

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BRRA DIRECTS CHILILABOMBWE MUNICIPAL AND SESHEKE TOWN COUNCILS TO SUSPEND NEW FEES

Lusaka, 29th **February, 2024 –** The Business Regulatory Review Agency (BRRA) has directed the Chililabombwe Municipal Council and the Sesheke Town Council to immediately suspend the increment and introduction of new fees until the two Councils comply with the guidelines outlined in the Business Regulatory Act, No. 3 of 2014.

The Chililabombwe Municipal Council has increased the truck levy to five Hundred Kwacha (ZMW 500) from three hundred and fifty kwacha (ZMW 350) effective January 2024 while Sesheke Town Council intends to introduce the entrance fee of One Hundred Kwacha on all trucks entering the Boarder Post effective Ist March 2024.

BRRA Executive Director Sharon Sichilongo said the directive follows the two Council's failure to adhere to guidelines outlined under section 6 of the Business Regulatory Act, No 3 of 2014 which requires all regulatory agencies and public bodies to undertake a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) and public consultations with stakeholders and submit a RIA report and consultation report to the BRRA for consideration.

Mrs. Sichilongo added that Chililabombwe Municipal Council and Sesheke Town Council also contravened section 26 of the Local Government Act, No. 2 of 2019 which stipulates that a proposed by-law or council resolution introducing a licence, permit or certificate shall be subject to the licensing procedure and criteria under the Business Regulatory Act of 2014.

She has encouraged businesses to be proactive like the Truckers Association of Zambia who engaged the Agency after the two Councils increased the truck levy and introduced new fees without conducting Regulatory Impact Assessments and undertaking stakeholder engagements.

Mrs. Sichilongo has therefore, cautioned all regulatory agencies and public bodies to desist from introducing measures intended to regulate business activity without approval from the Business Regulatory Review Agency as these may be burdensome on businesses.

Released by

Masiye M Mulenga (Mrs) Public Relations Officer

The Business Regulatory Review Agency

+260 977 321414, Email: m.mwanza@brra.org.zm