



THE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES MONITORING GROUP CONCERNED BY THE LACK OF
REFORM AGENDA ROAD MAP AND BOUNDARY DELIMINATION REPORT
PUBLICATION

PRESS RELEASE

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(For Immediate Release)

On 17 January 2022 Minister of Justice Mr. Mulambo Haimbe was quoted in the media announcing that Government had started receiving submissions from stakeholders for the constitutional review process. Almost four months later, the Christian Churches Monitoring Group (CCMG) is greatly concerned by that there is still no clear road map for constitutional, electoral and legislative reform agenda.

Zambia's current constitution remains susceptible to regular alteration and politicization, and controversy. Government should therefore guide in an open and transparent manner when and how the constitutional, electoral and legislative reform processes will be undertaken. CCMG calls on government through the Minister of Justice to make available a road map for reform, inform the public where submissions for the various constitutional, electoral and legislative reforms should be directed and embark on a broad-based consultation process to enhance participation in such processes and further the reform agenda to serve the interest of the people of Zambia.

CCMG calls on the government to pay particular attention to recommendations from various citizen monitoring groups and international election observers in view of constitutional and legislative reforms the management of elections. The constitution in its current state has various clauses affecting the principles of equity, inclusivity and transparency in the electoral process.

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Boundary delimitation is one of the most important activities in the electoral process as it defines the way voters will be divided across the country as well as where each voter votes from. Delimitation also helps to inform number of local government seats at councilor level, therefore a comprehensive report on how the country is divided or proposed to be divided remains very important. As such, CCMG further calls on government to immediately release the Boundary Delimitation Report of the 2019 boundary delimitation exercise for stakeholders and the general public to appreciate proposals made, especially in view of the reforms that will be made to create additional constituencies.

“We urge the government to immediately release a clear reform road map that provides the nation with an understanding of the reforms targeted to strengthen our democracy and how we as citizens will participate and be consulted. In light of the critical role boundary delimitation plays in representation and equity for the country’s voters, we also ask the government to move with haste to ensure the long-delayed public release of the 2019 Boundary Delimitation Report,” said Fr Alex Muyebe, CCMG Spokesperson.

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