

=====

**SPEECH BY MR. MAURICE NYAMBE, TI-Z EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR, AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE TI-Z – ACA
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON 4TH May 2023**

=====

Salutations

On behalf of Transparency International Zambia (TI-Z) and the Alliance for Community Action (ACA), I would like to welcome you all to this very important event, where we are signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations.

As many of you here will know, TI-Z's mission is to actively contribute to Zambia's sustainable development by promoting a culture of integrity, good governance, and zero tolerance to corruption at all levels. We are cognizant of the fact that this mission is big and cannot in all honesty be achieved by one single organisation or entity. In that regard, we have always been alive to the need for concerted efforts in order to give ourselves a better chance at winning the fight against corruption and promoting good governance in Zambia. It is that belief that underpins our desire to collaborate with like-minded civil society organisations such as the ACA in a bid to contribute to the greater quest for accountability, integrity and good governance at all levels of Zambian society.

This MoU is therefore important for several reasons. First, it will enhance our

collective efforts to combat corruption in Zambia by providing support to victims of corruption and ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice. Secondly, it will promote transparency, accountability, and integrity in our public institutions, which are essential for sustainable development. Thirdly, it will promote active citizenship and citizens' activism in demanding transparency, accountability, and integrity from their leaders and service providers.

Through our Active Citizenship focus area, TI-Z has been working towards addressing the systemic causes of corruption and advocating for appropriate measures to support victims of corruption. We believe that community action, citizens' activism, and reporting of grievances against service delivery malpractices are essential in demanding transparency, accountability, and integrity from leaders and service providers.

Through this MoU, TI-Z and ACA will jointly offer support to victims of corruption in corruption-related case uptake through TI-Z's Advocacy and Legal Advice for Citizens (ALAC). We will further undertake joint social media advocacy on whistleblowing and whistleblower protection. Among other objectives, this partnership will enable ACA to bring to TI-Z's attention specific cases of corruption encountered in its routine work and cases directly reported to it by citizens. Depending on the nature of the reported cases, TI-Z will investigate and report to relevant law enforcement agencies for possible further action. We believe that this model will enable us to achieve the objectives of the MoU.

As I conclude, I wish to remind us all that corruption is a scourge that undermines development, hinders economic growth, and erodes the moral fabric of society. It is our responsibility as citizens to work together to combat corruption and create a society that is fair, just, and transparent.

I would like to commend TI-Z and ACA for their shared commitment to promote transparency, accountability, and integrity in Zambia. We remain

confident that this MoU will be implemented effectively and that it will ultimately enhance the good governance and accountability agenda in Zambia.

I thank you for your attention.