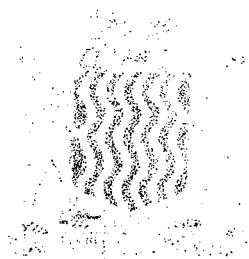


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**Republic of Zambia**

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT ON MEASURES TO REDUCE  
ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN ZAMBIA**

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Delivered by Honourable Eng. Brian Mushimba, MP  
Minister of Transport and Communications

**February, 2017**

## Mr. Speaker

The country has in the recent past, experienced tragic road traffic accidents involving public service vehicles in which many lives have been lost. It is therefore, with a heavy heart, that I take the floor to address this August House on this subject matter. Fresh in our minds, is the road traffic accident on the Great North Road involving a Mazhandu Family bus and a semi-truck that killed ten people. Heartfelt condolences go out to the families that lost their loved ones <sup>wishing</sup> and a speedy recovery for those who were injured. This is a situation that could have been avoided especially that a mechanical fault was the underlying cause of the accident.

Traffic accidents have become one of the most common causes of death and injury <sup>in</sup> ~~on the~~ <sup>today</sup> ~~Zambian roads~~. In the year ended 31st December 2016, a total of 32,350 road traffic accidents were recorded compared to 33,672 in 2015 representing a 4% reduction in road traffic accidents. Even with this slight reduction, these figures are <sup>still too high</sup> ~~are~~ high and pose a challenge to attaining our vision of reducing road traffic accidents by 50% by 2020 as contained in the United Nations Decade of Action. Although the number of road traffic accidents reduced in 2016, the number of fatalities increased from 2,113 in 2015 to 2,206 in 2016 representing an increase of 4%.

## Mr. Speaker,

Over the last 5 years, the significant causes of road accidents are attributed to the following:

- Poor road conditions,
- Inadequate road safety features,