

PRESS STATEMENT:

STATEMENT - COURTESY CALL ON HER HONOUR THE VICE PRESIDENT

Republican Vice President, Mrs. Inonge Mutukwa Wina has said that more needs to be done in the area of research if nutrition is to improve in Zambia.

She has mentioned places like Zambia Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI -formerly Mount Makulu Research Centre) which have the potential to preserve, multiply and propagate seed, Mrs. Wina highlighted that the institute requires more funding in order for ZARI to adequately carry out its mandate.

Mrs. Wina said Government is engaging with Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute (IAPRI) and other Private Sector entities in order to share information on a more holistic and effective approach regarding nutrition.

The Vice President also stated the importance of food fortification which adds value to food products like maize meal, sugar among others.

Mrs. Wina said this when the International Food Policy Research Institute Director General Dr. Shenggen Fan paid a courtesy call on her in Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Fan was accompanied by his senior staff who included Mr. Teunis Van Rheenen and Ms. Rajul Pandya-Lorch.

The Director General indicated the need for Zambia to focus on food productivity so as to increase the agriculture sector's contribution to the national GDP as against depending on copper production which has been the country's economic mainstay.

Press Statement issued by the:

Permanent Secretary (Administration)

Mr. Stephen Mwansa

Office of the Vice President