

**STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF STATE, PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,  
PUBLIC SERVICE MANAGEMENT, TANZANIA, HON. HAWA A.  
GHASIA (MP) AT THE FIRST EXTENDED BUREAU MEETING OF THE  
6<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF PUBLIC/CIVIL  
SERVICE, NAIROBI, KENYA 22-23 MAY, 2009**

Honorable Chairperson of the 6<sup>th</sup> Pan African Ministers Conference,  
Honorable Ministers Responsible for Public/ Civil Service present,  
Distinguished Government Officials,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

2. Allow me to first extend my appreciation for inviting me to this important meeting that has been organized a few weeks before the celebrations of the African Public Service Day. I also thank you and the Kenyan Government in particular for the logistical support that has been extended to me and the entire Tanzanian delegation since we arrived here in Nairobi.

3. Honorable Chairperson, I know that this meeting will discuss several items on the agenda in which I will also have an opportunity to make my

contributions. Humbly allow me to remind Ministers that this year's continental celebrations of the African Public Service Day (APSD) will be held in Dar es Salam, Tanzania, following the commitment I made during the Ministers Conference which was held in Gauteng, South Africa between 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2008. I know most of you are anxious to hear the progress that has been made in terms of preparations for celebrating this strategic event in the African Union calendar.

4. Honorable Chairperson, I am happy to inform you and other colleagues that since then, preparations for the APSD are progressing well, and the few things that remain I believe, will be concluded in this meeting. One is the dates for the occasion.

5. Honorable Chairperson, Ministers will recall that we had initially agreed that the celebrations and the Ministers Conference would take place between 16-23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2009. However, after consultations with the Chairperson, we noted that since all the countries celebrate their public Service Days on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June every year, holding the continental celebrations on the same day would deny an opportunity to the Ministers to attend the celebrations in their respective countries. We therefore agreed that the continental celebrations be held from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2009.

6. Honorable Chairperson, on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2009, I informed all the Ministers about these changes and requested them to adjust their schedules accordingly. While I hope all of them have received my letters, again I would like to take this opportunity to formally request Ministers to accept these changes, and invite them to attend these celebrations in Dar es Salaam from 15 – 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2009.

7. Honorable Chairperson, another issue that we need your guidance is the nature of participation. The tentative programme that will be discussed and endorsed at this meeting indicates that the participation will be for two events. The first event will be the exhibitions of services that are provided by the Public Service institutions. The second event will be the Conference of Ministers for Public Service at which a number of issues will be discussed.

8. Honorable Chairperson, I am happy to inform you that **8** countries have already confirmed their participation. Countries such as Namibia have indicated that they will have a pavilion in which their services will be demonstrated. I take this opportunity to urge other countries to confirm their participation soon. This will allow the National Organizing Committee to work on the logistics required for their participation, including allocation of spaces to erect their pavilions, given the fact that **150** local public

institutions will also be demonstrating the services they offer to their clients..

9. Honorable Chairperson, both the Conference and African Public Service Day celebrations will be held under the theme of '**Fostering partnership and collaborations for sustainable development and improved Service Delivery in Africa**'. The theme is being proposed taking cognizance of the current global down turn, in which the world economy is experiencing slowed growth in decades. Indeed, we evaluated the hitherto dominant ideology in which the market was elevated to be the best path to economic development; the failure of which has prompted the debate on what the state should do to address the development agenda, vis as viz other players.

10. Honorable Chairperson, given the time available to us, we have been working in anticipation that Ministers will accept our proposed theme, albeit with modifications, if any. In this regard, we have contacted some key personalities in Africa and elsewhere, whom we thought could help us develop and present papers on the sub-themes, and we have suggested four papers on the crosscutting issues to be presented as follows:

(1) **Professor Jerry Kuye**, the Director of School of Management and Administration at the University of Pretoria who will speak on **‘Repositioning Institutions for the challenges of Sustainable Development: Role of State Institutions’**

(2) **Professor Stephen Adei**, Chief Executive Officer of the Ghana Institute of Public Administration and Management who will speak on the **‘State and Non-State Actors: Partnership and Collaboration: The Implications for Capacity Building’**

(3) **Mr Mark Lowcock**, Director General for UK. Department for International Development (DFID) who will speak on **the Forging Partnership for Sustainable Development and Good Governance: The role of Development Partners’**

(4) **Dr. Prosper Honest Ngowi**, a Senior Lecturer at the Mzumbe University, Tanzania who will speak on **‘Repositioning Institutions for the Challenges of Sustainable Development and Good Governance: The role of Non- State Actors’.**

11. Honorable Chairperson, apart from these crosscutting topics, we also suggest to have papers on country experiences in these areas, or on public administration in their respective countries. If this is accepted, I request Ministers to show their interest so that we can firm up a timetable for the Conference. I believe Ministers who are attending this Extended Bureau meeting will consider, on behalf of other members of the conference, the proposals I have put forward, and adopt them to guide the 2009 celebrations of the African Public Service Day, as well as the Ministers' Conference.

12. Honorable Chairperson, as I pointed out earlier, the preparations for the events are progressing well. Among the challenges that we are having include that of getting confirmations from the Ministers. This is probably the most important aspect of our plan, because we need to make hotel bookings, as well as sorting out immigration and protocol issues, as well as other important logistics. I request all the ministers to confirm their participation to enable the National Organizing Committee to work on the logistics that I have just mentioned.

13. Honorable Chairperson, the Government of Tanzania will meet the cost of accommodation and local transport for the Ministers who will attend

the celebrations in Dar es salaam. I therefore request Honorable Ministers to arrive in Dar es salaam on 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2009. Given the fact that Ministers are coming from different parts, I would request them to inform us about their travel itineraries, so that Government Officials can meet them at the **Julius Kambarage Nyerere Airport.**

14. Honorable Chairperson, I have highlighted the progress that has been made in terms of preparations for the upcoming events on the AU calendar. As we move towards the climax of the event, we will have to work closely with your office, and other people, particularly those who have experience in organizing similar events. I welcome you and my office is ready to work with them. I have come with two members of the National Organizing Committee, and I hope members of your office will discuss the details of the progress and see how they can join and support the local team. This is the only way we can give the celebrations a truly African image.

Honorable Chairperson and invited guests, I thank you for your kind attention.