



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
THE JUDICIARY

In reply please quote:

No.....

All communication should be addressed
to the Chief Administrator, to the Judiciary
and not to any individual by name
Telephone: +260 211 252016
Fax: +260 211 251743
Telegraphic address: JUDICIAL

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION
PLOT No. 438 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE
P.O. BOX 50067
LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

THE JUDICIARY OF ZAMBIA LAUNCHES CHILD JUSTICE WEEK 2025

Lusaka, 9th October 2025 – The Judiciary of Zambia, in partnership with the National Child Justice Forum and in collaboration with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS), with support from UNICEF, has officially launched the 2025 Child Justice Week under the theme *“Empowering Children and Communities: Enhancing Participation, Prevention, and Restorative Reintegration in Child Justice.”*

The joint launch, held at Government Complex in Lusaka, also saw the unveiling of five institutional frameworks, which include the Revised National Child Justice Strategy and Action Plan (2022–2026), the National Diversion Framework, the Prosecutors’ Handbook on Sexual Violence, the Zambia Police Guidelines on Handling Children in the Criminal Justice System, and the Prosecutors’ Guidelines on the Management of Children in the Criminal Justice System.

Delivering remarks on behalf of His Lordship the Hon. Chief Justice, Dr. Mumba Malila, SC, Hon. Mr. Justice William Mweemba, Judge of the High Court, Family and Children’s Division, highlighted that the launch of these frameworks reflects Zambia’s continued commitment to a child-friendly justice system that prioritizes rehabilitation and reintegration over punishment.

Justice Mweemba noted that the revised National Child Justice Strategy provides a clear roadmap for all actors across the justice sector, from the Judiciary and prosecution services to law enforcement, correctional services, and social welfare, to work together in protecting and empowering children. He emphasized

that the Judiciary, through the Child Justice Forum, remains fully committed to ensuring that the strategy delivers real and lasting change.

Speaking at the same event, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr. Gilbert Phiri, SC, underscored the importance of the newly launched prosecutorial tools, explaining that they are designed to help prosecutors handle cases involving children with professionalism, empathy, and accountability. He noted that the updated handbook now includes new guidance on addressing online sexual violence and other emerging forms of abuse.

His Royal Highness Chief Madzimawe, who was the Guest of Honour, officially launched the 2025 Child Justice Week and called on communities, families, schools, religious and traditional leaders to take active roles in empowering and protecting children. He urged every Zambian to be part of the solution, to prevent harm, promote healing, and ensure that children who have come into conflict with the law are given a fair chance to reintegrate and thrive.

Throughout the week, activities will take place across the country, including school seminars, police orientations, community football tournaments, traditional leadership engagements, faith-based discussions, and media programmes. Each activity aims to raise awareness and promote community-driven participation in advancing child justice.

Contact:

Kalumba Chisambisha-Slavin

Deputy Director, Corporate Communication

Judiciary of Zambia

comms@judiciaryzambia.com

www.judiciaryzambia.com