

**DPG Commentary on MKUZA II at the Annual National Policy Dialogue**

**Friday, 3 December 2010**

**Dar es Salaam**

**Address by Mr. Erik Korsgren, DP Lead of the JAST Working Group**

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Honourable Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs,

Honourable Ministers,

Honourable Members of Parliament,

Permanent Secretaries,

Principal Secretaries,

Senior Officials of the Government of Tanzania,

Senior Officials of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar,

Members of the Diplomatic Corps,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- On behalf of the Development Partners Group allow me to begin by congratulating the new coalition Government of Zanzibar for the peaceful election process.
- I would also like to express our appreciation for the leadership shown by the Government of Zanzibar in the review of the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty and the development of the successor strategy, the MKUZA II as well as for giving Development Partners the opportunity to share our comments and views throughout the review process and to make contribution to the development of the MKUZA II. We appreciate the good progress made in addressing most of our comments provided earlier this year in the final strategy.

**Distinguished Guests,**

- Development Partners welcome that the MKUZA II recognizes challenges in the MKUZA I implementation in terms of poverty reduction, co-ordination and prioritization of implementation. It is also appreciated that the MKUZA II acknowledges new challenges such as population growth, adaptation for climate change and alternative sources of energy. Despite these positive achievements I wish to highlight some critical issues which will need further attention:

1. First of all, clearer prioritization and sequencing is of key importance in order to have a strategy that will be implementable and supported by both national and external resources. We trust that this will be part of the implementation plan drafting process and stand ready to further support this important work. In this context, let me stress that DPs would like to emphasize the importance of developing a clear financing framework and a realistic budget.
2. Secondly, a comprehensive and sound results-framework with realistic, feasible and clearly defined targets, results and activities linked to strategic interventions need to be developed. In this context, Development Partners appreciated that the final MKUZA II has a comprehensive cluster matrix annexed which outline planned interventions under each cluster. Development Partners welcome that most of the operational targets are measurable and that new and important operational targets have been added - for example for reducing population growth and for increasing contraceptive prevalence. However, many of the targets remain very optimistic: a reduction in income poverty is targeted from the 2005 baseline of 49% to 25% in 2015; and the target for economic growth has been set to 10% by 2015. These targets are considered too ambitious by Development Partners.
3. Finally, like for MKUKUTA II, Development Partners see benefit in bringing the new Parliament on board at an early stage in order to ensure national ownership and accountability.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

- With the new Government and a set of ambitious MKUZA II targets for a number of areas, we can no longer afford to operate under “business as usual”. We all need to join efforts towards achieving these goals.
- I would like to close my statement by saying that Development Partners stand ready to provide further support to Zanzibar and look forward to fruitful dialogue and further engagement for the purpose of achieving MKUZA II targets as well as the Millennium Development Goals.

**Asanteni Sana!**