



**04 - 07 May 2016
Livingstone, Zambia
6th General Assembly of WFO**

FRIDAY BRIEF

WEEK 19, 2016

THIS Week's Highlights.....

- **WORLD FARMERS CALL FOR STRONG PARTNERSHIPS**
- **MAIZE PRODUCTION FORECAST TO INCREASE TO 2,873,052 MT**
- **FARMERS URGED TO USE ZAMACE SERVICES**
- **AGRICULTURE MINISTER WARNS TOBACCO MARKETING COMPANIES**

..... SEE DETAILED UPDATES BELOW.....

INDUSTRY UPDATES

WORLD FARMERS CALL FOR STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

The dialogue sessions of the 2016 World Farmers' Organization (WFO) General Assembly came to a close on Friday with strong calls for farmers to enter into strategic multi-stakeholder partnerships that are necessary to enhance agriculture.

Over 400 leaders of farmer organizations and other international development agencies gathered at Avani Victoria Falls Resort in Livingstone to review as well as plan the agricultural year ahead, the key message being the need for farmers to create various partnership for sustainable agriculture. Since May 3, the delegates were involved in high-level discussions beginning with workshops on future strategic policy domains of the WFO, such as the farmers' experience and perspectives on land tenure, the

challenges and opportunities related to the increase of efficiency of farmers in the agricultural sector, innovation and research and farmers as agents of change to address climate change.

President Edgar Chagwa Lungu delivered the keynote speech at the General Assembly, reiterating the need for farmers to develop partnerships required to boost agriculture. He said it was incumbent upon international organizations to support farmers in their daily work by creating a viable social economic environment necessary for their success and profitability. "Meaningful multi-stakeholder partnerships among governments, international organizations, farmers and civil society must be established and developed toward the same goals," he said. "The Social Development Goals are global goals that can be achieved only if we all join forces and work together for effective implementation. We all need to work harder to make SDGs a reality, as posterity will judge us based on what we are doing now."

WFO Secretary General Dr Marco Marzano said farmers need to invent partnerships and not work in isolation. And WFO President Dr Evelyn Nguleka said agriculture was the primary sector of all economies responsible for granting food and nutrition security to all human beings. The 2016 General Assembly was being held under the theme "Partnerships for Growth" with a view to promoting the importance of a holistic approach to the agricultural sector, where different actors stand together for the same goal.

Dr. Nguleka said establishing effective partnerships remained a great priority for the WFO.

"For this reason, WFO has accepted the burden and the honour to act as the reference organization representing the world farmers' community at the most relevant policy processes in agriculture, including Sustainable Development Goals, Agenda 2030, climate negotiations and the Committee on World Food Security," she said. The event will end on Saturday with a tour of Mukaziwa, Chano and Alexwill Farms in Kalomo. The 7th WFO General Assembly will be held in Finland.

MAIZE PRODUCTION FORECAST TO INCREASE TO 2,873,052 MT

The 2015/2016 crop forecasting survey revealed that the country will record an increased maize harvest of 2,873,052 metric tonnes. This was revealed by the Agriculture Minister Given Lubinda during a press briefing on the crop forecasting survey for the 2015/2016 Agricultural season and the food balance status.

Honourable Lubinda said the forecast indicated an output of 2,873,052 tonnes representing 9.73 percent increase from the 2,618,221 tonnes produced last year. The national food balance sheet for the 2016/2017 marketing season based on the crop forecasting survey shows that the country has produced sufficient maize for both human consumption and industrial use. The country also has a maize carry-over stock amounting to 667,524 tonnes as at May 1, 2016. This brings the total maize supply for the 2016/2017 marketing season to 3,540,577 tonnes.

The current food balance sheet for total maize required for human consumption, industrial use and other commitments is estimated at 2,887,810 tonnes.

Meanwhile production of Soya beans is forecast to increase by 18.19% to 267,490 MT from 226,323 MT last year. Production of Rice is forecast to increase by 4.6% to 26,675 tonnes from 25,514 tonnes last season. However, production of cassava flour equivalent is forecast to decrease by 10.3% to 854,393 tonnes compared to 952,847 tonnes produced last year.

FARMERS URGED TO USE ZAMACE SERVICES

The Minister of Agriculture Honourable Lubinda has urged farmers to use Zambian Commodity Exchange (ZAMACE) platform for marketing their commodities. The Minister was speaking during a press briefing on the crop forecasting survey for the 2015/2016 Agricultural season and the food balance status this week. The Government has operationalised the Agricultural Credit Act of 2010 which mandates ZAMACE to manage the Warehouse Receipt System (WRS) on behalf of government. This system means that farmers who deposit maize and other commodities for storage with ZAMACE can use their stored commodities as collateral and borrow against it. The following locations have been

certified by ZAMACE to receive grain based on the ZAMACE market driven grades and standards for the 2016/2017 marketing season; Mkushi, Mpongwe, Kapiri Mposhi, Kabwe, Lusaka, Petauke and Katete. The above locations under the WRS have a total space of 400,000 metric tonnes.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER WARNS TOBACCO MARKETING COMPANIES

Honourable Lubinda, Minister of Agriculture issued a warning to Tobacco marketing companies that government will not take kindly to a repeat of the poor marketing arrangements for Tobacco that took place last year. This follows revelations that some farmers have still not been paid for the crop they sold to some marketing companies. The Minister attributed the reduction in production of Virginia and Burley Tobacco by 36.70% and 6.47% to 12,540 MT and 6,476 MT respectively to poor marketing arrangements for the crop last year. The Minister was speaking during a press briefing on the crop forecasting survey for the 2015/2016 Agricultural season and the food balance status this week.

ALERTS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



The Agricultural Knowledge & Training Centre

Offers short courses to all interested and serious emergent farmers who want to improve their farming activities and make profit in all their farming enterprises.

Coming up:

Farm Economics Workshop by Mr. Willis Mhlanga, MSc. Agric. Mgt.

The two-day workshop will emphasize on:

- *Budgeting*
- *Break even analysis*
- *Cash flow*

Target group: *Emergent or small farmers who produce for the market*

Entrance fee: *Free*

Date: *Wednesday and Thursday, 11th and 12th of May 2016*

Time: *9:00 to 16:00*

Venue: *Conference Hall; Golden Valley Agricultural Research Trust (GART); 65km north of Lusaka along T2*

Each day can also be booked individually.

Please register by sending an email to:

registration@aktzambia.com

Or call:

Martin Sikanyika 0962 910274

Helmut Anschuetz 0961 880792

Please note:

Next emergent farmer training at AKTC will be on 21st and 22nd of June 16 on **Farm Economics** and on 29th of June on **Tractor Maintenance**

FARMS FOR SALE/LEASE

- 7 Hectares virgin land for sale in Mwembeshi, about 44km along the Lusaka-Mongu Road and 500m off the road. The land is opposite Sable Farm. ZESCO line about 500m from the fam. Asking Price K250,000. For enquiries, contact Maj Kayewa on 0977365911
- Land for long-term lease available in Miengwe, Ndola Rural. One kilometre from the Great North Road on the road leading to Chief Nkambo’s Palace/Teka Farm. Up to 20 hectares to be leased. Contact Nancy Mubanga 0966457674/0955457674 or e-mail namubanga@hotmail.com, lombe.mubanga@gmail.com
- 1,000 acres Farm in Kapiri/Mkushi on sale or long lease. Four Kilometres from Great North Road, 1KM from ZESCO grid, 4km from Tazara Railway. Farm on a 99-year Government lease. Farm is bordered by two rivers on either side. 300 acres cleared. A unique deal offer. Call 0955424201 or e-mail kankonongo@gmail.com
- 40 hectares Farm located I the Mpima Dairy Scheme in Kabwe for lease. Farm is on a 99-year Government lease. It is bordered partly by the Mulungushi Dam. For enquiries, contact 0955569168/0977786367/0977883442 or email indiekayama@gmail.com or mirriamkasonde2000@yahoo.co.uk

AGRICULTURAL HOLIDAYS

- I. New Year’s Day – 1st January
- II. Women’s Day – 8th March
- III. Good Friday
- IV. Labour Day – 1st May
- V. African Freedom Day
- VI. Heroes Day – First Monday in July
- VII. Unity Day – first Tuesday in July
- VIII. Farmers Day – First Monday in August
- IX. Independence Day 24th October
- X. Christmas Day – 25th December

LIQUID NITROGEN FOR SALE AT BREEDING IMPULS ZAMBIA

"Breeding Impuls Zambia would hereby like to inform you that it now has Liquid Nitrogen available from its premises in the Agricultural and Commercial Society Zambia grounds. Our address is Fens Investment Building, Lusaka Show grounds, Cattle section.

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

NORTH-WESTERN B REGION

DACO URGES FARMERS TO SAFEGUARD CROPS AGAINST UNSCRUPULOUS TRADERS

The District Agriculture Coordinator (DACO) for Kabompo in North-Western Province has urged farmers in the district to safeguard their crops. The DACO, Peter Chibizwa, was speaking during routine field visits conducted jointly on Tuesday 3rd May, 2016 by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and ZNFU in Litoya Farm Block of the district. Mr. Chibizwa said there is usually a tendency by farmers to sell their

Groundnuts and Maize crops to unscrupulous buyers who buy the crops at uneconomical prices leaving the farmers at a loss. Mr. Chibizwa further urged farmers to start attending agribusiness lessons conducted by the MoA and ZNFU for them to learn new skills in crop production, farming business and postharvest handling of crops.

North-Western province has seen unprecedented rise in the number of private buyers who later sell crop products in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

COPPERBELT REGION

TAFE INDIA VISITS MPONGWE CLIENTS

Tractor Farmers' Equipment (TAFE) from India together with SARO visited and conducted trainings and awareness meetings in four Information Centres of both Mpongwe East and Mpongwe West District Farmers' Associations. The training targeted farmers who got TAFE tractor loans under the ZNFU/NATSAVE Bunjimi Asset Plus Loan Scheme.

The Divisional Manager for Export at TAFE India, Kishori Raman Das, facilitated the trainings and over 60 farmers were trained in their respective Information Centres.

LOW OFFER PRICES FOR SOYA AND MAIZE WORRY FARMERS

Farmers in Mpongwe have expressed worry over low prices for Maize and Soya Beans currently being offered by private buyers in the district. Private buyers are buying Maize at as low as K1.20 per Kg while Soya Beans is going at K3 per Kg.

AFGRI Mpongwe branch has however announced its 2016 purchasing prices for Maize at K1.70 per Kg while Soya Beans will go at K4.70 per Kg. AFRI has since informed farmers that the company will start purchasing the commodities once moisture levels have dropped to recommended levels.

NORTHERN REGION

KASAMA FARMERS VISIT MKUSHI FOR CONSERVATION FARMING EXPOSURE

ZNFU Northern Region in partnership with World Vision Zambia (Mwamba ADP) is conducting a conservation farming exposure visit for Kasama farmers to Mkushi district. The visit is aimed at enabling farmers appreciate the importance of conservation farming amidst effects of climate change. About 60 farmers are earmarked to benefit from the exposure tour. The first group of 30 farmers have already traveled to Mkushi and the rest will travel next week.

MBALA SHOW PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY

The Mbala District Show Society committee has started preparations for the Provincial and District Agricultural Show. And the Show Society chairperson, Lewis Sinyangwe, who is also Mbala Central Information Centre chairperson, has encouraged all committee members to work together and scope first position at the provincial show.

AGRICHEM TECHIKEM SERVICES TRAINS FARMERS IN MBALA

Agchem Techikem Services (ATS) have trained some farmers in Mbala district as spraying service providers for vegetables and crops. The main aim of the training is to equip farmers with knowledge in herbicides and the right chemicals to use on various types of weeds. The service providers will be providing services to farmers in the district. Mbala DFA chairperson, Peter Witola, will be the team leader for the group of service providers who are also Mbala DFA members.

SELF HELP AFRICA (SHA) TO BUILD PLANT CLINIC IN LUWINGU

Self Help Africa (SHA) is planning to up a plant clinic in Luwingu district. The plant clinic is meant to help local farmers, especially those engaged in vegetable gardening, with knowledge on integrated pest and disease management through use of plant remedies. This came to light during a stakeholders meeting convened by the Ministry of Agriculture in Luwingu this week.

EASTERN A REGION

THE 2016 TOBACCO MARKETS OPEN IN EASTERN PROVINCE

The Tobacco Board of Zambia (TBZ) has opened the 2016 tobacco markets in the Eastern Province. The tobacco floors were opened at the Namboard main floors in Chipata on 3rd May, 2016. The highest price for barley tobacco is US \$2.95 per kg, while the lowest is US \$0.40 cents per kg. The TBZ Regional Tobacco Inspector said the farmers in the Province are expected to sale about 6 million kilograms, which is lower than last year's 6.7 million kilograms. He attributed the reduction in the volume of tobacco to the poor rainfall pertain that was experienced in the Province in the last farming season and reduced sponsorship of tobacco production by tobacco merchants. JTI is the only major tobacco company that sponsored farmers in the last farming season in Eastern Province.

EASTERN B REGION

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE TO CONDUCT E-VOUCHER SENSITIZATION MEETINGS

Petauke district is among the three districts in Eastern Province that have been selected to roll out the use of E- voucher system on the Farmer Input Support Program (FISP) for the 2016/17 farming season. As such the Ministry of Agriculture through the office of the District Agriculture Coordinator (DACO) and ZNFU Eastern B Regional Office during the District Agriculture Committee (DAC) meeting held on 3rd May 2016, resolved to conduct sensitization meetings to all 5 Agriculture Blocks in the district to explain the implementation modalities and the role of both the Ministry and ZNFU in the whole implementation process. The DACO informed the meeting that it was necessary to conduct these meetings in order to clear the misconceptions and also give a clear guidance to avoid mistakes that were identified in those districts that piloted the program in the previous season.

2016 COMMODITY PRICE TRENDS EXCITE FARMERS

Farmers in Eastern Province are happy with the current market price trends for crop commodities. The farmers who visited ZNFU Regional Office said that it was gratifying to see very positive commodity price trends especially at the beginning of the season. The farmers further added that the prevailing prices are very encouraging to farmers because they will be able to break even and have surplus income despite the high cost of production which they incurred during production.

A check by ZNFU found that Soya beans was trading at k4.5 per kg, Sunflower at k2.5/kg and for the first time Maize grain was trading at k2.05 per kg.

CENTRAL REGION

ZANACO VISITS CHIBOMBO FARMERS

A team from Zambia National Commercial Bank (ZANACO) visited Chibombo Farmers Association to discuss experiences, successes and challenges of the Lima Credit scheme. The Lima Credit Scheme is a loan scheme for agricultural inputs which is implemented jointly by the ZNFU and ZANACO bank. Speaking on behalf of the bank, Elijah Kangwa who is Head of Small Scale and Emerging Farmers affairs

at ZANACO indicated that the bank was proud of the program and found it necessary to interact with farmers on how best to improve on service delivery. He further indicated that a representative from Rabo Bank, one of the main shareholders of the bank, will soon visit to also interact with the farming community. Meanwhile Chibombo DFA chairperson, Michael Mainga, expressed concern at the fluctuation of bank interest rates under the scheme as it affects the farmers' ability to plan.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE INTENSIFIES FISP E-VOUCHER SENSITIZATION

Officials from the Ministry of Agriculture have intensified sensitization of the FISP E-Voucher program to would be beneficiaries in all camps of Serenje district. During the rolling out of the sensitization plan, the District Agriculture Coordinator Mr. P. Chisebuka, advised field officers and Camp Agriculture Committee members to take all precautionary measures when selecting farmers so that the rightful names are on the list. He further encouraged farmers to adapt to the new system as it empowers them to decide the kind of inputs to access. Serenje district will participate in the FISP E Voucher program for the first time this year.

WESTERN REGION

MORE THAN 300 FARMERS SEEK ZNFU LAND SURVEYING SERVICES

Farmers from Masasabi area of Itezhi-tezhi district through Masasabi Information Center met on 6th May 2016 to seek for assistance in securing titles for their pieces of land. Masasabi farming block has about 300 farmers who have had a challenge in accessing titles but are appealing to the ZNFU offices using their facility to help them process the documents. During the meeting, a deadline was set for individual farmers to pay for their membership subscription amounts as they mobilize funds to pay for survey fees as well.

SOUTHERN A REGION

STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON TRANSFER OF WATER PERMITS TO WATER RIGHTS HELD IN CHOMA

Following the completion of field verifications on the lower Kafue, Zambezi sub catchments and existing water bodies in the region by the Water Resource Management Authority (WARMA), a public hearing and stakeholders consultative meeting on the transfer of water rights to water permits has since been held in Choma. The meeting was attended by stakeholders such as traditional leaders and commercial farmers who were invited to express their views pertaining to the said subject.

The meeting was informed by WARMA that, in accordance to the Water Resource Management Act No 21 of 2011, the process of transfer of water rights to water permits requires an integrated decision making process to be undertaken in order to provide for the equitable, reasonable and sustainable allocation of the water users. And contributing to the discussions, farmer members expressed concern on the time it is taking the authority to convert water rights to permits and the process one has to undergo in order for the water permit to be granted. On the other hand, most farmers present at the meeting were satisfied with field verifications done on existing water bodies on their farms. The farmers further said they are anticipating that going forward the granting of water permits will be expedited. The meeting was officially opened by the Southern Province Permanent Secretary, Mr. Sibanze Simuchoba.

