IN THE HIGH COURT FOR ZAMBIA
AT THE PRINCIPAL REGISTRY
HOLDEN AT LUSAKA
(Civil Jurisdiction)

2026/HP/EP/037

IN THE MATTER OF:	**THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION PETITION FOR WUSAKILE CONSTTUENCY SITUATE IN THE KITWE DISTRICT OF THE COPPERBELT PROVINCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA HELD ON 1 3TH AUGUST 2026**
AND	
IN THE MATTER OF:	**ARTICLE 73 (1) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF ZAMBIA AS READ WITH SECTION 98 (C) OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS ACT NUMBER 35 OF 2016**
AND	
IN THE MATTER OF:	**SECTION 83 OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS ACT NO.35 OF 2016**
AND	
IN THE MATTER OF:	**SECTION 97 OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS ACT NUMBER 35 OF 2016**
AND	
IN THE MATTER OF:	**SECTIONS 98, 99 AND 100 OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS ACT NO.35 OF 2016**
AND	
IN THE MATTER OF:	**THE SCHEDULE TO THE ELECTORAL PROCESS ACT NO 35 OF 2016**
AND	
IN THE MATTER OF:	**THE ELECTORAL (CODE OF CONDUCT) REGULATIONS 2011 STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO.52 OF 2011**
AND	
IN THE MATTER OF:	**THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA ACT NO. 25 OF 2016**

BETWEEN:

KATAYI CHIBESA	**PETITIONER**
AND	
KALOBO PAVYUMA	**1ST RESPONDENT**
THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA	**2ND RESPONDENT**

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
HIGH COURT OF ZAMBIA
31 AUG 2026
PRINCIPAL REGISTRY
P.O. BOX 50067, LUSAKA.

AFFIDAVIT VERYFING FACTS IN PETITION

I, KATAYI CHIBESA of Plot No. 2509, SOS, New Chamboli, Copperbelt Province of the Republic of Zambia do hereby **MAKE OATH** and **SAY** as follows:

1. That my full names and address are as stated above.

2. That I am the Petitioner in the matter herein, thus competent to swear to the contents of this my affidavit from facts and matters that are either within my personal knowledge, in which case they are true, or have been learnt by me through perusal of documents and by discussion with my various agents in the polling stations, in which case they are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

3. That I was a candidate in the Parliamentary election for the Wusakile Constituency situate in the Kitwe District of the Copperbelt Province of the Republic of Zambia having duly filed my nomination in May, 2026, under the sponsorship of the United Party for National Development (UPND) to participate in the General Elections held on the 13th of August, 2026 for the position of Member of Parliament for Wusakile Constituency herein.

4. That I therefore believe to have a valid claim to have had a right to be elected to the position of Member of Parliament for the aforesaid constituency at the aforementioned elections.

5. That I initiate these proceedings to petition the 1st and 2nd Respondents, through this Honouarable Court, as a member of the public and as participant in the 13th August, 2026 General Elections, seeking redress of my grievances regarding the manner in which the aforesaid elections were conducted.

6. That Wusakile Parliamentary Constituency consists of six (6) Wards, namely: Wusakile, Chibote, Chamboli, Luangwa, Limaposa and Luto wards with 76 Polling Stations.

7. That the Wusakile Parliamentary Constituency is wholly in Kitwe District of the Copperbelt Province of Zambia and violence engulfed the district which affected the constituency.

8. That there were three political parties that validly filed their nominations for the said elections, namely: The United Party for National Development (UPND) whose candidate was Chibesa Katayi (male); the National Reconciliation Party for Unity and Prosperity (NRPUP) whose candidate was Pavyuma Kalobo (male); Citizens First (CF) whose candidate was Mumba Ernest (male), while two contestants validly/successfully

filed their monitions for the said elections; namely: Kamboyi Ricky (male) and Chizinga F. Noah (male).

9. That on the 17th day of August 2026 the Returning Officer Mr. Chongo Emmanuel of Kitwe District declared the 1st Respondent as duly elected Member of Parliament for the Wusakile Parliamentary Constituency.

10. The results of the Wusakile Parliamentary Elections were as follows:

i) **Pavyuma Kalobo** - NRPUP - received 17,849 votes;

ii) **Chibesa Katayi** – UPND - received 8, 836 votes;

iii) **Kamboyi Ricky**-Independent - received 1,519 votes; and

iv) **Chizinga F. Noah** Independent - received 639 votes.

v) **Mumba Ernest**-Citizens First- received -95 votes

vi) 496 ballot papers were rejected as invalid;

vii) Total number of votes cast were 29,434

11. That the above election results are as was given to me by the Council Secretary whom being an agent for the 2nd Respondent as Returning Officer.

12. That campaigns in Wusakile constituency were characterized with violence against the Petitioner and his campaign team due to the 1st Respondent's wilful and deliberate failure to comply with the timetable issued by the 2nd Respondent on campaigns when the 1st Respondent and his team went to campaign with their branded vehicles in areas where at the material time(s), the 2nd Respondent's timetable showed the Petitioner was the one supposed to be in those areas and in some instances, police reports were obtained to that effect.

13. That the election day on 13th August, 2026 was characterized with bullying and/violence, bribery, vote buying, intimidation of the voters by the 1st Respondent's known supporters who offered threats of harm against the voters if the 1st Respondent lost, according to them, like they did when he lost as an independent in the 2011 elections when he stood on MMD ticket, and others to be itemized herein below. To achieve this, the Petitioner shall say that the 1st Respondent put his boys to carry out these illegalities in Wusakile, Luangwa, Chibote, Chamboli and Limaposa wards which have the greatest number of registered voters in the whole constituency.

14. That on the election day, on 13th August, 2026, the intimidation was extended by the 1st Respondent's supporters and agents at or in some instances near the polling stations to the Petitioner's Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) accredited agents such that most of them were so frightened and left the polling stations unmanned, for fear of their lives.

15. That the election was also characterized by un accredited supporters of the 1st Respondent storming into polling stations without authority and compromising the integrity of the elections and reliability of the election results announced.

16. That where the 1st Respondent's supporters stormed into the polling stations, the Poll Staff could not control the people and exercise proper care for the ballot papers.

17. That the first respondent targeted the places where there were large numbers of registered voters.

18. That at Wusakile Secondary school where registered voters are about 5,391, the 1st Respondent and its sponsoring party NRPUP put by the gate of school, party agents who were guiding voters to vote for the 1st Respondent until they were dispersed by the police when the public complained, in breach of the electoral code of conduct.

19. That at various polling stations, on election day, the 1st Respondent and his supporters engaged in placing marks (X) against the 1st Respondent to show who to vote for on sample ballot papers put by the 2nd Respondent by the entrance to a polling station within in Wusakile Constituency.

20. That at some of the polling stations, the 1st Respondent's supporters stormed into polling station and totaling centers and interfered with the counting and compiling of results without restraint and the 2nd Respondent availed remedy to this anomaly.

21. The 1st Respondent by his agents engaged in acts of vote buying and voter manipulation by putting agents to canvas for him and the NRPUP parliamentary candidate among others when the campaign period had already been closed by ECZ and within the proscribed distance by the 2nd Respondent.

22. That further, the 1st Respondent, riding on the illegalities he perpetuated in the wards as aforesaid, announced himself as winner before 2nd Respondent could do so (and a video recording is available to that effect), in breach of the electoral code of conduct.

23. That although Chibote, Wusakile, Luangwa and Chamboli are set out as separate wards for purposes of elections administration by the 2nd Respondent, they are geographically in one area and community so much that an act of violence in one area easily affects the public to which the registered voters in all these named wards belong and the fear instilled carried on until and post the election/voting day, to the detriment of the Petitioner.

24. The particulars of the violence, bullying, bribery and intimidation are as set out below:

(a) On or about 23rd June, 2026, while campaigning in accordance with the 2nd Respondent's campaign time table, the 1st Respondent came to Chibote ward to campaign and attacked the Petitioner and his campaign team and a police report is available to that effect.

(b) On vote buying and continued campaign on election day, the 1st Respondent placed at strategic points around the polling stations in the aforesaid wards agents and party operatives to intercept, guide and bribe voters going to vote that day for the benefit of the 1st Respondent in Wusakile Constituency. The said persons were placed in the positions purely guide or compel voters to vote for the 1st Respondent by giving gifts such as pens and money to the voters in the constituency.

(c) That the 1st Respondent by his agents and NRPUP operatives also engaged in bullying and intimidation/threatening of voters who appeared to take the matter of bribery and/or vote buying lightly before and on the voting day.

(d) The 1st Respondent's supporters stormed into polling stations during the electoral process in contravention of the 2nd Respondent's electoral code of conduct.

(e) My agents were bullied and threatened by the 1st Respondent's agents and supporters at most of the polling stations where the I had left two of my polling agents each, causing them to leave the stations, for fear of their lives, unmanned.

25. That the aforesaid acts of illegalities specifically and/or particularized in the foregoing paragraphs above were widespread and affected the majority of the registered voters in the six wards which account for more than 80% of all the registered voters in Wusakile Constituency.

26. That there was widespread non-compliance, both of the Electoral Process Act and the Electoral Code of Conduct following the 1st Respondent and his sponsoring Party the NRPUP's engaging in the aforesaid

27. That the levels of malpractices during the campaign and voting period aforesaid were so high that it affected the results to my detriment.

28. That as a result of the acts of violence, bribery, intimidation of agents and voters among others by the 1st Respondent that characterized the Parliamentary election, members of general public feared for their safety in the affected areas and this compromised the quality of the elections for the Petitioners' position among others.

29. That the declared result cannot safely be said to reflect the will of the majority of people under the circumstances and cannot be accepted as such without running the danger of injustice being occasioned against me.

30. That in addition to the above on or about 13th August, 2026, before the ECZ declared any contestant for the parliamentary elections in Wusakile Constituency winner, the 1st Respondent declared himself winner based in breach of the electoral rules and regulations.

31. That the self-declaration as winner was product of the confidence gained from the aforesaid violence, bribery/vote buying and intimidation of voters among others.

32. That further, or about the 18th day of August 2026 the Returning Officer declared the 1st Respondent winner notwithstanding the request for a recount made by the Petitioner's Agent at the totaling Centre in Wusakile Constituency.

33. That this also notwithstanding, the GEN 20 form at the totaling Centre was not signed by my agents based on the failure on the part of the 2nd Respondent's agent's wen requested for the aforesaid intervention.

34. That the scale and extent of violence, intimidation and other malpractices aforesaid was so rampant and widespread on voting day and was of such unbelievable proportion that it resulted in the prevention of the majority of voters from voting for a candidate whom they preferred.

35. That the 2nd Respondent was in breach of its own rules and regulations when, by its polling staff, it neglected or refused to attend to complaints by my agents when it turned a blind eye on such legitimate concerns and complaints raised.

36. That as a result of the acts of violence and intimidation unleashed by the 1st Respondent by himself and by his agents and supporters that characterized the Parliamentary election, electorates feared for their safety and the act affected the smooth running of the electoral process and apathy among others was occasioned to my detriment.

37. That the use of bribery, obstruction of voters from entering into polling stations to cast their votes uninhibited, campaigning at Polling stations by displaying party symbols within the polling station and the surrounding vicinity on the polling day by the 1st Respondent and his NRPUP sponsoring party heavily and negatively influenced the voters not to vote for a candidate of their choice.

38. That in the circumstances, I crave the indulgence of this Honourable Tribunal to grant me the reliefs sought

39. That I depose to the contents of this my affidavit verily believing the same to be correct and true to the best of my knowledge.

SWORN by the said)
KATAYI CHIBESA)
At Lusaka this 31 day of Aug 2026)

DEPONENT

BEFORE ME: _____

COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
HIGH COURT OF ZAMBIA
CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGNAL
CLERK OF COURT
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS
P.O. BOX 50067, LUSAKA

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
HIGH COURT OF ZAMBIA
14 SEP 2026
PRINCIPAL REGISTRY 4
P.O. BOX 50067, LUSAKA.

IN THE HIGH COURT FOR ZAMBIA
AT THE PRINCIPAL REGISTRY
HOLDEN AT LUSAKA
(Civil Jurisdiction)

2026/HP/EP/037

IN THE MATTER OF:	**THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION PETITION FOR WUSAKILE CONSTTUENCY SITUATE IN THE KITWE DISTRICT OF THE COPPERBELT PROVINCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA HELD ON 1 3TH AUGUST 2026**
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AND IN THE MATTER OF:	**THE SCHEDULE TO THE ELECTORAL PROCESS ACT NO 35 OF 2016**
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AND IN THE MATTER OF:	**THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA ACT NO. 25 OF 2016**

BETWEEN:

KATAYI CHIBESA	**PETITIONER**
AND	
KALOBO PAVYUMA	**1ST RESPONDENT**
THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA	**2ND RESPONDENT**

CERTIFICATE OF EXHIBITS

I certify that the exhibits marked **"KC/1"** to **"KC/6"** in the affidavit sworn by one **KATAYI CHIBESA** hereto are true copies of the originals.

Dated the_____ day of _____ 2026

BEFORE ME: _____
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
HIGH COURT OF ZAMBIA
14 SEP 2026
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS
P.O. BOX 50067, LUSAKA

'KC/1C'



24 JUN 2026

CamScanner

"KC/1b"



24 JUN 2016

CamScanner

"KC/1a"



ONE ZAMBIA ONE NATION

ZAMBIA POLICE SERVICE
WUSAKILE POLICE STATION
24 JUN 2026
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 20203 KITWE

"KC/2"

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

ZAMBIA POLICE SERVICE
WUSAKILE POLICE STATION

28th August, 2026

The Chairperson

United Party for National Development (UPND)

Kitwe

RE: POLICE REPORT O.B NUMBERS 4296/2022 AND 4585/2026

I refer to your request for a police report to facilitate the processing of an election petition before the Court of Law. The request was presented by M/Shadrick Mutale, aged 39 years, of House No. 2604, New Chamboli Township, Kitwe, who is a Personal Assistant to M/Chibesa Katayi, a Parliamentary Candidate under the United Party for National Development (UPND) in the recently concluded elections.

Be informed that a report of Malicious Damage to Property was made by M/Evaristo Musonda, aged 36 years, of House No. D5, Wusakile Township, Kitwe, occupation Driver, who reported on behalf of the UPND that unknown persons believed to be members of the National Resolution Party attacked UPND cadres with stones while they were putting up campaign materials. In the process, a Toyota Quantum Motor Vehicle Registration No. AOB 3838, branded with UPND campaign posters, was damaged. The vehicle sustained damage to the rear left tail lamp and the upper left side body panel. The incident occurred on 13th June 2026 at about 22:00 hours, opposite the Showgrounds in Kitwe.

Acting on the report, a docket was opened and investigations were instituted. To date, no arrests have been made because the motor vehicle used by the suspected perpetrators was not identified, making it difficult for the police to trace and apprehend them. Investigations into the matter are, however, still ongoing.

The second report was made on 23rd June 2026 for the offence of Conduct Likely to Cause a Breach of the Peace. The report was lodged by M/Brian Mulenga, aged 47 years, of House No. 1208, Mukuba Natwange, Kitwe, on behalf of the UPND. He reported that a group of individuals believed to be members of the National Resolution Party for Unity and Prosperity (NRPUP) conducted themselves in a manner likely to disrupt public peace while UPND members were conducting a road show. The incident occurred on 23rd June 2026 at about 15:00 hours near Wusakile Local Court in Kitwe District.

Following the report, a docket was opened and investigations were conducted. Three suspects, namely Charles Kabwita, Charles Silomba, and Yaya Shawa, believed to be members of the National Resolution Party, were subsequently arrested for Conduct Likely to Cause a Breach of the Peace arising from their conduct during the campaign period on a day allocated for UPND campaign activities. The suspects later paid Admission of Guilt fines and were released. The matter was thereafter disposed of in accordance with the law.

Attached hereto are:

- A copy of the request letter from the UPND Party.
- Three (03) Admission of Guilt receipts.
- A copy of the campaign timetable.

NORAH KANYIKA

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION OFFICER (C.I.O)

"KC/4a"

4692

KITWE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL REGISTRY
21 AUG 2026
RECEIVED
P.O.BOX 20070 KITWE

20th August, 2026

The District Electoral Officer,

Kitwe District Council
Copperbelt Province

The Provincial Electoral Officer,

Copperbelt Provincial Administrative Office
Ndola.

Dear Sirs,

Re: **Correction of Mistakes Occasioned at the Wusakile Constituency Totaling Centre-Failure to Entertain a Complaint concerning a recount at the Totaling Centre – Katayi Chibesa**

We the undersigned have been retained to act, as we now do, for Mr. Katayi Chibesa who was parliamentary candidate in the 2026 General Elections under the UPND political party for the Wusakile Constituency in the Kitwe District of the Copperbelt Province of Zambia, with instructions to demand as we hereinafter do.

Our client informs us that his request to lodge a complaint for a recount as provided for under section 70 of the Electoral Process Act No. 35 of 2016 was never entertained. That instead, the agent, Mr. Michael Mungule was advised to contact your office over this complaint raised at the constituency totaling Centre in Wusakile aforesaid in contravention of the electoral process rules.

The Returning Officer for ECZ excused this failure on lack of a complaint form in which our client could enter by his agent his Complaint for a recount to be had.

Our client further informs us that this request was necessitated by the fact that his agents were threated, in most if not all of the respective poling districts in Wusakile constituency, by the Jerabos and their boys who were supporting the opposition at the material time. This caused our client's polling agents not to be able to monitor the counting of the election results in most of the said polling districts due to fear of the promise of harm to be occasioned against them, should their (the said Jerabos and their boys) threats not be heeded.

On account of the failure to entertain the said complaint for a recount, the said Mr. Mungule and his other accredited colleagues could not sign the Gen 20 for the totaling Centre at Wusakile aforesaid on behalf of our client herein or at all.

We thus have our client's instructions to demand, as we now do, that you immediately cause this mistake to be corrected in keeping with the provisions of section 76 of the Electoral Process Act No. 35 of 2016 which grants you power to entertain this application for purposes of curing the mistake made by your agents in the process of tabulation of results.

That in doing so, we supported by the said provision which in our view empowers you to take such corrective measure even in a case where you unilaterally identify the error without any complaint lodged by a party affected.

We shall not be constrained to commence legal proceedings against inter-alia the Electoral Commission herein to further protect our client's interests, should you show any tardiness in applying any corrective measures demanded for herein in accordance with the law. For any avoidance of doubt, the mistake needing your correction as demanded for is for you to afford our client a recount of election ballots cast in the Wusakile Parliamentary Elections during last week's General Elections.

We thus call upon you to govern yourselves accordingly to avoid any further escalations of matters that can well be resolved using the very clear provisions of the law as espoused above.

We hope to hear from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

L. M. Chikuta Legal Practitioners

Cc: Client

KITWE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL REGISTRY
21 AUG 2026
RECEIVED
P.O.BOX 20070 KITWE

Received by: _____ Date: _____ Sign: _____

"KC/4b"



20th August, 2026

The District Electoral Officer,

Kitwe District Council
Copperbelt Province

The Provincial Electoral Officer,

Copperbelt Provincial Administrative Office
Ndola.

Dear Sirs,

Re: **Correction of Mistakes Occasioned at the Wusakile Constituency Totaling Centre-Failure to Entertain a Complaint concerning a recount at the Totaling Centre – Katayi Chibesa**

We the undersigned have been retained to act, as we now do, for Mr. Katayi Chibesa who was parliamentary candidate in the 2026 General Elections under the UPND political party for the Wusakile Constituency in the Kitwe District of the Copperbelt Province of Zambia, with instructions to demand as we hereinafter do.

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We thus have our client's instructions to demand, as we now do, that you immediately cause this mistake to be corrected in keeping with the provisions of section 76 of the Electoral Process Act No. 35 of 2016 which grants you power to entertain this application for purposes of curing the mistake made by your agents in the process of tabulation of results.

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We thus call upon you to govern yourselves accordingly to avoid any further escalations of matters that can well be resolved using the very clear provisions of the law as espoused above.

We hope to hear from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

L. M. Chikuta Legal Practitioners

Cc: Client

Received by: S. G. Musaka Date: 21/08/21 Sign: _____

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
21 AUG 2021
PROVINCIAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER
COPPERBELT PROVINCE
P.O. BOX 71017, NDOLA

KC/5

Rabecca Nchima
97 Luangwa
Cell
Position Poll staff

To Returning Officer Wusakile Constituency
Reff: Conplaint Concerning an incident at the polling Station. Luanshimba 01

I. Rabecca Nchima, A polling staff member at Nkana Primary school, polling station wusakile constituency Luanshimba 01, I wish to formally report an incident that Occured On (Date) 13th August 2026.

During the Voting process I Observed that a Certain Political party named (NRPUP) they were Outside the school gate Where they were Intimidating the Voters telling them to Vote for they preffered Candidate (NRPUP) And also giving them Money and pen. Imidiatly I notified the presiding Office. We engaged the Police Officer. luckly enough the police came and Chased them unfortunary they came back, Approximate 16:00hrs upto 18:00hrs the time that we Closed the p They where Making ~~Commos that~~ Commosions and th wanted to Count the ballot papers Intimidating th poll staff.

On 14th August I notified the retaining Office a I asked for Complate form but unfortunatly he did

I believe this matter should be investigated because it may have effected the Smooth and Ordery Conduct of the electoral Process

I Respectfully request that the appropriate authority loo into this matter and take the necessary action in accordan with the applicable electoral procedures.

Yours faithfully
RABECCA NCHIMA
POSITION: POLL STAFF
POLLING STATION: LWANSHIMBA 01 WUSAKILE CONSTITUCY
CONTACT NUMBER
0978123479/0962735655.

"KC/6"

GEN 20b
[Regulation 50(2)]
(complete in triplicate)

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA

THE Electoral Process Act, 2016

(Act No. 35 of 2016)

The Electoral Process (General) Regulation, 2021

DECLARATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE POLL - Member of Parliament

I, Chongo Emmanuel being the Returning Officer for WUSAKILE Constituency, KITWE District, do hereby declare that I have, inaccordance with the law, ascertained the results of the poll in the said constituency and that they have been given to:

Name of Candidate	Political Party	Votes	Votes (in words)
KALOBO Pavyuma	NRPUP	17,849	Seventeen Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-Nine
CHIBESA Katayi	UPND	8,836	Eight Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-Six
KAMBOYI Ricky	IND	1,519	One Thousand Five Hundred and Nineteen
CHIZINGA F Noah	IND	639	Six Hundred and Thirty-Nine
MUMBA Ernest	CF	95	Ninety-Five

I further declare that a total of 498 ballot papers have been rejected as invalid and that a total of 29,434 Votes were cast.

I therefore declare that the said KALOBO Pavyuma to be this day duly elected as Member of Parliament for WUSAKILE Constituency.

Dated this 17 day of August, 2026

Signature: .....

Witnessed by:

Name	Organisation	Signature	Name	Organisation	Signature
JULIUS KALOBO	NRPUP				
ISAAC A. ZULU	CAF				
PHILLIMAN	NRPUP				
BARDATH	SEARS				

1. This form must be completed in sufficient quantities to give one copy to each candidate or their polling agent by the Returning Officer. The Returning Officer must read out aloud the text from the original to the public at the place where the totalling of the votes takes place.
2. The full names of the candidates, party and votes received in figures and words must be inserted in the columns above, with the successful candidate's name at no. 1.
3. The original of this form must be delivered to the Electoral Commission of Zambia by the quickest possible means and a copy must be retained by the Returning Officer.