should not be taken over by the State. As a result, the Ministry made a provision in the 2011 Budget in order to continue this important exercise.

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that the period given to develop land which was on title was nine months. If not, the Ministry of Lands repossessed the land and re-advertised it to other interested parties.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the land audit process is an on-going process. Your Committee, therefore, resolves to await a report on this process to spread to other provinces apart from those where it was done as a pilot project.

Your Committee awaits an update report.

### **13/09 – Averting Delays in issuance of Certificates of Title**

On 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, the Minister of Lands made the following assurance on the floor of the House:

*"However, it is important that the time limit for the issuance of these titles is minimised so that we do not have too many people queuing up. We are looking at that and soon you will see a big change."*

The Permanent Secretary submitted that in order to avert delays in issuance of Certificates of Title, a Customer Service Charter was put in place. As per Customer Service Charter, secondary transactions were to take fourteen days while primary transactions were to take seventeen days subject to the applicant's adherence to all laid down procedures.

Your Committee was informed that the Ministry's Strategic Plan has been approved and the new organisational structure, which included positions in the customer service centre, was awaiting approval by Cabinet. Until then, the Ministry could not provide a budget line for permanent positions at the customer service centre.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the Ministry's new organizational structure, which includes positions at the customer service centre awaits approval by Cabinet.

In view of this, your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **05/10 – Issuance of ZCCM Title Deeds**

On Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, the Honourable Minister of Lands assured the House as follows:

*"Mr Speaker, we will ensure that ZCCM-IH pushes the lodgments as soon as possible."*

The Permanent Secretary informed your Committee that out of the 22, 614 documents lodged by ZCCM-IH, the Ministry had issued 20, 128 title deeds, as at 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2010. She said in order to ensure that the process was not delayed, the Ministry had been collaborating with ZCCM-IH to conclude this matter effectively. The Permanent

Secretary emphasised that the Ministry would continue to do its best in order to improve service delivery to the general public.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee observes that the process of issuance of ZCCM Certificates of Titles is on-going.

In view of the above observation, your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF GENDER AND WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT**

### **27/09 – Sensitisation Measures on Sexual Offences**

The Committee had noted that despite measures being put in place to sensitise the public on sexual offences and how to respond to them, there were no statistics furnished to show, whether or not the measures instituted were yielding results.

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that sensitisation was yielding good results in some cases being reported as shown in the statistics supplied.

Your Committee noted that the statistics supplied were merely reflecting the number of offences being reported for 2009, other than the results being yielded from such reports. Moreover, the statistics were limited to 2009, instead of covering several years.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

In view of the above, your Committee resolves to request for a progress report on the matters observed.

## **MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

### **16/08 – Programme for Urban Self-Help (PUSH) Projects in Northern and Luapula provinces**

The Committee had previously noted that Government failed to implement the programmes to improve people's lives in rural areas because of inadequate funds.

However, it was reported in the Action Taken Report that the Ministry was looking at ways in which to secure additional funds to improve people's lives as well as meeting Government assurances.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

The Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

### **31/08 – Removal of Street Children from the Streets in all Districts**

The Action Taken Report revealed that a lot of measures had been put in place to prevent street children and persons with disabilities from begging on the streets. As a result, there was need to have a preventive long lasting measure to deal with the situation.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves to wait for a progress report since the Ministry was looking for ways and means to find a long lasting preventive measure to deal with the situation.

## **THE JUDICIARY**

### **15/08 – Construction of Nyalugwe and Lubembe Local Courts**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that construction of Luembe Local Court was included in the 2010 Budget and was progressing well, while Nyalungwe Local Court was earmarked for 2011.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee awaits a progress report on all the projects.

### **09/09 – Construction of Magistrate's Court and Deployment of Magistrate to Chiengwe District**

The Committee noted with sadness that construction of the Magistrate Court was not in the Judiciary's immediate plans.

However, it was reported in the Action Taken Report that K1 billion had been proposed in the 2011 Budget to initiate preparatory works for the construction of the court.

#### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

### **21/09 – Increase of Trade between Zambia and Angola**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that the construction of the railway link to Angola had not yet commenced due to ongoing litigation by an interested party. It was, therefore, not possible to state at this point when the construction of the railway link to Angola would be done until the court process runs its course.

With regard to border controls on the informal border points with Angola, it was reported that it was currently not possible to state when the border posts will be formalised.

No new border points had been opened since the previous Action Taken Report was submitted in January, 2010, but that the two countries were in the process of aligning the border posts.

With regard to when the telecommunications links between the two countries would be connected to the optic fiber network, it was reported that it was currently not possible to state when this activity would be done or whether it would be done at all. This was due to the long distances between the border towns and the main cities which already have fibre connections as well as the transmission systems that have not yet been developed on both sides of the two countries.

With regard to efforts made, the Action Taken Report revealed that Zambia was scheduled to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the North-Western Province of Zambia and the Moxico Province of Angola in order to facilitate and develop mutually beneficial trade relations between the two Provinces.

At the last JPC Session, Angola submitted a draft Trade Agreement for Zambia's consideration. On the other hand, Zambia submitted a draft MoU between the two Chambers of Commerce and Industry during the last JPC session in 2009, for the consideration of the Angolan Government. However, the Angola position on the matter had not yet been received and it was, therefore, not possible at this point to state when the MoU would be signed or if it would ever going to be signed at all.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee notes that most of the initiatives under the JPC were proving too difficult to implement. It resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

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

### **37/05 – Replacing the Forest Department with the Forestry Commission**

It was reported in the Action Taken Report that financial constraints had been the main cause for the delays in operationalising the *Forest Act No 7 of 1999*. Operationalising of the Act entailed creation of a semi-autonomous institution, laying off serving Civil Servants and then re-engaging them. The cost implications in terminal benefits were too high for Government to bear.

In view of this impediment, the Ministry was reviewing the National Forestry Policy of 1998 with a view to capture the challenges in the forestry sector and operationalise the *Forest Act No 7 of 1999*.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

### **49/07 – Construction of the Road around Liuwa National Park**

It was revealed in the Action Taken Report that although construction of the road around Liuwa National Park was included in the Road Development Agency's work plan, no progress had been made so far because of financial constraints.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee awaits a progress report on the matter.

### **29/08 – Recruitment of Forest Guards**

The Action Taken Report revealed that once the revised National Forestry Policy was approved by Cabinet, the *Forests Act No 7 of 1999* operationalised and amended, the Forestry Department would be strengthened to facilitate creation of an expanded Forestry Department structure to include Forest Guards.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter.

## **MINISTRY OF LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT**

### **20/09 – Creation of Disease Free Zones for Export of Beef**

The Action Taken Report revealed that a lot of progress on the assurance had been made as could be seen from the pictures supplied, although some works were still in progress.

### **Committee's Observations and Recommendations**

Your Committee resolves to await a progress report on the matter since the works are still on-going.

### **Committee's Concerns**

The Committee observed that some witnesses were not updating the Committee on the progress that had been made on the projects between December, 2010, when they made their submission, and February, 2011, when they appeared before the Committee.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee recommended that witnesses who appeared before it should be able to comment or give progress reports on the works that had been done on their projects.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the Members of your Committee wish to extend their gratitude to you, Mr Speaker, for appointing them to serve on the Committee on Government Assurances and the support rendered to the Committee by your Office throughout the year.

Your Committee wishes to thank the Permanent Secretaries and Chief Executives who appeared before it for their cooperation and willingness in providing the necessary memoranda and briefs.

Your Committee is hopeful that the observations and recommendations contained in this Report will be taken on board by the Government. The implementation of the identified developmental projects and policies, as contained in the assurances, are vital to the country's well being and good governance.

Finally, Sir, your Committee wishes to express its sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly for the services rendered throughout the Committee's deliberations in the year.

D M Syakalima, MP  
**CHAIRPERSON**

June, 2011  
**LUSAKA**