



4th September, 2024

REBUTTAL ON THE TUESDAY GRILL ONLINE PUBLICATION
ARTICLE TITLED: 'ANGLO AMERICAN CAUGHT IN A PLOT TO
TOPPLE MASISI'

1. The Financial Intelligence Agency (FIA) has noted with concern a misleading article from the Tuesday Grill Online Publication, published on the 3rd September 2024, Issue 009. The headline on the front page and full article on Page 3 purports that the Agency has allegedly intercepted a suspicious transaction intended for UDC accounts, valued at \$45 million or BWP600 million.
2. The article further alleges that FIA did not approve the transaction because the sender had unclear origins and failed to provide the necessary Know Your Customer (KYC) documents. The article is not only unfounded and grossly misleading to the public but also misrepresents the mandate of the FIA. It is undesirable for the Tuesday Grill Online Publication to make such statements concerning the FIA without prior engagement with the Agency.
3. For the record and in the interest of the public it is important to state that the FIA is not a financial institution, as such, the nature of its

operations does not include declining or approving financial transactions. It is therefore misleading to suggest that the FIA intercepted and declined a suspicious transactions intended for UDC accounts.

4. The core mandate of FIA is to receive, collect and analyse financial reports from designated reporting entities in order to produce financial intelligence products to facilitate the fight against money laundering, terrorist financing and other financial crimes. Section 6 of the Financial Intelligence Act, 2022 speaks to this in detail.
5. The FIA respects freedom of the Press, however, this right comes with the responsibility to the society to report truthfully and accurately.
6. Thank you.



Bopelokgale Soko
DIRECTOR GENERAL

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