

COUNTRY PRESENTATION

ZAMBIA

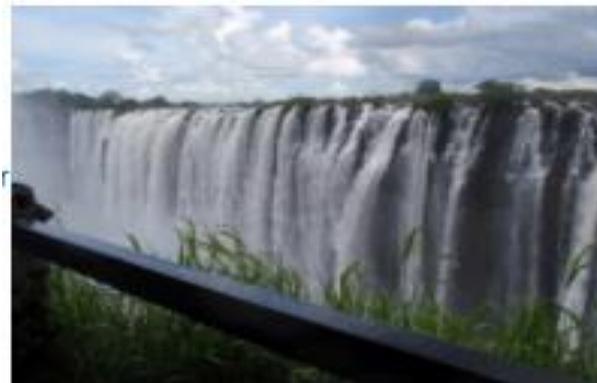
Saeli Lubasi
Senior Internal Affairs Officer
Internal Affairs Unit



ZAMBIA
REVENUE
AUTHORITY | *My Tax*
Your Tax
Our Destiny

BRIEF COUNTRY BACKGROUND

- **Zambia is a landlocked Southern African country with a 2023 estimated population of 20.7 million.**
- **Apart from its abundant wildlife, rivers, and lakes, Zambia holds 6% of the world's copper reserves and is the fourth largest copper producing nation in the world. It is internationally recognised as a major producer of emeralds, aquamarines & amethyst.**
- **It is also known for the one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the world, the Victoria Falls located on its border with Zimbabwe.**
- **The major economic activities are mining, agriculture and tourism.**



Victoria Falls, Livingstone



ANTI CORRUPTION LEGAL FRAMEWORK



It is widely acknowledged that corruption is a major challenge to the development of many countries and Zambia is no exception. Instruments have been put in place to fight corruption.

- Anti-Corruption Act (2012);
- Penal Code Act (1931);
- Money Laundering Act (2001);
- Prosecution Authority Act (2010);
- Whistle Blower Act (2010);
- Plea Negotiations and Agreements Act (2010);
- Financial Intelligence Centre Act (2010); and
- Forfeiture of the Proceeds of Crime Act (2010).
- Economic and Financial Crimes (Division of Court) Order, 2022.



Challenges faced in Zambia

When it comes to bribery and corruption investigations in Zambia, several challenges exist. These challenges hinder effective investigation and prosecution of cases. Here are some key highlights:

- **Lack of real autonomy of Law Enforcement (LE) and Prosecution Agencies.** Heads are appointed by the Executive.
- **Gaps in the AC Act**



Challenges Cont'd

- **Insufficient budget allocation towards anti-corruption efforts.** This limits staffing levels, hiring skilled personnel, funding for training and equipping investigative agencies with the necessary tools and technology.
- **Lack of specialised skills and technical capacity.** Shortage of personnel with expertise in digital forensics, data analytics and forensic accounting can make it difficult to uncover complex bribery schemes.



Challenges Cont'd

- **Inadequate whistle blower protection.** Limited protection for individuals reporting corruption discourages potential whistle blowers from coming forward. Fear of reprisals or lack of confidence in the integrity of the reporting process hinders the detection of corrupt practices.
- **Lack of/delays in information sharing amongst LEAs.**



Challenges Cont'd

- **Lack of/delays in information sharing from foreign jurisdictions.** Creates real logistical and legal complexities. Inadequate or lack of cooperation among foreign jurisdictions even with the existence of mutual legal assistance and other informal means.
- **Political interference.** Corruption is prevalent within various government institutions, leading to potential interference in investigations. Political pressure impedes the impartiality and independence of investigative agencies, thereby undermining effectiveness.



Challenges Cont'd

- **Lack of integrated systems and databases.** Tends to delay information access as one needs to make several requests manually. There is need for an Electronic Single Window linking government agencies, banks, company registration authority, property registry,, etc.
- **Cultural.** Collusion amongst the perpetrators. Strong cultural affection in many local communities, hence people don't easily come out to give evidence and testify. Lack of public interest and appreciation of the need to fight crime. Many groups tend to view the corruption fight as a politically motivated or targeted at political opponents, certain tribal or regional groupings.



CONCLUSION

For the fight against corruption to succeed, government efforts have to go beyond legislation. The fight against corruption requires strong independent institutions, the provision of adequate resources to those institutions and above all, the existence of a determined political will to end corruption in all its forms, regardless of the perpetrator.



Thank You
Merci
Asante

