

ZAFEMU Quarterly Report

Reporting Period: July-September 2026

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Prepared by: ZAFEMU Secretariat

Introduction

Alhamdulillah, the third quarter of 2026 was a period of continued growth, institutional consolidation and increased engagement for the Zambia Federation of Muslim Organisations (ZAFEMU).

Throughout the quarter, the Federation continued to advance its mandate of bringing together Muslim organisations under a unified national platform, strengthening relations amongst affiliates, engaging with the Ulama, and establishing meaningful relationships with Government institutions, diplomatic missions and Islamic organisations locally and internationally.

The period was characterised by a number of significant engagements, including programmes for the Ulama, strategic planning initiatives, development of the Federation's communication materials, affiliation initiatives, diplomatic engagements, participation in regional and international Islamic programmes and representation of ZAFEMU at various platforms.

The following provides an overview of the major activities and developments during the reporting period.

1. Ulama Workshop Hosted by Al-Ihsaan Trust

From 13th to 15th July 2026, Al-Ihsaan Trust hosted a three-day workshop for the Ulama and Shuyukh at the Jamiah premises.

The programme addressed a number of contemporary ideological challenges facing the Muslim community, with particular focus on liberalism, secularism and other emerging trends. The objective was to enhance awareness amongst the Ulama and facilitate informed discussion on the challenges and appropriate approaches towards addressing them.

The distinguished guest speaker for the three-day programme was Mufti Yasir Nadeem Al Wajidi, an expert in the field, who delivered the main sessions and shared his knowledge and experience with the participating scholars.

The programme attracted significant participation, with 120 Ulama and Shuyukh from 17 Islamic organisations registered and in attendance. The programme was further enriched by the

participation of Ulama from Kenya and Malawi, giving the gathering a broader regional dimension.

ZAFEMU was formally recognised during the programme and was afforded the honour of delivering the closing address. The Federation expressed its appreciation to Al-Ihsaan Trust for convening the programme, to Jamiah Islamiyyah Trust for availing its facilities, to the participating organisations and Ulama, and particularly to Mufti Yasir Nadeem Al Wajidi for his valuable contribution throughout the three days.

The programme provided an important platform for scholarly engagement and contributed towards strengthening awareness, consultation and cooperation amongst the Ulama and Islamic organisations.

2. Strategic Planning Initiative

On 24th July 2026, a strategic planning meeting was held with Shaykh Yusuf Ayami, Vice Chairman of ZAFEMU.

The meeting considered the development of a structured strategic planning framework for the Federation, with particular attention to establishing clear priorities, programmes and institutional direction.

Following the engagement, Shaykh Yusuf Ayami took responsibility for coordinating the strategic planning process. Further consultations and development of the framework are expected to continue in the coming period.

The initiative forms part of the Federation's broader efforts to strengthen its institutional foundation and establish a clear long-term direction.

3. Request for English Translations of the Holy Qur'an

During the quarter, ZAFEMU formally communicated with Jamiatut Dawah Wal Irshad in Saudi Arabia, requesting the provision of English translations of the Holy Qur'an for distribution through the Federation and its affiliated organisations.

The initiative is intended to support Islamic education and Da'wah activities and facilitate wider access to the meanings of the Holy Qur'an amongst English-speaking members of the community.

4. Development and Publication of ZAFEMU Brochures and Calendar

Significant progress was made during the quarter in the development of the Federation's communication and information materials.

The 2nd Issue of the ZAFEMU brochure was successfully produced, and publication has commenced. The brochure provides information on the Federation, its mandate, activities and affiliated organisations.

In addition, the Arabic and Urdu translations of the brochures have been completed and are expected to be published shortly.

Preparations for the 2027 ZAFEMU calendar have also commenced, with work on the calendar currently underway.

These publications are expected to enhance the Federation's visibility, improve communication with stakeholders and provide a professional representation of ZAFEMU to both local and international audiences.

5. Presidential Inauguration

The Chairman Molana Afzal Ahmed Itowala and Secretary General of ZAFEMU, Mufti Ikram Sanaullah were invited to attend the official inauguration and swearing-in ceremony of the President of the Republic of Zambia.

The Federation was duly represented at this significant national occasion, further reflecting its engagement with national leadership and its continued participation in important national events.

6. Indian Embassy – Consular Information

During the quarter, the Federation received information regarding the Indian Embassy's consideration of passport applications for minors, with individual cases being reviewed on their respective merits.

The information was noted by the Federation and may be useful to members of the community requiring the relevant consular services.

7. Masjid Boards – I.K. Charitable Trust

During the quarter, ZAFEMU received requests for the preparation of (identification /Salah Timing) boards for two Masajid under I.K. Charitable Trust:

Masjid Khadijatul Kubra and Masjid Abdullah Ibn Masood. The requested boards were successfully prepared and handed over.

8. Saudi Embassy Engagement and Khadimu Duyuf Al-Haramayn Programme

On 31st August 2026, ZAFEMU received Shaykh Mubarak Al Thuwaiqeb, Third Secretary at the Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for a courtesy visit to the Federation's Secretariat.

The visit provided an opportunity for discussions on matters of mutual interest, following which the delegation was hosted for lunch.

During the engagement, Shaykh Mubarak, Third Secretary at the Saudi Embassy, informed the Federation of the Khadimu Duyuf al-Haramayn programme in Saudi Arabia and requested the nomination of representatives from Zambia.

ZAFEMU nominated Shaykh Yusuf Ayami, Vice Chairman, and Mufti Ikram Sanaullah, Secretary General, to represent the Federation.

Amongst the affiliates, Mufti Ridwan Mahomed from ZANZawe and Shaykh Hanif from Kafue Sunni Muslim Trust also participated in the journey.

The delegation travelled to Saudi Arabia from 3rd to 14th September 2026.

During the programme, the ZAFEMU representatives participated in the various official engagements and represented the Federation in interactions with scholars, officials and participating delegations.

The programme provided a valuable opportunity to present ZAFEMU on an international platform as the national mother body representing Muslim organisations in Zambia, while strengthening relations with Saudi institutions and creating opportunities for further cooperation and engagement.

9. Courtesy Visit to the Saudi Embassy

Following the return of the delegation from Saudi Arabia, a courtesy visit was paid to the Saudi Embassy to convey the Federation's appreciation for the opportunity extended to its representatives.

The delegation provided feedback regarding the programme and expressed gratitude to the Embassy for facilitating the participation of the Zambian representatives.

Tokens of appreciation were also presented to Shaykh Mubarak, Third Secretary at the Saudi Embassy, and the Embassy Counsellor as a gesture of gratitude for their continued engagement and support.

10. Engagement with the Egyptian Embassy

During the quarter, the Federation received correspondence from the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt regarding the possibility of receiving Shuyukh from Al-Azhar University during Ramadan.

The Federation also received proposals concerning opportunities for students from Zambia to pursue Islamic studies in Egypt.

These engagements present potentially valuable opportunities for the advancement of Islamic education and scholarly development within Zambia. The Federation will continue to engage with the relevant authorities and institutions regarding these proposals.

11. SAUF Conference and International Representation

During the reporting period, ZAFEMU and its affiliates participated in SAUF programme that took place in South Africa, providing opportunities for scholarly engagement, consultation, representation and strengthening of relations with Islamic organisations from other countries.

The programme brought together participants from approximately 32 countries, with approximately 720 participants registered.

A total of 16 scholars participated, with representation from ZAFEMU, Jamiah Islamiyyah Trust, ZAMHA, Al-Ihsaan Trust, Al-Qalam Institute, IK Charitable Trust, Ashraful Aid Zambia, Taqwa Islamic Centre and Makeni Islamic Society Trust.

The conference provided a significant international platform for ZAFEMU and its affiliates, who were allocated various programmes and opportunities to contribute to the proceedings.

Molana Afzal Itowala, Ameer of SAUF, was represented during the programme by Molana Bilal Vally, who delivered the Ameer's address on his behalf.

Other contributions from the Zambian delegation included:

Molana Haroon Zulu, who chaired the first session of the conference.

Molana Muhammad Cyclewala, who delivered a presentation during the Youth Session.

Mufti Ikram Sanaullah, who delivered a presentation on Ameer of Tabligh, Haaji Sahib Ahmed Essa Nomani during the session on the Pious Predecessors.

The conference further demonstrated the increasing participation of ZAFEMU and its affiliates in regional and international Islamic programmes and provided opportunities for the Federation to contribute to scholarly, educational and community discussions

12. Visit by Shaykh Yawar Baig

On 30th September 2026, the Federation received Shaykh Yawar Baig at the ZAFEMU Secretariat for a visit and consultation.

The engagement provided an opportunity for discussions on matters of mutual interest and possible areas of cooperation. The Federation welcomed the engagement as part of its continued efforts to benefit from expertise and experience relevant to the development of the Muslim community.

Conclusion

Alhamdulillah, the third quarter of 2026 was a period of meaningful progress and continued development for the Zambia Federation of Muslim Organisations.

The Federation's activities during the quarter reflected its growing role as a platform for coordination, representation, consultation and cooperation amongst Muslim organisations in Zambia. Engagements with the Ulama, Islamic institutions, Government, diplomatic missions and international organisations continued to broaden the Federation's network and create opportunities for the Muslim community.

Particular progress was made in the areas of Ulama engagement, strategic planning, institutional development, affiliate expansion, international representation, diplomatic relations and public communication.

The Federation remains committed to strengthening unity amongst Muslim organisations, facilitating constructive engagement with national and international stakeholders, and advancing initiatives that contribute towards the development and welfare of the Muslim community.

The Secretariat places on record its appreciation to the ZAFEMU leadership, affiliates, Ulama, Government institutions, diplomatic missions, Islamic organisations and all partners for their continued cooperation, confidence and support. May Allah Ta'ala accept the efforts of all those involved, grant success to the Federation in fulfilling its objectives, strengthen unity amongst the Muslim organisations of Zambia, and enable ZAFEMU to continue serving the Muslim Ummah with sincerity, wisdom and excellence. Ameen.

