



# NBS NEWS LETTER

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**NBS - MISSION: "TO PRODUCE QUALITY OFFICIAL STATISTICS AND SERVICES THAT MEET NEEDS OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS FOR EVIDENCE BASED PLANNING AND DECISION MAKING."**



## NBS: Dodoma, Here We Are!



***Chairperson of committee to oversee transferring NBS office from Dar es salaam to Dodoma Shagihilu Shagihilu in close supervision of loading of office goods ready to be transported to Dodoma.***

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) offices have officially moved to Dodoma, marking the end of long awaited journey from Kivukoni Front in the heart of Dar es Salaam City to the country's new capital city.

This is thanks to the World Bank support through Tanzania Statistical Master Plan (TSMP) that the ultra-modern NBS office structure situated at Makulu, a relatively new administrative district hosting most government buildings in Dodoma, was built.

Moving to Dodoma for the national Statistics body adds to the nearly two years of waiting since President John Joseph Pombe Magufuli, on the 25th July, 2016 directed all government offices to move to Dodoma to fulfil the historical decision taken by the first phase government under the leadership of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere.

For the first time since its establishment, NBS offices are housed not only on its own building but unlike before all--

its staff are under one roof. It is a dream comes true for the NBS management and staff.

***For a number of NBS staff, moving from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma, just as it was with many other civil servants, did not come easily, but the new modern office building created "a feel good" atmosphere to most staff members, according to a few who shared their feelings.***





**Senior Statistician Abbas Mlemba inspecting office equipment being loaded in a lorry ready to be transported to Dodoma**

the official announcement informing them of the shifting dates and schedule from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma.

Logistics became challenging as first officers had to decide what materials they would need in Dodoma immediately, and which ones they won't need. Then came packaging ready for transportation.

In Dodoma, some found it highly challenging finding accommodation. However, assistance extended to all government officers between June and July came in handy. "It was hard but we have made it. We are now in Dodoma," said one NBS staff.

With new working environment, NBS staff vow to continue working tooth and nail to ensure NBS produces quality official statistics and are timely available to the government and other stakeholders.

"We thank our government for improving working environment and promise to continue working hard; performing our duties and responsibilities according to the rules and regulations governing production of official statistics," one employee told our reporter asking not to be named as he is not an official speaker.

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## NBS now eyes becoming Africa's leading statistics authority



*NBS director General Dr. Albina Chuwa speaking during the opening of Third Session of the NBS's Fifth Workers Council held in Dodoma where she expressed NBS commitment to become continent's number one in production of quality statistics.*

NOTWITHSTANDING the many achievements that have so far been recorded in the production of quality official statistics, NBS now eyes becoming the number one national statistics authority in Africa in production and dissemination of official statistics.

Speaking as she welcomed the guest of honour to open the Third Session of the Fifth Workers Council at NBS Conference Hall in Dodoma, the Director General of NBS, Dr. Albina Chuwa, said "NBS wants, within ten years, to be-

the best national statistics authority in Africa after having trailed South Africa in World Bank ranking released in 2016".

The NBS Boss told the Workers Council that according to World Bank Report, Tanzania emerged the second after South Africa in production of quality statistics in the continent and that the national statistics body takes it as challenge to become the leader in the continent.

"The result of that report is a motivation to NBS to aim higher to become the leader in

Africa because we believe we can," said Dr. Chuwa and attributed that success to the just ended five years Tanzania National Statistical Master Plan (TSMP).

She added that implementation of TSMP brought big/tremendous improvements in all aspects of national statistics system from legal, infrastructure to human resource development aspects.

Through the programme, Dr. Chuwa noted that NBS was able to improve data collection in both economic-

and social statistics meeting national and international agreed standards. The programme also assisted NBS to adopt the use of modern technology, hence considerably reducing the cost of statistics production.

One of the milestones of the project was the construction of two office buildings for Mainland and Zanzibar statistics offices, which have aptly improved the working environment of the staff.

“We are grateful to our government for accepting this project which has cost a lot of money but has produced the--

intended results,” she told the Council members.

The Director General told the council members that despite such achievements, there were still challenges confronting production and dissemination of official statistics in the country but NBS was determined to overcome them.

“The workplace is like any other place in our daily lives. We encounter various challenges but we overcome them and at NBS, it is the same, we, as a team, must collectively work hard to overcome those challenges,”

she said.

Meanwhile, Dr. Chuwa has described the relationship between NBS management and staff through their representative, TUGHE, to be “very positive and above all excellent”.

She said it was this relationship that created a positive working environment that assured NBS a success in implementation of institutional strategic plan and other programmes including TSMP.

“We are glad to have such a good TUGHE leadership which strives for the attainment of NBS goals and objectives and as a result we are here today to talk, among other things, about our achievements,” she said.

Dr. Chuwa, therefore, thanked the outgoing TUGHE leadership under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Sylvia Meku for a job well done, something that the management and entire team was proud of.



*Part of members of NBS Workers' Council applaud guest of honor's speech during the opening of the Third Session of the NBS's Fifth Workers Council*



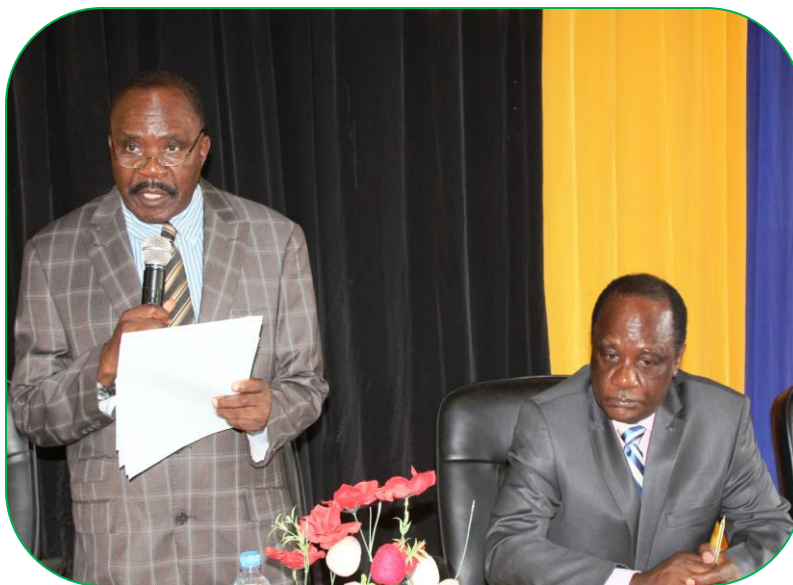
## Set Effective System to Exploit Administrative Data, Kigoma RC challenges

Kigoma Regional Commissioner Brigadier General (retired) Emmanuel Maganga has stressed the importance of collection of quality administrative data as the country grapples with the ever increasing demand for data to monitor the implementation of the Second National Five Year Development Plan (FYDPII) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Speaking at the opening of the one-day workshop in Kigoma recently, the Regional Commissioner said that with about 60 percent of indicators to monitor the FYDP II are derived from administrative data, there was an urgent need to put in place effective mechanism which would guarantee the country with such data.

He urged for a robust discussion on the workshop agenda saying he expected participants to come out with tangible solutions to the problem of data inconsistencies released by region.

“We have experienced inconsistencies of data released when we get visitors whether national or international.



*Kigoma Regional Commissioner Retired Brigadier General Emmanuel Maganga opens the first sub-national stakeholders' workshop on sharing of experience and exploring solution on data to support STGs and Second Five Year Development Plan (FYDP II) held in Kigoma.d*

We always provide them with outdated statistics which is very bad,” he noted and called for immediate measures to address the situation.

He told workshop participants, who included representatives from the regional secretariat, district executive directors, statisticians and economists from all districts of Kigoma Region that the workshop was very important as it laid the foundations for further engagement with data stakeholders particularly the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) which could provide the

with essential technical and professional assistance.

Meanwhile, the Director General of the NBS, Dr. Albina Chuwa, told participants that the authority, in collaboration with stakeholders, conducted data gap assessment of the FDYP II and SDGs which showed that only 39 percent of indicators to monitor FDYP II were produced by NBS.

“Cognisant of that fact, through the Second Tanzania Statistical Master Plan, NBS has put more emphasis on strengthening production and dissemination of

administrative data,” said Dr. Chuwa in a speech read on her behalf by the Director of Statistical Operations, Mr Irenius Ruyobya.

She, however, observed that such measures will only succeed if application of technology in data collection and dissemination is to be emphasised at all levels of administration and the fact that cooperation between NBS and all data producers is enhanced while suitable means of funding statistical activities are formulated and made a priority in development planning in all levels.

The workshop was the first of a potential series of sub-national data road map process engagements to be convened over the medium term with the key objective being to serve as a platform for sharing of experience, learning about emerging demands for data, and exploring solutions and partnerships for harnessing the data revolution for sustainable development.



***Participants who attended Kigoma sub-national stakeholder's workshop on data to support SDGs and Second Five Year Development Plan (FYDP II) follow discussion at the workshop.***



***Director of Statistical Operations Irenius Ruyobya gives a statement on behalf of Director General Dr. Albina Chuwa during the opening of the one-day sub-national stakeholders' workshop on data to support STGs and Second Five Year Development Plan (FYDP II) held in Kigoma.***

## Adherence to principles of openness and trust key, says outgoing TUGHE chairperson

The outgoing chairperson of TUGHE, Mrs. Sylvia Meku, has attributed the trade union success to the leadership's adherence to principles of transparency, truthfulness and trust in its relationship with management.

Speaking during the Workers Council in Dodoma recently, after the taking over of new TUGHE leadership, Mrs. Meku said she held with high esteem the close cooperation existing between workers' leadership and management throughout her leadership tenure.

"It was not an easy task but as you all know during our tenure NBS recorded unsurmountable achievements," Mrs. Meku noted adding that it was in that regard that she was optimistic that the new leadership would continue from where they left.

The outgoing chairperson thanked the management for the partnership it has built with the trade union which she said was a result of mutual trust between the two.

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"Management's effective involvement of workers--

in decision-making including formulation of institutions' strategic plan was an inspiration to workers to elevate their performance and attain better results," said the outgoing chairperson.

The outgoing leadership, through its chairperson expressed their special gratitude to the Workers Council Chairperson and NBS Director General Dr. Albina Chuwa who said all council decisions were timely and successfully implemented.



***The outgoing NBS TUGHE branch Chairperson Ms Sylvia Meku delivering her farewell speech to the members of Workers Council and welcome new leadership under the chairmanship of Shagihilu Shagihilu.***



## Lack of Essential Data a challenge to Measure Correctly Mineral Sector Contribution to GDP



*NBS's acting Director of Economic Statistics, Daniel Masolwa makes a presentation before management of Ministry of Minerals and its institutions on how to improve contribution of mineral sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).*

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has urged the Ministry of Minerals to develop special mechanisms that will ensure access to all essential information on the mining sector if it wants to reach the target of increasing the sector's contribution to the national gross domestic (GDP) from the current 4.8 percent to 10 percent by 2025.

Presenting a paper on Contribution of Mining Sector to GDP to the management of the Ministry of Minerals and its

institutions in Dodoma recently, the NBS acting Director of Economic Statistics, Mr Daniel Masolwa, said lack of comprehensive data in the sector is a challenge in measuring correctly the share of the sector to the total Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

“As we speak, some essential data on mining is unavailable or it is very difficult to access; this makes our task to correctly measure the--

sector's contribution to the national coffers difficult,” Mr. Masolwa said.

He noted that the Ministry has to get rid of all loopholes which allow revenue loss in the sector but that can only be done if the Ministry has all the necessary and relevant information on all players and their stakes in the sector.

He explained that overall--

contribution of the mining sector can be measured by incooperating activites from prospection to finished products at the market and that is how the exercise becomes tricky and complicated.

Mr Masolwa listed factors that hinder correct measurement of sector's contribution to GDP as including lack of comprehensive data on mineral production, unrealistic data on pricing, and inadequate data on the intermediate costs of goods and services used in the production of minerals.

He named others factors as absence of data for some goods during rebasing and revision of national accounts, which is a paramount undertaking in establishing the sectors contribution to GDP and secrecy on the part of on Information on Research and Development (R&D).

Mr. Masolwa said that “there is a lot to be done before the sector's contribution can be well established” and added that it needs strong commitment on the part of the ministry and its institutions responsible to supervise the sector.

The statistics body's high ranking officer insisted that in order for the country to produce quality statistics it was imperative that every stakeholder plays it role by providing required information.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Minerals, Ms. Angellah Kairuki, thanked NBS for accepting its invitation to meet with ministry's management and lead discussions on how to increase contributions of the mineral sector to the GDP.

She expressed her ministry's appreciation to the Acting Director of Economic Statistics, Mr. Daniel Masolwa, for a well articulated presentation which enlighten the ministry on how to reach its target of increasing sector's contribution to the GDP from current 4.8 percent to 10 percent by 2025.

Minister Kairuki instructed ministry officials, particularly, the Commissioner of Minerals to ensure all laws governing the sector are strictly adhered to and all stakeholders in the sector play their part accordingly.

She was optimistic that NBS will continue to support her ministry by identifying keys areas of the sector which if properly managed would result into it contributing its fair share to the national economy.

*“The Ministry has to get rid of all loopholes which allow revenue loss in the sector but that can only be done if the Ministry has all the necessary and relevant information on all players and their stakes in the sector.”*



## Our Solidarity, Our Strength says NBS's TUGHE Chairman



***Workers' Council Chairperson and NBS director General Dr. Albina Chuwa confers with NBS TUGHE chairperson Shagihilu Shagihilu during the Third Session of the NBS's Fifth Workers Council.***

NBS TUGHE chairperson Shagihilu Shagihilu has called NBS staff to maintain working momentum in order to be able to sustain the already attained achievements and indeed to realize institution's mission and vision.

In his maiden speech since his election to the post, he was optimistic that NBS will continue to strive and fulfill its obligations to the country.

“Our success is due to solidarity among ourselves and teamwork-spirit which underlines our day to day activities,” he said--

and vowed to uphold all the goods from the previous leadership.

Mr. Shagihilu paid special tribute to his predecessors for building strong foundation of true partnership between management and staff which was vital for the successful implementation of NBS goals and objectives.

“We need to remain united and focus on our vision and mission. There is no easy way to lead others but if we agree to disagree, we can move forward as we have been--

doing,” said the chairperson.

He thanked NBS staff for believing in him by electing him to the position which he promised to cherish and work hard to meet their expectations.

The workers council was also attended by the representative of TUGHE national level, Dr. Yona Mabele, Ms Tabu Mambo from TUGHE, Ilala and Ms Gissela Mugumira from the Ministry of Finance and Planning.

## NBS Role is Vital in Achieving Middle Income Economy, says Mkuchika

The Minister of State Public Service and Good Governance, Mr George Mkuchika, has underscored the role of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in the realisation of Fifth Phase Government goal of making Tanzania a middle income country.

The minister said that as government efforts were focused on turning the country into middle income economy through industrialisation, people's support must lead to achievement of such goal and for NBS is to continue producing quality statistics and in timely manner.

He urged NBS to put more efforts in educating the public on the importance of statistics and show them how they apply in their day to day activities that can motivate them to participate in data collection whenever they are called on to participate.

“Statistics by themselves are just numbers therefore it is the obligation of NBS to help the public to understand what that statistical information means--

in their lives,” he said and added that with statistics people should “feel wise and informed not confused”.

The Minister emphasized that if NBS makes statistical information relevant and useful to the public's daily lives, people become interested with it and would always ready to support NBS in its statistical activities.

The minister acknowledged publicity and advocacy work which NBS has been doing to engage the public but he noted that there was still a lot to be done because there still lack of enthusiasm in using statistics in decision making, in planning and implementation of development programmes.

“We cannot build industrial economy without enhancing our knowledge/understanding of statistics and increase its usage in our planning and implementation of our development programmes.”

The minister however expressed his displeasure of what he called ‘irrational--

surveys’ which produce ‘irrational statistics’ which do not add value to country's development.

“I think this is an area where NBS must come forward and see how it can be addressed because there are so many surveys and researches using unmeasurable indicators resulting into useless data,” the minister noted.

He added that using huge sum of money on such kind of surveys and researches with minimal impact to the national development “must stop” irrespective of whoever is funding them.

*“Statistics by themselves are just numbers therefore it is the obligation of NBS to help the public to understand what that statistical information means in their lives,” he said and added that with statistics people should “feel wise and informed not confused”.*



## Personnel Officers Live up to your Task, Mkuchika Urges

The Minister of State Public Service and Good Governance, Mr. George Mkuchika, has instructed human resource officers to do their homework and take responsibility before pointing fingers to his office as regards to delays or nonpayment of new salaries or promotion of staff.

They pointed out that there was a tendency to blame his ministry for all problems related with staff complaints regarding nonpayment of new salaries or promotions but as-

a matter of fact his ministry was not to blame.

“It is the duty of every human resource department to conduct its business in a manner which reflects rules and regulations governing staff salaries, promotions and other benefits to rid of such complaints,” he said.

The minister was adamant that his ministry was only implementing what has been received from ministries and departments and it was in no way able to act without--

communicating with the respective ministries and departments.

“It is the CEO and your human resource department that understand who is supposed to get promoted and the salary, not my ministry. If furnished with such information in time, we act accordingly without delays, you cannot put blame on us for your own faults,” he said.

He warned ministries and departments against implementing circulars or directives that they were not sure of.



***The Minister of State Public Service and Good Governance, Mr. George Mkuchika (file photo)***



***NBS worker's council members listen to Guest of Honor's speech during the opening.***

“My ministry issues various circulars and documents regarding staff regulations and emoluments. If one finds it difficult to understand he or she has to ask for clarification from my people at the ministry instead of implementing something which will create misunderstandings, confusion and invite unnecessary complaints which can lead to institutional disharmony,” he emphasized.

The minister underscored the need for every employee to be accountable for her duties insisting on respect among workers irrespective of their--

positions, insisting that every employee is important regardless of his or her position.

During the event, the minister inaugurated an agreement between TUGHE and management and handed it over to NBS Director General, TUGHE national, regional office and NBS branch.

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## NBS TUGHE completes Leadership Elections

Mrs. Fortunata Mdemu has been elected new NBS TUGHE secretary after scooping 17 votes against her opponent Stambuli Mapunda who obtained 14 votes. The election was conducted during the Third Session of the Fifth Workers Council held in Dodoma recently.

According to elections regulations, Mapunda become a de facto assistant secretary. Ms. Mdemu and Mapunda took over from old office bearers Ms. Margret Jacob and James Mbongo respectively. The election was supervised by Ms. Tabu Mambo from TUGHE Ilala offices.



***NBS staffs follow presentation on Image Building and Institutional Reputation during a one-day staff meeting held in Dodoma.***



***Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of State Public; Service and Good Governance Ms. Dorothy Mwaluko addresses the opening of Third Session of the NBS's Fifth Workers Council held in Dodoma.***

## NBS Hands over Laptops to Regional Offices



***Geita Regional Statistics Manager Khalid Msabaha receives a laptop from Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of State; Public Service and Good Governance Ms. Dorothy Mwaluko during NBS's Workers Council meeting held in Dodoma.***

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has handed over laptops to its regional offices in a bid to improve efficiency and quality of data collection and processing and so enable timely release of official statistics.

During recent NBS staff meeting held in Dodoma, regional offices raised the issue with the management and the later promised to avail the equipment with immediate effect.

The laptops were handed over to representatives of regional--

statistics managers (RSMs) by the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Public Service and Good Governance), Ms Dorothy Mwaluko, during the opening of the third session of the Fifth Workers Council in Dodoma recently.

The handover of the laptops was a result of rapid response from NBS management to the regional statistics managers request made during a day-long meeting that involved all NBS staff in Dodoma.

During the meeting, among--

other things, the managers asked for laptops to facilitate their work as availing the gadgets will make them more mobile hence increase productivity.

Inviting the guest of honor to hand over the laptops, the Director General of NBS, Dr. Albina Chuwa, said it was the interest of NBS management to see to it that every statistician in the office possessed a laptop because it has now become a necessary tool and no longer a luxurious item.



## It is Our Duty to Spearhead Data Collection at Regional and District Levels, Says NBS Boss



***NBS Director General Dr. Albin Chuwa addresses all NBS staff meeting in Dodoma where she stressed the leading role of NBS regional offices in data collection in regions and districts.***

The Director General of NBS, Dr. Albin Chuwa, has urged regional offices to spearhead data collection in regions and districts through collaboration with statistics officers at those levels in order to provide the country with the much needed statistics.

“According to Statistics Act of 2015, we are to support regional and district offices to produce official statistics and in the process adhere to regulations of production of official statistics,” Dr. Chuwa insisted.

She added that NBS regional offices must work hand in hand--

with regional and district statistical officers to prepare and produce regional profiles to facilitate proper planning and evaluation of development projects and programmes in regions and districts.

The NBS chief told staff that it was high time efforts were doubled in the production of official statistics as the country needs more data to fulfil its target of becoming a middle income country by 2025.

“NBS is the focal point of all statistics needs of the government and the--

international community...it is a big challenge and to overcome it, we have to work hard by doubling our efforts,” she emphasized.

Dr. Chuwa asked workers to focus their attention in fulfilling NBS’s mission of producing quality official statistics and services that meet needs of national and international stakeholders for evidence based planning and decision making and indeed attain institutions’ vision of becoming a one-stop centre for official statistics in Tanzania.

Responding to various staff grievances, NBS boss informed the staff that all issues regarding increments and promotions are being taken care of by the management but mostly depended on approval of new proposed NBS scheme of service. She however, informed them that of late, a few members of staff have been promoted and urged them to be patient.

On transport problem to some regions, she promised to take immediate measures to provide them with available vehicles and also promised to provide laptops to all regional offices and to start with ten regions that will be handed the facilities shortly.

## Inflation Rate further slows down as Food Prices Fall, says NBS

Low food prices have continued to push consumer price index (CPI) further down to 3.3 percent in the month of July, 2018 from 3.4 percent recorded in June.

According to the Director of Social Statistics and Population Census at National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Mr. Ephraim Kwesigabo, the current higher supply of food against demand resulted into a drop in food prices which has direct effects on inflation.

“The decrease of the overall index is mainly attributed to price decrease of food items,” said Mr. Kwesigabo and listed those items as including rice which dropped by 2.6 percent, maize flour by 2.0 percent, fruits by 3.5 percent, vegetables by 4.1 percent, fresh cassava by 5.6 percent and cooking bananas by 2.9 percent.

Mr. Kwesigabo told reporters at the new NBS offices in Dodoma that national consumer price index has shown a relatively stable movement of prices from July last year and July this year.



***Director of Social Statistics and Population Census at National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Mr. Ephraim Kwesigabo releases CPI for the month July, 2018 before members of the Press at new NBS offices in Dodoma.***

“This stability of price movement is very important for the economy and above all for a country to maintain an inflation rate of about 3 percent says a lot about the positive development of the economy,” Mr. Kwesigabo said.

“In addition, Annual Headline Inflation Rates over the same period have decreased from 5.2 percent in July, 2017 to 3.3 percent in July, 2018,” he added.

The director, however, noted that the annual Inflation Rate which excludes food and energy for the month of July, 2018 has stagnated at 1.6 as it was recorded in June, 2018.

***“This stability of price movement is very important for the economy and above all for a country to maintain an inflation rate of about 3 percent says a lot about the positive development of the economy,” Mr. Kwesigabo said.***

# NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



*Guest of Honor Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of State; Public Service and Good Governance Ms. Dorothy Mwaluko hands over to NBS director General Dr. Albina Chuwa agreement Between NBS Management and NBS TUGHE branch.*



*Rahim Mussa, a cartographer, NBS employee of the year being congratulated by Guest of Honor and receives winner's certificate from Guest of Honor Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of State; Public Service and Good Governance Ms. Dorothy Mwaluko during Workers Council meeting.*



# NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



*Ruvuma Regional Statistics Manager Mwantum Athumani receives a laptop from Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of State; Public Service and Good Governance Ms. Dorothy Mwaluko during NBS's Workers Council meeting held in Dodoma.*



*NBS staffs follow presentation on how to handle government/official documents during a one day all NBS staff meeting held in Dodoma.*



# **National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)**

## **VISION**

To become a one-stop centre for official statistics in Tanzania.

## **MISSION**

To produce quality official statistics and services that meet needs of national and international stakeholders for evidence based planning and decision making.

*For comments and suggestions please contact:*

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