

MINISTRY **INAUGURAL SPEECH BY THE PERMANENT SECRETARY  
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SECURITY AND  
COOPERATIVES OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA,  
MR. MOHAMED S. MUYA AT THE LAUNCH OF THE  
TANZANIA POLICY HUB AT THE MOVENPICK HOTEL, DAR  
ES SALAAM, TANZANIA ON AUGUST 15, 2011**

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~~Mr. Chairman,~~

The President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa  
(AGRA),

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

*May I first and foremost*

I take this opportunity to warmly welcome you all to <sup>this</sup> ~~the~~ inaugural ceremony of the The United Republic of Tanzania policy hub, here in Dar es Salaam. The Policy Hub concept is an innovative and transformative approach to policy analysis and advocacy through Private - Public partnership.

*as most of you are aware of;*  
Ladies and gentlemen, Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy of The United Republic of Tanzania, accounting for more than 24.1 % of the country's GDP, provides 95% of <sup>the country's</sup> food requirement, and employs 77.5% of the labor force. ~~The United Republic of Tanzania has a total land mass of 945,087 square kilometers, of which arable land area constitutes about 10%. An~~

The<sup>United</sup>

Republic of Tanzania has a total land mass of 945,087 square kilometers, of which arable land area constitutes about 10%. An estimated 1.16% of the arable land is under permanent crops while only 1,840 sq km is under irrigation.

**Mr. Chairman,** ~~#~~ viable and sustainable economic development in The United Republic of Tanzania can only be achieved through the transformation and modernization of the agricultural sector. However, The United Republic of Tanzania's agriculture still faces many demographic, climatic, soil-related and technological constraints.

The use of improved seeds and fertilizer is less than optimal. Adoption rates of improved crop varieties range from 5 - 20% indicating that over 80% of seeds and planting materials originate from farm-saved seeds and materials. Fertilizer use rate in The United Republic of Tanzania is about 9kg/ha indicating still very low use of ~~fertilizer~~. the same.

**Mr. Chairman,** The Agricultural Sector Development Programme (ASDP) was launched in 2006 to provide a sector wide investment vehicle to deliver the Agricultural Sector Development Strategy (ASDS), and to contribute to the targets of reducing rural poverty from 27% to 14% by 2010, and raising agricultural growth to 10% per year by 2010.

In an effort to reverse the effects of the infamous structural adjustment programme of the 1980s and promote agricultural productivity and growth, the government of The United Republic of Tanzania subsidized fertilizers through a “bulk procurement and reimbursement programme” at the national level in the early 2000s. Unfortunately the design of the programme was not benefiting farmers at the grass root. Therefore, the government introduced a voucher system in 2008/2009 as a replacement of the bulk procurement and reimbursement programme. Targeting 700,000 small scale farmers in 2008/2009, the government allocated US\$51.5 million to procure and distribute 155,000 tones of fertilizer, 6,000 tones of improved seeds (i.e. maize, rice and sunflower), 2,000 liters of agro chemicals, 8,000,000 improved tea seedlings, and 9,000,000 improved coffee seedlings.

The voucher system allows private sector participation in the procurement and distribution of the inputs thereby promoting rural sector input market development. With support from AGRA, CNFA trained over 3,000 agro-dealers across the country who received over <sup>US</sup> \$10.0 million in loans from a facility <sup>run</sup> by NMB to support the implementation of the voucher programme. The programme promotes proper utilization of fertilizer to enable farmers increase maize crop productivity and reduce hunger and poverty.

at a historical Public - Private Sector Conference under the Chairmanship of  
The  
Mr. Chairman, in 2009, the President and Chairman of Tanzania National Business Council of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. <sup>Dr.</sup> <sup>Tanzania</sup> Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, resolved to:

- Embark on Kilimo Kwanza, The United Republic of Tanzania's Green Revolution to transform its agriculture into a modern and commercial sector
- Integrate Kilimo Kwanza into the Government machinery to ensure its successful implementation
- Mobilize increased quantum of resources towards the realization of Kilimo Kwanza
- Mobilize the private sector to substantially increase its investment and shoulder its rightful role in the implementation of Kilimo Kwanza, and
- Declare that the implementation of Kilimo Kwanza will comprise ten actionable pillars detailed in the Kilimo Kwanza document.

Kilimo Kwanza is designed to enhance the environment for all, <sup>Public</sup> ~~farmers~~ <sup>and Private into agriculture</sup>, while targeting poor and risk-prone and risk-averse producers to ensure <sup>a</sup> market-driven growth with a vision to modernize agriculture and structurally transform the economy, improve food security, employment and reduce poverty consistent with the MDGs and CAADP.

agricultural

In support of government's effort to achieve the lofty goals of Kilimo Kwanza, a number of development partners are willing to support financing of <sup>The</sup> Southern Agricultural <sup>Growth</sup> Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) as an entry point of implementing the Resolve in a partnership arrangement. AGRA <sup>though</sup> is a relatively new partner <sup>undoubtedly</sup> ~~but~~ an increasingly important partner with the government and private sector in The United Republic of Tanzania. Besides the agro-dealership program, AGRA is currently investing in a number of important program areas in The United Republic of Tanzania: in seeds, soil health, and market access activities.

As many of you may have known, AGRA has <sup>recently</sup> signed an agreement with the government of the United Republic of Tanzania <sup>thus providing a basis for developing</sup> ~~and recently with the Government~~ ~~developed~~ the breadbasket investment plans for the Southern Highlands with strong multi-donor backing.

**Ladies and gentlemen,** the need for policy to ensure transformation takes place cannot be over emphasized. We all know that even with all our best efforts, achieving agricultural growth and transformation requires the existence of supportive policies.

The government of the United Republic of Tanzania believes that what is needed to achieve a green revolution in the ~~United~~ Country

build capacity for

~~Republic of Tanzania~~ is comprehensive support to ~~build~~ local policy institutions, support evidence-based policies, connect policy analysts to policy makers, engage agricultural parliamentary committees to interact with policy analysts, and to promote policy advocacy platforms that can transform policies into implementations consistent with ~~the~~ <sup>stated</sup> objectives of ensuring agricultural transformation in Africa in general and the United Republic of Tanzania in particular.

This belief calls for the revitalization of agricultural policy institutions in the United Republic of Tanzania to accelerate the use of evidence-based policies to achieve the goals of Kilimo Kwanza. <sup>It is indeed gratifying to note that</sup> AGRA, ~~therefore~~, plans to invest in policy support processes in the United Republic of Tanzania, working closely and forging strategic partnerships with all the development partners in the country to:

- Facilitate and support multi-stakeholder workshops and convening's to identify and prioritize major policy, institutional and regulatory constraints along the agricultural value chains
- Provide grant support to study the problems and identify evidence-based alternative policy options

- Provide support to stakeholders and policy makers /parliamentarians to dialogue and chart action plans to address the problems
- Assist stakeholders and the government in the implementation and evaluation of policies

**Mr. Chairman**, over the past one year, the Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives has been working with AGRA towards an innovative policy support program that will strengthen policy institutions and drive policy action to speed up the uptake of agricultural technologies especially seeds and soil health technologies, improve market incentives, strengthen land and property rights and develop and implement climate change adaptation policies.

The new approach, built around “policy hub” and ‘policy action nodes”, will focus sharply on translating evidence based policies into action through evidence-based policy advocacy involving all stakeholders within relevant policy value chains.

With technical and financial support from AGRA, the Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives engaged with senior policy makers, national, regional and international policy research centers, farmers, scientists, regional economic communities and bilateral and multilateral donors to form policy action nodes along

