

Introductory Speech During the Launch of the Conference

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Dear guest of honour, Deputy Minister for Industry, Trade, and Investment Honourable Eng. Stella Manyanya (MP); The Lord Mayor of Dodoma City Council, Honourable Prof. Davis Mwamfupe; Dodoma City Director, Mr. Godwin Kunambi; Honourable Acting Chairperson of IRDP Governing Council, Ms. Mugabe Adam Mtani; Representative of the Members of IRDP Governing Council, Prof. Godwin Mjema; Key note speakers; Distinguished Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen; Good morning.

Honourable Guest of Honour, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you honorable Eng. Stella Manyanya, (MP) our Chief Guest to this occasion where IRDP is making a landmark history in holding an International Conference on Planning and Development. Under a seasoned theme “*Towards Industrialization in the Global South: Making Rural Regions Inclusive*”. In particular, I would like to thank you for making time out of your busy schedule to grace this occasion.

Honourable Guest of Honour, in a special way, let me take this opportunity to introduce to you our Key note Speakers from Tanzania, Dr. Andrew Komba; from Israel, Mr. Yossi Offer; from Belgium, Dr. Joachim Deweerdt; from Germany, Prof. em. Dr. Einhard Schmidt Kallert, and Prof. Dr. Walter Timo De Vries from Belgium; who is currently working in Germany. The presence of these speakers in this Conference is strong sign of their interest to issues related to Industrialization and Rural Development, which provides great hope that our Conference will eventually

contribute to the improvement of the link between Africa's and our country's industrialization project and rural development.

Honourable Guest of Honour, today's event has been attended by delegates from seven (7) different countries spread across three continents; Africa, Europe, and Asia. From Europe we have delegates from Germany, The Netherlands, and Belgium. Asia is represented by delegates for Israel and Indonesia. From Africa we have delegates from South Africa, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. From within Tanzania there are delegates from among others; University of Dar-es-Salaam, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Ardhi University, University of Dodoma, The Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy, and Moshi Co-operative University. Apart from delegates from Universities we have delegates from Ministries, District Councils, NGOs, Media and Private Sector. Given this profile, may I say that the IRDP is so much privileged to have such dedicated individuals.

Honourable Guest of Honour, this International Conference on Planning and Development is an impressive conference that take into account the resurgence of efforts by African Countries to industrialize, refer for instance Kenya Vision 2030; Uganda Vision 2040 with its declaration of 2017 as the year of mass industrialization; Zambia desire to become regional hub for investment and trade in the Region through industrialization; and Tanzania Long Term Perspective Plan (LTPP) 2011/12-2025/26 to mention few.

These efforts have been accompanied by several academic and policy discussions to inform the operationalization process of the same. One of the significant topics yet to be exhausted in these discussions is the fate of rural people in the process of

industrialization envisaged in these efforts. The IRDP as one of stakeholders in rural development consider it imperative to engage experts in policy and academic discussion on how people in the rural regions can participate in the industrialization process.

In this context, this International Conference has four specific objectives such as:-

1. To share lessons of experiences on how planners, private sector, and other development stakeholders are ought to actor for successful inclusion of rural people in the industrialization process.
2. To enhance deeper understanding of emerging land management modes appropriate for marking rural people integral part of industrialization process
3. To articulate effects of rural-urban migration on both urban and rural land management as a result of industrialization.
4. To learn about appropriate behaviours required by rural people to actively participate in the industrialization process.

Honourable Guest of Honour, the Conference is expected to provide important insights to consider during the planning for industrialization in assuring the inclusiveness of the majority who are residing in the rural areas. Since the call for the International Conference, such concerns have been digested by an international researchers, academicians, development practitioners and policy makers who will present their findings and experiences during this International Conference that you will launch shortly.

Honourable Guest of Honour, it is not only in the name of having an International Conference, but how the outcomes will be used to help the nations in the Global South, Tanzania not being excluded to realise its development objectives through effective planning. The International Conference is expected to bear the following outcomes;

1. Policy brief to be submitted to Ministries responsible for Planning, Industries, and Local Government.
2. Conference Proceedings to be published from papers presented at the conference.
3. Special Issues targeted as an IRDP book Series to be published from Papers found to have direct link with the conference themes, following peer review.
4. Online poster book

That is why with us here we are blessed to have key development planning actors/representatives from different parts of the world and from the Government where the policies are administered. I urge them to make use of the outcome of the International Conference and IRDP will be ready to provide technical backstopping wherever needed by practitioners in both LGAs and Central Government.

Honourable Guest of Honour, that said, it is important to have dissemination and feedback strategies of the outcome of International Conference outcomes, so that the outcomes will inform industrial planning practices and such practices inform the Institute to capture and swiftly work on emerging planning challenges towards including the rural, for the betterment of our institute, sector ministries and the whole

nation at large. To the International Participants and other actors, it is my hope that we will continue working together.

Honourable Guest of Honour, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen; thank you for joining us here in this wonderful occasion to our Institute and for your continued efforts and support to achieve sustainable development that is informed by best planning practices. With these remarks, it is my honour and privilege to welcome you all in this wonderful and signature event to our nation and region at large.

Thank you,

God bless you all.