Friday, Solwezi (15th March, 2024)



## **BUSH FIRES POLLUTING MORE THAN MINES - FQM**

First Quantum Minerals -FQM- Country Manager Godwin Beene says uncontrolled bush fire in Zambia contributes more carbon emissions into the atmosphere than mining.

Dr. Beene has since called on Zambians to take President Hakainde Hichilema's stance on Bush fires seriously as it impacts negatively on ecosystems.

He said FQM is working tirelessly to maintain a forest canopy in North Western Province, devoid of bush fires.

This came to light at a Traditional Leaders Caucus on Ending Forest Fires, organised by Centre for Environment Justice -CEJ- in Solwezi District, North Western Province.

Meanwhile, Centre for Environment Justice -CEJ- Board Member, Boniface Mumba, said forests are important as they provide people with medicine, wood fuel, timber and forest products.

And Solwezi Mayor, Remmy Kalepa, who represented North Western Province Permanent Secretary Col. Grandson Katambi (Retired), said the wanton destruction of forests must stop because of the impact on biodiversity.

Among the Chiefs in attendance was Dr. Chief Mumena of Kalumbila District, Senior Chief Sailunga, Chief Kakoma (Representative) as well as Chief Ntambu all from Mwinilunga District.

Others are Chief Lumpuma of Lufwanyama District, Chief Musaka, Chief Mulonga (Representative), Senior Chief Kalilele (Representative) and Chieftainess Chikola of Mushindamo District and Chief Kapijimpanga (Representative) of Solwezi District.

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