



**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

**MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT  
AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**



**DECEMBER, 2007**



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AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

**NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY**

**DECEMBER, 2007**

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## ABBREVIATIONS

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|        |   |  |
|--------|---|--|
| AIDS   | - | ACQUIRED IMMUNO-DEFFICIENCY SYNDROME                                       |
| CDR    | - | CRUDE DEATH RATE   |
| CEDAW- |   | CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN |
| CRC    | - | CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD                                      |
| HIV    | - | HUMAN IMMUNO VIRUS   |
| ILFS   | - | INTERGRATED LABOUR FORCE SURVEY  |
| IMR    | - | INFANT MORTALITY RATE.   |
| LGRA   | - | LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION.                              |
| MOEC   | - | MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE.   |
| NACP   | - | NATIONAL AIDS CONTROL PROGRAMME.   |
| PEDP   | - | PRIMARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME                                    |
| PRS    | - | POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY   |

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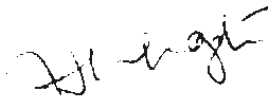
## PREFACE

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This is a second version of the National Youth Development Policy in Tanzania. The need of National Youth Development Policy review was influenced by many factors, particularly at this material time when young men and women, community and other stakeholders are living and operating in a world of fast socio-economic changes in which among other things have resulted into both economic and social problems which need a unique solution to a new generation.

This new version of National Youth Development Policy is an instrument which addresses many issues related to the an ever-increasing adverse impacts of social- economic problems such as unemployment, poverty, HIV/AIDS and other diseases, environmental degradation and drug abuse.

I am happy that this new policy document has made an important step ahead. One peculiar aspect in this revised policy is the way it involves various stakeholders in promoting, facilitating and addressing youth issues. Within this context, there is a reasonable articulation of both policy issues and statements. As this is a genuine product of a number of stakeholders, the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania is fully committed to ensure that the policy issues, statements, programs and strategies are achieved.



**Hon. Capt. John Chiligati (MP.)**  
**MINISTER FOR LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT**  
**AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

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# Chapter One

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Government developed the National Youth Development Policy in 1996. The implementation of this policy (National Youth Development Policy of 1996) has faced various national and global challenges. New national and global issues have emerged which include changing life styles, new cultures, new values and orientations. This has created the need for review of the policy and develops new vision, mission and strategies for youth development.

In this millennium of science and technology, young men and women are the greatest asset for the present and future. They represent the driving force behind social economic and political reforms in the sphere of rapid global changes. Our society's progress is determined among other things by how much we involve them in building the future. It is important therefore to prepare these young people as leaders, decision- makers, entrepreneurs, parents and guardians because they have vital role to play in the socio - economic development of the nation.

This policy therefore shall provide direction to youth, partners and other stakeholders on youth development issues.

### 1.1 The Status of Youth in Tanzania

The global, social, economic and political environment has influenced the youth status in Tanzania and also determined their welfare and well being. Since youth development is a crosscutting issue, various macro-sectral policies have contributed to the existing status.

#### **Population**

According to the 2002 Population and Housing Census, the population of Tanzania mainland was 33.58 million people. The total number of youth between 15 and 35 was 11,770,532 or 35% of the population. Among them 5,552,294 are boys (which is 47.17 percent) and 6,218,238 are girls (which is 52.83 percent).

#### **Employment Situation**

Tanzania's labour force has been growing steadily since early 1960's at an



annual average rate of between 2.8 and 5.8 percent. According to the 2000/01 Integrated Labour Force Survey (ILFS), the labour force was estimated to be 17.9 million people of whom about 65 per cent were young people between the age group of 15 and 35.

The survey results have revealed that unemployment for the whole country was 12.9 per cent and almost half of the unemployed were living in urban areas. Dar es Salaam alone had 46.5 per cent of its labour force unemployed and other urban areas had 25.5 per cent of their labour force unemployed. Unemployment in the rural areas was 8.4 per cent.

The survey results have also shown that the youth were more vulnerable to the unemployment problem. The problem of unemployment is highest amongst the age group below 35 years of age.

As a result of insufficient labour market services and differences in regional development, rural-urban migration especially for the youth has been the main feature of labour migration in Tanzania. The proportion of population living in urban areas increased from 5 percent in 1967 to 13 percent in 1978 and from 21 percent in 1988 to 23.06 percent in 2002.

The migration of people from rural to urban areas increases the burden of urban public services and social infrastructure and results in imbalances in allocation of labour, hence a rapid growth of the urban informal sector and increasing incidences of hazardous employment for the youth.

The Government is supporting private sector investment so that job creation and opportunities can be increased. It is reported in the Poverty Reduction Strategy third progress report that in the year 2002, the Tanzania Investment Center approved 311 private sector investment projects in the manufacturing sector, which had potential of employing 33,132 people. Employment creation is also promoted through:

- Entrepreneurship skills training,
- Empowerment of youth,
- Education,
- Gender and equity programs and
- Environment sustainability programs,

The pattern of employment, underemployment and unemployment in Tanzania suggest the need to have an integrated employment oriented development framework in the key areas of agriculture and urban employment, information, labour intensive works, mining sector, natural resources and tourism infrastructure development, education and training and services.

The focus will be on agriculture and informal sector as an interim measure. Condition in informal employment will be improved systematically and be addressed within the context of a comprehensive strategy for poverty reduction.

Areas for employment creation will include:

- Identification of priority sector for productive and decent work creation at all levels.
- Sectoral interventions in agricultural and industrial policies to ensure that growth are employment intensive.
- Improved agriculture production, development of agro-industries, support to small and medium - scale enterprises, and expand labour intensive manufacturing.
- Conducting research to find out integration of traditional farming system and modern methods.
- New investments or programs to be employment creation oriented.
- Provision of legal framework for mortgage lending. Skills training and job creation program to be linked directly to labour market demand and mechanisms.
- Provision of employability skills through community services.
- Establishing employment promotion fund to improve access to financing.
- Encouraging the formation of youth development groups, Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies.
- Develop financial policy tools and support government promotion agencies located across the country.
- Intensive technical and vocational education by learning from other countries.

## **Economic situation**

In Tanzania, many youth are engaged in sectors of agriculture, fishing, mining, animal husbandry and small-scale industries like carpentry and black smith, petty businesses like selling second-hand clothes, fruits and various foodstuffs.

Despite the fact that these youth are self-employed they face a lot of problems in implementing their activities. Such problems include the lack of working capital, equipment and technical know how or necessary skills.

## **Culture**

Through modern technology and media some foreign cultures have adversely affected the once established cultural practices. These new cultures have negatively affected the youth who have now lost their identity.

Changes in economic and social aspects as well as globalization have changed peoples' lifestyles and brought about economic hardships. On the other hand, responsible parenthood in communities has disintegrated and youth upbringing has been left in the hands of teachers and institutions dealing with youth development.

## **Education**

Human capital development, particularly education and training is a critical ingredient for a country's sustainable socio-economic development and poverty eradication. Since the mid 1980s, access, quality and efficiency of education programs and infrastructure, almost at all levels, have been on the decline.

However, there has been considerable progress in primary education, particularly in enrolment rates, following the implementation of the Primary Education Development Plan (PEDP) in 2000. There was a five-year plan to achieve universal basic seven - year education by 2006, nine years ahead of the Millennium Development Goals target. As one of the strategies to achieve this, the government abolished school fees in primary schools. Children are entering school at an earlier age and there is an increase in the proportion of children going to school. Gross enrolment ratios went up from 78% in 2000 to 106% in 2004, surpassing the 100 Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) target set in 2003. During the same period net enrolment went up from 59% to 91% achieving the 2003 PRS target of 90%. The net enrolment of boys and girls is quite comparable. But there are increasing

disparities over the years, with more over - aged boys retained in primary education.

Moreover, the overall gross and net secondary enrollment increased from 10 to 12 per cent and from 6 to 8 percent from 2002 - 2004 respectively. Despite the much poorer performance of girls in primary school leaving examination (PSLE), Form 1 enrollment data for 2004 suggest a near gender balance at entry level. After Form IV however the retention of girls drops substantially and decreases further to a ratio of 2 boys to 1 girl in Form VI. *(Source United Republic of Tanzania (URT) and MOEC: BSE 2001 - 2004).*

## **Health**

Health is another concern for the youth in Tanzania. A nation will have a healthy youth if its programs on early child development have created an opportunity for the growth of a healthy society. Analysis of data from 2002 population census and more recent survey data point to a reduction in mortality with a particular sharp drop in the most recent few years.

Infant mortality fell from 137 to 95 per 1,000 live births, and under five mortality from 231 to 162 per 1,000 live births. The trend generated by the preliminary 2004/05 Demographic and Health survey (DHS) data is particularly optimistic.

Much of this decline is likely to be the result of improved malaria control both increase use of preventive mosquitoes nets and improved curative care through a more effective drug treatment.

The real situation shows that youth encounter many health problems related to physical, mental, maternal and reproductive health. These include:-

- Escalation of sexually transmitted infectious diseases including HIV/AIDS
- Malnutrition which causes amongst other things blood deficiencies (anemia) and low birth weight.
- The use of drugs and substance abuse which causes mental instability and delinquency.
- Female genital mutilation to young women and children
- Early marriages and pregnancies.
- In-appropriate use of leisure time and sports for health development.
- Inadequate youth friendly health services and information.

It is important to address these problems through youth empowerment

programs with a gender dimension.

## **HIV AND AIDS**

HIV and AIDS are considered to be one of the most impoverishing forces facing Tanzania mainly affecting individuals in the prime of their productive and childbearing years with consequent repercussions for their families. Tanzanian Youth Reproductive Health and HIV: Data from the HIV prevalence 2003-4 HIV Indicator Survey produced an estimate of the overall prevalence rate of 7 percent; 7.7 percent in female and 6.3 percent in men. The new estimates imply that roughly 1,070,000 people between 15 - 59 years are currently HIV positive, 610,000 women and 460,000 men. According to blood donation data the percentage of the 14 - 24 years age group, which is HIV positive, has been on the decline since 2001 implying decrease in new infections in both male and female (NACP No.17.2003:11). However it is noted that actual prevalence amongst female aged 15 to 19 years rose while that amongst female aged 20 to 24 years decreased. This finding is a warning sign that new infections are increasing in this age group that previously indicated the contrary. Efforts to minimize infections in this age group should be increased tremendously in order to regain the previous successes and prevent resurgence of the epidemic. However according to the National AIDS Control Program Report No.19 October 2005, the age group of 20 to 49 years remained the most affected for both sexes, an observation that has remained consistent for several years since the beginning of the epidemic. The observed clustering of cases in the age group of 20 to 49 years indicates that the majority of infections occur during the age of maximum sexual activity. It is evident that there were more female AIDS cases than males in the age group of 20 to 39. The preponderance of female cases was particularly striking for age groups of 20 to 24 and 25 to 29 where female cases were almost twice as many as males.

## **Political situation**

Under the multiparty system, youth participate in various political organizations and in decision-making. However, currently there is no clearly defined system which prepares young men and women to take up leadership positions in the existing parties and government. Another challenge in political areas is for girls to emerge as leaders or representatives in decision making organs. According to the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1977 as amended from time to time, any person who has the

age of 18, male or female has the right to vote and to contest for leadership at certain levels. Effective and meaningful youth participation is required.

## **1.2 The National Youth Development Policy (1996)**

### ***Issues of concern.***

During the implementation of the National Youth Development Policy of 1996, various issues of concern were observed and identified by the youth and other stakeholders as follows:

- The National Youth Development Policy of 1996 provided the definition of youth as stipulated by United Nations, which is the age group of 15 - 24 years. This contradicts with actual practice in Tanzania where young persons between 15 to 35 years are treated as youth and are involved in most of the youth development programs.
- Some Laws enacted are in contradiction with programs, which advocate youth development. For example the Law of marriage Act, 1971 allows a girl aged 15 years to get married contrary to the Adolescence Reproductive Health Strategy which prohibits early marriages. This calls for harmonization of laws, which are not youth friendly.
- Globalization poses socio-economic and political challenges to young people. There has been no reasonable discussion on how young people can be accommodated in free movement of labour, goods and services, international trade, good governance and participation, Information Communication Technology (ICT) to meet the challenges of globalization.
- International Convention and Agreements have made youths conscious of International rights and how to claim them.
- The National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP) calls for Government and other stakeholders to put in place mechanisms and strategies to accommodate young people in all aspects of formulating, planning and implementation of core areas to meet targeted goals.
- Formation of a national body which is non - political and non-discriminatory to provide a forum to harmonize and unite youth effort towards decision making and sustainable development.

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# Chapter Two

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## 2.0 RATIONALE

The National Youth Development Policy of 1996, has facilitated the implementation of various youth development programs which include skills for competence for economic empowerment, good values, ethics and good conduct, youth participation and provisions of youth friendly services. However a number of challenges have been registered which call for the review of the policy to accommodate new focus of youth development issues. The key areas which justify the review of the policy are as follows:

- The definition of youth based on the age groups of between 15 to 24 years excluded large segment of youth.
- Mechanism for mainstreaming youth development issues in different sector was not clearly stipulated.
- Institutional framework for youth participation and networking was not adequately addressed.
- Changes in macro - economic and sectoral policies were not well articulated.
- Emerging global issues of interest to the youth such as the social dimensions of globalization, regional, international cooperation African Youth Charter and the World Program of Action for Youth, which need to be taken on board.
- Policy issues and statement were not adequately stated.

## 2.1 Scope

The National Youth Development policy of 2007 focuses on youth development issues which include; economic empowerment, environment, employment promotion, youth participation, HIV and AIDS, gender, arts and culture, sports, adolescent reproductive health and family life issues. Youth Development is a crosscutting issue, which requires multi-sectoral approach for effective implementation. The National Youth Development Policy will therefore depend on successful mainstreaming of the youth development issues in Ministries' policies and other stakeholders development programs.

The overall goal of this policy is to achieve the vision and mission stated below:

## 2.2 VISION

*To have empowered, well motivated and responsible youth capable of participating effectively in social, political and economic development of the society.*

## 2.3 MISSION

*Create an enabling environment for youth empowerment and enhancement of employment opportunities and security.*

## 2.4 Objective of the Policy

### **Overall objective**

The overall objective is to empower, facilitate and guide youth and other stakeholders in the implementation of youth development issues.

### **Specific objectives.**

The policy will accomplish the following specific objectives:

- To facilitate youth to acquire skills and competence for employment.
- To facilitate youths to accept responsibilities so as to be able to practice good values, ethics and good conduct.
- To create conducive environment for youth participation in decision-making.
- To enhance establishment and utilization of youth friendly social services.



# Chapter Three

## 3.0 POLICY ISSUES AND STATEMENTS

Youth development challenge in Tanzania is a cross cutting issue. The empowerment of young people involves the concerted efforts of a number of key stakeholders including the government, civil society, private sector, community based organizations, families and young people themselves. Meeting the challenges for youth empowerment require raising specific multi-sectoral issues affecting youths and give policy directions as provided below.

### 3.1 Common Definition of Youth

Universally, there is no agreed upon age definition of youth. There are various definitions of youth relating to different policies and legislations. The United Nations has defined youth as young men and women between the age of 15 and 24 while the Commonwealth Youth Program has adopted the age category of 16 to 29. In Malaysia youth refers to persons of 15 to 40 years.

The legal definition of youth in Tanzania varies according to specific purpose such as marriage (the Law of Marriage Act of 1971 allows a young person of 15 years to get married), voting rights, employment and criminal issues.

The existing policies and legislations defining a young person contradict each other and affect the development of sustainable youth development programs. For example the Law of Marriage Act of 1971 which provide for a young person of 15 years to get married contradicts the adolescence and reproductive health strategy which discourage early marriages especially for young girls. There is need to harmonize the definition of youth in Tanzania so that different programs for youth empowerment can be developed systematically to meet the needs of youth.

#### **Policy Statements.**

- Youth in Tanzania shall be defined as young men and women from the age group of 15 to 35.
- Specific programs related to specific age cohorts shall be developed by stakeholders to suite specific needs of youths.

### ***3.2 Youth living under difficult conditions***

There are specific groups of young people which need special attention, protection and focus with a view of accessing equal opportunities for young men and women. The young people have a big chance to experience a decline in their well being if special focus is not directed to them. For example there are about 2 million orphans due to different reasons, which include accidents, HIV and AIDS, and other diseases.

#### **Policy Statement:**

There shall be a mechanism to access opportunities in education; training and social security for youth with disability and those living in difficult circumstances.

### ***3.3 Mechanism to prepare youth to meet obligations in society***

Youth have specific obligation in the society as good citizens of a democratic nation. They have to protect their livelihood, protect the constitution of United Republic of Tanzania, respect for ethics in all aspects of life and participate freely and fully in the social, economic, cultural and political life of the state. However, there is no clear mechanism to prepare youth to meet these obligations of society. There is no specific mechanism to develop youth with special talents.

#### **Policy Statement:**

There shall be a mechanism to provide guidelines with a view of facilitating proper youth upbringing and development of youth talents.

### ***3.4 Resources which create Economic empowerment for Youth Development***

Young people who according to the Integrated Labour Force Survey (2001), constitute about 65 per cent of the total labour force, require economic enfranchisement and equitable access to resources that provide a solid economic and material base for their development. One of the key resources is land.

Young people have limited access to land ownership. Customary practices discriminate young girls to own and even to inherit land. There is limitation on equity of resource allocation and capital accessibility for youth development, which affect their effective participation in economic activities. Young people

also lack skills on marketing and production of quality products.

**Policy Statement:**

There shall be a promotion of equitable access to land and other resource allocations. Emphasis shall be put on rural youth and gender equity as stipulated in the Small and Medium Enterprise Policy, Rural Development Strategy and Women and Gender Development policy.

**3.5 Youth in Hazardous Working Environment**

A sizeable number of youth are unskilled and work under hazardous conditions for example in the mining sector, agriculture, and factories. They operate in great risk with poor infrastructure without social security protection and protective gear. These hazardous conditions bring problems to their health and welfare.

**Policy Statements:**

- The Government shall continue to take stern measures to ensure that employers comply with laws and regulations regarding Occupation Health and Safety.
- The Government shall enforce laws and regulations regarding health and safety.
- Stakeholders such as NGOs and CBOs shall educate youth on protective measures

**3.6 Youth and the impact of HIV/AIDS.**

The impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic on our society is catastrophic. Over 70 percent infected are young adults and youth especially those who are sexually active. The major causes of infection among the youth include early sexual practices, early marriage and other harmful sexual practices. This makes HIV/AIDS to be not only a health problem, but also a socio-economic problem with severe impact on development of our future generation.

**Policy Statement:**

The Ministry responsible for youth development shall collaborate with local government, youth organizations, faith based organization, private organizations and other stakeholders in developing programs for the youth on prevention, care, support and impact mitigation, as stipulated in the National Mult sectoral HIV/AIDS Control Strategy.

### ***3.7 Information Communication Technology (I.C.T.) on Youth***

The introduction of Information and Communication Technology has positive and negative impact in society. Whereas the positive impact has been to access information and empower the youth through educational materials, the negative impact has been the erosion of cultural values and practice amongst the youth. Experience indicates that there is an abuse of Information Communication Technology on youths. As a result the society is losing the cultural and social coherency. Furthermore, globalization imposes new cultural norms and values which conflict with national values. This is facilitated by liberalization of television programs, radio, Internet and other information communication systems.

#### **Policy Statement:**

- There shall be a mechanism to regulate and monitor ill effects of the use of Information Communication Technology amongst the youth.

### ***3.8 Access to Information Communication and Knowledge***

Young people need knowledge, information and acquisition of skills so that they can effectively be involved in national development efforts. However, they have limited access to appropriate information, education and training which could give them self confidence and understanding of the world around them. Lack of such useful resource makes them inactive in participation of social economic activities.

#### **Policy Statements:**

- Information and research network in the area of youth shall be established in all youth related issues.
- Training institutions at all levels shall be facilitated in the provision of appropriate technology and information.
- There shall be a conducive environment to encourage training institutions to incorporate ICT element in their curriculum.
- Government shall facilitate the creation of community run telecentres in partnership with other stakeholders especially the private sector

### ***3.9 Youth and Employment Opportunities***

Most of the youth who complete primary schools, secondary schools and institutions of higher learning do not easily secure employment in the civil service, parastatal organizations and other economic sectors. Most of these however, find it difficult to work in the informal sector because of various factors such as insecurity, lack of capital, lack of work premises, work implements and other working facilities. The private sector prefers to employ skilled and experienced labour force. Hence a large group of youth continue to remain unemployed, a situation which facilitates increasing rate of crimes and other social evils.

#### **Policy Statements:**

- The Government in collaboration with the Private Sector shall create an enabling environment for establishment of employment opportunities as stipulated in National Employment Policy, Rural Development Strategy and Agricultural Development Policy.
- The Government in collaboration with private organizations, civil societies, youth organizations and business community shall promote the culture of entrepreneurship by creating enabling environment for youth enterprise development.

### ***3.10 Policy Issue: Youth Participation and Good Governance***

The youth who constitute about 65 per cent of the Labour force and 35% per cent of total population are not represented in various forums and do not participate adequately in decision making bodies. As a result most of the decisions which have been made do not take concerns of the youth. In addition there is inadequate involvement of youth at national and international forums.

#### **Policy Statement**

There shall be a mechanism to facilitate effective participation of youth in structures and issues defined in the Local Government system, Central Government and other participatory organs at national and international levels.

### **3.11 The body to Organize Youth**

For a long time youth activities have been implemented in a fragmented manner, without any forum or national body where they could discuss matters of concern to them. In the absence of this forum, many youth issues have not been taken on board by respective institutions at different levels. Lack of this forum stifles the youth participation in the national development process.

#### **Policy Statement**

The Government shall facilitate the formation of the National Youth Council and establish a regulatory framework for the functioning of the Council.

### **3.12 Youth and Informal Sector**

Most of the youth especially in the urban areas are involved in the informal sector. The youth have not been graduating into formal sector activities because of poor technologies, low productivity, poor working conditions and poor linkages with the formal sector.

As a result, this has perpetually continued to increase income poverty amongst the youth. However, Youth who are in the rural areas face difficult working environment which led to most of them to migrate to the urban areas hoping to have a better life. Poor infrastructures, inadequate social services have contributed to this Problem. This trend has increased social crimes and youth uncertainty in urban areas.

#### **Policy Statement.**

- There shall be measures to promote the informal sector as stipulated in the National Employment Policy, Small and Medium Enterprises Policy and other sectoral policies.
- The Government in Collaboration with private sector shall create conducive environment for youth to settle in rural areas through improvement of social services, infrastructure and promote rural development as it is stipulated in policy of Rural development strategy and Agriculture development Policy.

### **3.13 Regulatory Framework for Youth Development**

There is fragmentation of guidelines of youth development activities in the country. Youth development activities also lack minimum standards to guide their operation. Even where legal frameworks are supportive for youth empowerment, discrimination still exists in the values and attitudes of adults as against young people especially young women, girls and youth in special circumstances. Young people are viewed as a problem and unable to take care of themselves rather than active population capable to participate in the shaping of their lives and communities. There is a need to promote their rights as human beings and eliminate all forms of bias.

#### **Policy Statement**

The Central Government in collaboration with Local Government Authorities and community based organizations shall put in place regulatory framework to ensure smooth and efficient participatory approach operation of youth activities.

### **3.14 Gender Dimension in Youth Development**

The gender dimension on youth development requires special attention and consideration. Community values, customs and culture have a tendency to favor men, as a result women and girls are segregated in most economic and social activities, as well as in decision making. The same applies to girls and boys with disabilities.

It is crucial to develop harmonious gender relation in the society as a milestone for human integrity and respect. Gender equity and empowerment of young people including the handicapped are central to social integration and economic development.

#### **Policy Statements.**

- Equity for young men and women shall be ensured through enforcement of conventions, legislation and regulations that affect them.
- Regulatory framework shall be developed to ensure social and economic empowerment of young people including the handicapped.
- Efforts shall be made to enhance awareness and sensitization of the society regarding negative cultural attitudes and practices against young boys and girls.

### **3.15 Rights of Youth**

Different social categories of people in Tanzania have clear stipulated rights and obligations provided in specific Conventions and legislation. These groups include children and women. On the contrary youth as a group, lack documented rights and obligations.

#### **Policy Statement**

The Government in collaboration with other stakeholders shall put in place rights of youth.

### **3.16 Financial Services Delivery for Poverty Reduction**

There are various financial and credit schemes to empower young women and men to undertake self-employment. Nevertheless these schemes are not coordinated, not consolidated, scattered, not sustainable and therefore not effective in supporting self-employment activities for the youth. Ideally these funds are supposed to build capacities with a view of offering support and assist generation of incomes and self employment amongst different categories of vulnerable groups including youth.

However, many youth lack initial capital and capacity to qualify to acquire loans from financing institutions.

#### **Policy Statements**

- There shall be a mechanism to solicit funds which will enhance adequate coordination with a view of having sustainable funds, to support youth in their income generating activities.
- There shall be mechanism to promote the establishment of youth friendly credit support services and empower youth on credit management.

### **3.17 Coverage of Youth issues by Local Government and Regional Administration (LGRA) Structures**

The structures at the local level do not cover adequately youth issues, and there are no specific officers at local Government dealing with youth development. This makes the coordination of youth activities from the national level to district level problematic.



### **Policy Statements**

- The Ministry responsible for Local Government in collaboration with other relevant Ministries shall put in place a regulatory framework to coordinate youth development activities from ward to national level.
- The Central Government in collaboration with Local Government shall ensure establishment of youth carder at regional and district level and employ Youth Development Officers to coordinate youth issues at this levels.

### **3.18 Involvement of Youth in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry**

Agriculture and animal husbandry is the largest employer. However, there is inadequate infrastructure to capture the participation of youth labour force. As a result, many young men and women are not attracted to join this sector, hence end up migrating to the urban areas where they remain either unemployed or underemployed.

Moreover, the few young people who participate in livestock keeping do not own them. They are mainly involved in grazing with limited access to livestock products.

### **Policy Statements .**

- There shall be a mechanism to develop and promote labour intensive infrastructure as stipulated in the other sector policies such as the Rural Development Strategy and the Agricultural Sector Development Strategy.
- The Government in collaboration with other stakeholders shall provide conducive environment for youth to participate effectively in agriculture.

### **3.19 Environment and Natural Resources**

Most young people are not knowledgeable with environmental issues. In few communities youth have been involved in preserving and conservation of environment. To a large extent, youth are not adequately involved in management of environment and conservation of natural resources.

### **Policy Statements**

There shall be a mechanism to involve the youth in the development protection and conservation of the natural resources and environment as stipulated in the respective policies and strategies.

### **3.20 Arts and Culture**

Many youth are not appraised on the issue of culture, values and heritage. Most of Tanzanian youth are losing their cultural identity. They need to be appraised on the need to preserve the culture and heritage of the nation. Nevertheless there are certain cultural practices which involve sexual harassment, female genital mutilation, wife inheritance, and early marriages which are harmful to the health of the youth.

Moreover, Traditional and pop music is now increasingly being used as a source of income generation amongst young people. However, there is no proper promotion, coordination and skills development on such activities.

### **Policy Statements**

- There shall be a mechanism to protect acceptable cultural practices and promote the Tanzanian cultural values amongst the youth while at the same time protect the youth from harmful external cultural influences.
- There shall be a mechanism for coordination and promotion of arts and cultural activities as stipulated in the National Culture Policy.

### **3.21 Communication and Media**

There is no adequate forum for youth to get and exchange information. Most of the communication media are urban centered. Lack of access of information makes it difficult to tap their creativity and enthusiasm in the development circles. The majority of the youth who are in rural areas lack information which is crucial for their socio-economic development.

### **Policy Statement**

There shall be measures to establish and develop media and communication facilities in the rural areas to benefit the youth.

### ***3.22 Sports, Games, Leisure and Out door life activities***

Sports and games are recognized as crucial factor in the development of young people. However little efforts are made to develop and identify talents of youth from an early age. This is due to the fact that, there are inadequate facilities for sports, training grounds, centers for youth and supportive gears for young people with disabilities. This results in poor performance of our youth at national and international competition.

#### **Policy Statements:**

- The Government in collaboration with stakeholders shall make deliberate efforts to facilitate the availability of sports and games facilities, play grounds, sports and games training centers for youth as stipulated in the Sports Development Policy.
- A conducive environment shall be created to facilitate out door life games and activities.

### ***3.23 Family Life Education and Adolescent Reproductive Health***

Most of the youth who are out of school find themselves in family problems because they did not have access to reproductive health services. There is also fragmentation in the provision of these services to the youths as a result of which they end up getting unplanned pregnancies, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and other related health problems.

#### **Policy Statement**

The Government in collaboration with other stakeholders shall put a mechanism to coordinate the provision of reproductive health education to the youth as stipulated in the Reproductive Health strategy, Education Policy and Family Life Education Program.

### ***3.24 Youth, and Education and Training***

Many youth who enter the Labour market and those who complete primary education have no sufficient education and skills to enable them to get employment.

Even those who manage to pass their exams, sometimes fail to proceed with their education because their families are poor. There is also a problem for the girls who fail to proceed with their schooling because of early pregnancies. As a result there is an increase of youth who are unskilled and unemployable.

**Policy Statements:**

- There shall be a mechanism to provide conducive environment for access to further studies.
- Vocational guidance and counseling shall be strengthened and entrepreneurial education shall be introduced in training and higher learning institutions in order to inculcate enterprise culture among the youth.

**3.25 Special youth groups**

There are certain minority groups of youth in certain societies such as pastoral societies, because of their nomadic life style, who have been difficult to be reached and be given information relating to youth development programs. As a result such groups have been cut off from the outside world and therefore left behind in accessing different information and participation in developmental activities.

**Policy Statement**

There shall be a mechanism to sensitize community leaders and elders and the youth from minority groups with a view of involving their youth in various social and economic development activities.

**3.26 Volunteerism and Youth development**

Volunteerism refers to voluntary contribution that individuals or group(s) make for the well being of their neighbours, community or society. The spirit of volunteerism has declined especially amongst young people who form a big part of the active labour force. This makes it difficultly for communities to deal with crisis and other relief interventions in the communities both in rural and urban areas.

**Policy Statements**

- There shall be a mechanism for conducive environment and supportive measures for increased participation of young people in voluntary activities.
- The private sector, civil society and community based organizations shall be encouraged to promote volunteerism amongst the youth.

### ***3.27: Inadequate Health Services for the Youth:***

Most health service is a basic requirement for the well-being of young people. Most young people do not have access to youth friendly health services. The situation is worse in the rural areas. Young women are particularly vulnerable because they are given less priority. Most programs focus on the mother and child disregarding young women.

#### **Policy Statement**

The Government in collaboration with other development partners shall promote the establishment of youth friendly health services at all levels.

### ***3.28 Youth and Regional cooperation and globalization.***

Globalization and regional cooperation initiatives have created new challenges for youth development issues. The emergence of new information and communication technologies has created a competitive environment. Tanzania has to make sure that it is not left behind. There are regional youth programs in place and globalization. The Tanzanian youth have not seized this opportunity adequately.

#### **Policy Statement**

Government shall put a mechanism to enhance international youth development programs and promote international cooperation.

### ***3.29 Youths with Disabilities***

Present practice indicates that young people with disabilities are not adequately involved in youth development issues. This has greatly demoralized them and made them feel neglected and stigmatized.

#### **Policy Statement**

Government, private sector and other stakeholders shall put in place mechanism to mainstream all issues of youth with disabilities in all sectors as stipulated in the National Policy on People with Disabilities.

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# Chapter Four

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## **4.0 ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS**

Different stakeholders shall have the following roles to play in the youth development.

### **4.1 Parents and Guardians**

Shall provide youth with love, security and enabling environment for youth development and proper upbringing through responsible parenthood.

### **4.2 Community Based Organizations Non Governmental Organizations, Religions Institutions and Private Sector**

Shall collaborate and compliment government efforts in youth empowerment programs and awareness creation in youth development services.

### **4.3 Local Government and Regional Administration**

Local Government shall support and incorporate youth development issues at all levels, using multi-sectoral approach. They shall also ensure employment of Youth Development Officers in all districts.

### **4.4 The Central Government**

The Central Government shall create enabling environment for smooth implementation of National Youth Policy, put in place regulatory and legal framework and facilitate resource mobilization for youth development issues.

### **4.5 Development partners**

Development partners shall collaborate and compliment Government efforts.

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# Chapter Five

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## 5.0 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 5.1 Public service delivery

The Government shall strengthen public institutions which provide service to youth development in the country. The Ministry responsible for youth development shall be strengthened to enable it to deliver effective public service for the youth.

### 5.2 Program management, monitoring and evaluation:

The Ministry shall maintain the following key functions for implementation of National Youth Development Policy:

- **Review of the Policy**  
Regular reviews of youth development policies in a participatory approach through consultation with youth themselves and other stakeholders involved in youth issues.
- **Youth dialogues**  
Coordinate and dialogue with young people and other stakeholders to identify youth problems and address the needs or expectations of youth.
- **Consultations**  
Pursue regulatory role in facilitating communication and consultations with relevant Ministries or institutions, employers, non-governmental organizations, national organizations, the media and other agencies working with youth in the country.
- **Awareness creation on youth issues**  
Promote awareness creation of youth on global and national challenges and molding them to quickly respond to the changing environment through their active participation.
- **Strategic plans and youth programs**  
Formulate youth strategic plans and development programs in the context of macro economic and political reforms, which the

Government is pursuing to develop youth in our society.

- **Youth expertise and technical assistance**  
Facilitate provision of well-trained and qualified professional staff for youth work at all levels of the community.
- **Information exchange**  
Facilitate provision of expertise, technical assistance and a forum of youth information exchange to stakeholders involved in youth work and development activities in the country.
- **Guidance and counseling**  
Provision of guidelines for guidance and counseling facilities for use to young people at all levels.
- **Best practice promotion**  
Promote and develop best practices on youth development.
- **Monitoring and evaluation**  
Facilitate periodic monitoring and evaluation of youth development activities.



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