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REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

In reply please quote:

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## OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL

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13<sup>th</sup> January 2020

To the News Editor

### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### *For Immediate Release*

The Planning Meeting for the Office of the Auditor General has officially been opened with a call for the Office to ensure that the audits carried out this year reflect the aspirations of Government as outlined in the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP).

Auditor General Dr. Dick Chellah Sichembe made the call when he officially opened the meeting in Lusaka today.

Dr. Sichembe stated that the focus for this year's audits would be on assessing whether the goals of the 7NDP of transforming Zambia into a middle income economy were being realised.

He pointed out that this would be achieved through Performance Audits which go beyond the financial audits by interrogating the 3Es namely, Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness of government programmes and activities so as to ensure that there is a realisation of value for money in programmes being implemented.

The Auditor General said with such audits being carried out on the goals of the 7NDP, ultimately the Office would be demonstrating its value and benefits in line with the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAI 12).

Dr. Sichembe reminded his senior management to take stock of the strides made in implementing the Office's 2017-2021 strategic plan and where possible where there is need to adjust the strategic direction do so through the mid-term review.

He called for more collaboration between the office and the audited entities adding that this year will be a unique one as the Office will follow strict timelines in the audit process.

Dr. Sichembe further stated that the Office would uphold their code of ethics adding that there will be no compromise on professionalism and integrity and hopes this would permeate through the entire civil service.



Issue by: Ms. Ellen M. Chikale  
Head of Public Relations  
**FOR/AUDITOR GENERAL**