

**OPENING ADDRESS BY MR. BAKARI RAMADHAN MAGUBIKA
KINGOBI, CITY DIRECTOR, DAR ES SALAAM CITY COUNCIL, ON
THE STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP ON ADAPTING TO CLIMATE
CHANGE IN COASTAL DAR ES SALAAM**

**HELD AT DAR ES SALAAM INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE CENTRE, ON 28 APRIL, 2011**

The Vice Chancellor, Ardhi University, Prof. Idrissa Mshoro,

The Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Ardhi University, Prof.
Mengisenyi Kaseva,

The Programme Officer of Environment, Energy and Climate Change,
Delegation of the European Union to Tanzania, Mr. Baptiste Bobillier,

The Project Coordinator, Prof. Silvia Macchi, University of Sapienza, Italy

The Local Project Coordinator, Prof. Gabriel R. Kassenga, Tanzania
Research Team,

Workshop Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Chairperson

First of all, I would like to thank you very much for inviting me to grace this important Workshop on “Adapting to climate change in coastal Dar es Salaam”. Your workshop is very timely as we are already witnessing the impact of climate change within our City boundaries.

I am aware that Climate change is best addressed at multiple approaches, scales and levels which is a key role for urban and local governments. It is a fact that Cities represent a high concentration of people, assets and economic activities which have high values and thus at risk due to impacts of vagaries of climate change induced hazards. Urban centres, Dar es Salaam in particular, are faced with rapid urbanization trends and expansion into risk prone areas such as Msimbazi valley, Mikoroshoni and Bonde la Mpunga or population spillovers into unplanned areas where 70-80 percent of people live without adequate water supply, sanitation, proper roads and storm drains have experiencing declining ecosystems. As a consequence of climate change, majority of large cities in low coastal zones such as Dar es Salaam are became exposed and vulnerable settlements for its people, their livelihoods, assets, and infrastructure such as beaches, roads and drains.

Chairperson,

In Dar es Salaam, people living in the coastal plains are already experiencing some of the impacts of Climate Change such as salinization of shallow water wells, loss of land on the seashore and damages to fishery

infrastructures. The affected people are already involved in a series of autonomous adaptation activities including looking for alternative water sources, crop or livestock in order to make their livelihood more resilient. However, they have limited awareness on the linkage between Climate Change and its impacts on their livelihood. There is therefore a dire need to assess climate related concerns for population living in coastal unplanned and unserviced neighbourhoods in search for robust adaptation strategies. It is also important for the affected people to be informed about Climate Change impacts on their environment through public awareness campaigns as one of the strategies for building their resilience against its impacts.

On the other hand, Dar es Salaam's municipal officials work daily to prevent, cope or recover from climate effects notably flooding of lower areas and coastal erosion. However, their limited analytical capability to effectively analyze Climate Change potential impacts and to develop viable adaptation solutions, may seriously hamper the implementation of the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) of the United Republic of Tanzania. In addition, institutional coordination is needed to improve the flow of information, decision-making strategies, and implementation procedures for National Adaptation Programme of Action.

Chairperson

As, already noted, it is my conviction that the research on "Adapting to climate change in coastal Dar es Salaam", is very timely for the City of Dar es Salaam. I expect that this research project will effectively achieve the desired outcomes which include:

- Enhanced capacities of Dar es Salaam's municipalities in understanding climate change issues, designing adaptation activities and integrating them in their strategies and plans for Urban Development and Environment Management;
- Enhanced development of methodologies for supporting the inhabitants of Dar es Salaam's coastal unplanned and under-serviced neighbourhoods in their efforts to adapt to climate change; and,
- Better understanding of actual and practical ways of addressing adaptation to climate change in the coastal areas.

I am informed that capacity building is one of the main components of this project. Therefore, I anticipate that Dar es Salaam's Local Authorities knowledge and understanding of Climate Change issues will be enhanced, which in turn will guarantee a broader involvement, stimulate creativity for innovation in the workplace and facilitate a direct integration of Climate Change adaptation issues into strategies and plans for Urban Development and Environment Management and consequently, vulnerability of Dar es Salaam residents to Climate Change will be reduced.

Chairperson

I hope this stakeholders' workshop which has been organized to kick-start the research on Adapting to climate change in coastal Dar es Salaam will enable the researchers to share the issues at hand with the participants, to ensure their commitments in providing the needed information and to chart out a way forward on their participation in the project.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Allow me to conclude by once again thanking you all for attending this Workshop. I wish to thank the European Commission for providing the resources for this Project and Workshop. This shows that the European Commission is really committed in helping the City residents to adapt to calamities of Climate Change.

With these remarks, I now have the Honor and Privilege to declare the Workshop on "Adapting to climate change in coastal Dar es Salaam", open. The City has high expectations from the outcomes of this research project.

Thank you for listening.