



**BANK *Of* ZAMBIA**

**OFFICIAL HANDOVER OF  
THE MUKUYU TREE NATIONAL HERITAGE SITE IN KABWE**

**SPEECH BY**

**DR. DENNY H. KALYALYA  
GOVERNOR – BANK OF ZAMBIA**

**WEDNESDAY, 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

**KABWE, ZAMBIA**

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- **The Guest of Honour, The Minister for Central Province;**
- **Your Worship the Mayor of Kabwe Municipality Council;**
- **The Executive Director - National Heritage Conservation Commission;**
- **The Town Clerk – Kabwe Municipal Council;**
- **The Bank of Zambia Officials Present;**
- **Members of the Media; and**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen.**

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It is my honour and rare privilege to come and handover the refurbished Mukuyu Tree National Heritage Site to our partners – the Kabwe Municipal Council and the National Heritage Conservation Commission.

The Mukuyu Tree National Heritage Site is not only of great significance to the Bank of Zambia, but more so to the Kabwe Municipal Council and the National Heritage Conservation Commission. As we all may be aware, in the olden days, this Site was used as a trading, meeting and resting place for traders, travelers and the local community as they traversed the then Broken Hill town, now Kabwe. Additionally, the Tree has a historical significance as it was used for assembling donkeys and carriers' caravans for journeys to the North and North-East at the time that Kabwe was the rail headquarters for most of North-West Rhodesia.

**Ladies and Gentlemen**, you may wish to note that the relationship between the Bank and this Site dates back to 2006 when we entered into a Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) with the Kabwe Municipal Council for its restoration. Most recently, the Bank, in its desire to reinvigorate its commitment to the Mukuyu Tree National Heritage Site, entered into a new MoU with both the Kabwe Municipal Council and the National Heritage Conservation Commission so as to provide a sustainable solution to the maintenance and preservation of this important place.

As a Central Bank, our greater relationship with this Tree is exemplified by it being one of the main features on the Fifty (50) Kwacha banknote of our national currency, since 2002. Therefore, the importance we attach to this National Heritage Site cannot be over emphasised. To this end, it is our humble request and expectation that the Site will be guarded jealously by residents of Kabwe to avoid incidents of vandalism that had previously plagued this Site. We hope this place shall now provide a conducive meeting point and place of rest for all those that stay and pass through Kabwe. Its strategic location in the Central Business District of Kabwe also provides excellent place to learn about the history and significance of the Site for those visiting it and/or passing through.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,** as I end, I would like, on behalf of the Bank of Zambia and on my own behalf, to sincerely thank all the stakeholders that contributed to this restoration exercise. Special thanks go to the Zambia Railways Limited for their kind donation of the guard rails that will go a long way in safeguarding the palisade fencing from vehicles that park or turn near this Site. Finally, my sincere thanks to the Bank of Zambia team led by our Director of Procurement and Maintenance Services for spearheading the exercise.

I thank you and God bless!