
 An accessible well maintained fit-for-purpose road network

 To provide sustainable road infrastructure for domestic and regional accessibility to spur socio-economic development

INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT MINISTER UNVEILS RDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Group photograph of the RDA Board Members with Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Hon. Eng. Charles Lubasi Milupi during the inauguration ceremony at Neelkanth Sarovar Premiere Hotel in Lusaka.

Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Minister, Hon. Eng. Charles Lubasi Milupi recently unveiled the newly appointed Road Development Agency (RDA) Board of Directors.

Eng. Mulchand Kuntawala has been reappointed as the RDA Board of Directors Chairperson for the next three years and the Vice Chairperson is Dr. Ngoza C. Munthali.

Other Board Members include, Mr. Mulilo D. Kabesha SC; Mrs. Banji Miyoba Ng'andu; Eng. Clive Khan; Ms. Namwaka Nachilongo; Mr. Daniel Mtonga; and Eng. Amon Mweemba.

Hon. Eng. Milupi stated that the Government expected the Board of Directors to settle immediately and start performing the functions for which they have been appointed.

"I am aware that most of you have been part of the RDA Board before and it is the expectation of the Government that you hit the ground running. It is further expected that continuity must be combined with change as we need also to infuse new ideas that will propel the Agency to greater heights," he said.

Meanwhile, Hon. Eng. Milupi said the road infrastructure in the country is in dire need of rehabilitation and has directed that a three-year plan be developed with the following:

1. Complete rehabilitation of the existing trunk roads either through Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) or Public Private Partnership (PPP) Models;
2. Consider the dualisation of all trunk roads to facilitate easy movement of people, goods and services;

3. Upgrading all road connectivity to all districts through bituminous standard roads;
4. Make new road connections that will ease the movement of people, goods and services from one point of the country to another, for example, it should be possible for people to travel from North Western Province to Lusaka without passing through Copperbelt and from Muchinga to Eastern Province without passing through Lusaka;
5. Develop a strategy to deal with the damage to bridges and culverts due to flooding; and
6. Within six months, develop new standards for roads and bridges that will respond to climate change.

Eng. Kuntawala said the Board would continue employing new strategies to boost the effective and efficient delivery of key road and bridge infrastructure projects initiated by the New Dawn Government in its quest to transform the country's economic fortunes.

Eng. Kuntawala assured the Minister that the Board and Management of the RDA and other stakeholders would continue to seek sustainable financing solutions in the road sector to ensure that the 40,454 kilometres Core Road Network is in a motorable state.

The Core Road Network is the rationalized network that when improved will spur socio-economic development and contribute to poverty reduction.

He reassured the Minister that the Agency in collaboration with other state institutions, will continue to leverage on Public-Private Partnerships

<<< Continued from page1

(PPPs) by identifying key road links which are economically viable but were in a poor state and required urgent construction or rehabilitation.

Eng. Kunatwala pledged to pursue and uphold the directive by the President, Mr Hakainde Hichilema, to ensure that the mandate of construction and rehabilitation of public roads was within the confines of procuring goods, services and works at the right price, delivery to specified quality and timelines.

“The RDA working with the National Council for Construction (NCC) will pursue the directive of building adequate capacity among local contractors

in the road sector. It is a known fact that even when the country has witnessed growth in the number of local contractors undertaking various projects, the majority have limited or no capacity to match the required level of performance.

“The Agency will continue to implement the 20% Sub-contracting Policy so that we grow the capacity of the local contractors. We desire to ensure that we develop a cadre of local contractors who will be able to undertake capital-intensive road projects”, he said.



Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Permanent Secretary, Prof. Albert Malama introducing the newly appointed Board Members during the inauguration ceremony.



The Board, RDA Management and invited guests following the proceedings.

ACROW BRIDGE COMPONENTS ARRIVE ON SITE AT CHINYUNYU



A Low Bed Truck loaded with ACROW Bridge components on site in Chinyunyu, Rufunsa District.

On Tuesday night, 28th January 2025, a section of Great East Road was partially washed away at Chinyunyu in Rufunsa District after a heavy downpour that was experienced in the area.

The washaway occurred at kilometre 72 from Kenneth Kaunda International Roundabout in Lusaka.

The Road Development Agency (RDA) working with the Zambia National Service (ZNS) immediately instituted remedial works to install an ACROW Bridge as an interim measure.

The ACROW Bridge installation works have since been completed and the road is open to traffic.



Offloading of ACROW Bridge components on site.



Picture taken immediately after the ACROW Bridge was opened to traffic.

NALUMINO MUNDIA TOLL PLAZA COMMISSIONED



(L-R) Western Province Minister, Hon. Kapelwa Mbangweta, RDA Board of Directors Chairperson, Eng. Mulchand Kuntawala, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Minister, Hon. Eng. Charles Lubasi Milupi and the Ngambela during the ribbon cutting to signify the official opening of the upgraded Nalumino Mundia Toll Plaza.

Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Minister, Hon. Eng. Charles Lubasi Milupi recently commissioned the upgraded Mweeke Toll Station along the Mongu-Lusaka Road and renamed it after Zambia's former freedom fighter and Prime Minister, Nalumino Mundia.

Mr. Mundia also served as the fourth Prime Minister from 18th February 1981 to 24th April 1985.

Hon. Eng. Milupi said the simplified Mweeke Toll Station was upgraded to Class B by the Road Development Agency (RDA) at a cost of K7.3 million.

He commended the RDA for undertaking the project inhouse and at the right cost.

RDA Board of Directors Chairperson, Eng. Mulchand Kuntawala said in 2019, the Western Province Office of the Agency constructed three simplified tolling stations in the Province.

Eng. Kuntawala said one of them was Mweeke Tolling Station along the Mongu-Lusaka, M9 Road; the second one at Tapo along the Mongu-Kalabo Road and the third one at Lui along Senanga-Sesheke, M10 Road.

He said this was done as an initial stage in the implementation and rolling out of the tolling programme in order to collect the funds for sustainable road maintenance.

"These simplified tolling stations were, however, found not to be adequate due to increased traffic volume and not suitable under the various weather conditions. The Government through the RDA and the NRFA decided to upgrade these tolling stations to make them user friendly and also enhance the security features," he said.

He said the toll facility being commissioned was undertaken in-house by the RDA Provincial Office in Western Province.

"Works of such nature have proved to be cost effective as we utilize our own engineers, allied staff and equipment," Eng. Kuntawala said.

Eng. Kuntawala said the Agency will continue where necessary to undertake works using its human resources and expertise as has been done in the construction of a number of ACROW bridges across the country.

He said this was truly the surest way of ensuring that technical skills are enhanced within the RDA'S workforce.

"A huge number of projects including the installation of ACROW Bridges across the country and the rehabilitation of some of the critical roads have been systematically embarked on, from the time the new dawn Government took office over three years ago using internal generated funds.

"The Agency continues to roll out new projects in line with the financial envelope available, all this is despite the financial challenges that the country has been grappling with over the last three years," he said.

The RDA is mandated through the Tolls Act No. 14 of 2011 to amongst other functions to establish and provide for the operations of toll roads and provide for the charging and collection of tolls.

Through these provisions in the law, the RDA appointed the National Road Fund Agency (NRFA) as its lead tolling Agent to operate the toll plazas, collect the toll fees and transmit the funds to the Ministry of Finance and National Planning.



Nalumino Mundia Toll Plaza



RDA Board Members, Management and invited guests following the proceedings.



ALUNI ACROW BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION WORKS COMPLETED IN KANCHIBIYA DISTRICT



The Aluni ACROW Bridge in Kanchibiya District.

The Government through the Road Development Agency (RDA) has constructed the Aluni ACROW Bridge in Kanchibiya District in Muchinga Province.

The Zambia National Service (ZNS) was engaged as a contractor, while the RDA Provincial Office supervised the works.

The works on the bridge have been completed, however, for the bridge to provide the needed connectivity, the Government has released funds to the RDA Provincial Office in Muchinga to construct the 20 kilometres of the Aluni to Chalabesa Junction Road, which is the short route for those traveling from Mpika to the Kanchibiya Central Business District (CBD).

The scope of the road project involves improving the existing earth road to all-weather gravel, installation of relief culvert at Aluni, clearing and grubbing, road formation and gravelling.

So far, clearing and grubbing has been done on the entire 20 kilometres stretch, 15.6 kilometres of road formation has been done and gravelling has been achieved on the 9.2 kilometres stretch.

Total physical progress on the road stands at 65%.

A total number of local people employed on the bridge and road project is 70.



A completed section of the approach road to the bridge.

WORKS AT THE LUANGWA BAILEY BRIDGE IN CHAMA DISTRICT



Works on the approach embankment in progress.

During the 2023/2024 rainy season, a partial washaway occurred at the Luangwa Bailey Bridge along the Chama-Matumbo Road in Eastern Province.

At that time, the approach embankment of the Luangwa Bailey Bridge on Chama-Matumbo Road on the Chama side was damaged.

The Road Development Agency (RDA) in Eastern Province immediately installed a 15 metres steel bridge to extend the existing bridge and opened it to traffic.

However, there was a need to ensure that the new abutment supporting the fabricated bridge was well protected. Therefore, the RDA has been undertaking protection works on the abutment.

The Agency is also carrying out protection works on the approach embankment on the Matumbo side of the bridge. This approach embankment was extensively eroded during the flash floods experienced in the area.



Protection works of the new embankment and abutment on Matumbo side.

MAINTENANCE WORKS ON KAUNGA BRIDGE ALONG LUANGWA-FEIRA ROAD LUANGWA DISTRICT COMPLETED

Completed maintenance works at Kaunga Bridge in Luangwa District.

The Road Development Agency (RDA) has completed maintenance works on the two-span reinforced concrete bridge along the Luangwa-Feira Road (D145) in Luangwa District.

The Kaunga Bridge is located 15 kilometres South of Great East Road (T4)/D145 junction along the Luangwa-Feira Road.

The scope of works included bush clearing around the bridge, river training works, erosion protection works, replacement of vandalised

bridge posts and railings. Other works included replacement of damaged kerbstones, painting and road sign installation.

The project was completed on 10th January 2025 and the team has since demobilised from site. The timely maintenance of the bridge will assist in preserving the life span of the asset, prevent costly major repair works and improve safety for the travelling public.



Completed maintenance works at Kaunga Bridge in Luangwa District.



Installed road signage at Kaunga Bridge in Luangwa District.



Kaunga Bridge before works commenced.

ROUND UP UPDATES OF VARIOUS PROJECTS

CHIBULUMA CONCRETE ROAD PROJECT IN KITWE ADVANCES



Concrete pavement casting works on Chibuluma Road.

The Government through the Road Development Agency (RDA) is constructing a rigid pavement (concrete) on the Chibuluma Road in Kitwe on the Copperbelt Province.

The outstanding works that are currently being executed and are scheduled for completion in May 2025 include drainage structures and other ancillary works.

The contractor, Messrs. East to West Construction and Mining Limited has constructed 6.1 kilometres of concrete pavement on the 7.3 kilometres stretch.



Chibuluma Road works.



Section of a completed concrete pavement on Chibuluma Road.



Reinforcement works at a junction on Chibuluma Road.



Concrete cast at a railway crossing on Chibuluma Road.

A GLANCE AT THE LUSAKA-NDOLA DUAL CARRIAGEWAY PROJECT



Lusaka-Ndola Dual Carriageway Project.

The Concession Agreement (CA) for upgrading of the Lusaka-Ndola Road into a dual carriageway was signed with Messrs. Macro Oceans Investment Consortium (MOIC-LN) at a cost of US\$649,976,167.

The Concession period is for twenty-five (25) years with three (3) years as a construction phase and twenty-two (22) years for operations and maintenance.

The project scope is to upgrade the road to dual carriageway from Lusaka to Ndola. The project also involves the rehabilitation of 45 kilometres of the Masangano-Luanshya Road, and the construction of approximately 30 kilometres long bypasses in Kabwe and Kapiri-Mposhi towns.

Two new Toll Plazas will be constructed, one on the Masangano-Fisenge-Luanshya Section, and the other between Chibombo and Kabwe. One new weighbridge will be constructed at Kafulafuta with the existing one at Kapiri Mposhi being upgraded and maintained.

A new bridge has been designed and will be constructed at Kafubu Bridge in Ndola.

The Project has recorded tremendous progress from the time the Head of State, President Hakainde Hichilema officiated at a Groundbreaking Ceremony in Kapiri Mposhi on 21st May 2024.

Currently, works on the 45 kilometres Masangano-Fisenge-Luanshya Road are 100% complete. As for the main road from Lusaka-Ndola, 243 kilometres of clearing and grubbing has been done, 187 kilometres of subgrade has been worked on, 156 kilometres of selected layer and 182 kilometres cement stabilized soil has been achieved.

The overall progress for the main road now stands at 23%. The Concessionaire has in the meantime scaled down on the main works and will resume full-scale after the rainy season.



Subbase works on the Lusaka-Ndola Dual Carriageway Project.



Concrete casting for a concrete road shoulder.



Road markings works in progress on the Masangano-Fisenge-Luanshya Road.

CHINSALI-NAKONDE ROAD WORKS



Completed section of the Chinsali-Nakonde Road with road marking.

Works on the Chinsali-Nakonde Road in Muchinga Province have substantially been completed with the project recording an impressive 99.4 % completion point.

The project also involves construction of three truck parks in Chinsali, Isoka and Nakonde Districts.

As for the Chinsali truck park, works on the abluion block and concrete pavement have been completed. The connection of electricity and water to the facility is expected to be done by 31st January 2025.

In Isoka, the truck park's abluion block and concrete pavement works have also been completed and the facility also awaits the connection of electricity and water.

In Nakonde, works on the abluion block, concrete pavement and connection of electricity and water have been completed.

Works on the Chinsali-Nakonde Road also involves the construction of two toll plazas in Chinsali and Nakonde Districts.

The Chinsali Toll Plaza has attained 38% completion while the Nakonde Toll Plaza is at 44%.

The weigh-in-motion weighbridge positioned at the T2/D1 (Mbala Road) intersection in Nakonde is 96.5 % complete and works are expected to be completed end of February 2025.



Chinsali truck park abluion block and guard house.



Chinsali Toll Plaza: Column construction in progress.



Isoka truck park ablution block.

REHABILITATION OF THE LUSAKA-MONGU ROAD FROM TATEYOYO GATE-KATUNDA/LUKULU JUNCTION



Lusaka-Mongu Road works from Tateyoyo Gate to Katunda/Lukulu Junction in Western Province.

The Road Development Agency (RDA) has engaged China Geo-Engineering Corporation in a joint venture with Chipangano Builders Limited for the rehabilitation of approximately 87.3 kilometres of the Lusaka-Mongu Road (M9) from Tateyoyo Gate to Katunda/Lukulu Junction in Western Province.

The project primarily involves rehabilitating and widening an existing bituminous road. This includes site clearance, extending existing drainage structures, constructing new ones, repairing bridges along with their erosion and scour protection measures, earthworks and establishing new pavement layers.

Additionally, the project will include the installation of road signs, markings, guardrails, and other essential road safety features, while ensuring adherence to environmental protection measures.

The total cost for the rehabilitation is K1,302,738,379.32 (VAT inclusive), with a projected completion time of 30 months from June 24, 2024 to December 24, 2026.

So far works are progressing well with the contractor currently undertaking clearing and grubbing, removal of existing asphalt surface, roadbed preparation, cut to spoil and construction of the diversions to accommodate traffic and pave the way for the construction of main works.

The contractor has also delivered all the components for the crusher plant to be located in Mangango Area and has since started mobilizing for base installations of the plant.



Borrow pit for rock extraction.



Lusaka-Mongu Road works from Tateyoyo Gate to Katunda/Lukulu Junction in Western Province.

MASANGANO-FISENGE-LUANSHYA ROAD WORKS SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED



Completed section of the Masangano-Fisenge-Luanshya Road.

Works on the Masangano-Fisenge-Luanshya Road on the Copperbelt Province are substantially completed. All the major drainage works are complete, road marking works are at 100% and the toll gate has attained 90% completion point. Installation of access culverts and road signage is in progress.



Completed culvert on the Masangano-Fisenge-Luanshya Road.



Completed section with road markings on the Masangano-Fisenge-Luanshya Road.

