

REMARKS BY HON. KASSIM MAJALIWA MAJALIWA A(MP), PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA DURING THE ANTI-CORRUPTION SUMMIT LONDON ON 12TH MAY, 2016, -- GOVERNMENT OF TANZANIA: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY AND THE ROLE IT PLAYS IN EXPOSING CORRUPTION

**Right Honorable David Cameron,
Excellencies Heads of State and Government,
Honourable Secretaries of State,
President of the World Bank,
Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen**

From the outset I thank the Government of the United Kingdom, on behalf of H.E. Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, President of the United Republic of Tanzania for inviting us to take part in this important summit.

This summit is taking place at the opportune time when we in the new Government of Tanzania are at the forefront to rid corruption and the corruption culture in our society. Allow me to share with you highlights of the Government's public engagement strategy and the role it plays in exposing and tackling corruption.

The 5th Phase Government of Tanzania was elected into office in November, 2015. The President told the Nation that he will deal with corruption without hesitation and urged the nation to support the action.

Immediately after swearing in the New Government, He started by taking Administrative and Legislative actions to fight corruption.

1. Legislative Actions:

- The Government initiated a process to establish a Special Anti-Corruption Division of the High Court. This court will be operational on July 1st, 2016. The legal framework in terms of court rules, establishment procedure and jurisdiction are being worked upon through amendment of several laws.
Allow me to thank the UK government for its support in realization of this initiative.
- The Review of Prevention and Combating of Corruption Act is underway to amend it to suit the current environment.
- Whistle Blowers Act is also under review to enable the public to give their support without jeopardizing their security.

- 36 high profile corruption cases have been sent to court (involving Politicians, current and retired Senior Government officials.)

2. Administrative Actions:

- Senior Government Officials who are suspected to indulge in corruption acts, or who are not able to tackle corruption and mismanagement, have been sacked from the public office.
- The government carried out tax assessment and introduced measures to curb tax evasion, through this action tax evaders were left without no options other than pay dues and owing taxes or risk court action.
- Other measures include the Government decision to cut wasteful expenditure by controlling unnecessary foreign travel by Government officials, calling off annual public festivals, stopped importation of luxurious vehicles for government use. Instead, funds earmarked for such activities were diverted to fund projects that have direct benefits to the people.
- The Government is now clamping down on Ghost Workers' salary, a scheme that unscrupulous government officials used to steal money from the wage-bill. (The current statistics stand at over 10,000 ghost workers). In April, the government saved more than 20 Million USD after the removal of Ghost workers in the Payroll.

The actions taken have sent a very clear message to both members of the public and government officials that the business is not as usual. There are consequences if they indulge on corrupt practices. The public is encouraged by the President's zeal. They are now providing necessary information that has enabled the Government to discover massive tax evasion and other maladministration committed by unethical corrupt officials.

Public participation has enhanced Government's performance tremendously, for instance:

- Government Revenue Collection has raised almost two folds from what was being collected in the last phase Government from 425 Millions of USD, to 650 Millions of USD per month.
- Financial and fiscal discipline is surely being observed and public officials are now more accountable.

Additional strategies

The third phase of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan (NACSAP III) will soon be approved by Cabinet, the Strategy's main focus is to involve all stakeholders in the fight against Corruption. Community education is stressed therein, to create new anti-corruption culture in the country. The involvement of anti-corruption school curriculum targeting young generation has been given priority. Civil Societies, Media, Grassroots Organizations and Private sector are also important.

The Government and Mobile Phone Companies will soon launch a messaging system whereby, toll free number will be issued for members of public to report and receive responses from the Anti-Corruption Bureau.

The war against corruption requires not only superb legislative and administrative measures in statutes, **BUT POLITICAL WILL.** The current Tanzania Government has shown that, it is possible. It is undeniable fact that International cooperation and coordination is important due to the fact that, corruption is a transnational problem. There is evidence available to prove this fact.

I urge Development Partners, to support our efforts by assisting us, by sharing expertise and experience for our common good. Corruption, if not well checked, might be the major threat to global peace and security.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.