

**STATEMENT BY MR. DOTO M. JAMES,
PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE
AND PLANNING ON THE OCCASION OF SIGNING
LOAN AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF
TANZANIA AND THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT
BANK (AfDB) HELD IN DAR ES SALAAM ON
5th MARCH, 2019,**

AfDB Country Manager for Tanzania,

Invited Guests,

Members of the Press,

Dear Participants,

Goodmorning

- 1. Country Manager,** please allow me, on behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, to express my gratitude for this opportunity of signing with you today the two Loan Agreements, through which the African Development Bank Group will extend to the Government of Tanzania a concessional loan amounting to **USD 256.2 million (approx. Shs 589.26 billion)** for financing the upgrading of the Kabingo-Kasulu-Manyovu Road

section (260 km) to bitumen standard and development of social infrastructure. I wish to express the Government's sincere appreciation to the Bank's support of our infrastructure investment efforts. I am pleased to note with much satisfaction that the Bank's support to infrastructure development has been very effective and the outcomes are very much impressive.

- 2. Dear Participants,** implementation of this project is part of the broad agenda of the Fifth Phase Government, that seeks to bridge the infrastructure gap for accelerating socio-economic development, poverty reduction and regional integration. The Kabingo-Kasulu-Manyovu road section forms an integral part of the Central Transport Corridor, which plays an important role in the development and facilitation of national and international trade flows in the region. The project road, which is also a priority under the East African roads network, involves **upgrading of Rumonge - Gitaza Road**

Section (45 km) in Burundi.

- 3. Dear Participants,** the successful implementation of this road project will link the Port of Dar es Salaam with the western regions of Tanzania and open up regional markets in Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Furthermore, the project will contribute to; (i) reduction of vehicle operating costs, reduction in travel time and improvement of road safety; (ii) reduction in logistical costs; and (iii) improvement of access to socio-economic and health infrastructure located along project areas and other wider economic benefits in the region of Kigoma.
- 4. Dear Participants,** the project involves (i) paving of the Kabingo-Kasulu-Manyovu (260 km); (ii) Supporting the National Institute of Transport (NIT) towards the creation of a regional centre of excellence for road safety; (iii) Construction and equipping of a One Stop Border Post (OSBP) at the

Manyovu (TZ) /Mugina (Burundi) Border, and (iv) development of social infrastructure including: rehabilitation of markets at Makere and Manyovu; Community Water supply and sanitation at Busunzu, Kasulu, Buhigwe and Manyovu; construction of Health Centres at Makere and Busunzu, including 1km of access road and rehabilitation of hospital in Kasulu and Kibondo Districts.

5. **Country Manager**, I am delighted to note that the preparation of documents leading to the signing for the loan agreements has involved many people and long hours of hard work. On behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, let me express my sincere gratitude to you personally and to everyone, whose dedication and efforts have made possible the signing ceremony today. Particularly, I would like to thank the Government of the Republic of Burundi for her readiness to jointly implement this multinational road project,

the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat, and the Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency (CCTTFA) for their hard work and dedication to the conclusion of this process. It is my sincere hope that this spirit of hard work and dedication will be sustained going forward.

6. **Country Manager, Dear Participants,** let me conclude by re-affirming our Government's commitment to continue working closely with you and the Bank's Group to strengthen our commitment to achieving high and sustainable development. With strong commitment, we shall be able to achieve even more. Finally, be assured that the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania will take all necessary measures to ensure successful implementation of this project as planned.

Thank you for your kind attention