

# CONSTRUCTION NEWS

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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

## PARLIAMENT DISCUSSES THE ZAMBIAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY UNDER THE NEW DEAL GOVERNMENT



The Minister of Local Government and Housing, Hon. Michael Mabenga, the Mayor, and the Japanese delegation at the ground breaking ceremony for the improvement of Lusaka City roads.

The construction industry has joined calls by other sectors of the Zambian economy for some form of protectionist legislation. The call comes after recent announcement by Government that it was to introduce some protectionist legislation against cheap imported goods from Zimbabwe. Consultants and contractors alike are now calling on government to extend the proposed counter measures to the rest of the economy and also include South African goods and services. The “dumping” of cheap imported goods on the Zambian market is what has

led to a number of our local industries closing down.

For instance, cheap Zimbabwean cement is already threatening the profitability and continued existence of Chilanga Cement plc, with the concomitant job loses. Only recently, Members of Parliament (MPs) complained to government that a number of foreign contractors (and some local ones unfortunately) contracted to work on most rural roads in the country had failed to perform “satisfactory”. The MPs made their submissions when debating this year’s estimates of expenditure for the Ministry of Works and Supply. Leading

the onslaught on foreign contractors was Chama South M.P., Hon. John Chile Nguni: a qualified Quantity Surveyor and Contractor, who told Parliament that it was a pity that 38 years after independence the country still had to rely on foreign road contractors, yet local contractors had both the experience and capacity to do these works. Hon. Nguni also asked the Government through the Ministry of Works and Supply to put in place policies that would promote Zambian construction companies.

*Continued on page 2*

## PARLIAMENT DISCUSSES CONSTRUCTION UNDER NEW DEAL GOVERNMENT

...From page 1

Admittedly, some of the unscrupulous road contractors are Zambians, as was clearly evidenced by the heavy criticism by most of the MPs, some of whom mentioned these local contractors by name. Some MPs went further to criticize some government officers for conniving with the some road contractors to defraud the government, by authorising payments to contractors for substandard works.

In response to the above criticism, the Minister of Works and Supply, Hon. Sondashi assured the House that his Ministry was currently working on legislation that would turn the National Council for Construction (NCC) into a statutory body with legal powers to monitor and enforce local construction rules and regulations. Under the proposed Act, the NCC will have legal powers to register (and deregister ailing) contractors operating in Zambia. The Minister

also promised to "weed out" all corrupt and dishonest officers from his Ministry so as to ensure smooth and most economic operations in his ministry.

The aforementioned proposed construction Act is surely overdue considering the damage that laissez-faire policies have done to our industry and the economy in general. The textbook (economic) liberalisation policies that we embarked on in the last 10 years have definitely failed our industry and our economy as a whole. Whereas, Zambia wholly opened up her economy, her neighbours did not. The consequence has been the importation of "unemployment" from Zimbabwe, South Africa and Asia. What has been most painful has been instances where we have imported construction labour that was readily available in the country, all in the name of economic liberalisation. Where Zambians have been employed by some of these foreign firms, they have been engaged as casual labour, without the right to join trade Unions. Consequently,

their working conditions have been pathetic, to say the least.

In advocating for a level playing field for local industries, it is however, important to take on board the concerns of the Zambia Consumer Association that "protectionism could result in more expensive goods and services". Quite honestly, I do not think that what Zambian industries are asking for are "protectionist policies", but rather a level playing field, where Zambian industries will be able to enjoy access to foreign markets as those enjoyed by our neighbours in this country.

In any case, what would be the advantage in having very cheap goods and services, if most Zambians are without work and thus not able to afford these imported "cheap" goods and services?

*"The rule of law is the essential basis for civilization." — Thomas Young, British Ambassador to Zambia.*

## NEW BUILDING WORKS FORTHCOMING

In the midst of high levels of road construction activity, Norway has given the Zambian judiciary K9.3 billion for construction of a magistrates court complex in Lusaka. The grant is to cater for phase one of the project which is expected to start soon.

The facility includes 24 magistrates' courts, cham-

bers, administration block, custody cell-rooms, a police post and an underground tunnel to the prison.

On behalf of the Zambian Government, Secretary to the Treasury, Borniface Nonde stated that the grant would enhance efficiency in the judiciary to sustain the country's democratic dispensation.

Meanwhile, K100 billion has

been channeled towards construction of schools.

The past few months has seen an acceleration in the rate of road construction and rehabilitation. This seemed to have overshadowed building construction especially that in terms of construction, Government has emphasized on roads. It's a relief to see building work going on.

## JAPAN FINANCES US\$21 MILLION ROAD REHABILITATION PROJECT

A ground breaking ceremony to launch the project for the improvement of Lusaka City roads was held on Friday, April 5, 2002, at the junction of the Airport turn-off and Great East road.

The project is in it's second phase which involves the reconstruction of the Great East road and the Great North Road, including collector roads.

According to a press release by the embassy of

Japan, this project will see the transformation of the two major roads to dual carriage ways with central reservation, improved intersections, effective street lighting, and adequate drainage.

The Ambassador of Japan pointed out in a speech that this was a result of increased pressures on the roads due to growth in vehicle size and traffic volume. It was therefore deemed necessary to do major

reconstruction work instead of normal road maintenance which is no longer cost-effective.

The project will cost approximately K100 billion (US\$21 Million) and is expected to be completed by the end of the year 2003.

This is indeed a major stride in the development of Zambian access ways.

## OTTA SEAL SURFACING—IS IT A SOLUTION TO ZAMBIA'S COSTLY ROAD CONSTRUCTION?

The National Roads Board (NRB) recently held a workshop on Otta Seal road surfacing at Mulungushi International Conference centre.

The seminar attracted a cross-section of contractors and consultants in the construction industry.

Facilitators were drawn

from Norway and Botswana where the road surfacing has been used before.

Otta Seal surfacing is said to be about ten times less costly than the conventional road surfacing.

Regarding it's application in Zambia, the Otta Seal surface was received with mixed feelings. It was felt

that there was need for more information and testing before it could be extensively used on Zambian roads.

However, the fact that it could be a solution to the Zambian challenge of road rehabilitation could not be dispelled.

## CHILANGA CEMENT, TAP UNDER THREAT

Chilanga Cement Plc sales have been reported to have dropped in the year 2001 by 10% from levels in 2000. This is according to Company Secretary, George Varghese. The drop has been attributed to;

- Difficult business environ-

ment in 2001 due to increased pressure especially from Zimbabwe which had unfair advantage of parallel exchange rates.

- Significant shortfall in domestic and ex-

port market  
However, it is interesting to note that production levels at both Chilanga and Ndola plants were on target levels.

In a similar development, TAP Zambia Limited, is experiencing difficulties in sales

*“ A good road in the rural area is a telephone. So, more money should be allocated to the Ministry of Works and Supply.” — Patrick Kangwa, MP*

## UK HOUSE PRICES SOARING SWIFTLY

It is interesting to note that house prices have been rising over the years in Zambia, but, who says it's only in Zambia where you find this phenomenon? Well, reports from the UK state that the

country has experienced significant increases in house prices.

According to the Halifax bank, an average house in the U. K currently costs 16 percent more

than it did last year in March. This was one of the highest price rises in the past decade.

It is expected that by the end of the year, the prices will be 7 per cent higher.

## ROADSIP IN INDIA? – WORLD BANK AIDED ROAD

Reports from the World bank state that US\$60 million has been approved by the bank to improve road capacity, quality, and safety through rehabilitation and maintenance. The Project, called the Mizoram State Roads Project,

is intended to expand and rehabilitate over 700 kilometres of the state's core road network over the next five years.

Another US\$ 255 million project, the Kerala State Transport Project, has been

approved by World Bank to address the rapid increase in demand for road services.

This is an effort to curb the mounting rate of road accidents. The project is to enhance road capacity and provide safety programs.

*“ We can end poverty, at least extreme poverty. We all know what needs to be done and to a large extent we know how to do it.” – Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)*

## CALL FOR COMMENTS ON DRAFT WDR ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable Development in a Dynamic Economy, the World Development Report (WDR) 2003, is the World Bank's contribution to the ongoing international dialogue on development, the environment and other sustainability issues. The WDR 2003 team invites comments on the draft report from stakeholders in government, civil society, academia, and the private sector world wide. All substantive comments received

by April 30 will be considered by the team and posted on the WDR website.

### Chapters:

1. Quick Roadmap
2. Managing a Broader Portfolio of Assets
3. Institutions for Coordination and Where They Come From
4. Living on Fragile Lands: Inclusion, Innovation, and Migration
5. The Rural Transformation: Constructing Institutions to Value People, Land, and Water
6. Incubators for Change: Urban Areas as Centers for Innovation and

### Transformation

7. Strengthening National Coordination
8. Solving Global Problems: Addressing Local Concerns

Download the Quick Roadmap:  
[http://econ.worldbank.org/files/13551\\_04AprRoadMapWEB.pdf](http://econ.worldbank.org/files/13551_04AprRoadMapWEB.pdf)

Learn more about the report:  
<http://econ.worldbank.org/wdr/subpage.php?sp=2433>

Access the full text (or try our new web-based mail back tool), submit comments, view posted comments:  
[http://econ.worldbank.org/wdr/structured\\_doc.php?](http://econ.worldbank.org/wdr/structured_doc.php?)

**Woman in construction**  
**Alice Suzyo Lungu—Quantity Surveyor, Mwiitumwa and Associates**



*“The only thing achieved in life without effort is failure.”*

*Unknown*

**Q. What is the best aspect of your job?**

**A.** Tender Documentation: Since I know that my work would be seen by many people and probably would-be employers, that means that my work has to be perfect – self marketing.

**Q. What is the worst aspect of your Job?**

**A.** Having to deal with contractors who have no regard for the role of a Quantity Surveyor.

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

**A.** Normally, my day starts at 08:00 hours, lunch break for one hour at 13:00 hours and it ends at 17:00 hours.

**Q. Do you regret becoming a Quantity Surveyor or entering this male dominated industry?**

**A.** Not at all. Infact I wouldn't have chosen a better career for myself.

**Q. Who has been your greatest inspiration in**

**your life, especially in taking up Quantity Surveying as a Career?**

**A.** My greatest inspiration in life has been my parents. Despite each one of them having their different dreams for my future, they encouraged me to follow my heart and I did and have no regrets. The lecturers at University also helped me in many ways. They made Quantity Surveying look like it was the best profession in the world. Well, it is the best to me.

**Q. What has been your favourite project todate?**

**A.** The construction of fifteen rural health centers in Eastern and Southern Provinces. This was my first major project and in a way, a learning experience.

*(continued on page 6)*

**Woman in construction  
Alice Suzyo Lungu—Quantity Surveyor, Mwiitumwa and Associates**



Though this project was divided in three components, the problems experienced were similar. These ranged from suspension, massive contractual claims, etc. As the project progressed, I learnt how to deal with each dispute as it came.

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

**A.** I would choose to do Banking because I have worked as a Banker before. However, I would not be able to do it better than I do my

Quantity Surveying job.

**Q. Which schools, colleges and Universities did you attend?**

**A.** I did my primary and Secondary School Education at Chiweza Primary School, Lundazi and St. Monica's Girls Secondary School, Chipata respectively. For tertiary education, I went to CBU between 1992 and 1996.

**Q. What are your future plans, career wise?**

**A.** At the moment, I have been made a Technical Associate of Mwiitumwa

and Associates where I have been working for the past five years. But I hope some time in the near future I will set up my own practice.

**Q. What are your hobbies?**

**A.** I love to read novels, spiritual materials and any other materials that are not detrimental to my mind.

**Q. 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?**

**A.** They must be absolutely sure they want to take up such jobs because almost all jobs in the construction industry are quite demanding. It is not wise to get into a construction job just because one wants to prove that one can break into a male dominated field.

*“Do we believe opportunities should be extended to all or remain the preserve of the few?”-Tony Blair, British Prime Minister*

# TENDER NOTICE

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## ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD

### INVITATION FOR BIDS

**TB/W/005/02-1247: TENDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW OFFICE BLOCK FOR THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATIVES – FIELD SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

The Government of the Republic of Zambia, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives has received a loan facility from IFAD for the construction of the new office block for the Field Services Department.

The Zambia National Tender Board, on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives now invites contractors to submit bids for the tender for the construction of new block of offices.

Eligible applicants may obtain the bidding documents from the office of the Director General, Zambia National Tender Board, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kulima Tower, P. O. Box 31009, Lusaka, Zambia, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ZMK 400,000.00 or it's equivalent in any freely convertible currency at the prevailing exchange rate in cash or bank certified cheque.

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.**

The bids must be deposited in the tender box on the 10<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Zambia National Tender Board, Kulima Tower, and should be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2% of the bid sum.

The closing and opening date for the submission of bids is Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 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 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend. Late bids will not be accepted.

E. M. M. Sikanyika (Mrs)  
Board Secretary  
**ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD**

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*“We often give  
enemies the means  
of our own  
destruction.”*

*Aesop*

# TENDER NOTICE

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## ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD INVITATION FOR BIDS

### TB/W/004/02-1241: TENDER FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION FACILITIES AT ZAMBEZI SECONDARY SCHOOL IN NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE – MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND NATIONAL PLANNING

The Zambia Social Investment Fund (ZAMSIF) under the Ministry of Finance and National Planning is administering a Development Credit Agreement No. 3355-ZA signed between the World Bank – International Development Association (IDA) and the Government of the Republic of Zambia for the improvement and rehabilitation of social infrastructure.

The Zambia National Tender Board, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance and National Planning (ZAMSIF), invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for improvement of water supply and sanitation facilities at Zambezi Secondary School in North Western Province.

The bidding documents can be obtained upon payment of a non-refundable fee of K400,000.00 or its 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, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kulima Tower, Katunjila Road, P. O. Box 31009, Lusaka.

The telephone numbers are, 260-1-228633, 227052/3 and the telefax numbers are 220577/223649. **HOWEVER, TELEFAX OFFERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Bids must be deposited in the tender box on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the Zambia National Tender Board, Kulima Tower, and should be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2% of the bid sum.

The closing and opening date for the receipt of bids is Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2002 at 14:00 hours local time and any bid received after the date and time stated will not be accepted. Bids will be opened immediately thereafter in the conference room of the Zambia National Tender Board on the 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kulima Tower in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend.

M Akolwa  
Acting Board Secretary  
ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD

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*“ Only funds that have been duly authorized should be spent. Not even a President should be allowed to run down contributions at the expense of Zambian taxpayers.” – Japhet Moonde, MP.*

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# TENDER NOTICE

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## ZAMBIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

### ZRA/ORD/003/02: TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF A STAND-BY GENERATOR AT REVENUE HOUSE

The Zambia Revenue Authority hereby invites eligible bidders to submit sealed bids for the supply and installation of a stand-by generator at Zambia Revenue Authority, Revenue, House, (Lusaka).

The bidding document can be inspected and/or purchased from the office of the undersigned, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Revenue House, P. O. Box 35710, Lusaka; Telephone number, 260-1-229214/18 and telefax number, 229220. The document may be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of K200,000.00 in cash or bank certified cheque.

The closing date for the receipt of bids is Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2002 at 14:30 hours local time. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2% of the tender sum.

**Secretary**  
**MANAGEMENT TENDER COMMITTEE**  
**ZAMBIA REVENUE AUTHORITY**

*“ One cannot  
dominate the world,  
but one can share it  
with others for the  
benefit of humanity.”  
– Jean - Paul  
Monchau, French  
Ambassador to  
Zambia.*

## NCC SUB-COMMITTEES

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 Mr. A. Luring  
 Mr. Mungandi  
 Ex-officio: Dr. M. S. Mashamba

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 ACEZ Representative  
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## NOTICE TO ALL NCC AFFILIATE MEMBERS

**THE 2002 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN JUNE.  
 ONLY FULLY PAID UP MEMBERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICI-  
 PATE IN THE DELIBERATIONS. DETAILS WILL BE COMMUNICATED  
 SOON.**

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**National Council for Construction**

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Lusaka, Zambia

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Fax: 260-01-243115  
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We are now on E-mail, send  
us your mail on  
ncc1@zamnet.zm

*Helping to  
develop Zambia*



North South Ltd, in cooperation with the First Trust Consultants Ltd of Kenya and in consultation with Siera Delta International and Meeting Planning Consultants, both of Los Angeles, California, have organised the first ever African Expo USA 2002 in California, USA. The main objectives of the exposition to be held from June 10 - 17 are:

- to promote and increase trade between Eastern and Southern African Countries with USA and the adjacent islands
- to promote and to attract investment opportunities between Eastern and Southern African countries and the USA
- to promote and to market the tourism potential between Eastern and Southern African Countries with USA and the adjacent islands
- to promote African designers and showcase African fashions from Eastern and Southern African Countries with USA and the adjacent islands
- Eastern and Southern African States to approach the African and Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) as a block for the mutual benefit of all the States in the region.
- Facilitate Business-to-Business (B2B) network.
- To promote private sector initiatives under COMESA, SADC, EAC protocols and agreements

For further details contact the organisers on Telefax: 254 2 342158, e-mail: info@airnorthsouth.co.ke or visit their website: www.airnorthsouth.co.ke/westcoast

**2.0.PanAfrican-Caribbean Conference on Air Transport, Atlanta, Georgia USA 8-11 April 2002**

There are new initiatives in the Air Transport business to develop more links with the African continent. This should be welcome and incpouuraged because the cost of air transport both cargo and passenger is prohibitively high for developing countries. During the last two months of last year, air travel in Europe was down to a couple of dollars between countries in an effort to boost interest in flying. This effort was made in view of the September air crash disasters in New York and Washington.

For more information please visit the web site: www.panafricanconference.ciom. Or the PSDA Secretariat in Lusaka, Zambia

**3.0 All Africa Trade fair, 22nd -30th April 2002**

The General Organisation for Exhibitions and International Fairs of Egypt is organising the above fair scheduled to take place in Nasr City, Cairo from 22-30 April 2002. Those interested can contract ZACCI Secretariat (information Office) for brochures about the fair. Companies that wish to seek more information can contract the organisers on tel: 02/2607856/33 fax 02/2607845-48-21, e-mail; goief@jdscl.net.eg website: www.goief.gov.eg or contract Mr. Mamdouh Sallman (secound secretary) at the Egyptian Embassy on e-mail: comegypt@zamnet.zm

**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:**

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