



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON PROGRESS ON THE UPGRADING OF
CHALIMBANA, KWAME NKRUMAH AND MUKUBA UNIVERSITIES**

MR SPEAKER,

I WISH TO THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A MINISTERIAL STATEMENT TO THIS AUGUST HOUSE. I WISH TO UPDATE THE HOUSE ON THE STATUS OF THE NEWLY UPGRADED COLLEGES OF EDUCATION INTO UNIVERSITIES NAMELY; CHALIMBANA, KWAME NKURUMAH AND MUKUBA UNIVERSITIES. I WILL ALSO UPDATE THE HOUSE ON THE STRATEGIES GOVERNMENT WILL BE IMPLEMENTING TO FINALIZE THE PROCESS OF UPGRADING THE UNIVERSITIES.

MR SPEAKER

AS MEMBERS ARE AWARE, THE UPGRADING OF THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION INTO UNIVERSITIES WAS A PRONOUNCEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE LATE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT OF ZAMBIA, MR. MICHAEL CHILUFYA SATA. FROM THE TIME OF THE PRONOUNCEMENT, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT GOVERNMENT HAS MADE MASSIVE INVESTMENTS IN THE THREE UNIVERSITIES. AMONG THE INVESTMENTS ARE THE ON-GOING INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS WHICH WERE EMBARKED ON WITH A VIEW TO EXPAND THE CAPACITY OF THE LEARNING INSTITUTIONS BY INCREASING ACCESS. AT THE END GOVERNMENT, HOPES TO HAVE UPGRADED THE OUTLOOK OF THE INSTITUTIONS TO UNIVERSITY STATUS.

MR SPEAKER

THE TOTAL INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IS VALUED AT ZMW 254.3 BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS:

- i. ZMW 46.6 MILLION FOR CHALIMBANA UNIVERSITY;

- ii. ZMW 103.6 FOR KWAME NKRUMAH; AND
- iii. ZMW 104.1 FOR MUKUBA UNIVERSITY.

THESE FUNDS HAVE BEEN USED TO CONSTRUCT ADDITIONAL STUDENT HOSTELS, LIBRARY, LECTURE THEATRES, BLOCKS OF LECTURE AND TUTORIAL ROOMS, HOSTELS, ADMINISTRATION BLOCKS AND STAFF HOUSING.

MR SPEAKER,

GOVERNMENT REVIEWED THE PROGRESS MADE ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF THESE COLLEGES TO PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES. IT HAS BEEN FOUND THAT THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE PROGRESS OVER THE PAST THREE (3) YEARS TOWARDS THE TRANSFORMATION OF THESE INSTITUTIONS INTO UNIVERSITIES. AS A RESULT OF THESE FINDINGS, AND TO SPEED UP THE TRANSFORMATION PROCESS, I HAVE APPROVED THE AFFILIATION OF THESE THREE NEW PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES TO THE ALREADY EXISTING PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES USING PART VI, SECTION 37 OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT NO.4 OF 2013. THE AFFILIATION SHALL BE GOVERNED AS PROVIDED FOR IN PART VI, SECTION 37 OF THE HE ACT.

MR SPEAKER,

MY MINISTRY IS COMMITTED TO IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE PROCESS OF UPGRADING THE THREE INSTITUTIONS. THE STRATEGIES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FOLLOWING TIME PERIODS INCLUDE:

- i. IN THE SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM WHICH WILL SPAN OVER A PERIOD OF 3 YEARS; AND

- ii. THE LONG TERM WHICH WILL SPAN OVER A PERIOD BEYOND 3 YEARS.

MR SPEAKER,

THE SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM,

IN ORDER TO QUICKEN THE TRANSFORMATION OF THESE INSTITUTIONS INTO FULL-FLEDGED UNIVERSITIES, THE MINISTRY HAS DECIDED TO AFFILIATE MUKUBA UNIVERSITY TO COPPERBELT UNIVERSITY, KWAME NKRUMAH TO MULUNGUSHI UNIVERSITY AND CHALIMBANA TO UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA. THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COPPERBELT UNIVERSITY, MULUNGUSHI UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA IN THIS ARRANGEMENT AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT PROVISIONS OF PART VI, SECTION 37 OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT NO.4 OF 2013, SHALL BE BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. APPOINT FOUR SENIOR MEMBERS OF STAFF TO BE SECONDED TO THE NEW PUBLIC UNIVERSITY TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT AND OVERALL HEAD OF THE INSTITUTION. THESE STAFF WILL SPEAR-HEAD THE TRANSFORMATION PROCESS;
2. TAKE STOCK OF THE PROGRAMMES BEING OFFERED AT DIPLOMA, BACHELORS AND POSTGRADUATE LEVEL;
3. TAKE STOCK OF STAFF TEACHING THESE PROGRAMMES AND DETERMINE IF THERE ARE QUALIFIED TO TEACH THE RESPECTIVE PROGRAMMES;

4. TAKE STOCK OF AVAILABLE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SEE WHETHER THEY MEET THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR A UNIVERSITY;
5. DETERMINE WHETHER THE INFRASTRUCTURE AVAILABLE MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AVAILABLE.
6. PROPOSE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT REQUIRED TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS;
7. REDESIGN LEARNING PROGRAMMES TO BE IN LINE WITH NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS.
8. ENSURE THAT THE INSTITUTION MEETS THE FOLLOWING MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS AS DEMANDED BY THE HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY:
 - a. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (GOVERNANCE SYSTEM, GOVERNING BOARD WITH DEFINED ROLES, CLEARLY DEFINED MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND A LEADERSHIP STAFFED WITH QUALIFIED ADMINISTRATORS)
 - b. ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES (SYSTEMATICALLY DESIGNED, CLEAR ORGANISATION OF FACULTIES, IF ODL AVAILABLE A CLEAR DEFINITION OF ODL PROGRAMMES)
 - c. TEACHING AND LEARNING (ADMISSION POLICY, ACADEMIC CALENDAR, COURSE MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT, LEARNER SUPPORT SYSTEM, LEARNER ASSESSMENT, STUDENT RECORD MANAGEMENT SYSTEM)

- d. STAFFING AND TRAINING (POLICY ON STAFF RECRUITMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF FULL TIME AND PART TIME, SUPPORT STAFF, CONDITIONS OF SERVICE)
- e. PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE (FACILITIES IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY AND QUALITY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING)
- f. FINANCIAL RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS, ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS, FINANCIAL PROCEDURES MANUAL, RISK ASSESSMENT POLICY AND EXTERNAL AUDITING)
- g. HEALTH AND SAFETY (COMPLIANCE WITH MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY, GOOD SANITATION)
- h. VISION, MISSION AND STRATEGY (GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE INSTITUTION, ORGANISED STRATEGY)
- i. RESEARCH (PROMOTION OF RESEARCH, RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE AND ETHICS IN RESEARCH)
- j. TECHNOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE (ACCESS TO INTERNET FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS, MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, FACILITIES AND PLATFORMS FOR E-LEARNING)

MR SPEAKER,

MY MINISTRY WILL ALSO WORK TO ENSURE THAT ALL THE QUALIFIED AND DESERVING MEMBERS OF STAFF UNDER THE UNIVERSITIES ARE OFFICIALLY APPOINTED IN THE POSITIONS

IN WHICH THEY ARE OPERATING UNDER THEIR RESPECTIVE UNIVERSITIES. FURTHER, IN ORDER TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF TRAINING DELIVERED AT THE UNIVERSITIES, MY MINISTRY WILL FAST TRACK HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT FOR ACADEMIC STAFF OF THESE UNIVERSITIES THROUGH RESEARCH; FACE TO FACE LEARNING; AND OPEN, FLEXIBLE AND DISTANCE LEARNING.

MR SPEAKER,

IN ORDER TO ENSURE INCREASED ACCESS AT THE THREE UNIVERSITIES, MY MINISTRY WILL ENSURE THAT RESOURCES ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO ENSURE THAT ALL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS ARE COMPLETED. ADDITIONALLY, THE MINISTRY WILL FACILITATE THAT THE CONTRACTORS PARTIALLY HANDOVER INFRASTRUCTURE THAT HAS BEEN COMPLETED OF THE ON-GOING PROJECTS.

MR SPEAKER,

THIS PROCESS OF TRANSFORMATION WILL BE IMPLEMENTED OVER A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS, POLICIES AND STRUCTURES IN THE UNIVERSITIES, AS WELL AS PROMOTE UNIVERSITY CULTURE IN THESE INSTITUTIONS.

MR SPEAKER,

THE OFFICERS TO BE PART OF THE MANAGEMENT TEAMS OF SPECIFIC UNIVERSITIES SHALL BE DRAWN AS FOLLOWS:

- a. THE OFFICERS TO BE ATTACHED TO CHALIMBANA UNIVERSITY WOULD BE DRAWN FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION;
- b. THE OFFICERS TO BE ATTACHED TO MUKUBA UNIVERSITY WOULD BE DRAWN FROM THE COPPERBELT UNIVERSITY; AND
- c. THE OFFICERS TO BE ATTACHED TO KWAME NKRUMAH WOULD BE DRAWN FROM MULUNGUSHI UNIVERSITY

DURING THE PERIOD OF AFFILIATION, THE NEW UNIVERSITIES SHALL OPERATE WITHOUT COUNCIL, BUT BE UNDER THE COUNCILS OF THE UNIVERSITY TO WHICH THEY ARE AFFILIATED.

MR SPEAKER,

IN THE LONG TERM,

MY MINISTRY WILL ENSURE THAT THE UNIVERSITIES ARE FULL-FLEDGED BY IMPLEMENTING THE SUBSEQUENT PHASES OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT. THE MINISTRY WILL ALSO ENSURE THAT THE UNIVERSITIES HAVE ADEQUATE AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCING AND ESTABLISH UNIVERSITY COUNCILS.

MR SPEAKER,

MY MINISTRY HAS SO FAR DISSOLVED THE COUNCILS THAT EXISTED IN THE THREE UNIVERSITIES.

MR SPEAKER, I THANK YOU.