

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

Zambia commits herself to the Global Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST)



Hon. Kapembwa Simbao with Ghana Deputy Minister of Public Works & Housing: Hon. Christopher Addae

The Zambian Government has once again committed itself to the fight against corruption, only this time it has taken the fight to the construction industry. Zambia was recently among other countries, namely Vietnam, Philippines, United States, India, Georgia, Canada, Kenya, South Africa, China, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, and the host country Britain, for a one-day consultative Forum in London for the construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST) forum. Other representatives at this aforementioned Forum included those from the World Bank, GTZ, Transparency

International, Japan Bank for International Cooperation, African Development Bank, European Investment Bank, and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development-OECD. The CoST initiative is being coordinated and financed by the British Government through the Department of International Development (DFID). The one day consultative meeting was held on Wednesday 20th June 2007, at Somerset House in London. The following day, being Thursday 21st June, was dedicated to holding one-on-one bilateral country-DFID meet-

ings. The Zambian delegation was led by the Hon. Minister of Works and Supply, Hon. Kapembwa Simbao and was accompanied by the National Council for Construction (NCC) Executive Director Dr. Sylvester Mashamba. Whereas, there are no definite figures for the cost of corruption in the Zambian construction industry, it is easy to have estimated the damage that corruption has on the total cost of our infrastructure and the concomitant and resultant construction cost. Global estimates on corruption figures are frightening to say the least and there are **Turn to page two**

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-no reasons to think that Zambia is an exception or any better than the alarming global estimates below. For instance, the 2005 Global Corruption Report: Special Focus Corruption in Construction and Post-Conflict Reconstruction by Transparency International estimates that about 15-50% of global construction cost, depending on the country, goes to paying bribes or corruption.

It is important to note that the above alarming figures attributed to corruption, not only apply to Africa and the rest of the developing World, but also apply to the developed World also. For instance, the aforementioned report has stated that industrialised nations from Japan to the United States continue to face corruption in their construction industries. The above high corruption levels in the global construction market would explain the high level presence of all the major Development Banks and lending institutions at the Forum. It is important to note also that the international development agencies like the World bank, IMF and other multi-lending agencies are not immune from corruption. The report further states that, often international investors and financial institutions are also culpable in supporting corruption in the developing world.

The special characteristics and nature of the construction industry is said to slant the industry to corruption among which are: the

fierce competition for make or break contracts; the numerous levels of official approvals and permits; the uniqueness of the many projects; the opportunities for delays and overruns; the simple fact the quality of much work is rapidly concealed as it is covered over by concrete, plaster and cladding.

Corruption in the construction industry has often resulted in construction projects being implemented without any regard to the sensitivities of the local residents, environment or cost benefit of the project to the to country, all because some unscrupulous private sector investors have paid some public officials some bribe.

It is estimated that national Governments World-wide spend more than US\$ 4 trillion annually on procuring various infrastructure and construction related projects, of which a sizable percentage goes to paying corrupt public officials!

The core concept of CoST is **"Get what You Pay For"**. The CoST project aims at enhancing transparency and accountability of procuring entries and construction companies in the Global construction market in general and in the participating countries in particular. CoST recognises that there already exists fairly extensive procurement initiatives in the global construction market hence there is no need to try to re-invent the wheel by concentrating on contract award through to final construction. The above notwithstanding, CoST recognises clearly that the start-

ing point for all intending and participating countries of the CoST project is the value of transparency at all stages of the construction cycle. It is envisaged that the more public the disclosure, the less risk of corruption and mismanagement. The rationale with public disclosure being that information concerning public finances should not be concealed from the public.

It is envisaged all countries intending to participate in CoST pilot project will follow proposed guidelines below:

1. **Appoint a lead Agency** that will assume overall responsibility for CoST implementation in the country.
2. **Constitute a Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG)**, a representative body comprising key stakeholders, including civil society.
3. **Develop a Country Work Plan:** Outline the stages for implementation, funding arrangements etc.
4. **Agreement on project thresholds** to ensure that disclosures required under CoST are practicable.
5. **Agreement on project information templates** to define the nature and extent of disclosures
6. **Appointment of an Assurance team** by the Lead Agency and approval by the MSG;
7. **Public Disclosures** of material information on the projects above the agreed thresholds;
8. **Assessing the adequacy and reliability of disclosures** (by the assurance Team) and reporting to the MSG; and
9. **Public Disclosures of CoST Report.**

The London Forum further

"Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."

Abraham Lincoln

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“Never seem more learned than the people you are with. Wear your learning like a pocket watch and keep it hidden. Do not pull it out to count the hours, but give the time when you are asked.”

Lord Chesterfield

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stated that CoST in early October 2007 and an initial 24 months timescale for the pilot project (for those countries to take part is proposed). We envisage that Zambia will be among the first countries to sign up to this CoST pilot project. It is further envisaged that towards the end of the pilot project review period (24 months) Zambia will have learnt and contributed to final design for CoST. The Forum agreed to include provision for a more detailed exploration of the costs and benefits of CoST. During the pilot review process, there is going to be a interim International Secretariat that will be charged with the responsibility of pursuing a broader base of support for CoST and to develop proposals for the longer-term institutional structures and funding arrangements for CoST participating countries.

To that end, Zambia, under the direction of the Minister of Works and Supply, working through the National Council for Construction (NCC), has already kick started Zambia's preparations and logistical arrangements for her signing up and eventual participation in the Global CoST project. Background and explanation notes concerning CoST have already been sent to all key local construction industry stakeholders, including the Zambia National Tender Board (ZNTB), Transparency International (TI)

[Zambia], the Auditor General, Building Department, Ministry of Works and Supply, Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Anti Corruption Commission, Drug Enforcement Commission, Roads Development Agency (RDA), National Road Fund Agency, and representatives of the two national contracting associations: the National Small and Medium Contractors Association and the Association for Building and Civil Engineering Contractors (ABCEC). Others sent the aforementioned explanatory documents include the Zambia Institute of Architects (ZIA), the Surveyors Institute of Zambia (SIZ), The Engineering Institution of Zambia (EIZ), The Association of Consulting Engineers of Zambia (ACEZ) and representatives of the two public Universities in the country.

In terms of the next steps at a national level, it is expected that once, all the above mentioned stakeholders have read through and digested the contents of the said documents sent to them, they will then raise any concerns, suggestions, additions, subtractions and then feed back these points they will raise to the NCC. The NCC will in turn consolidate the same and liaise with DFID London Office for a national workshop to answer among others things the above concerns, questions and any other clarifications that stakeholders might have. The proposed national workshop also aims at arriving at a national consensus on Zambia's position on her partici-

pation to the proposed Global CoST Project.

It should also be made very clear that the NCC is for now only acting as the Lead Agency for Zambia on this project and that stakeholders with the approval of the powers-that-be will have to elect an appropriate Institution to act as the Lead Agency for Zambia, at the forthcoming CoST national workshop.

The public in general and Civil Society in particular are invited to take a keen interest in this project. Interested individuals and institutions are asked to read through the said background and explanatory documents on CoST on the NCC Website: www.ncc.co.zm and submit their comments or suggestion to the Executive Director at the NCC through e-mail at: ncc@ncc.org.zm or make their submissions through hard copies to the NCC Secretariat. Corruption in the Zambian construction industry affects all of us i.e. inappropriate, unsuitable, defective, dangerous and expensive projects, thus it is important that we all take a very keen interest and role in the fight against corruption. No doubt, CoST will not completely eradicate corruption in our construction industry, as the critics will be arguing, but if successfully implemented will assist in reducing the incidence and occurrence of corrupt practices in our industry and country. To that end, CoST argues that to successfully combat corruption in the construction industry we need to have a more open or disclosure system in the manner we conduct our, tendering, procurement and contract execution for the construction industry.

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NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CONSTRUCTION

CONSTANT MEDIA ATTACKS ON THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CONSTRUCTION

The constant attacks on the NCC, its Board members and staff: Background to the personal vendettas

We are compelled to take the unprecedented move of responding to the many unsubstantiated allegations that have been written about the NCC, its Board and staff members. Particular reference is made to the **Sunday Times of Zambia** feature articles of 17th June 2007 and 24th June 2007 using the writer's signature of the **Logician** entitled "*NCC should wake up*" and the follow up "news article headed "*Moomba MP rejects (NCC) inspectorate idea*" in the **Times of Zambia** of 19th June 2007. First and foremost allow us on behalf of the Board, Management and staff of the National Council for Construction (NCC) to thank the writer for his/her concern with regard to the state of affairs and sustenance of the Zambian construction industry. To that end, we would have thought that the writer would have given the aforementioned feature articles more correct background, a more balanced and researched view rather than the one sided, personalized and vindictive features that were given. Further, we noticed that the writer was in more ways seeking answers or merely posing questions, thus we would have thought that the writer would have at least contacted us to hear our side of the story, but unfortunately the writer chose to report or quote in verbatim the many accusations that we have now gotten used to from the Honourable Member of Parliament for Moomba: Hon. Vitalis Mooya. Find below the corrected background to what has led to the current animosity between Hon. Vitalis Mooya and those of us he wrongly perceives to have pushed him (Hon. Mooya) from the various jobs he applied for whilst at the Ministry of Works and Supply (MWS). In the same breath, we will also attempt to correct your very wrong assumptions, whilst answering some of your main concerns and questions.

***"Listen to many,
speak to a few."***
William Shakespeare
quote

1. ***Like every other law (NCC Act), this was rushed through but quickly a management team was put up and Dr. Sylvester Mashamba was appointed to head it.*** The NCC was formed in 1998 and Hon. Vitalis Mooya by virtue of him being Assistant Director in the Planning and Monitoring Department then in the Ministry of Works and Supply was then appointed to act as the first Executive Director of the NCC. However, when the Zambian Government secured a Credit from the World Bank through the Road Sector Investment Programme (RoadSIP) in 1999 to finance the operations of NCC, it was decided (as per World Bank guidelines) to advertise the position of the (NCC) Executive Secretary (as the position of the CEO was then referred to), and Hon. Mooya was one of the candidates, including Dr. Mashamba among others. For reasons best known to the then NCC Board, Hon. Mooya was not one of those short-listed and the position fell to Dr. Mashamba. It has further been argued that since the NCC Board Chairman was an Architect the incumbent Executive Director being also an Architect was thus favoured over Engineers! The **Logician** and the **Times of Zambia** would have helped the nation to put this case to rest if only they had thoroughly researched the issue to find out the composition of the interviewing panels and how many of these were Engineers and how many were Architects. In any case, the CVs of all those that applied for the job including that of Hon. Mooya (including his CV and copies of certificates) are still very much available at the NCC secretariat for any future verifications by any independent body or person including the **Sunday/Times of Zambia**. Nevertheless, in 2004, upon the expiry of the World Bank financial support to the NCC, it was decided after extensive consultations to merge the then Roads Department Training School (RDTS) and the NCC into a statutory Body through an Act of Parliament. There are indeed records of the various levels of consultations that took place at NCC,to page 5

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Ministry of Works and Supply and lastly at Parliament. It would have helped once again if the logician had bothered to find out the truth about the above history rather than rely on vindictive utterances, suffice to mention that upon the restructuring of the Ministry of Works and Supply, Hon. Mooya lost his job after unsuccessfully applying for the position of NCC Executive Director, Director of Buildings and Director of Planning and Monitoring. As a Zambian Hon. Mooya is entitled to challenge the outcome of his fate through the already established courts of law, the Investigator General or any other authority to find out why he was not appointed to any of the above positions in the Ministry seeing as he is such a highly qualified and experienced Engineer. Surely, the nation would like to know why Hon. Mooya lost out in all the above interviews and yet there still are vacancies for Engineers at the Ministry.

2. Sometime ago a Member of Parliament Honourable Vitalis Mooya complained about the poor management and performance of the NCC... We must assume that Dr. Mashamba is an Engineer with vast experience in the construction industry including specifying materials, plant...

The above statements clearly go to show that either the Logician has very little or no understanding of the duties of the NCC Executive Director and the operations of any construction industry let alone the Zambian one. The job advert for the NCC Executive Secretary that went out to the press to which all applicants responded to asked for Architects, Engineers, Quantity Surveyors or any other professional in the construction industry to apply. If Hon. Mooya or indeed the Logician were against these other professionals applying for this job, they should have objected to this prior to the job advert going out. It would have also helped if the logician had illustrated the day-to-day duties of the NCC Executive (Director) Secretary and demonstrate how this position requires that this person should be filled by an Engineer. In any case, there are many branches of Engineering, which branch of Engineering should the NCC Executive Director come from? If regional experiences are of any help, it would help to note that the Executive Director of the Tanzania NCC is an Engineer, in Malawi he is a Quantity Surveyor and in South Africa (Construction Industry Development Board), the first CEO was an Architect (opted not to renew his contract), whilst the current one is a Business Administration Degree holder.

We further note with disappointment the current attempts to remove all non Engineers from the Ministry of Works and Supply (MWS), NCC and the Roads Development Agency (RDA). For instance, soon after the new Minister at MWS was appointed, Hon. Mooya called for a meeting with the Minister at which he claimed he was going to offer help to the new Minister given his past experience at the Ministry. All Directors at the Ministry were called to this meeting including CEOs at the NCC and RDA, but unfortunately when he (Hon. Mooya) was asked to speak, he started and finished his presentation with appeals for the new Minister to fire all non Engineers at the Ministry, NCC and RDA. According to Hon. Mooya, the incumbent PS [Lt. Col. Bizwayo Nkunika rtd] being a retired military Officer was misplaced and ought to be replaced with a qualified and experienced Engineer like himself, the Board Chairmen at NCC [Dr. Francis Ndilila] and RDA [Walusiko Lisulo] were also singled out for replacement, since they were Architects. **He expressed hope that the Committee of Ministers ...should debate and consult widely over the matter before another board was appointed at NCC.** It was also alleged that the NCC and RDA Boards were full of social scientists that needed to be urgently replaced. The NCC Executive Director was viciously cited for lacking vital Engineering qualifications and experience and being unable to design and supervise roads and bridges! It is important to note that, the NCC was not established to oversee roads and bridges. If the logician and the **Sunday/Times of Zambia** had undertaken thorough research, they would have realized this fact much earlier instead of feeding the nation with misinformation. We would also like to take this opportunity to state once and for all, that we at the NCC refuse to be drawn in the current and childish debate as to who is above the other: the NCC or the Engineering Institution of Zambia (EIZ) or is it the Architect or Engineer? We are strongly of the opinion that both the EIZ and the NCC were set up to play very different and complementary roles and mandates in the Zambian economy in general and the construction industry in particular.

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**“Success is
sweet and
sweeter if long
delayed and
gotten through
many struggles
and defeats”**

**Amos Bronson
Alcott**

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We further strongly believe that it is totally wrong and immoral for any individual or individuals to bring their personal vendettas into the cordial relationship that has and continue to exist between Architects and Engineers.

In this regard you will recall that in October 2005 a letter was written by a one Mr. Kekana a small-scale contractor to the then Minister of Works and Supply (Hon. Marina Nsingo) and copied to the then Republican Vice President to fire the NCC Executive Director within 3 months: reason being that the Executive Director was an Architect and not an Engineer. After the above attempt failed, another letter was written to our former donors: NORAD alleging that the NCC management led by Dr. Mashamba had sold construction equipment donated to the NCC and pocketed the money (a total of K550m)[see the POST Newspaper of 27th October 2005]. Consequently, NORAD suspended the donor support totaling US\$1.5m to the NCC. Auditors from Norway [2 weeks], Auditors from our own (Zambian) Auditor General [2 months] and the Anti-Corruption Commission [close to 7 months] were called in to investigate this very serious allegation. At the end of the day, the allegations were proved to be untrue, but unfortunately by that time, the donor period had come to an end, and the said US\$ 1.5m was denied to the Zambian small-scale contractors for training purposes. The question to be asked therefore, is who was punished in this case, was it Dr. Mashamba or was it the Zambian Small-scale contractors who could have benefited from this training assistance, especially given that it was a grant and not a loan to the Zambian Government and people? Given, this level of vindictiveness and personal agendas in the Zambian construction industry, we would have expected the logician and the Sunday Times of Zambia Editor to have brought these issues and background to the attention of their readers and offered his/her own independent analysis/views.

We further note that whilst the two previous MWS Ministers in the names of: Hon. Dr. Sondashi and Madam Nsingo were initially hailed as good and effective Ministers by Hon. Mooya, they were later severally condemned to a point that Hon. Nsingo took the unprecedented step of calling for a press conference to explain to the nation the constant interference and personal attacks from Hon. Mooya at the Ministry. Although, both the print and electronic media covered this press conference, the Zambian press refused to air the same saying that it was media policy not to cover or air responses to allegations. We note however, with horror that the same press including Government Media are always the first to make headline News each time Hon. Mooya responds to any of our statements or actions; what hypocrisy! Surely, it is this kind of journalism that gives Zambian journalism a bad name.

I am not against anybody at NCC but I am just trying to be logical like the logician has observed in his Sunday Times column of June 17, 2007. The guilty are always afraid.

And Mr. Mooya has urged Communications and Transport Minister Sarah Sayifwanda to table the Engineering Institution of Zambia amendment Bill in Parliament when it resumes sitting next month so that it could give teeth to engineers to police the construction industry... We want to believe that EIZ is a body of professional men and women who are engaged by their clients to design and supervise what ever works they are engaged to, and thus report to their respective clients and not the Government or the public as is the case with the NCC. In any case, construction works consist of both Architectural and as well as Civil Engineering works, so is the new EIZ Act going to give Engineers supervising powers over Architects in Architectural works? Please let us recognize the fact that Architects and Engineers complement each other and should not be used to fight each other for personal gains.

We already have a team under the EIZ carrying out inspections in the construction industry so why should we have another team under the NCC; this is a waste of money. The NCC is more than willing to cooperate and share notes with this EIZ team that is already in the field carrying out construction inspections in the Zambian construction industry. ***to page 7***

"Bitterness is like cancer. It eats upon the host. But anger is like fire. It burns it all clean."

Maya Angelou

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We are, however, left to wonder as to why Hon. Mooya wants the Communications and Transport Minister “to amend the EIZ Act to give the Engineers powers to police the construction industry” when they are already doing this and why has Hon. Mooya continued to blame the NCC for poor and shoddy construction works in the country when Engineers under the EIZ are already policing the Zambian construction industry?

He said under the Act, it was agreed that the Government in the initial stages should fund NCC until it became self-sustaining but that had not been the case as for seven years the Government had continued funding the Council. It could have helped if Hon. Mooya had quoted the particular Section in the NCC or any other documentation that confirms his allegation. In any case, Hon. Mooya is a member of the Parliamentary Committee of Government Assurances, why has he failed to bring this Government assurance to Parliament?

In the same Act, the Council is mandated by Parliament to appoint independent auditors to inspect its books when it was using public funds. The decision to request the NCC appoint independent auditors was made by Parliament of whom Hon. Mooya is a member. If he feels uncomfortable with this provision, the right thing to do is to go back to parliament and seek an amendment rather than discussing this issue with the **Times of Zambia** who are outside parliament. As for the NCC, we have no problem as to who audits us, in any case, as we have previously been audited by the Norwegians, the Auditor General, and investigated by the ACC. We could even go further and propose that we also audit former Government construction supervisors who used contractors on Government projects they were supervising to build their own private homes and farms and yet there are no records of payments to the same contractors.

Mr. Mooya wondered why the Government continued to pay NCC’s membership fees to the Zambia Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ZACCI). If the Board and membership of NCC, including the Zambian Parliament feel that there are no benefits to be derived from being a member of ZACCI, this can be stopped.

Summaries:

Abuse of Parliamentary privilege: Surely, Hon. Mooya has abused his Parliamentary privilege both inside and outside Parliament by fighting personal vendettas using parliament. For instance, we note that Hon. Mooya has year in and year out debated in Parliament during the budget debate on the Ministry of Works and Supply to urge Parliament not to fund the NCC! Mr. or Ms Logician please research through Parliament records to see Hon. Mooya’s submissions. Hon. Mooya has equally taken the opportunity through his membership in the various Parliamentary committees to fight the NCC and those he feels got his job entitlement. What a shame! Please note that the fact that we have not responded to Hon. Mooya’s utterances is not because we are incapable of responding, but because we do not want to be misunderstood politically as being against Hon. Mooya’s party the UNDP. In any case, Hon. Mooya has previously likened those of us at the NCC to political prostitutes who would go to bed with any political party in Government to keep our jobs!

Architects Vs Engineers debate: We believe that there are more serious issues to be dealt with, both in the national economy and the construction industry than engaging in this irrelevant and wasteful debate. We are further of the view that there is enough room for each and everyone of the various construction and other related professionals in the booming Zambian construction industry and that individuals should be judged by their performance rather than their having entered a University through various other means and come out with a degree. We would also want to believe that there already exists in this country various independent institutions set up to investigate any perceived corruption or victimization by those who believe that they have been denied employment of their desired jobs. In any case, the contract for the current Executive Director comes to an end this 31st December 2007, and this *To page 8*

“Education helps one case cease being intimidated by strange situations.”
Maya Angelou

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is indeed the right time to employ an Engineer if indeed this is what will end the current problems the Zambian construction industry is facing. In the same vein, the tenures of the NCC and RDA board chairmen have effectively come to an end, and it is a pity that the personal efforts and sacrifices of these two Zambians have been overshadowed purely on the basis that they are Architects and not Engineers. So what will happen if in the next parliament we have more Architects or Quantity Surveyors than Engineers, are we to fire and replace all the Engineers with Architects or Quantity Surveyors? Please, let us learn to separate personal agendas from national agendas. It is further important to note with relief that, despite the above selfish and vindictive maneuvers, there continues to exist an excellent relationship between the EIZ and NCC and indeed ZIA.

Poor management and performance of the NCC: We are the first ones to admit that the Zambian construction industry is not operating at its best and thus can perform much better than we are currently performing. In this regard, we welcome any positive suggestions or criticism from progressive persons or bodies. It should however, be noted, that in a way, we have been victims of our own success in that we are constantly being called upon to intervene in matters outside our statutory functions and mandate, all because the other mandated institutions have failed to perform these functions or now only exist on paper. For instance, the problems of unfinished buildings in our cities, mushrooming of shanty compounds, shortage of cement and the everyday construction supervision are functions that the NCC is not mandated to carry out, with respect to the current NCC Act.

There is no need for an inspectorate unit at the NCC because Engineers are already performing this task: Surely and very clearly Hon. Mooya has taken his personal vendetta and hatred of Architects and the NCC just too far.

Conclusions: As a public institution funded by tax payer' money we very much welcome issue based suggestions and criticisms from all stakeholders and citizens, including Hon. Mooya, but we refuse to be drawn into personalities, politics and vendettas. We equally, welcome the coverage given to us by the press, be it in form of criticisms or suggestions or question the value added by our presence in the industry, but surely, this should not merely be directed at fixing our personal enemies. We might have succeeded in getting rid of Architects: in the names of Dr. Francis Ndilila, Mr. Walusiko Lisulo and Dr. Mashamba from key decision making positions in the Zambian construction industry, but the question has to be asked in whose interest have these changes been made?

The NCC has since February this year engaged the Zambian press on a monthly basis at our offices to discuss the various problems facing the industry, thus we would have thought that the Sunday Times and including the Times of Zambia would have sought our side of the story before rushing to write one sided feature articles for two running weeks. The Logician, including Hon. Mooya and all other stakeholders are not prohibited from engaging in constructive dialogue with the NCC. Our address is public and we are willing to meet and discuss matters of national interest with all progressive individuals and institutions.

“Children are the
world's most
valuable resource
and its best hope
for the future”

John Fitzgerald
Kennedy

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INSPECTIONS FROM OUR INSPECTORATE DEPARTMENT

In its quest to monitor performance of contractors and compliance to the NCC Act no.13 of 2003 on construction works being undertaken by contractors around the country the National Council for Construction undertook its routine inspections of infrastructure projects throughout the country.

The NCC undertook its first quarter inspections in April and currently we are carrying out our second quarter inspections. Even as we speak our inspectors are in the field right now doing their work and following up projects which were found with cases to answer to see that they are adhering to the NCC Act.

The April inspections went on well and during these inspections our inspectors brought the following findings on the ground:

“Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country.”
John Fitzgerald Kennedy

- ⇒ Local authorities, who are the custodians of development in their respective districts, are disregarded by consultants and contractors on projects carried out in the councils’ areas of jurisdictions
- ⇒ Complete disregard by some Government Ministries to involve specialized Government infrastructural departments such as the Buildings Department, in administering their construction projects. Further, some of these Ministries have not complied with the requirements of the NCC Act to engage registered contractors to carry out works for them.
- ⇒ Delay in release of funds to Government supervising agencies for supervision, and payment to private contractors for works done, particularly on road projects, by the funding agency
- ⇒ Contractors abandoning some works – due to non-payment for work done.
- ⇒ Late payment of salaries by some contractors to their employees.
- ⇒ Use of under age employees by some contractors.
- ⇒ The levels of adherence to safety regulations by contractors are generally too low and alarming, posing a great risk to employees in the construction sector.
- ⇒ Unqualified and inexperienced supervisors on site, Use of inappropriate equipment, substandard materials, unskilled labour and inferior work methods on some projects resulting in poor quality workmanship on most infrastructural projects.
- ⇒ Communication barrier on most projects being undertaken by Chinese contractors.
- ⇒ There is a tendency to disregard resident engineers / building officers on sites by contractors, and the officers’ respective superiors, by ignoring / over-ruling their site instructions.
- ⇒ Lack of capacity in both human resource and logistical support in local authorities’ inspectorate.
- ⇒ Failure by some supervising consultants to enforce design specifications on site as provided in the contract documents.
- ⇒ Inadequate and inconsistent supervision of contractors by consultants, compromising on quality.
- ⇒ Inadequate specification of scope of works on some rehabilitation or construction projects by consultants
- ⇒ Contractors practicing without NCC registration certificate mostly on privately owned projects, contrary to section 21 subsection (1) of the NCC Act No.13 of 2003.

These findings outlined were presented to various stake holders of the construction industries through our Registration and Regulations Department in May following the first quarter inspections..

As we conclude, we are hopeful that some of the findings that we have outline here will be sorted out by the various contractors, clients and consultants and that there will be a reduction in the problems we found in the next (current) inspections that is being carried out by our inspectors who are still in the field carrying out inspections.

We would also like to appeal to our clients that they should insist on using contractors registered with the NCC.

TENDER NOTICES

ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD

INVITATION FOR BIDS

**TB/W/010/07: TENDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF KAPIRI MPOSHI
GIRLS TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL - MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION (RE-ADVERTISED)**

The Government of the Republic of Zambia has received a credit from The Arab Bank for Economic development in Africa (BADEA) towards the cost of the Sector Plan, Ministry of Education, and intends to apply parts of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contract for the procurement of works for the construction of Kapiri Mposhi Girls technical High School in the Central Province of Zambia.

The Zambia National tender Board, on behalf of the Sector Plan, Ministry of Education, now re-invites applications from eligible bidders for the construction of a girls technical high school complete with boarding facilities.

Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB). Bidding is open to Arab and African countries only. Contractors are encouraged to form joint ventures with firms from other countries to enhance their capacity. Locally based contractors should be registered with the National Council for Construction (NCC). Foreign based contractors will be required to register with NCC if awarded the contract.

The scope works comprises construction of:

- 1) a sick bay;
- 2) 1x3 classroom blocks, three (3);
- 3) 1x3 science laboratory block, one (1);
- 4) 1x3 domestic science block, one (1);
- 5) 1x2 technical drawing classroom block, one (1);
- 6) 1x2 computer and electronics laboratories bloc, one (1);
- 7) 1x2 workshops block, one (1);
- 8) Library and resource centre, one (1);
- 9) Administration block, one (1);
- 10) Kitchen and dining, one (1);
- 11) Students' dormitory blocks, two (2);
- 12) Students' ablution blocks, two (2)
- 13) Male staff and boys' toilets block, one (1);
- 14) Male staff and boys' changing rooms block, One (1);
- 15) Female staff and girls toilet block, one (1);
- 16) Female staff and girls changing rooms block, one (1); and
- 17) External works

Eligibility requirements are included in the bidding documents and include:

- (i) that joint ventures with individuals and or firms from other countries will qualify only if Arab or African individuals or firms own more than 51% shares;
- (ii) Arab or African firms with individuals or firms from other countries will qualify only if Arab or African individuals or firms own more than 51% shares in the firm; and
- (iii) Arab or African individuals should provide documentary proof of Nationality and shareholding by registration in their respective countries.

contd.....

***“Whenever
you are
confronted
with an
opponent.
Conquer
him with
love.”
Mahatma
Ghandi***

TENDER NOTICES

ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD

....contd

Bidders may view the bidding document from the Zambia National Tender Board, Room 21, 1st Floor, Red Cross House, Plot 2837, Los Angeles Boulevard, Longacres, P.O. Box 31009, Lusaka. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of K1, 000,000.00 or its equivalent in any convertible currency at the prevailing exchange rate in cash or bank certified cheque.

The telephone numbers are 260-1-250632/250642/250687 and telefax number is 260-1-250633. Applicants may also access our website on www.tenderboard.gov.zm. Our email address is tenders@tenderboard.gov.zm. **TELEFAX/ELECTRONIC OFFERS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

The bids accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2% of the bid sum duly signed, must be deposited in the tender box on the 2nd floor of the Zambia National tender Board offices at Red Cross House, Los Angeles Boulevard, Lusaka, **on or before Friday 27 July 2007 at 14:00 hours local time.**

The closing date for receipt of bids is **Friday 17 August at 14:00 hours local time.** The bids shall be opened immediately thereafter in the Conference Room of the Zambia National Tender Board on the 2nd floor Red Cross House in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend. **LATE BIDS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

David Kapitolo
Director General
ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD

***“When I
admire the
wonder of a
sunset or
the beauty
of the
moon, my
soul
expands in
worship of
the
Creator”
Mahatma
Ghandi***

TENDER NOTICES

ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD

INVITATION FOR BIDS

TB/W/011/07: TENDER FOR THE PROPOSED COMPLETION OF SEWERAGE RETICULATION WORKS AT CHIRUNDU BORDER POST

The Government of the republic of Zambia (GRZ) has allocated funds in the 2007 budget for implementing the construction of the proposed sewerage system at the Chirundu Border Post as part of the Chirundu Bridge Support Infrastructure.

The Zambia National Tender Board, on behalf of the Ministry of Works and Supply, now invites sealed bids for the proposed completion of the Sewerage Reticulation System at the Chirundu Border post. The tender is open to firms that are registered in Zambia with the National Council for Construction in Category R, Grades 3, 2 and 1, proof of which should be shown.

The scope of the work includes, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) trunk sewer reticulation;
- (b) pump stations 2 and 3;
- (c) septic tanks and soakaways;
- (d) oxidation ponds;
- (e) stormwater drainage; and
- (f) power supply to pump stations.

Bidders may inspect the bidding documents and drawings from the Zambia National Tender Board, Room 21, 1st Floor, Red Cross House, Plot 2837, Los Angeles Boulevard, Longacres, P.O. Box 31009, Lusaka. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of K1, 000,000.00 or its equivalent in any convertible currency at the prevailing exchange rate in cash or bank certified cheque.

The telephone numbers are 260-1-250632/250642/250687 and the fax number is 260-1-250633. bidders may also access our website on www.tenderboard.gov.zm. The email address is tenders@tenderboard.gov.zm. **HOWEVER TELEFAX/ELECTRONIC OFFERS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Bids, accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2% of the bid sum should be deposited in the tender box on the 2nd floor of the Zambia National tender Board offices at Red Cross House, Los Angeles Boulevard, Lusaka, **on or before Friday 27 July 2007 at 14:00 hours local time.**

The closing date for receipt of bids is **Friday 27 July at 14:00 hours local time.** The bids shall be opened immediately thereafter in the Conference Room of the Zambia National Tender Board on the 2nd floor Red Cross House in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend. **LATE BIDS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

David Kapitolo
Director General
ZAMBIA NATIONAL TENDER BOARD

“Parents are the bones on which children cut their teeth.”
Peter Ustinov

NORTHERN PROVINCE TENDER COMMITTEE

THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

NORTHERN PROVINCE TENDER COMMITTEE

INVITATION FOR BIDS

TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF INCINERATOR, MORTUARY AND SERVICE BLOCK-ISOKA DISTRICT HOSPITAL NORTHERN PROVINCE – NPTC/W/015/07

The Northern Province Tender Committee invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for construction of incinerator, mortuary and service block-Isoka District Hospital.

This Invitation for Bids is open to all companies registered in Zambia and registered with the National Council for Construction grade 5 Category B and are VAT (Value Added Tax) registered with Zambia Revenue Authority.

Eligible bidders may obtain the tender documents from the office of the Secretary, Provincial Tender Committee at the Provincial Administration offices Room 7 first floor P.O. Box 410214, Kasama upon payment of a non-refundable fee of K200,000.00 in cash or bank certified cheque.

The contact telephone numbers are 04 – 2222208 and telefax 04-222208.
HOWEVER TELEFAX OFFERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Bids must be deposited in the Tender Box at the Provincial Administration at the Reception along Zambia Road Kasama and must be accompanied by a bid security in an amount not less than K2,000,000.00. This bid security should be duly signed and sealed by the Guarantor(s). All bids should be quoted in local currency.

The closing date for receipt of bids is on **11th July, 2007** at **14:30** hours local time at which time the bids received will be opened in the Provincial Administration Conference Room in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend.

LATE OFFERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Head-Procurement and Supplies Unit
For/Permanent Secretary
NORTHERN PROVINCE

***“If you've
broken the
eggs, you
should
make the
omelette.”***

**Anthony
Eden quote**

ZAMBIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

ZRA/ORD/011/07: TENDER FOR REHABILITATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SEWER SYSTEMS

The Zambia Revenue Authority hereby invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the rehabilitation and maintenance of sewer systems for the period 2008 to 2009.

Eligible and interested bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the Zambia Revenue Authority, 10th floor, Revenue House, P.O. Box 35710 Lusaka, Zambia. The telephone numbers are 260 (01) 229214/18 and the telefax No. is 260 (1) 229220. The bidding document can also be accessed on the Zambia Revenue Authority website: www.zra.org.zm. **HOWEVER, ELECTRONIC OR TELEFAX BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by eligible bidders from the Zambia Revenue Authority, 10th floor, Revenue House, P.O. Box 35710, Lusaka upon payment of a non-refundable fee of K500,000.00 or its equivalent in any freely convertible currency at the prevailing exchange rate, in cash or by bank certified cheque.

Bids must be deposited in the Tender Box situated on the 10th floor, Revenue House, Lusaka on or before **Friday 13th July, 2007 14:30 hours local time**. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than K5,000,000.00 of the bid sum duly signed and sealed by the Guarantor(s). Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend the opening of bids in the Zambia Revenue Authority Board Room, 9th Floor, Revenue House on Friday 13th July, 2007 at 14:30 hours local time.

Secretary
Management Tender Committee
ZAMBIA REVENUE AUTHORITY
siachitr@zra.org.zm

“There are two things over which you have complete dominion, authority and control of your mind and your mouth”
African Proverb

NCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
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us your mail to
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*Helping to
develop Zambia*



WARNING TO CONTRACTORS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC

The National Council for Construction (NCC) wishes to inform the clientele, contractors and the General Public that only contractors registered with the NCC must be engaged for any construction works. This is in accordance with the **NCC Act No.13 of 2003, Clause 22 (1)** which states that *“A person shall not award a contract for any construction works of such value as the Minister may, by statutory instrument, upon the recommendation of the Council, determine to any person unless that other person is registered under this Act.”*

Members of the public are, therefore, advised to award or consider for award **only contractors registered** with the National Council for Construction

Clause 23 (1) of the NCC Act states also that *“A person shall not award a contract for construction works to a foreign company or foreign firm without the approval of the Council.”* The public is therefore, further cautioned that it is an offence to engage foreign construction companies/firms to carry out construction work in Zambia **without the approval** of the NCC

The NCC Act also provides for appropriate action in form of a fine or imprisonment or both, for any defaulting Contractor and/ or client. The NCC will henceforth not take kindly to any person, institution or company breaking provisions of the NCC Act.

Sylvester Mashamba (Dr)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NCC REGISTRATION PROCESS

This serves to inform the public that the NCC is continuously consulting and updating the newly established contractor and consultant registration register. Members of the public wishing to make any submissions on the contractor registration scheme or any other matter dealing with the construction industry are requested get in touch with the National Council for Construction Secretariat at the following address and contact numbers:

Plot 1609/1625 Sheki Sheki Road
Light Industrial Area
P. O. Box 39548
Lusaka, Zambia
Telephone: 247185/240386
Fax: 243115

E-mail: ncc@ncc.org.zm

Contact:
The Registrar– 01 245746