

**STATEMENT BY MR. RAMADHANI M. KHIJJAH PERMANENT
SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OF
THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA ON THE OCCASION OF
SIGNING OF FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR WATER SECTOR
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (WSDP) 04TH JUNE 2010**

Mr. Jean-Pierre Marcelli, Regional Director – AFD,

Your Excellency, Jacques Champagne de Labriolle, French

Ambassador to Tanzania,

Distinguished Guests,

Member of the Press,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

1. **Mr. Regional Director,** it is a great pleasure for me to have signed with you this Agreement under which the French Government through your Agency (AFD) will make a contribution of Euro 30 million to support the Water Sector Development Programme. On behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, I wish to thank you personally and through you, the French Government, for this very crucial and timely assistance. In the past few years, we have witnessed an increase and speedy decisions by your organisation in committing resources to support our Priority interventions in the Water Sector.

2. **Mr. Regional Director,** The implementation of the Water Sector Development Programme is intended to contribute to achieving the Governments goals of improving the provision of clean water to rural communities so that the ratio of the population which gets safe drinking water rises from the current level of 53% to 74% by the year 2010 (Millennium Development Goals) and to 90% by the year 2025 (Tanzania Vision 2025). The programme will therefore contribute significantly to the social and economic development in the country.

3. **Mr. Regional Director,** I am pleased to note that the Loan Agreement we have just signed will enable AFD to provide funds to finance the following activities:
 - a) Strengthening institutional capacity for improving the management of water resources;
 - b) Providing support to local governments in the scaling up of the provision of rural water and sanitation services in pursuit of the MGD;
 - c) Strengthening sub-sector planning and operational capacities;
 - d) Strengthening the sector coordination and policy re-alignment and
 - e) Supporting the sector capacity building

4. At this juncture, I would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm my Government's commitment towards implementation of this programme. I want to assure you that the Government will make close monitoring of the implementation of programme activities in order to ensure that planned targets and the Millennium Development Goals are met as planned.

5. **Mr. Regional Director, ladies and Gentlemen,** let me conclude my short statement by re-affirming my Government's Commitment to maintain and promote further, the partnership and friendly relationship which exists between our two countries.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs,

Dar es Salaam.