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## WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (WARMA)

### PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

25 MARCH 2022

### WARMA ESTABLISHES SERVICE LINKAGES TO CHIPATA OF EASTERN PROVINCES

The Water Resources Management Authority (WARMA) has opened an office in Chipata of Eastern Province, under Luangwa Catchment. The Authority is responding to the government's aspiration of establishing a presence in various parts of the country to improve service delivery. WARMA's vision through this gesture is to bring quality service delivery closer to all water users. The opening of a new office in Chipata will reposition WARMA as an authority safeguarding water resources and the environment.

From inception, the aim of WARMA to deliver on its mandate has been to reach full staff complement. This means, expanding its presence and reaching out to all areas in Zambia with the view of improving service delivery. The Authority is responding to the high demand for water resources regulation services in the earmarked areas. We are extending our presence in order to be available for prompt public access and to allow us to respond to various complaints and institute a positive response to the needs of all water users.

Eastern Province has experienced development in the usage of water resources. Further, the province has intensified economic activities that demand the usage of water. This, therefore, is the drive for WARMA to respond to such needs and regulate water usage. WARMA places a premium on the domestic and noncommercial usage of water as well as farming activities among others that require safeguarding. The Authority has seen increased water use without permit and registration, both domestic and commercial water users. Further, we have not been able to capture all water users for regulation because of being far away from such centers of production.

With this gesture, WARMA expects heightened awareness and appreciation of our products and services among water users in Eastern Province and the entire catchment. We expect increased adherence to permit conditions by water users. The Authority also expects compliance from all registered drillers for a better public service provision. Our speedy and timely processing of licenses will be improved in the new area because inspections will be conducted timely by our team on the ground. Our presence in Eastern Province will improve stakeholder engagement in the water sector as well as collaboration and partnership on activities that will enhance service delivery.

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