

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

ON THE

**2020 MOBILE ISSUANCE OF THE NATIONAL REGISTRATION CARDS (NRCS)**

BY THE

**HON. MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (MR KAMPYONGO), MP**

Mr Speaker, let me start by thanking you for giving me this opportunity to render a ministerial statement on the 2020 mobile issuance of National Registration Cards (NRCs). The exercise was intended to provide access to the acquisition of NRCs by citizens who have attained the age of sixteen years and above, especially those who cannot easily reach district national registration offices.

Sir, the Ministry of Home Affairs through the Department of National Registration Passport and Citizenship is charged with the responsibility of conducting national and civil registration as well as the issuance of travel documents. The department also facilitates the acquisition of citizenship. The mandate is derived from the National Registration act Cap. 126, the Passport Act No. 28 of 2016, the Citizenship Act No. 33 of 2016, the Birth and Death Registration Act Cap. 151, the Marriage Act Cap. 50 and the Adoptions Act Cap. 54 of the Laws of Zambia. In addition, the supreme document of the land, the Constitution.

Mr Speaker, national registration entails registration of all eligible persons and issuing them with appropriate registration cards as legal identity in accordance with the National Registration Act Cap. 126 of the Laws of Zambia. This undertaking is conducted on a continuous and outreach basis.

Sir, between 1<sup>st</sup> August and 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2020, outreach activities were conducted in form of a mobile national registration exercise. This undertaking was carried out countrywide in a two-phased approach each of which covered five provinces.

Mr Speaker, Phase I involved the North, Luapula, the Eastern, the North-Western and the Copperbelt provinces and was flagged off on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2020 by me. Owing to logistical challenges experienced during the first two weeks, the exercise was extended by ten days and ended on 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. Phase II covered the Western, the Southern, the Central, Muchinga and Lusaka provinces. This and started on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. Phase II was extended by five days and ended on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

Sir, during my last ministerial statement on the Floor of this august House, I assured hon. Members that I would issue a comprehensive statement on the 2020 Mobile Issuance of National Registration Cards after completing Phase II of the exercise. In this regard, I wish to highlight the successes of this undertaking.

Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Home Affairs planned to issue 1.5 million NRCs to eligible Zambians. I am happy to inform this august House and the nation at large that 1,592,974 NRCs were issued between 1<sup>st</sup> August and 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 representing a 106 per cent overall success rate. For the sake of my colleagues, I will repeat the figures. Like I said, 1,592,974 NRCs were issued between 1<sup>st</sup> August and 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 representing a 106 per cent overall success rate.

Sir, I want my colleagues to pay attention to the figures I will be reading. The breakdown of these statistics is as follows:

<i>Province</i>	<i>Targeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Performance</i>
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		<i>Issued</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Eastern	210,000	188,661	90%
Muchinga	90,000	106,128	118%
Northern	110,000	171,800	156%
Luapula	100,000	181,041	181%
Lusaka	240,000	189,900	79%
Copperbelt	270,000	250,072	93%
Central	140,000	202,758	145%
North-Western	80,000	107,813	135%
Western	100,000	51,557	52%
Southern	160,000	143,244	90%