



CEO Roundtable of Tanzania

Ethical Leadership for Growth and Prosperity

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE - 2017

Dear Esteemed Members,

The global economy continues to change rapidly and unpredictably with market trends shifting from economic integration towards protectionism. These changing global economic policies greatly impact Tanzania's economic development goals, which are underpinned by industry and trade.

Furthermore, Tanzania's development goals are already mired with significant challenges including a business environment with fiscal and regulatory policies that hinder private sector development and growth and an industrialization plan that cannot be realized without major infrastructure development, financial mobilization, technology innovation and competent human resource.

Successfully tackling the multitude of challenges will require strategic analysis, innovative thinking and strong leadership capabilities. Whilst the private sector is clearly best placed to support the government in addressing these challenges, due to the lack of trust in the private sector to conduct business ethically, the private sector has for the most part been excluded from the planning and preparation stages, which is the most critical part of dialogue and engagement.

Over the course of the last three years, the CEO Roundtable has pushed an anti-corruption campaign to ensure public and private sector leaders work with integrity to ensure the country's equitable economic growth. This anti-corruption agenda has garnered much respect for the CEOrt and placed the organisation in a unique position as the initiative is closely aligned with H.E. President Magufuli's crackdown on corruption.

Whilst President Magufuli's anti-corruption campaign continues to gain traction daily, we must remember it was just over a year ago that the levels of corruption were deeply embedded within Tanzanian culture. We should also be mindful that corrupt behaviour cannot be permanently uprooted in such a short time. It will require continued vigilance.

Therefore, we have an obligation as ethical leaders to continue promoting the CEOrt's anti-corruption agenda, which should be clearly mirrored in the way we conduct our businesses by ensuring transparency and accountability at all times. This will ultimately create a level of trust between the government and private sector, which is critical in order to facilitate better engagement in planning the nation's economic development strategy.

In addition to continuing our efforts for meaningful Public Private Dialogue (PPD), this year the CEO Roundtable will lead a number of key initiatives including the development of a five year mid-term strategy, which will firmly position the CEOrt as the private sector organisation with the leadership capabilities from amongst its membership; business

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leaders who are best placed to support and implement the government's economic development projects.

As I mentioned during our first meeting of the year, I am personally very excited about two initiatives that we will launch this year; the CEO Apprenticeship Programme (CAP) and the CEOrt Quarterly Economic Update.

For many years, I have been asked what we are doing as CEOs to shape our next generation of leaders. Endorsed by the CEO Roundtable and with Sanjay Rughani, CEO of Standard Chartered at the helm, CAP aims to identify CEOs in waiting and through capacity building and knowledge transfer, equip them with the necessary skills to lead. You will read more about the CAP project in this newsletter and I encourage all of you to participate. Together, we will make a significant impact towards developing the next generation of Tanzanian leaders.

I am also pleased to announce the launch of the CEOrt Quarterly Economic Update this year, which will provide a much needed complementary and counter narrative of the state of the economy from the private sector perspective. The CEOrt will engage a well-respected and seasoned economist to prepare a quarterly economic report, providing an impartial perspective on the economy in terms of ease of doing business and the investment climate. Armed with the relevant data and statistics, will empower the CEOrt to conduct impactful dialogue with government providing the necessary insights, which mirrors the reality on the ground.

Despite the ever-changing economic and political tides, let us be cognizant of what we have managed to achieve through our advocacy efforts and remain confident that our continued dialogue with government will ultimately result in true partnership between the public and private sectors as we work collectively towards sustainable development.

We are already starting to see indications from government of a change of attitude towards the private sector. As business leaders, we must ensure we are well prepared to participate when we are called upon to do so.

My esteemed colleagues, I look forward to working closely with you throughout the year as we advocate for more meaningful dialogues and partnership with government in line with creating an attractive investment climate and improving the business environment to ensure our collective socio-economic objectives are attained.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank you for your continued support and wish you happy reading!

Yours sincerely,

Ali A. Mufuruki



Chairman
CEO Roundtable of Tanzania