

THE AFRICAN PEER REVIEW MECHANISM (APRM) SUPPORT MISSION TO TANZANIA, 6th to 8th June 2006

COMMUNIQUE

Introduction

From 6th to 8th of June 2006, Prof. Adebayo Adedeji, Eminent Member of the APR Panel led a Country Support Mission to Tanzania. The team comprised of experts from APRM Strategic Partner Institutions as well as officials from the APRM Secretariat, namely:

- Mr. Charles Muthuthi, Principal Governance Specialist, African Development Bank (AfDB);
- Dr. Baffour Agyeman-Duah, Senior Governance Adviser, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- Ms. Jennifer Kargbo, Director, Southern Africa Regional Office, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA);
- Dr. Kojo Busia, Development Management Officer, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA);
- Ms. Evelynne Change, APRM Coordinator for Corporate Governance; and
- Ms. Nana Boateng, APRM Research Analyst for Socio-Economic Development.

The Objectives of the Mission were the following:

- To provide clarification on the structures that Tanzania has to put in place to facilitate the execution of the self assessment exercise and drafting the preliminary Programme of Action;
- To sign the Memorandum of Understanding on the Technical Assessment Missions and the Country Review Visit between the Government of United Republic of Tanzania and the African Peer Review Forum;
- To formally launch the APRM process for Tanzania.

The activities of the mission were facilitated by the President's Office (Good Governance) and the Ministry of Planning, Economy and Empowerment.

Programme of the Mission

The Mission began in Dar-es-Salaam on the 6th of June 2006 with a briefing meeting with Hon. Philip Marmo, Minister of State (Good Governance). The Team also met with Hon. Juma Ngasongwa, Minister for Planning Economy and Empowerment and Hon. Cyril Chami, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. In addition the mission interacted with a wide spectrum of stakeholders including representatives from Government, Media, the Private Sector and Persons with Disability in an Open Forum. The day ended with a Press Conference attended by Audio, Visual and Print media.

On the 7th of June the Mission travelled to Zanzibar for an open session with state and non-state actors. The event brought together a diverse group of about 40 participants from the island.

Additionally, the Mission paid a courtesy call on His Excellency, Mr. Abeid A Karume the President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar. President Karume underscored his Government's commitment to the promotion of human rights and good governance which had led to the establishment of the Ministry for Good Governance in 2000. He welcomed the participation of all stakeholders in the peer review exercise and noted that this may facilitate introspection by various entities. He assured the mission of the cooperation of Zanzibar in the review process.

Substance of Mission Deliberations

In discussions with the various dignitaries and stakeholders, Prof. Adedeji provided an update of the continental APRM process. He noted that so far reviews had been launched in nine countries namely, Algeria, Benin, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, and Uganda. Ghana has pioneered by reaching the final stage of discussion of the report by the Forum of Heads of State and Government. Rwanda's report has also been presented to the APR Forum while that of Kenya was due to be tabled in Banjul, The Gambia on June 30 2006 (eve of the AU Summit). Furthermore, the Panel hopes to complete the reviews for Algeria and South Africa within the next few months.

Prof. Adedeji noted that Tanzania was the tenth country to receive a country support mission. This is commendable indeed since Tanzania was not among the first 16 countries to accede to the APRM when the mechanism was created in 2003. Tanzania along with four other countries namely, Angola, Lesotho, Malawi and Sierra Leone acceded to the APRM during the AU Summit held in Addis Ababa, in July 2004. It is noteworthy also that Tanzania is the first to receive a support mission amongst this latter set of acceding countries.

Prof. Adedeji further highlighted the following efforts by Tanzania to implement the APRM:

- Ratification of the APRM by Parliament;
- Making budgetary provision for the APRM in the 2006/07 fiscal year which begins on July 1 2006;
- Organizing various consultative sessions on the APRM process, which led to initial recommendations on the national institutions to manage the process;
- Proposing to the Secretariat a tentative road map for the implementation of the APRM at national level; and
- Sharing Tanzania's experience on the APRM at the just concluded Africa Governance Forum VI in Kigali.

Stakeholders welcomed Tanzania's accession to the APRM and the onset of the process in their country. They agreed that the process would provide opportunities for experience sharing and showcasing Tanzania's best practices. They sought clarification with regard to the modalities for their participation in the process.

Mission Recommendations

Prof. Adedeji advised that for the review process to begin in earnest the following were priority action steps for Tanzania:

- Designation of the National Focal Point for the APRM;
- Composition and inauguration of the National Council/Commission, the entity charged with the management of the process at national level. This body must be inclusive, comprising representatives of all key stakeholders as the review was of Tanzania as a nation and not that of government alone. Non-state actors must be elected by their constituencies as opposed to being nominees of government to ensure that they are accountable to their group;
- Appointment of technical institutions to facilitate the execution of the self assessment and draft national programme of action by the National Council/Commission once it is established;
- Establishment of a secretariat to support the work of the National Council/Commission; and
- Widespread sensitization of stakeholders.

Final Day of the Mission

On the 8th of June 2006, the mission was in Dodoma, the Capital of Tanzania. The mission met again with Hon. Philip Marmo for a summation of the activities of the mission thus far. The mission also met with the Clerk of the National Assembly as Parliament was not in session. The role of parliament with regard to oversight, legislation and representation was underscored. As such, parliament could make a significant contribution to the implementation of the APRM in Tanzania.

The country support mission ended with a meeting between the Team and His Excellency, Mr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Prof. Adedeji provided the President with an update of the Mission so far. He noted that country focused nature of the APRM would resonate well with Tanzania which has long supported and edified nationalism. He expressed hope that the various stakeholders would play a proactive role in Tanzania's Peer Review process.

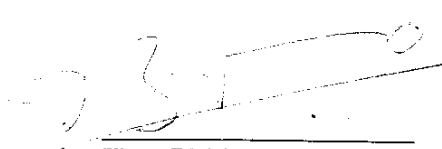
The President reiterated the commitment of Tanzania to promoting good governance and the APRM. He reassured the Mission that Tanzania would put in place the appropriate institutional framework for the implementation of the APRM. He looked forward to the completion of the review process for Tanzania expeditiously.

The MOU for the Technical Assessment Missions and the Country Review Visit was signed by President Kikwete on behalf of the Republic of Tanzania and Prof. Adedeji for the APR Forum. This marked the formal launching of the APR process for Tanzania.

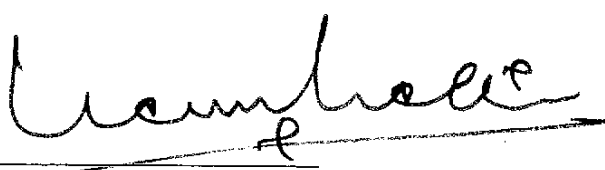
Appreciation

The Government of Tanzania expressed gratitude to the Support Mission for visiting the country to launch the APRM Process. Tanzania reiterated its support and commitment to a successful implementation of the process.

Prof. Adedeji expressed his profound appreciation to the Government of Tanzania for the warm hospitality extended to the Mission. Prof. Adedeji also thanked the strategic partners, AfDB, UNDP and UNECA for their contribution. Furthermore, he noted that UNDP had agreed to continue their support to the national process.



Hon. Philip Marmo (M.P)
Minister of State (Good Governance)



Prof. Adebayo Adedeji
Member of the APRM Panel

Issued in Dodoma, Tanzania, 8th day of June 2006