



# ZAMBIA COMMUNITY BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (CBNRM) FORUM

c/o WWF Zambia Office, P O Box 50551 RW Lusaka. Telefax: 0211-254040/253749

## Press Statement

24<sup>TH</sup> January 2014

### **Approval of the proposed Kanguwi Large Scale Copper Mining Project of Mwembeshi Resources Limited in the Lower Zambezi National Park by Minister is a national tragedy**

The Zambia Community Natural Resources Management Forum (ZCBNRM), on behalf of over 100 environmental organizations in Zambia, is registering its disappointment with, and protests against the decision by the Minister of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Honorable Harry Kalaba MP dated 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014, to approve the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of the Kanguwi Mining Project license 15547-HQ-LML by Mwembeshi Resources Limited which was rejected by many stakeholders.

On 5th September 2012 Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) rejected the proposed large scale mining activities in Lower Zambezi National Park based on solid technical grounds. The previous minister did not approve this EIS because he wanted to subject the matter to Cabinet for further guidance.

As Civil Society Organisations we are re-engaging Government using all available avenues as provided by the Laws of Zambia to find a sustainable solution to this issue. We are calling upon well meaning Zambians to rally behind this noble cause as the EIS did not even meet required local and international standards.

Vincent Ziba

**Community Based Natural Resources Forum (CBNRF)**

For and on behalf of forum membership



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