



WELCOME ADDRESS

BY

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**JOINT NATIONAL FINTECH STEERING COMMITTEE AND
INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP MEETING**

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1. Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen.
2. I would like to extend my warm welcome to you all to this **second joint meeting of the National Fintech Steering Committee (NFSC) and Interagency Fintech Working Group (IFWG)**.
3. Ladies and Gentlemen, as you would recall during our inaugural meeting held on the 31st of May 2019, we agreed to finalise the institutional arrangements to ensure a smooth adoption and implementation of Fintech in Zimbabwe. I am pleased to note that progress has been made in this regard.
4. I am informed that the Interagency Fintech Working Group has already met twice to constitute four thematic committees and draft the Terms of Reference. As we move forward, the IFWG through its thematic committees will have a very special role to play in our journey to developing a National Fintech Strategy. I note from the agenda that we shall receive detailed updates from IFWG on their progress.
5. Given that the institutional structures are now in place, we must now commence work that will lead to the development of a National Fintech Strategy.
6. I believe that we now must formulate a **Work Program** that will serve as a compass to the work of the committees. I note that the draft Work Program that will be discussed during this meeting proposes some key deliverables which we should produce within the time constraints.
7. Today's agenda highlights the need to extensively engage the Fintech sector with a view of gaining knowledge on the current status, existing business models, market sizes and the current constraints to the growth of the sector through a **Landscaping Assessment**.
8. The landscaping exercise will lay a foundation to the formulation of a **National Fintech Strategy** that is pro-innovation that will contribute to reducing the cost

and improving access and quality of financial services without compromising the stability of the markets.

9. Given the tight deadlines in the proposed Work Program, it is incumbent upon all of us to ensure that we embed the Committee deliverables into part of our day to day work. The deadlines will require us to burn the midnight candles.
10. I wish to conclude my brief remarks by this famous African adage – **“If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”** The phase that we have entered requires all “hands on the deck”. The deliverables we seek to accomplish will be achieved if we pull together as a team.
11. I am looking forward to progressive and fruitful discussions ahead as we chart the way forward.

THANK YOU!