

**Report on Roundtable Meeting with Dorothy Tembo, EIF Executive Director  
Held on  
April 09, 2009**

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**1.0** The meeting was officially opened by Professor Venkatesh Seshamani, Board Member, Consumer Unity & Trust Society Africa Resource Centre (CUTS ARC). He thanked Dorothy Tembo for taking out time from her busy schedule to discuss issues related to trade and Enhance Integrated Framework (EIF) in general. He drew attention of all present on the agenda and requested active participation.

**1.1** He acknowledged the importance of initiatives such as the EIF that provide trade related technical assistance and that these act as pro-development tools for a country and eventually reduce poverty. He said it was also worth mentioning that for Zambia to participate in international trade it needed to develop a linkage between domestic and international trade.

**2.0** Angela Mwape Mulenga, Coordinator, CUTS ARC delivered the welcoming remarks. She said CUTS ARC was greatly honoured to have Dorothy Tembo, Executive Director, EIF. Activities and initiatives taken by CUTS ARC under the EIF project were shared with her. .

**2.1** She informed Dorothy Tembo about the one-year capacity building project on the EIF process being undertaken by CUTS ARC with support from Finnish Embassy. She went on to inform the meeting about the activities undertaken so far, which include three workshops in Lusaka, Copperbelt and Luapula Province and roundtable meetings to build capacity and gather views that would contribute in the smooth implementation of the whole EIF process in Zambia.

**2.2** She also highlighted that funding allows visits to the four provinces, highlighting eastern province as the only remaining province yet to be visited among the four earmarked for sensitisation. She explained that CUTS ARC came up with this project to help players in the trade fraternity such as small and medium size enterprises, cross-border traders etc in Zambia understand the importance of EIF.

**3.0** Dorothy Tembo began by thanking CUTS ARC for taking up such a challenge and she was impressed with what CUTS ARC had done in promoting the spirit of ownership through sensitisation workshops. She highlighted that the objective of EIF was to promote ownership, a process that could only be achieved through similar initiatives as CUTS ARC was undertaking. According to her, Zambia was one of the few LDCs that had shown convincing potential to expedite the EIF process with the exception of Cambodia that had done extremely well.

**3.1** Providing an update on the status of the EIF Process, Dorothy Tembo highlighted that there were a number of achievements that had been made though the major concern which was recently raised was global recession that has hit the world economy.

**3.2** She stressed that the major concern of the EIF Secretariat and many beneficiary countries was whether the donor countries and agencies were committed even during

this trying period of the world economy. She however highlighted that all the donor agencies and countries that pledged to contribute to the EIF Trust Fund (TF) had clearly said they would fulfill their obligations.

**3.4** She further explained that the multilateral EIFTF is now being managed under the financial rules and regulations of United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) as its Trust Fund Manager (TFM). However, she said it was important to note that United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) the first TFM under the initial IF process still had some resources and was keeping them until 2010 when it will officially hand over to UNOPS.

**3.5** She further explained that pledges for contributions to the EIF TF were mainly made at the High Level Donor Pledging Conference held in Stockholm in September 2007. During this conference, a total of US\$170mn (or 75 percent of the budget for the first five years of the EIF) was raised. She also highlighted that the EIFTF was about to enter its fully operational phase, implying beneficiary countries were now eligible to apply to obtain funds to support them in domestic capacity building under Tier I and some (but not all) activities identified in the Action Matrices under Tier II. She said the expectation was that those activities not financed by the EIF TF will need to be funded through bilateral and/or regional donors.

**3.6** She also stressed that the funds from the EIF TF would be available on an annual basis. The EIF Director also said that CUTS ARC should be part of the Tier 1 process and that it should tell the story of its involvement in it.

**3.7** She also highlighted that there were some pending issues. She said that the EIF Secretariat was working on the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) mechanism to promote accountability in the whole process. She said that the initial IF process failed to meet its objectives due to lack of funds for conducting M&E and thus the project collapsed. She said the EIF Secretariat had engaged a consultant to come up with recommendations that would steer the operation of the M&E mechanism. She also said that a compendium of guidelines which stipulated institutional structures was also missing.

**3.8** Concluding she suggested that CUTS ARC should work hand-in hand with the National Implementation Unit (NIU). She further stressed the EIF Secretariat will explain the link between EIF and AfT to its stakeholders.

#### **4.0 Floor Discussions**

The session was then followed up by floor discussions where the participants thanked Dorothy Tembo and the EIF Secretariat for considering Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) mechanism stating that it would encourage country ownership. It was also stressed to the EIF Executive Director that the issue of having M&E mechanism had been suggested in all the workshops and roundtable meetings CUTS ARC has had thus signifying its importance.

**4.1** After discussions, recommendations that were an outcome of other workshops and roundtable meetings were discussed. The need to comprehensively review DTIS and ensure that it reflected the current status of the trade sector priorities such as Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Services etc. was emphasised. It was also informed

that therefore CUTS ARC had engaged a consultant to review the DTIS. Dorothy Tembo was impressed about the professional approach being adopted for the process. She also indicated that there was a provision available for the review of the DTIS.

**4.2** She was also informed that there was a proposal of recognising and strengthening the legislation of the Standard, Quality Assurance Metrology (SQAM) as well as improving related infrastructure and also to consider creating awareness of the issues relating to SQAM with regard to consumer welfare.

**4.3** She was also told that there was a proposal from Copperbelt that CUTS ARC in collaboration with MCTI should consider forming a Kitwe Chapter on the EIF e.g. EIF working group and that the EIF process should look at helping Copperbelt Province to diversify and move away from its dependence on mining. Proposed areas were tourism, honey and farming.

**4.4** She was also informed that concerns of the environment had also been raised and how the EIF would mitigate the impact of environmental implications such as biofuel.

**4.1** She was further informed that it had also been recommended that the EIF should also pay attention to improving trade facilitation by developing and enforcing legislation to allow information sharing among border agencies and also developing an Integrated Information Management System (IIMS) for border agencies including establishment of a risk management database so as to enhance efficiency.

**5.0** After discussing the recommendations, a video clip was shared with all the participants. It was captured during the Copperbelt Sensitisation Workshop. Dorothy Tembo was impressed with the video clip and requested for a copy. She also requested for some of the documentation that CUTS ARC had prepared on the EIF.

### **Review of DTIS - Presentation by Dale Mudenda**

**6.0** The meeting continued with a brief presentation on the review of the DTIS by Dale Mudenda. He began by highlighting that he had received enough inputs from CUTS ARC and MCTI than anywhere else. He also stated that three quarters of the people he interviewed in ministries such as Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and Ministry of Lands etc. hardly knew about the EIF and the DTIS in particular.

**6.1** Narrating his findings, Dale Mudenda began by highlighting that Zambia's DTIS suggests that Zambia's main objective of the trade policy should be to reverse Zambia's declining share in world exports by accelerating export diversification and regional trade. He said the DTIS identified a number of prerequisites to the successful achievement of good and pro-developmental trade policies and these included, making export incentives work for exporters, improving trade facilitation, enhancing capacity to formulate, coordinate and implement trade policy, and negotiate trade agreements, looking at the export potential sectors for diversification and the main constraints in increasing exports.

**6.2** He also said that the DTIS identified some areas that were central to the successful implementation of Zambia's trade strategy and highlighted them as follows:

- High-level political commitment;

- Mainstreaming trade policy;
- Coordination within government;
- Effective public-private partnership;
- Coordination of export promotion and private sector development programmes;
- Enhanced trade policy capacity; and
- Donor coordination.

**6.3** Providing his observations, Dale Mudenda said that although the DTIS was expected by many to comprehensively analyse and propose remedial actions for all the different issues affecting Zambia's trade capacity, he said it was not possible that this objective could be fully realised due to many reasons including prohibitive nature of the DTIS template, lack of relevant data on trade topics at the national level and limited stakeholder consultations, non-prioritisation of the topics and areas at the national level.

**6.4** He concluded his presentation by stating that it was important to stress the need to build information resources at national level that would feed into the DTIS updating exercise.

### **7.0 Vote of Thanks**

Professor Venkatesh Seshamani thanked everyone for devoting their time to this meeting and participating actively. He challenged CUTS to continuously follow up with Dorothy Tembo and strengthen the relationship.

## **Annex I Agenda**

**Round Table Meeting on the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at CUTS-ARC Offices, House number 6078/A, Great East Road, Lusaka from 16:00 hours**

1. Welcome remarks – CUTS – ARC Board Member, Professor Seshamani.
2. Introduction to CUTS-ARC Enhanced Integrated Framework project – CUTS- ARC
3. Update on the EIF process – EIF WTO Executive Director , Ms Dorothy Tembo
4. Discussion
5. Zambian CSO recommendations on the EIF – Private Sector Development Association, Yusuf Dodia
6. EIF provincial reports including video clip – CUTS - ARC
7. Discussion
8. EIF and small farmers Concerns – Farmer Support Unit Project, Mr. Mike Muleba
9. DTIS assessment review report – UNZA , Dale Mudenda
10. Vote of Thanks and Close – CUTS-ARC

#### **Annex II participants list**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Dorothy Tembo	EIF secretariat	<a href="mailto:dorothytembo2005@yahoo.com">dorothytembo2005@yahoo.com</a>
Prof. Seshamani	Board member	
Yusuf Dodia	PSDA	<a href="mailto:psda@corppernet.zm">psda@corppernet.zm</a>
Dale Mudenda	Researcher	<a href="mailto:dmudenda@unza.zm">dmudenda@unza.zm</a>
Angela Mulenga	CUTS	<a href="mailto:amm@cuts.org">amm@cuts.org</a>

Patrick Chengo	CUTS	<a href="mailto:p_chengo@yahoo.co.uk">p_chengo@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Simon Ng'ona	CUTS	<a href="mailto:simonngula@yahoo.com">simonngula@yahoo.com</a>
Antony Kasolo	Board member	<a href="mailto:antony.kasolo@gmail.com">antony.kasolo@gmail.com</a>