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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LAUNCH OF ESAAMLG G8 SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COMBATTING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM PUBLIC PRIVATE SECTOR DIALOGUE**

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Namibia is hosting the Eastern Southern African Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) and G8 Sub-Saharan Africa Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting the Financing of Terrorism Public-Private Sector Dialogue (PPSD) from Friday, 6 September 2013 in Swakopmund. The Minister of Finance, Honorable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila will launch the event in her capacity as President of the ESAAMLG Council of Ministers. The purpose of this launch is to facilitate the development and implementation of effective Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) controls, which are based on the revised international standards on combatting AML/CFT as promulgated by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

The PPSD agenda will focus, amongst others, on the implementation of FATF standards, customer due diligence and know your customer requirements, high risk customers, mobile money and remittances and correspondent banking services. In addition to presentations by public and private sector experts across the globe, the PPSD will facilitate a number of workshops and networking events amongst attendees. This unique gathering will bring together public and private sector representatives, responsible for AML/CFT and business development in order to promote jurisdictional and institutional compliance with international standards.

The PPSD anticipates encouraging both African government and private sector officials to institute meaningful AML/CFT reform as a foundation for strong and sustainable growth and to understand why the application of internationally-accepted AML/CFT standards is a pre-condition to be successful in the marketplace. It further aims to create sector-wide awareness to strive for market-driven AML/CFT reforms and to gain a better understanding of the socio-political, cultural, and economic governance frameworks of African countries.

The delegates at this gathering will also be addressed by Her Royal Highness, Her Majesty **Queen Maxima of the Netherlands**, and UN Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance and Development, during the dialogue on her continuous support for financial inclusive innovative products to be launched on the African continent.

The dialogues amongst AML/CFT experts in the public and private sectors will continue after until 8 September. Government and Private Sector participants from Russia, the United States, United Kingdom, Europe, Africa, and interested G8 partners were invited to participate. Delegates will represent Finance ministries; Trade ministries; Justice Ministries; Foreign Ministries and Embassies; Mobile Financial Service Providers; Central Banks; Financial Intelligence Units, Law Enforcement Agencies and other business and trade associations.

**Issued by**  
**Ndangi Katoma**

Director

Department of Strategic Communications and Financial Sector Development  
Bank of Namibia,

Tel: (061) 283 5114, Fax: (061) 283 5546 or email: [info@bon.com.na](mailto:info@bon.com.na)