

Introduction

The Zambia Police Service is a key component of the national security system, mandated to uphold public order, enforce laws, and protect the rights and freedoms of all citizens. Its establishment and functions are governed by the Constitution of Zambia and the Zambia Police Act, Chapter 107 of the Laws of Zambia. This presentation outlines the constitutional and statutory framework that defines the composition, command structure, and duties of the Service.

1. Constitutional Mandate – Article 193 of the Constitution of Zambia

Establishment

Article 193(1)(a) of the Constitution Act (Amendment) No.2 of 2016

The Constitution establishes the following national security services:

*(a) **The Zambia Police Service***

(b) [Other national security services]

Article 193(2) - Functions of the Zambia Police Service

The Zambia Police Service shall:

(a) Protect life and property

(b) Preserve peace and maintain law and order

(c) Ensure the security of the people

(d) Detect and prevent crime

(e) Uphold the Bill of Rights

(f) Foster and promote good relations with the Defence Force, other security services, and members of society

(g) Perform other functions as prescribed

STATUTORY FRAMEWORK – ZAMBIA POLICE ACT, CHAPTER 107

Section 3 - Composition of the Service

- The Service consists of officers as defined under the Act.

Section 3(1) - Command Structure

- The Inspector-General of Police, subject to the President's direction, has overall command and control of the Force.

Section 3(2) - Powers of the Inspector-General

- The Inspector-General may issue standing orders for matters relating to training, arms, equipment, clothing, and duties of officers to ensure discipline and efficiency.

3. Functions of the Service – Sections 4, 5, and 6

Section 4 - Core functions

- Prevent and detect crime
- Maintain law and order
- Enforce all applicable laws, including anti-human trafficking laws

Section 5 - Operational deployment

- The Police Force shall operate throughout Zambia for:
 - o Preserving peace
 - o Preventing and detecting crime
 - o Apprehending offenders
 - o Performing duties while armed as necessary

Section 6 - Administrative oversight

- The **Inspector-General** is vested with the overall administration of the Force across the country

Conclusion

The Zambia Police Service is constitutionally and legally empowered to serve as a frontline institution for law enforcement and public safety. Its structure, powers, and responsibilities are clearly defined to ensure accountability, effectiveness, and alignment with democratic principles.