

POLICY FORUM MONTHLY MEETING – JUNE 4TH, 2009
POLICY FORUM OFFICE
TIME: 10AM- 1 PM.

MATTERS ARISING:

- Update on CDCF
- Tax Workshop Feedback
- Mining Policy in Tanzania
- CSO's MKUKUTA Review
- Working Group updates
- AOB

OPENING

The meeting was officially started by Mrs. Easter Mongi- World Vision Tanzania at 10:30am. Thereafter there was a round introduction.

ATTENDANCE:

1. Esther Mongi
2. Agnes Victor-NPA
3. James Frank- WLAC
4. Reginald Martin-LHRC
5. Christina Genda- PF
6. Hebron Mwakagenda- The Leadership Forum
7. Maria Mongi
8. Alex Ruchyahinduru- PF
9. Semkae Kilonzo-PF
10. Richard Angelo- PF

UPDATES ON CDCF:

- Mr. Richard Angelo- Policy Forum Secretariat gave the updates on CDCF; he said that, were still fare behind on the CDCF petition signature since some members have not submitted there forms. Currently we have collected about 2018 out of 10,000 required.

Comments:-

- Some members just take CDCF for grated that is why we have not reached the required number of signature.
- We need to have focal person at each organisation who will be the contact person for any communication from the secretariat

Resolution: - So as to reach the required number of signature, let's have minimal number of signature an organisation member needs to submit before being submitted.

TAX JUSTICE NETWORK FOR AFRICA/POLICY FORUM -TAX WORKSHOP:

Mr. Alex Ruchyahinduru- Policy Forum Secretariat gave the feedback of the Tax Workshop conducted at Kunduchi Beach Hotel. He said that the workshop was good and participants from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda attended the workshop, though there was poor participation by Policy Forum Members.

Comments:-

- Next time for workshop like this which is intensive should consider local participants to get accommodation at the venue instead of go and return which leads to patchy participation.
- Since revenue is a new area compared to expenditure as per budget knowledge it concern we need to organise more workshop on revenues

MINING POLICY/ACT IN TANZANIA:

Mr. Reginald Martin- LHRC gave a feedback on what was revealed on Energy and Mineral Ministry meeting with stakeholders including CSO's. The meeting was divided into three stakeholders that is, reference group, secretariat of the Ministry and CSO's. The policy document which was provided though in late hours of invitation, was supposed to discuss it into clusters groups and not the whole document. When CSO's where organizing itself on how to intervene and provide the inputs, during the meeting the inter-ministerial committee provided the rationale behind of new mining act and were ready to send it to cabinet, hence no more rooms for external inputs since the process reach is ready to be submitted to parliament as a bill for new mining act.

Comments:-

- Since we are let to provide the inputs before the bill prepared, let's see how we can provide the inputs on the bill before parliament passed it.
- So let's brainstorm on how to work on it.

Resolution:-

- We need to build more coalition on it, a network is more important to deal with the government, and not leave LEAT and churches coalition alone since now they have a constrain on it.
- Maybe we should have alternative billon mining.

CSO'S IN MKUKUTA REVIEW:

Mr. Semkae Kilonzo- Policy Forum Secretariat, gave the progressive information on CSO's MKUKUTA review, since there is patchy participation of the CSO's to the process of MKUKUTA review and some members don't even know how the process is conducted, secretariat have decided to circulate the list of cluster working groups so as members to register and participate eg. YAV are in CWG2 & LHRC in CWG3. From now onwards will be having the list so as to enable members to participate full.

Also on MKUKUTA cluster working group, we need to conduct a study as our inputs like what we did in last time on micro economic review if possible we need to do it before the budget process

WORKING GROUP UPDATES:

➤ BWG:-

1. We have successful done with 4 briefs on OBI, Revenue, growth of economy and SAM report both in English and Swahili and still working on CAG, education sector and health
2. We are expecting to have press statement on this year budget and if possible press conference on OBI and budget.

➤ LGWG:-

1. Kibaha stakeholders meeting feedback was provided what was revealed in that meeting was that after the presentation of SAM findings it raised hot discussion such that the meeting was postponed so as to give time for the local government leaders to prepare their respond on the allegation posed upon them
2. LGWG are thinking to reprint PCCA booklet and there will be some additional information
3. Local government election, which will be conducted this October LGWG are preparing to conduct civic education, more details will be discussed during the LGWG.

ARO:-

- YAV: - they are doing analysis on CAG report on all district they are working with, they will share after the analysis.
- WLAC:- they are preparing a booklet on how different people/groups within a society can participate on local government election and for the moments they looking for fundraising

- Accountability Funding of DFID:- the fund is on process and KPMG will be taking the lead under Mr. Sundet the uniqueness of this funding is that, they will be identifying the organization which will be supposed to write the proposal and if successful they be granted the fund.

End.