



ZAMBIA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS (Z.C.C.B)

CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT

Catholic Secretariat, BRT 60, Kabulonga. P.O. Box 31965, 10101 Lusaka, ZAMBIA

Tel.: +260 211 262 641 / +260 967 160 873

Email: zccbsg21@gmail.com | zccb21sec@gmail.com

Website: www.catholiczambia58.com

Facebook: [@zccb](https://www.facebook.com/zccb) | Twitter/X: [@zccb_catholic](https://twitter.com/zccb_catholic)

COMMUNIQUE ON THE ARREST AND CURRENT STATUS OF ARCHBISHOP ALICK BANDA

1. Background

On Monday, 5th January 2026, a Warn and Caution Statement was recorded against His Grace Dr. Alick Banda, Archbishop of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Lusaka. Subsequently, he was invited to appear before the Drug Enforcement Commission (DEC) of Zambia on Monday, 28th September 2026, in connection with ongoing investigations.

Upon his appearance before the DEC, Archbishop Banda was formally arrested and charged under Section 319 of the Penal Code.

The charge alleges that between 22nd April 2021 and 27th December 2023, Archbishop Banda was in possession of a blue Toyota Hilux (registration ALF 7734), suspected to have been improperly obtained from the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA). This vehicle forms part of a broader investigation into the alleged irregular disposal of approximately 22 ZRA vehicles.

It is important to note that the State has not accused Archbishop Banda of involvement in the disposal itself, but rather of possessing property he may not have had reason to believe was improperly acquired. The vehicle in question was, in fact, offered to Archbishop Banda as a gift by the late former President of Zambia, Dr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu and was surrendered back to the State on 27th December 2023.

2. Magistrates' Court Ruling

Following his arrest and formal charge, Archbishop Banda appeared before the Lusaka Magistrates' Court on the same day and entered a plea of not guilty.

The Court granted him bail of K80,000 in his own recognizance, with three sureties of K50,000 each. Additionally, he was required to surrender his travel documents.



ZAMBIA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS (Z.C.C.B)

CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT

Catholic Secretariat, BRT 60, Kabulonga. P.O. Box 31965, 10101 Lusaka, ZAMBIA

Tel.: +260 211 262 641 / +260 967 160 873

Email: zccbsg21@gmail.com | zccb21sec@gmail.com

Website: www.catholiczambia58.com

Facebook: [@zccb](https://www.facebook.com/zccb) | Twitter/X: [@zccb_catholic](https://twitter.com/zccb_catholic)

3. Detention

Due to administrative delays in processing bail documentation, Archbishop Banda spent the night of 28–29 September 2026 at Lusaka Central Prison (commonly known as Chimbokaila). He was released on the afternoon of 29th September 2026.

4. Next Steps

The matter has been adjourned for mention on 14th October 2026, with the possible commencement of trial scheduled for 3rd November 2026.

5. Conclusion

The Zambia Conference of Catholic Bishops (ZCCB) expresses its solidarity with Archbishop Banda, affirming respect for his pastoral ministry and calling for fairness, dignity, and due process to be upheld. The Conference further urges all Catholic faithful in Zambia to remain calm and prayerful during this challenging moment in the life of the local Church.

Most Rev. Ignatius Chama,
Archbishop of Kasama and
ZCCB President.

