

**WELCOMING STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE,  
HON. MUSTAFA HAIDI MKULO (MP), AT THE 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL  
NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE FROM 26<sup>TH</sup> – 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY,  
2012 AT UBUNGO PLAZA, DAR ES SALAAM**

***Hon. Mizengo Kayanza Peter Pinda (MP), Prime Minister of the  
Government of the United Republic of Tanzania;***

***Honorable Ministers;***

***Honorable Regional Commissioners;***

***Honorable Members of Parliament;***

***Permanent Secretaries;***

***Regional Administrative Secretaries;***

***Excellencies Ambassadors and High Commissioners;***

***Excellencies Resident Representatives;***

***Representatives of the Civil Society and the Private Sector;***

***Members of the Media;***

***Invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:***

**Honorable Prime Minister**, let me extend to you a hearty welcome and indeed thank you for finding time to officiate the launch of the 2011 Annual National Policy Dialogue, despite your busy schedule. This signifies the commitment and importance the government accords to results of the dialogue in informing policy priority actions, budget formulation and execution. Your presence gives every participant confidence that their contributions are recognized and respected in the development of this country, and in particular the fight against poverty. The National Policy Dialogue is a forum for great thinkers, policy makers and development practitioners at all levels to give feedback, examine their performances and chart out the way forward. Participants, during this event, reflect on three subject matters: - the policy issues that focus on growth and poverty reduction, budget and public expenditure reviews and General Budget Support issues. It is during this event that, all year long sector and thematic dialogues are summed up and critically examined and widely shared by different stakeholders.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:**

I know, we are all excited to have HE Prime Minister with us today and we are therefore looking forward to hearing his speech. My duty to stand now is to welcome the Guest of Honour to speak to us. But before I do

that, allow me to say a few words. We organize the Annual National Policy Dialogue not only to fulfill the mandatory obligation of communication, but because we understand that, though, the Government provides leadership, it has no monopoly of thought and must be open to new ideas. Only a truly open and accountable government can command the people's support for economic and political reform. It will, however, accept criticism with grace, where criticism is warranted and it will have the courage to open itself to close scrutiny. This is the real essence of the National Policy Dialogue.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:**

Unlike previous year's meeting, due to commemoration of 50 years of independence, the ANPD was rescheduled to January 2012. However, given the importance of the GBS financing to be in line with the budget cycle, the General Budget Support Annual Review was held in November 2011. It was an opportunity for both Government and the Development Partners to jointly assess each other's performance against jointly agreed actions that are considered to be essential for growth and reduction of poverty. The 2011 review is governed by the Partnership Framework Memorandum (PFM) of May 2011 which specifies the principles and

terms between the Government and GBS-DPs regarding the provision of GBS in support of MKUKUTA II/MKUZA II.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:**

It is gratifying to note that impressive progress in a number of Performance Assessment Frameworks in 2011 overall was rated as satisfactory. Both the Government and GBS Partners, committed to address challenges which emerged during the implementation of PAF 2011 appropriately.

The theme for this year's event is ***'Effective implementation of policies, plans, strategies and programmes is important for sustainable development'***. This means that all the discussions are structured around this theme and we expect consensus on the way-forward to reflect the theme. As you may all be aware, the GBS review was held from 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2011, where an assessment of PAF 2011 was made with the general consensus emerging that performance was satisfactory. As informed by the Permanent Secretary - Treasury, the program has a slot that will allow you to get feedback on what transpired during that GBS review.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:**

In conclusion, let me take this opportunity to thank all parties who worked very hard in making it possible to organize this event.

I would now like to invite Honorable Prime Minister to deliver his Key note address and to officiate the opening of the Annual National Policy Dialogue Event.

**Thank you for your attention.**