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WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (WARMA)

PRESS STATEMENT For Immediate Release 19TH APRIL 2024

REF: FLOODING IN MPULUNGU AND NSAMA DISTRICTS DUE TO WATER LEVEL RISE IN LAKE TANGANYIKA

The Water Resources Management Authority (WARMA) has observed rising water levels in Lake Tanganyika which are likely to cause flooding in some areas of Mpulungu and Nsama Districts. The areas which are likely to be affected include Mpulungu Harbour, Kasaba Bay, Nsumbu Bay, Nkamba Bay, Chituta Bay, Mbetete Bay and other areas along the shoreline. The rise in the Lake water levels are due to intense rainfall received in the Northern parts of Zambia.

The Authority has observed that the water levels in Lake Tanganyika have exceeded the long-term average. The highest Lake water level of **4.36m** which was recorded in **1964** has been exceeded by **0.53m** as of 12th April, 2024, reaching a record high of **4.89m**. Furthermore, the Lake water levels are still rising and it is anticipated that the peak will be reached by June, 2024.

Members of the public using the Lake and settlers along the lake shorelines in the affected areas are advised to be on high alert and possibly move upland as the Lake levels are still on the rise.

As part of its mandate to carry out flood and drought forecasting in accordance with the Water Resources Management Act No. 21 of 2011, the Authority will continue to monitor the Lake water levels and will keep the public informed of any changes in the situation.

Issued By:

**Frank C. Nyoni (Mr.)
ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL**