

**WELCOMING REMARKS BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL
BUREAU OF STATISTICS, DR. ALBINA A. CHUWA DURING THE CELEBRATION
OF AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY, 2013, HELD ON 20TH NOVEMBER, 2013 AT THE
NATIONAL MUSEUM HALL,
DAR ES SALAAM**

Honorable Guest of Honor,

Executive Chairperson,

Honorable Members of Parliament;

Honorable leaders of Political Parties;

Government Officials;

Chairman of the Board- National Bureau Statistics;

Representative from Universities and Research Institutions;

Journalists;

Invited Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Hon. Guest of Honour, on behalf of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), I would like to thank you, for accepting the request of becoming a guest of honor in the 2013 African Statistics Day celebrations. Your willingness to join us in this occasion is an indication that the Government recognizes the value and importance of statistics for policy formulation and planning for sustainable social economic development. It also proves that Tanzania is keen in **carrying** out the 1993 instructions given by African Heads of States geared towards creation of awareness in use of quality statistics.

Hon. Guest of Honor, the NBS is responsible for the provision of official statistics that guides the Government in formulating policies and developing proper plans. In this respect, NBS in collaboration with other stakeholders within and outside the country strives to provide quality data that meets the user needs at national and international level.

Hon. Guest of Honor, among the functions of NBS is to coordinate all statistical activities in the country through Statistical Act No. 1 of 2002. The Act stipulates the roles of the NBS as follows;

- a) To provide quality statistics to be used by the Government , businesses and international organizations for planning and evidence based decision making,
- b) To coordinate statistical activities in order to enhance production of authentic statistics.

Hon. Guest of Honor, in year 2010, the Government of Tanzania approved a comprehensive statistical plan known as Tanzania Statistical Master Plan (TSMP). The main objective, among others was to coordinate and monitor production of good quality statistics by all producers, including Ministerial Departments and Agencies. Through TSMP, producers and users of statistics are also guided on the use of agreed standard, methods and definition set by the United Nations Statistical Division with regard to production and dissemination of official statistics.

Thus, today is a special and important day, not only for statisticians, but also for all statistics stakeholders in Africa. In this day, statisticians meet to discuss various statistical related issues and remind statistics stakeholders on the importance of using statistics in their daily activities.

Hon. Guest of Honor, I understand that your speech is full of key messages for statisticians about this day. There are also other professionals from different sectors of the economy who are with us today. They will be given opportunities to present and discuss about the importance of quality statistics in development planning and supporting progress.

Hon. Guest of Honor, Welcome