



PRESS STATEMENT (For Immediate Release)

UPDATE ON THE HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AT THE KARIBA DAM

Lusaka, 13th August 2024 – The Zambezi River Authority hereby shares an update on the hydrological outlook for the Kariba Catchment and the status of water levels at the Kariba Dam as follows:

Zambezi River Flows at Chavuma

From the last update, river flows at Chavuma gauging station - the first station where the Zambezi River re-enters Zambia from Angola - continued to be in recession as shown in the four-week comparative table below:

Four (4) Week Comparative Chart for Zambezi River Flows Recorded at Chavuma Gauging Station.

Date	2024	2023
22nd July	178m ³ /s	227m ³ /s
29th July	161m ³ /s	203m ³ /s
5th August	146m ³ /s	181m ³ /s
13th August	130m ³ /s	159m ³ /s

Zambezi River Flows at Victoria Falls

The Zambezi River flows at Victoria Falls are also currently receding as expected for this time of year but are substantially lower than average due to the severe drought that was experienced during the 2023/2024 rainfall season. Notably, the current flows have dropped by 32.55% compared to the same date in 2023 (August 13th), as illustrated in the table below.

Four (4) Week Comparative Chart for Zambezi River Flows Recorded at Victoria Falls Gauging Station (Nanas Farm Gauging Station).

Date	2024	2023
22nd July	449m ³ /s	851m ³ /s
29th July	430m ³ /s	710m ³ /s
5th August	397m ³ /s	616m ³ /s
13th August	369m ³ /s	547m ³ /s

Lake Levels at Kariba Dam.

The table below displays a four-week comparison of lake levels at Kariba Dam, which have been receding due to reduced upstream inflows., Notably, the lake level remains lower compared to the corresponding period last year. A decrease of 2.61m is evident when comparing today's lake level to the lake level of the same date in 2023, as illustrated in the four-week comparative chart below.

Four (4) Week Comparative Chart for Lake Levels Recorded at Kariba Dam.

Date	2024			2023		
	Meter ASL	BCM	%	Meter ASL	BCM	%
22 nd July	477.11m	7.20	11.12%	479.79m	19.62	30.29%
29 th July	477.04m	6.88	10.63%	479.69m	19.15	29.56%
5 th August	477.00m	6.70	10.35%	479.62m	18.82	29.05%
13 th August	476.95m	6.48	10.01%	479.55m	18.49	28.54%

The Authority assures the public that it continues to maintain constant surveillance over the hydrological outlook and the Kariba Catchment's performance and also ensures that information regarding any new developments or changes that may occur is timeously disseminated.

About Zambezi River Authority

The Zambezi River Authority is a bilateral organisation that is jointly and equally owned by the Governments of Zambia and Zimbabwe (the Contracting States). The Authority's primary function is to operate, maintain, monitor and regulate the water level in the Kariba Reservoir. It is also mandated to construct, operate and maintain any other dam infrastructure on the Zambezi River and to collect, accumulate and process hydrological and environmental data regarding the Zambezi River for improved performance of its functions and for any other purpose beneficial to the socio-economic development of the Contracting States.


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