

# ZNFU

## FRIDAY BRIEF

...WEEK 25, 2020

**Meet The Farmers**  
Virtual Summit & Exhibition

# SURVEY

INNOVATION. AGRICULTURE. FUTURE

25th- 27th August 2020

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- **KAPYANGA FORESTS WANE**

Forests around Mumbwa's Kapyanga area are diminishing at an alarming rate as deforestation for charcoal fuel purposes runs relentlessly.

- **EXTERNAL DEBT SERVICE TO INCREASE BY K8.7BN**

Government says the impact of COVID-19 is beginning to take its toll on the country with immediate knock-on-effect being the external debt service, which is expected to rise by K8.7 billion.

- **... AS GOVT SETS ASIDE US\$29 FOR ACQUACULTURE**

Government has set aside us \$29 million for the implementation of the acquaculture seed fund under the Zambia acquaculture enterprise development project.

- **KARIBA SURGES PAST 41 %**

The Lake Kariba this week surged past 41% as water levels continued to rise.

## DETAILS BELOW ...

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## **KAPYANGA FORESTS WANE**

Forests around Mumbwa's Kapyanga area are diminishing at an alarming rate as deforestation for charcoal fuel purposes runs relentlessly.

Buildings are also mushrooming in what used to be a forest reserve north of Kapyanga while agricultural activities are also dwindling.

A visit by the Zambia National Farmers' Union (ZNFU) during the week to the area found an evocative spectre where areas that were once farming domains are now mere open bush with no crop farming activities to talk about.

Farmers spoken to say they have to walk long distances to conduct crop cultivation as the land nearby has become acidic and crops struggle to grow. The farmers, however, said the land where they are conducting crop cultivation activities is being turned into private land as unknown individuals are putting up structures and pushing farmers out as they claim to have title to the land.

Farmers revealed that the forest reserve has also not been spared by the builders.

Farmers are fearful of continued poor rainfall due to the reckless cutting down of trees, which has left open unfertile bushes and caused farmers to relocate their farming activities.

Mumbwa's Kapyanga area was once one of the country's major crop producers but lately crop production has slumped largely due to lack of rains. Indiscriminate cutting down of trees remains one of the factors.

## **EXTERNAL DEBT SERVICE TO INCREASE BY K8.7BN**

Government says the impact of COVID-19 is beginning to take its toll on the country with immediate knock-on-effect being the external debt service, which is expected to rise by K8.7 billion.

President Edgar Lungu said during his national address on COVID-19 Thursday that the increase in external debt service will be triggered by among other things COVID-19 related expenditures, reduced revenues, which the Head of State pin-pointed to be lower by K20.8 billion arising from the general reduction in economic activity, loss of expected revenue and tax relief measures administered as a result of the pandemic.

The President said Government expenditure in 2020 is expected to rise by approximately K20 billion due to the depreciation of the Kwacha which has in turn raised external debt payments and other foreign based expenditures.

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## ... AS GOVT SETS ASIDE US\$29 FOR ACQUACULTURE

Government has set aside us \$29 million for the implementation of the aquaculture seed fund under the Zambia aquaculture enterprise development project.

The revelation was made by President Lungu during his COVID-19 address to the nation, Thursday. The President said the project is aimed at enhancing fish production and is earmarked to benefit more than 3,000 entrepreneurs, including youth and women.

He implored the Zambian youth to take keen interest in participating and profiting from different empowerment initiatives that government is putting in place.

Meanwhile, government Furthermore, government is facilitating youth access to other empowerment programmes under the Citizen Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) such as the cassava value chain programme.

## KARIBA SURGES PAST 41%

The Lake Kariba this week surged past 41% as water levels continued to rise.

According to the information obtained from the Zambezi River Authority, the Lake level continued rising steadily, briefly stagnated, and recorded a first drop at the close of the period under review at 481.23m (41.04% usable storage) on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

But this is a much appreciable position compared to the year 2019, by over 12.72 metres.

The Zambezi River Authority says last year on the same date, the Lake level was at 479.52 metres or 28.32% of usable water storage.

Below are graphs from the Authority.

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From:  
12 June 2020  
To:  
25 June 2020

Day	This Year	%Full	Last Year
12/6/2020	481.16	40.52%	479.72
13/6/2020	481.18	40.67%	479.71
14/6/2020	481.19	40.74%	479.7
15/6/2020	481.19	40.74%	479.69
16/6/2020	481.2	40.82%	479.68
17/6/2020	481.21	40.89%	479.65
18/6/2020	481.22	40.97%	479.63
19/6/2020	481.23	41.04%	479.61
20/6/2020	481.24	41.12%	479.6
21/6/2020	481.25	41.19%	479.58
22/6/2020	481.25	41.19%	479.56
23/6/2020	481.25	41.19%	479.55
24/6/2020	481.25	41.19%	479.54
25/6/2020	481.23	41.04%	479.52

KARIBA RESERVOIR  
Comparison of Daily Reservoir Levels



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## 2020 PUBLIC HOLIDAYS (in yellow farmers' holidays)

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 – New Year's Day  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – International Women's Day  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Youth Day  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – Good Friday  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – Holy Saturday  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – Easter Monday  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020 – Labour Day  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – African Unity Day  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020 – Heroes' Day  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020 – Unity Day  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020 – Farmers' Day  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020 – National Day of Prayer  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2020 – Independence Day  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – Christmas Day

### DESK OFFICERS AT ZNFU

General Issues affecting farmers/Union - Mrs. Ellah Chembe –

Executive Director – **0973 795 942**

Email: [chembe@znfu.org.zm](mailto:chembe@znfu.org.zm);

Outreach/Land Issues – Mrs. Florence Phiri – D/Head MMS – **0977 434 312**

Email: [florencephiri@znfu.org.zm](mailto:florencephiri@znfu.org.zm)

Accounts/Administration – Mr. William Ndhlovu – Finance Manager – **0977 433 347**

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## ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS!

### CCPC CALLS FOR COMMENTS

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission is seeking comments from members of the Zambia National Farmers' Union (ZNFU) on the acquisition of 100% shares of Wangwa Farms Limited, a private company, by the Royal Monze Institute of Medical Evangelism (RMIME), a registered faith based philanthropic corporate organisation.

The CCPC wishes to know how this transaction will affect the market, especially the transaction's impact on wheat, pigs, maize, beef, fish and soya beans production, and what other prospects will emerge in light of this transaction.

Kindly send your comments on or before 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020 to;

Mrs. Luyamba Mpamba Kapembwa  
Director Mergers & Monopolies  
Tel: 0211 222 787/222 775  
Email: [zcomp@ccpc.org.zm](mailto:zcomp@ccpc.org.zm)

### IMPORT/ EXPORT INFORMATION DESK FOR FARMERS

International trade is a key aspect in farming, yet challenges emerge whether its importing or exporting. The Zambia Revenue Authority has identified a key staff to respond in record time to all farmers queries in relation to imports or export information. Therefore, if you are about to import farming equipment whether new or second hand engage the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) so that you know in advance what taxes are applicable. This will help you plan and avoid surprises when the equipment is at the border. The contact details for the ZRA official dealing with farmers are as follows;

Merindah Moonga  
Customs Collector  
Revenue House  
Zambia Revenue Authority  
P.O. Box 35710  
**Lusaka**  
**Phone:** +260211380000  
**Mobile:** +260977584537  
**Email:** [moongam@zra.org.zm](mailto:moongam@zra.org.zm)



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ZESCO PROBLEMS??? NO PROBLEM!!



**AVAILABLE: GENERATOR 30 KVA LISTER-PETTER – in perfect working order!**

Engine overhauled and electrics checked by Zambian agent.

**Tel/Whatsapp:** 0962 867687

**Email:** [dutch@conservationagriculture.org](mailto:dutch@conservationagriculture.org)

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