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20th July 2020

STATEMENT ON A TWEET BY ONE *Precious@musitracy* ABOUT RELIABILITY OF UBOS STATISTICS/ DATA

We have learnt with great concern of a Tweet making rounds, first on Twitter, and consequently on various social media platforms like Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram and others, about the accuracy and use of UBOS data. This resulted from a tweet made by one *Precious@musitracy* on the 19th July 2020 at 10:03am, alleging that she was part of the UBOS team that was still compiling data for the budget speech, yet the budget reading session was on-going, thereby putting the reliability of UBOS data in question.

It is true that Tracy Musiimenta a.k.a *Precious@musitracy* trained with UBOS as an Intern student from 4th June to 5th July 2013, under the Directorate of Macroeconomic Statistics like any other Internship students from Universities in the country and abroad always do. It is a policy of the Bureau to give an opportunity to second year University students to train with us, and this will continue.

Given the importance of statistics in national planning and policy making, compilation of statistical indicators follows a clear and elaborate protocol involving experts at Senior Statistician level and above, with vast experience and impeccable skills in the application of national and International standard. The compiled data goes through quality assurance and peer reviews prior to being released to stakeholders. The Bureau has, infact, been ranked by the peers as the best practice in Africa.

The compiling of various statistical indicators is continuous, whether there is a budget speech or not, as the official data is always needed for various development interventions. It might be that a student who is barely a week acclimatising to the work environment mistakenly took it that UBOS only compiles data for the budget speech, since the event happens in the same period that she came for internship. We wish to make it clear that data required for the budget speech is published by the end of May every year. In addition, UBOS treats a student as a learner, and cannot assign her such a difficult task.

UBOS remains a professional organisation that provides statistical data of integrity. We wish to advise the public, therefore, that Tracy's tweets are baseless, slanderous and defamatory, and must be treated with the contempt it deserves.



Chris N. Mukiza (PhD)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR