

ZAMBIA MEDICINES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

PRESS STATEMENT

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

To: All Media Houses,

ZAMRA TAKES EIGHT PEOPLE TO COURT FOR OPERATING UNREGISTERED PHARMACIES.

Lusaka, 14th September, 2023. Eight (8) people have separately appeared before the Lusaka magistrate court for operating unregistered pharmacies, contrary to section 14 (1) (a) (2) of the medicines and allied substances Act no. 3 of 2013 of the laws of Zambia. This is after an operation that was undertaken by the Zambia Medicines Regulatory Authority (ZAMRA), the Zambia Police Service and other law enforcement agencies to curb the illegal sale of medicines and allied substances in Chawama, Lusaka, on the 16th of August, 2023.

Ms. Miriam Chishimba aged 30 appeared before Honourable Sylvia Munyinya Okoh on 31st August, 2023 and was fined K9,000 in default 4 months imprisonment, Mr. Harrison Daka aged 66 appeared before Honourable Kaunda Sakwanda on 31st August, 2023, and the matter was adjourned to 18th September, 2023.

Ms. Rutness Nyangu aged 32 appeared before Honourable Mrs. Kawama Mwanfuli on 1st September, 2023 and the matter was adjourned to 25th September, for trial. Mr. Greatwell Muntanga aged 34 appeared before Honourable Mrs. Mutinta Mwenya on 4th September, 2023 and was fined K60,000=00 in default 6 months imprisonment. Ms. Ezel Namwila aged 27 appeared before Honourable Ms. Emmy Masoja Chilangwa on 4th September, 2023 and was fined K10,000 in default 2 months imprisonment.

Others still to face trial include, Ms. Annie Mwakakwela aged 35 who is scheduled to appear before Honourable Mrs. Phaides Hamaundu on 18th September, 2023, Mrs. Olipa Mwange aged 22 who is jointly charged with Daria Kalolo aged 35 is also yet to appear before Honourable Phaides Hamaundu on 18th September, 2023. On the same list is Mr. John George Banda aged 40 waiting to appear before Honourable Mrs. Constance Kansakala on 15th September, 2023.

The Authority wishes to reiterate its appeal to members of the public to refrain from illegal operation of pharmacies or risk prosecution in accordance with the provisions of

the law. Further, members of the public should shun procuring medicines from illegal outlets as they risk exposure to substandard and falsified medical products, which have deleterious effects to their health.

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