



# CEO Roundtable of Tanzania

Ethical Leadership for Growth and Prosperity

PRESS RELEASE

## Exploring the Socio-Economic Impact of Female Empowerment through Financial Inclusion, Market Access and Social Change

**Dar es Salaam 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017:** The CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOrt) is pleased to welcome special guest speaker Mrs. Graça Machel, Founder of the Graça Machel Trust and Board Member of the Africa Progress Panel to the CEOrt dinner meeting at the Hyatt Regency Kilimanjaro Hotel in Dar es Salaam this evening.

As one of the world's leading advocates for women, Mrs. Graça Machel holds a number of distinguished roles with a focus on advocating on behalf of the rights of women, children and communities. In her most recent role as founder of the Graça Machel Trust, Mrs. Machel has focused her advocacy efforts on promoting women's economic and financial empowerment as a catalyst for socio-economic development.

In a recently published report, the McKinsey Global Institute makes the economic case for gender parity whereby in a full potential scenario in which women play an identical role in labour markets, the global economy could gain up to \$28 trillion by 2025 by bridging the gender gap.

Furthermore and as highlighted within the Africa Human Development Report 2016: "Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa", gender inequality is costing sub-saharan Africa an average of US 95 billion per year.

Despite the statistics painting a clear business case for gender equality for sustainable economic development, the private sector has been slow to harness these principles within the workplace. Further recognizing that addressing gender equality challenges will require collaborative efforts, the CEOrt is pleased to welcome leaders from within the private sector and development community to participate in a panel discussion as follows:

- The Graça Machel Trust CEO – Ms. Nomsa Daniels
- NMB CEO – Ms. Ineke Bussemaker
- UN Women Tanzania Resident Representative – Ms. Maria Kardenizli
- Africa Practice CEO – Mr. Charles Washoma

The distinguished panelists will explore the socio-economic impact of female empowerment through financial inclusion, market access and social change and the significant impact to economic development through an engaged private sector in harnessing gender parity within the work force.

### **About the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania**

The CEOrt is a policy dialogue forum with the main objective of creating a platform whereby CEOs doing business in Tanzania can constructively engage the government with the vision of creating a more conducive environment for businesses to prosper and contribute to Tanzania's economic growth. The members of the CEOrt and the companies they lead account for more than 40% of the tax revenue collected by the Government of Tanzania.

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