



FRIDAY BRIEF

WEEK 43, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- **KEITH ASHERWOOD DIES**
- **ZNFU HOLDS SUCCESSFUL 113TH CONGRESS**
- **CONSULTATION IMPORTANT TO AGRICULTURAL GROWTH; PRESIDENT LUNGU**
- **GOVT. APPLIES BREAKS ON MAIZE EXPORTS**

IN DETAIL ...

KEITH ASHERWOOD DIES

Zambia National Farmers' Union (ZNFU) Trustee Keith Ian Asherwood has died.

He died in the early hours of Friday 26th October 2018.

He was 74.

Mr. Asherwood was an outstanding farmer and also diligently rendered his services to the ZNFU as a Trustee in his quest to see improvements in production and productivity be achieved in the country's agriculture sector.

Mr. Asherwood stood by the Union, even during its hardest times. He only failed to recontest the position of Trustee at the just ended 113th ZNFU annual Congress due to an illness.

Fellow Trustee, Mr. Ashok Oza has described Mr. Asherwood's passing on as a great loss to the Zambian farming community and the country at large: "May his Soul Rest in Peace. Deepest condolences to the family. This is a great loss to the family, to the Zambian farming community and to Zambia."

The ZNFU is also deeply saddened by this development. The Union will keep the farming community and the country at large informed of the Funeral Programme as soon as it becomes available.

ZNFU HOLDS SUCCESSFUL 113TH CONGRESS

The Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU) successfully hosted the 113th Annual Congress on 19th October 2018 in Lusaka with Mr. Jervis Zimba going through unopposed as the Union's president.

The meeting which attracted over 150 delegates saw new entrants to the Board; Mr. Joseph Mungandi as Area Director Small Scale and Mr. Willis Phiri as Trustee.



ZNFU

The composition of other members remains the same with the exception of Mr. Austin Shinachize who was replaced by Mr. Mungandi, and Trustee, Mr. Keith Asherwood replaced by Mr. Phiri.

The Board hence comprises of Mr. Zimba as president and Mr. Elico Spyron as 1st vice president.

The position of 2nd vice president will be announced later after the board meeting of the newly constituted Board.

Other Directors include Ms. Maria Zaloumis, Mr. Douglas Thompson, Mr. Anthony Barker, Mr. Fisho Mwale, and Trustee, Mr. Ashok Oza.

The changed constitution allows the incumbent to contest for two three year-terms.

The 113th Annual Congress was held under the theme: “Mainstaying Agriculture as Economic Driver”.

CONSULTATION IMPORTANT TO AGRICULTURAL GROWTH; PRESIDENT LUNGU

President Edgar Lungu has called on the Minister of Agriculture, the ZNFU and other players to always come to a round table and make consultative decisions for the agriculture sector to achieve its intended growth.

The President said this during the ZNFU 113th Annual Congress in Lusaka on Friday 19th October 2018.

He said dialogue and consultation are important factors that would trigger growth, instead of players holding divergent positions on matters of similar interest.

President Lungu said he is aware that the role of the Zambia National Farmers Union is to lobby Government and advocate for improved agricultural policies on behalf of farmers.

He said ZNFU’s efforts should be directed at complementing government efforts to build consensus. He said in doing so, the farmers’ voices will be adequately represented, thereby improving the performance of the agricultural sector in general.

The President said the success of Zambian farmers is not only for themselves, but also for government and the entire nation, saying this is why government will continue to work closely with farmers.

Earlier, ZNFU president Jervis Zimba appealed to the Head of State to prompt consultation between the Ministry of Agriculture and sector players, which he said was lacking.

Mr. Zimba bemoaned the sky-rocketting cost of conducting agricultural business citing increase in cost of fertilisers and other inputs and the numerous levies and conditions being instituted by quasi government institutions.

He said the cost of fertiliser has gone up to as high as K400, and was worried at how much the commodity would cost in out flung areas such as Lundazi.





He told the President that in some cases farmers have been accused of colluding and yet farmers keep certain commodities to sell at a certain time. Mr. Zimba said such quasi government institutions are systematically destroying agriculture to a point where next time farmers will give up. Mr. Zimba also disclosed that the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) has to date not paid farmers for crops they have sold to the Agency after four months. Mr. Zimba appealed to the President to intervene.

GOVT. APPLIES BREAKS ON MAIZE EXPORTS

Government last week announced a ban on the export of maize.

The announcement was made in Parliament and reiterated during the 113th ZNFU annual Congress held in Lusaka by Minister of Agriculture Michael Katambo.

Mr. Katambo said government has halted the export of maize to ensure national food security.

Mr. Katambo, however said halting of maize exports was “not a ban” per se but a temporary administrative restrictive measure meant to lock in the country’s food balance sheet after FRA failed to mop up the required stocks of 500, 000 metric tonnes.

He said no Statutory Instrument (SI) has been passed to this effect. To this effect, the Minister said, government is monitoring the transportation of maize and mealie-meal in the country.

And the FRA has so far bought 166, 831 metric tonnes out of the targeted 500, 000 metric tonnes. This is as at 11th October 2018. This translates into 33.4 percent of FRA’s targeted mandate.

AKTC SCOOPS ENERGY GLOBE AWARD

Agricultural Knowledge and Training Centre (AKTC) farm in Chisamba, Zambia has received the National Energy Globe Award for its photovoltaic battery storage system by the Energy Globe Awards.

This was at a ceremony held at the Austrian General Consulate in Munich, Germany on 15th October 2018

The solar installation at AKTC in Chisamba generates 450 kWh of energy per day and, in conjunction with an intelligent storage system, it ensures that 90,000 square metres of arable land is irrigated sustainably.





Since 2000, outstanding sustainability projects that support the protection of resources, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies have been distinguished by the Energy Globe Awards every year.

This year over 2,000 submissions reached the international judging panel from 180 different countries.

Tobias Kriete, Regional Manager Africa at BayWa r.e. Solar Projects GmbH, received the award for Zambia at the Austrian General Consulate in Munich.

“The award for the project in Zambia is an acknowledgement for us to continue to drive forward our future commitment in Africa. Especially in the tropical and subtropical regions of the earth, farmers depend on a reliable and continuous supply of electricity for irrigating their fields.

“With intelligently designed off-grid solutions such as our PV battery storage plant on the Agricultural Knowledge and Training Centre (AKTC) farm, we can make businesses independent from any access to the public grid,” said Kriete.

EXCHANGE RATES

CURRENCY	25/10/2018						26/10/2018					
	US Dollar		RAND		GB Pound		US Dollar		RAND		GB Pound	
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
FNB	11.51	11.74	0.79	0.81	14.75	15.12	11.46	11.70	0.78	0.80	14.65	15.01
Barclays Bank	11.61	11.84	0.8001	0.816	14.98	15.28	11.46	11.69	0.78	0.79	14.67	11.69
ZANACO	11.59	11.81	0.795	0.810	14.96	15.24	11.45	11.67	0.78	0.80	14.67	14.95
Bank of Zambia	11.64	11.69	0.802	0.807	15.01	15.08	11.55	11.60	0.98	0.80	14.89	14.96

Exchange Rates

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WEATHER

SEVEN DAYS WEATHER FORECAST 27th OCTOBER TO 2ND NOVEMBER 2018

GENERAL SITUATION

From 27th to 30th October 2018, relatively dry airflow from the south east will be influencing the weather over much of Zambia resulting into mainly sunny weather conditions with high day time and night time temperatures. However, from 31st October to the end of the forecast period (2nd November 2018) moist and unstable airflow from the northwest (Congo air) will start inducing rainfall activities over the northern half of the Country.

DETAILED FORECAST FROM 27th to 30th OCTOBER 2018

The whole Zambia: Mainly sunny, slightly windy and warm at first, becoming partly cloudy and hot in the afternoon. Very hot weather conditions are expected over the valley areas. The nights will be mainly clear, windy at times and warm.

DETAILED FORECAST FROM 31ST OCTOBER TO 2ND NOVEMBER 2018

Northwestern, Copperbelt, Luapula, Northern, Muchinga including the northern districts of Central and Western Provinces: Partly cloudy, windy at times and warm with a likelihood of morning rain, becoming hot with showers and thunderstorms in some areas by afternoon. The nights will be partly cloudy and warm with rain in few places. The rest of Zambia: Mainly sunny, windy at times and warm in the mornings, becoming partly cloudy and hot with a chance of showers in the afternoons. The nights will be clear, windy at times and warm.

Produced by Zambia Meteorological Department, Ministry of Transport and Communications

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