



# **Barotse Royal Establishment**

16<sup>th</sup> April, 2018

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE BAROTSE ROYAL ESTABLISHMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA OVER THE BAROTSELAND AGREEMENT 1964.**

I wish to inform the people of Barotseland in particular and the Zambian citizens in general that the Barotse Royal Establishment (BRE) has concluded its pre-dialogue consultation process in respect of the pending negotiations with the government of the Republic of Zambia over the matter of the Barotseland Agreement 1964.

This pre-dialogue consultation commenced in July 2016 following a meeting between His Excellency Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia and a delegation of the Barotse Royal Establishment which I led wherein it was agreed in principle that negotiations be deferred to the period after the 2016 tripartite elections, upon which the process should be taken to its full course.

During this intervening period the BRE has muted and concretized a process for the formation of a Dialogue Council, to be comprised of representatives of communities, Barotse Political Activists, the institutions of traditional governance structures and specific nominees of the BRE, whose task would be to aid the BRE in managing the negotiations with the Government of Zambia.

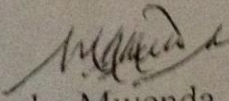
It is hereby notified that the composition of the Dialogue Council shall be unveiled after a meeting of District Chiefs and their Kutas, to be convened in due course.

On behalf of His Majesty Lubosi Imwiko II, Litunga of Barotseland, the Council of Chiefs and all structures of the Barotse Royal Establishment I wish to convey sincere gratitude to the people of Barotseland for their patience exercised during the trying period leading to the current position.

The same gratitude is extended to His Excellency Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia and his administration for providing a conducive environment that has enabled the BRE to work through the process of pre-dialogue consultation and the President's undertaking to engage into direct negotiations when the Barotse Royal Establishment is ready.

I wish to conclude by stating once again that the Barotse Royal Establishment is now ready for negotiations.

I thank you.

  
Nyambe Mwenda  
**Ngambela of Barotseland.**