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## **BAROTSE ROYAL ESTALISHMENT LEALUI**

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14<sup>th</sup> May 2012

His Excellency Mr. Michael Chilufya Sata  
President of the Republic of Zambia  
State House  
**LUSAKA**

Your Excellency,

### **RECOGNITION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE REPUDIATION OF THE BAROTSELAND AGREEMENT 1964 BY THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT.**

I, Clement Wainyae Sinyinda, Ngambela of Barotseland, on my own behalf and as mandated by His Majesty Lubosi Imwiko II, Litunga of Barotseland and His Council, acting on behalf of the chiefs and people of Barotseland, hereby formally inform you that the Extra Ordinary **Barotse National Council** held on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012 resolved to accept and recognise the repudiation of the Barotseland Agreement 1964. Copy of the Resolutions is herewith attached.

This decision has been arrived at as a consequence of the repudiation of the Barotseland Agreement by the Government of the Republic of Zambia, which was a union treaty between Barotseland and the rest of Northern Rhodesia and a basis for the creation of the Republic of Zambia. Some of the cardinal

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actions of the government in this respect are the promulgation of the following legislation:-

- i. Local Government Act No. 69 of 1965,
- ii. Chiefs' Act of 1966
- iii. Local Courts Act of 1966
- iv. Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Act of 1969.

The people of Barotseland have come to the realization that the only way to secure their right to self-determination is through reversion to the position prevailing before the signing of the Agreement. This position arises from the past forty-five years of futile efforts by the Barotse Royal Establishment and other Barotse nationals to persuade the Government of the Republic of Zambia to restore the Agreement. Notwithstanding these peaceful demands the response of successive administrations of government has been to intimidate arrest, detain, maim, kill and persecute those who dared to raise this issue.

In addition to the aforementioned direct approaches made to government, the people of Barotseland have made repeated submissions to all Constitutional Review Commissions, since 1972, to have the Barotseland Agreement restored and implemented. These commissions of inquiry have, without exception, recommended for an amicable resolution of the demands of the Barotse people but the government has at all times dismissed these well considered and well intentioned recommendations.

It should also be pointed out that the people of Barotseland had given the Patriotic Front government the benefit of doubt in recognition of Your Excellency's pre-election and post-election positive overtures over the Barotseland Agreement. However, your posture and that of your Party following the submission of the Roger Chongwe Commission of Inquiry Report shows that the expectations of the people were misplaced.


It is against this background that the Barotse National Council reached the conclusion that the interests of the people of Barotseland secured by the Agreement cannot be realised under the current arrangement with

Barotseland as part of Zambia. Thus, our position is that the abrogation of the Barotseland Agreement 1964 released Barotseland from Zambia as a unitary state.

Pursuant to the foregoing, the Barotse Royal Establishment is working on the creation of institutions necessary for the governance of Barotseland. We envisage that this process will be concluded within five years. During this period the Barotse Royal establishment will set up a Constitution Commission to devise the Constitution of Barotseland which shall be submitted to a referendum involving the people of Barotseland.

We stand ready to discuss these matters with your government in order to achieve a peaceful and orderly implementation of the wishes and aspirations of the people of Barotseland.

I trust that the foregoing will receive Your Excellency's urgent consideration and look forward to your response.



**Clement Wainyae Sinyinda**

**NGAMBELA OF BAROTSELAND.**