



BANK OF ZAMBIA

P.O. Box 30080 Lusaka
10101

9 January 1997

CB Circular No. 2/97

TO : All COMMERCIAL BANKS and BUREAUX DE CHANGE

Dear Sirs

Re: PTA TRAVELLERS CHEQUES SYSTEM AND PROCEDURES

At the Governors annual meeting held in Maputo, Mozambique on 13 - 14 November 1996, the Committee of COMESA Central Bank Governors decided that sales of PTA Travellers Cheques cease on December 31, 1996 in all countries of the COMESA sub-region.

The decision to halt the UAPTA TCs was reached after careful consideration of an independent report commissioned by the Governors last March and carried out by a firm of professional consultants, Coopers and Lybrand. The study established that although PTA Travellers Cheques had been of great benefit in promoting travel and intra-trade in the COMESA region during the pre-liberalisation era, their usefulness and level of utilisation has continued to decline as a result of the liberalisation process now taking place in all the member countries of COMESA.

The guidelines below should be followed regarding cessation of sale of PTA Travellers Cheques:-

- (i) There should be no more sales by all selling Agents of PTA Travellers Cheques effective 1st January 1997. However customers who would have bought PTA Travellers Cheques before 31 December 1996 will still be able to encash them at selling Agents up to Friday 24 January 1997.
- (ii) For all sales of PTA Travellers Cheques made before 31 December 1996, proceeds must be surrendered to the Bank of Zambia by 24 January 1997.

(iii)


All stocks of unutilised PTA Travellers Cheques should be surrendered to Bank of Zambia by 24 January 1997. These stocks should be supported by a reconciliation schedule showing the following:-

- (a) Total stocks received from Bank of Zambia indicating relevant dates.
- (b) Total sales up to 31 December 1996.
- (c) Total proceeds from sales in (b) above remitted to Bank of Zambia with relevant dates.
- (d) Balance of unutilised stocks being surrendered to the Bank of Zambia by 24 January 1997.

(iv)

For all encashments made by customers before 24 January 1997 with selling Agents, claims must be lodged with Bank of Zambia by 31 January 1997. No claims will be entertained thereafter.

Yours faithfully



S MUSOKOTWANE, Dr
ACTING DEPUTY GOVERNOR