

“Media plays an important role in Managing Expectations”



In a bid to improve the journalists’ interpretation of Central Bank economic terms and numbers/data, the National Bank of Rwanda yesterday conducted a one day media training with journalists from the local media. The training follows the Bank’s quarterly media trainings though, of recent different journalists have failed to rightly interpret the Central Bank’s data thus reporting wrongly.

At the training, the National Bank of Rwanda’s Chief Economist Prof. Thomas Kigabo, emphasized the crucial role media plays in ensuring a stable economy. He said that such kind of erroneous reporting and failure to interpret data is dangerous as it has the potential to misinform the citizenry since people depend on information to manage their expectations.

The training came in handy given that on Wednesday 22nd February 2017, the Governor of the National Bank of Rwanda will be presenting to the public the Monetary Policy and Financial Stability Statement. The Governor presents the Monetary Policy and Financial Stability Statement (MPFSS) to the public twice a year in February and August and the purpose of this presentation is to inform the public the current and foreseeable

economic developments. The Wednesday presentation will specifically assess the developments for 2016 and give the outlook for 2017.

Given that the MPFSS will be informing the outlook, it is important that the numbers presented and economic terms used are well interpreted and reported.