

PRESS RELEASE

UNDERSTANDING THE KEY FACTORS AFFECTING THE BANKING SECTOR AND IMPACT ON ACCESS TO FINANCE

Dar es Salaam 9th October 2018: The CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOrt) will host a roundtable discussion at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dar es Salaam this evening.

A recent World Bank investment climate survey identifies "Access to Finance" as one of the key constraints for businesses. In Tanzania, MSMEs contribute to 27% of the GDP, employing more than 5.2 million people. However, the majority of SMEs experience limited access to finance and highlight the effective use of financial products and services as major barriers to growth.

The CEO Roundtable recognizes that the country's sustainable socio-economic development is dependent on meaningful and broader participation of the private sector within all key areas of the economy. Therefore, the ability to gain access to affordable finance for business development, capacity building, and organizational growth remains tantamount towards ensuring the country's economic transformation.

In line with the above, the CEOrt is pleased to welcome Ms. Ineke Bussemaker CEO and Managing Director of NMB Plc and her executive team to deliver a presentation: *Peeling back the onion; understanding the key factors affecting the banking sector and impact on access to finance.*

Thereafter, the CEOrt is also pleased to welcome Mr. Sosthenes Kewe, Executive Director of Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT) and Mr. Lawrence Mafuru, Managing Partner Bankable Tanzania in a panel discussion to delve deeper on understanding the key factors, which impede access to finance and through member engagement, identify opportunities to enhance access to finance for long-term economic development.

About the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania

The CEOrt is a policy dialogue forum bringing together CEOs of leading companies in Tanzania. Established in 2000, the CEOrt fosters close cooperation between the public and private sectors in Tanzania with the view of accelerating expansion and growth of the Tanzanian economy in a sustainable manner.

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