

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

ON

UPDATE ON THE DRAFT NATIONAL LAND POLICY

BY

THE HON. MINISTER OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES, MS KAPATA, MP

Mr Speaker, before I give my ministerial statement allow me to congratulate Hon. Kapalasa, the new Member of Parliament for Katuba. He should not forget to come and finish our secretariat which he has started renovating.

Sir, I wish to thank you for according me the opportunity to deliver a short ministerial statement to this august House and the nation at large on the update of the Draft National Land Policy.

Mr Speaker, I wish to refer to an earlier ministerial statement that I made to this august House on the update of the Draft National Land Policy where I stated that my ministry is committed to finalising this process and shall continue to seek opportunities to engage with the chiefs who are key stakeholders in land administration and management.

Sir, I wish to report to this august House that on 11th July 2019, my ministry had a meeting with the full House of Chiefs during its sitting and agreed on the way forward with regards to the Draft Land Policy and its contents.

Mr Speaker, I am happy to inform the House that the ministry's report on the recommendations raised by the chiefs during the *Indaba* of 28th and 29th May, 2019 was presented to the full House of Chiefs and adopted with amendments.

Sir, the House of Chiefs further submitted that it wanted to have representatives sit on the technical committee constituted to develop and finalise the land policy. My ministry is in agreement with this proposal and is waiting for the names of the representatives to be submitted so that the redrafting and editing process can commence. I am hopeful that the validation of the National Land Policy will be held by the end of the third quarter of 2019.

Mr Speaker, as I conclude, I wish to thank the royal highnesses for their continued support in the process of drafting the National Land Policy. I also wish to thank all stakeholders who have continued to give guidance during this important process of consultation. It is my sincere hope and trust that the policy will be finalised and submitted to Cabinet by the end of this year, 2019.

I thank you, Sir.