



Bank of Zambia

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

SIGNING OF CONTRACT WITH KANSANSHI MINING PLC FOR THE SUPPLY OF REFINED GOLD SOLWEZI, 7 AUGUST 2025

SALUTATIONS

- General Manager, Kansanshi Mining PLC, Mr. Meiring Burger
- Deputy Governor – Operations, Bank of Zambia, Dr. Francis Chipimo
- Senior Management and Staff of Kansanshi Mining PLC
- Directors and Staff of Bank of Zambia
- Invited Guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning

It is my honour and privilege to address you today as part of the continued collaboration between the Bank of Zambia and Kansanshi Mining Plc regarding gold transactions. This Agreement marks the third in a series of agreements we have had between our two institutions since our partnership began in 2020.

Our partnership was born out of the Bank of Zambia objective to source gold domestically to bolster its international reserves. This strategic initiative reflects the Bank's recognition of the vital role gold plays in guarding against volatility in the operations of the foreign exchange market and as a means of diversifying international reserves portfolio. Globally, as central banks have increasingly acknowledged the value of gold, it has led to a remarkable increase in gold holdings by central banks as reported by the World Gold Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen, our partnership, which as indicated, goes back to December 2020 when we signed the inaugural contract, has enabled us to accumulate some gold as part of our reserves. We wish in this regard to extend our sincere appreciation to the Management of Kansanshi Mining PLC, particularly the team that has been spearheading this initiative. As we celebrate our achievements thus far, we look forward with renewed energy and higher aspirations that our partnership will yield even stronger results.

We are also pleased to inform members of the public that the Bank of Zambia is in the process of expanding its domestic gold purchase programme to include a broader range of suppliers. This initiative will consist of not only large-scale mining operations, such as, Kansanshi Mining PLC, but also artisanal and small-scale miners across the country. We have developed some guidelines that we have shared with key stakeholders for their input. We aim to finalise these guidelines as soon as we have received and carefully considered the feedback.

Esteemed Guests, I wish to emphasise that the expansion of our domestic gold purchase programme in no way diminishes the value of our existing partnerships. We remain committed to collaborating closely with Kansanshi Mining PLC, building on the mutual trust that has characterised our relationship from the outset. In this partnership with Kansanshi Mining PLC, we have so far purchased about 2.8 metric tonnes of refined gold. We look forward to buying more gold from your esteemed firm.

Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me to take this opportunity to also highlight two initiatives that the Bank recently launched in collaboration with other key stakeholders. The first one is on the Export Proceeds Tracking Framework (EPTF) while the other relates to the new currency regulations. The former started with the launch of Directives in 2023 to all players in the export business and for the latter, which is expected to be implemented later this year, relate to the use of the Kwacha and Ngwee as the sole legal tender or currency for domestic transactions. While significant progress has been made on the EPTF there is still some work to be done on reconciliation of the flows. We are in this regard calling on all the stakeholders to double their efforts towards this endeavor so that the full benefits of the initiative can be realised in the form of high quality and timely balance of payments statistics for better policy making. With respect to the currency regulations, we shared a revised version for which we implore stakeholders who have not sent in their comments and observations to do so as quickly as possible to enable us finalise the process.

As I conclude, I wish to, once again, express our sincere gratitude to the Management and staff of Kansanshi Mining Plc for the warm and collaborative partnership. Your contributions to Zambia's export earnings are highly commendable and carry significant national importance. We believe that these efforts will be further enhanced through your expansion programme,

which is praiseworthy as it will not only create employment opportunities, but also contribute to increasing export earnings—an essential factor for stability in the foreign exchange market and the economy as a whole.

We remain optimistic that the execution of our contract will fortify our collaboration and form a solid base for even greater cooperation in the future.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LISTENING. MAY GOD BLESS US ALL