

**Opening remarks for the Workshop on Harnessing the APRM
Tanzania NPoA with the National Development Plans – Golden
Tulip Boutique Hotel by Mr Juma Hassan Reli, Executive Secretary
to the Zanzibar Planning Commission**

**Hon. Guest of honor the Minister Presidents’ Office, Constitution and
Legal Affairs, Public Service and Good Governance, Mr. Haroun Ali
Suleiman,**

**Representative of the UNDP Resident Representative and UN
Resident Coordinator,**

UNECA Representative,

APRM Representative,

Dear Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning.

At the onset allow me to take this opportunity to thank the Almighty God for giving us strength and ability to attend this Important and also rare event. I also wish to thank the organisers of this workshop, the APRM and its Partners for nominating me to deliver welcoming remarks in this workshop that is held in Zanzibar. You are all welcome to Zanzibar as commonly known the spice islands.

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is the people agenda adopted by the African Heads of State and Government with the aim of peer learning and self-assessment mechanism. The process is designed to be open and participatory, guided by the principles of transparency, accountability, technical competence, credibility and freedom from political manipulation. The APRM has created a review process which is

characterized of independent and inclusive policy dialogue, peer-learning, compliance monitoring and follow-up. It covers four thematic areas: Democratic and Political Governance, Economic Governance and Management, Corporate Governance and Socio-Economic Development.

As you might be aware The Zanzibar Revolutionary Government Has recently approved the five years development plan I.e. **The Zanzibar Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty III (ZSGRP III) or in its Swahili acronym MKUZA III**, which is the last medium term strategy to achieve the targets envisioned in Zanzibar Development Vision 2020. MKUZA III as a medium term plan has a clear theme and mission statement, and consists of five Key Results Areas (KRAs) that form the pillars of the national development. Theme of the MKUZA III is “Economic Growth and Social Development for the Well-Being of All”. The Mission Statement is “Achieving Social and Economic Prosperity to Reach Middle-Income Status” comes year 2020.

The Key Results Areas are; A: Enabling Sustainable and Inclusive Growth; B: Promoting Human Capital Development; C: Providing Quality Services for All; D: Attaining Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience; and E: Adhering to Good Governance Principles. It's obvious to say that APRM 4 thematic areas are similar and dovetails the MKUZA III key results area. Hence this workshop is a blessing in disguise and came at right time and right moment when we are two years old down the line since when we started to implement and monitor the development plan and and achieve the Zanzibar Development Vision 2020.

The overall goal of Zanzibar Development Vision 2020 is to transform Zanzibar into a middle-income country and enable it to eradicate absolute poverty through building a strong, competitive economy that will create high-quality livelihoods for citizens; promoting good governance and rule of law; and maintaining Zanzibar’s rich culture. In this context, the objective of ZSGRP III is to initiate and guide structural reform that will

move Zanzibar's economy from the traditional agrarian activities, which are low productivity, to high-productivity industrial and services activities on a sustained basis. However, to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth, economic performance needs to be accompanied by changes in qualitative outcomes such as health, education, skills and technology development, all of which should improve living standards. With active guidance and leadership from the State, supervision from civil society and implementation through the private sector, economic development that can increase productivity, employment and social provisioning.

The MKUZA III follows the economic approach of four cornerstones (also called value chain components) of economic development. These are business development, infrastructure product development, market development and workforce development. These cornerstones represents a holistic and integrated approach toward development with the implementation strategy of 'twin-engine approach'. These are (1) expansion and strengthening of the tourism sector; and (2) expansion and strengthening of the light manufacturing sector.

Though the MKUZA III has been launched and started to be implemented, there still remain some challenges, including low awareness level of the stakeholders in planning for results, affordable financing of development plan and lack of soft skills such as writing feasibility studies and projects management as well as monitoring and evaluation. The Zanzibar Planning Commission is in the process of finalising the guideline for the development of the Sectors Strategic Plans and for the monitoring and Evaluation of the MKUZA III.

I have been informed that this two day workshop has the objective of harmonising National Plan of Action and MTEF instead of operating as two separate concepts that are not related and interconnected. Interoperability and interface of our Planning and financing instruments is our top agenda and we take serious. Or else we allow our instruments to operate in silos and as a result we do not realize synergetical advantage.

In Zanzibar implementation of SDGs has been integrated and streamlined with MKUZA III, they will be implemented hand in glove, hence avoid duplication of efforts in terms of time, finances, human resources, and having clear links between all programmes and projects. This will strengthen the coordination of all activities from planning, financing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

I would like to welcome you all to Zanzibar and please find time to visit our historical sites and cultural heritage dating back 200 to 300 years ago. Please kindly leave behind some of your dollars by buying our goods and services. I hope this forum will be beneficial to all of us.

I wish our our country Tanzania will be able to present its first Annual Progress Report in 2018 in the margins of AU Summit by streamlining the African Union Agenda 2063, Sustainable Development Goals 2013, APRM, and MKUZA III and so achieve Vision 2020 targets. Lastly I wish to say that the Bottom line is to switch from Planning mode to execution mode and get the positive results

With these few remarks, we welcome you all to this event.

**Mr. Juma Hassan Reli,
Executive Secretary,
Zanzibar Planning Commission.**