



United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Opening Remarks

Workshop

“Harmonizing the Tanzanian APRM National Plan of Action (NPoA) with the existing National Development Plans”

24-25 August 2017

Golden Tulip Boutique Hotel

Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania

Lead Panellist and Vice President of APRM Panel of Eminent Persons, Hon. Brigitte Sylvia Mabandla

Mr. Kubingwa Simba, Deputy PS of the Ministry of Good Governance

Honorable Juma Hassan Reli, Executive Secretary, Zanzibar Planning Commission

Permanent Secretaries and senior Public Servants

Distinguished Members and Representative of the Tanzanian National Governing Commission

Distinguished participants and colleagues from APRM Secretariat, UNDP and UNECA

On behalf, of the Economic Commission for Africa of the United Nations, I would like to thank the government of United of Tanzania and the APRM Continental Secretariat to have invited us to contribute to this workshop.

For ECA, this is the 2nd workshop on this topic organized in Tanzania. The 1st one was organized in September 2012, prior to the country peer-review.

The APRM was adopted fourteen (14) years ago by the Members States of the African Union, as a paradigm shift- **structural change in the development model of African states**. The mechanism is a collective and transformative continental call for action to change the path of our shared destiny towards ***political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development*** and ***accelerated regional economic integration*** pattern.

Since then, the APRM has been at the forefront of the good governance movement in the continent, conducting country reviews, identifying strengths to share and deficiencies to rectify, and developing ways and means by which to fill identified capacity building and shared best practice through peer-learning.

Excellences and distinguished participants,

Since 2003, APRM participants' countries have taken significant steps to engage in this new path- 36 countries have voluntarily acceded and 20 among them have been peer-reviewed. Most of the peer-reviewed countries have developed frameworks for multi-stakeholder dialogue, under the led on the National Governing Council, in order to integrate in innovative ways, the APRM National Plan of Actions (NPOAs)- most important output- into their national and sub-national development plans, investment and fiscal frameworks.

To effectively track the progress towards the implementation of the NPOAs, UNECA developed tools and frameworks and provided tailor-made training programmes to public servants and CSOs actors through peer-learning and sharing experiences to facilitate the harmonisation of the NPOAs into existing national development plans

Unfortunately, few countries present their annual progress report. For example, in the last 5 years a maximum 1 to 2 countries, which is 1 in 8 APRM participant countries, submit annually the progress report on the implementation of the approved recommendations. This low rate is due to diverse reasons such as

- (i) lack of political backing toward the APRM NPOA;
- (ii) duplicative implementation arrangements with unclear division of responsibilities in monitoring, evaluation and reporting;
- (iii) challenges of collection, disaggregation and dissemination of data and statistics;
- (iv) unsustainability of APRM national structures, which vanish after the peer-review
- (v) increasing demands on ever tighter national budgets; and
- (vi) lack of financing architecture for the NPOA.

Excellences and distinguished participants,

In conclusion, let me just say that today workshop comes at an opportune time in Tanzania' political characterized by **unprecedented enthusiasm, commitment** and **political will** with the relaunching of the APRM in July 2017- first time in the history of the mechanism. - by the newly elected Head of State of Tanzania.

This is in this context that today workshop is organized- to facilitate the implementation and the reporting of Tanzania APRM NPOA at the Union and Zanzibar levels.

We need to keep the momentum going and take advantage of the new attention to keep engaging all the regions and all sectors of Tanzania, thus ensuring the finalization of the first APRM progress report.

I thank you for your kind attention.