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Railway Firm Operations under Review

Operations of the Railway System of Zambia (RSZ) are being reviewed in an exercise that may lead to a review of the concession agreement.

Ministry of Communications and Transport Director for Planning and information, Nelson Nyangu revealed this in Lusaka yesterday at a workshop on financing of large infrastructure projects organised by the World Bank.

Mr Nyangu said Government was in the process of reviewing the Railway Act to make it responsive to demands of the industry.

He said Government was concerned about the state of the railway sector in the country.

Mr Nyangu said the railway sector had continued to play a dominant role in Zambia's economic development and was conveniently the major carrier of bulk cargo.

He said the railway sector was an important mode of transport for Zambia's international trade.

Mr Nyangu said Zambia and Tanzania were exploring possibilities of inviting private sector participation in TAZARA.

He called on the private sector to invest in the railway sector.

Mr Nyangu said the railway projects identified included a line between Solwezi and Chingola. TAZARA, one to Mpulungu port, the extension of the Mulobezi Railway to connect the Namibian railway system and the Walvis Bay – Livingstone–Lusaka–Ndola to Lubumbashi corridor.

Commenting on air transport, Mr Nyangu said Government intended to transform the department of Civil Aviation into an autonomous authority.

