



PRESS RELEASE

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TO ALL MEDIA HOUSES

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NBA ANNOUNCES 2020 MEDIA AWARD WINNERS IN BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY REPORTING

CHILANGA- Zambia, THE National Biosafety Authority (NBA) has awarded journalists from various media institutions for excellence in Biotechnology and Biosafety reporting at a virtual event held in Lusaka.

The winners are Angel Kasabo from Radio Christian Voice for best radio documentary, while Christopher Chisi of 5FM radio came as 2nd best in the same category. In the print news category Times of Zambia's Passy Haachizo scooped 1st position. In the Features article category Jowit Saluseki of Times of Zambia has been awarded for Best Features article while Passy Haachizo scooped the 2nd position in the same category. The winners go away with cash prizes and other presents.

The NBA media awards entries were from November 2019 to November 2020 in recognition of journalists in Biotechnology and Biosafety reporting in Zambia.

“Congratulations to all our award winners for the year 2020 in promoting biotechnology and biosafety in Zambia” said NBA Registrar Lackson Tonga. NBA appreciates the important role you play in science communication involving disciplines such as; public health, biotechnology, biosafety and technology. He added that science is complex and reaching out to various audience could be challenging due to technical jargons. Therefore, the duty and commitment to inform and educate target audience in a simple language to assist society make informed decisions is commendable.

Mr. Tonga noted that matters related to biotechnology were very key for the Authority as they help to explain NBA's core business of regulating GMO's in Zambia. “I now take this opportunity to recognize other reporters for their commitment to reporting science and biotechnology matters.” These include Favourite Kalando (Q-TV), Dorothy Chisi (Times of Zambia), Joseph Mwenya

(Radio Maranatha) and Juliet Makwama (Millennium Radio). The rest include Kelly Njombo (Zambia Daily Mail), Patrick Makayi of (Muvi TV) and the Livingstone Press Club.

He further, announced the call for the 2021 media awards entries and encouraged more reporters to compete.

Mr. Tonga said the media is a key partner in information dissemination. In this vein, the NBA has conducted a Virtual Orientation Workshop for over forty Editors from various media houses across the country from Print, Broadcast and Online publications. The speakers included Webster Malido, Managing Partner at Aprio Strategic Communications - a market leading, independent strategic communications firm in South Africa, who is also a Communications expert, Evans Kaimoyo a lecturer and researcher in biological sciences at University of Zambia and Veronica Mwaba, Dziwa Science and Technology Trust Director, a science communicator and advocate. Others are NBA Senior Biosafety Officer Research and Fields Mutibo Mushenywa and Senior Biosafety Officer Standards and Technical Liaison Christopher Simuntala.

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ISSUED BY: MS. SANDRA LOMBE

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

**Email:nbacommunications1@yahoo.com,
lombe2@gmail.com**

biosafetyzambia@gmail.com

or

+260 211 278316 /0977854716/ 0961439503

About NBA

NBA was established under the Biosafety Act No. 10 of 2007. Through the Act the NBA regulates the research, development, application, importation, export, transit, contained use, release or placing on the market of any GMO/LMO whether intended for use as a pharmaceutical, food, feed or processing, or a product of a GMO also to ensure that any activity involving the use or a product of GMO prevents any socio-economic impact or harm to human, animal health and the environment in the country.

Some of the functions of the NBA include processing notifications and applications of GMOs or products of GMOs into the country, in accordance with the requirements of the Biosafety Act, promoting public awareness and education concerning the activities regulated under the Act such as risk assessment, risk management and authorization processes; keeping any GMO or any product of a genetically modified organism under review and to ban its handling or release in Zambia. NBA furthermore, establishes and maintains a database of GMOs and their products as well as making available such information to the public.

For more information about NBA visit: www.nbazambia.org.zm,

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