



**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT**

**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY DR. PHILIP ISDOR MPANGO, VICE PRESIDENT  
OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE  
CLIMATE FORUM AND 35<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCE (SCF) OF THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON  
CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC)**

**ARUSHA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE (AICC), ARUSHA  
2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2024**

- ***Hon. Dr. Ashatu Kachwamba Kijaji, Minister of State, Vice President's Office (Union and Environment);***
- ***Hon. Paul Makonda, Arusha Regional Commissioner;***
- ***Eng. Cyprian John Luhemeja, Permanent Secretary, Vice President's Office;***
- ***Permanent Secretaries and Deputy Permanent Secretaries from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar;***
- ***The Co-Chairs of the 35<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee on Finance of the UNFCCC.***
- ***Members of the Standing Committee on Finance of the UNFCCC;***
- ***Ms. Noura Hamladji, Deputy Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat***
- ***Mr. Lando Velasco, Director of the Department of Finance;***
- ***Representatives of UN Agencies and International Organizations;***
- ***Chief Executive Officers and Representatives of Multilateral Financing Agencies;***
- ***Government Officials and Representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations;***
- ***Experts on Climate Financing and Climate Change;***
- ***Distinguished Delegates and Invited Guests;***
- ***Ladies and Gentlemen.***

### **Good morning!**

This meeting is in recognition of the profound responsibility and effort that countries, organisations and other partners undertake in mobilization of finance to address challenges of climate change. On behalf of H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, I wish to extend a heartfelt welcome to all esteemed delegates who have come from across the globe to participate in this august forum here in Arusha. **Karibuni sana.**

I also wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Standing Committee on Finance, for choosing Tanzania as the host country for both the Forum on climate finance and the 35<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance. This decision resonates well with Tanzania's commitment to gender-responsive financing for climate action.

### ***Distinguished Delegates,***

Since its establishment in Cancun, Mexico at COP 16, the Standing Committee on Finance has done a commendable job of assisting parties in relation to financial matters under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. The Committee has been pivotal in helping the Conference of the parties to improve coherence and coordination in the

delivery of climate change financing, rationalization of the financial mechanism, mobilization of financial resources and measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of support provided to developing country Parties. This is the only committee that has been mandated to report and make recommendations to the Conference of the parties on all aspects of climate finance. I therefore wish to underscore the huge responsibility bestowed to you committee members on this important topic, particularly for developing countries, and wish to congratulate you for the work well-done so far.

I also wish to commend you for your continued noble work of organizing Forums, such as the one we are having today, on important and practical topics that touch on the daily lives of our communities. Your continued role of providing policy and expert recommendations on how to improve the coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism is particularly recognized.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

Climate change has drawn widespread attention and urgency owing to its profound impact on ecosystems, food security and health systems as well as various systems, particularly social systems, including gender. In addition, the adverse impacts of climate change affect disproportionately some gender categories. In Tanzania, floods, droughts, the spread of invasive plant species; sea level rise; and landslides are among the most visible consequences of climate change. Unfortunately, the most highly impacted groups are women, youth and children.

In this regard, it is gratifying to note that the Standing committee chose the theme of this Forum to focus on Accelerating Climate Action and Resilience through Gender-responsive Financing and decided that it should be hosted in Tanzania. I wish to point out that, gender-responsive financing cannot be achieved without a gender inclusive, responsive and participatory decision-making process.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

The week-long climate finance events of the Standing Committee on Finance here in Arusha, mark another milestone in the work of the Committee, as it advises the Conference of Parties on key climate finance issues that are critical for the outcomes of COP 29 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The 2024 Forum is the first mandated event on gender-responsive climate finance. As you are aware, at COP25, Parties invited relevant public and private entities to increase the gender-responsiveness of climate finance with a view to strengthening the capacity of women. This invitation by the COP has since been translated into guidance to the GCF, GEF and Adaptation Fund to ensure that it is embedded in their project policies and report annually, on how such guidance is being implemented. In addition, other public

sources of finance such as the Multilateral Development Banks and bilateral agencies are also reporting on how they implement gender considerations into their climate financing. Thus the 2-day event here in Arusha will further explore how gender-responsive climate finance contributes to the achievement of the goals of Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals and support climate mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage. It will also explore the needs and priorities of gender-responsive climate action, sources and instruments to scale-up gender-responsive climate finance. I am glad that many of you were able to have a side visit yesterday to Manyara in one of Wildlife Management Areas, and, I believe you have witnessed how women are participating in actions that address climate change and boost their income. Therefore, the outcomes of this forum may inform the review of implementation of the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan to be concluded at COP 29 in Baku.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

The 35th Meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance is expected to produce key technical papers that will inform the key climate finance decisions at COP 29. At the meeting here in Arusha, the whole world is expecting you to deliver on the reports on the 6th biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, the progress report on the USD 100 billion, the needs determination report of developing countries and the report on common climate finance definitions. All these critical technical reports will be concluded here in Arusha to inform the climate finance decisions that Parties will undertake at COP 29 particularly on the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance. These reports provide a review on how climate finance has been delivered and a forward-looking view in terms of what are the needs of developing countries to support their ambitious climate actions in order to set the long-term goal on climate finance. Therefore, your work here is extremely important.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

Let me also note that, delivering innovative green growth and climate finance solutions cannot be effective without harnessing our energy resources. In this regard, Tanzania is taking robust steps to increase our share of renewable energy production from hydro-power, geothermal, wind, and solar power. We plan to generate 950MW from solar, wind, and other renewables and 200MW from geothermal.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

Through the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), Tanzania has put forward an adaptation target of increasing access to clean and safe water in both urban and rural areas from 86% and 67.7% respectively in 2020 to 100% by 2030. In addition, in-door pollution arising from cooking using firewood and charcoal, has been one of the major causes of health problems. While we use it to cook our food, biomass energy is also a source of greenhouse gases and indoor pollution, in most of Sub-Saharan Africa. In view

of this, Tanzania has made clean cooking to be a national agenda by championing and coordinating the Africa Women Clean Cooking Support Program (AWCCSP). Through the AWCCSP, our President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan is now the champion of clean cooking across Africa. The Programme aims to provide clean cooking technologies across Africa and relieve our women and girls the burden of using charcoal and firewood for cooking. In collaboration with our development partners, a total of USD 2.2 billion was mobilized at the Clean Cooking Energy Conference in Paris, in May 2024. This is an encouraging development that will help in addressing environmental, health and socio-economic challenges associated with use of traditional cooking energy. Our target is to ensure that by 2034, 80% of all Tanzania have clean cooking solutions, from the current 7%. Since we need a just transition that is gender responsive, we propose that clean cooking should be one of the areas of focus at COP29 in Baku.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

Tanzania is also experiencing several climate change impacts of unprecedented magnitudes. For instance, in December 2023, following heavy rainfall which triggered mudslides and floods in Hanang District, Manyara Region, a total of 89 people died, 139 were injured, more than 1,500 people affected and 95 houses were washed away. In addition, there was substantial damage to infrastructures. The Government was compelled to relocate people and had to spend about USD 3 million to rehabilitate and construct new houses and roads in this affected area.

Damage to the entire national road network was 520 kilometers, which will require about USD 355 million for repair and reconstruction. Consequently, climate resilience has now become one of the key indicators and underlying principles of budget resource allocation starting financial year 2024/2025.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

Climate change and gender inequality are complex challenges that are interconnected. In our experience, meaningful gender-responsive climate actions demand a holistic approach that aims to overcome silos and gaps that impede design, implementation and monitoring. In this context, the Government of Tanzania has continued to promote mainstreaming of gender and climate change into policies, programs and strategies at all levels. Key policy elements being promoted include: gender equality in access to economic and financial opportunities for women and men; creating an enabling environment for women to participate fully in all levels of leadership and decision-making; gender equality in access to quality education and training; use of technology in the empowerment of women; use of clean cooking energy in urban and rural areas; having systems for collection, management and use of gender statistics; and gender-responsive environmental management. The vision of such efforts is to ensure that both

women and men can have access to, participate in, contribute to, and hence benefit from climate change initiatives and efforts.

Moreover, gender-responsive climate financing is being integrated in the Budget Act whereby every Local Government Authority in the country is now required to allocate 10% of own source revenue to women, youth and people with disability to support them to improving livelihood and adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change. The Finance Act has also set 10% of the value of the stake on betting in all gaming, to support health insurance for vulnerable groups. Starting this financial year, the Government will be charging 2% levy to all carbonated drinks so as to mobilize funds to support Universal Health Insurance in the country.

We are grateful for this opportunity to share our experience and showcase Tanzania's progress and experiences and contribute to the global dialogue on climate action through a lens of gender-responsive climate financing initiatives. It is worth noting that gender-responsive budgets foster a sense of justice, strengthen government accountability, and support better alignment of national budgets with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

***Distinguished Delegates,***

In the energy sector, the Government has electrified 11,973 villages which is equivalent to 97.2% of all villages in the country. In addition, 50% of all village hamlets in the country have already been electrified through the Tanzania Rural Agency Electrification Program. Our target is to ensure that all villages have access to and affordable electricity. The Government is also implementing major strategic projects including construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project that produces 2,115 MW; improving Dar Rapid Transport system and more than doubled the agricultural budget. All these sectors provide access and relief to gender-based services and responsibilities.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

Despite the mobilizing modest financial resources from internal sources, Tanzania has also received climate financing from international sources, including multilateral climate funds such Adaptation Fund, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF); and Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF). We thank the SCF for its role in guiding these funds.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

As we come together in this Forum, I encourage all Delegates to engage in an open and constructive dialogue, sharing successes, challenges, and lessons learned. By leveraging your collective knowledge and expertise, you will amplify the impact of national and

global efforts and accelerate progress towards our shared goals of ensuring sustainable gender responsive climate financing.

I hope that, the deliberations of the Forum and Standing Committee on Finance shall help to ensure fulfillment of a pledge by Developed Countries of USD 100 billion annually by 2025 as part of their commitment to facilitate the implementation of the Paris Agreement. I also call for a predictable, accessible, sustainable and balanced financing between mitigation and adaptation, taking into consideration that, Developing Countries are more in need of adaptation financing so as to ensure gender responsible climate financing.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

Although the conference discussions will be centred on delivering innovative green growth and climate finance solutions for Africa and the World, allow me to end my remarks by drawing your attention to Tanzania's rich endowment in terms of natural resources ranging from aquatic, marine, and terrestrial ecosystems such as forests and mangroves, sea grasses and land which contribute significantly to improving livelihoods and in addressing climate change. Tanzania has a long coastline of about 1,424 km (stretching from its Northern to Southern border), with a diversity of marine and coastal ecosystems. 32% of the land mass is protected and continues to provide global environmental services and benefits. The iconic national parks including the mighty Serengeti National Park, Mt. Kilimanjaro and Ngorongoro Conservation Area are just at your back yard. I encourage you to plan a visit to these unforgettable sights and explore the wonders of biodiversity before you leave Tanzania.

With these remarks, it is now my singular honour and pleasure to declare the climate forum and the 35<sup>th</sup> meeting of the standing committee on finance of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) officially opened.

**Thank you for listening.  
Karibuni sana Tanzania!**