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In reply please quote:

No:.....

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

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LUSAKA-ZAMBIA

18th July, 2025

STATEMENT ON THE EXPORT OF MAIZE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Ministry of Agriculture wishes to clarify that Government has not signed any Memorandum of Understanding with the Democratic Republic of Congo for the export of maize or mealie meal.

However, Government has received enquiries for maize exports from the Democratic Republic of Congo and other neighbouring countries and negotiations are still ongoing.

It must be noted that the country this year produced an estimated record bumper harvest of 3,655, 646 metric tons of maize, and had a carryover maize of 384,999 metric tons.

This means that country has a total of 4,040,645 metric of maize.

The national requirement for both human consumption and industrial use, including strategic food reserve currently stands at 3,539,024 metric tons.

Therefore, the country has a projected surplus of 501, 621 metric tons.

This means that the country may consider exporting the surplus maize in the form of mealie-meal and other value-added products once the Food Reserve Agency meets the required tonnage for the country's strategic reserves.

It must be made clear that currently, Government's priority is to buy maize from farmers in a bid to build up the country's national strategic food reserves and open up satellite depots in areas where the moisture content has reached the required 12.5 percent.

Issued by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Kapala', written over a horizontal line.

Hon. Eng. Peter C. Kapala, MP,
ACTING MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE