

THURSDAY, 14 JUNE, 2018

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

ON THE KEEP ZAMBIA CLEAN, GREEN AND HEALTH CAMPAIGN

BY THE HON. MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MR MWALE)

Mr Speaker, I am grateful for allowing me this opportunity to appraise the House, and through it the nation, on the re-launch of the Keep Zambia Clean, Green and Health Campaign and in doing so, I will give the roadmap for the implementation of the cleaning programme of the last Saturday of every month.

Mr Speaker, allow me to begin by informing the House on various commitments and actions being undertaken as part of the campaign programme in the immediate term as follows:

- (a) His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, re-launched and rebranded the programme as a Keep Zambia Clean, Green and Health Campaign on the 28th of April, 2018, in order to provide leadership and commitment in the programme implementation;
- (b) my ministry with other line ministries and the private sector, are ensuring that every last Saturday of every month is reserved for community work for cleaning our premises and surroundings. This is in line with the pronouncement to observe the National Day of Service which was made by His Excellency of President in his speech at the re-launch of the campaign;
- (c) in addition, my ministry has requested all provincial administrations and local authorities to spearhead the campaign activities using various media platforms and identify the cleanest premises which His Excellency the President will personally award every year;

THURSDAY, 14 JUNE, 2018

- (d) His Excellence the President has also been engaging our partners to help implement this campaign by appointing brand ambassadors or champions, mainly from the entertainment and media industries to help spread the behaviour and mindset change. This includes the Church and traditional leaders;
- (e) my ministry through the local authorities, has continued to enforce Statutory Instrument No. 12 of 2018, which compels citizens in institutions to take responsibility of keeping their premises and surroundings clean; and
- (f) my ministry working with the Lusaka City Council (LCC), is seeking to establish a solid waste management utility envisaged to enhance effective provision, clean environment and better public health for the city of Lusaka. To this end, I will present a Bill this year for enactment of a legislative framework for solid management. In line with Government's agenda, the Bill will also incorporate provision of implementing the Keep Zambia Clean, Green and Health Campaign.

Mr Speaker, my ministry using the 2017 National Budget, procured seven skip loader trucks and forty-nine skip bins, all valued at K7.2 million for cities and municipalities. In addition, local authorities particularly cities and big municipalities, procured additional refuse collection equipment at an estimated cost of K4.3 million from their own budgets, which they are using to support the campaign programme.

On this backdrop, my ministry through local authorities has continued to increase the involvement of corporate institutions in supporting the flagship campaign through donations of litter bins to Lusaka City Council and the Copperbelt Province. The private sector is also supporting community recycling initiative such as *Manja Pamodzi* Project, supported by Zambia Breweries in helping to clean up post consumer packaging waste in Lusaka. The initiative will be rolled out to other towns.

Mr Speaker, implementing this flagship campaign, my ministry and partners are conducting provincial launches to ensure ownership of the programme by citizens across all provinces and districts in the country. I wish to, therefore, urge all Members of Parliament to partner with

THURSDAY, 14 JUNE, 2018

provincial and district administrations by getting involved in mobilising communities in achieving the objective of this campaign.

Further, Government wishes to sustain this campaign through Ward Development Committees (WDCs) where they exist and in future for those that are yet to be put in place. It is expected that WDCs will mobilise and lead their respective communities into cleaning their localities.

My ministry in conjunction with Zambia National Service (ZNS) is constructing public trading places particularly in Lusaka, Livingstone and some towns on the Copperbelt Province to provide a conducive trading environment aimed at promoting good health for traders and their customers.

Further, my ministry in conjunction with the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection is formulating a National Water Supply, Sanitation and Solid Waste Policy to strengthen the policy, legal and institutional frameworks for efficient and effective provision of water supply, sanitation and solid waste management services in Zambia. The development process has already been finalised.

Mr Speaker, let me now turn to the challenges in the implementation of the campaign programme. The main challenges being faced are as follows:

- (a) inadequate enforcement of statutes that govern the implementation of solid waste management;
- (b) in adequate waste management equipment and infrastructure as engineered sanitary landfills for sound disposal and treatment of solid waste.
- (c) in adequate private sector involvement in financing in the campaign programme;
- (d) in adequate finances and investments in the sector to handle huge initial capital investment required to kick start and strengthen the business environment;

THURSDAY, 14 JUNE, 2018

- (e) poor adherence by citizens to responsible waste management disposal waste practices;
- (f) lack of willingness or ability by citizens to pay for waste collection services in areas where both local authorities and private companies operate.

Mr Speaker, the challenges being faced in the campaign cannot be addressed without the collective approach and the involvement of the broad range of stakeholders in the implementation. In this respect, we shall strengthen inspections, enforcement and sensitisation of the public on responsible waste management and behaviour change through the involvement of private sector and civil society organisation among others.

Sir, once again, I wish to implore hon. Members of Parliament to join the Government ensuring that this campaign achieves its objectives. As I conclude, let me remind the nation that my ministry is addressing these challenges with the view to realising the vision of His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu and his Government of having a Clean, Green and health nation.

Mr Speaker, I thank you.