

OPENING SPEECH BY HON. JUMAA AWESO, DEPUTY MINISTER OF WATER TO THE WATER MANAGEMENT SEMINAR AT MORENA HOTEL IN DODOMA ON 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2019

Hon. Marcin Pryzdacz; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland;

Prof. Kitila Mkumbo, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Water, United Republic of Tanzania;

Mr. Michal Cygan, Director, Department of Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland;

Mr. Krzysztof Kopytko, Head of the Sub Saharan African Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland;

Polish Ambassador in Tanzania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland;

Ms. Agata Czapliska, Head of Development Cooperation with other Partner Countries Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland;

All distinguished delegates from Poland;

Representatives of the Line Ministries;

Directors and Technical Staff from the Ministry of Water, the United Republic of Tanzania;

Representatives from Ministry of Water Implementing Agencies;

All distinguished invited guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning,

Let me take this opportunity to welcome you to Dodoma, which is now the Government Capital City, **KARIBUNI SANA**. I am cordially inviting the

Polish delegation from Warsaw, Poland. Also, welcome our fellows from Arusha, Musoma, Mwanza and Dar es Salaam.

This water management seminar was organized by the Ministry of Water in collaboration with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Tanzania. The aim of the seminar is to identify how Poland could share the opportunities in supporting the water sector in Tanzania thus contributing to sustainable development. It further focuses to strengthen cooperation between Republic of Poland and the United Republic of Tanzania.

May I draw your attention to the specific objectives of the seminar which are;-

Firstly, reach a common understanding on some of the main water-related challenges in Tanzania; and

Secondly, scope out the main opportunities for support and cooperation in the areas of *waste water treatment including energy production, clean water supply and Water Supply Management system.*

Honourable Deputy Minister,

In the two terms of water scarcity; physical and economical; the available water resources need to be complimented with development of water resources. According to the assessment of water resources that was carried out during the development of Integrated Water Resources Management and Development Plans all over the country; there is 126,000 billion cubic meters of water in Tanzania. This is equivalent to 2,300 cubic meters of water per person per year. Although this national average is promising, has significantly dropped from an average of 7,800m³ per person per year in 1960s. Reduced and delayed rains as well as ever increasing demand for water are putting huge pressure on dwindling water resources.

Honourable Deputy Minister,

While our annual renewable resources stand at 126 billion cubic meters, the current annual demand is 40 billion cubic meters. It is projected that by

the year 2035, the demand will raise to 57 billion cubic meters per year. The situation, therefore, calls for immediate and sustainable interventions that will increase efficient water use and governance to manage and prevent the country towards reaching water stress. The relevance of this cooperation initiative with different partners, in this case the Republic of Poland, is embarrassed and has come at the right time.

Honourable Deputy Minister,

Water sector in Tanzania is implemented under the Water Sector Development Programme (WSDP) with the targets of achieving universal (100%) access to water supply in urban areas by 2025; ensuring the country reaches 90% water supply coverage in rural areas by 2025; and ensuring that water resources are available in a sustainable manner to serve as a driver to both social and economic needs.

It suffices to note here that, given the size of the country, and dispersion and availability of water resources, water supply coverage in both rural and urban areas are still one of the challenges to the water sector. The water supply coverage on average for urban areas currently stands at 75 per cent in the country, Dar es Salaam city at 84 per cent and the rural areas reached 71 percent. However, during the implementation of WSDP I much attention was given to water supply projects lagging behind the issue of sewerage projects, which is about 10% all over the country, currently the implementation of WSDP II has drawn much attention to sanitation and investing in sewerage system especially to the cities like Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Arusha.

Coverage is still not very much convincing, particularly in rural areas; which is calling for more assistance to the sector from of stakeholders, and development partners like the Republic of Poland. Currently, the Government through the Ministry of Water has put much attention and dedication on rural water and sanitation services through establishing the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA). Therefore, forum of this nature is a launching pad for more cooperation between the parties.

Honourable Deputy Minister,

While Tanzania has made significant strides in water resources management, lots of gaps and challenges still exist. Importantly, there is a need to aggressively move away from the sector-oriented approach to water resources development that fully recognizes the multi-sectoral linkages in planning the use of water resources. We need to move more towards the development of water resources, and less on water protection or technical management based on regulations as the primary instrument for implementing the Water Policy.

Honourable Deputy Minister,

The WSDP has five components composed of water resources management, rural water supply, urban water supply, sanitation and hygiene and programme delivery support. This transformational set up strengthens sector institutions for improving the integrated water resources management and development; ensuring the number of people with access to clean and safe water supply and sanitation services in urban and rural areas reaches the targets aspired by macroeconomic development policies, such as, the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 and the Five Year Development Plan Phase II.

The WSDP (2007 – 2025), which started its operations in 2007 is in the second phase. It is dealt with infrastructure investment, capacity building to ensure efficiency and sustainability; and developing systems that ease data management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and reporting. The Programme covers 9 water basins; 186 local government authorities; 25 urban water supply and sanitation authorities in regional headquarters, 98 district headquarters and small townships and 8 multi-village national water projects countrywide.

Honourable Deputy Minister,

It is expected that, the seminar and field trip will open the window of bilateral cooperation between Tanzania and Poland in the three earmarked

areas of *Waste water treatment including energy production, clean water supply* and *Water Supply Management system through* sharing of innovation, experiences and good practices. It is also expected the seminar and eventually the field trip in Dodoma and Dar es Salaam will help the Polish delegates to identify other areas of potential interest for cooperation. The seminar and field trip will be based on pertinent themes with Tanzanian context including water in development strategies; water management - current and future challenges; financing water-related investment; the governance of integrated water resources; water supply and sanitation services; and opportunities for technology development in the water sector.

Honourable Deputy Minister,

I wish to point that, it is our expectations that, the future areas of cooperation will base on developing and deploying technologies that improve water use efficiency, which can be adapted to the Tanzanian context. It is envisaged that, the Polish experience could boost our efforts to improve the economy through interventions in the construction and exploitation of the storage, collection, transmission and distribution systems of drinking water, and both sewage disposal, treatment systems and cleaner energy production. Also, the scientific research in the field of water quality and its monitoring, identification of water resources, technologies for water and sewage systems; and the experience in irrigation technologies to improve the efficiency of agricultural production.

The bilateral cooperation between the countries will spearhead on undertaken sector reform in Tanzania to meet the expected targets of the water sector by 2025 and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals especially SDG 6 by 2030. What is important is for the thrust to be exerted by Polish delegates and Tanzania side on:- how water can contribute to sustainable development and growth in Tanzania; the coherence of policies that affect water availability and use; financing water-related investments and making the best use of development finance to leverage domestic sources of finance; the diffusion of innovation and technology; and governance and institutional arrangements required to develop and

implement policies that contribute to sound water management, which is contributing to sustainable economic growth.

Honourable Deputy Minister,

It is our hope that, above emphasis will take into considerations Polish three identified dimensions to implementing the bilateral cooperation, which entail firstly, effective policies that can be translated into transformative results on the ground; secondly, reliable and comparative data in order to make informed decisions; and thirdly, finance, as achieving national development strategies will require adequate and predictable financing. This experience will help further our course on SDG implementation agenda, which is translated into national and water sector targets.

Honourable Deputy Minister, Let me take this opportunity to invite and encourage you all to make positive contributions for the best of this seminar and the field trip eventually come up agreed and identified key strategic areas of cooperation between the countries in the areas of Renewable Energy from wastewater, Capacity development needs and information necessary for ICT system enhancement.

After highlighting these few words, I wish you significant deliberation and I declare that, this seminar is officially open.

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION