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## ZAMBIA, BOTSWANA INK AGREEMENT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KAZUNGULA BRIDGE AUTHORITY



Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Honourable Eng. Charles L. Milupi (r) with his Botswana counterpart Minister of Transport and Public Works, Hon. Eric Mothibi Molale, MP exchanging the signed bilateral agreement on the establishment of the Kazungula Bridge Authority (KBA) as President Hakainde Hichilema (r) and President Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Masisi look on.

### **Zambia and Botswana signed a bilateral agreement on the establishment of the Kazungula Bridge Authority (KBA).**

President Hakainde Hichilema and his Botswana counterpart, Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Masisi witnessed the signing of 10 instruments of cooperation, among them the agreement establishing the KBA in Livingstone.

The KBA will be in charge of the operations and maintenance of the

bridge infrastructure, including implementing necessary developments to improve trade facilitation.

Other agreements signed covered a wide range of sectors, such as science and technology, mining, minerals and value chain development, agriculture and livestock, railway transport, and political consultations.

From the time the Kazungula Bridge and associated facilities were

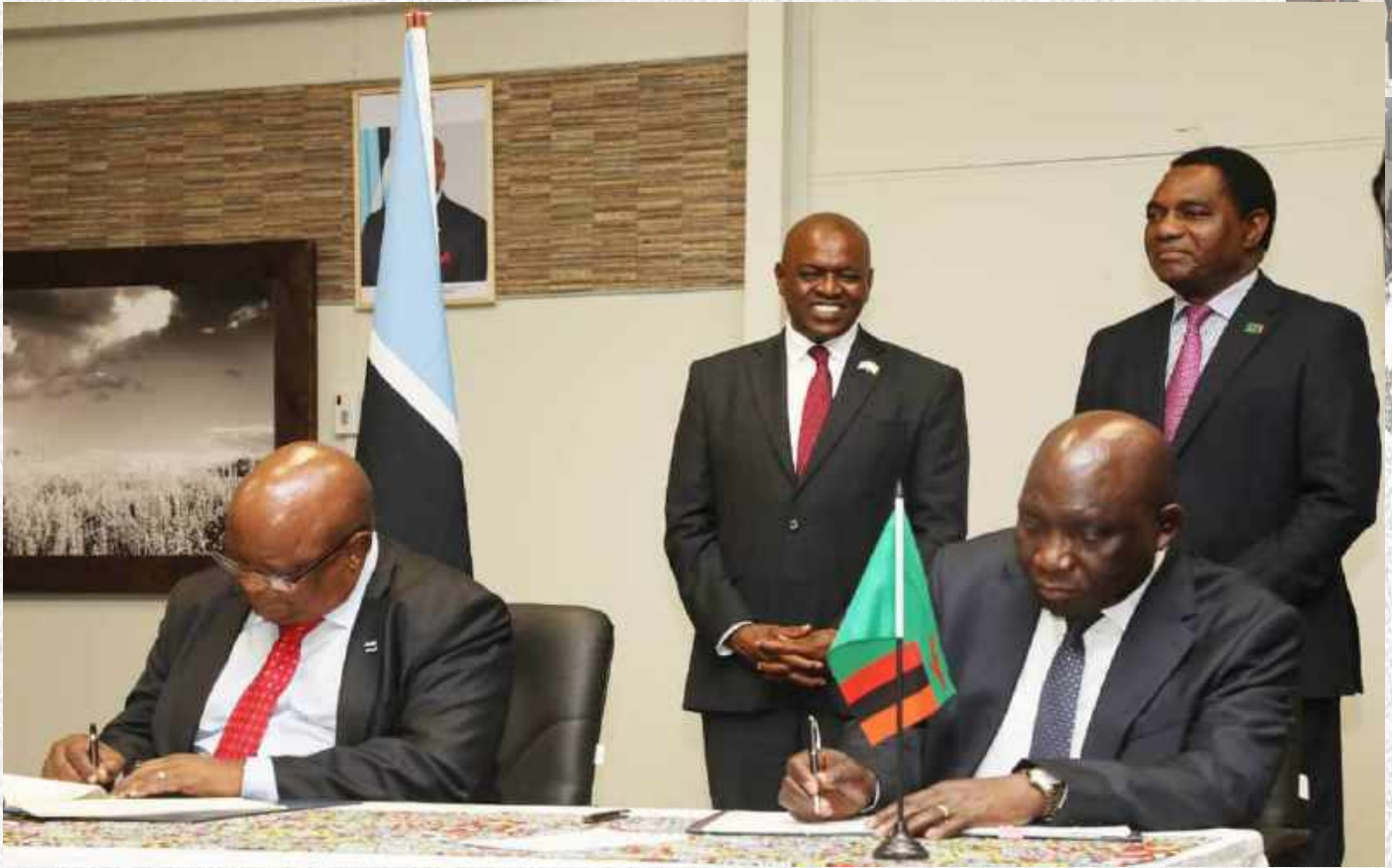
commissioned, trade facilitation has been enhanced through reduced transit time and transportation. Before the bridge and One Stop Border Posts were constructed, trucks used to take three days, but this has since reduced to half a day.

Revenue and traffic volumes have doubled, and these resources are being channeled to various sectors, such as health and education, among many others.

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## During the bilateral meeting



Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Hon. Eng. Charles L. Milupi (r) with his Botswana counterpart Minister of Transport and Public Works, Hon. Eric Mothibi Molale, MP signed the bilateral agreement on the establishment of the Kazungula Bridge Authority (KBA) on behalf of Zambia and Botswana respectively as President Hakainda Hichilema (r) nd President Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Masisi look on.



The Zambian delegation led by President Hakainda Hichilema and the Botswana delegation led by Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Masisi Zambia and Botswana during the Zambia and Botswana signing of the bilateral agreement on the establishment of the Kazungula Bridge Authority (KBA).



# JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER THE JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE KAZUNGULA BRIDGE PROJECT THAT WAS HELD IN LIVINGSTONE, ZAMBIA ON 22ND MARCH 2024

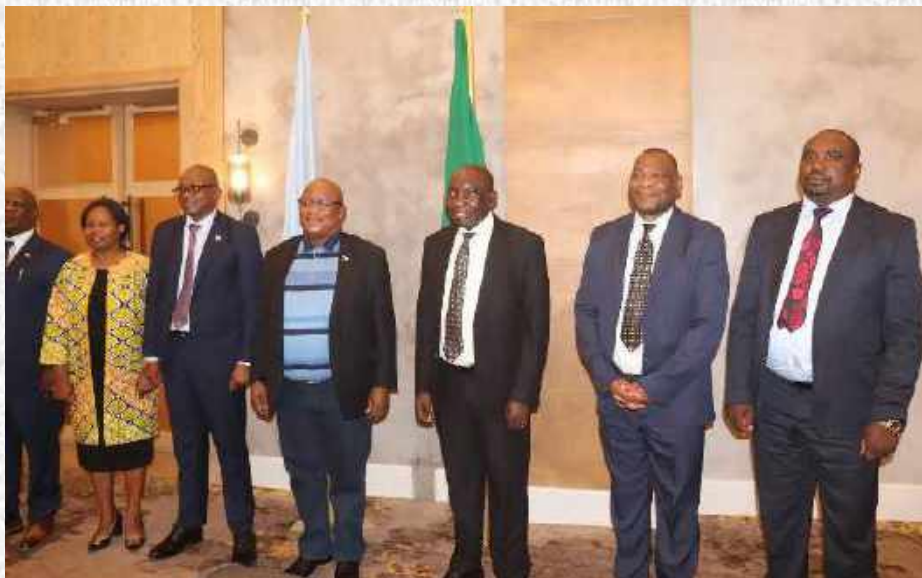


*Minister of Infrastructure, Housing, Infrastructure and Urban Development Hon. Eng. Charles L. Milupi, MP and His Botswana counter-part Hon. Eric Mothibi Molale, MP giving their remarks during a Joint Ministerial Committee meeting of the Kazungula Bridge Project held in Livingstone, Zambia.*

1. The Joint Ministerial Committee meeting of the Kazungula Bridge Project was held in Livingstone, Zambia on 22nd March 2024.
2. The delegation from the Republic of Botswana was led by the Minister of Transport and Public Works, Hon. Eric Mothibi Molale, MP and he was accompanied by senior Government officials.
3. The delegation from the Republic of Zambia was led by the Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, Hon. Eng. Charles Lubasi Milupi, MP and was accompanied by senior Government officials.
4. In their opening remarks, the two Ministers underscored the existing good relations between the Member States and expressed satisfaction at the conclusion of negotiations on the Agreement to establish the Kazungula Bridge Authority, which when it becomes operational will take lead in the operations and maintenance as well as development of additional infrastructure of the Bridge and associated facilities.
5. During the course of the discussions, the Joint Ministerial Committee:
  - i. Considered and approved the Bilateral Agreement on the establishment of the Kazungula Bridge Authority (KBA) for signing during the Heads of State summit scheduled for 26th – 27th March 2024 in Livingstone, Zambia;
  - ii. Approved the KBA organizational structure as proposed by the Joint Steering Committee;
  - iii. Approved to sign the Addendum No.2 to the Sponsors Agreement during the Heads of State summit scheduled for 26th – 27th March 2024 in Livingstone, Zambia;
- iv. Considered and approved that the Guidelines on Tourism and Events on the Kazungula Bridge be signed during the Heads of State summit scheduled for 26th – 27th March 2024 in Livingstone, Zambia;
- v. Approved the financing of the proposed improvements to the One Stop Border Post (OSBP) Access and Bridge Approach Roads under Addendum No.2 to the Sponsors' Agreement;
- vi. Approved the proposal to refer the issue on additional infrastructure to attract tourists to the Joint Permanent Commission of Cooperation (JPCC) for action; and

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vii. Took note of the exercise for Bridge infrastructure risk assessment scheduled 9th – 10th March. Instructed the Project Office and Executing Agencies to expedite the process and break it down into activities to achieve the milestone;

viii. Reviewed and reaffirmed the road-map on the Establishment of KBA, which was approved in their previous meeting that was

held on 22nd February 2024 in Gaborone, Botswana;

ix. Took note that the legal teams committed to meet from 15th to 19th April 2024 to finalise the Hosting Agreement; and

x. Took note of the handover of the OSBP Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) equipment to the Lead Border Agencies, Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) and

Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS), in line with the JMC's approval in their previous meeting.

6. In his closing remarks Hon. Eric Mothibi Molale, MP expressed gratitude to the Government of Zambia for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and his delegation. Hon. Eng. Charles Lubasi Milupi, MP, Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, Zambia, thanked the technocrats from the Member States for completing the task in record time, which was given by the two Heads of State when they met in Kasane in January 2024 during the Presidential working visit.

7. The two Parties agreed to hold the next session of the Joint Ministerial Committee (JMC) in June 2024 in Botswana.

Done at Livingstone on 22nd March 2024.

Joint Ministerial Committee meeting of the Kazungula Bridge Project was held in Livingstone, Zambia on 22nd March 2024.



RDA Board Chairperson Eng. Mulchand Kuntawala and RDA CEO Eng. Grace Mutembo following deliberations during a Joint Ministerial Committee meeting of the Kazungula Bridge Project held in Livingstone, Zambia.



# MCC BOSS PAYS COURTESY CALL ON RDA CEO



*(From R-L) Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Resident Country Director, Mr. Steven Marma, Road Development Agency (RDA) Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo, MCC National Coordinator for Zambia, Mrs. Pamela Bwalya Kasese and Director Roads and Related Infrastructure MPAZ Zambia, Eng William Kapya Mulusa.*

**Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Resident Country Director, Mr. Steven Marma paid a courtesy call on Road Development Agency (RDA) Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo.**

Mr. Marma was accompanied by MCC National Coordinator for Zambia, Mrs. Pamela Bwalya Kasese and Director Roads and Related Infrastructure MPAZ Zambia, Eng. William Kapya Mulusa.



# RDA CEO CONDUCTS ON THE SPOT CHECK AT LIVINGSTONE WEIGHBRIDGE



*RDA Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo conducted an on the spot check at Livingstone Weighbridge in Southern Province. Looking on is the Weighbridge Supervisor Mr. Sebastain Zulu and Ms. Fatima Kanene.*

**Road Development Agency (RDA) Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo conducted an on the spot check at Livingstone Weighbridge in Southern Province to appreciate the operations and challenges being faced.**

Under the Public Roads Act No. 12 of 2002 as amended and Statutory Instrument No. 76 of 2015, the Agency through its regulatory wing, the Axle Load Control regulates the maximum weight of all Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) above 6.5 tonnes that traverse on the Zambian Road Network.

Eng. Mutembo said the Government, through the RDA, has been developing road and bridge infrastructure

countrywide. However, this noble effort will be in vain if the Agency does not limit the loads being transmitted on the roads.

“If our roads, both old and new, begin to deteriorate due to uncontrolled loads that are being ferried on them, the cost of repairing these roads will be unbearable, especially on the already constrained national treasury,” she said.

The RDA has intensified the role of regulating HGVs in Livingstone and Kazungula Districts, especially with the completion of the Kazungula Bridge Project, which has resulted in increased traffic along the road and bridge corridor.

Axle Load Control is important as it minimises the negative impact of overloaded trucks on the road network. This, in turn, preserves and protects the life span of road and bridge infrastructure, reduces the maintenance cost of roads and bridges, and enhances road safety by reducing risks of traffic accidents caused by overloaded vehicles.

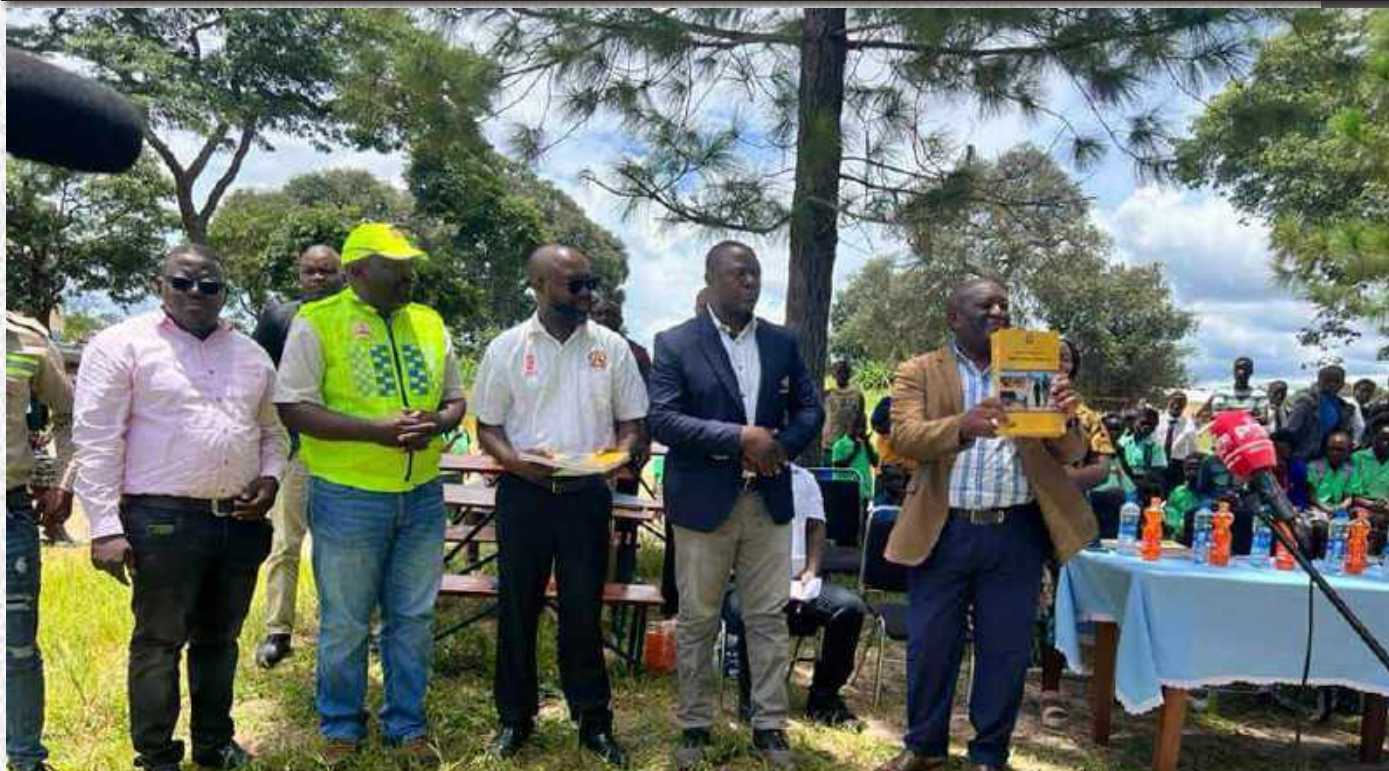
It also facilitates investments through the conveyance of abnormal loads to various sectors of the economy, such as in the mines, and provides traffic flow statistical data for planning and designing roads and bridges.



*Livingstone Weighbridge Supervisor Mr. Sebastian Zulu explaining operations to RDA CEO, Eng. Grace Mutembo during an on-spot check of the operation.*



# RDA COMMITTED TO DEVELOP INCLUSIVE AND SAFE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE



RDA Acting Director Communications and Corporate Affairs, Anthony Mulowa and Officers from Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA) handed over the Road Safety Manuals to Muchinga Principal Education Standards Officer, Ginno Malango Sichilima.

**The Road Development Agency (RDA) is committed to ensuring that the development of roads also addresses community needs through prioritisation of their safety.**

RDA Acting Director Communications and Corporate Affairs, Anthony Mulowa said the rehabilitation of the Chinsali-Nakonde Road had several enhanced safety features such as widening of the existing road to 11 metres wide, comprising 3.5 metres carriageway and 2X2 metres shoulders.

Mr. Mulowa said this at Mulakupikwa Primary and Secondary School in Chinsali District in Muchinga Province when the Agency handed over the road safety manuals to the Provincial Education Office.

He said in furtherance of the road safety profile for the road corridor, road safety education manuals were developed under the project through collaborative efforts of the RDA, the Road Transport

and Safety Agency (RTSA) and the Ministry of Education through the Curriculum Development Centre (CDC).

The road safety manuals developed were:

- A) Learner's Road Safety Books (Grade 1-4);
- B) Teacher's Guide Safety Books (Grade 1-4);
- C) Learner's Road Safety Books (Grade 5-7);
- D) Teacher's Guide Safety Books (Grade 5-7); and
- E) Community Road Safety Manuals.

Mr. Mulowa said the total number of manuals that were being handed over through the Provincial Education Office in Muchinga was 3,200 to cover all the schools in Chinsali, Isoka and Nakonde Districts as follows:

1. 1,500 Learner's Road Safety Books (Grade 1-4);

2. 100 Teacher's Guide Safety Books (Grade 1-4);
3. 1,500 Learner's Road Safety Books (Grade 5-7); and
4. 100 Teacher's Guide Safety Books (Grade 5-7).

"We are hopeful that these Road Safety Books will go a long way in helping the pupils learn about safe ways of navigating the road environment with a view of reducing road crashes or accidents involving school going children and the community at large," Mr. Mulowa said.

Muchinga Principal Education Standards Officer, Ginno Malango Sichilima said his office would ensure that the materials were distributed to all the schools on the project corridor.

Mr. Sichilima said the road safety manuals would go a long way in the prevention of deaths due to road traffic crashes.

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*RDA Acting Director Communications and Corporate Affairs, Anthony Mulowa delivering his speech during the handover ceremony of Road Safety User Manuals in Chinsali District.*





# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Road Development Agency (RDA) Acting Director Communications and Corporate Affairs, Anthony Mulowa paid a courtesy call on Senior Chief Kafwimbe at his Palace in Isoka District in Muchinga Province.

The team also presented road safety manuals to be used by the community in Senior Chief Kafwimbe's Chiefdom.

The move is part of the Chinsali-Nakonde Road rehabilitation project where the Road Development Agency (RDA), the Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA) and the Ministry of Education have developed road safety manuals for use by schools and communities along the project corridor.



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# THE GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING THE BRIDGE MAINTENANCE CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT



*Group Photograph.*

**Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Permanent Secretary, Professor Albert Malama has assured the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) that the Government of the Republic of Zambia will continue to support the Bridge Maintenance Capacity Building Project in order to ensure that the maintenance and repair of bridges in Zambia improve significantly.**

Prof. Malama said since 2015, the Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Road Development Agency (RDA), in an effort to improve the maintenance of bridges in the country, embarked on the Bridge Maintenance Capacity Building Project which is supported by the Japanese Government through JICA.

Prof. Malama has also assured the Japanese Government that the knowledge obtained from the Bridge Maintenance Capacity Building Project would be put to good use and the Zambian Government through the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development shall endeavour to continue providing for the maintenance and repair of bridge infrastructure in a cost effective and sustainable manner.

Prof. Malama said this in a speech read on his behalf by Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Director Planning, Dr. Richard Banda during the 5th Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting for the Bridge Maintenance Capacity Building Project held at the RDA Headquarters in Lusaka.

“It is gratifying to note that among the key successes of this project is the implementation of a pilot project for the Routine Maintenance of selected

bridges on the Trunk, Main and District Roads in Lusaka Province implemented between 2015 and 2017.

“My Ministry is alive to the fact that in order to continue maintaining and repairing bridges, there is need to also build the capacity of our contractors, particularly the small-scale contractors so that they can also effectively participate in routine maintenance and repair of bridges,” he said.

Prof. Malama said the Ministry without fail, wanted training programmes specifically for routine maintenance and repair of bridges to be introduced in training institutions such as the National Council for Construction (NCC) to ensure a more sustainable approach to the routine maintenance and repair of bridges in Zambia in order to preserve the integrity of bridge infrastructure.

RDA Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo highlighted some of the successes scored under this project which included: On the Job Training and Seminars held in Zambia and Japan; the first training for Bridge Engineers at the University of Zambia (UNZA) held in February 2024; the Joint Coordination Committee (JCC), Technical Working Groups (TWGs); and Counterpart Working Groups (CWGs).



*Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Director Planning, Dr. Richard Banda read the speech on behalf of Prof. Albert Malama during the 5th Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting for the Bridge Maintenance Capacity Building Project held at the RDA Headquarters in Lusaka.*



# KAFUE NATIONAL PARK ROAD ATTAINS ZERO POTHOLE STATUS

**The Road Development Agency (RDA) Western Regional Office recently embarked on emergency pothole patching works in the Kafue National Park from the Nalusanga Gate to Tateyeyo Gate.**

Currently, all potholes have been patched with premix to enable motorists to have a safe drive through the park.

In order to further enhance road safety, the Agency has also undertaken roadline marking works from Nalusanga Gate to the Itezhi Tezhi junction.

Vegetation control works in the park are also progressing well. The team is also carrying out holding maintenance works on the section from Tateyeyo Gate to Katunda junction.



*Pothole patching works in the Kafue National Park from the Nalusanga Gate to Tateyeyo Gate.*



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*Pothole patching works in the Kafue National Park from the Nalusanga Gate to Tateyeyo Gate.*



*Pothole patching works in the Kafue National Park from the Nalusanga Gate to Tateyeyo Gate.*



# REHABILITATION AND POTHOLE PATCHING OF MTENDERE ROADS IN LUSAKA DISTRICT



*Pothole patching in Lusaka.*

**The Road Development Agency (RDA) recently embarked on the project to patch potholes on a six-kilometer stretch from the Hybrid traffic circle through the PHI residential area to Mtendere 'Kamuzimai' Market.**

The activity also covers the road from Rubis Service Station (formerly Kobil Service Station) to Vera Chiluba Primary School. There are also four sections on the project roads totalling a distance of 0.6 kilometres which are being rehabilitated.

These are Vera Chiluba (Section 1), Market Area (Sections 2 and 3) and

Pentecostal Holiness Church (Section 4). The works are being executed under Force Account by the RDA Lusaka Regional Office. The project is expected to be completed by April 15, 2024.

The scope of works includes, but is not limited to the following: Site clearing; pothole patching; construction of subbase and stone base; asphalt works; and ancillary works.

The Agency has patched 90% of the area with open potholes on the 6 kilometres stretch while the Market area (Sections 2 and 3) and Pentecostal Holiness Church (Section 4) have been

fully rehabilitated. 84% progress has been attained on rehabilitation works with only the Vera Chiluba area (Section 1) measuring approximately 95 metres remaining to complete the rehabilitation works.

Once the project is completed, the anticipated benefits that shall accrue to the public are: Improved riding quality of the carriageway; reduction in vehicle operating costs;

reduction in travel time; and generally, marketeers will be able to transport their merchandise efficiently to and from Mtendere Market.



*Pothole patching in Mtendere area in Lusaka.*



# RDA LUAPULA REGION PARTICIPATED AT 2024 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Road Development Agency, Luapula Region participated at this year's International Women's Day Celebrations held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 under the theme "Invest in Women and Girls, Accelerate Progress"

Celebrations were held at Mansa College of Education after a match past from Zesco Offices on Mansa-Chembe Road.

## Luapula Region during the Commemoration of International Women's Day in Pictures





