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NO.....

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To: **The News Editor**

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

NEW YEAR MESSAGE TO AUDITEES: PUT YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER SAYS AUDITOR GENERAL

The Auditor General Dr. Dick Chellah Sichembe has advised auditees to ensure that their houses are put in order in readiness for the audit of the financial year ended 31st December 2019.

And Dr. Sichembe has stressed that the behaviour of auditees not providing information to auditors during the audit process will not be entertained and should be a thing of the past as the office will soon be engaging them on the audit process and the need for them to adhere to the process.

The Auditor General said the minimum expectation is that even before the Office begins to engage with them on the audit process, they should begin to see to it that all accounting and other records are in place and not misfiled before Auditors visit their premises.

Dr. Sichembe said it is a requirement by law that auditees provide information to Auditors and this must be done within the given timelines as failure to do so is an offence according to Section 82 (1) (k) of the Public Finance Management Act number 1 of 2018.

He is of the view that with proper collaboration between his office and the controlling officers in all Ministries, Provinces and other Spending Agencies (MPSAs), a number of audit queries could be significantly reduced.

The Auditor General said the Office is embarking on a campaign to educate all auditees on the need to ensure that they manage public resources prudently which resonates with the President's expectation of reducing misapplication and misappropriation of public funds.

Dr. Sichembe wishes all auditees well in the discharge of their duties in 2020!

For more information, contact the undersigned.



Issued by: Ellen Chikale (Ms.)

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FOR/AUDITOR GENERAL