



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

In reply please quote:.....

MOA/101/8/34

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

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8<sup>th</sup> August, 2020

Ms. Mary M. Monyau  
Country Manager  
African Development Bank  
Zambia Country Office  
Atlasmara House  
**LUSAKA**

**RE: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM  
GAFSP TOWARDS THE ZAMBIA FOOD CRISIS TO COVID-19**

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The Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Ministry of Finance is spearheading a country – sectorial response to the devastating COVID-19 disease pandemic. Efforts are therefor, being made to mobilise resources country-wide to support this cause.

Agriculture remains a major source of food security, income, employment and livelihoods in the six Agriculture Productivity and Market Enhancement Project (APMEP) districts. However, the COVID-19 global pandemic is causing severe food supply crisis among the poor and vulnerable households in rural areas because of interruption of food systems and high prices due to increased demand for food, movement restrictions and floods. Therefore, without the food response intervention, the sustainability of APMEP gains are under threat as people begin to adopt destructive coping mechanisms such as charcoal burning and deforestation.

In this regard, the Ministry of Agriculture would like to submit to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP), through the African Development Bank a request for additional resources from GAFSP to make available USD2,026,301.09 to purchase agricultural inputs and other materials to mitigate and boost food security in COVID-19 affected areas of the project.

The proposed budget will significantly enhanced current response to the pandemic and will strengthen the resilience and mitigation of Project outputs against COVID-19.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Michael Z.J. Katambo', with a horizontal line drawn through it.

Michael Z.J Katambo, MP

**MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE**