

## **The Director on a Mission visit to the DRC**

The UNAFRI Director, Dr. Masamba Sita, made a Mission visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) from 27 July – 1 August 2009.



*L-R: The Director, Dr. Masamba Sita discussing recently with in DRC with the Minister of State for Budget, Mr. Alain LUBAMBA wa LUBAMBA, during the Director's Visit to that Country.*

During the 5 day visit, Dr Sita met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Alexis Thambwe Mwamba in his office; and informed him of the election of The DRC into the Governing Board of UNAFRI, and the responsibilities of the Members of the Board. He further informed His Excellency of the forthcoming Conference of Ministers to either take place in Kampala or Nairobi; and promised to notify them of the Date and Venue by September.

The Minister immediately instructed officers in his Ministry to prepare formal letters to his colleagues in other concerned ministries and notify them of the country's new role in UNAFRI, and to take needed action.

In separate meetings, the Director/ Head of Mission also met the Ministers of State for Finance, Cesar Lubamba Ngimbi; and his counterpart in Budget, Alain LUBAMBA Wa LUBAMBA. They had a lengthy and fruitful

discussion mostly on Assessed contribution of The DRC to UNAFRI. Both Ministers promised to regularize the situation.

Besides, the UNAFRI boss met with the Director of Prisons and his colleagues. He informed them about the successful Training Course for Correctional officers from Eastern Africa, which was held in UNAFRI secretariat in Kampala for 2 weeks. He said the course was meant for both uniformed and civilian correctional officers with relevant skills of executing their daily duties in their respective countries.

They expressed their desire of the same Course to be offered to them in The DRC; and promised to discuss the issue among colleagues, and make recommendation to His Excellency, the Minister of Justice, in order to invite formally UNAFRI to either offer the same Course solely to their country depending on availability of funds or to use Kinshasa as a venue for the Central African countries.