

A Commendable Budget

ALLOW me to congratulate Minister Nangolo Mbumba for producing a well-balanced and equitable budget for the 2003-2004 financial year. Through this budget Government tried to put its money where its mouth is.

The budget is so unassailable that even critics are finding it very hard to dish out any criticism. Through the raising of the tax threshold, the doing away with the pension backlog, the salary increase for public servants, to mention but a few positives, the budget gives an indication that Government is seriously addressing the problems of poverty and the chronic unequal distribution of income that characterises this country. This is highly commendable.

By producing this good budget, Minister Mbumba has now thrown the ball into the court of the implementers (the Permanent Secretaries of the various ministries and the CEOs of parastatals) to see if for a change they will assist Government to achieve its deficit and debt targets through efficient spending. Well done Minister Mbumba!

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