

TUESDAY, 20 JUNE, 2017

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
ON THE
SECURITY SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY
BY THE
HON. MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR KAMPYONGO**

Mr Speaker, let me start by thanking you most sincerely for giving me the opportunity to present this ministerial statement to the House on the security situation in the country.

Sir, the Ministry of Home Affairs is charged with the responsibility of providing internal security in order to promote sustainable social economic development for the people of Zambia. Security entails protection of life and property of the Republic.

Mr Speaker, our law enforcement institutions continue to operate within the law in the maintenance of law and order in the country. However, despite the generally stable security situation in the country, there have been incidences of lawlessness which have resulted in six suspects being arrested for treason and four for arson. The suspects are currently appearing before the courts of law.

In this regard, it should be noted that my Government upholds the independence of the three arms of Government. This entails that the Executive does not, in any way, interfere with the due process of the law. The cases before the courts will, therefore, be determined independently by the courts of law.

Mr Speaker, after the arrest of suspects for treason in April, there has been a sustained and deliberate campaign to paint the country as a dictatorship. However, democracy neither means lawlessness nor anarchy and failure to deal with those who break the law. My Government will, therefore, continue to uphold the law and apply it fairly, but firmly.

Sir, despite the negative campaign against our country, the security situation remains calm. The citizens are going about their business peacefully. The country also continues to be an attractive destination for both local and foreign investment. Further, the country continues to host major international and regional meetings and events. For example, the country successfully hosted the