



TOBACCO BOARD OF ZAMBIA

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CIRCULAR 7/2019

31st January, 2019

- TO :
- ALL TOBACCO GROWERS IN ZAMBIA
 - ALL TOBACCO BUYING COMPANIES IN ZAMBIA
 - ALL TOBACCO SPONSORS
 - ALL AUCTION AND SALES FLOOR MANAGERS
 - ALL TOBACCO GRADERS
 - ALL TOBACCO PROCESSORS AND MANUFACTURERS
 - ALL MEMBERS OF STAFF
 - ALL PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURE COORDINATORS
 - ALL DISTRICT AGRICULTURE COORDINATORS

PROGRESS ON THE TOBACCO GROWERS' REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018/2019 SEASON- TOBACCO GROWERS STATUS

PREAMBLE

Tobacco Board of Zambia (TBZ) together working with some Stakeholders has been developing an **Integrated Data Information Management System** for use by Tobacco Board of Zambia and interested Industry Stakeholders will have access to the System. The primary objective of the Integrated Data Information System is to aid the efficient and effective farmer registration, tobacco production and marketing processes. The phase 1 of the Integrated Information Data Management System is complete. Phase 1 focused on electronic farmer registration and linking the registration information to tobacco marketing at the Sales Floors. Working in collaboration with Sales Floor Managers, the system will be applied at all designated Sales Floors during the 2019 selling season.

NUMBER OF FARMERS REGISTERED SO FAR

Tobacco Board of Zambia is happy to report to all stakeholders that as at 31st January, 2019, 8,000 tobacco growers have been registered in the system. The registered growers will be issued with Grower Registration Cards encrypted with Barcodes that will be used during the marketing of tobacco. At the point of marketing the tobacco, the growers shall present the Card that will be scanned for

All correspondence should be addressed to the Board Secretary

identification of the Grower, the quantities produced, the area tobacco was produced from and the sponsor of the tobacco. The purpose of this information is to promote orderly marketing whilst at the same time curtailing the vices of side marketing and tobacco vending, which in the past have rendered tobacco marketing chaotic.

From the 8.000 tobacco growers registered so far, and based on the information as derived from the Integrated Data information Management System, the projected quantities of tobacco for 2018/2019 stands at **18 million kilograms as at 31st January, 2019**. Tobacco Board of Zambia expects this figure to increase as more growers are registered.

PROGRESS ON THE ISSUANCE OF TOBACCO GROWERS CARD

As at 31st January, 2019, a total of 5,000 (Five thousand) Cards have been printed. The issuance of Tobacco Growers Cards will commence immediately starting with Central Province to be followed by Eastern province and to the rest of other regions. The Tobacco Growers Cards will be issued to **duly registered** growers of tobacco, whose registration would have been validated by physical inspection of their tobacco fields by the TBZ Inspectors dotted in the tobacco growing areas working in partnership with Tobacco sponsoring Companies.

EXTENSION OF THE REGISTRATION PERIOD

Out of the expected about 17, 000 Growers only 8,000 have been captured in the system to date. As this is the first year that this system is being implemented, and to ensure that all the 17,000 tobacco growers are registered, Tobacco Board of Zambia wishes to announce that the registration of Tobacco Growers has further been extended and will continue through the month of February 2019.

Tobacco Board of Zambia further wish to encourage all Tobacco Growers to register in order to be given the Grower Registration Card. **No Tobacco will be laid on an designated sales floor without validation through the Grower Registration Card.** Furthermore, No Tobacco Movement Permit will be issued to any Grower without the Grower Registration Card.

DEMONSTRATION ON HOW THE SYSTEM WILL OPERATE

Tobacco Board of Zambia wish to announce that Stakeholder meetings in the respective tobacco growing regions will be held to demonstrate how the new system will work during marketing. Therefore, we shall in due course before the opening of the 2019 marketing season, announce the dates for stakeholder meetings in the regions to demonstrate how the system will operate during marketing. Meetings will also be held with all Sales Floor Managers on the system and how it will operate to ensure smooth implementation of the system.

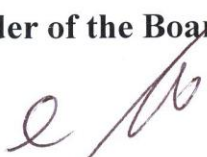
ANNOUNCEMENTS ON COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS

Following the publication of this circular (Circular 7), all Regional Tobacco Inspectors are directed to start announcing through Community Radio Stations the content of this Circular 7. And Immediately the Registration Cards for your respective regions arrive, announce the dates when you will be in various respective areas to validate the growers and to issue the Grower Registration Cards.

OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE OF THE GROWER REGISTRATION CARD

We wish to announce that at an appropriate date and venue which will be announced in due course, the Integrated Data Information Management System and the Farmer Registration Card will be officially launched by high ranking Government Officials.

By order of the Board,



James C. Kasongo
Chief Executive Officer

TOBACCO BOARD OF ZAMBIA

- cc: The Permanent Secretary –Ministry of Agriculture
- cc: The Deputy Director (Crops) - Ministry of Agriculture
- cc: File