



INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION ON ASSET RECOVERY GETS GOING

FOLLOWING THE SIGNING OF THE INTER AGENCY FRAMEWORK ON ASSET RECOVERY ON 10TH JANUARY, 2023, THE TASK FORCE HAS HIT THE GROUND RUNNING, HOLDING THE FIRST THE STEERING COMMITTEE TODAY 24TH JANUARY, 2023.

IN ATTENDANCE WAS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE, THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-TERRORISM CENTRE, THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF ZAMBIA AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICERS REPRESENTING THE REMAINING MEMBER INSTITUTIONS OF THE FRAME WORK. THE MEETING WAS OPENED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS.

THE FIC DIRECTOR GENERAL INFORMED THE MEETING THAT THE SIGNED INTER AGENCY FRAMEWORK HAD ALREADY BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE (FATF) AS EVIDENCE OF THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS AND FINANCIAL CRIMES. THE FATF IS THE GLOBAL MONEY LAUNDERING AND TERRORIST FINANCING WATCHDOG. IT SETS INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS THAT AIM TO PREVENT THESE ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND THE HARM THEY CAUSE TO SOCIETY.

THE HOUSE DISCUSSED, AND AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION AND INTEGRATION OF AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS AMONGST THE MEMBERS TO ENSURE SEAMLESS COOPERATION IN THE ARENA OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.

THE DPP STRESSED THE NEED FOR EFFICIENT ASSET MANAGEMENT ONCE THE ASSET RECOVERIES LAUNCHED TO ENSURE THAT THE ASSETS OF THE ZAMBIAN PEOPLE DO NOT GO TO WASTE. HE STATED THAT THIS WOULD BE ONE OF THE LANDMARK ACHIEVEMENTS OF THIS INTER AGENCY COLLABORATION.

A TECHNICAL TEAM THAT WILL RUN THE OPERATIONS IS SET TO BE APPOINTED IN 7 DAYS AND WILL GET TO WORK IMMEDIATELY.