

Official PANITA Statement on behalf of CSO working in Nutrition in Tanzania during the Joint Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Review - 2017.

Guest of Honour, Prime Minister Majaliwa Kassimu Majaliwa (MP)

Minister for Health, Elderly, Gender and Children- Hon. Ummu Mwalimu (MP)

Minister for Finance and Planning Hon. Phillip Mpango(MP)

Deputy Minister of State Regional Administration, Local Government, Public Service and Good Governance Hon. Selemani Jafo (MP).

The Deputy Minister Prime Minister's Office, Labour, Youth and Employment, Anthony Peter Mavunde,(MP)

Distinguished Guest- Embassies & UN representatives and the Donor Community

Ladies and Gentlemen

Protocol Observed

Guest of Honour, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my pleasure to be part of this year's Joint Multisectoral Nutrition Review which is a very important meeting to all nutrition stakeholders in order for us to assess the progress made during the first year implementation of NMNAP. I commend this tradition and

we need to cherish it, as it is vital that the government continue provide Leadership so that all of us we move forward in holistic and harmonised manner. But the most important part of it; it' s the continued inclusion and provision of space to give this statement, as this a proof and recognition of the vital role played by Civil Society in the Nutrition Sector.

Guest of Honour,

This year's meeting allows us to revisit the implementation of the MNANP for the first time and all we will witness the official Launch of the document by you- Guest of honour. Having the NMNAP National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAP)-2016-21; It is the mark and symbol of everyone is commitment to reach the World Health Assembly target for Nutrition by 2030.

By and large, It makes us proud as part of the nutrition fraternity in Tanzania.

Guest of Honour, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In a very special way, on behalf of the SUN CSO Network in Tanzania, I would like to commend the efforts taken by our Government in tackling malnutrition in Tanzania. This is reflected in the following areas:

Policy:

- Five years Development plan-recognising Human Capital as key component to reach the aspiration of being middle income country and alluding to the fact that Good Nutrition is absolutely critical condiment to it

National Multisectoral Nutrition action plan (NMNAP)-2016-21

- Budget Guideline for FY 17/18 (set aside TZS per child under five and recruitment of over 600 nutritionist

Budget:

For the FY 17/18: Has allocated TZS 11 Billion for nutrition for regions and councils. This is record breaking and is commendable

We are aware that, today Guest of honour; you will launching the National Nutrition Mult sectoral Action Plan, this once again crystallizes 5th term Government under the Leadership of His Excellence President John Pombe Magufuli, commitment to Nutrition sector in Tanzania.

I do believe that, if we join forces, as country we will be able to accomplish all the planned activities come the end of five years period.

As Civil Society Network under the SUN framework, we understand that one of our key role is to work with the government and support the implementation of the new NMNAP and make it a success. This can only be achieved through bringing together all the actors who have a role in the society to change the nutrition landscape of the country in a very positive way. And therefore the SUN CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK will work together with our members:

- To popularise the document so that it is well understood
- Support the alignment of their interventions so that they positively contribute to the plan and have long term impact

On the PANITA will also work with other actors such as Members of the Parliament, Religious Leaders and media for two purposes:

- to increase awareness of nutrition needs of the society and
- to increase mutual accountability to all actors to order to have a Tanzania free from Malnutrition

Guest of Honour,

PANITA appreciate the Mult sectoral for the nutrition sector is seen at higher level, that is being coordinated by the Prime Ministers Office; where all key stakeholders have equal space to contribute to

the government strategies and plans and other key initiatives at national level. In light of this, PANITA would urge the Government to make sure the good leadership that is spearhead at national level being replicated at the Regional and Council level; so as to allow meaningful stakeholders participation and ultimately contributing to the bigger agenda to eliminate malnutrition in our country.

Guest of Honour,

This is request is most important now, more than anytime given the massive amount of resources that are trickling down to the Regions and Councils from both Government as well as from Donors and other Non-state actors.

As the civil society platform we would like to put the following call:

To the government to continue prioritize Nutrition through allocation of sufficient resources in government budget across all sectors and levels. On the same note, I would request:

- **The Central government** to disburse the allocated 11 Billion on timely manner; while for
- **The Local Government** play your part by ensuring that, the funds are utilized as per approved plans as submitted to Treasury and later approved by parliament. Please do not reallocate these funds; as remember Malnutrition cause a GDP loss of about 2.65% as per profile estimate done in 2014

Generally, It is imperative for the government to make deliberate move to increased oversight in the allocated funds to Regions and Councils to forester accountability for results and serve our Country from malnutrition

To donors increase resources in support of government efforts as in line with policy and National Mult sectoral Nutrition action plan (2016-21)

To the private sector increase your contribution and support of all key interventions that will contribute positively into attaining better nutrition as part of your products delivery and corporate social responsibility

On the same note the civil society pledge continue to working with government and other key stakeholders in pushing for improved interventions and resources mobilization that is geared towards improving nutrition situation in the country.

Thank you very much for listening and wishing you all the best