



**Press Statement
(For Immediate Release)**

PPDF INTERGRATES ZAMBIANS LIVING IN THE DIASPORA

Lusaka, Tuesday, 13 September, 2022 - The Public Private Dialogue Forum, (PPDF) is working closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through its Diaspora Desk to integrate Zambians living in the diaspora to participate in Zambia's economic development.

Following a circular that was released yesterday by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Zambian missions abroad calling for diaspora expert profiles to participate in the PPDF Technical Working Groups, (TWGs), the PPDF has emphasized the need to strengthen dialogue and target impactful reforms for the purpose of innovation, job creation, investment, and economic growth.

The PPDF is therefore optimistic that Zambians living in the diaspora now have an opportunity to form part of a robust private sector that is eager to reform the business landscape, invest, add to job creation, and participate in the decision-making process of Zambia's business growth.

Zambians in the diaspora and at home are encouraged to visit the PPDF website, www.ppdf.org.zm and access the full circular from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other information pertaining to the work of the PPDF. Attached is the circular from Zambia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Apart from facilitating for the inclusion of Zambians living abroad in the PPDF TWGs, the PPDF has continued to foster consultations and dialogue in the Agriculture, Manufacturing, and Tourism sectors. The forum, on request from the Minister of Technology and Science has also facilitated for the formation of an Adhoc TWG and sub-committees to find solutions to Zamtel's operations and sustainability.

The PPDF has completed the formation of the following additional Technical Working Groups: Energy, Finance, ICT Digitalization and Media, Mining and an Adhoc Committee on Zamtel. Other TWGs yet to be constituted are Green Economy, Small and Medium Enterprise, (SME), Business Environment and Infrastructure.

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About the PPDF

The overarching and primary objective of the Public Private Dialogue Forum is to create a better business-enabling environment thereby harnessing trade and investment opportunities for the private sector locally, regionally, and in international markets. One of the expected outcomes would be an increase in the capacity of businesses to add-value to local commodities, creating sustainable and competitive industries and strengthening value chains, for example. The PPDF is designed to, i) Provide a structured, participatory, and inclusive platform for public-private sector engagement on policy and regulatory matters, ii) Leverage partnerships and create synergies towards further developing and strengthening the Zambian economy through a forum of business member organizations, trade associations and other concerned stakeholders, to engage with and advise the government, and iii) Facilitate actionable change through structured conversations on the extent to which government policies and plans enable a better business environment.
