



9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2023

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **PRESS STATEMENT ON THE RECENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT ALLEGATIONS REGARDING COPPERBELT UNIVERSITY LECTURERS**

The Copperbelt University is committed to fostering a safe and respectful learning environment for all students, employees and stakeholders. We take allegations of sexual harassment very seriously and are dedicated to addressing them promptly and effectively.

We understand that recent reports of sexual harassment have caused concern among our students, employees and the broader community. The University is aware of the recent arrest of one of our academic members of staff, Dr Webby Mulyata Mwaku, in connection with alleged sexual misconduct with students. We want to assure everyone that we are taking immediate action to investigate these allegations thoroughly. The University has already commenced an internal disciplinary process.

The Copperbelt University has a strict zero-tolerance policy against any form of sexual harassment or misconduct. Any employee found guilty of such misconduct will face severe consequences, up to and including termination. The University is further committed to providing support and resources for victims of sexual harassment, including access to counseling and legal assistance if needed. The University has also initiated a review of our policies and procedures to ensure the continued safety of our students and prevent any future incidents of this nature.

We acknowledge the legal proceedings initiated by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), and we shall closely monitor the legal process and cooperate fully with the authorities to ensure that justice is served. The safety and well-being of our students and employees are of paramount importance, and we will not tolerate any actions that compromise their trust and security within our institution.

The University remains steadfast in its dedication to the welfare and academic success of our students.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. M. Mukumba'.

Helen. M. Mukumba (Mrs.)

**REGISTRAR**