

## **CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19) – SMALL CLAIMS COURT PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES**

As the addressees maybe aware, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has continued to spread in Zambia. Several health guidelines have been promulgated by the Government in a bid to combat the spread of COVID-19 in Zambia.

Following this development, the Hon. Chief Justice has directed that it has become necessary to put in place precautionary measures to mitigate the potential spread of COVID-19 through courts.

In this regard, the addressees are hereby directed to take note of the following precautionary measures in the Small Claims Court:

- 1) The hearing of cases in the Small Claims Court is suspended until further notice.
- 2) The registries shall continue to operate with a limited number of staff.
- 3) The number of persons entering the registries shall be restricted to the number of registry staff on counters per registry.
- 4) Those waiting to be attended to should wait outside the registry and be reminded to observe the prescribed social distance of one metre.
- 5) Recommended hand sanitisers, masks and gloves shall be provided in the registries and other offices with direct interface with the public.
- 6) Notices be made to the public in commonly used languages about the suspension of sittings and restricted access to the Court.