



Competition & Consumer Protection Commission

Competition & Consumer Protection Commission

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CCPC named world's best competition body

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CCPC – Promoting Fair Markets in Zambia

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CCPC named one of world's best competition bodies

The Government has disclosed that Zambia has recorded tremendous development in competition and consumer protection advocacy.

Ministry of Commerce Trade and Industry Permanent Secretary, Kayula Siame, said that the development was evident through the breaking of concentrated markets, increased firm entrants in the market and economic diversification.

Mrs Siame noted that the Government believed that competition reforms are a driver for sustainable economic growth and competitiveness, adding that competition in domestic markets was a key ingredient to a country's performance in trade and competitiveness.

Commenting on the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC)'s award of best Competition Authority, by the International Competition Network (ICN) in conjunction with the World Bank, Mrs Kayula said that the award showed that the country had reached higher heights in consumer and competition advocacy.

"The ministry wishes to heartily congratulate CCPC for being named as one of the best competition authorities, and this achievement shows Governments commitment to ensuring businesses and companies compete fairly with each other thereby helping markets to work better," she said.

The International Competition Network (ICN) in conjunction with the World Bank has named the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission as one of the best Competition Authority.

The Commission was awarded the recognition on grounds that it was the best among Competition Authorities that were advocating for Competition in key domestic markets.

The heavily contested awards attracted a total of 43 Competition Authorities from countries around the world, among them France, Kuwait, Kenya and Pakistan Competition Authorities.

The recognition was made at the 2016 ICN Conference in Singapore where CCPC received the winner's prize for its efforts in fostering competition values and principles that enhance consumer welfare in the economy of Zambia.

The Conference had four themes, and the Commission together with France scooped the first prize in the second theme dubbed "Advocating competition in key domestic markets to maximize the benefits of trade".

The second theme sought to recognize the competition agency that created maximum impact on the market that aimed at benefiting consumers and the economy as a whole.

Accepting the prize on behalf of the CCPC, Chief Analyst, Patrick Chengo, thanked the World Bank and ICN for recognizing the work and efforts of the Commission in bettering the Zambian economy.

Mr Chengo stated that the recognition was not only a milestone for the Commission and Zambia as a country, but an achievement which would motivate CCPC to enhance its interventions on competition and consumer protection matters in various sectors of the Zambian economy.

The World Bank and ICN conference created a platform for Competition Authorities to share different techniques and practices used in Competition law enforcement.

At the three-day conference, the Commission was given a platform to share its experience on how its intervention had impacted on the Zambian forestry sub-sector thereby curtailing any form of anti-competitive conduct, a situation



CCPC Chief Analyst, Patrick Chengo, giving a speech after receiving an award on behalf of the Commission.

which resulted in job retention and creation.

The Commission cited the Zambia Forestry and Forest Industries Corporation (ZAFFICO) case it handled in 2014 as one of the cases that had a great impact on all the players in the Forestry sub-sector.

The Commission's intervention meant that ZAFFICO would have to come up with a competitive process of allocating the soft and hard wood licences to both existing and new Saw Millers.

ZAFFICO was directed to come up with a competitive bidding process that would enhance and promote sustainability in the sub-sector.

The results further benefited a cross section of Zambians in various sectors of the economy such as manufacturing and construction among others.

However, the active involvement of CCPC in this situation resulted in the creation of 5000 direct and more than 5000 indirect jobs, thus improving the livelihood of more than 10,000 families in Zambia

A total of 50 small scale saw millers retain their jobs with 500 new entrants in the sector.

The intervention also led to saw millers appreciating and protecting forestry by replanting other trees. This, according to World Bank and ICN, was an intervention which created an economic impact which required noticing and recognition.

CCPC has powers to fine firms abrogating the law -Supreme Court



Maureen Mwanza - CCPC Legal and Corporate Affairs Director

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) has warned enterprises engaging in anti-competitive business practices that it will not hesitate to punish and take legal action against entities abrogating the law.

CCPC Director for Legal and Corporate Affairs, Maureen Mwanza, said that the Commission would punish offending entities or individuals engaging in unfair business conduct.

Mrs Mwanza noted that CCPC would continue promoting fair markets in the Zambian economy in line with its mandate; therefore it would not condone anti-competitive conducts.

The Commission has further warned enterprises engaging in anti-competitive practices that it will not hesitate to bring them to book.

Mrs Mwanza said the Commission had legal powers to fine any business entity or individual found abrogating conditions of the merger or undertakings as provided for in the Competition and Consumer Protection Act.

Mrs Mwanza said this following the Supreme Court judgement stating that the Act gave CCPC powers to fine any business or individual found guilty of abrogating Act.

This is in a matter where Puma Energy appealed to the Supreme Court against a High Court ruling that CCPC had powers to fine, contrary to the Competition and Consumer Protection Tribunal's ruling.

The Tribunal earlier ruled that the Commission over-stepped its boundaries when it fined Puma Energy 2% and Dana Oils Corporation 1% of their annual turnover for abrogating merger conditions.

Mrs Mwanza noted that the Supreme Court judgement confirms CCPC's powers to fine and also resolves an outstanding issue that Puma Energy is not authorised to import Castrol products in Zambia in line with the conditions for authorisation.

"The Commission wishes to direct that Dana Oil Corporation must procure the Castrol products from BP Africa in accordance with the approved

contract between BP Africa and Dana Oil Corporation," she added.

The ruling states that the only authorised importer and distributor of Castrol products in Zambia in line with the authorisation contract is Dana Oil Corporation.

She added that the 2011 conditional approval between BP Africa and Puma Energy Limited excluded Puma Energy in the Castrol business in Zambia and mandated it to uphold the authorised contract between Dana Oil Corporation and BP Africa for the supply of lubricants which subsisted prior to the takeover.

"We would like to warn the business community not to engage in unfair business practices, as the Commission will not hesitate to fine offending entities to punitive measures," she added.

Mrs Mwanza noted that engaging in unfair trade conduct was a criminal offense as such behaviour had a direct negative effect both on the economy and on consumers.

Cartel conducts harmful to economy - CCPC



CCPC Chief Investigator, Parret Muteto, speaking during the media training at Chaminuka Lodge in Lusaka.

THE Competition and Consumer Protection Act promotes competition on merit, genuine without underhand methods that frustrate competition in the relevant market.

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) Chief Investigator for Mergers and Monopolies, Parret Muteto, stated that abuse of dominance did not exist in abstract, that it happened in the market and that it was visible through conduct of market players.

The CCPA prohibits certain conducts by one or more firms which amount to an abuse of dominance position and that dominance was legitimate if it was achieved through genuine innovation, greater entrepreneurial efforts and mergers and acquisitions.

Meanwhile, Chief Investigator Restrictive Business Practices, Naomi Fulaza, also noted that Cartel conducts were harmful to the economy as they hindered

competition in a free market economy.

Mrs Fulaza noted that cartels in the economy resulted in directly or indirectly fixing of prices, adding that they had numerous effects to the economy.

Speaking during the CCPC and World Bank Media Training at Chaminuka, Mrs Fulaza said that the Act regulated cartel conduct.

However, she was quick to mention that the Act prohibited agreements and concerted practices involving restrictive horizontal practices such as the direct and indirect fixing of prices and any other trading conditions.

Mrs Fulaza noted that cartels operated in specific relevant markets and in secrecy and were very difficult to detect.

“Cartels are the worst competition offence because of their extent of harm to competition, they inhibit

competition in a free market economy thereby subjecting customers to paying more for less quality,” she said.

She added that cartel members were competitors in the same horizontal relationship in a given relevant market, and therefore needed to embrace tenets of competition.

Other cartel conducts were dividing markets by allocating customers, collective refusal to deal in, or supply of goods or services, collusive tendering and bid rigging among others respectively.

Mrs Fulaza mentioned that in a bid to curb prohibited business practices, the Commission was mandated to sanction a penalty to the erring firms.

“The Commission has powers under the Act to sanction penalties depending on the nature of the case, if its criminal the State prosecutes the offenders, and if its administrative penalty of up to 10 percent annual turnover,” she said.

High court fines Mama Africa for Display of a Disclaimer



CCPC Director for Legal and Corporate Affairs, Maureen Mwanza

of its Annual turnover.

The court clarified that putting a disclaimer on a receipt was tantamount to displaying it; as such Mama Africa contravened the law and should therefore, pay the fine.

CCPC Director for Legal and Corporate Affairs, Maureen Mwanza, said in this matter, a fine was imposed by the Commission on Mama Africa for displaying a disclaimer on a receipt.

Following the 0.1 percent fine of its Annual turnover, Mama Africa appealed the Commission's decision in its entirety to the Competition and Consumer Protection Tribunal.

Mrs Mwanza said that the enterprise further appealed the decision of the Tribunal to the High Court which in turn upheld the Tribunal's decision.

She warned that the Commission would not hesitate to fine any enterprise that would be found abrogating the law by curtailing consumer rights and denying consumers remedies that they were legally entitled to.

"We would like to warn enterprises engaging in such unfair trading practices as displaying of disclaimers be it on receipts or any other conspicuous place that such conduct constitute an offence punishable by law," she said.

She said that offenders would be subjected to punitive measures as outlined in the Act.

Mrs Mwanza appealed to members of the public to be vigilant and ensure that they check for disclaimers as they engage in day-to-day business.

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) has fined Mama African Enterprise for displaying a disclaimer on a receipt contrary to the provisions of the Competition and Consumer Protection Act.

And the Lusaka High Court has upheld the decision by the Competition and Consumer Protection Tribunal for allowing the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission to fine Mama Africa Enterprise Limited 0.1 percent

“...unfair trading practices as display of disclaimers be it on receipts or any other conspicuous place that such conduct constitute an offence punishable by law.”

CCPC, ZPPA sign MoU to enhance competition in public procurement



CCPC Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa (2nd from right), and CCPC Director Legal and Corporate Affairs, Maureen Mwanza, signing the CCPC-ZPPA MoU at Pamodzi Hotel in Lusaka.

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) and Zambia Public Procurement Authority (ZPPA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which will see the two institutions collaborate in areas of investigations and complaints handling.

CCPC Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa, said that the MoU would enable the two institutions implement their mandate jointly for

the benefit of the country.

Mr Sampa said the agreement would improve interactions in investigations, evaluation and analysis of complaints and other matters involving anti-competitive conduct in the public procurement.

Mr Sampa said this during the signing of the MoU between CCPC and ZPPA in Lusaka.

He was optimistic that the signed agreement would promote integrity

in the procurement process, thus ensuring that Government gets value for its money for the benefit of the citizens and the economy.

He added that vigorous competition among suppliers helps Government to obtain the best value for money for goods and services procured.

“When competition is curtailed in cases where suppliers engage in bid rigging, taxpayer’s money is wasted as Government pays more,” he said.

Speaking at the same function, World Bank Representative, Peter Nuamah, noted that effective collaboration between Competition agencies and Public Procurement agencies would deter, and detect anti-competitiveness in public procurement.

He said that the link between public procurement procedures and the promotional of competition for public contracts would bring about value for the money.

“Given limitations of public resources, governments have a strong interest to procure the required goods and services of adequate quality at the lowest possible price,” he noted.



CCPC Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa, shaking hand with his ZPPA counterpart, Chibelushi Musongole, as they exchanged the copy of the MoU, while World Bank Representative, Peter Nuamah (Centre) looks on.

Sound Competition policy enhances market power



World Bank Trade Specialist, Philana Mugenyi, giving her presentation during the media training on competition law at Chaminuka lodge.

Effective implementation of competition policy was not to deter business growth but was concerned with conducts that create, enhance and preserve market power.

World Bank Trade Specialist, Competition Policy, Philana Mugenyi, said a well-functioning competition policy disciplined the current rival, and potential entrants and customers in a given market.

She said there was need for Zambia to enhance its competition policy so as to tackle inefficiencies associated with market power which would result in higher prices and other negative effects on the economy.

Ms Mugenyi noted that lack of Competition in an economy resulted in reduced incentives and lower levels of innovation as well as undermining of potential entrants.

She said that various economic policies affect the level and nature of competition in a market.

Addressing Journalists, Ms Mugenyi noted that the outcome of competition policy needed to be viewed in context of other policies, such as whether other policies conflict or complement.

She stated that competition requires effective rivalry which might require industrial policies to support entrants and smaller firms.

Ms Mugenyi stated that competition had static and dynamic benefits, adding that consumers benefited from both dynamic and efficiencies.

“Static competition results in lower prices, greater output, cost efficiency and optimal use of resources, while dramatic helps in adopting the best available technology investing in research and development,” she said.

She said that in a competitive market, there was need for discipline to ensure firms built new capabilities thereby enhancing industrial development.

CCPC celebrates Women's Day with inmate mothers

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) has donated goods worthy K12, 000 to the Female and Children's section of Lusaka Central Prisons.

CCPC Human Resource and Administration Manager, Beene Siyumbwa, said the donation was part of the Commissions Corporate Social Responsibility strategy.

“The donation is part of our Women's Day Celebrations and it is important for us to just give back to the community were we operate from,” she said.

Speaking in an interview shortly after the donation, Mrs Siyumbwa said that the Commission would continue identifying and support the needy and the vulnerable in society.

The donations marked this year's Women Day's Celebrations for the Commission.

Mrs Siyumbwa said Commission aimed at making a difference in people's lives and improve their quality of life.

She disclosed that the Commission would continue working with like-minded institutions in ensuring that they together uplift the living standards of the vulnerable in society.

She noted that giving back to the community would not only benefit the Commission, but various stakeholders as well as the most affected.

She said there was nothing that was so satisfying than putting smiles on vulnerable peoples' faces.

“Our aim as the Commission is to continue contributing towards making Zambia a better place to live in by improving the quality of life of the vulnerable in whatever way we can,” she said.

Among the items donated include, baby requirements, groceries, food items, cleaning materials such as disinfectants, buckets and dishes among others.

Remove competition barriers, let SMEs Participate-Mwanakatwe

GOVERNMENT has disclosed that the purpose of a competition policy was to facilitate efficient allocation of resources in order to maximise national welfare.

Minister of Commerce Trade and Industry, Margaret Mwanakatwe MP, said competition policy facilities were for efficient allocation of resources in the sense that resources were sourced from an open and competitive environment.

This was contained in a speech read on her behalf by Acting Director of Domestic Trade, Sunday Chikoti, during the Media Training Workshop at Chaminuka.

Mrs Mwanakatwe stated that a competitive environment allowed businesses to fully participate and be integrated into the national economy.

However, she implored the Commission to remain vibrant and

ensure that various economic entities did not engage in any conduct that would both lessen competition and negatively affect consumer welfare.

She said CCPC should ensure that it removed competition barriers that prevent small and medium scale business from effectively participating in the economy.

“The Commission should remove barriers that prevent small medium scale business from effectively participating in the economy, these include exclusive agreements, cartels, abuse of dominance and anti-competitive mergers,” she stated.

She said Government had put in place necessary legislation to promote competition and consumer welfare.

Speaking during the same event Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa, said increased competition positively impacts on the growth of the economy.

Mr Sampa noted that a country was less competitive when there was no competition, adding that the Commission was working hard to increase the levels of competition in the economy.

“It’s with no doubt that the desired competition would be attained looking at the increase in number of merger transactions the Commission has been handling,” he added.

Mr Sampa noted that Zambia’s competition was doing very well as it was able to attract new investment.

The Workshop was aimed at training Journalists and Editors in competition law and other related issues.

The workshop was organised by the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) and the World Bank.

A total of 22 Journalist and 10 Editors where trained from different media institutions.



CCPC officers pose for a photo with Business Editors after the Editors training on Competition Policy at Chaminuka lodge.

Collaborative efforts best in creating competitive markets

ENHANCED collaboration with other institutions will help the Commission to quickly achieve its targets of creating competitive markets and consumer protection in the country.

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) Board Chairperson, Kelvin Bwalya Fube, said enhanced collaboration would not only improve service delivery, but would instead expedite the Commission's process of achieving its set targets.

Mr Fube said the Commission would remain focused and ensure that it fully participated in creating a better Zambia by making sure that favourable competition and consumer protection conditions were attained.

Speaking during a farewell dinner for four outgoing Board Members

Mr Fube thanked the outgoing Board Members saying their positive contribution to the Commission coupled with their positive attitude towards work had contributed to putting the Commission at its current status.

Mr Fube thanked members of Staff at the Commission for the support towards all the Board Members during their tenure of office.

He implored the members of staff to remain steadfast and fight for the rights of the consumers thereby ensuring that the Commission rides on the objective of promoting and enhancing competition and consumer welfare in the economy for the benefit of the people of Zambia.

Mr Bwalya wished the outgoing Board Members well in their future endeavours.

"The Board and members of Staff from the Commission will greatly miss you for your commitment, leadership and professionalism exhibited during the tenure of office, he said.

Speaking at the same function, Outgoing Vice Chairperson, Simomo Akapelwa, thanked the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry for the confidence, and trust it had in his and his colleagues' services.

He said that the works and importance of CCPC cannot be over emphasized as it aims at creating a fair and competitive playing ground for businesses in the country which ultimately result in economic growth.

Mr Akapelwa noted that decentralisation of CCPC's services across the country would positively impact on consumers welfare, thereby giving consumers an opportunity to easily access the Commissions services.

"It was nice working with CCPC and on behalf of my fellow outgoing commissioners, we will miss management and all members of Staff," he said.

He further urged the Commission to remain positive to its mandate and ensure that the best competition and consumer welfare services were attained.

The Commission bade farewell to Commissioner Ireen Mbewe, Andrew Musukwa, Goodwell Kapema and Simomo Akapelwa.



CCPC Board Members share a light moment with management during the farewell dinner for four former Board Members at Southern Sun Hotel in Lusaka.

at Southern Sun in Lusaka, Mr Fube said the Commission had lined up a number of activities all aimed at creating a better and competitive markets for the Zambian business community.

He said that CCPC would also ensure that consumers are fully protected from unfair practices from business entities.

"As CCPC we are focused and I may say we are in a hurry to move our country forward, we will ensure markets are very competitive for businesses and consumers are protected from unfair business practices," he said.



CCPC members of staff with the Board of Commissioners Vice Chairperson, Chishala Kateka (far left) during the farewell dinner for former commissioners at Southern Sun Hotel in Lusaka



CCPC members of staff pose for photo after the High Performance Organisation workshop at Sandy's Creation in Lusaka.

HPO initiative improves service delivery

Mainstreaming High Performance Organisation (HPO) activities in our daily programmes will fast track the Commissions attainment of HPO status.

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission Director Consumer Protection, Brian Lingela, said that mainstreaming of HPO activities would help the Commission to quickly attain its HPO status.

'Attaining HPO needs efforts from everybody and as such, HPO activities should be mainstreamed in our daily activities,' Mr Lingela said.

Speaking during the CCPC HPO workshop at Sandy's Creation, Mr Lingela noted that the HPO was a process that needed concerted efforts from each member of staff.

Mr Lingela noted that HPO was a very important programme which aims at enhancing performance of the Commission.

He said incorporating HPO activities in the daily programmes would not only make the Commission attain its status and getting better scores, but also improve the Commission's service delivery and dedication to duty amongst employees.

However, he said the HPO status cannot be achieved without the



HPO Champion, Beene Siyumbwa, stressing a point during the HPO Workshop at Sandy's Creation in Lusaka

participation of all of all the employees.

"The challenge beyond this meeting and accreditation is to be able to mainstream HPO activities in our budget and action plans, we need as Officers to ensure that we take this initiative seriously.

And HPO Champion, Beene Siyumbwa, said that hard work and team work would help the Commission attain its HPO status.

She said that team work enhances both individual hard working spirit towards work and institutional service delivery to its clients.

Mrs Siyumbwa noted that main aim of the workshop was to look at the impact of the HPO project since its inception in 2015.

She noted with happiness that the impact of the project was visible in so many ways indicating that through the project team spirit, staff performance driven through unity and sense of belonging had been visibly enhanced.

Other notable benefits she mentioned were enhanced departmental collaboration and staff's understanding that their contribution was critical to the Commission's growth.

Training businesses and consumers vital in reducing violations - ICPEN



CCPC members of staff following proceedings of HPO briefing at the CCPC Head Office in Lusaka.

The International Consumer Protection Enforcement Network (ICPEN) has urged its member agencies to develop short courses base on their mandate targeting businesses and consumers, saying this will reduce cases of consumer right violation.

The short course will raise awareness amongst business community and consumers on the provisions of the law.

Over 180 delegates from 43 ICPEN member agencies and 32 non ICPEN members agencies attended this year's conference that was held in London recently.

The conference looked at a number of consumer protection issues and possible tools and techniques to use when handling and investigating consumer complaints.

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) was this year represented by Director Consumer Protection, Brian Lingela, and Consumer Protection Investigator, Joseph Mutale.

However, Mr Mutale said that in going forward ICPEN challenged member agencies to adopt new communication tools like the use of social media channels, adding that it has proved to be an effective mode of communication between law enforces and consumers.

He added that the Commission would take advantage of the vast online platforms in creating awareness on consumer protection issues, thereby assessing the knowledge of consumers on their rights and obligations.

Mr Mutale observed that there was need to use communication as a tool to maximise the effects of enforcement.

Commenting on the developing of short courses for the business community and consumers on the CCPC mandate, Mr Mutale noted that the move would result in increased consumer awareness.

He said that it would also enable the Commission from just enforcing the law after violation of the Competition and Consumer Protection Act.

"The short courses for business will help the Commission take its services to the 'digital youthful age' who form the majority of the population in Zambia," he said.

Other issues discussed during the conference included defining of relevant consumer protection issues; explore possibilities for consumer education and empowerment.

Online shopping good... But...



The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa (in picture), says the advent of Modern technology has resulted in different ways of conducting business.

Online Shopping is a form of electronic commerce that allows consumers to directly buy goods and services from a seller using a web browser.

He, however, observed that the online shopping environment was far from perfection.

This was contained in a speech read on his behalf by Brian Lingela, CCPC Director Consumer Protection, during the 2016 Fraud Prevention Month.

“This year’s Fraud Prevention Month focused on online shopping in Zambia, this was so because of increased access to internet by

consumers even in rural parts of the country.

Although the benefits of online shopping are considerable, the online shopping environment is far from perfection, this is because there is a lot of exchange of vital information on the platform,” he said.

Mr Sampa noted that regardless of the device used, be it a computer, smartphone or tablet, it allowed anyone to buy, pay and simply wait for goods bought to be delivered at their doorstep.

He noted that online shoppers had become susceptible to cyber-crime, adding that it was imperative that consumers were aware of websites that track consumers’ shopping habits, demographic data, credit information among others.

He urged consumers to guard against incredible business offers when engaging in online shopping.

Mr Sampa noted that not all online promotions were fraudulent though consumers should never choose payment methods that do not offer any kind of buyer protection.



Regional Survey rates Zambia cheapest

Southern African region price survey has rated Zambia as one of the cheapest countries in the region in terms of price and cost of living.

The survey was conducted by the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) and has since been concluded and published.

The regional Price and Cost of Living Survey was a comparison on selected food items and other essentials for 7 countries in the region.

According to CCPC Public Relations Officer, Hanford Chaaba, the survey focused on the cost of various food items, transport, utilities, rent, sports and leisure, clothing and shoes.

He said that the same was done on a comparative basis among major cities of Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Mr Chaaba noted that the survey was for the period between January and December, 2015.

Mr Chaaba said that the study revealed that Zambia has comparatively the lowest cost on transportation, monthly utilities, water and milk in the southern region and has relatively high prices of accommodation.

He said the survey revealed that one-way-bus fare ticket in Zambia Lusaka cost US\$ 0.47 compares to US\$ 0.25 in Malawi, US\$ 0.50 in Zimbabwe, US\$ 0.69 in Namibia and US\$ 0.96 in South Africa.

He stated that the report indicated that Zambia was among the cheapest countries in the region in selected food items and other essential commodities such as milk and eggs costing US\$ 1.29 per litre and US\$ 1.36 per unit respectively compared to US\$ 1.32 per litre of milk in Zimbabwe US\$ 2.08 per unit of eggs and US\$ 4.54 per litre of milk and US\$ 2.01 for eggs in Botswana.

Mr Chaaba disclosed that monthly utilities for Zambia also showed that they are the lowest in the region with electricity going at US\$ 37.90 in Zambia, US\$ 61.51 in Botswana, US\$ 92.50 for Tanzania, US\$ 76.5 Namibia, US\$ 72.55 for South Africa and the highest for Zimbabwe at US\$ 132.53.

In Zambia, water per litre is US\$ 0.77, US\$1.36 in Malawi, US\$ 1.14 in Zimbabwe, US\$ 0.84 in Botswana, US\$ 0.84, US\$ 1.04 and US\$ 0.90 for Tanzania, Namibia and South Africa correspondingly.

Mr Chaaba said the Commission also collected comprehensive price information on poultry and beef for Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Tanzania, Namibia and South Africa, and in these particular commodities, the country is not competitive, hence the need for these areas to be considered for investment.

He however, mentioned that Zambia proved more expensive in terms of rentals compared to other regions, with one (1) bedroom apartment in Lusaka City Centre costing US\$ 519.63 and the same costing US\$ 599.20 in Tanzania.

The products which were found to be more expensive in Zambia included; accommodation, a loaf of white bread, rice, local cheese, chicken, beef, banana, tomatoes, onion and both local and domestic beer.

He said the report hinged on the principal of comparing prevailing prices in the region to understand the internal market dynamics and for policy intervention on the cost of living.

Mr Chaaba said it was imperative that the country carried out such a survey and the importance of a price survey cannot be over-emphasized as the finding would be used in national planning and policy implementation.

Zambia's economy still competitive - CCPC

THE Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa, has revealed that mergers and acquisitions are a very important component to enhancing economic competitiveness.

Mr Sampa said that mergers in an economy played a vital role as they improved both competition levels and economic status of a country.

He said that mergers needed to add value to the economy; as such the Commission would ensure that it speeds up merger transaction processes.

"Technology has evolved and has made the cost of doing business easy, therefore, as a Commission we will ensure that we work in line with technology and other acceptable international best practice standards," he said.

Mr Sampa noted that mergers control was very important in any economy.

Speaking to Journalists, Mr Sampa said Zambia was among the most competitive countries in Africa.

He added that a good mergers control process improved competition practice both in the economy and across other sectors of the economy.

"A country is less competitive when there is no competition, and it's with this reason that the Commission is working hard to increase the levels of competition in the economy," he stated.

He was optimistic that desired competition would be attained following the steady increase in a number of merger transactions the Commission had been handling.

Mr Sampa noted that Zambia's competition was doing very well as it was able to attract new investment.

"Lack of competition in an economy pushes away investments, now if you look at Zambia's economy, we have new investments coming through, this is an indication that the level of competition is doing well," he said.

Lower market barriers promote SMEs growth - competition expert



Kenyan based competition consultant, David Ong'olo, addressing the media during the media training at Chaminuka Lodge in Lusaka.

A Kenyan based Competition Consultant has observed that Zambia needs to lower its market entry barriers so as to promote and increase entrepreneurship participation in economic development.

David Ong'olo said that Zambia had great potential to grow its economy, although there was need to lower the market entry barriers.

He said that lowering of market entry barriers would promote entrepreneurship participation in economic development consequently growing the Small and Medium Enterprise (SMEs) Sector in the country.

Mr Ong'olo said that safeguarded against practises that would drive firms out of business and control of international unfair competition

and restrictive business practices such as international cartels. He said this would result in efficient allocation and utilisation of resources subsequently resulting in more output and employment creation.

“ In competition policy, Government measures directly affect both firm behaviour and industrial structure ”

He said Zambia was in dare need of a more stiff competition policy to monitor, prevent and control anti-competitive practice on the market.

Presenting to Journalists during the Media Training Workshop on competition Policy, Mr Ong'olo said an effective competition policy should include factors such

as economic policies adopted by Government that aim to enhance competition in local and international markets.

“In competition policy, Government measures directly affect both firm behaviour and industrial structure and should be designed to stop anti-competitive business practices,” he said.

He said a competition policy maintains and promotes the competitive spirit and culture in the market.

Mr Ong'olo noted that a good piece of a competition policy regulation should have factors that clearly indicate its independence, simplicity, effective appeal procedures, transparency and accountability.

Others include clarity, periodic review, consistency, commitment and fairness.

CCPC PHOTO FOCUS



Muyunda Mwangala, New Vision Newspaper Business Reporter giving a brief on Abuse of Dominance to his media colleagues during the media training at Chaminuka Lodge.



Left to Right: CCPC Consumer Protection Director, Brian Lingela, Legal and Cooperate Affairs Director, Maureen Mwanza, Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa, World Bank Representative, Peter Naumah, ZPPA Director General, Chibelushi Musongole and ZPPA Board Secretary, Mwaka Njobvu, following proceedings during the signing of the CCPC-ZPPA MoU in Lusaka.



CCPC Megers and Monopolies Director, Luyamba Mpamba, and CCPC Human Resource and Administration, Manager Beene Siyumbwa, pose for a photo with pupils from Mazabuka Girls Secondary school at CCPC Head office after a school visit.



World Bank, CCPC and ZPPA members of staff pose for photo after the signing of the MoU in Lusaka.



Energy Deputy Minister, Charles Zulu, CCPC Consumer Protection Director, Brian Lingela, and other invited guest follow proceedings during the World Consumer Rights Day commemorations in Livingstone.



CCPC Consumer Protection Director, Brian Lingela, talking to a show goer at the CCPC stand during the Copperbelt, Mining, Agriculture and Commercial Show in Kitwe.



Energy Deputy Minister, Charles Zulu (Centre) pose for a photo with a pupil and teacher from St Mary's Secondary School after presenting them with a trophy for scooping the first position of World Consumer Rights the Intern schools quiz.



CCPC Board Member, Chishala Kateka (far left), shares a light moment with CCPC Board Chairperson Kelvin Fube Bwalya (not in picture) during the Farewell Dinner for former Board Members in Lusaka.



Left to Right: CCPC Board Member, John Mulongoti, CCPC Human Resource and Administration Manager, Beene Siyumbwa, CCPC Board Member Dr. Aubrey Chibumba, and CCPC Finance Manager, Shakayobo Shandavu at the farewell dinner at Southern Sun.



CCPC officers pose for a photo during the Copperbelt, Mining, Agriculture and Commercial Show in Kitwe.



Minister of Commerce Trade and Industry, Margaret Mwanakatwe, stressing a point during the ACER training week in Livingstone while CCPC Board Chairperson, Kelvin Fube Bwalya, and CCPC Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa, looks on.



CCPC members of staff pose for a photo with members of the media after a media training at Chaminuka Lodge.



CCPC Members of staff during the 2016 CCPC Labour Day Awards at CCPC Head Office Boardroom.



Mrs Chishala Kateka, CCPC Board Member Stressing a point during the ACER training in Livingstone.



CCPC Members of staff following proceedings during the HPO Workshop at Sandy's Creation in Lusaka.



CCPC Human Resource Manager and Administration Beene Siyumbwa, with Chief Analyst and Chief Investigator Mergers and Monopolies Parret Muteto during the CCPC-ZPPA Signing ceremony.



CCPC Mergers and Monopolies Director, Luyamba Mpamba, giving her presentation during the Media training at Chaminuka Lodge.

Regional interactions critical in effective regulation enforcement

EFFECTIVE enforcement of regulations will largely depend on effective working relationships between COMESA Competition Commission (CCC) and National Competition Authorities of the Member States.

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) Director Mergers and Monopolies, Luyamba Mpamba, said enhanced interaction among Member States would result in effective enforcement of regulations in the region.

Speaking during her presentation at a Media Training Workshop on Competition policy at Chaminuka, Ms Mpamba disclosed that interactions would raise awareness on the obligations of stakeholders on the provisions of the regulations and their implementation framework.

Ms Mpamba indicated that there

was need for effective enforcement of the regulations and this largely depended on effective working relationship between the Regional Competition Agencies and National Competition Authorities of the member states.

She stated that CCC had made strides in enhancing working relationship with National Competition Authorities mainly through negotiations of bilateral enforcement of cooperation agreements.

“Bilateral agreements will result in effective enforcement activities while domestication of Regulations by Member States remains work in progress,” she noted.

Mrs Mbamba stated that major strides had been made in raising awareness and obligations of stakeholders on provisions of the regulation.

She added that the Commission had also engaged firms in instituting an enforcement regime that would contribute to easing the cost of doing business in the region.

Ms Mpamba said that the enforcement regime had resulted into the issuance of the merger assessment guidelines and reduction of the merger filing fees as much as 60 percent and a substantial increase in the notification threshold.

She noted that CCC was working on formulating a COMESA Competition Network that would comprise Competition Heads and Heads of Mergers Divisions.

“One of the main intentions of COMESA is to establish a one-stop-shop for mergers filing, anti-competitive conduct and consumer protection in the common market,” she said.

Water, energy deficit affect the economy - Mwanakatwe



GOVERNMENT is deeply concerned with what is happening in the energy and water sectors, saying the challenges have negatively affected the economy.

Minister of Commerce Trade and Industry, Margaret Mwanakatwe (in picture), said government was aware of the challenges and that it was working on modalities to address the challenges.

Mrs Mwanakatwe said the Government was doing everything possible to cushion the power deficit the country was faced with.

She said that load-shedding mitigation measures that were being implemented by the Government had reached an advanced stage.

“Government has accelerated the implementation of measures aimed at mitigating the electricity deficit through fast tracking the upgrading of selected hydro power stations and the development of grid-connected solar power generations,” she said.

Speaking during the World Consumer

Rights Day commemoration in Lusaka, Mrs Mwanakatwe said water and energy sectors were pivotal to economic development in different sectors of the economy.

Mrs Mwanakatwe noted that there was need to take a holistic approach with stakeholders in both the water and energy sectors to ensure that the limited available resources were utilised and managed in a sustainable manner.

This year’s commemorations were held under the theme *“Using Water and Energy wisely for Sustainable Development”*.

Mrs Mwanakatwe said the theme had come at the right time now when the country had been experiencing major challenges in the energy and water sectors.

She said despite the challenges, Government had made positive progress in bridging up the power deficit adding that the Government had embarked on a number power projects that would cushion the deficit.

However, Mrs Mwanakatwe, implored consumers to conserve water and energy through good usage recommended by service providers.

“As consumers, we have an important role of conserving water and energy through good usage recommended by service providers,” she stated.

Mrs Mwanakatwe added that despite the prevailing challenges, she advised service providers not to engage in trading practices that would inhibit consumers.

At the same function, Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) International Centre Coordinator, Chenai Mukumba, said that water and energy were essential commodities for enhancing consumer welfare.

Mrs Mukumba noted that CUTS would not shift its focus from the energy and water sectors given their level of importance both to consumers and national development.

She however, challenged consumers to desist from illegal connections and vandalism of both water and power infrastructure.

CCPC approves SABMiller takeover

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) has approved the takeover of SABMiller PLC by Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV Limited.

Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV is a multinational Belgian-Brazilian beverage and brewing company headquartered in Leuven, Belgium.

It is the world's largest brewer and has a 25 percent global market share.

CCPC Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa, said the Commission had approved the takeover of SABMiller by Anheuser-Busch Limited.

The transaction would result in a beverage giant that would be responsible for 30% of the world's beer sales.

Brands under AB InBev include Budweiser, Corona, and Beck's, while SABMiller own the Fosters, Miller and Strongbow, and many other localised brands from its subsidiaries such as Mosi and Castle in Zambia.

Mr Sampa said the Commission approved the transaction as it would not result in the substantial lessening of competition in the lagers market, ciders, opaque, traditional soft drinks and carbonated soft drinks.

SABMiller operates in Zambia through three subsidiaries namely; Zambian Breweries Plc which produces carbonated soft drinks and clear beer, Heinrich's Syndicate Limited which produces Maheu a traditional

drink and National Breweries plc which produces opaque beer.

He observed that while all of the subsidiaries of SABMiller were dominant in their respective relevant markets, this takeover in itself would not lead to the creation of a dominant position as it was taking place outside Zambia and had no effect on the structure on the markets in Zambia.

He said the respective relevant markets, with the exception of the opaque beer market, faced import competition particularly from South Africa and Namibia.

Mr Sampa further noted that the markets had barriers to entry such as high capital costs.

A total of six mergers cases have been approved in the first quarter of 2016 two of the merger cases approved were in the service sector, two in the wholesale and trade sector, and one in manufacturing and real estate each respectively.

He added that the total value of the mergers was USD61 million.

"The Board of Commissioners approved the transaction on condition that, that the parties shall continue to honour the existing agreements that the Zambian entities have entered into with local suppliers," he said.

He noted that the other condition was that parties shall ensure that no existing jobs, on both the operation and administrative side were lost by virtue of the transaction.

Be professional and diligent, CCPC boss tips employees

Zambian workers on May 1st 2016, commemorated 2016 Labour Day under the theme: *"Achieving national development through productive decent work sustainable job creation and social justice"*.

Government and labour movement officials officiated at various events that were held in different districts across the country.

The main event in Lusaka was graced by the Republican President, His Excellency Edgar Lungu, who paid glowing tribute to all workers in Zambia for their sacrifices and contributions towards the development of the country.

President Lungu said the Government would continue to focus on policies, strategies and programmes that would significantly contribute to realising employment creation, human development and broad-based pro-poor growth.

He said it was for this reason that special attention had been placed on the promotion of increased investments in infrastructure such as roads, schools and health facilities countywide.

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) also participated in celebrating this year's Labour Day commemorations.

CCPC Executive Director, Chilufya Sampa, implored members of staff to be professional and diligent in executing their duties.

Mr. Sampa noted that hardwork and professionalism contributed effectively towards improved service delivery and the development of the country.

"The role of the Commission is very important and it cannot be over-emphasised, I can only urge all of you to continue working hard and uphold professionalism," he said.

And the Commission went a step further as per usual trend to award some of the deserving member of staff for their contribution and hard-work towards the Commission's service delivery.

A total of 14 employees were awarded under the four different categories of the awards.

The awards include, most hard working category that was scooped by Twaambo Chuula, Kondwani Kaonga, Joseph Mutale and Emmanuel Zulu.

Other categories included most dedicated and was scooped by Marjory Mulenga Phiri, Justin Kinkata and Kennedy Kamau while most improved went to Mwila Zambwe, Natalie Nakazwe and Eunice Hamavhwa respectively.

Four employees were also awarded under the most honest category namely Matyola Chipapa, Prudence Bwalya, Ndinawe Mwandia and Simon Lwimba.

CCPC Showcases at Copperbelt Show

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) exhibited at the 2016 Copperbelt Mining, Agriculture and Commercial Show which was held in Kitwe.

The event took place from 1st to 5th June, 2016, under the theme **“Innovation and Diversity – the answer to energy and copper challenges”**. It was attended by various international and local businesses who exhibited their products.

For CCPC, the show was an opportunity to educate members of the public on various provisions in the Competition and Consumer Protection No. 24 of 2010 which prohibits unfair and anti-competitive trading practices on the Zambian market.

The Commission, used various channels such as radio and television programmes as well as electronic presentation to reach to the public and made them understand competition and consumer protection law.

Public announcements were also used a medium to communicate to members of the public about competition and consumer protection provisions in the Act.

Generally, the Commission officers took time to explain the content of the CCPA in relation to our mandate and objectives, and of course citing various examples of some of the key cases the Commission had handled.

The Commission shared its two major mandates being: to prevent anti-competitive conduct thereby ensuring competition and efficiency resulting in the greater choice for consumers in price, quality and service and; to ensure the interests and welfare of consumers are adequately protected in their dealings with producers and sellers.

Other aspects the Commission shared with members of the public was on restrictive business practices, price fixing, market sharing and cartels.

Further, consumer protection issues were also clearly elaborated with much emphasis on disclaimers, replacements, refunds and unfair trade practices through the distribution of CCPC brochures.

The show, which was officially opened by His Excellency the Republican President, Edgar Lungu, was characterised by colorful local and international exhibition materials.



Mines and Minerals Development Minister, Christopher Yaluma, (centre in blue suit) reading information on the CCPC Pavilion during the 2016 Copperbelt Mining, Agriculture and Commercial Show in Kitwe.

During the show, the President toured various selected stands comprising mainly of the international exhibitors before officially opening the 2016 Copperbelt, Mining and Agriculture Show.

The President opened the show with a call for local producers and manufacturers to produce products that can compete at international market, adding that this was the only way of developing a vibrant industrial driven economy that could enhance intra-regional trade between Zambia and its neighbours.

Also Minister of Mines and Minerals Development, Hon. Christopher Yaluma, MP, took time to visit the Ministry of Commerce hall and interacted with the statutory bodies.

And CCPC Director of Consumer Protection, Brian Lingela, took advantage of the Minister’s visit to the stand to explain the mandate and objectives of the Commission, and briefed him on some of the success stories the Commission was making.

The CCPC officers led by Mr Lingela also attended to various judges of various categories that visited the stand to judge on a number of various categories the Ministry had entered for judgment.

For CCPC, exhibiting at various shows has proved to be a good opportunity to reach out to the masses by educating both consumers and the business community on the importance of consumer protection and a competitive trading environment.

CCPC exhibited at the Show under the “One-Stop-Shop” concept where all

the statutory bodies under Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry (MCTI) were housed in one hall. The other statutory bodies included Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS), Zambia Development Agency (ZDA), Zambia Weights and Measures (ZWMA), the Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) and the Citizen Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC).

Apart from Mr Lingela, the Commission was also represented by Kondwani Kaonga, an Investigator (Mergers and Monopolies), Natalie Nakazwe, an Investigator (Consumer Protection) and Hanford Chaaba, the Public Relations Officer.

The Commission also took time to educate both foreign and local business houses who visited the stand about their responsibilities under the Act and disseminated information, education and communication materials to both members of the public and business community.

The drama group was also on hand to entertain and communicate consumer issues and what the Commission was doing to help both consumers and traders, and during the show period, CCPC received at least 250 people who had various questions and concerns on consumer protection related questions.

The Commission also featured on different Television and Radio programmes giving interviews, explaining its role in enhancing competition and consumer protection in Zambia.

CCPC sensitises consumers, traders in Southern Province



Southern Province CCPC Investigator, Chipapa Matyola, loading seized expired drinks from some shop at Sinazeze Market in Sinazongwe District.

Southern Province permanent Secretary, Sibanze Simuchoba, has urged the business community in the province to desist from engaging in anti-competitive and unfair trading practices.

Mr Simuchoba said both anti-competitive and unfair conducts on the market had the potential to erode consumer welfare in the country.

He said this when the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) Officers, Hanford Chaaba and Matyola Chipapa paid a courtesy call at his office during the Southern Province sensitisation tour.

During the tour, assorted expired items were seized and these included cases of assorted fizzy drinks, juices and sanitary pads as well as cosmetics and various cases of toilet tissue that was labelled in foreign language.

The exercise was conducted in 5 districts of the province namely Kalomo, Choma, Namwala and Sinazongwe's Sinazeze area where products amounting to K5, 000 were confiscated.

Mr Simuchoba said it was imperative that traders adhered to the Competition and Consumer Protection Act and other pieces of legislation that were aimed at perfecting the market, adding that businesses needed to strive to achieve optimal consumer satisfaction and protection.

He described the competition and consumer protection law as one that meant to benefit members of the general public.

Mr Simuchoba said Zambia had numerous pieces of legislation aimed at benefiting members of the public in both rural and urban areas, and commended CCPC for the initiative of taking competition and consumer protection law to members of the public in Southern Province.

He thanked CCPC for what he referred to as a “noble mandate” and challenged other consumer protection bodies and regulatory agencies to emulate CCPC by not only restricting their services to areas along the line of rail, but also consider extending them to the remotest rural areas in the country.

“CCPC should ensure that businesses account for their trade conducts and consumers should also raise to the occasion and demand better justice,” he said.

Meanwhile, Gwembe District Administrative Officer (DAO), Justus Phiri called on traders to desist from unfair trading practices by putting prices on various products and services they deal in.

Mr Phiri observed that price discrimination had become a common phenomenon for businesses across the country, adding that businesses were in habit of not putting prices for various goods and services, a situation he said made shop attendants charge prices based on the physical appearance and financial status of consumers.

He noted that commodities in

most shops did not have a single and fixed prices, as prices varied depending on who is buying, a situation he described as unfortunate.

“It is very unfortunate that two people buying a commodity in the same shop at the same time could be charged different prices because of their difference in social and economic status,” he said.

Mr Phiri described such vices as unfortunate, unfair and has since appealed to the government through consumer protection agencies such as CCPC to come up deliberate interventions of compelling businesses do display prices of goods and services.

And CCPC Public Relations Officer, Hanford Chaaba, said the Commission visited the province to sensitize traders on various competition and consumer protection provisions as outlined in the law, and also on the need to respect consumer rights in the course of their day-to-day business operations.

Mr Chaaba said it was imperative for businesses to adhere and comply with the law, adding that not doing so has far reaching consequences which could see a business being fined, prosecuted or both.

He added that the Commission visited several district to sensitise consumers about their rights and obligations, a move he said was the first step towards achieving sustainable consumer protection.

Mr Chaaba noted that a number of activities aimed at achieving such mission in province were outlined, among them giving talks

to traders at markets, schools, trade associations, meetings with traditional and civic leadership and inspection of trading places among others.

And CCPC Southern Provincial Investigator, Chipapa Matyola, highlighted the need for members of the public to be alert and report any element of unfair trading practice to the Commission, adding that failure to do so would not help in the fight towards achieving consumer protection.

He said consumers also have obligations such as demanding for a receipt after purchasing a product as well as asking for necessary information from the trader which would help them make informed decisions.



CCPC Luapula Province Investigator, Mwate Nampemba, seizing food items mainly expired drinks during the sensitisation tour of the province.

HOW TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT CCPC?

Further information about CCPC can be obtained by visiting the Commission offices.
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