



SPEECH BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA MRS MWANGALA ZALOUMIS SC, DURING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 70 NEW CONSTITUENCIES, 16TH APRIL 2026, MULUNGUSHI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE, LUSAKA

Good morning fellow citizens,

We are delighted that you are joining us today at this momentous occasion as the country makes a significant landmark in our constitutional and electoral process.

Today, the Electoral Commission of Zambia announces the names of the 70 new constituencies that will form part of Zambia's democratic architecture ahead of the August 2026 General Election and beyond. This announcement is not the beginning of the journey. It is the culmination of a national electoral process rooted in law, informed by citizen participation, and guided by transparency, inclusivity and impartiality.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me begin where this journey started:

In December 2025, the Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Act No. 13 of 2025 was enacted to, among other things, increase the number of Constituency based seats from 156 to 226. These reforms created the legal basis for the creation of additional constituencies. It also placed a solemn responsibility on the Electoral Commission of Zambia to undertake delimitation in a manner that is constitutional, transparent and impartial.

The Commission did not rush to conclusions, instead, it opened the process to the people.

In February 2026, the Commission launched the delimitation exercise and set out the national roadmap. Consultations were conducted in all 116 districts of Zambia. In these consultations, stakeholders identified issues related to delimitation such as surface area, remoteness, accessibility, geography, community cohesiveness, population growth, history and the practical challenges of representation.

After the district sittings, the process culminated into the provincial sittings beginning in Southern Province in March, 2026. At these meetings district reports were received, and subjected to further scrutiny by various provincial stakeholders. This pattern was replicated across the country, province by province.

There was an overwhelming turnout and interest in both the district and provincial sittings.

In determining the 70 constituencies, the Commission was guided by the factors as outlined in the Constitution which place a duty on the Commission to consider the history, diversity and cohesiveness of communities; population density, trends and projections; geographical features; means of communication; the need to keep constituencies within districts; and the need to pursue approximate equality of population while still protecting adequate representation for urban and sparsely populated areas. Those are the principles that guided the Commission.

The final determination of the constituencies to be announced today is drawn from the analysis of those district and provincial submissions.

Distinguished Stakeholders,

In making this announcement, this process endeavours to improve representation by bringing leadership closer to the people and respond to changing settlement patterns including population growth.

As a Commission, we are aware that there has been expectation, anxiety, and deliberate misinformation of the process.

I now wish to make it crystal clear that no district or province was pre-allocated a fixed number of constituencies before the consultative process was concluded. Claims to the contrary are false and misleading. The Commission is on record as

having publicly rejected such claims, reaffirming its commitment to transparency, accountability, and adherence to established legal and procedural frameworks.

Distinguished Stakeholders

I wish to remind you that never in the history of this great nation has there been an occasion where so many constituencies were delimited at once. Let me remind you the history of delimitation in this country from independence to date:

At independence there were 75 constituencies.

In 1968 the constituencies were increased by 30 to 105.

In 1973 the constituencies were increased by 20 to 125.

In 1991, there was another increase by 25 making a total of 150.

In 2014, six constituencies were added through the creation of six districts which became effective in 2016.

This is unprecedented. This is a feat which the nation should celebrate.

Today's outcome may not meet every expectation. That is understandable. Delimitation is never an exercise in satisfying every demand especially that we only have an additional 70 constituencies against a total number 116 districts countrywide. It is an exercise of balancing legitimate expectations against constitutional criteria. Some areas are large and remote. Some are densely populated while others are difficult to access. Some require equality to be balanced with practicality. The Commission had to weigh all these realities carefully.

As we announce these 70 new constituencies, let us remember that democracy is strongest when representation grows with the people, when institutions work within the law, and when national decisions are explained honestly and accepted peacefully.

It's now my singular honour to announce the 70 new constituencies and these are:

1. Central Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Chibombo	Keembe West
2.	Chisamba	Mwomboshi
3.	Kabwe	Bwacha South
4.	Kapiri Mposhi	Kapiri Mposhi West
5.	Mkushi	Mkushi South
6.	Mumbwa	Mumbwa West
7.	Serenje	Nkundalila
8.	Shibuyunji	Mwembezi West

2. Copperbelt Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Chililabombwe	Konkola
2.	Chingola	Chingola West
3.	Kalulushi	Chambishi
4.	Lufwanyama	Lufwanyama East
5.	Masaiti	Kalalangabo
6.	Mpongwe	Mpongwe East
7.	Ndola	Dag Hammerskjoeld

3. Eastern Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Chadiza	Chadiza East
2.	Chama	Chama Central
3.	Chasefu	Chasefu North
4.	Chipangali	Chipangali West
5.	Chipata	Chipata North
6.	Lumezi	Lumezi South
7.	Lusangazi	Lusangazi Central
8.	Mambwe	Malambo West
9.	Nyimba	Nyimba North

4. Luapula Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Chienge	Kalungwishi
2.	Chifunabuli	Chifunabuli North
3.	Kawambwa	Luongo
4.	Mansa	Mansa East
5.	Nchelenge	Mweru

5. Lusaka Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Chilanga	Chilanga North
2.	Chongwe	Chongwe West
3.	Kafue	Kafue East
4.	Lusaka	Makeni
5.	Lusaka	Roma
6.	Lusaka	Lima

6. Muchinga Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Chinsali	Chilinda
2.	Isoka	Nkombwa
3.	Kanchibiya	Lwitikila
4.	Mafinga	Mafinga South
5.	Mpika	Mpika South
6.	Nakonde	Mwanzo

7. Northern Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Kaputa	Kundabwika
2.	Kasama	Kasama North
3.	Luwingu	Luwingu Central
4.	Mbala	Saise
5.	Mpulungu	Mpulungu South
6.	Mungwi	Mpanda

8. North Western Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Kabompo	Kabompo West
2.	Kalumbila	Lumwana
3.	Kasempa	Mufwashi
4.	Mufumbwe	Dongwe
5.	Mwinilunga	Mwinilunga East
6.	Solwezi	Solwezi North
7.	Zambezi	Zambezi Central

9. Southern Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Choma	Choma South
2.	Itezhi-Tezhi	Itezhi-Tezhi West
3.	Kalomo	Kalomo South
4.	Kazungula	Kazungula North
5.	Livingstone	Maramba
6.	Mazabuka	Magoye West
7.	Monze	Monze East
8.	Namwala	Namwala East
9.	Sinazongwe	Kariba

10. Western Province

No.	District	New Constituency
1.	Kalabo	Kalabo South
2.	Luampa	Luampa West
3.	Lukulu	Lukulu South
4.	Mongu	Mongu East
5.	Senanga	Senanga North
6.	Sesheke	Sesheke West
7.	Shangombo	Shangombo North

And here is the summary of the provincial allocation:

Province	Current No. of Constituencies	No. of New Constituencies	Total No. of Constituencies
Central	15	8	23
Copperbelt	22	7	29
Eastern	20	9	29
Luapula	15	5	20
Lusaka	12	6	18
Muchinga	8	6	14
Northern	13	6	19
North Western	12	7	19
Southern	20	9	29
Western	19	7	26
Total	156	70	226

It is the Commission's hope that the announcement we have made today shall strengthen confidence, deepen inclusion and reaffirm that in Zambia, constitutionalism remains the foundation of our democracy. Let us all be counted into Zambia's democratic architecture starting with 2026 General Election.

I thank you.