



President Hichilema assures free and fair elections



President Hakainde Hichilema hands over the speech on National Values and Principles to the Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Dr. Nelly B.K. Mutti, SC, MP, FAPRA, after his address to the National Assembly of Zambia.

By Namasiku Mubiana

President Hakainde Hichilema says Government remains committed to ensuring free, fair, credible and peaceful elections as the country prepares for the 13th August 2026 general elections.

President Hichilema said there can be no development without peace and that Zambia will continue to uphold democracy, constitutionalism and the preservation of freedom of assembly and association.

Speaking when he addressed the Fifth Session of the Thirteenth National Assembly on Friday, 20th February 2026, President Hichilema called on political players to uphold peace, tolerance, unity and respect

for divergent views.

“Let us always choose unity over division. Coexistence, tolerance, dialogue and inclusion over conflict and insults. Let us choose progress over politicking,” the President said.

The Head of State further stressed that Government remains committed to strengthening democratic governance, through constitutional reforms aimed at enhancing inclusivity and fair representation.

He explained that the amended Constitution Act No. 13 of 2025, provides for increased representation in Parliament, of women, youths and persons with disabilities.



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President Hichilema also reiterated that over 2.5 million children have benefited from the reintroduced free education policy. He stated that Government has recruited over 41,000 teachers and will recruit an additional 2,000 in 2026.

He added that programmes supporting learners as well as the school feeding initiative have significantly increased, contributing to improved school attendance and performance.

The Head of State added that Government has recruited over 18,000 health workers and expanded access to health services through the construction and upgrade of facilities.

The President further explained that the budget allocation to the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) increased from K1.6 million in 2021 to K40 million per constituency in 2026.

“It is important to note that this fund is supporting our children and the people through bursaries, social cash transfer, skills development, healthcare services, water supply, market infrastructure and local economic activities,” President Hichilema said.



Speaker Mutti receives President Hakainde Hichilema at Parliament Buildings ahead of his address on National Values and Principles to the National Assembly.

President Hichilema however, bemoaned the rise of divorce rates in the country. He said Government is working with traditional leaders, the church and other stakeholders to strengthen family values and promote stable households.

The Head of State disclosed that Government is addressing social challenges such as gender-based violence, child marriage, teenage pregnancies and substance abuse.

He said interventions such as free education, skills training, empowerment programmes and nationwide sensitisation campaigns have been implemented to tackle these issues.

The President further expressed concern over the abuse of social media platforms where some individuals are promoting hate speech, cybercrimes and false news.

“As citizens, we must say no to hate speech and spread of false news. These vices have absolutely no place in our society,” he said.

He urged the public to utilise the digital platforms for innovative and entrepreneurship opportunities. The President also reiterated that Government is strengthening the legal framework to protect citizens online.



A view of the interior of the National Assembly Chamber, with Members of Parliament and invited guests seated in the Public Galleries, as President Hakainde Hichilema delivers his address.



Ghana's President John Mahama addresses the National Assembly of Zambia, calls for African Economic sovereignty



President John Dramani delivers his address to the National Assembly of Zambia.

By Sipiwe Banda

Ghanaian President Mr. John Dramani Mahama said Africa must pursue economic sovereignty and reduce dependency on external powers.

President Mahama stated that African leaders must move beyond political goodwill and secure genuine economic emancipation by asserting control over natural resources and domesticating financial reserves.

Speaking when he addressed the National Assembly of Zambia on Friday, 5th February, 2026, President Mahama disclosed that the “Accra Reset,” is a plan his Government has adopted in Ghana to strengthen economic

independence, which other African countries can emulate.

President Mahama explained that the “Accra Reset” seeks to dismantle three key pillars hindering Africa’s growth, namely security, social and resource dependency.

The Head of State noted that many countries rely on external powers for stability, international donors for social services and export raw minerals without adding value locally.

President Mahama said Africa continues to face what he described as a pandemic of unfulfilled potential, adding that the era of granting large-scale concessions to external investors must come to an end in favour of



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empowering indigenous private sectors.

President Mahama emphasised the need for African countries to strengthen their economies by ensuring local participation in key industries and capturing greater value from their natural resources.

The President further commended the Government of President Hakainde Hichilema for its efforts in stabilizing the Zambian Kwacha.

He said this demonstrates what can be achieved when a country has sound economic policies. He therefore called for a unified African voice on trade and climate finance.

“No African country can survive in isolation, unity must be our strategy not just a political slogan,” President Mahama said.

The Head of State’s visit to Zambia resulted in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to allow visa-free travel for all passport holders between Ghana and Zambia, aimed at promoting trade and tourism.

The visit also led to the signing of ten Memoranda of Understanding, which have revitalised the Permanent Joint Commission for Cooperation between the two countries, with focus areas including mining, energy, agriculture and defence.



Speaker Mutti receives Ghanaian President, Mr. John Dramani Mahama at Parliament Buildings ahead of his address to the National Assembly of Zambia



First Deputy Speaker Hon Chisangano applauds Zambia–Tanzania Parliamentary cooperation



First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Hon. Malungo Chisangano, MP, is welcomed by her counterpart, Hon. Daniel Baran Sillo, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania during her official visit.

By Lombe W B Musonda

First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Hon. Malungo Chisangano, MP, has applauded the strong and growing Parliamentary cooperation between Zambia and Tanzania.

She said that beyond bilateral engagements,

Zambia and Tanzania have continued to support each other in regional and international Parliamentary forums, further strengthening their cooperation.

Hon. Chisangano said this when she paid a courtesy call on her counterpart, Hon.

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Hon. Malungo Chisangano, MP, receives a gift from her Tanzanian counterpart, Hon. Daniel Baran Sillo.

Daniel Baran Sillo, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania, on Monday, 2nd February 2026, during her official benchmarking visit, to the National Assembly of Tanzania in Dodoma.

The First Deputy Speaker noted that the two Parliaments have collaborated through platforms such as the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF), the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

“Through these forums, our Parliaments have jointly advanced shared positions on democracy, peace and security, good governance, gender equality and sustainable development,”

she said.

Hon. Chisangano added that Parliaments play a critical role in promoting democracy, accountability and inclusive development and commended the Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania, for its continued efforts in upholding democratic governance and fostering national development.

She said the Zambian delegation was in the country to benchmark best practices in legislative procedures, committee operations, capacity building for Members of Parliament and Parliamentary staff, women empowerment programmes, youth participation and the use of technology to modernise Parliamentary processes.

“My visit to your Parliament is to enable us to learn how you have, over the years, promoted the welfare of women parliamentarians, as well as women and children in

general,” Hon. Chisangano said.

The First Deputy Speaker explained that the delegation also sought to learn about initiatives aimed at improving the processing of Private Members’ Bills, mechanisms for maintaining discipline in the House and Committees and procedures for the consideration and approval of the national budget.

Meanwhile, Hon. Daniel Baran Sillo, commended the National Assembly of Zambia for establishing the Institute of Parliamentary Studies and Training.

He said the initiative will benefit Parliaments across the SADC region through enhanced capacity building and knowledge sharing.



National Assembly poised to deepen bilateral ties with Finland in trade and investment



From left: Second Deputy Speaker Hon. Moses Moyo, MP Finland's Minister of Economic Affairs Dr. Sakari Puisto, Ambassador H.E Saana Halinen, Ms. Jacqueline Sabao, MP and Mr. Imanga Wamunyima, MP, pose for a photo outside the New Committee Building after the meeting.

By Namasiku Mubiana

Second Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Honourable Moses Moyo, MP, says the National Assembly is poised to deepen bilateral ties with Finland in trade and investment as part of efforts to strengthen economic cooperation and promote sustainable development between the two countries.

Hon Moyo said this when the Minister of Economic Affairs of Finland, Dr. Sakari Puisto, MP, who led a Finnish delegation

accompanied by Her Excellency Ms. Saana Halinen, paid a courtesy call on him on Thursday, 5th February, 2025, at Parliament Buildings.

He said Zambia appreciates Finland's continued support in areas of private sector development, youth employment, environmental sustainability and social protection, noting that programmes supporting micro, small and medium enterprises have contributed to inclusive economic growth.

He added that the strong bilateral relations at national level have also translated



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into productive parliamentary cooperation through sustained engagements and exchanges between the two legislatures.

“Zambia remains committed to strengthening parliamentary cooperation as a means of supporting trade, investment and sustainable economic development,” he said.

The Second Deputy Speaker further called for deeper cooperation in afforestation, stating that Zambia can learn from Finland’s experience in sustainable forest management, climate resilience and circular economy solutions in order to support environmental protection.

Meanwhile, Dr. Sakari Puisto, MP, said Finland is keen to strengthen economic cooperation with Zambia through increased trade, investment and private sector partnerships, particularly in mining, value addition and sustainable industrial development.

He said his visit to Zambia also forms part of Finland’s economic diplomacy agenda aimed at supporting responsible investment and long-term economic growth.

He added that parliamentary engagement plays an important role in supporting bilateral relations and said collaboration between the Zambia–Finland Parliamentary Friendship Groups (ZFPFG) complements government to government relations by fostering dialogue, policy coherence and investor confidence.

Ambassador of Finland to Zambia, Her Excellency Ms. Saana Halinen, said Finland values the warm and constructive cooperation with the National Assembly of Zambia and the Zambia–Finland Parliamentary Friendship Group.

She noted that Finland has facilitated several high-level visits to Zambia and said it has

been encouraging to see the steady growth of parliamentary diplomacy.

“There are still many untapped areas of cooperation between the two countries and the Finnish Embassy remains ready to facilitate resources and further collaboration, including through structured engagements between the two parliaments,” she said.

Speaking at the same meeting, Chairperson of the Zambia–Finland Parliamentary Friendship Group, Mr. Imanga Wamunyima, MP, said that while the Group recognises that this is an election year for the country, it remains committed to strengthening parliamentary relations between Zambia and Finland.

Mr. Wamunyima stated that the Zambia–Finland Friendship Group not only provide important platform for cooperation but also for exchange of best practices to help ensure that bilateral cooperation delivers tangible benefits to the people of Zambia and Finland.

Ms. Jacqueline Sabao, MP, who is also Vice Chairperson of the Zambia–Finland Parliamentary Friendship Group, said that it is her hope that the Group can also learn from the Finnish in terms of how women in Parliament are performing.

She said that the Finnish should also consider supporting the development of capacity building programmes for women that are combined with leadership training and mentorship.

Ms. Sabao said this will help strengthen women’s participation in politics and promote inclusive governance in Zambia.



National Assembly Hosts Fair Play Integrity Torch Relay Ahead of Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics



Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Dr. Nelly B.K Mutti, SC, MP, FAPRA (in white, in the center) posing for a picture with the participants of the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics.

By Mukoba Ngulube

The National Assembly of Zambia hosted the Fair Play Integrity Torch Relay on Saturday 7th February, 2026, ahead of the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Games.

Speaking at the ceremonial lighting of the Olympic torch, Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, the Rt. Hon. Dr. Nelly B. K. Mutti SC, MP, FAPRA, , said the Olympic Flame is a global symbol of peace, friendship and noble competition.

Speaker Mutti stated that the event aimed to promote the Olympic Truce, a historic call for peace and mutual respect among

nations during the Games.

“These Olympics go beyond sport and serve as a platform to inspire young people to embrace discipline, excellence and healthy lifestyles”, she said.

Speaker Mutti paid tribute to Zambia’s Olympic athletes, noting that they have created a lasting legacy that continues to inspire future generations.

Italy’s Deputy Ambassador to Zambia His Excellency, Enrico de Agostini said his country remains committed to hosting sustainable and inclusive Games. He added that the Olympics are a powerful force



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Speaker Mutti, lights the touch in commemoration of the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics

for unity, capable of transcending borders, silencing conflict and promoting dialogue among nations.

Meanwhile, Lusaka Mayor Ms. Chilando Chitangala, represented by Ngwerere Ward 22 Councillor, Mr. Adrian Banda, said the partnership between Lusaka and Ancient

Olympia, positions the torch relay as a catalyst for international cooperation, youth empowerment and cultural exchange.



Sustainable health financing is key to attaining UHC, Speaker Mutti tells NEAPACOH



In the front row: Speaker Mutti (7th left) and Acting Clerk of the National Assembly, Mrs Loveness Mayaka (6th left) pose for a photo with representatives of NEAPACOH during the official opening at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre.

By Namasiku Mubiana

Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Rt Hon Dr Nelly B.K. Mutti, SC, MP, FAPRA says sustainable and accountable health financing is key to attaining Universal Health Coverage in the African region

Dr Mutti noted that investment in health infrastructure, the workforce, innovation and emergency preparedness is more cost-effective than reactionary spending.

She added that strong and equitable health systems are also essential for national development and stability.

Dr Mutti said this when she officially opened the 17th Meeting of the Network of African Parliamentary Committees on Health (NEAPACOH), at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre, on Wednesday, 25th February, 2026.

Speaker Mutti said the attainment of UHC requires deliberate planning, strong governance and consistent domestic resource mobilisation to ensure that all citizens, including the most vulnerable, have access to quality health services without facing financial hardship.

Speaker Mutti thus urged Parliaments in the region to utilise their legislative



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authority, budget approval and oversight roles to ensure equitable allocation and efficient utilisation of health resources.

Speaking earlier, NEAPACOH Chairperson, Hon. Mokhothu Makhalanyane, said UHC is both a political and financing decision that requires deliberate domestic resource mobilisation.

He said robust budgetary frameworks, transparent procurement systems and accountability mechanisms will improve efficiency and strengthen governance in the health sector.

Hon Makhalanyane added that African Parliaments must strengthen oversight and demand transparency in the utilisation of health resources in order to curb corruption, which he said continues to divert medicines, inflate procurement costs and weaken service delivery.

He reiterated the need to prioritise primary health care, skilled birth attendance, reliable supply chains and sustained domestic co-financing for HIV and tuberculosis programmes if Africa is to safeguard the gains recorded in the health sector.

Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Mr Martin Chungong, in his remarks delivered through a video recording, urged legislators to champion increased domestic investment in health and ensure that budgetary decisions respond to the needs of vulnerable and marginalised populations.

Mr Chungong said predictable financing, a well-trained health workforce and strong primary health care systems are critical to the attainment of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals.

Executive Director of Partners in Population and Development, Professor Joseph Adelegan, disclosed that the financing gap for UHC remains wide amid declining donor support and growing fiscal pressures.

He called on Parliamentarians to enact policies that create an enabling environment for innovative financing mechanisms to help expand health coverage and reduce inequalities.

Professor Adelegan also noted that integrating sexual and reproductive health services into national UHC strategies will improve health outcomes, reduce maternal and child mortality and as a result achieve broader developmental goals.

Meanwhile, Executive Director of the African Institute for Development Policy, Dr Eliya Zulu, reiterated that Africa's greatest challenge is implementation rather than the absence of policy frameworks.

Dr Zulu urged governments to present investment in health as a key driver of economic development in order to secure increased domestic financing.

Dr Zulu also urged Parliaments to strengthen their oversight function to systematically track resource utilisation, close leakages in procurement systems and ensure that allocated funds translate into tangible health services.

And Clerk of the National Assembly of Zambia, Ms Loveness Mayaka, said Zambia's hosting of the NEAPACOH meeting demonstrates the country's commitment to strengthening parliamentary collaboration, promoting evidence-based decision-making and advancing accountability and sustainable health financing across Africa.

The Network of African Parliamentary Committees on Health (NEAPACOH) is a continental platform that brings together health committee members from over 27 African countries to collaborate on strengthening health governance, financing and oversight to accelerate Universal Health Coverage (UHC) across Africa. The Forum is being hosted by the National Assembly of Zambia from 25 to 27 February 2026 in Lusaka.

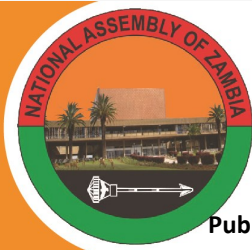


PHOTO FOCUS

NAZ successfully hosts Network of African Parliamentary Committees on Health Conference

Pictures courtesy of Batuke Imenda Jnr.



The Acting Clerk of the National Assembly of Zambia, Mrs. Loveness Mayaka, during the official opening of the Forum



Executive Director of Partners in Population and Development, Professor Joseph Adelegan delivers his remarks during the official opening of the Network of African Parliamentary Committees on Health (NEAPACOH) Forum.



Delegates attending the NEOPACOH Forum



Executive Director of the African Institute for Development Policy, Dr Eliya Zulu advocates for investment in health financing.



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Ms. Evaline Kibuchi, Africa Regional Director for the Global Tuberculosis Caucus, called for gender-responsive policies and increased financing to accelerate the End TB campaign in Africa.

She made the call during her presentation titled *“Organising Gendered Interventions to Accelerate the End TB Campaign in Africa: Lessons from the LIGHT Consortium.”*



Prof. Nicklaus Labhardt of the University of Basel with Dr. Ditaba during a presentation on *“Responding to Non-Communicable Diseases for Achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC): Community Health Workers as a Cornerstone for Affordable, High-Quality Chronic Care in Rural Africa – Lessons from Lesotho.”*

They advocated for financing of Community Health Workers responding to Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) to improve access to chronic care and accelerate the attainment of UHC.



Dr. Isabelle Uny, Senior Research Fellow at the University of Stirling presenting on *“The Growing Crisis of Alcohol Use and Harmful Substances in the African Region: Protecting Africa’s Young People and the Economic Dividend.”*

she urged African countries to enact and enforce stronger alcohol control policies to safeguard young people and protect the continent’s economic dividend.



Hon. Dr. Charles Ayume from the Parliament of Ghana on urged African parliaments to strengthen legislation and financing towards antimicrobial management to build resilient health systems and curb the rising threat of antimicrobial resistance.



National Assembly successfully hosts 17th NEAPACOH Forum as Meeting closes with Lusaka Call to Action



From left: Mr. Munsanje, fellow delegate, Hon. Mokhothu Makhalanya and Hon. Sebastian Mbaigolmen pose for a photo.

By Namasiku Mubiana

The First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Honourable Malungo A. Chisangano, MP, has said that the successful hosting of the 17th Network of African Parliamentary Committees on Health (NEAPACOH) Meeting, demonstrates the National Assembly's firm commitment to strengthening parliamentary action for improved health outcomes across Africa.

She said this in a speech read on her behalf by the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Caucus on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Mr. Joseph Munsanje, MP, at the official closing of the Meeting on

Friday, 27th February, 2026, at Mulungushi International Conference Center, Kenneth Kaunda Wing.

Hon Chisangano expressed gratitude to the delegates for their valuable contributions and commended the adoption of the Lusaka Call to Action, describing it as timely and progressive.

She said that the deliberations reflected a shared resolve to build responsive, inclusive and resilient health systems for the attainment of Universal Health Coverage (UHC).



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"These discussions have been robust and solution oriented, reflecting our shared resolve to ensure that health systems across Africa are inclusive in their reach, responsive to emerging challenges and sustainable for our generations to come," she said.

Hon. Chisangano noted that the meeting further, provided a platform for evidence-based engagement on pressing health priorities, including domestically financed health systems, climate change and health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, non-communicable diseases, antimicrobial resistance and emergency preparedness and responses.

"I am particularly encouraged by the session that challenged us to think beyond aid dependency, especially the deliberations on innovative and sustainable health financing, national health insurance schemes and the growing imperative for local pharmaceutical production," she said.

The First Deputy Speaker therefore, stressed the urgent need for Parliamentarians to play a decisive role in shaping policy, approving budgets and overseeing implementation in ways that promote self-reliance, equity and long-term sustainability.

Meanwhile, outgoing NEAPACOH Chairperson, Honourable Mokhothu Makhalanyane, MP, said health sovereignty in Africa must move from being a vision to a practical reality through domestic financing, local manufacturing of health commodities and prudent management of natural resources.

He stressed that corruption continues to drain resources through inflated procurement and diversion of medicines and requires decisive parliamentary oversight.

Speaking earlier, Chairperson of the Committee on Health from the Parliament of

Chad, Hon. Sebastien Mbaigolmen, MP, lauded the successful deliberations which were guided by technical experts. He said their research and evidence informed parliamentary decisions.

He further expressed gratitude to cooperating partners for their technical and financial support, describing their engagement as a genuine commitment to improving health outcomes on the continent.

The Lusaka Call to Action, presented by the Chairperson of the Committee on Health from the Parliament of Ghana, Hon. Mark Kurt Nawaane, aims to strengthen legislative and policy action to build responsive, equitable, resilient and sustainable health systems.

It also recognises Parliamentarians as central to shaping Africa's health agenda through progressive legislation, sustainable domestic financing and enhanced accountability.

The resolution also calls for strengthening legal and institutional frameworks for epidemic preparedness, promoting youth and reproductive health, institutionalising self-care and advancing pharmaceutical self-sufficiency across the continent.



CONSTITUENCY CORNER

CDF support boosts winter maize production in Lufwanyama

Pictures courtesy of Lufwanyama Town Council



The Farming inputs ready for distribution.

Lufwanyama Member of Parliament Mr. Kenny Siachisomu speaking during the distribution event.

By Jessy Mtonga

Government has distributed 183 farming input packs across all 20 wards in Lufwanyama District under the 2025 Constituency Development Fund (CDF), in a move aimed at promoting winter maize production and strengthening food security.

Speaking during the distribution exercise on 11th February, 2026, Area Member of Parliament, Mr. Kenny Siachisumu, MP, said the initiative is intended to encourage off-season farming and support the sustainable use of wetlands in the district.

Mr. Siachisumu stated that the provision of farming inputs will help farmers engage in year-round agricultural activities, maximise available water resources and improve household incomes.

He urged beneficiaries to take responsibility for the inputs and ensure that the support translates into increased agricultural output and improved livelihoods in the district.

The Member of Parliament further applauded the Council for effectively implementing CDF programmes and commended farmers for their continued dedication to agricultural production.

Lufwanyama Town Council Chairperson, Ms.

Annie Kapandula, expressed appreciation for the leadership shown by the Member of Parliament and his continued support towards development initiatives in the district.

She also commended the collaborative efforts of Council staff and other stakeholders in ensuring the successful distribution of the farming inputs.

Ms. Kapandula urged beneficiaries to utilise the inputs effectively. She said the success of the programme will depend on how well the resources are put to use.

Meanwhile, Lufwanyama Town Council Secretary, Mr. Mutakela Kayonde, explained that agriculture remains a key driver of socio-economic development in the district.

He said the distribution of farming inputs forms part of broader efforts to enhance productivity among local farmers.

A representative of the beneficiaries expressed gratitude to the Government, the Member of Parliament and the Council, stating that the timely support will help reduce the cost of farming and enable farmers to cultivate more land during the 2026 farming season, particularly in winter maize production.



Mpika Town Council installs traffic lights worth over K1.5 million

Pictures courtesy of Mpika Town Council



The newly installed solar-powered traffic lights in Mpika District.

By Dora Haruperi

Mpika Town Council has installed traffic lights worth over K1.5 million along the Great North Road to improve road safety in the district using CDF.

Council Public Relations Officer, Mr. Mushota Mpundu said the project, funded through the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), has seen the installation of traffic lights at key points such as Total Filling Station and Boma Junction.

He said the installation responds to long-standing safety concerns on the Great North Road, particularly at major junctions that have recorded numerous road traffic accidents due to high volumes of fast-moving vehicles.

Mr. Mpundu urged motorists and motorbike riders to observe traffic rules at the newly controlled intersections to ensure safety for all road users.

Meanwhile, Mr. George Mwape a resident of Mpika said the installation of traffic lights has reduced accidents and improved safety for both motorists and pedestrians.

Allah Shabar, a Tanzanian truck driver said the traffic lights have helped regulate the flow of traffic on the Great North Road, which is a key corridor for motorists travelling to Nakonde and Kasama.



Princess Kasune commissions new classroom block at Nachiyaba Day Secondary School

Pictures courtesy of Chibombo Town Council



Hon. Princess Kasune, MP, (in black jacket, striped dress) with community members at the commissioning of a 1x3 classroom block at Nachiyaba Day Secondary School in Keembe Constituency.

By Gwennie Shamizhinga

The newly built 1x3 classroom block, with learners admiring the facility.

Member of Parliament for Keembe Constituency, Hon. Princess Kasune, MP, says the commissioning of a new classroom block at Nachiyaba Day Secondary School is a milestone in improving education for learners in Keembe Constituency.

She said the initiative is a step towards improving learning environments and expanding access to secondary education for all.

Ms. Kasune said this when she commissioned a 1x3 classroom block at Nachiyaba Day Secondary School on Friday, 6th February, 2026, in Keembe Constituency.

The Justice Minister explained that the new facility will help improve learning conditions and ease overcrowding, creating a conducive environment for both teachers and learners.

She noted that the school has for many years faced challenges of inadequate infrastructure, which affected the quality of education.

"Learners have been subjected to overcrowded classrooms and long distances to access secondary education, a situation that negatively impacted academic performance," she explained.

"I am pleased to state that with the new classroom block, the learners will now enjoy a more comfortable learning environment and have easier access to quality education."

The Minister of Justice disclosed that the classroom block constructed under the 2025 Constituency Development Fund (CDF), at a cost of K1,682,000 comes equipped with 75 desks to ease congestion.

She described the growth as encouraging, noting that the institution now offers classes from Grade 8 to Grade 12 and has been upgraded to an examination centre, thereby reducing the burden on learners walking long distances to sit for examinations.

Hon. Kasune further disclosed that 201 students from Keembe Constituency have benefited from CDF bursaries and skills training programmes. She urged the youths to take full advantage of these opportunities to build sustainable livelihoods.

The commissioning ceremony was attended by Chibombo Town Council Chairperson Mr. Newton Nyeleti, Council Secretary Mrs. Grace N.M. Kanyata, UPND constituency leadership, traditional leaders, parents and other government officials.



More modern markets to be built under CDF in Mongu

Pictures courtesy of Mongu Town Council



By Makani Kabeta

The commissioned Green Market shelter with local traders displaying their products.

Member of Parliament for Mongu Central Constituency, Mr. Oliver Amutike, MP, says more modern markets will continue to be constructed under the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), to improve trading conditions and support local businesses in the district.

Speaking at the official handover of the newly constructed Green market funded under the 2024 CDF at a cost of K1,996,277 and K999,702 for the Central Market, held on 11th February, 2026, at the Main Bus Station shelter in Mongu, Mr. Amutike said the local authority has continued to record progress in infrastructure development through the use of CDF.

He noted that since the introduction of the enhanced CDF, Mongu Municipal Council has already constructed five modern markets aimed at providing a better trading environment.

He explained that the continued investment in market infrastructure reflects Government's commitment to improving livelihoods and empowering communities through decentralised development.

Meanwhile, Western Province Permanent Secretary, Mr. Simomo Akapelwa, said the handover of the two markets is a significant milestone for traders and the people of Mongu.

Mr. Akapelwa disclosed that the Central Market has been constructed with 90 trading stands, while the Green Market

has 60 stands, thereby providing improved and organised trading spaces.

He reiterated that Government remains committed to decentralisation through the CDF, noting that such initiatives are directly improving people's livelihoods.

Mongu Mayor, His Worship, Mr. Nyambe Muyumbana, said the newly constructed markets demonstrate what can be achieved when Government and the community work together.

He disclosed that since 2022, the CDF has adopted a bottom-up approach, allowing communities to actively participate in identifying and implementing development projects.

Mr. Muyumbana urged beneficiaries to take ownership of the infrastructure and safeguard the facilities to ensure long-term benefits.

And Mongu Town Clerk, Mr. Oliver Muuka, expressed gratitude to Government for the financial support towards CDF projects. He stressed that concerns regarding the Central Market, particularly challenges experienced during the rainy season, have been noted and will be addressed.



Chawama receives new Police Post and upgraded roads



Pictures courtesy of Lusaka City Council

The newly constructed Kuku Police Post

"It is important that you serve the community diligently and ensure that both citizens and public infrastructure are protected at all times," she said.

Meanwhile, Chawama Member of Parliament, Mr. Bright Nundwe, expressed gratitude for the increased CDF allocation. He said the funds have become a driver for critical community infrastructure, including schools and health facilities.

Mr. Nundwe urged residents to safeguard the police post and warned against vandalism as well as stressed the need for community ownership of public property.

"Let us all take responsibility for protecting these facilities for our collective benefit," Mr. Nundwe said.

By Mukoba Ngulube

Member of Parliament for Rufunsa Constituency, Hon. Sheal Mulyata, MP, says the newly commissioned Kuku Police Post and upgraded roads mark an important step toward improving safety and service delivery in Chawama Constituency.

Hon. Mulyata who is also Lusaka Province Minister said the new police post will not only strengthen the presence of police in the area but also ensure quicker response to community security concerns.

The Minister said this in a speech read on her behalf by Lusaka Province Permanent Secretary, Eng. Joe Kalusa, during the handover ceremony held on Friday, 14th February, 2026.

Hon. Mulyata noted that the infrastructure package, which cost over K7.2 million, reflects a commitment to enhancing public safety and bringing essential services closer to residents.

She challenged the Zambia Police Service officers deployed to the post to execute their duties with professionalism, integrity and fairness.

Assistant Commissioner of Police for Lusaka Urban District, Ms. Annie Mazila said that the new police post will help address long-standing security challenges in the area.

Ms. Mazila explained that the presence of the police post will specifically target criminal gangs and individuals who have terrorized the neighborhood.

She added that the facility will enhance police operations and improve response time to security concerns. Ms. Mazila further applauded Government for encouraging the use of CDF in supporting law enforcement logistics.

Speaking on behalf of Chawama residents, Western Sianyulu said the development has given the community a sense of relief and improved confidence in their safety.

The Kuku Police Post was constructed at a total cost of K2,788,899.12. In addition, three roads were upgraded to improve accessibility within the constituency, namely Uweka Road at K2,504,095.00, Damakiso Road at K1,023,496.65 and Katwishi Road at K885,366.99.