

TANZANIA PRIVATE SECTOR FOUNDATION (TPSF)

COMMUNICATION OF ENGAGEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 2017 – 2018

1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The recent transformations taking place in Tanzania and across the East Africa (EAC) region call for renewed efforts to ensure that the fight against corruption constitute a key element in the new political and social paradigm. Furthermore, link to the UN initiative, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Goal 16.5 & 16.6 and African Union Agenda 2063 which prioritizes strengthening governance and promoting transparency and accountability of leaders both in public and private sector.

While the latest efforts against corruption in Tanzania have focused mainly on demand side (public sector) corruption, it is clear that companies, their associations and industry federations can make valuable contributions to the effort. Individual company actions and collective business sector actions are essential for an anti-corruption campaign of prevention and response.

Integrity is a critical element in fostering a strong and equitable business climate, as corruption raises unforeseeable costs for doing business and prevents businesses from operating on a level playing field. As companies pursue growth opportunities, their exposure to the reputational, legal, operational and financial impacts of corruption increased, and they can be held responsible for the acts of a single collaborator. In this context, business is increasingly looking to implement risk mitigation strategies that also contribute to its corporate sustainability efforts.

In context of the above, the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation in collaboration with UN Global Compact Network Tanzania with support from UNDP would like to convene roundtable meeting on the Private sectors role in fighting corruption through embedding strong measures in business practice operations by laying down the basis for companies to engage in addressing issues of integrity and ethics.

2. ABOUT TANZANIA PRIVATE SECTOR FOUNDATION (TPSF)

Tanzania Private Sector Foundation was formally incorporated under the Companies Act (Cap 212) on 4th November 1998. It was established as a company limited by guarantee in order to promote private sector-led social and economic development in Tanzania and specifically it is aiming to carry out the following functions:

- i. Providing member organisations with services they value;
- ii. Understanding and representing their common interest; and
- iii. Engage the Government in effective advocacy and lobbying.

Tanzania Private Sector Foundation exists to advocate and seek change in public policy in order to promote a better business environment. TPSF's main objective is to provide a national

platform through which the business community can present their concerns at the TNBC policy forums, with the overall aim of creating a more conducive business environment through targeted policy reforms. TPSF also work towards promoting private sector's national, regional & global competitiveness in trade and investment

3. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

The roundtable on “The Private Sector’s Role in Fighting Corruption: Challenges and Remedies for the Tanzanian Business Community” will bring together representatives from business community operating in Tanzania that are interested in becoming actors in the fight against corruption.

4. OBJECTIVES

The roundtable will allow business representatives in Tanzania to engage in a participatory dialogue on measures and tools for preventive and responsive efforts to combat corruption in light of the recent developments. It especially seeks to:

- Inform businesses about the various national and international anti-corruption instruments regulating their business environment;
- Official Launch of Private Sector Code of Conducts and Corporate Integrity Pledge
- Highlight measures and tools to improve integrity and transparency in business
- Encourage linkages between businesses to promote collective action.
- CEOs support statement of support for the Tanzania Corporate Integrity Pledge

5. TPSF ANTI CORRUPTION INITIATIVES

Objective C of the TPSF Strategic Plan states that by end of 2017, we should have an effective policy advocacy capacity to achieve conducive business environment. Partly, this was to be achieved by putting in place a Code of Conduct (anti corruption) for the private sector, and strengthening and implementation of BAAC.

The Collaboration between UNGCNT and TPSF has gone a long way to revive the initiative and through this, TPSF and other stakeholders were able to achieve their goals. TPSF engaged the highest level of Government during its 18th AGM to specifically highlight on business ethics and integrity. The success of this is largely due to UNGCNT support. And we are happy to note here that through continued engagement, we shall reach a wider level of business across the country.

TPSF continues to strongly encourage all members to own the process of coming up with a private sector Integrity Pledge as an important step in supporting the government’s anti-corruption initiative.

TPSF's role is to influence policy reforms, legal and regulatory frame work of the government so as to make it easy for business to flourish, **crosscutting issues** such as taxation, energy, infrastructure, business unfriendly levies in the Local Government Authorities, multiplicity of taxes and agency fees. Others are anti-corruption, promotion of Tanzania's environment protection, climate change, conservation and protection of biodiversity.

6. SUMMARY

Tanzania Private Sector Foundation is committed to continued engagement in support of the United Nations Global Compact