



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ZAMBIA AND COMESA

January – March 2017

EDITORIAL

BY AMBASSADOR ALESSANDRO MARIANI

The first quarter of this year has been characterized by frequent high level interactions in the relations between Zambia and the European Union. The Minister of Finance, Hon. Felix Mutati, conducted a very successful mission to Europe covering several EU Member States and the European Union Institutions (European External Action Service; Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development; European Investment Bank). The EU Director for Sustainable Development came on an official visit to Zambia to further deepen our relations in the energy sector and to present the opportunities for investments which may derive in the future from the European External Investment Plan. EU Heads of Mission had the opportunity of various meetings with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Harry Kalaba, both in informal and formal settings, such as the annual political dialogue which took place at the beginning of March. The agenda of the political dialogue covered a wide variety of issues of mutual interest, including foreign policy, development relations, EU internal affairs, Zambian internal affairs, trade and investment and climate change.

Public diplomacy efforts focused on the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Rome Treaty on 25 March when a televised high level panel discussion was organised by the Italian Embassy in Lusaka with the participation of Hon. Cecile Kyenge from the European Parliament.

Important milestones were achieved in terms of development relations namely in the energy sector with the signature of the financing agreement to improve access to energy (65 Million Euro) and the signature of the works contract for the rehabilitation of the plunge pool at Kariba Dam (approx. 50 Million Euro). Dialogue with the private sector was further enhanced in the framework of the activities of the EU Zambia Business Club and supporting the launching of the Zambia Export development fund strategic plan.

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EU – ZAMBIA PARTNERSHIP

EU-ZAMBIA POLITICAL DIALOGUE

The annual EU-Zambia Political Dialogue meeting took place on 9 March 2017 in a cordial and fruitful atmosphere in Lusaka.

The Ambassador of the European Union Alessandro Mariani reconfirmed the "appreciation of the EU for the high quality of the dialogue between Zambia and European Union – both in formal settings such as today's meeting and on an ongoing basis in our day-to-day contacts. The friendship between Zambia and the European Union is remarkable and over many years of close collaboration we have established a solid, dynamic and widening partnership". The participating 11 Ministers and 13 EU Ambassadors found the dialogue to be of high quality, and the discussions were characterised as productive, friendly and results oriented.



The Minister of Foreign Affairs Harry Kalaba led the Zambian Government delegation composed of 11 ministers (Finance Minister Hon Felix C Mutati, Minister of Home Affairs Hon. Stephen Kampyongo, Minister of Trade, Commerce and Industry Hon. Margaret Mwanakatwe, Minister in the Office of the Vice President Hon. Sylvia Chalikosa, Minister of Energy Hon. David Mabumba, Minister of Water, Sanitation and Environmental Protection Hon Lloyd Mulenga Kaziya, Minister of Agriculture Hon. Dora Siliya, Minister of Lands Hon. Jean Kapata, Minister of Higher Education Hon.

Nkandu Luo and Minister of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs Hon. Lawrence John Sichalwe), the Solicitor General Mr. Abraham Mwansa, as well as senior government officials from various Ministries.



The European Union was represented by Alessandro Mariani, Ambassador of the European Union to Zambia and COMESA, and the Ambassadors/High Commissioners from 12 EU Member States (Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom).

The agenda of the meeting covered a wide variety of issues of mutual interest, including foreign policy, development relations, EU internal affairs, Zambian internal affairs, trade and investment, and climate change.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROME TREATY. #EU60

On 25th March the European Union marked 60 years since the signature of the Rome Treaty, the first step towards a united Europe. Since the birth of the European Communities in 1957, the citizens of our Member States have enjoyed six decades of unprecedented peace, prosperity and security. The contrast to the first half of the 20th Century could not be greater. Two catastrophic wars in Europe between 1914 and 1945 left millions dead, and a continent devastated, divided and prostrate. For countries that had long been at war, European integration has been the most successful peace project in our history. However, we are living in unpredictable times and the 60th anniversary of the Rome Treaty is the opportunity not only to reaffirm our commitment to the values and objectives on which the European project is



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founded but also to take pragmatic and ambitious steps forward.



A televised panel discussion commemorated the 60th Anniversary of the Rome Treaties, organised by the Italian Embassy in Lusaka

The EU and Zambia have widened and deepened their partnership over the years. Today it is what we describe a 360 degree partnership covering political relations, economic relations, development relations as well as a variety of sectoral subjects of mutual interest.

Further reading:

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/zambia/23518/op-ed-alessandro-mariani-ambassador-european-union-zambia-ahead-60th-anniversary-rome-treaties_en

EUROPEAN UNION SIGNS €65 MILLION GRANT WITH ZAMBIA TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO ENERGY

This programme is expected to provide access to reliable, clean and affordable electricity services to at least 63,000 households, or about 300,000 people, to social and public infrastructure and to eligible Micro Small Enterprises (MSEs). It will be done through the rehabilitation and expansion of the low voltage distribution network in selected low income areas of Lusaka City with high population density.

The financing agreement for a grant of €65 million was signed on 19 January 2017 in Brussels by Commissioner for International Development and Cooperation Neven Mimica and the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Zambia Felix Mutati. This took place in the framework of a meeting where Commissioner Mimica and Minister

Mutati exchanged views on the very good bilateral relations between the European Union and Zambia.

Speaking on this occasion, Commissioner Neven Mimica said: "This €65 million programme demonstrates the continued commitment of the European Union in collaboration with European Financial Institutions (EFIs) to provide the much needed capital investment for basic infrastructure development, in order to improve the livelihood and social status of poor communities in Zambia. The rehabilitation of the low voltage distribution network and the new connections will allow for the provision of reliable and affordable energy services and economic empowerment. The programme will support the implementation of the European External Investment Plan which prioritises socio-economic development through infrastructure and energy in particular."

The project is co-financed with the European Investment Bank (EIB), which provides additional loans amounting to €15 Million. It is also part of a larger Lusaka Transmission and Distribution Rehabilitation plan, co-financed by the The European Investment Bank, the World Bank and Zesco Limited.



EU Commissioner for International Development and Cooperation, Commissioner Neven Mimica with Hon. Felix Mutati, Minister of Finance

Currently Lusaka faces challenges, because its electricity network infrastructure results in significant energy losses. This is coupled with an increasing population in high density low-income areas, which is unable to access electricity services due to high connection costs. Lack of access to electricity services seriously deprives the affected population, in terms of quality of life and exposure to various hazards that go with it (in-door



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pollution, unsafe cooking, poor social services, low self-esteem etc.), worsening the social inequality gap between the low density and high density urban areas.

In addition to the rehabilitation and expansion of the low voltage distribution network, the programme includes a connection-fee subsidy scheme to encourage new household connections as well as measures to promote productive uses of electricity by women and Micro and Small Enterprises. These will include facilitated access to micro credit lines and training in business management and entrepreneurship.

KARIBA DAM PLUNGE POOL WORKS CONTRACT SIGNED

The Government of Zambia signed on the 14th of February the plunge pool reshaping works contract (almost 50 million EURO and approximately 530 million Kwacha) with the company Razel-BEC at a signing ceremony held at the Kariba dam wall.



The contract was endorsed for financing (100% grant) by the European Union at the same signing ceremony. The reshaping of the plunge pool is one of the main components of the Kariba Dam Rehabilitation Project which is being funded by four co-operating partners: the European Union, the World Bank, the African Development Bank Group and the Government of Sweden.

Upon this occasion, the Ambassador of the European Union, Alessandro Mariani, confirmed the European Union's support as part of the joint Zambia - European Union partnership in the energy sector to improve access to clean, reliable and affordable energy. The Ambassador qualified the EU-Zambia partnership in the energy sector as "solid and dynamic". Referring to the importance of the joint work done by the four development partners, the Zambezi River Authority, and the Governments of

Zambia and Zimbabwe, Ambassador Mariani referred to an African proverb "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together".



LAUNCH OF THE ZAMBIA EXPORT DEVELOPMENT FUND STRATEGIC PLAN

On 20 February, the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) launched the first Zambia Export Development Fund (ZEDEF) Strategic Plan.



The Fund contributes to increased non-traditional exports through provision of low-cost finance to exporters in Zambia, while the Strategic Plan aims at improving the Fund's performance so that more exporters can benefit from it. The European Union provided the seed funding for the ZEDEF and is very pleased to see the improvements made to its management structure. The Ambassador of the European



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Union, Alessandro Mariani, wished ZDA and the team working on the ZEDEF a successful implementation of the new Strategic Plan.

SIGNATURE OF THE NEW FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL AUTHORISING OFFICE



Ambassador of the European Union, H.E. Alessandro Mariani, and Mr Fredson K. Yamba, Secretary to the Treasury - Ministry of Finance

On March 2nd, The Ambassador of the European Union, Alessandro Mariani, and the Secretary to the Treasury, Fredson Yamba, signed a new financing agreement for 10 million euro (approximately 100 million kwacha) for support to the National Authorising Officer (NAO). The NAO is an important feature of the EU partnership with the Government of Zambia as it oversees the implementation of the European Development Fund (EDF). The signature of the new financing agreement means continued support to the NAO under the 11th EDF (2014 to 2020). More precisely, the EU is supporting Zambia's National Development Plans for a total amount of 484 million euros, focusing on the energy, agricultural and governance sectors.

Through institutional strengthening of the NAO and corresponding line ministries, this new financing agreement will contribute to efficient, effective and timely implementation of EU funded projects and programmes. On this occasion, Ambassador Mariani highlighted a new feature in the support to NAO consisting in providing an envelope for funding assistance and studies which will work as leverage for accessing funds made available by the international communities

under various initiatives. For instance it can be used to finance feasibility studies to develop bankable projects to be submitted to financing institutions or to trust funds, e.g. in the area of climate change.

EU- COMESA PARTNERSHIP

COMESA STRATEGIC, SUSTAINABLE, INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED REGIONAL ENERGY GOVERNANCE WORKSHOP

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) hosted a 2-day Dialogue workshop for “Strategic, Sustainable, Integrated and Coordinated Regional Energy Governance” in Lusaka, Zambia, from 18 to 20 January 2017, bringing together high-level officials from African national regulatory authorities for energy who are members of the Regional Association of Energy Regulators for the Eastern and Southern Africa (RAERESA).



The European Union has been supporting COMESA/RAERESA. Speaking at the event, Ms. Karine Genty, Deputy Head of Unit for Sustainable Energy and Climate Change for EuropeAid said during the opening session of the workshop: “The support that the EU will provide to RAERESA in the next 4 years will contribute to the association achieving its strategic objectives. Strengthened and harmonised regional and national regulatory frameworks and institutions are key enabling factors to facilitate investments into sustainable and affordable energy generation and distribution. This support will therefore complement effectively the support the EU is providing for key public and private investments in the energy sector at national and regional level”.



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Ms Brig Gen. Emeldah C. Chola (Rtd), Permanent Secretary of Zambia Ministry of Energy officially opened the meeting and urged those countries which have not yet joined RAERESA to expeditiously join the group in view of the strategic role that RAERESA is expected to play to allow for trade in energy services between Eastern and Southern Africa and beyond and more importantly for evacuation of electricity from the surplus to the deficit areas. She stated that "significant improvements are anticipated in power generation capacity: power shortages in the region should ease with on-stream of major power generation projects in COMESA countries such as Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia."

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

EU HEADS OF MISSIONS VISIT KANSANSHI MINE



The Ambassador of the European Union, Alessandro Mariani, on the 25th of January visited Kansanshi mine in Solwezi with four EU colleagues, Ambassadors of EU Member States in Zambia: the Ambassador of Finland, Timo Olkkonen, the Ambassador of Germany, Achim Burkart, the Ambassador of Ireland, Seamus O'Grady, and the Ambassador of Italy, Filippo Scammacca. The EU Heads of Mission had the opportunity to interact with senior management of First Quantum Mineral's Mine FQM Zambia, which is Africa's largest copper mine by production. The EU Ambassador stated: "the technologies applied are very advanced, and the operations are impressive for their complexities also in terms of organisation and logistics. Such an investment may represent a pole for development beyond the mine itself". During their visit the EU HoMs had the opportunity to learn about the corporate social

responsibility activities implemented by FQM and in this framework they visited the Kabitaka school. The EU Ambassador welcomed the attention paid to corporate social responsibilities activities which are of great importance for the local communities and the sustainable development of the area. He said that "companies and government representatives should be more and more in close dialogue to see how best to complement each other's activities in the interest of the local communities".

EU FUNDED NGOCC BASKET FUND, GRANT AWARD CEREMONY

On March 14, the Non-Governmental Organisation Coordinating Council (NGOCC) held a grant award ceremony in Lusaka to present grants to their member organisations that have been successful in securing funds from the NGOCC basket fund-an initiative funded by the European Union. The aim of the basket fund is to contribute to the socio- economic empowerment of women, especially in the rural areas of Zambia for gender equity.



The European Union has concluded a new 3 years partnership with NGOCC in 2016 (EUR 1 million) to support this initiative. This funding will go towards supporting local CSO initiatives to influence the review and implementation of legal reforms, promote social and economic empowerment of rural women and youth, and



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increase access to sexual reproductive health services by women and youth.

Fabienne Van Den Eede, Team Leader Governance and Social Sectors at the EU Delegation, stated that "this partnership is a unique opportunity for the European Union to reach out to Zambian organisations which is one of our priorities in our engagement with civil society. You are "the eyes and ears" on the ground she said, you know what the needs of the most vulnerable people are, including women. Civil society has to play an important role when it comes to dialogue, policy engagement and holding the government to account. Growth can only be sustainable and lasting if it is realised in an inclusive manner, which means including women and girls!" Grants were awarded to 35 NGOCC member organisations from all ten provinces of Zambia.

A GENDER JUSTICE PROJECT CHANGES LIVES IN WESTERN PROVINCE

By Bellah Zulu

A Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) Zambia and European Union co-funded, Access to Justice Project has empowered women in Mwandi and Sesheke Districts of Western Province of Zambia with knowledge on their rights and how to claim them.



"I didn't know that in the event that my husband dies, I have the right to go my own way and not be inherited like a piece of furniture," Mulima Akapelwa

'Canvassing Contours and Ridges: Towards Gender Justice in Eastern and Western Provinces of Zambia,' is a

deliberate integration of interventions seeking to improve access to justice for women, survivors and victims of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in the target areas. It is implemented by NCA Zambia partner organisation, Women and Law in Southern Africa Research and Education Trust (WLSA) Zambia.

"I didn't know that in the event that my husband dies, I have the right to go my own way and not be inherited like a piece of furniture," said Mulima Akapelwa, one of the residents from Sawmills area in Sesheke District who is among the men and women trained as paralegals in the area. She revealed this during a joint monitoring trip conducted by NCA Zambia, WLSA Zambia and the Zambian Governance Foundation (ZGF).



Sharon Soko – Police Officer and Trained Victims Support Unit in Sesheke District

However this project would not have been a success without recognising the important role that religious leaders, traditional leaders and the Zambia Police Service among others play in contributing to increased access to justice in Zambia. It is for this reason that the project was designed with utmost consideration of their strength and added value.

Sharon Soko is a police officer and trained counsellor at the Victims Support Unit in Sesheke District. "We handle a lot of cases including physical and sexual violence, but there is need for more sensitisation on how people should keep evidence," she said.

Ms Soko however raised a very key issue and challenge in the project. "We have to keep women and children who may be victims or survivors of GBV in wrong places because we do not have a central drop-in centre" she said.



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It's hard to attain Gender Justice in Zambia without interrogating the role that some traditional cultural practices play in perpetuating gender injustices. This is because some forms of GBV are inherent in negative old traditional cultural practices such as Female Genital Mutilation and early marriages.

One thing worth noting in this project is the support and enthusiasm shown by the participants in Mwandi in addressing issues of GBV in their chiefdoms. For instance two female 'Indunas' (traditional court members) were among those availed by the 'Kuta' (traditional court) for training as paralegals by the project.

"So far the project in our area is going well especially that two of the female Indunas have been trained as paralegals to help advance gender justice aspects within the chiefdom," said Induna Afungateka, a female Induna whose actual names are Nakatindi Akatama. "Now we are able to help others access legal help in our chiefdom and address other cases ourselves which has led to saving marriages in some cases."

Another key player in the fight against GBV are religious leaders because some people misinterpret church doctrine and the Bible in their relationships or marriages which may encourage GBV. This is why the Pastor's Fellowship in Western Province is among those organisations and institutions included in the local anti-GBV committees in Mwandi and Sesheke Districts.



Rev. Moses Yamba - Evangelical Church in Zambia.

"Sex is a gift from God but unfortunately a lot of people are abusing it resulting in GBV. As a church we have handled three GBV cases which we ended up referring to the Victims Support Unit (VSU)," said Rev. Moses Yamba

from the Evangelical Church in Zambia. "Even within church circles some self-ordained prophets have slept with young girls claiming they're chasing away the evil spirits preventing them from getting married, and others have accused people's husbands as being occultists which has perpetrated GBV."

Sesheke based Magistrate Kebby Sebitwane's gave a final reflection on the nature of GBV in the district and Zambia as a whole. "GBV may be rife in Zambia but it comes from our own homes and hence challenging for us to effectively deal with it," he said. "There is need to find common solutions to GBV because of economic consequences. When the victim is a wife and a case proceeds to court, she would usually ask to withdraw the case."

MINERAL PRODUCTION MONITORING SUPPORT TO THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS DEVELOPMENT GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

By Jessica van Onselen



It's difficult to think about Zambia without thinking about copper mining. The industry has been closely interwoven with Zambia's history for decades. The "Enhancing Tax Collection from Mining through Effective Regulation and Monitoring of Mineral Production Project" (or 'MPSMP for short) runs from 2015 to 2019 in Zambia and the European Union has allocated funding of approximately EUR 5, million to the project. Hosted by the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development in Lusaka, the project aims to strengthen the Ministry's capacity for monitoring the mineral production coming out of the country's mines.



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Some of the highlights the Project to date include:

- A new form for collecting data known as ‘Form 34’ has been developed and introduced to the eleven largest mines producing 99% of Zambia’s copper. Appropriate supporting legislation and regulations have also been introduced, and the use of Form 34 became mandatory for all copper mines from 1 January 2016.
- During the year the MPMSP project reviewed production from all large copper mines to identify methodological issues in data analysis, and to develop a sound data analysis methodology to be used by the Mines Development Department. This has resulted in a reduction in cases of underreporting by some of the bigger mines, therefore increasing production and revenue for the state.
- On-the-job training was provided to MMMD staff on reviewing the compilation of data from all large copper mines, and on applying sound methodology to production data analysis. Export data were reviewed to understand the discrepancies between that information and production reports. This resulted in increased production figures by any mines previously underreporting their production.
- Significant infrastructure and equipment upgrades were delivered: Infrastructure and services within the Geological Survey Department's laboratories were upgraded. Installation and training to support the effective use of the equipment was also undertaken.
- A new, fully computerised permitting system was implemented: Replacing the previous paper-based system, all import, export and mineral trading permits are now done digitally. The MPSMP also provided assistance for the installation of the servers and software at MMMD required for the use of the new reporting and export permit systems. Training was provided to MMMD staff to facilitate operation of the MCAS export permit system that was provided under the Project.

Visit the Mineral Production Monitoring Support Project online at www.mineralproductionmonitoring.co.zm for more information on how the EU’s contribution is making an impact.