

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

ON THE

2020/2021 FARMER INPUT SUPPORT PROGRAMME PREPARATIONS

BY THE

HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (MR KATAMBO), MP

Mr Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to deliver a ministerial statement on the preparations of the 2020/2021 Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP). I wish to update the nation on the progress made by the Ministry of Agriculture in the implementation of the 2020/2021 Agriculture Season.

Mr Speaker, the Patriotic Front (PF) Government remains committed to supporting our small-scale farmers with inputs under FISP in order to enhance agriculture production and productivity. Through FISP, we intend to help the farmers have access to affordable agriculture inputs which are delivered on time.

Mr Speaker, we are all aware that FISP has faced several challenges in its implementation. As the Government, we are resolved to overcoming these challenges. I am happy to inform this august House that the issue of late delivery of inputs to the districts has been addressed. As was the case last year, farmers have already started receiving their inputs for the 2020/2021 Agriculture Season.

Sir, let me now highlight some of the measures that we have put in place for FISP in the 2020/2021 Agriculture Season. During the 2020/2021 Agriculture Season, the programme will be implemented as follows: