

RSZ donates tonnage for flood-hit areas in Zambia

1,000 tonnes worth US\$100,000 to transport flood-relief goods to the victims

1st February 2008...

The Railway Systems of Zambia, in line with its ongoing commitment towards community well-being and development, has donated **1,000 tonnes** of freight estimated at **US\$100,000** to support the efforts of the Government and other organizations in providing flood relief to the victims in the flood parts of Zambia. The capacity can be used on the RSZ railway line in Zambia as well as its NLPI sister companies' railway network in Zimbabwe starting from Beit Bridge.

This generous donation will be used to transport various flood-relief goods, basic provisions, equipment and materials to the people affected due to the floods in the Central, Copperbelt, Eastern, Lusaka and Southern Provinces of Zambia. **“We believe that natural disasters such as floods are a national crisis and we as a responsible corporate citizen have always come forward to share our responsibility to mitigate the impact of such calamities”,** said **Charles Phiri, Executive Manager Corporate Affairs of RSZ,** expressing deep concern for the those affected by floods.

The losses due to floods in Zambia have been estimated at billions of kwacha and the Government has been actively involved in mitigating the effects of the ravages of the floods. These include setting up a task force committee to oversee the unblocking of drainage systems in townships and sending food, clothes, medical supplies, tents, and money to the Southern Province, one of the worst hit flood areas in the country.

In addition to the 1,000 tones, RSZ has also contributed 3,330 liters of diesel worth

K20 million, to assist the Government's efforts in transporting relief goods to the affected areas.

“Relief donations and volunteerism are a way to substantiate the efforts of many who have taken upon themselves to help the families recover from the losses due to heavy floods. I join all in appealing for more support to help our fellow Zambians in times of need”, he added.

The Railways Systems of Zambia has a long-standing commitment to the community in which it operates and has since extended this support further across the country. This commitment to the community continues in 2008 as the company expects to set aside over K700 million on various support and developmental activities. RSZ will soon make a multi-million kwacha contribution for a social project to support local employment in the Chipulukusu Township in Ndola.

RSZ is also a key partner of the Government and participates and funds national programmes such as Labour Day and Independence Day celebration support at its headquarters in Kabwe.