

Sunday, Lusaka (13th August, 2023)



CEJ APPLAUDS GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS IN TRANSFORMING CHUNGA LANDFILL

Centre for Environment Justice - CEJ has commended Government for allocating 33 million Kwacha for the comprehensive rehabilitation of the Chunga Landfill in Lusaka, a critical solid waste disposal site, and the procurement of much-needed equipment.

CEJ Head of Research and Studies Freeman Mubanga says the development is a forward-thinking move which reflects the government's commitment to environmental sustainability.

He said the move further sets an inspiring example for responsible waste management across the nation.

Mr. Mubanga said the Chunga Landfill, located on the outskirts of Lusaka, has long been a cause for concern due to its impact on both the environment and public health.

He said over the years, the landfill has been accumulating waste, contributing to air and water pollution, and posing significant health risks to nearby communities.

The CEJ Head of Research and Studies, however, said the recent allocation of funds underscores a new era in waste management, focusing on the holistic transformation of the landfill into a more environmentally friendly and sustainable site.

"This allocation of funds demonstrates the Zambian government's proactive stance toward addressing environmental challenges. By investing in the rehabilitation of the Chunga Landfill and the acquisition of essential equipment, they are not only mitigating the adverse impacts on the environment but also enhancing the overall quality of life for the people of Zambia," he said.

Mr. Mubanga said the funds will be utilized to implement several crucial initiatives, including Landfill Rehabilitation.

"The allocated funds will be used to modernize and improve waste containment systems, ensuring that waste is safely contained and reducing the risk of contamination," he said.

Mr. Mubanga said the funds will also go towards the purchase of modern waste collection, sorting, and disposal equipment will enhance efficiency and reduce the negative impacts of waste on the environment.

"The funds should facilitate comprehensive monitoring systems to track air and water quality around the landfill, ensuring that any potential impacts are detected and addressed promptly," he said.

Mr. Mubanga said a portion of the funds should be dedicated to community engagement and awareness programs, fostering a sense of responsibility among citizens for proper waste disposal and environmental stewardship.

"As CEJ, we laud the government's commitment to creating a healthier and more sustainable Zambia. We encourage ongoing collaboration between governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, and local communities to ensure the success of this initiative," he said.

Mr. Mubanga said the government's decision to invest in the rehabilitation of the Chunga Landfill aligns with global efforts to reduce waste and promote sustainable development.

"As countries worldwide grapple with the challenges of waste management, Zambia's proactive approach sets an example for responsible environmental stewardship. CEJ, therefore, commends the Zambian government's bold step in allocating funds for the transformation of the Chunga Landfill and remains committed to supporting and monitoring the progress of this initiative," he said.

Issued By: CEJ Communications Unit

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