



MINECOFIN



CLADHO

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
UMBRELLA OF HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS IN RWANDA (CLADHO)
AND
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING (MINECOFIN)

Preamble

In recognition of the benefits to be gained through a cooperative programme that promotes budget transparency through citizen participation in budgeting process, the Ministry of Finance and Economic planning, hereafter referred to as "MINECOFIN" and the Collectif des Ligues et Associations de Défense des Droits de l'Homme au Rwanda, hereafter referred to as "CLADHO" enter into this Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") which is intended to stimulate and facilitate the scope of the activities of both institutions. MINECOFIN and CLADHO are hereinafter individually referred as "Party" and collectively as "Parties"

I: Purpose of the MoU

The purpose of this MoU is to formalize collaboration between the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN) and CLADHO; a *"leading civil society organizations in budget related work in Rwanda"* with the overall objective of improving budget transparency and accountability.

II: Commencement, Duration, Renewal, Amendment and Termination

This MoU shall become effective on the date that it is signed by both Parties and shall be valid for a period of Five (5) years unless early terminated by one of the Party by giving at least one (1) month prior written notice of termination to the other Party. This MoU can be modified by mutual written agreement between the Parties. It may be renewed or extended by mutual consent for such period as the Parties may agree.

III: Commitments and responsibilities of Parties

MINECOFIN and CLADHO agree on the following to achieve the goals of this MoU.

a) Mutual commitments

1. Collaboration in capacity strengthening/building of members of the civil society organizations in budgeting process.
2. Collaboration in the process of Citizen Guide to the budget.
3. Collaborate in organizing the budget sensitization week between budget reading and budget approval.

b) MINECOFIN Responsibilities

1. Facilitate Civil Society organizations (“CSOs”) to timely access budget information especially the Budget Framework Paper and the draft finance law
2. Invite Civil Society organizations in core meetings such as:
 - Development Partners Retreat
 - Sector Reviews with ministries at the beginning of the fiscal year

c) CLADHO Responsibilities

1. Organize budget awareness campaigns
2. Disseminating to the public the citizen guide to the budget Sustaining existing pre-budget hearings initiatives at local and central government level
3. Share the findings from the pre-budget hearing with MINECOFIN
4. Identifying capacity building needs and design capacity building plans for CSOs to increase their skills in budgeting process.
5. Formulate and share Civil Society alternative position on Budget Framework Paper and the draft finance law as supplementary information for consideration by MINECOFIN.

IV: Implementation

In order to carry out and fulfill the aims of this MoU, the Parties shall each identify a contact person to coordinate the development and conduct of joint activities.

V: Legal quality of the MoU

The Parties acknowledge that nothing in this MoU shall be construed as being legally binding

VI: Governing Law

This MoU shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Rwanda.

VII: Settlement of disputes

Any dispute between the parties hereto regarding the interpretation or the application of this MoU will be settled amicably through mutual consultation between Parties.

VIII: Signature

In witness whereof, the parties to this MOU through their duly authorized representatives have executed this MOU on the days and dates set out below, and certify that they have read, understood, and agree to the terms and conditions of this MOU as set forth herein

Done at Kigali, on the 4th August 2015.

For and on behalf of MINECOFIN



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Kamukama S. Y. GATETE
Permanent Secretary and
Secretary to the Treasury

Claver GATETE
Minister of Finance and Economic Planning

For and on behalf of CLADHO



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SEKANYANGE Jean Leonard

Chairperson of CLADHO