



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

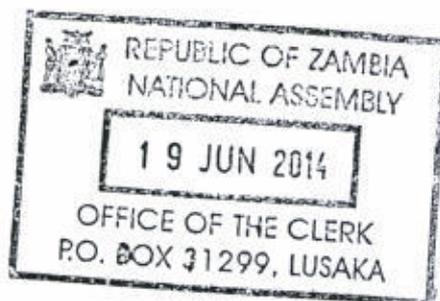
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE 2014/2015 FARMER INPUT  
SUPPORT PROGRAM (FISP), THE 2014/2015 MAIZE  
MARKETING SEASON AND AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF  
MAIZE PRODUCTS

BY

HONOURABLE WYLBUR C. SIMUUSA, MP  
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

19 June, 2014



I THANK YOU MR. SPEAKER FOR ALLOWING ME TO ISSUE THIS MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE 2014/2015 FARMER INPUT SUPPORT PROGRAM (FISP), THE 2014/2015 MAIZE MARKETING SEASON AND AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF MAIZE AND MAIZE PRODUCTS.

### **1. THE 2014/2015 FARMER INPUT SUPPORT PROGRAM (FISP)**

MR. SPEAKER, IN 2011 THE PATRIOTIC FRONT (PF) GOVERNMENT PROMISED THE FARMERS OF THIS COUNTRY THAT GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FARMER INPUT SUPPORT PROGRAMME (FISP). I AM, THEREFORE, PLEASED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE PF GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTING AGRICULTURAL INPUTS THROUGH THE FARMER INPUT SUPPORT PROGRAMME (FISP) IN ALL THE FARMING SEASONS SINCE COMING INTO OFFICE.

THE PATRIOTIC FRONT GOVERNMENT UNDER THE ABLE LEADERSHIP OF OUR REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT, HIS EXCELLENCY MR. MICHAEL CHILUFYA SATA, HAS THE VISION TO PROMOTE AGRICULTURE, AND MAKE

ZAMBIA THE FOOD BASKET OF THE REGION AND BEYOND.

MR. SPEAKER, THROUGH THESE DELIBERATE POLICIES AND THE TIRELESS EFFORT FROM OUR HARDWORKING FARMERS, THE COUNTRY HAS ONCE AGAIN MANAGED TO PRODUCE A BUMPER HARVEST.

YOU MAY WISH TO AGREE WITH ME, MR. SPEAKER THAT THIS WAS ACHIEVED DESPITE SOME CHALLENGES SUCH AS DELAYED RAINS AND LATE DELIVERY OF INPUTS IN SOME PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

THIS YEAR, MR. SPEAKER, AS GOVERNMENT AND AS THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK, WE ARE DETERMINED TO ADDRESS THE PERINNIAL CRY OF LATE DELIVERY OF FARMING INPUTS AND ENSURE THAT ALL THE FARMING INPUTS REACH OUR FARMERS ON TIME. ONE OF THE STRATEGIES BEING EMPLOYED IS TO START THE FARMING INPUT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM EARLY AND HENCE, THE OFFICIAL FLAGGING OFF WITNESSED

ON 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2014 AT THE NITROGEN CHEMICALS OF ZAMBIA.

ALSO **MR. SPEAKER**, ALL PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL CO-ORDINATING OFFICERS (PACOs AND DACOs) AND FIELD EXTENSION STAFF COUNTRYWIDE ARE UNDER INSTRUCTION TO ENSURE THAT ALL THE CAMP AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEES ARE RECONSTITUTED AND INTENDED BENEFICIARIES ARE IDENTIFIED BY THE END OF THIS MONTH, JUNE 2014. AS THE INPUTS/FERTILIZER ARE TRANSPORTED TO VARIOUS DISTRICTS, ALL THOSE FARMERS WHO ARE READY SHOULD COLLECT THEIR INPUTS. THE TARGET WE HAVE SET FOR OURSELVES, **MR. SPEAKER**, IS THAT BY THE END OF AUGUST 2014, LATEST EARLY SEPTEMBER, ALL THE INPUTS MUST BE WITH OUR FARMERS WAITING FOR PLANTING.

**MR. SPEAKER**, ALLOW ME NOW TO INFORM YOU AND THROUGH YOU, THE NATION, OF THE QUANTITIES FOR THE 2014/2015 FARMER INPUT SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR THIS YEAR'S AGRICULTURAL SEASON:-

I) **BENEFICIARIES:**

GOVERNMENT HAS TARGETED TO INCREASE SUPPORT TO THE SMALL-SCALE FARMERS UNDER THE FARMER INPUT SUPPORT PROGRAMME FROM 900,000 TO 1,000,000 BENEFICIARIES. HOWEVER, THE AMOUNT OF NUMBER OF BAGS PER EACH FARMER/BENEFICIARY WILL REMAIN THE SAME.

THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREMENT OF 100,000 FARMERS COMPARED TO THE TARGET OF THE 2013/2014 AGRICULTURAL SEASON.

II) **FERTILIZERS:**

THE QUANTITIES OF INPUTS BEING TARGETED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

D-COMPOUND (Bottom Dressing)-	106,409.75 MT
UREA (Top Dressing)	- 101,826.00 MT
<b>TOTAL (FERTILIZER)</b>	<b>- 208,235.75 MT</b>

III) **SEED:**

MAIZE SEED	- 10,000 MT
RICE SEED	- 127 MT