



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND ARTS

**STATEMENT BY HON. JEAN KAPATA, MP, MINISTER OF TOURISM AND
ARTS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN
TOURISM CIRCUITS**

FEBRUARY 2016

Mr. Speaker,

I thank you for giving me this opportunity to issue a Ministerial Statement on what my Ministry is doing regarding the Development of the Northern and Southern Tourism Circuits.

Mr. Speaker,

Let me start by defining the two tourism circuits.

The Southern Tourism Circuit covers Southern, Western and parts of Lusaka Provinces. In Southern province there are 21 sites. Some of these sites are: Victoria Falls, Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, Tongabezi Lodge, Boiling Point, Zambezi Sawmill Train, Mukuni Park, Lion Encounter and the African Queen Gorge in Livingstone District. Kafue National Park in Namwala and Kalomo Districts, Lochinvar National Park in Monze District, Chete Islands in Sinazongwe District, Lake Kariba in Sinazongwe, Gwembe and Siavonga Districts. Part of Lusaka Province is Chirundu District with three (3) Sites namely; Lower Zambezi National Park, Chirundu Fossil Forest, Ngombe Illede and Kafue Gorge in Chirundu District. In Western Province, these Sites include Ngonye Falls, Siomangwezi National Park and West Zambezi GMA in Sioma

District, Zambezi Plains in Kalabo, Mongu and Senanga Districts, and Liuwa National Park in Kalabo District. Simalaha Conservancy in Mwandia District and Mulobezi GMA in Mulobezi District

Mr. Speaker,

The Northern Circuit encompasses Luapula, Northern and Muchinga Provinces. In Luapula, there are nine (9) sites identified in the Districts of Mansa, Samfya, and Kawambwa. The Sites are; Mumbuluma Falls, Mambilima Falls, and Musonda falls in Mansa District, Lusenga National Park, Lumangwe Falls, Kabwelume Falls, and Ntumbachushi Falls in Kawambwa District, Lake Bangweulu and Samfya Beach in Samfya District, In Northern province, the sites are: Nsumbu National Park in Nsama District, Kalambo Falls and Lake Chila in Mbala District, Chishimba Falls in Kasama District, Mweru-wa-ntipa National Park in Chiengi and Kaputa Districts and Chilubi Island in Chilubi District

While in Muchinga Province, the sites include the following; Lavushi Manda National Park in Serenje District, South Luangwa National Park in Mpika and Mambwe Districts, Safwa Rapids and Chipoma Falls in Chinsali Districts, Mwenzo Missions Lodge in Nakonde and Nyika National Park in Chama District.

Mr. Speaker,

The development of the Northern and Southern Tourism Circuits requires coordinated implementation of activities in terms of infrastructure and investment.

In this regard, the following has been considered.

1. Priority action has been the creation of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), in collaboration with the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) which is meant to play a catalytic role in developing tourism infrastructure and provide a channel through which funds would be raised for the development of identified tourism assets and sites.
2. The creation of the Special Purpose Vehicle on product development is in order to diversify the tourism product base and make it more competitive as provided for in the revised Tourism Policy of 2015.
3. The Tourism and Hospitality Act No.13 of 2015, provides for the incorporation of commercial entities to undertake business activities, on behalf of the Government, for and in relation to meetings, incentives, conferences, exhibitions and other tourist related services.
4. This measure was further mentioned in His Excellency the Presidents' speech delivered at the official opening of the 5th Session of the Eleventh National Assembly on

18th September 2015, where His Excellency directed that the Minister responsible for Tourism and the IDC set up a Special Purpose Vehicle through which all public tourism investments assets would be owned.

5. The Special Purpose Vehicle has since been set up under the name: Tourism Development and Investment Corporation (TDIC) Ltd, as a Company Limited by Shares on 12th November, 2015. In order to operationalise it, assets will be transferred to create the capital base.
6. These assets comprise of state-owned tourism entities, as well as identified tourism sites for development. Information memoranda will be prepared for each site, for use in mobilising funds and engaging private sector operators and global brands.
7. The Ministry of Tourism and Arts will be fully represented on the Tourism Development Investment Corporation Board, to ensure an alignment to the Ministry's policy objectives for tourism development.

Mr. Speaker,

In conclusion I would like to appeal to the Honourable members of this august House to support the initiatives that Government is undertaking in developing and promoting the tourism sector in the country.

Mr. Speaker,

I beg to move.