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**Acting Executive Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission**

Since May 2015 we've recovered over USD \$5 billion. The initiative by the Secretariat to bring the anti-corruption agencies in the Commonwealth Africa countries has brought tremendous improvement in the process and procedures relating to cross-border crime, corruption, fraud and money laundering.

The initiative of having these heads of corruption interactions as a result of creation of the Heads of Anti-Corruption Agencies in Commonwealth Africa has brought understanding and collaboration, and easier exchange of intelligence and information. This has reduced the bottle neck relating to process and procedure in mutual legal assistance. Sometimes you need to exchange information informally because you don't delay. Now, because of our relationships and informal contact, if you have information, if you have any requests, we can talk. This wasn't the case before.

For instance, just recently, somebody who had debt in Nigeria ran to Ghana. My Ghanaian colleagues called me and said 'Look Magu, you have this person, get me the necessary court processes, get the arrest warrant etc. etc. and I will tender those things in my country and I will keep this man, so you can come and take him'. That was how we got the person extradited.

It is very, very, very good. It helps us to exchange information, intelligence, both formally and informally. I think this Association of Anti-Corruption Agencies in Commonwealth Africa should be extended to cover the whole of Commonwealth because you have a wider reach when it is entire Commonwealth. I think because of the progress we have made so far in the Association, I'm not new so I know what I'm talking about, I know the benefit we have got from this so it's very necessary. Because this is cross-border crime. It's not one nation. We have to collaborate.

The Secretariat has done a lot. I know we are working hand-in-hand with the National Crime Agency in the UK, so it's very effective. And my colleague in Ghana, in Cameroon, in Sierra Leone. It's working, believe me.

The initiative actually came from Dr Roger Koranteng and there is regular contact. He's knows almost everybody that is in the anti-corruption community in Commonwealth Africa. I did not also mention the forum created in Botswana in terms of training and building capacity in the Anti-Corruption Agencies in Commonwealth Africa. This has created a very robust relationship and it's going to help.