

**JOINT PRESS STATEMENT BETWEEN ZAMBIA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY (ZPPA)
AND COMPETITION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION COMMISSION (CCPC).**

Zambia Public Procurement Authority (ZPPA) and the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which will see the two institutions collaborate on areas of investigations and complaints handling.

The basis of the MoU is:

- (i) to establish the manner in which the two institutions will interact with respect to investigations, evaluation and analysis of complaints and other matters involving anti-competitive conduct in public procurement; and
- (ii) to advise each other on issues affecting competition in public procurement and make recommendations on how to deal with them.

In addition, the two institutions have agreed to cooperate in carrying out investigations on the terms indicated in the MoU.

Further, the two institutions have agreed on the procedure which will be followed in the event that a complaint is lodged on a matter in which the parties have concurrent jurisdiction.

In order to implement the MoU, the two institutions will appoint Focal Point Persons (FPPs). The role of the FPPs will be to:

- i. manage and facilitate cooperation and information sharing;
- ii. manage information received to ensure that it is securely protected, exchanged and used only in accordance with the context of the MOU; and
- iii. proposing when necessary, any amendments of or supplementation to the MOU.

Further, the two institutions, under certain circumstances, share each other's available resources in order to bring the provisions of the MOU into full effect provided that the independence of the two institutions is not compromised and is in accordance with the governing statutes.

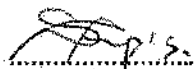
Any information shared by the two institutions shall be pursuant to the MOU and be used only for lawful purposes.

The two (02) institutions are optimistic that the MoU will among other things enhance the integrity of the procurement process and ensure that Government derives value for money for the benefit of citizens, and the economy.

In line with best practices, countries including South Africa, Chile, Romania and Mexico have established solid collaboration between their competition and public procurement agencies, generating important savings for the governments. The collaboration between ZPPA and CCPC is expected to help realize the following benefits:

- Free and fair competition, including non-discrimination and fairness for suppliers in Government procurement markets;
- Cost-quality efficiency of procurement in terms of obtaining higher quality goods and services supplied at a more favorable price;
- Savings of Government budgets and taxpayers money;
- Increased openness and transparency; and
- Increased responsibility and accountability.

The MoU will accord the two institutions an opportunity to work seamlessly in matters of training, investigations and advocacy of procurement acceptable standards.



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