

PRESS STATEMENT (For Immediate Release)

UPDATE ON THE HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AT THE KARIBA DAM

Lusaka, 10th April 2024 – The Zambezi River Authority *(the Authority)* hereby provides an update regarding the hydrological outlook of the Kariba Catchment and the water levels at the Kariba Dam.

Zambezi River Flows at Chavuma.

From the last update shared on 26th March 2024 (when the river flows were in recession), the river flows at Chavuma gauging station have since recorded some marginal increase, as shown in the comparative table below. This is due to some rainfall activity recorded in the headwaters of the Zambezi River. The flows are, however, trending significantly below the average flows for the station.

Comparative Chart for Zambezi River Flows at Chavuma Gauging Station.

Date	2024	2023
26 th March	380m ³ /s	976m³/s
2 nd April	410m ³ /s	1,479 <i>m</i> ³/s
10 th April	550m³/s	2,595m ³ /s

Zambezi River Flows at Victoria Falls

The Zambezi River flows at Victoria Falls are significantly lower than those recorded on the same date last year but slightly higher than what was recorded last week as indicated below:

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

Date	2024	2023
26 th March	751m ³ /s	2,510m ³ /s
2 nd April	672m ³ /s	2,240m ³ /s
10 th April	694m ³ /s	2,086m ³ /s

Kariba Lake Levels.

The recession in the lake levels has also persisted from the last update of 26th March 2024. This is due to low inflow and reduced rainfall activity on and around the lake and in the Kariba catchment as a whole.

The table below illustrates the current lake level compared to the two previous weeks. It should be noted that the lake level is lower during this period than was recorded last year during the same period. Furthermore, the lake level has been receding since the last update of 26^{th} March 2024, dropping from 477.51m to 477.46m recorded on 10^{th} April 2024.

Date	2024			2023		
	Meter ASL	BCM	%	Meter ASL	ВСМ	%
26 th March	477.51m	9.03	13.95%	478.32m	12.74	19.66%
2 nd April	477.47m	8.85	13.66%	478.53m	13.70	21.14%
10 th April	477.46m	8.80	13.59%	478.70m	14.49	22.38%

Weekly Comparative Chart for Lake Levels at Kariba Dam.

The Authority will continue monitoring the Hydrological Outlook of the Kariba Catchment so as to keep the public informed of any new developments.

The Zambezi River Authority is a Bi-National organization mandated to contribute to the economic, industrial and social development of the Republics of Zambia and Zimbabwe by obtaining the greatest possible benefits from the natural advantages offered by the waters of the Zambezi River (between Zambia and Zimbabwe) through the most economical and effective means of providing water for generation of electricity and for other purposes which the Contracting States may decide upon.

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