

CONSTRUCTION NEWS

2002 CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY MID TERM REVIEW

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- **NCC: Aims and Objectives**

- To unify the construction Industry, to promote its well being, to strive to create a profitable environment for its constituents, and to establish a united national platform encompassing formal and informal sectors of the industry and its professions
- To contribute to the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of Zambia and the uplifting of all its people
- To promote and advance the status and public recognition of NCC, its members and the construction industry
- To promote encourage, support or oppose any legislation or other measures affecting the industry
- To address macro issues affecting the industry
- To co-ordinate, improve and facilitate the accessibility of training
- To strive, achieve, monitor and maintain the highest possible standards in the construction industry
- To add and amend these objects from time to time as decided upon by the National Council



There has been very little construction activity in the last 6 months

So what has been the first 6 months of the New Deal Administration in so far as the construction industry is concerned? Readers will recall that when the New Deal Administration presented its first national budget on 4th March 2002, we at the National Council for Construction (NCC) were the first to applaud the New Deal Government. We took the above position because, we saw in this budget a new focus and version for revamping this country's economy, more so its ailing infrastructure. For the first time in a very long time, we saw government commitment to spending more of its

resources to capital development in relation to recurrent expenditure, although the latter continues to dominate our national budget.

The budget commitment notwithstanding and six months done the line, the question has to be asked as to whether government is anywhere near to delivering its intended national development objectives. Has government commitment vis-a-vis national budget being translated to something tangible on the ground?

If indeed results on the ground suggest otherwise, as the case would seem to be, there is need therefore, for government and all other

stakeholders to begin to ask the question why this should be so.

Part of the problem, no doubt can be attributed to the fact that our capital budget is about 80% financed by the donors, who by and large have their own timetable for releasing these funds. The successful holding of the C.G. between Government and the donors in Lusaka and Livingstone recently should, however, have solved this problem. Secondly, there is also need for government to review capacities at the various ministries meant to successfully implement its development. *Turn to page two*

2002 CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY MID TERM REVIEW

Top management must know how good or bad employee's working conditions are. They must eat in the employees' restaurants, see whether the food is well cooked,, visit the washroom and lavatories. If they are not good enough for those in charge they are not good enough for anyone". Lord Sief- Interview with the Sunday Telegraph Magazine

From page one

-opment programmes. For instance, the Minister of Finance and National Planning has time and again informed the nation that he has been releasing money to the provinces for feeder roads, and yet very little if anything has been seen on the ground. Do our Local Authorities, especially our rural councils surely have the capacity to deliver on feeder roads and what is the likely impact on our agricultural development plans? Whereas, the rural councils may be extreme cases, it is also true to say that even City Councils and Government Ministries have their share of staffing problems, owing to the poor salaries and conditions of service. It is very difficult to see how the government will manage to successfully deliver on the construction front, without addressing the question of poor salaries and condition of service for public workers.

The other very serious problem that the New Deal Government has failed to resolve in the industry in its

first six months in office is the issue of the mounting local debt to roads consultants and contractors. Whereas, this debt was estimated at K140bn at the beginning of the year, the figure is now estimated to have skyrocketed to over K200bn and is still increasing. What is worst is the fact that most of the aforementioned increase is in the form of interest alone. In other words there are some construction companies that are merely living on interest from government, not to mention the principle sum. The debt to local building contractors and consultants has, however, been kept as a top guarded secret by the Directorate of Buildings at the Ministry of Works and Supply.

As if the debt to road construction firms was not enough, we are told Government has been failing to remit the Road Levy to the National Roads Board (NRB) from as way back as 2000 and that this debt has also culminated to over K75bn!

We have also not heard of any development of the con-

struction of teachers houses, whose budget was given to be K28bn in this years' budget. If the issue of capacity referred to above, is what is holding back progress on this issue, we seriously propose that this project be given to private consultants immediately.

The national housing crisis is another issue that the New Deal Government seems to have ignored, at least for now. Understandably, the Government responded favourably to our request that PHI be transfer to NHA, but without increased funding, there is nothing that NHA will do. We need to embark on a new housing programme, or at least revert to the 1996 Housing Policy document which was unfortunately abandoned with the introduction of PHI in 1996.

It would however, be wrong if we gave the impression that there has been no positive development taking place in the industry in the last six months, because there have indeed being some very positive developments within our industry.

NCC to broaden its activities in the provinces

The National Council for Construction (NCC) will from next month start touring the provinces with a view to broadening its activities and presence in the provinces. Until now, the NCC has tended to concentrate its activities in Lusaka and partly on the Copperbelt. First on the list, will be Western Province, one

of the poorest provinces in the country. Later in the year similar tours will be undertaken to the Eastern, Southern and North Western provinces. Through these tours, the NCC hopes to sensitive all the major stakeholders of its activities, at the same time promote the local construction industry by urging the use of local construction firms.

Equally high on the agenda, will be the use Labour-based construction methods as one way of eradicating poverty through job creation. The NCC will also be seeking to meet with all major stakeholders in the construction industry so as to hear their concerns and dialogue with them. Stakeholders should therefore get prepared for the NCC entourage.

ZIMBABWE IMPORT BAN –WHO EXACTLY IS BENEFITING?

The recent ban on Zimbabwean imports has raised hope for the Zambian manufacturers who have suffered at the influx of cheaper products from Zimbabwe. Some traders are, however, reported to be complaining of the high prices of local products like cement and are therefore, calling for a reduction in prices of locally produced products. In the short-term, it is clear that local consumers will

suffer from the high costs of local products. It seems there's more to making local products affordable. Whereas the ban is a major step, local production costs ought to be reviewed as well. It would help if Government looked into ways of making production cheaper as that would inevitably reduce the costs of the products. Here we have in mind the very high local taxes.

Manufacturers may still have to import certain raw materials and equipment, hence, are still incurring the same costs, and perhaps more, with the soaring of the Dollar value. As a result, costs of local items will continue to rise and the ban on Zimbabwean imports will be to the disadvantage of the consumers.

MINISTRY OF WORKS AND SUPPLY GET OPERATING VEHICLES

Provincial Roads Engineers (PREs) in the Ministry of Works and Supply recently received brand new 4 x 4 Ford Rangers vehicles to help them in their work. The National Council for Construction and the Roads Headquarters were also proud recipients of these

vehicles that were procured through the RoadSIP IDA credit. It is expected that the operations of NCC will now be enhanced by this transport facility. Hitherto, most if not all PRE could not effectively carry out their work, especially inspection of road construc-

tion, maintenance and rehabilitation works due to lack of transport. Officiating at the Hand over ceremony, the Deputy Minister of Works and Supply, Hon. Katema, stressed the need to ensure the vehicles were used for their intended purpose only.

GOVERNMENT FORBIDS DOLLAR TRANSACTIONS

The Zambian Government through the Bank of Zambia and the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry recently reiterated the legal position that the Kwacha was the only legal tender in this country. The statement from government came amidst growing phenomenon in the country for businesses to quote their goods and services in dollars. Whereas, the position taken by government is to be recommended in an ideal envi-

ronment, it is important to recognize that the Zambian economy is not an ideal one. For instance, most of our inputs and final goods and services in this country are imported, meaning that these goods and services will always be influenced by the Dollar/Kwacha relations. In a situation where this Dollar/Kwacha relation is always very unstable, one is, therefore, "forced" to quote in a stable currency. The paradox of continuing

to quote in dollars, is that it only goes to make the Dollar/Kwacha relation/rate more unstable. What is more and justifies the more by government is that some business houses have taken advantage of the situation above to quote their goods and services in dollars, even when their products have very little import value. Worse, still, when they make their money in dollars, they continue to pay their workers in Kwacha and not Dollars!

“Each problem has hidden in it an opportunity so powerful that it literally dwarfs the problem. The greatest success stories were created by people who recognize a problem and turned it into an opportunity”.
Joseph Sugarman

WORLD TRADE CENTER STILL CENTRE OF FOCUS

Following the September 11, 2001, bombing, the World Trade Center has taken a center stage in the American as well as international construction realm.

Engineering experts are studying the precise causes of the structure's collapse with the hope of improving skyscraper design.

Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl, P. E., a forensics expert and structural engineer at the

University of California at Berkeley, is the lead person in the quest to finding clues to the collapses. On study will be structural steel members, severed by the planes, to determine the speed and force of the impact; and those that sustained heaviest fire damage, to determine how long the fires burned and at what temperature the steel failed.

Meanwhile, design proposals for a new World Trade Cen-

ter were exhibited by more than 50 architects from around the world, at the Pro-tech Gallery in New York early this year. The exhibition was in response to the need for a new World Trade Center. At the same time, some preliminary surveys show that most Americans including families of those that died in the September disaster are against rebuilding the Trade Centre towers.

"Many people dream of success. To me success can only be achieved through repeated failure and introspection. In fact, success represents 1% of your work which results from the 99% that is called failure."
Soichiro Honda-
Founder of Honda
Corporation

LABOUR GOVERNMENT IN THE UK TO UNVEIL A MASSIVE (200,000) HOUSING PROGRAMME

The Labour Government of Tony Blair is set to unveil a major housing programme at a cost of about 1.1 billion British pounds. This 200,000 housing programme is earmarked for the South East of England where the housing crisis is said to have taken unprecedented levels.

The new houses are targeted for public sector workers like teachers, nurses and others who are said to have been priced out by the high property values, especially in the densely populated South-East of England. Property values in the London area have

increased by about 20% in the last one year alone. It is estimated that average property values in London are now about 7 times the average salary of a London teacher. Consequently, London and South East have not been attracting young professionals-**BBC online.**

Chaos surrounding the Construction of Wembley stadium continues

The chaos surrounding the construction of the Wembley stadium in England continued both on and off the construction site. The Wembley project with a designed 90,000 seater capacity is now estimate to cost about 175 million British Pounds has been rocked with construction delays, management problems and esca-

lating construction costs. Although the design drawings were unveiled in 1999, the final completion is still not very clear. Members of the British Parliament have now added their voices to this growing debate over the construction of the new Wembley stadium. Some MPs are now saying that the problems surrounding

the successful completion of the new Wembley Stadium are "self inflicted injuries". The Wembley stadium project was initially envisaged to attract the private sector, but the support has not been forthcoming, and consequent the project has had to rely heavily on public financial support in form of lottery funds.

Woman in construction
Ms. Malundu—Principal Consultant, Milestone Property Consultants



Unless you are willing to drench yourself in your work beyond the capacity of the average person, you are just not cut out for the positions at the top.” J.C. Penney

What is the best aspect of your job?

The best aspect of my job is report writing after physical inspection of property. This is in the valuation area.

What is the worst aspect of your Job?

Non-payment of fees for various reasons on the part of the client

Can you please describe to us, your typical working day.

I drive into town to open my office at 08:00 hours. Then, I read my diary and attend to appointments

as well as list down future ones.

Assignments include valuation, estate agency and general property consultancy

Do you regret becoming a Valuation Surveyor or entering this male dominated industry?

Not at all.

Who has been your greatest inspiration in your life, especially in taking up Valuation Surveying as a Career?

Sr. Josepha of St. Joseph’s Secondary School, Chwiima, who got me into the sciences. The sciences got me into the surveying field.

What has been your favourite project to date?

I offered consultancy services to Lima Bank in liquidation, that is, valuation and selling their property. In the area of selling I sold a block of flats for their firm and acquired myself one in the process.



If you could swap jobs, what would you choose to do?

It has never crossed my mind that I should swap jobs.

Which schools, colleges and Universities did you attend?

St. Mary's Primary School, Chwima
 St. Joseph's Secodary School, Chwima
 Southampton, England.

What are your future plans, career wise?

To expand my business and to open up a support company.

What are your hobbies?

Listening to music, gardening, reading, watching comedies

What piece of advice do you have for the young girls or women intending to take up Quantity Surveying or any other construction related job?

Hard work is the key to success. The surveying profession is not impossible to undertake as long as one is prepared to work hard.

In the year 2001, I became the vice-president of the Surveyors Institute of Zambia which is the umbrella body for three surveying chapters. I am also a member of other professional bodies. This has been achieved through hard work and determination.

An enterprise culture is one in which every individual understands that the world does not owe him or her a living." Peter Morgan Director General- Institute of Directors

TENDERS

ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD INVITATION FOR BIDS

RB/WP/008/02-1314: TENDER FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF LIVINGSTONE MUSEUM

The Government of the Republic of Zambia, through the Ministry of Finance and National Planning has secured funds from the European Development Fund (EDF) and intends to use part of the funds to refurbish the Livingstone Museum.

The Zambia National Tender Board, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance and National Planning is pleased to invite sealed bids from eligible firms interested in participating in the tender for the refurbishment of the Livingstone Museum in Southern Province.

The tender is open to firms from the European Union and ACP States signatory to the fourth Lome Convention, 2nd Financial Protocol.

The works involve the following; civil, building, waterproofing, air-conditioning and electrical.

The bidding documents can be obtained upon payment of a non-refundable fee of K500,000.00 or it's equivalent in any freely convertible currency at the prevailing exchange rate in cash or bank certified cheque from the office of the Director General, Zambia National Tender Board, 13th Floor, Kulima Tower, P. O. Box 31009, Lusaka, Zambia.

The telephone numbers are; 260 1 227052/3 or 260 1 228633/4 and telefax numbers are 260 1 220577 or 260 1 223649, email-tenders@zamnet.zm. **HOWEVER, TELEFAX OFFERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Bids must be submitted in accordance with the general instructions to bidders contained in the bidding documents. All bids should be deposited in the tender box on the 10th floor of Kulima Tower and must be accompanied by a security of not less than 2% of the tender sum.

The closing and opening date for the bids is Friday, 6 September, 2002 at 14:00 hours local time. The bids will be opened immediately thereafter in the conference room of the Zambia National tender Board on the 13th Floor, Kulima Tower, Katunjila Road, Lusaka, Zambia in the presence of the bidders or their representatives who choose to attend. **LATE BIDS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

M. Akolwa
Acting Board Secretary
ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD

TENDERS

NORTHERN PROVINCE TENDER COMMITTEE (URBAN WATER COMMITTEE)

INVITATION FOR BIDS

TENDER FOR THE REHABILITATION OF URBAN WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES (PHASE II)

The Ministry of Local Government and Housing in the pursuance of the provision of adequate and safe water to improve the quality of life of the people of Northern Province, has acquired funds to finance the immediate repair and rehabilitation of water schemes in the following districts: Kasama, Mbala, Mpika, Nakonde, Kaputa, and Isoka.

The Northern Province Tender Committee on behalf of the Urban Water Committee invites interested parties to submit sealed bids for the under-listed works. Bidders are allowed to tender for more than one bid.

ISOKA DISTRICT

- 6. A. Supply and installation of a set of pumps and motor at old intake
- 6. B. Repair of old intake resevoir
- 6. C. Supply and installation of a pump, impellor and valves at treatment plant.

KAPUTA DISTRICT

- 7.A. Supply and installation of a set of pump and motor treatment plant.
- 7. B. Replacement of 300mx75mm AC pipes with 100mm AC pipes
- 7. C. Supply and installation of impeller for KSB ETA 65-250 pump at intake

KASAMA DISTRICT

- 8.A. Supply and installation of 2 pump sets, chlorinator, foot valves and bulk meter at treatment plant
- 8. B. Rehabilitation of portions of the rising main
- 8. C. Repair/replacement of gate valves, flow meter and electrical components at the intake.

MBALA DISTRICT

- 9. A. Rehabilitation of treatment works at Lucheche intake.
- 9. B. Supply and installation of a set of booster pumps at booster station.

MPIKA DISTRICT

- 10. A. Replacement of flygt pump and switch gear at Mwamfushi intake.
- 10. B. Supply and installation of chlorinator unit at treatment plant.
- 10. C. Supply and installation of a 55 KW switch gear for malashi pumping station.

NAKONDE DISTRICT

- 11. A. Rehabilitation of 910 cubic metres ground tank at Mwenzo.
- 11. B. Repair of a scouring line at the intake.
- 11. C. Supply and installation of pump at Mwenzo.

A complete set of bidding tender document containing the scope of works may be obtained upon payment of a non-refundable fee of K150,000.00 from the Northern Provincial Local Government Office. Bids must be deposited at the Northern Provincial Local Government Office, Kasama, in the tender box before or on the closing date of 29th July, 2002.

The Secretary

Tender for Northern Province Urban Water Works

P. O. Box 410214

Kasama.

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Appointments

WORLD BANK – ZAMBIA SENIOR HIGHWAY ENGINEER/SENIOR TRANSPORT SPECIALIST

The Africa Transport Unit of the World Bank wishes to recruit a Senior Highway Engineer/Transport Specialist to be based in Lusaka, Zambia. The selected candidate will preferably be recruited from the Africa region. The selected candidate will report to the Country Manager/Director and will be administratively under the Sector Manager, transport, Africa Region. The candidate will participate primarily in the Bank's transport sector work and operations in the country where she/he is based, but also in other countries in the region as required.

[Women are particularly encouraged to apply]

Description of Duties

The selected candidate will be an integral member of the Africa transport Unit and will in particular be a member of one or more task teams working in the country in which he/she is based and on other countries in the sub-region. As a member of the team, the selected candidate will participate in: the preparation, appraisal, negotiation and supervision of transport sector projects (roads, rail, air, waterways) as well as projects in related sectors; execution of transport sector activities, economic work and advisory services to government and other stakeholders.

The specific duties will include, but not necessarily limited to;

- Participate in project preparation, appraisal and negotiation activities, including operational missions in the field countries, with particular focus on implementation, project costs, and getting results on the ground;
- Carry out regular reviews of project implementation, inclusive of site visits and review of progress reports, and make recommendations on remedial and follow up actions to resolve emerging or outstanding problems;
- Participate in project supervision missions and take a leadership role in all or part of the implementation review activities;
- Provide cross-support to other sector units in the design, implementation and supervision of civil works and related project components;
- Take an active interest in policy reform developments in the transport sector and initiate or participate in high-level discussions concerning the implementation of these reforms and the supporting role of Bank interventions;
- Review of procurement documents (and/or financial management reports) to ensure compliance with bank guidelines and the provisions for credit agreements, prepare comments and follow up correspondence for the team leader;
- Participate in professional development and knowledge sharing activities in the transport sector and take a role in contributing specific knowledge both within the assigned countries and within the bank;
- Keep abreast of key developments in related sectors and in regard to cross-cutting issues affecting the performance of the transport sector such as: environment, social impact, HIV/AIDS, road safety, gender, poverty reduction;
- Participate in sector-donor co-ordination activities in the country;
- Participate in country team activities, including portfolio review, formulation of country assistance strategy, analytical and advisory services, and response to priorities in the poverty reduction strategy paper; and,
- Encourage the development and active engagement of the private sector, including domestic construction industry, in all projects.

Critical success factors

- Ability to spot/identify, analyze and propose practical solutions to a broad range of technical, operational, financial and procurement problems during project implementation;
- Sound understanding of bank operational and procurement procedures allied with the professional credibility and interpersonal skills to interact effectively with team members, clients and donor partners;
- Strong organizational and project management skills to perform day to day in-country management of large and complex portfolio.

Qualifications required

- At least Master's level degree in civil engineering, economics or finance. Equivalent professional accreditation in engineering will be considered.
- At least 10 years experience in transport operations or the management of transport projects including experience in contract administration, planning and programming of capital and maintenance works and institutional reforms.
- Comprehension of the typical sectoral issues in transport, including sector policy reform and management and financing of transport infrastructure.

Appointments

Cont. SENIOR HIGHWAY ENGINEER/SENIOR TRANSPORT SPECIALIST

- First class analytical skill as applied to common problems in the transport sector.
- First class organizational and presentation skills.
- Strength in communications (written and oral) and interpersonal relations.
- Computer literacy in basic software for word processing, spreadsheet and database.
- Fluency in English language is mandatory.

Send applications to:
The Country Manager
World Bank – Zambia
P. O. Box 35410
Lusaka, Zambia

No later than August 2, 2002. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

MAZABUKA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Applications are urgently invited from suitably qualified and experienced Zambians to fill in the following position:

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

Qualifications

University degree in:

- a. Regional, Urban and Development Planning
- b. Geography, Economics or Social Sciences:
 - Member of the Zambia Institute of Planning (ZIP) or equivalent.
 - 5 years postgraduate working experience in the public sector or private sector including some management responsibilities.
 - Salary Scale LAPMS 3
 - Age 25-35

Conditions of Service:

Conditions of service for non-unionised Local Government will apply.

Mode of application:

Applications in own handwriting with detailed curriculum vitae and copies of relevant certificates must reach the undersigned not later than Friday, 26th July, 2002.

R.H. Hamakuni
Town Clerk
Civic Centre
P. O. Box 670022
Mazabuka.

National Council for Construction

Plot 1609/1625, Off Sheki Sheki Road
Light Industrial area,
P. O. Box 3954
Lusaka, Zambia

Phone: 260-01-243115
Fax: 260-01-243115
Email: ncc1@zamnet.zm

We are now on E-mail, send
us your mail on
ncc1@zamnet.zm

*Helping to
develop Zambia*



Forthcoming events

1. 2002 AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL SHOW

Wondering what's happening in the Zambian Construction world? Visit the NCC stand at the Lima Hall at this year's show, 1-5 August, 2002.

In case you would like to be a part of the NCC exhibition, please contact the NCC Secretariat on 260 1 243115 or Mr. Tim Walker on 260 1 254554/096 766548.

The theme is, "Growth through Agriculture and Commerce".

2. 31 July – 3 August, 2002 – The Star Interbuild Africa 2002 building and construction exhibition, including Mall expo 2002.

Contact: Craig Peters, Exhibition Manager, Specialised Exhibitions

Tel: 011-835-1565

Fax: 011-496-1161

E-mail: cpeters@specialised.com

www.specialised.com

3. 2003 International Builders Show

The annual International Builders Show will be held in January 2003, in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

For details visit www.BuildersShow.com/International

THINKING OF ORGANISING A WORKSHOP/ CONFERENCE/SEMINAR? THEN CONTACT NCC SECRETARIAT

The NCC, as part of its activities either on behalf of its members or for independent clients. Organises conferences, workshops and seminars on a variety of topics related to the Construction industry. Resource persons can be drawn if required from its membership of consultants, contractors and Government.

The NCC operates a full time secretariat which is currently situated at the

Government Roads training School, Plot 1609/1625, Off Sheki Sheki Road, Light Industrial Area. The NCC also provides the following services; Photocopying, fax, e-mail, typing and internet facilities.

To organise a workshop/conference/seminar the independent client or member organization will have to:

Make a request in writing stipulating the type of ser-

vice required

Pay a non-refundable commitment fee of US\$250

Contact persons:

Ms. Monde Mukela
Communication/
Information Officer

01-243115/096-754691

Mrs. Cynthia Majula
Office Assistant

01-243115/096-457309