

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **INAUGURATION OF THE GAMBIA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT COMPLAINTS REVIEW BOARD**

The public is hereby informed that The Gambia Public Procurement Complaints Review Board, which was established under The Gambia Public Procurement Act Section 52 (1), 2014 has been reconstituted and is now operational with its Secretariat being the Office of the Director of Procurement.

It is understood that a public procurement process without a grievance redress mechanization is bound to display a lot of resentment and hence could yield inefficiencies and limits the value for money. Therefore, in order to strengthen our procurement process, the government has committed to establish the said Board for the purpose of resolving disputes arising from bidders who claim to have suffered, or are likely to suffer loss or injury due to a breach of a duty imposed on the procuring organisation by the procurement laws. This has made it a primary role of the Board to protect the interests of bidders interested in obtaining public contracts and to ensure that the main public procurement principles are observed; and contribute to the achievement of the main goals determined in public procurement. In addition, the Review Board offers general legal advice to the procurement stakeholders in relation to conflicts and proceedings during filing and, or hearings of the Review.

#### **SCOPE AND MANDATE**

The Review Board is established to promote and uphold fairness in the public procurement system through judicious and impartial adjudication of matters arising from disputed procurement proceedings and as a major alternative to the

court system. The Mandate of the Board, therefore, stands to review decisions made by procuring organisations at any stage of the procurement proceedings.

For more information about the scope and mandate, Review Procedure, Requirements to launch applications for Reconsideration and Review, etc. will be shared on the Ministry of Finance's website, social media handles and other channels for publicity.

Thank you.