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REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
THE JUDICIARY

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CHIEF JUSTICE MALILA HAILS ENDURING ZAMBIA-IRELAND JUDICIAL PARTNERSHIP

Lusaka, 26th November, 2025 - His Lordship the Hon. Chief Justice Dr. Mumba Malila, SC, today reaffirmed the bond between the Governments of Zambia and Ireland, noting that the relationship predates Zambia's independence. He cited the service of Irish judges on the Northern Rhodesian bench and the appointment of Justice James John Skinner as Chief Justice at independence as a testament to these longstanding ties.

The Chief Justice made these remarks during a courtesy call paid on the Judiciary by the Irish Ambassador to Zambia, Mr. Aidan Fitzpatrick. Ambassador Fitzpatrick assured the Judiciary of Ireland's continued partnership in advancing access to justice.

Chief Justice Malila expressed gratitude to the Government of Ireland through the Irish Embassy and the Irish Rule of Law Initiative, for sustained support to the Judiciary. He highlighted the establishment of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) courts in all ten provinces of Zambia; the deployment of mobile courts in Lusaka, Kitwe, Kabwe, and Ndola; and ongoing capacity-building for adjudicators and staff. He reaffirmed the Judiciary's commitment to deepening this cooperation in service of timely, accessible, and gender-responsive justice for all.

The Chief Justice emphasized the Judiciary's determination to strengthen institutional integrity, enhance court efficiency, and expand access to justice nationwide. Both parties underscored their shared commitment to the rule of law and agreed to explore further avenues of collaboration that deliver tangible benefits to court users across Zambia.

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