



NAZ Committed to upholding Democracy, Hon. Chisangano tells EU Observers



First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly , Hon. Malungo Chisangano (middle) with European Union Observers.

By Namasiku Mubiana

First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia Hon Malungo Chisangano said the National Assembly remains committed to preserving democracy in Zambia and the broader region. She said this when the European Union Head of Election Observation Mission, Ms Maria Arena paid a courtesy call on her on Tuesday, 30th January, 2024, at Parliament Buildings.

Hon. Chisangano acknowledged the EU delegation's visit as a follow-up on recom-

mendations for reforms post the 2021 general elections, expressing readiness to address some of the critical issues that might affect future elections. She assured the EU that the recommendations made were receiving thorough attention.

“I noted that your report highlighted specific priority areas including the repeal of the order act concerning freedom of assembly, movement, and expression; enact a law ensuring transparency and inclusivity within political parties, along-

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side regulations for campaign finance,” she said.

The First Deputy Speaker reiterated that the National Assembly is committed to implementing necessary reforms in collaboration with international partners to safeguard democracy in Zambia.

The Hon First Deputy Speaker referenced recent legislative actions, including amendments to the Electoral Process Act in 2021 to facilitate prison voting,

and outlined future initiatives such as the enactment of the Access to Information Act and the operationalization of the 2025 gender equity and equality Act to enhance women's participation in elections.

Hon. Chisangano commended the EU for its visit, expressing optimism that it would contribute to tangible achievements in consolidating Zambia's democracy.

And European Union Head of Election Observation Mission, Maria Arena lauded the National Assembly's determination, emphasizing that shared values of democracy are essential for national growth.



First Deputy Speaker , Hon Malungo Chisangano, MP (centre) with deputy Clerk Corporate Affairs, Mr Stephen Kawimbe (second from right) and Head of European Union Observer , Ms Maria Arena (left) during a photo session.



Speaker Mutti, Joins 32 Counterparts at the 27th Speakers Conference



Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon Nelly B K Mutti, MP, FAPRA second from left with her counterparts.

By Sibonelo Jere

Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Rt. Hon. Nelly B K Mutti, MP FAPRA joined thirty-two other Speakers from around the Commonwealth in Kampala, Uganda for the 27th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC) from 3rd to 6th January, 2024.

The Conference was officially opened on Thursday, 4th January, 2024 by the President of the Republic of Uganda, H.E. Yoweri K. Museveni who in his remarks

stated that the Commonwealth is a positive endeavor despite its negative colonial history. He added that it is important to recognise that as people of different lands, we exist as equals and that our relationship should be symbiotic and not parasitic.

Speaking during the Official Opening, the Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda, Rt. Hon. Anita Annet Among said “Hosting this Conference in Kampala is indeed a remarkable milestone in the legislative history of Uganda”.

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The 27th CSPOC addressed several topical issues which included, environment, climate change and the role of Parliament; diverse and inclusive Parliaments and health; and wellbeing support in Parliaments and the role of Speakers and Presiding Officers.

The CSPOC aims to; maintain, foster, and encourage impartiality and fairness on the part of Speakers and Presiding Officers of Parliaments; promote knowledge and understanding of parliamentary democracy in its various forms; and develop parliamentary institutions.

Show Society Donates to the National Assembly Library



Deputy Clerk Corporate Affairs, Mr Steven Kawimbe (r) receiving a donation from Society President, Dr Bernard Moonga

By Leslie Chikunta

The Agricultural and Commercial Co-operative Society of Zambia (ACSZ) donated Ten (10) copies of the second edition of the book titled 'Showtime', a repository of rich knowledge about the Society's

history to the Parliamentary Information and Research Library on Thursday, 25th January 2024 at Parliament Buildings.

Speaking during the handover ceremony Society President, Dr. Bernard Moonga expressed his delight at the Society's contri-



Show Society Donates to the National Assembly Library

tribution to the National Assembly Library, highlighting that the book traces the Society's journey from its inception to its 80th Show in 2006.

He stated that the Show Society has evolved from being a platform for farmers to exhibit their produce to a Commercial Show attracting participants from diverse sectors of the economy, both locally and internationally.

Dr Moonga anticipated that the gesture would result into value addition to the Parliamentary Library and positive impact on readers.

And receiving the donations on behalf of the National Assembly Management, Deputy Clerk Corporate Affairs, Mr. Stephen Kawimbe expressed gratitude to ACSZ for the valuable contribution.

He acknowledged that the book is a significant addition to the library collection, expected to benefit Parliamentarians and staff seeking in-

sights into farming and its evolution over time.

Mr. Kawimbe also expressed anticipation for more collaborative ventures with ACSZ, given the National Assembly's participation in the Agricultural and Commercial Show.

Speaking at the same event, the Director of Library Services, Ms. Chama Mfula announced that the Library would feature the donated book as the 'Book of the Month' for February 2024, as a way of raising awareness of its availability among Members of Parliament and staff of the National Assembly.



German Parliament and National Assembly Strengthen Collaborative Ties



Hon Malungo Chisangano Receiving a gift from Senior Coordinator in the German Parliament, Mr. Jan Fahbusch

By Namasiku Mubiana

The First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia Hon. Malungo Chisangano has lauded the German Parliament for its persistent efforts to establish fresh priority areas for collaboration with the National Assembly of Zambia. She said this proactive approach is indicative of both nations' shared dedication to strengthening diplomatic ties and fostering cooperation on a multitude of fronts.

The First Deputy Speaker said this when the German Ambassador to Zambia, Her Excellency Ms Anne Wagner-Mitchell and

Senior Coordinator in the German Parliament, Mr Jan Fahbusch paid a courtesy call on her on Tuesday, 30th January, 2024 at Parliament Buildings in Lusaka.

Hon Chisangano said that as the National Assembly of Zambia and the German Parliament explore new collaborative frontiers, it lays the foundation for the development of initiatives that will further deepen the longstanding bond between Germany and Zambia. This, in turn, paves the way for a more robust and harmonious relationship on the international stage.



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German Ambassador to Zambia, Her Excellency Ms Anne Wagner-Mitchell said Zambia is a crucial partner to Germany. She mentioned that there has been ongoing correspondence between the two Parliaments regarding potential collaboration, leading to a visit by Mr. Jan Fahlbusch.

Ms. Mitchell stated that during his visit, discussions will be held with various Heads of Department to identify priority areas of collaboration between the two legislative bodies.

The National Assembly has been receiving support from the German Government for over a decade. This support encompasses various initiatives,

including the construction of 17 Constituency offices with the provision of office equipment and furniture, the establishment of a Parliament TV studio, and the expansion of Parliament Radio coverage.

Additionally, the German Government has contributed to the development of manuals and training for Constituency office staff on the work and operations of Parliament. Support has also been extended through the Democracy Strengthening in Zambia project, facilitated by GIZ.



SPEAKER MUTTI ATTENDS THE SOUTH AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT



Speaker Hon. Mutti (centre) with counterparts from the SADC region and across Africa

By Temwa Nyirenda

The Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Right Honourable Ms Nelly B K Mutti, MP, FAPRA, participated in the South African Legislative Sector Oversight Summit in Cape Town, South Africa alongside counterparts from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and select Speakers from across Africa.

The summit which was held from 30th to 31st January, 2024 is an annual event in South Africa and this time around broadened its scope by inviting Speakers from other African Countries in order to foster cross-border learning and exchange of best practices in parliamentary oversight.

The meeting explored innovative methodologies and strategies to augment sector oversight, with a view to promote knowledge sharing and idea exchange among participating Parliaments, potentially leading to the effective oversight

practices drawn from diverse legislative bodies.

Among its objectives were evaluating the efficacy of the Legislative Sector in the implementation of their constitutional mandates, exploring transformative approaches to enhance legislative effectiveness, and identifying partnership opportunities for collaboration to strengthen oversight mechanisms.

The Speaker was accompanied by Hon Princess Kasune, MP, Central Province Minister, Mr Roy Ngulube, Clerk of the National Assembly and other support staff. Following the summit, the Speaker also engaged in the SADC PF Extraordinary Executive Committee (Exco) meeting on Thursday, 1st February, 2024 where SADC Speakers and Exco Members deliberated on leadership challenges confronting the Pan African Parliament.