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PRESS RELEASE

FIRST QUARTER GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (JANUARY - MARCH) 2015

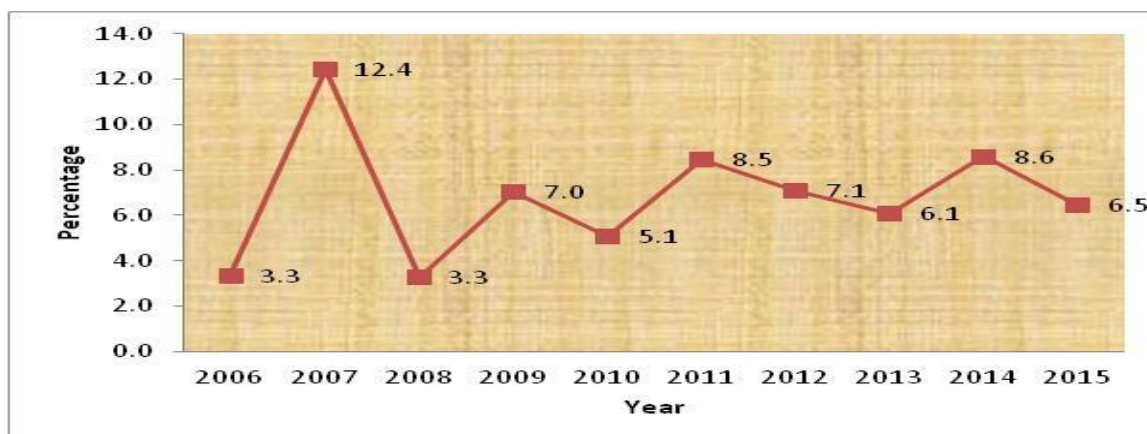
The National Bureau of Statistics is responsible for the compilation and dissemination of Official Statistics in the country, including Quarterly Gross Domestic Product Estimates (QGDP). Quarterly Gross Domestic Product is measured as a value of goods and services produced by resident producers in three months period. In the compilation of QGDP estimates, all economic activities are covered. The estimates are used for short term economic planning, monitoring and policy formulation.

The first quarter GDP estimates, January – March, for the year 2015 at current and constant prices released today is the ***third quarterly release in the revised GDP series based on, the 2007 base year.***

The value of Gross Domestic Product at current prices in absolute terms is TZS 21.9 trillion compared to TZS 18.6 trillion recorded in the corresponding period in 2014.

While the value of QGDP at constant prices was TZS 10.6 trillion in 2015 compared to TZS 9.9 trillion for the corresponding quarter of 2014, equivalent to 6.5 percent increase compared to 8.6 percent for the corresponding period of 2014.

Chart 1: Growth Rates for the First Quarter, January – March, 2006-2015



Economic Growth by Economic Activity:

Agriculture Sector

The agriculture sector registered a growth rate of 2.6 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 3.4 percent recorded in the similar quarter of 2014.

During the period under review, **crops** recorded a growth rate of 2.7 percent in 2015 compared to 4.3 percent in 2014; **Livestock** recorded a growth rate of 2.9 percent in 2015 compared to 2.2 in 2014; **Forestry** recorded a growth rate of 2.1 percent in 2014 compared to a 5.0 percent in 2014.

Fishing activity increased at a rate of 0.9 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to a growth rate of 2.3 percent recorded in the first quarter of 2014.

The growth in Agriculture sector was attributed to the Government efforts in providing subsidy on farm inputs and extension services to farmers.

Industry and Construction Sector

Mining and Quarrying activity recorded a growth rate of 0.6 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 19.7 percent in the similar quarter of 2014. Gold production in the first quarter of 2015 was 10,458 Kgs compared to 10,710 Kgs produced in the corresponding quarter in 2014. Diamond production in the first quarter of 2015 was 72,086 Carats compared to 94,278 Carats produced in the reference period in 2014. Tanzanite production in the first quarter of 2015 was 1,606 Kgs compared to 4,118 Kgs produced in the corresponding quarter in 2014.

Manufacturing activity recorded a growth rate of 5.7 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 8.2 percent in 2014. The growth was attributed to a general increase in the production of industrial goods. Noticeable increase was realized from production of textiles and wearing apparel, food products, chemicals and pharmaceuticals and the production of furniture.

Electricity and Water increased by a growth rate of 10.7 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 10.1 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2014.

On the other hand, electricity subsector grew by 13.0 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 18.1 percent recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2014. The reasons for electricity growth were attributed to an increase in electricity generated from hydro, thermal and gas plants. The electricity generated in the first quarter of 2015 was 1,361 million Kwh compared to 1,242 million Kwh distributed in the corresponding quarter in 2014.

Construction activity includes construction of residential and non-residential buildings; roads and bridges; and other civil works grew by 8.8 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 21.4 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2014.

Service Sector

Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles, Personal and Household Goods recorded a growth rate of 6.5 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 10.6 percent recorded in the third quarter of 2014. **Transport and Storage** activity recorded a growth rate of 12.9 percent in the period under review compared to 14.7 percent in 2014. **Accommodation and Food Services** increased by 1.7 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to a 3.4 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2014. **Information and Communication** increased by 10.3 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 17.1 percent in the third quarter of 2014.

Financial Intermediation and Insurance increased by 9.1 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 11.2 percent in the third quarter of 2014. **Real Estate** increased by 2.2 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 2.1 percent of the reference period under review in 2014. **Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities; Administrative and Support Services;** increased by 8.6 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 8.2 percent in the third quarter of 2014.

Public Administration and Defence increased by 12.0 percent in 2015 compared to a negative 0.2 percent of 2014. **Education** increased by 6.7 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 5.4 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2014. **Health** increased by 8.0 percent in 2015 compared to 8.4 percent in the first quarter of 2014. **Arts; Entertainment and Recreation** increased by 5.6 percent in 2014 compared to 7.2 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2014. **Other Services** increased by 6.8 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 6.6 percent

recorded in the third quarter of 2014. **Activities of Households as Employer** recorded a growth rate of 2.6 percent in the first quarter of 2015 compared to 2.7 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2014.

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