



6th February, 2023

STATEMENT BY THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF GOVERNMENT TO THE MEDIA

As a Public institution accountable to the public, we are obliged to give the public through the press information about any matter of public interest – such as the current investigations regarding allegations of mismanagement of NSSF, which led to halting renewal of former NSSF Managing Director Mr. Richard Byarugaba’s employment contract.

In line with our mandate, the Inspectorate of Government (IG) commenced investigations and during the course of the investigations, Mr. Richard Byarugaba rightly informed the Select Committee of Parliament investigating the same matter that he had not yet been invited by the IG to give any information, which surprised him being the main actor in the allegations.

Mr. Byarugaba’s statement has generated a fair amount of interest among the media including social media, wondering why the IG has not yet summoned him. Indeed in one of the media houses, it has been raised today as one of “the unanswered questions in the NSSF investigation saga.

The purpose of this press briefing is to answer that question by informing the public that professional investigation is a process that requires meticulous preparations before commencing the investigations. Among other things, it includes:

- Development of informers’ list
- Use of undercover agents
- Physical and electrical surveillance
- Gathering data
- Analyse the data

- Laboratory analysis of evidence
- Make predictions
- Background checks
- Draw conclusions
- Finally interrogate the final suspect

Investigations inherently have a strong element of surprise and confidentiality- that is why investigators operate underground–never in the media otherwise the quality of results could be compromised or influenced by too much exposure – suspects or interested parties can tamper with possible witnesses through coaching, intimidation, coercion or bribery – so by the time investigators summon a suspect – they have all the information they need, but they have to speak to the suspect because of the Principle of the Right to be heard. Many times witnesses are hostile so investigators depend on their own findings rather than witness accounts. Sometimes investigations are conducted under the glare of cameras – this way almost everybody can anticipate the investigators’ next move and thus may manipulate, influence, compromise or undermine the integrity of the final results – I therefore seek the indulgence of the public to understand our work methods, and forgive us when we withhold some vital information from them.

A case in point is the Jamwa investigation where Parliament cleared him but the IG found him culpable, prosecuted him and secured convictions up to the Supreme Court.

I can assure you that investigations are going on smoothly and we hope to conclude them within scheduled timelines – and everybody involved will get a fair hearing.