Berkeley Mineral Resources Plc (BMR), headquartered in London, is a mineral processing company. It is currently principally engaged in the extraction of zinc and lead from tailings dumps at the world-famed Kabwe mine in Zambia.

For 88 years of continuous operation until final closure in 1995, Kabwe held a key position of national economic importance. During its lifetime the mine produced over 2.6 million tons of lead and zinc, together with other metals including vanadium, cadmium and silver.

Starting in 2007, BMR has consolidated the former fragmented ownership of the tailings and in 2011 successfully applied for the licences to produce and export the lead and zinc. It is using the latest technologies to harness maximised recoveries, helping to regenerate an economically depressed region by re-employing some of the former mine workers.

The principal environmental legacy from 80 years of mining at Kabwe is widespread pollution in the region. The 6.5 million metric tonnes (MT) of above-ground tailings dumps containing about 700,000 MT of lead and zinc metal are hazardous, causing waterborne and windborne pollution in the Kabwe region. BMR is intent on processing the dump material and removing the metal, but at the same time works within the Copperbelt Environmental Project guidelines to process the dumps in an environmentally sustainable manner by removing this major hazard and, in time, remediating the land.

During 2012, BMR has commenced acquiring stockpiles of copper dumps in the Zambian Copperbelt and intends to use its accumulated knowledge to process these as well, providing employment and contributing to the economy in the north of the country.

BMR has implemented active community sponsorship programmes, concentrating on supporting education in schools near its operations. As part of the UKZambians Excellence Awards for 2012, BMR’s Chairman, Masoud Alikhani, was honoured to receive the ‘Foreign Investor of the Year’ award.

www.bmrplc.com

BMR is conscious of the need to contribute to the social, economic and cultural life of the Zambian community in which it operates.
Zambia

KEY FACTS

Joined Commonwealth: 1964
Population: 13,475,000 (2011)
GDP p.c. growth: 0.8% p.a. 1990–2011
UN HDI 2011: world ranking 164
Official language: English
Time: GMT plus 2hr
Currency: kwacha (ZK)

Geography

Area: 752,614 sq km
Coastline: none
Capital: Lusaka

Zambia is a landlocked, fertile and mineral-rich country on the Southern African plateau. It is bordered by: (clockwise from the north) the United Republic of Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia (via the Caprivi Strip), Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The country comprises ten provinces (from south to north): Southern, Western, Lusaka, Central, Eastern, North-Western, Copperbelt, Northern, Muchinga (whose creation was announced in October 2011) and Luapula.

Topography: Most of Zambia is high plateau, deeply entrenched by the Zambezi river (and its tributaries, the Kafue and Luangwa) and the Luapula river. The Zambezi flows to the south, turning eastwards to make the border with Zimbabwe. In the north are three great lakes: the Tanganyika, Mweru and Bangweulu. The man-made Lake Kariba stretches along the southern border. The Mafinga Mountains form part of a great escarpment running down the east side of the Luangwa river valley. The country rises to a higher plateau in the east.

Climate: Tropical, but seldom unpleasantly hot, except in the valleys. There are three seasons: a cool dry season April–August; a hot dry season August–November; and a wet season, which is even hotter, November–April. Frost occurs in some areas in the cool season. Rainfall is 508–1,270mm p.a.

Environment: The most significant environmental issues are: deforestation, soil erosion, and desertification; health risk posed by inadequate water treatment facilities; threat to big game populations by poaching; and air pollution and resulting acid rain in the areas surrounding mining and refining operations in Copperbelt Province.

Vegetation: Forest – mostly savannah bushveld – covers 67% of the land area, having declined at 0.3% p.a. 1990–2010. The high eastern plateau consists of open grassy plains with small trees and some marshland. Arable land comprises 5% of the total land area.

Wildlife: Zambia has a wealth of wildlife, including big mammals and numerous species of antelopes. There are 19 national parks and 34 game management areas, about one-third of the country’s area. South Luangwa has one of Africa’s largest elephant populations. Kafue National Park has the largest number of antelope species of any African park, including the rare red lechwe, an aquatic antelope. It is also a home of the fish eagle, Zambia’s national emblem. Decline in animal numbers has been slowed by the government’s commitment to wildlife conservation, and the enforcement of measures against poaching and weapon-carrying in the conservation areas. There are 233 mammal species, of which 12 are thought to be endangered.

Main towns: Lusaka (capital, pop. 1.45m in 2010), Kitwe (Copperbelt Province, 527,800), Ndola (Copperbelt, 495,800), Kabwe (Central, 214,700), Chingola (Copperbelt, 178,400), Mufulira (Copperbelt, 141,300), Livingstone (Southern, 133,800), Luanshya (Copperbelt, 132,300), Kasama (Northern, 111,500), Chipata (Eastern, 109,500), Kalulushi (Copperbelt, 100,900),

did you know?
The Commonwealth Youth Programme Africa Centre is based in Lusaka.

Kalusha Bwalya, born in Mufulira in 1963, was African Footballer of the Year in 1988.

Zambia is one of seven landlocked Commonwealth countries, all of which are in Africa.
Role of OAG-Z
The role of the Office of the Auditor General, Zambia (OAG-Z) is to enhance accountability and transparency in the utilisation of public resources appropriated by parliament for the benefit of the people of Zambia. This is achieved through the audits that are carried out and the subsequent reporting to parliament on how public resources have been applied.

Audits and standards
- Financial and Compliance audits
- Performance and Environmental audits
- IT audits
- Forensic audits

The results of Forensic and Investigations Audits are given to the management of the requesting entity, the President or prosecution agencies.

Above: Auditor General of Zambia, Anna O Chifungula (L) with Director General of the Anti-Corruption Commission, Ms Rosewin Wandi after signing a Memorandum of Understanding
Contributions to the good management of financial resources

Recommendations on the report of the Auditor General are submitted by the Legislature Executive through the Secretary to the Treasury who within 60 days of the adoption of the report is required to issue an ‘Action taken Report’.

Examples of such actions include:

- Recovery of misappropriated funds from officers either through repayment of cash or through payroll recoveries.
- Disciplinary action such as suspension, warnings (verbal and written), demotions and separation of officers from the service.
- Prosecution of erring officers in a court of law.

Involvement in the fight against corruption

- Though not directly related to corruption detection, auditing seeks to bring to light irregular financial activities which borders on corruption and fraud.
- To enhance the fight against corruption, OAG-Z has partnered with the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in Zambia to facilitate exchange of information on corruption and fraud.
- In the course of our audits, we do report some of the issues we come across to competent authorities (such as the Police, the Drug Enforcement Commission and the ACC) without necessarily waiting for the end of the audit report.

Examples of recurrent findings in OAG-Z reports

- Delayed banking and unaccounted for revenue
- Poor project implementation
- Overpayment of suppliers of goods and services, and contractors
- Unsupported payments
- Flouting of tender procedures
- Non-recovery of advances and loans

Strengthening internal controls and sensitising controlling and accounting officers on financial regulations are important in eradicating these irregularities.

To ensure independence and professionalism in our work, the Office has developed and adheres to these core values:

- Integrity
- Confidentiality
- Impartiality
- Trust

Challenges

- Delayed or non-response to audit queries
- Inadequate transport and other logistics
- Inadequate IT equipment
- Difficulty in retaining qualified and experienced members of staff leading to the OAG-Z incurring high training costs for new officers.

Responsiveness of government to recommendations

OAG-Z is satisfied with the government’s keen interest in its reports and the action being taken.

In general, as a result of OAG’s work, there has been

- Increased adherence to financial regulations in some government ministries and other government agencies; and
- Enhanced internal controls, such as introducing new systems with better controls.

In addition, some institutions which were operating without clear direction have now started preparing institutional and information technology strategic plans that are assisting them in realising their mission and thereby effectively contributing to the wellbeing of the nation.
Based in Lusaka, Zambia, Savanna Insurance Brokers LTD is a well-established, well-respected and continually expanding commercial insurance broker which provides a wide range of cost-effective insurance solutions.

As an independent insurance broker, with unrestricted access to the world market, we are able to source the correct insurance products for our clients' requirements at extremely competitive premium rates and terms.

Savanna Insurance Brokers LTD has become a dominant player in the Zambian Insurance Market, providing a platform to prospective investors to Zambia to place their insurance for assets and liabilities in compliance with the legal provisions on insurance.

Through insurance, we add value to the micro-economic development of Zambia. We recognise our tremendous responsibility to both our multinational and local clients who desire to protect their assets and interests in Zambia.

Savanna Insurance brokers LTD has a global network of partnerships:
- Marsh Global USA, Europe, Australia and Africa
- Willis USA
- Jardines Lloyd and Thompson UK
- Sino Insurance Brokers China

We welcome foreign investment in Zambia which has strong economic attributes for investors, for which we deliver risk solutions.

**Contact**

Mr Mark Ndilla, Managing Director
Savanna Insurance Brokers LTD
Head Office, Plot No. 4991
Nsunzu Road, off Independence Avenue
P.O. Box 37971, LUSAKA

Tel: +260 211 25 7286/87/90/91/92
Fax: +260 211 25 7289/257293
E-Mail: savanna@zamtel.zm
savanna@iconnect.zm

www.savannazambia.com

Mazabuka (Southern, 95,600), Chililabombwe (Copperbelt, 72,000), Mongu (Western, 71,800), Choma (Southern, 58,500), Kapiri Mposhi (Central, 56,800), Kansanshi (North-Western, 51,900), Kafue (Lusaka, 46,500), Mansa (Luapula, 45,100), Monze (Southern, 40,800), Sesheke (Western, 33,400) and Mpika (Northern, 31,100).

**Transport:** There are 91,440km of roads, 22% paved, and 1,273km of railway (not including the Tazara Railway). Roads can be hazardous during the rainy season. There is access to the Mozambican port of Beira (also to Maputo) via Livingston and the Zimbabwe railway system; to the Tanzanian port of Dar es Salaam, via the Tazara Railway; and to Durban in South Africa, also via Livingston and the Zimbabwe railway system. In 2003 a South African consortium was granted a 20-year licence to manage Zambia Railways.

The western route to the sea, the Benguela Railway (through the Democratic Republic of Congo to the Angolan port of Benguela) was closed in 1975 due to upheavals in the Democratic Republic of Congo (then Zaire) and Angola. However, by 2007 restoration of the route was in progress following a grant, of up to US$300m, received by Angola from China. Since 2000, plans have been under way for a new rail route from Lusaka to Blantyre in Malawi, giving access to the port of Nacala in Mozambique.

There are international airports at Lusaka (26km east of the city) and Mfuwe (in the South Luangwa National Park), and more than 100 other airports and airstrips throughout the country.

**Society**

**KEY FACTS 2011**

| Population per sq km: | 18 |
| Life expectancy: | 49 years |
| Net primary enrolment: | 95% |

**Population:** 13,475,000 (2011); 39% lives in urban areas and 11% in urban agglomerations of more than 1 million people; growth 2.6% p.a. 1990–2011; birth rate 46 per 1,000 people (49 in 1970); life expectancy 49 years; it fell from a peak of about 52 years in the latter 1980s, due to AIDS, but began to rise again in the early 2000s.

There are 73 indigenous ethnic groups of Bantu origin. The largest, representing about 18% of the population, is the Bemba of the north-east and Copperbelt. Others include the Tonga of Southern Province, the Nyanja of Eastern Province and Lusaka, and the Lozi of the west. There are small minorities of Europeans and Asians.

**Language:** English is the official language and is widely spoken. There are seven main African languages: Bemba, Kaonde, Lozi, Lunda, Luvale, Nyanja and Tonga.

**Religion:** Mainly Christians (denominations include Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Pentecostals, New Apostolic Church, Lutherans, Seventh Day Adventists); Christian beliefs are often blended with traditional beliefs; plus minorities of Muslims and Hindus.

**Health:** Public spending on health was 4% of GDP in 2010. The health service has suffered under cutbacks required by economic adjustment programmes. 61% of the population uses an improved drinking water source and 48% have adequate sanitation facilities (2010). Infant mortality was 53 per 1,000 live births in 2011. Infant mortality rates fell from 141 per 1,000 live births in 1965 to 90 in
1980, then, due to AIDS, rose to 112 in 1999 and only began to fall again in 2002. Malaria is prevalent. There are regular outbreaks of cholera. Zambia was one of the first countries to admit the severity of the AIDS pandemic. AIDS prevention, control and management programmes are given prominence in all health programmes. In 2011, 12.5% of people aged 15–49 were HIV positive.

**History**

Archaeological findings at Kabwe indicate that Zambia was inhabited around 10,000 BC. More complete records date from the arrival of the Luba and Lunda peoples during the 14th to 15th century, from what are now the Democratic Republic of Congo and Angola. The Bemba are descendants of the Luba and the Lozi of the Lunda. The Ngoni peoples came north from South Africa to eastern Zambia. David Livingstone, the British missionary and explorer, travelled through Zambia in the mid-19th century. He was followed by British settlers in the 1880s and 1890s. Arab slave-trading flourished in the territory throughout the 19th century, until it was ended by the British in 1893.

In 1889, the British South Africa Company received a Royal Charter to explore, develop and administer the territory. In 1924 the company ceded administrative control of Zambia, called Northern Rhodesia, to the British Crown and serious exploitation of the country’s main resource, copper, began. The capital moved from Livingstone to Lusaka in 1935. The Federation of Northern and Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, with its own constitution, existed from 1953 to 1963.

In the mid-1950s Kenneth Kaunda founded the Zambia African National Congress (ZANC), a breakaway from the more conservative African National Congress (ANC), to fight for civil and voting rights for the African population. ZANC was quickly banned by the colonial authorities, and Kaunda arrested. During his internment, his followers evaded the ban by remoulding the ZANC as the United National Independence Party (UNIP), taking the name from the main platform of its programme. Kaunda became chairman of the UNIP on his release in 1960. In turn, the UNIP was outlawed but it had caught the popular imagination and political demonstrations spread across the country. The UK accepted the demands and, in January 1964, introduced a new constitution giving the country internal self-government, and organising elections. UNIP emerged as the majority party and proceeded towards independence; the Republic of Zambia became independent and a member of the Commonwealth on 24 October 1964.

**United National Independence Party**

Within a decade of independence, economic conditions worsened. Demand for copper was already beginning to fall and there was turmoil in Southern Africa. Landlocked Zambia was badly affected by all the major conflicts of the period. The closure of the border with Zimbabwe, then Rhodesia (under the sanctions programme aimed at Ian Smith’s illegal regime), disrupted exports. Civil war broke out in Angola and, in 1975, the Benguela railway was closed. Mozambique’s long battle against the Renamo dissidents began shortly after its independence in 1975; rail and oil lines were targets for attack. Sanctions against South Africa also affected Zambia’s trade and transport. Refugees from these troubled countries and Namibia (engaged in the independence war with South Africa) were given sanctuary in Zambia.

The UNIP government of Kenneth Kaunda created a one-party state (lasting from 1973 until 1991) in an unsuccessful attempt to strengthen national unity. A coup plot in 1980 involved local business leaders and the governor of the Bank of Zambia. Several trade union leaders, including Frederick Chiluba, were detained during a wave of strikes in 1981, unions now having become the main focus of opposition to UNIP. Popular discontent was fuelled by the effects of IMF-backed recovery programmes. From 1986, demonstrations (sometimes violent) against food price increases began to take a more political form, leading to demands for a more democratic system of government.

**Restoration of multiparty democracy**

In July 1990, the 17-year ban on organised opposition groups was lifted. Three days later, the Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD) was founded. The elections in October 1991 gave a substantial majority to the MMD and its presidential candidate, Frederick Chiluba. However, continuing discontent with economic conditions and the effects of severe drought led to a new wave of strikes within a year. A breakaway group of nine MMD MPs formed the National Party in August 1993.

In March 1994 the government appointed a commission to rewrite the constitution and a draft new constitution was submitted to the president in June 1995, the commission recommending that it should be approved by a national referendum. The government argued that it should instead be adopted by the National Assembly before the elections that were due in November 1996. The Assembly did so in June 1996, despite international criticism and the suspension of some aid. Among controversial government amendments to the constitution were clauses that specified that a president could serve a maximum of two five-year terms, thus disallowing the candidacy of Kenneth Kaunda, former president for 27 years and presidential candidate of the opposition UNIP. UNIP also objected to clauses debarring any person from candidacy whose parents are not or were not Zambian citizens (Kaunda’s parents came from Malawi).

Most of the opposition parties boycotted the November 1996 elections (UNIP because its leader was debarred under the new constitution). There was a landslide victory for the MMD. But because of the boycott, many leading opposition parties did not have any seats in the National Assembly. Turnout was 56% of those registered to vote, although it is estimated that only 50% of those eligible were registered. The MMD won 131 of the 150 Assembly seats, and Chiluba won 73% of the presidential vote. The largest opposition party was then the National Party, with five seats.

**Education:** Public spending on education was 1.3% of GDP in 2008. There are seven years of compulsory primary education starting at age seven, and five years of secondary, with cycles of two and three years. Some 53% of pupils complete primary school (2008). The school year starts in January.
Solwezi is located in the North-Western Province of Zambia approximately 600 km from the capital city, Lusaka. With a reported population of 283,051 (2010 census), the District has an amiable cultural façade with diversity triggered by people seeing social and economic opportunities and migrating to the town. The local economy in Solwezi depends on the town’s rich endowment of mineral resources with mining the major driver of economic activities.

Solwezi has been named the fastest growing town in Zambia following the opening of two copper mines, namely Kansanshi Plc and Lumwana owned by Barrick Gold. The Trident Project, owned by First Quantum, is also underway.

The town has seen the growth of complementary businesses, notably the financial sector, evidenced by the location of 10 new banking institutions in the past five years; the rapidly growing construction sector; tourism and hospitality sector; the transport sector and the growth and expansion of SME’s across all sectors. Investment in these sectors presents huge opportunities for further investment since the supply of services and commodities is still far from meeting the demand. For instance, the demand for housing stock exceeds 12,000 against a supply of less than 200 new homes per annum.

Solwezi District alone contributes more than 20 per cent to Zambia’s GDP. This gives Solwezi town a strategic economic positioning in the North-Western Region and at national level. Consequently, government through its Ministry of Local Government and Housing has prepared an Integrated Development Plan (IDP) which provides a framework within which development will be guided. One of the major thrusts of the IDP focuses on infrastructure development, which is dealt with by the spatial development framework in the IDP. The IDP seeks to organise space for the location of service companies and other required businesses, which are complementary to the operations of the mining sector and other growing sectors. The spatial development framework presents a huge opportunity to diverse business investments requiring interests in the mining supply and other service sectors, as listed above.

The town has three main growth points, with equal capacity for...
development and vast opportunity for investment. The development plan in the first growth node is designed to integrate the location of a variety of business interests in agriculture, forestry, manufacturing, tourism, construction and other sectors. The Municipality presents the implementation of the IDP as an entry for partnership between itself and prospective partners who have an interest in investing in the town. Substantial interest has so far been expressed through groups of companies willing to partner with the Municipality to implement the IDF through Public Private Partnerships.

Typical business interests, already indicated, are the proposed development of a US$25 million shopping mall by Herriot Properties of South Africa in the heart of the central business district; development of Phase 1 of the Kabitaka Housing Development comprising 3,500 residential units; development of a new central business district at Kabitaka; as well as development of a new industrial park.

At the second growth node located near the Barrick Gold owned Lumwana Copper-Uranium Mine, a complete new town is under construction with projected construction of Zambia’s third Multi-Facility Economic Zone (MFEZ), a business cluster approved by the Zambia investment initiative of the Zambia Development Agency, with support infrastructure. It is further planned that a total of up to 6,000 residential housing units and support retail space will be built at the Lumwana-Manyama Town.

Solwezi has a third growth node at Kalumbila where First Quantum Minerals is developing one of the largest copper mines at its Trident Site. To support the mining activities a sizable town to house up to 60,000 residents has been designed with auxiliary infrastructure. While the mine is scheduled to commence production in the year 2014, substantial investments have already been made in preparation for the production. Consequently, Kalumbila offers investment opportunities in the retail, residential as well as industrial sectors.

‘The re-planning of the central business district will address challenges the Council is facing in allocating land for commercial development. The Council is ready to work with stakeholders to ensure that the IDP implementation is successful.’ Mayor, Andrew Kalengwa

Contact
P.O. Box 110001, Solwezi, Zambia
Tel: +260 21 882 1102 • +260 977 767 619
+260 979 522 354 • +260 977 659 607
Email: ronalddaka@yahoo.co.uk
A one-stop information centre for business

The immediate focus of the Province is to attract investment in: Agro-processing as part of the rural industrialisation strategy, more specifically the creation of value chains in cassava, soya beans, oil palm and organic honey; the development of mini hydropower stations to address energy challenges; and tourism development.

The Chamber, registered in 2009, is considered the official representative of the private sector in the Province and is a member of the Economic Sub-Committee of the Provincial Development Co-ordinating Committee chaired by the Permanent Secretary of Luapula Province.

To address some of the barriers impeding economic growth in the Province, the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce and Trade in Luapula have founded a regional office to provide key information to the business community and support services for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. Through this office, a database connects to the ZDA Information Resource Centre for the business community to access key information on affordable finance offers, market surveys, specialised trade agencies, and a directory of suppliers and buyers of various goods and services.

As the pioneer of investment promotion in the economy, ZDA designated about 300 hectares of land for the establishment of a multi-facility economic zone in Chembe. These industries will stimulate a number of economic activities in auxiliary sectors such as agriculture, textiles, mining, and the food and beverage industries. Suppliers and buyers of end products from the economic zone will have abundant markets for various products. Many support sectors to these industries will go from stagnation to growth, due to these developments in the local economy.

Contact
Mr Charles Kabamba, Chairman
Luapula Province Chamber of Commerce
Tel: +260 977 50 6554
Email: mwenyakab2002@yahoo.com

Mr Charles Mweshi, Principal Planner of the Provincial Planning Unit
Cell: +260 979 429 406
Email: luapulappu@yahoo.com

The University of Zambia was established in Lusaka in 1965; Copperbelt University, Kitwe, in 1986; and Mulungushi University, Kabwe, in 2008. There are a number of private universities, including Zambia Open University, which enrolled its first students in 2005 (established 2004 in Lusaka); and Cavendish University (2004, Lusaka). Literacy among people aged 15–24 is 74% (2010).

Media: The daily newspapers are the state-owned Zambia Daily Mail and Times of Zambia, and independent The Post; all are published in English. Weeklies include the state-owned Sunday Times of Zambia.

Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation provides public radio and TV services in the main national languages and English; there are several private commercial and faith radio stations, mainly reaching the urban areas.

There are 11 personal computers per 1,000 people (2005).

Communications: Country code 260; internet domain ‘.zm’. Most public buildings provide public phones. Mobile phone coverage is limited to urban areas, where there are also some internet cafes.

There are 6 main telephone lines, 606 mobile phone subscriptions and 115 internet users per 1,000 people (2011).

Public holidays: New Year’s Day, Women’s Day (8 March), Youth Day (12 March), Labour Day (1 May), Africa Day (25 May), Heroes’ Day (first Monday in July), Unity Day (Tuesday following Heroes’ Day), Farmers’ Day (first Monday in August), Independence Day (24 October) and Christmas Day.

Religious festivals whose dates vary from year to year include Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Economy

KEY FACTS 2011

GNI: US$15.7bn
GNI p.c.: US$1,160
GDP growth: 6.5% p.a. 2007–11
Inflation: 10.3% p.a. 2007–11

With very large reserves of copper and cobalt, Zambia was one of the most prosperous countries in Sub-Saharan Africa until its economy foundered with the slump in world copper prices in the mid-1970s. This landlocked country’s transport network was also crucially disrupted by civil unrest or liberation wars in the surrounding countries of Angola, Congo, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. The economy remains vulnerable to fluctuations in copper prices, and to drought.

The early 1990s was a difficult period, with the impact of a two-year drought being exacerbated by weak copper prices. In 1992, the government launched an economic reform programme with substantial divestment of state enterprises. By 2004, 259 state enterprises had been sold off. In 2006 75% of the shares in Zambia National Commercial Bank (one of the few remaining major state-owned enterprises) was sold to Rabobank (of the Netherlands) and to the Zambian public. The reform programme encouraged a more diversified economy and development of exports such as flowers, fruit and vegetables, gemstones, cotton lint and sugar. It was continued, with the support of the IMF; into the 2000s, when the emphasis was on poverty reduction.

Tight fiscal policy brought inflation down from the very high levels of the mid-1990s (183% in 1993) to be generally in single figures

Contact
Mr Charles Kabamba, Chairman
Luapula Province Chamber of Commerce
Tel: +260 977 50 6554
Email: mwenyakab2002@yahoo.com

Mr Charles Mweshi, Principal Planner of the Provincial Planning Unit
Cell: +260 979 429 406
Email: luapulappu@yahoo.com
from the mid-2000s. Privatisation of the copper mines by 2000 resulted in new investment and better management, and by 2004 world copper prices were rising. However, the decision in 2002 of Anglo-American to pull out of mining in Zambia for a time put in peril the higher levels of growth needed to reduce poverty.

Zambia qualified in 2005 for debt relief under the IMF/World Bank Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, deriving US$224 million in debt relief, which released it from 80% of its annual debt-service commitments.

This development reflected macroeconomic stability and sound fiscal policies, which had resulted in good growth in the 2000s, strengthening to an average 5.9% p.a. over 2005–09. Growth of 6–8% p.a. was sustained during 2009–12, despite the adverse international economic climate.

**Constitution**

Status: Republic with executive president
Legislature: Parliament
Independence: 24 October 1964

The 1996 constitution provides for an executive president, who is head of state and commander-in-chief of the armed forces. The president is limited to a maximum of two five-year terms. The vice-president and the cabinet are appointed by the president from the National Assembly. The cabinet is responsible for formulating policy and for advising the president on policy. It is accountable to the National Assembly.

The legislative powers of the republic are vested in parliament, which consists of the president and the National Assembly, whose 150 members are elected every five years from single-member constituencies. The president has the power to nominate eight special members of the National Assembly, five of whom can serve in the cabinet.

Both the president and the National Assembly are elected by universal adult suffrage. The election regulations are drawn up by an Electoral Commission, which may also prescribe and review the limits of constituency boundaries. The constitution contains a bill of rights, setting out the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual, and providing protection from discrimination on the grounds of race, tribe, gender, place of origin, marital status, political opinions, colour or creed.

The most controversial of the recommendations of the draft report of the National Constitutional Conference, published in July 2009, concerned limiting the powers of the president and changing the basis of presidential elections so that presidents are elected by at least 50% of the electorate, rather than the simple majority required by the 1996 constitution, thus introducing the potential for multiple rounds of voting. Supporters of this change believed that this would strengthen the prospects of a fragmented opposition, while detractors argued it would increase the cost of elections.

**Politics**

Last elections: September 2011 (presidential and legislative)
Next elections: 2016 (presidential and legislative)
Head of state: President Michael Sata
Head of government: the president
Ruling party: Patriotic Front

In May 2001 Vice-President Christon Tembo and more than 80 senior members of the Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD) left the party to form the Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD). Since, under the 1996 constitution, Frederick Chiluba could not stand for a third term of office and he was unable to muster enough support for constitutional change, Levy Patrick Mwanawasa was chosen in August as MMD’s candidate for the 2001 presidential election, the third since the restoration of multiparty politics in July 1990.

In a very close contest and with only 29% of the votes Mwanawasa won the December 2001 presidential election, Anderson Mazoka of the United Party for National Development (UPND) came second with 27%, Tembo (FDD) secured 13%, Tilyeni Kaunda (United National Independence Party – UNIP) 10% and Ben Mwila (Republican Party) 5%. In the simultaneous general election the MMD won 69 seats, the UPND 49, UNIP 13 and the FDD 12, but, even with its eight nominated members, the MMD was short of an absolute majority. The opposition was, however, fragmented and during 2003 Mwanawasa encouraged further fragmentation
by bringing several individual opposition members into positions in his government.

In a fiercely contested presidential election in September 2006, Mwanawasa won a second term substantially increasing his share of the votes to 43%. Michael Sata of the Patriotic Front came second with 29% of the votes; Hakainde Hichilema of United Democratic Alliance came third with 25%. In the simultaneous parliamentary elections Mwanawasa’s MMD gained 72 seats and with the eight nominated members a narrow overall majority over the Patriotic Front (46 seats) and the United Democratic Alliance (27).

President Levy Mwanawasa suffered a stroke in June 2008 and died in August of that year. Vice-President Rupiah Banda became acting president in June 2008 and was sworn in as president in November, shortly after he won the October 2008 presidential by-election with 40.6% of votes. He defeated Sata of the Patriotic Front (38.6%) and Hichilema of the UPND (20%). Turnout was 45%.

Presidential, parliamentary and local elections were held on the same day in September 2011. Michael Sata (Patriotic Front) won the presidential election, securing about 43% of the votes cast; the incumbent Banda (MMD) took about 36% and Hichilema (UPND) about 18%. In the parliamentary elections the Patriotic Front won 60 seats, MMD 55 and UPND 28. A Commonwealth observer group led by former Nigerian president General Yakubu Gowon affirmed that the elections represented further progress for Zambia in strengthening its democratic processes and that voters were able to express their will freely.

**International relations**


Zambia hosts the headquarters of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa in Lusaka.

**Traveller information**

**Immigration and customs:** Passports must be valid for at least six months from the date of arrival. Visas are required by most Commonwealth nationals. If you are travelling on from Zambia, some countries will require you to have a yellow fever vaccination certificate (see **Travel Health** below).

**Travel within the country:** Traffic drives on the left. Visitors wishing to drive will need an international driving permit. It is illegal to drink and drive or to use a mobile phone while driving. Chauffeur-driven cars are also available for hire.

Scheduled flights fly between the main centres. There are three main railway lines affording services between Lusaka and Livingstone, Lusaka and the Copperbelt, and Kapiri Mposhi and the northern border with United Republic of Tanzania. Taxis are widely available in urban areas but are not metered and fares should be agreed in advance.

**Travel health:** Prevalent diseases where appropriate precautionary measures are recommended include cholera, diphtheria, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, malaria, rabies, schistosomiasis (bilharzia) and typhoid. Vaccination against yellow fever is not generally recommended by the World Health Organization.

There were 815,000 tourist arrivals in 2010.

**Further information**

Zambia Online: www.zambia.co.zm

Electoral Commission of Zambia: www.elections.org.zm

Parliament: www.parliament.gov.zm

Bank of Zambia: www.boz.zm

Zambia Tourism Board: www.zambiatourism.com

Commonwealth Secretariat: www.thecommonwealth.org

Commonwealth of Nations: www.commonwealthofnations.org/country/zambia