



**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA**

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**BY**

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**MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**ON THE**

**MANAGEMENT OF MARKETS & BUS STATIONS  
COUNTRYWIDE**

**FEBRUARY, 2017**

# **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON MANAGEMENT OF MARKETS & BUS STATIONS COUNTRYWIDE**

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## **1. MANAGEMENT OF MARKETS & BUS STATIONS**

**MR. SPEAKER,**

I wish to thank you for this opportunity to render a Ministerial Statement on the management of markets and bus stations countrywide. As the House may be aware, the issue of management of markets and bus stations has generally been very topical in the country for sometime now and specifically in the recent past. As the ministry in charge of Local Authorities, which Authorities are mandated to manage these public facilities, I thought it wise to come and update the House on the measures we intend to take as a Ministry to attend to these public concerns over this matter.

As you rightly observed, Mr. Speaker, I had sought permission to present this statement in this Honourable House even before the point of order was raised by the Hon. Member of Parliament for Mazabuka Constituency.

**MR SPEAKER,**

All markets and bus stations in the country are under the control and management of a Local Authority having jurisdiction in the area in which they are situated as stipulated in the Markets and Bus Stations Act No. 7 of 2007. Clause 5 (2) of the Markets and Bus Stations Act specifically states that markets and bus stations can be managed either by a Local Authority directly or through a Management Board.

**MR SPEAKER,**

As can be seen from the foregoing, there are two options which Local Authorities can employ to manage markets and bus stations. And from the inception of this law, Local Authorities have opted to directly manage these facilities themselves. However, most of these Local Authorities have not executed this function as provided for in the law to the expectation of the general members of the public. This is because, inter alia, the markets and bus stations have for some time now been used as political battlegrounds where various political players flex their muscles in their quest to unduly establish dominance in these public facilities.

**MR SPEAKER,**

To cure this malaise, the government, through my Ministry, has embarked on a program to appoint Management Boards which will in turn manage and control markets and bus stations in line with clause 13 (1) of the Markets and Bus Stations Act. This intervention is envisaged to eliminate the undesirable influence of the various political troupes in the management of markets and bus stations. The intervention will also ensure adequate revenue collections for Local Authorities.

**MR SPEAKER,**

We intend to pilot this intervention in a few selected Local Authorities, initially, especially those along the line of rail where these undesirable political infiltrations in the management of markets and bus stations are