

Monthly News

ActionAid Tanzania

November 2019

Stakeholders Discuss Ratification of ILO GBV Convention



AATZ Head of Programmes & Policy, Jovina Nawenzake speaking during the event

By Amne Manangwa, Women's Rights Manager

In commemorating this year's 16 days of activism, ActionAid Tanzania (AATZ) organized stakeholders' dialogue on 12th of December 2019 in Dar-es-Salaam to discuss on the national ratification of the ILO Convention on ending violence and harassment in the world of work – Convention 190, which was recently adopted during this year's ILO Conference in June.

The forum created a space for various actors from both the government and private sectors, to meet and discuss about the significance of this Convention in promoting safe work spaces, especially for women, and to strategize on key actions for engaging the government of Tanzania to ratify the Convention.

Representatives were from the Ministry of Gender, the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs, Trade Union representatives as well as local, national and international NGOs and CSOs – such as TAWLA, OXFAM, Tree of Hope, etc.

In his presentation, Mr. Maridadi Phanuel, the ILO representative from Dar Es Salaam office, gave a detailed account of the process

through which ratification of international instruments should follow. He emphasized that it is important for stakeholders to understand the Convention first and its significance in our legal framework, before any further action to engage the government is undertaken.

In line with raising a common understanding of Convention 190, a presentation of the national legal framework was done by a representative from the Tanganyika Law Society, Advocate Magdalena Mlilee. Through her presentation,

participants were familiarized with various national laws that accord safety and protection on women against any forms of discrimination, violence, harassment and abuse, where specific sections were cited, accordingly.

As they made their contributions, participants highlighted that Tanzania has ratified number of international instruments but the major challenge remains on their implementation.

In summing up, the Head of Programmes and Policy, Ms. Jovina Nawenzake, gave a brief account of ActionAid campaign entitled 'Women's Labor, Decent Work and GRPS' – where she mentioned that this global campaign has two work streams, one focusing on ending violence in workplaces through adoption of the ILO Convention 190 and the second work-stream is on unpaid care work.

"Today's discussion is very significant in informing this campaign and other related program interventions" said Jovina

At the end of the session, participants came out with key deliberations which include amongst others, the need to establish a taskforce that will coordinate the process and other interventions related with engaging the government to ratify Convention 190.

They also insisted on the need to do a mapping analysis of employment standards, working environment and whether decent work

standards are guaranteed, in different regions, through which the findings will be consolidated to inform the engagement strategy.



Participant contributing during the event

Mafia Women Demand Better Working Environment



Deputy District Council Chair welcoming participants for the dialogue

Women in Mafia District have demanded that the government and other stakeholders ensure improved working environment, especially for female workers.

The request was made during a dialogue organised by Mafia Local Rights Programme (LRP) as part of activities to mark 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence in the District. The dialogue that involved women, government officials, councillors and other development stakeholders carried the theme: **BORESHA MAZINGIRA YA KAZI MAFIA – TOKOMEZA UNYANYASAJI MAKAZINI.**

Prior to the dialogue, the LRP organized an awareness session for women working in hotels, fish processing industries, bars and other tourism related work, which focused on The Employment and Labour Relations (General regulations, 2017 (URT), and was facilitated by Vaileth Ndenza labour officer from Coastal



Region and Rehema Ludanga from TUCTA.

The main objectives of the event were to create awareness to staffs, employers and general public on the Tanzanian legal framework on employment and labour relations and advocating for the district government to establish a mechanism of holding accountable employers who are not complying to the requirement of ELRA no 6/2004.

Speaking during the dialogue, the women revealed that there are so many challenges they are facing in their working environment, but due to lack of knowledge they don't know which measures to take and where to report to.

"We are working but the environment is very difficult. We don't have employment contracts, others are being called back to work before finishing maternity leave, and there are no workers' associations here in Mafia. We are afraid to ask because the day you ask is the end of your job." Explained Halima Jumbe.

"Imagine I have a three-month old baby. But I am not allowed to go home to breast feed, We are not allowed to eat anything at the work place. This is not fair to us," complained Zenat Omar.

On the other

hand, Vaileth Ndenza labour officer said that all the challenges raised by female workers including issues of employment contracts, leave, public holidays, salary, terminations are clearly stipulated in the Employment and Labour Relations Act of 2004.

She noted that labour laws recognize every employee regardless of the type of the work she/he is doing. Whether you are working in bars, small or large company the interpretation of the law is the same.

She also insisted to participants that they should make sure they report to responsible authorities whenever they come across any violation of their rights at the work place.

"Don't be afraid to ask your employers about issues related to your rights as employees. If you encounter any challenge, be sure to report and follow the relevant steps to claim your rights" she added.

Rehema Ludanga, TUCTA representative told participant's that it is their right to be members of any workers' association, before advising them to avoid sexual abuse at the work place.

Some of the recommendations given by participants during the dialogue were: District government to organise a meeting with all employers to discuss the challenges raised and raise their awareness on the labour laws for them to comply; setting up a desk at the district to receive complaints from workers; The responsible departments located outside Mafia should arrange regular visits to listen to workers' challenges and address them.

There are several challenges facing women employed in various sectors in Mafia. These include some employers said to deny the right of maternity leave to their female staffs, some lose their jobs after falling pregnant because they do not have job contracts, prolonged working hours without compensation, the majority of staffs being paid below the minimum wage salary and staffs are being overloaded with huge tasks due to limited number of employed staffs.

The majority of staffs claim to have no evidence/ proof if their social security fund contribution are submitted to the pension fund agency.

For most women working in Bar and Guest houses are being harassed sexually and sometimes are being used by employers to attract

16 Days of Activism: Kilwa Intensifies War Against Violence at Work Place

By Kilwa LRP Team

As part of events to mark 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence, Kilwa LRP in collaboration with TUJIWAKI (Tumaini Jipya Wanawake Kilwa) and other stakeholders in the district recently conducted a campaign to fight violence at the work place.

With the theme, **“FUNGUKA, PINGA UKATILI MAHALA PA KAZI,”** the campaign focused on ending violence at the work place because most of the women in Kilwa District are self-employed in informal sectors and are engaged in small-scale activities such as fish vending, sea weed farming, food vending in market places and so on.

The campaign on the other hand was aimed at raising awareness and advocating against challenges faced by women at their work places, to increase decent work.

The campaign activities also focused on assessing the magnitude of economic violence cases and acts that women face at their place of work, raising awareness of the community especially men, religious and traditional leaders on women’s rights especially economic rights and legal proceedings, building solidarity among women’s groups at village, ward to district levels with the available CSOs, CBOs and other development partners, and advocating for improvement of market places and provision of sanitation services.

During assessment, some of the challenges identified were; Lack of water and sanitation services at market places despite tax being paid (which is almost 30,000Tshs per week depending on how one accumulates), lack of electricity at market place especially around the beach areas, lack of working and safe gears like boots (shoes) for those working on sea weed farming which exposes them to risks of being hurt in the sea, lack of market place, poor market conditions, unreliable

and low prices, lack of friendly infrastructure such as toilets and water at the market, Sexual violence and rape especially for those working in the fishing industry.

Stakeholders used the findings from the assessment to raise awareness to community members through dialogues in all wards. The discussion focused on the right of improved working places, gender-based violence, the need for community to demand government to address the challenges identified in their areas of work, and importance of reporting violence acts which are happening in their areas in general. Community members were also connected with legal assistance and support on GBV cases at their local levels.

The campaign was concluded during the climax event which took place at Kilwa Masoko on the 10th of December, this year. The closing event was officiated by the Kilwa District Commissioner, Hon Christopher Nguniagai

A report on the challenges identified was presented to the District Commissioner by TUJIWAKI (Women Rights Association in Kilwa District) on behalf of all other stakeholders.

The District Commissioner promised to make a close

follow up with responsible leaders in the District to make sure that they are addressing challenges raised during the campaign.

“It’s true that women are facing so many challenges at their places of work. We request the community to respect them. Women are a great force that if used well can transform the economy. But, this will only be possible if these women have their jobs respected and no patriarchal system will be able to undermine their work. I encourage women to use their groups’ investments in doing decent work,” advised Nguniagai

In general, the campaign managed to reach women and men from formal & informal sectors in 15 villages of Kilwa District.

Other stakeholders involved in the campaign were police gender desk, PCCB, Kilwa women paralegal unit, TUJIWAKI, NMB, and Mashujaa Radio.



Some members of TUJIWAKI, in a group photo after the climax event at Kilwa



Marching during climax event



AATZ Country Director (first right) Mr Yaekob Metena and representatives of Kilosa & Mbozi Districts officiating the project during the launch event

2022) on Programme Priority Two which ensures civic participation and state accountability for the redistribution of public resources for the delivery of quality, gender responsive public services (education and health).

“We appreciate your support and cooperation during implementation of phase one, which led to securing phase two of the project. As we go to the second phase, we should draw lessons from the previous phase, improve and be much better,” insisted Metena.

The project Manager, Mr Samwel Mkwatwa highlighted key achievements, challenges and lessons learnt during the first phase of the project and more emphasis was given on the contributions of the project at both district and national level. He also shared key focus areas of the second phase for both health and agriculture.

District representatives also gave their views on the project. “I appreciate AATZ for implementing this project in our district. Through this project, people are now able to monitor their resources as well as their level of understanding on accountability issues has increased,” said Eric Ambakisyé – Mbozi District councillor.

Various participants had time to reflect and contribute their views, opinions and recommendations towards AATZ, particularly on contributions during the first phase and the best ways of improving implementation of phase two.

This is a consortium project led by ActionAid International (AAI), the Public Service Accountability Monitor (PSAM) of Rhodes University, Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers’ Forum (ESAFF) and SAFAIDS.

The project seeks to improve public service delivery in agriculture (food security), and health (HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health).

AATZ launches Strengthening Social Accountability Project Phase Two

By Emmanuel Mabodo, Project Technical Officer

ActionAid Tanzania (AATZ) recently launched phase two of a project titled, ‘Strengthening Social Accountability and Oversight in Health and Agriculture in Southern Africa.’

The launch that took place on the 26th of November in Dar-es-Salaam, brought together representatives from issue-based civil society organizations (CSOs), media houses, district councils, government departments, Member of Parliament, smallholder farmers, youth and other stakeholders implementing social accountability programmes in Tanzania at both district and national level.

The opening remarks and project launch was done by ActionAid Tanzania Country Director, Mr. Yaekob Metena, who welcomed all participants.

During his speech, he informed all stakeholders that this is the second phase of the project, which will run for four years (2019 to 2023) and it is funded by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

He also told participants that the project is being implemented by SADC countries at local, national and regional level, with the aim of improving accountability and resources monitoring at all levels.

He added that the project links with Actionaid Tanzania Country Strategy Paper IV (2018 to



Project Manager, Samwel Mkwatwa presenting about the project

Mafia Bodaboda Riders Vow to Protect Girls

Motorcycle riders in Mafia District have vowed to protect girls and women against violence and any other harmful acts through their slogan, *“Mimi ni bodaboda. Nimeamua kua balozi wa kupinga vitendo vya ukatili kwa Watoto wa kike.”*

The stance was taken by the riders, who are commonly known as bodaboda riders, during a dialogue on 16 days activism organized by the LRP and involved women, representatives from government departments, and other development stakeholder in the district.

In recent years, bodaboda riders in many parts of the country (including Mafia) have been blamed as one of the main threats to girls’ dreams. And, Mafia District due to its geographical set up, heavily relies on bodaboda (more than 90%) as their mode of transport. Hence, most of these riders have been using that advantage to hoodwink girls, leading to increases in early pregnancies and early marriages for the girls.

Having realized that bodabodas are major transporters of girls and are now key players in the fight against violence, the LRP decided to bring them (bodaboda riders) on board as change agents. Through the project titled, Stop Violence Against Girls in Schools (SVAGS), the LRP mobilized the riders to form a network and provided regular trainings to them on violence against children and their role in protecting them. They became part of implementation process.

Speaking about the initiative Mwita Marwa, a bodaboda rider had this to say;

“The knowledge we gained from Actionaid has changed our mind sets. We have understood the importance of our role in protecting girls and children. We are now ambassadors and have voluntarily decided to protect girls because these are our children. When we



Boda Boda Rider in his tshirt with a message on protecting girls against violence

discover that a girl child has been taken to a high-risk area, immediately we report to the police through an existing network.”

Omari Mohamedi, the Chairperson of Boda-boda Riders in Mafia confirmed that previously the situation was not good as there were many cases related to bodaboda riders impregnating school girls.

“We are now transformed. We know the value of the girl child in the society. When I see any girl even if she is not mine, I have to respect her and help her fulfill her dreams. We no longer carry them with sexual requests and favours in mind,” explained Omar.

“At my workplace (Kijiwe), if I find out or see a bodaboda rider getting into a relationship with a girl child under 18 years of age, I immediately

follow up and warn him to stop. If he continues, I report him to the respective authorities,” narrated Ally Rajabu.

that up to now, there are 42 registered bodaboda groups in Mafia District. This has helped them because they know every bodaboda rider. So, when anyone commits any wrongful acts it is easy to catch him.”

Actionaid has been working with different stakeholders including government officials in creating awareness to the community and school children oh how they can protect themselves from early marriages and pregnancies.

Major changes in the behaviour of parents and drop in teenage pregnancies have been noted in Mafia.

Other initiatives employed by the LRP are establishment of 16 school clubs in primary schools to enable pupils to discuss and report violence issues that affect them in and out of the school environment.

Stop Violence Against Girls in Schools (SVAGS) Project is aimed at ensuring that girls’ right to free, quality, public and inclusive education is realized; while also protecting their right to safety and self-determination. The project targets 6,500 schoolgirls between 9-18 years of age. It also includes 14 women’s rights groups that represent women and girls’ rights.



Boda boda riders in a group photo with representatives from TUCTA and Labour office

MEDO Marks International Day of Persons with Disabilities



Shabani from Ilongero performing a song with a message to plead community to stop discriminating persons with disabilities

By Iddy Hashim, MEDO Coordinator

MEDO in collaboration with other stakeholders in Singida District Council marked the International Day of Persons with Disabilities which is observed on the 3rd of December every year.

This year's theme was, ***"Promoting the participation of persons with disabilities and their leadership: taking action on the 2030 Development Agenda."***

The event that was held from the 30th of November to December 3, this year, was organized to highlight challenges facing pupils with disabilities in their learning environment and discuss ways of addressing them.

Prior to the commemoration day, stakeholders conducted a visit to the three schools which provide special education namely, Mtinko, Ilongero and Mgori primary schools.

The aim of the tour which involved district education officials, media, and MEDO staff was to visit the schools and identify challenges facing them and the children with disabilities.

During the visit the team interacted with school clubs, pupils living with disabilities, School Management Committees, Chancellors of respective areas, Ward Education Officers, and Village Chairpersons.

Some of the challenges identified at the schools were; lack of hostels/dormitories, inadequate and unfriendly classrooms, shortage of special education teachers (especially females), lack of electricity and water and lack of learning and teaching materials.

At the climax which took place at Ilongero, pupils with disabilities had an opportunity to express their feelings through songs. They also called upon the government and other stakeholders to join hands to help them.



Saumu, a student living with disability (deaf) explaining challenges facing them in and out of school environment during stakeholders visit

The Singida District Council Chairperson, Hon Elia Digha, appreciated MEDO for organising the event and for taking part in promoting the rights of people with disabilities.

Responding to the challenges raised, he advised persons with disabilities to join groups so that they can be able to access loans from the government.

He also promised to make a follow up on the completion of Mtinko Primary School buildings and the availability of electricity in all centres housing children with disabilities.

He also requested the education and planning officer to visit Mgori Primary School to check the challenges raised and put a plan of addressing them, including a plan to build classrooms and dormitories as soon as possible.

MEDO has been working with ActionAid Tanzania in the implementation of the project dubbed, 'Breaking barriers, Tax justice and Gender Responsive Public services.'

Government to Intergrate Farmers Recommendations into 2020/21 plans

By Joram Wimmo, PFA Project Coordinator

The Deputy Minister for agriculture Hon Hussein Bashe has assured farmers that their recommendations will be integrated into 2020/21 plans and budget.

The pledge was given during the 2019 National Agriculture Peoples Budget summit organized by ActionAid in collaboration with ANSAF, Oxfam, Policy Forum members, Forum CC, TGNP and Tanzania Agricultural Journalists Forum, meant to deliberate on issues that affect small-holder farmers in the country.

Hon Bashe, who was the guest of honour, was accompanied by members of the Parliamentary Permanent Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation.

The summit brought together relevant stakeholders including small holder farmers, CSOs representatives, media, local government leaders, central government officials representing the Agricultural Sector Lead Ministries, (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Fisheries, Prime Minister's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PMO-RALG), Ministry of Water and Irrigation and Ministry of Transportation). Others were parliamentarians, academicians, researchers and individual activists working in the agriculture sector.

Hon Bashe appreciated the summit, saying it has come at the right time for preparing and planning for the 2020/2021 budget. He committed to ensure that farmers' recommendations form part of the ideas and suggestions in the budget planning and implementations for the FY 2020/2021.

Regarding the challenges of post-harvest losses raised by farmers, the Deputy Minister explained that the government is investing in infrastructure, especially in rural areas, which has direct link with the agriculture sector and support farmers reach the market on time hence reducing post-harvest losses.

He also directed the opening of borders to enable farmers sell their produce and boost their income. *"The government's role is to ensure that there are right regulations and mecha-*



nisms to balance between food prices and farmers benefits from their efforts," insisted Bashe

He said that the government will increase investment in the irrigation projects and champion locally produced seeds to enable seasonal crops, reduce production costs and create jobs. Also, the government has revised the importation of farming inputs system, starting with fertilizers whereas the, importation is expected to be as low as 30% in average.

He also promised that the Ministry of Agriculture in partnership with the President Office Regional Administration and Local Government will monitor the performances and credibility of extension officers to ensure services are directly beneficial to smallholder farmers. Also, the Ministry develop a Data base to capture farmers' information on crops produced, the size of their farms, and move to the stage where the government can use existing networks to digitalize the agricultural sector, to reduce the challenge of lack of extension services in different areas.

Presenting farmers' recommendations, Ms Janeth Nyamayahasi from Chamwino District on behalf of the Smallholder Women Farmers Forum (SWFF) provided a short synopsis on the smallholder farmers' recognition of the government's efforts in implementing the Comprehen-

sive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP) which aims to reduce poverty and improve food security in Africa and ratify Maputo and Malabo's resolutions in 2014.

She reminded the government representatives that all African countries including Tanzania pledged to increase government spending on agriculture by 10% of the total budget and achieve a growth rate of 6% per annum.

Despite these government efforts, she said, the national budget has not yet reached the required 10% benchmark.

She added that smallholder farmers have huge investments, so there is great need to support agricultural development.

The growth of industries that relies on agricultural raw materials should link its owners with smallholder producers for marketing and processing. Also, access to financial services and extension services should be improved. And for this to be achieved, policies should be focused on the provision of public subsidies to encourage the agricultural sector, especially on commercial agriculture, concluded Nyamayahasi.



Samwel Mesiaki, Mafia Programme Coordinator speaking with members of the Reflect in one of the activities

currently producing baskets and mats, others have embarked on small businesses and coconut oil production. There is no single member of our circle who is idle or without any income generating activity," said Mwainamani.

Sharing about achievements, members said that even though the circle is still in the early stages, but they have seen value in it.

"In our circle, we identified the challenge of accessing health services at our district hospital. For a long time, the XRAY machine was not working and people were facing a lot of challenges, especially

pregnant women. We made some follow ups and pressured the relevant authorities until they fixed the XRAY machine. Now the machine is working, and women who go to the district hospital are given priority in accessing health services," explained Usuni Omar.

"Although we started this year, success has been realized. Women now understand their role in eradicating poverty; they are learning from each other and participating in economic activities. And provision of health services at our hospital has improved because of the monitoring we are doing every time," she said.

On challenges, the members said markets for products they are producing are still not feasible due to lack of transport to connect Mafia and other places. Also, lack of capital is another barrier to them.

The Reflection-Action process starts with people's analysis of their own context and builds in a cumulative way, looking at the connections between local, national and international levels.

Reflection Action Circle: A space for Community Reflection and Discussion

Reflection Action Circles is one of the implementation strategies that ActionAid Tanzania (AATZ) has been promoting in the execution of its interventions in the community.

It is ActionAid's participatory methodology which people from one community/area sit together to discuss and analyse their situation, identify rights violation and bring about change. And, It uses a range of participatory tools to help create an open, democratic environment in which everyone can contribute.

In Mafia District, the LRP has conducted capacity building sessions on Reflection Action Circles and mobilized communities to establish the circles in some of the villages.

Kiegeani Women Circle is one of the circles that were established this year, and has 30 members.

Speaking about their Reflect Circle, Aisha Jabir explains that after receiving training from AATZ, they organized themselves as Kiegeani women and formed their circle.

She said that in their circle, they meet once a

month and discuss challenges facing them in their area and plan what steps to take to resolve them.

"In our circle, for example, we looked and discussed the challenge of gender-based violence in our area and we realised that the major contributing factor is the common culture of silence (Muhali) in our communities. We agreed to and learn together on the importance of reporting any violence case which will happen in our families or communities," narrated Aisha, a member of the circle.

They also added that through discussions in their circle, they realized that in order to liberate women economically, they need to look for different opportunities and engage in income generating activities.

"In an analysis which we conducted in our group, we realised that high poverty levels among women is the source of violence. Therefore, we looked at ourselves, and our environment to see the available opportunities in which we can tap to help ourselves economically. We encouraged every woman to find something to do. While some are

In-Country Affiliation Review Team Visits Tanzania

lene Harry, Governance Officer at ActionAid Global Secretariat and Phylesiah K, an independent OD consultant.

The team held an introductory meeting in which members of the Board, General Assembly, the Senior Management Team and AATZ staff attended. Moreover, the team visited national partners that have had development programs with ActionAid Tanzania namely; ANSAF, TEN/MET and OXFAM Tanzania. It also visited Unguja Local Rights Program where it had interactions with communities, representatives of Community Based-Organizations and selected officials of the Zanzibar Government. Upon completion of the visit, the team had feedback sessions with the Board and Senior Management Team.

Generally, the visit was effectively facilitated and the overall feedback was positive. ActionAid Tanzania's achievements in implement-

ing impactful programs and institution building, human resources management and organizational development, fundraising and financial management as well as its role in the federation governance processes among others were highly commended by the team.



International review team in a meeting with AATZ SMT, Board and AGM members

With ActionAid Tanzania currently undergoing an Affiliation process to transform its governance system, an Affiliation Review Team recently visited the country to assess the organization's journey towards this regard.

Countries where ActionAid operates across the globe are categorized into three: (1) Country Programs that are considered as branches of ActionAid International, (2) Associates that have in-country governance (National Boards and General Assembly) and (3) Affiliates where the governance system is more advanced with National Boards and General Assembly.

The anticipated governance development in ActionAid's Country Programs are expected to grow into Associate and then to Affiliate status. ActionAid Tanzania became an Associate member of ActionAid Federation since February 2011.

On November 30, 2018, ActionAid Tanzania's General Assembly decided to transform the organization's governance to full Affiliate status, with a target of completing the process by June 2020. Accordingly, Affiliation Roadmap and Membership Development Plan were developed and their implementation has been undergoing for the past 10 months.

To assess the organization's journey towards affiliation, the Affiliation Review Team that visited Tanzania from October 27 – November 1, 2019 was led by Showvik Das, member of ActionAid International Board. The team was composed of Nalucha Nganga, Country Director of ActionAid Zambia; Dechassa Sekata, Head of Finance from ActionAid Ethiopia; Jennie Gillions, Global Philanthropy and Partnerships Lead; Char-



International review team members in a group photo with community members at Unguja LRP

General Assembly Gets Youth Members

The ActionAid Tanzania (AATZ) General Assembly convened its 5th Annual Regular Meeting on November 29, 2019 at Regency Park Hotel Dar Es Salaam.

Since the General Assembly was established on July 15, 2015, it convenes for regular meetings annually as conditioned in the organization's Memorandum and Article of Association (February 2011).

During the meeting attended by members of the General Assembly and Board and Senior Management Team, the Assembly Reviewed and approved the Board's annual report to the General Assembly discussed on the progress made in the Affiliation process and set directions on next steps, reviewed and approved the audit report on the 2018 Financial Statements and proposal for employing auditor for 2020 Financial Statements, Reviewed and approved the organization's 2020 Annual Plan and Budget and Reviewed and approved the Board's Motion to increase the General Assembly membership.

The Board Chairperson, Mary Nsemwa, presented the Board's performance report of the year which was discussed in-depth and finally approved by the Assembly. Similarly, Ernst & Young Audit Firm Manager presented processes undergone and major findings of the audit for 2018 Financial Statements to the Assembly. The audit report confirmed that proper books of account have been kept and the statement of financial positions are in agreement with the books of account'. No qualified issue was identified in the audit process.



Members of AGM meeting in a session during the 5th Annual meeting

The draft plan and budget prepared by the Management for 2020, was presented to the Assembly. Accordingly, plans under programmes, governance, HROD & Support Services, fund-raising and financial management to which TZS 7.3 Billion expenditure plan was reviewed and approved.

Assembly members commended the Senior Management Team and the Staff for ensuring financial policies and procedures were carefully observed and appreciated the Board for providing the necessary support and guidance to the management towards this end.

The other key milestone performed by the Assembly was inclusion of youth to the General Assembly membership. Earlier, a call was shared by the Board Chairperson for nomination of potential candidates as agreed by the Board to General Assembly membership. The call was shared to General Assembly members, the Board, the staff and partner organizations so that they can further disseminate it widely to the public.

As a result, 34 candidates were nominated until November 20, 2019. The profiles of these nominees were reviewed by the Board and the Senior Management Team in

light of the established criteria and 15 candidates were short listed for General Assembly review and approval. The Assembly further reviewed the profile of candidates and accepted eight new members who are within the age range of 23 – 33 years old.

The new Assembly members consist of Mwanai Madadi from Kilwa, Kennedy Chipande from Tandahimba, Peter Josephat from Mwanza, Bob Wangwe, Elieth Josephat and Sophia Mambeyela from Dar es Salaam, Ester Maile from Chamwino and Zuena Nyundo from Mafia.

This is a significant step forward in the Assembly's bid to bring in youth into the governance and give due attention to youth's voice in the Assembly conversations. With the inclusion of the new members, the size of the General Assembly has increased to 25. The Assembly thanked those who contributed in the nomination process.

On another note, the General Assembly members highly appreciated Yaekob Metena, the Country Director of ActionAid Tanzania who has resigned and will be leaving the organization by end of January 2020.

His contributions in addressing challenges the organization faced and transforming it in multiple fronts in the past six years (2014 – 2019) were highly applauded by members.



AATZ Country Director (standing) Yaekob Metena speaking during the recent AGM meeting

Stakeholders Discuss Civic Space & The Role of CSOs

By Mawazo Mataje, Public
Accountability & Youth Engagement Manager

With civic space deteriorating in Tanzania and bringing many challenges for both CSOs work and operations, a two-day conference was convened at MS TCDC Arusha from 22nd to 23rd November 2019 to help mitigate the situation.

The conference that was attended by more than 40 participants from CSOs, media houses, human right defenders and Activists from Tanzania Mainland, Zanzibar, Uganda, Kenya and India was aimed at exploring and getting experience from various countries and stakeholders. The theme of the conference was, *'Civic space and the role of civil society in shaping better future'*

The objectives of the conference were: Creating opportunity to collectively review trends in the civic space in the country and elsewhere and learn from one another; Developing a roadmap/mechanism on what Civil Society Organizations can individually/collectively do to challenge restrictions and broaden the civic space to contribute the country's development, and Designing a mechanism on how to regularly monitor the progress made on agreed actions and explore alternative ways to advance the agenda.

The conference was jointly opened by Yaekob Metena, the Country Director, AATZ and Ezra Mbogori, the Chief Executive Officer for TCDC.

During opening and closing remarks, Mr



Metena recommended and assured the participants on the need to get equitable and sustainable development that reflect development of people's lives.

He also assured the conference that AATZ will in the future invite more participants, to ensure more involvement and forums of a similar nature will be held each year as a continuation and follow up on issues discussed and at the same time evaluating achievements.

According to him, the annual forum will also help to check trends in terms of improvement, best practices and the way forward.

During the conference, various experiences were drawn from media houses, activist from Uganda, Human rights defender from Kenya and virtual call from India where great experience was also drawn.

Following the two days conference and dialogue, participants came up with a resolution to develop a communique which was shared to media houses including social media. The communique among other things, called upon the government to revisit restrictions imposed by laws on the operations of Civil Society Organizations and introduce more enabling systems, refrain from threats and harassing human rights defenders and protect civil rights and political freedom of citizens.

Participants also called upon civil society organisations to strengthen alliance and solidarity with one another, to defend the rights of citizens and challenge all elements that contribute towards shrinking the civic space, ensure transparency and accountability in all operations and the public to actively and assertively participate in matters that affect the lives of citizens.

ActionAid Denmark Team Visits AATZ

ActionAid Tanzania (AATZ) has been implementing Youth Empowerment and Influence Programme funded by the Danish Government through ActionAid Denmark since the beginning of 2018.

The program is under implementation in Unguja, Pemba, Kilwa and Mafia as well as through Youth Partnership Country-wide, Tanzania Youth Vision Association, Policy Forum and Global Platform Kenya.

It is in this regard that a delegation visited Tanzania from November 11 – 15, 2019 and conducted a Workshop on Resilience to

Shirking Civic Space. The workshop was also aimed at highlighting concepts and practices of Monitoring and Evaluation and reflections on the 2020 planning.

ActionAid Denmark Team consisted of Morten Gobel, Julie Arrildt, Helene Bach, Fredrick Kawooya, Manager of Democratic Governance from ActionAid Uganda and David Manyonga, a consultant from Malawi.

The workshop was opened by Yaekob Metena, ActionAid Tanzania Country Director who welcomed all participants and shared the purpose of the workshop. In his remarks, Metena shared the overall vision of the Country Strategy Paper IV and core priorities of the strategy

as it relates to the purpose of the workshop. He further indicated the relationship between civic space and development and the need for civil society organizations to consistently scan the civic space to remain resilient to evolving challenges.

During the session, participants reflected on challenges they observe in the operating environment and the need for strategizing approaches to broaden the space. Discussions on M&E and the 2020 planning enabled participants to clear directions of the plans and mechanisms on how to effectively monitor and measure results in the implementation process.

Country Director's Year-end Message



Dear ActionAid Family Members !

As we head towards ending 2019 and stretching hands to 'welcome' the New Year - 2020, it is a pleasure for me to congratulate all of you for incredible work you have done in 2019. We are all witnesses to testify ActionAid Tanzania's movement towards more heights in the year as a result of the incremental work we performed so far in advancing social justice, gender equality and eradication of poverty.

We have successfully implemented our 2019 plan and in so doing, we moved a concrete step forward in delivering commitments we made in the Country Strategy Paper. Our programs under the women rights, civic participation, education, livelihoods and the development of youth and children have benefitted thousands across our operational areas. At national level, we have laid solid foundation in advancing the campaign on Women Labor, Decent Work and Gender Responsive Public Services and joined hands with the rest of the federation. We are also able to demonstrate our capacity in managing projects and secured the 2nd Phase of the SDC project funding for 4 years.

Our journey towards becoming an Affiliate member of the Federation has gone a long way as a result of concerted efforts made by the staff, the Senior Management Team, the Board and General Assembly members. We have successfully facilitated a series of reviews namely; the Cross-Functional Team Review, In-Country

Affiliation Review, HR Physical Audit and Stakeholders Opinion Survey that are crucial parts of the Affiliation requirements and the outcome of all these reviews is positive. The role played by our partners in these processes deserves much appreciation. On the other hand, ActionAid Tanzania's role in the Federation continues as member in the International Board, as Assembly Convener and members of the Assembly Election Committee. Member of our Board is also serving International Representative in another National Board. We have also brought in youth to the General Assembly membership to strengthen our constituency with the voice of youth. Our flag remained high up!

In 2019, we are able to renew our registration in the Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. We have also moved concrete steps in delivering compliance requirements. The 2018 external audit confirmed that our financial management practices are healthy, and we secured a clean audit report.

It is worth mentioning that all these successes didn't come without challenge. Ensuring these incremental gains demanded tireless efforts by staff, the management and the Board. Maintaining policies and procedures, keeping the strategy direction on track and ensuring our support services are responsive required strong internal control, consistent monitoring and follow-up and continuous management actions.

As we move to 2020, we have many things in our menu. Among other, materialization of our ambition to become an Affiliate member of the Federation by June 2020, undertaking a review to our Country Strategy Paper to assess the midway journey and elaborating its 2nd half period, raising more funds from potential sources, effective management of the leadership transition, rolling-out the outcome of the Country Model Review in a way a realistic model of presence is exercised to remain agile etc. etc. This will demand more proactiveness and commitment from all ActionAid Tanzania family members. I am optimistic and I say, '**Yes We Can!**'

This is my last yearend message! I will be leaving ActionAid Tanzania by end of January 2020. I am so proud of being a member of this wonderful family. I am confident that ActionAid Tanzania will keep on moving towards more heights going forward. Let us join hands and keep-up the momentum!

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

May God bless you abundantly!

Yaekob Metena

From the Media....

ACCESS relieves 10,000 pupils in Tandahimba and Newala districts

Over 10,000 pupils in Tandahimba and Newala districts have benefited from the Appropriate Cost Effective Centres of Education System (ACCESS), which is geared towards mainstreaming non-formal education centres into the formal school system.

Apart from improving school infrastructure such as construction of classrooms, latrines, and hostel, the programme also work on changing the community attitude on girls' education and increased government budget allocation for education has had positive impact.

Centre to support pupils who walked long distance from Mtsua village to Mtanga Primary school to get education.

"As a teacher I express thanks to ACCESS centre in Mtsua village and give us 15se to construct two classrooms and one Teachers office that in turn has helped the children to attend school."

The programme also managed to build classrooms in Rovana, Nanodi Mtsua Juu, and Mtanga primary schools.

"This has reduced overcrowding in their classrooms. This alone has relieved 900 pupils," Kamwale said. "We also constructed four teachers' houses at Mpyoo, Chibwala, Mcheli Godani and Pachoto Primary

Mafia women entrepreneurs form association mainly to tackle transport and other challenges

Women entrepreneurs in Mafia have formed an association mainly to tackle transport and other challenges.

The Mafia Women Entrepreneurs Association (MWEA) was formed on Monday, 12th December 2016, during a meeting held at the Mafia District Office.

The association was formed by 15 women entrepreneurs who are engaged in various businesses such as petty trading, handicrafts, and tourism services.

The main reason for the formation of the association is to tackle the transport challenges that women entrepreneurs face in Mafia. The association will also work on other challenges such as access to credit, market information, and technical skills training.

ELIMU NA GAUDENSIA MNGUMI SIKU 16 KUPINGA UKATILI Miundombinu mibovu inavyokwaza kesi GBV

Elimu na gaudensia mngumi siku 16 kupinga ukatili miundombinu mibovu inavyokwaza kesi GBV.

Wakazi wa Mkoa wa Kilimanjaro walikuwa wamekuwa wakipiga ukatili miundombinu mibovu inavyokwaza kesi GBV siku 16 kupingana ukatili.

Wakazi wa Mkoa wa Kilimanjaro walikuwa wamekuwa wakipiga ukatili miundombinu mibovu inavyokwaza kesi GBV siku 16 kupingana ukatili.

UCHAMBUZI Tanzania kuridhia mkataba wa ACDEG ni kuvuna faida lukuki

Uchambuzi Tanzania kuridhia mkataba wa ACDEG ni kuvuna faida lukuki.

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Business training by ActionAid Tanzania bears fruit for women in Newala District

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Innovative project promoting social accountability in public services beginning its second phase in Tanzania

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Women empowerment project takes shape in southern Tanzania

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Trek 4 Mandela groups summit Mount Kilimanjaro

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ActionAid's cashewnut shelling machines changing lives among M

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So far 31 farmers groups have obtained cashew nut shelling machine from ActionAid Tanzania and as TASA we appreciate this assistance very much," Abdulla said. He said through the support, ActionAid Tanzania has completely changed the way that smallholder cashewnut farmers in the district do their business while also impacting on their lives.

