



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 23rd January, 2020

PRESS STATEMENT

FRA IS COMMITTED TO PAYING FARMERS

The Food Reserve Agency (FRA) wishes to assure farmers and the general public that it is committed to dismantling the debt that it owes farmers that supplied the Agency (FRA) with maize during the 2018/2019 farming season.

The Agency is aware that some farmers have not yet been paid and wishes to assure them that they will get paid immediately funds are made available by the Ministry of Finance.

Further, the Agency wishes to dispel assertions by some members of the public that have alleged that the Agency is not paying farmers that supplied maize during the 2018/2019 farming season. Contrary to the negative assertions, the Agency wishes to inform farmers and the public that it is paying farmers and that it has to date paid out a total of **K176, 267, 909** out of the **K190, 322, 220** representing 92.6% payment. The outstanding balance owed to farmers currently is **K14, 054, 311** which will be cleared once funds are made available by the Ministry of Finance.

Further, the Agency has again this week released funds to pay farmers in various districts of Northern, Luapula and Muchinga provinces.

Therefore, farmers are urged to remain calm as the Agency is making necessary arrangements to dismantle the remaining debt as soon as possible.

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