



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE EXTENSION OF THE SUSPENSION OF
KITWE, NDOLA AND LIVINGSTONE CITY COUNCILS BY THE HON.
STEPHEN KAMPYONGO, MP MINISTER OF LOCAL AND HOUSING**

MAY, 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT BY THE HON. MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ON THE SUSPENSION OF KITWE, NDOLA AND LIVINGSTONE CITY COUNCILS

Mr. Speaker,

I wish to submit on the floor of the house on the following issue which is:

- i. Suspension of the Kitwe, Ndola and Livingstone City Councils

Mr. Speaker,

- i. Suspension of the Kitwe, Ndola and Livingstone City Councils.

Mr Speaker as the House is aware that I evoked section **88 (1) (b) (i)** of the Local Government Act Cap **281** of the Laws of Zambia through my issuance of Statutory Instruments **No. 4 of 2016, 5 of 2016** and **No. 6 of 2016** published in the Government Gazette dated 22nd January, 2016 in which I suspended Kitwe, Livingstone and Ndola City Councils respectively to pave way for investigations in illegal land allocations perpetuated by some of the elected councillors and officers from these Councils.

Mr. Speaker,

The act of illegal Land allocation resulted in members of the public losing confidence in these local authorities, a situation that Government could not allow to continue unabated.

The three city Councils were supposed to lead by example not only by conduct of councillors and officers but in service delivery and adherence to laid down procedures on land allocations.

Mr. Speaker,

In view of the above as earlier reported, I appointed Mr. Chazya Musukuma, Mr. Charlston Hamulyata and Mr. Macloud Nyirenda Public Officers as Local Government Administrators for Kitwe, Livingstone and Ndola City Councils respectively for the initial period of ninety days (90) in accordance with section **88 (1) (a)** of the Local Government Act Cap **281** of the Laws of Zambia. This period of ninety days ended on 23rd April, 2016.

Mr. Speaker,

I wish to inform the House that the three Local Government Administrators discharged their operations and functions of these respective Councils diligently resulting in them covering a lot of grounds on the issue of illegal land allocations with cooperation from some officers and members of the public.

Mr. Speaker,

In line with section **89 (1)** of the Local Government Act Cap **281** of the Laws of Zambia, I have considered it desirable in the interest of

Local Administration, to extend the appointment of the three Local Government Administrators for Livingstone, Kitwe and Ndola City for further period of ninety days to enable them continue discharging the functions of the Council.

Mr. Speaker the extension of the suspension of the three City Councils will also enable the Law Enforcement Agencies of Government to carry out further investigations into the illegal land allocations in these cities.

Mr. Speaker,

While the suspension of Livingstone, Kitwe and Ndola City Councils still remain in force. I wish to inform the house that I have lifted the ban on the Land Agency of Kitwe and Ndola City Councils to enable the Local Government Administrators deal with genuine land transactions. I already lifted the ban on the land agency ban for Livingstone City Council.

Mr. Speaker,

I wish to retaliate that the Patriotic Front Government will not tolerate any misconduct from either the councilors or council officials in the service delivery process. It is this type of illegality and abuse of office that has over the years led to the poor performance of Local Authorities. I want to urge all Councils, I mean all Councillors and Councils officials without exception that the Patriotic Front

Government will not lapse over the fight of illegal land allocation. My Ministry's reaction to such illegal practices and underperformance by officials shall continue to be ^{firm}brutal. To be forewarned is to be forearmed and so those involved must prepare themselves against this continued fight.

There will be no sacred cows in the fight against any evil vices such as corruption, abuse of office, laziness or direct theft of public resources.

Mr. Speaker,

The supervision of Livingstone, Ndola, and Kitwe City Council must continue to serve as a lesson of all those councillors and senior officials indulging in illegality and my timely advice to them is that the long-arm of the law will eventually visit them no matter how long it takes especially that the law enforcement agencies have continued to remain on top of things.

I will continue to encourage all councillors and Council officers to comply with the provision of the law on the running of the affairs of councils. My ministry will not condone any departure from the accepted norms, practices and procedures in the management of Local Authorities.

Let me once again warn the offices at the said councils and other councils that I will not condone any indiscipline of any kind whatsoever, the conduct of any officer must be exemplary both at work and outside work as it has direct impact on the performance of councils.

Mr. Speaker,

Finally let me take this opportunity to urge all the officers at Livingstone, Ndola and Kitwe City Councils to continue according the necessary support and cooperation to the Local Government Administrators to enable them continue discharging the functions of the councils efficiently and effectively for enhanced service delivery to the residents in these respective districts. Similarly, I urge the Local Government Administrators to ensure that they do their best as they continue discharging council functions and service delivery to satisfy the expectation of Government and people in the respective districts. As I conclude let me thank the residents in these respective districts for their cooperation and support they have continued to provide to the Local Government Administrators and Law Enforcement Agencies to put a stop to illegal land allocation in their respective districts.

I Thank you.