



policy forum
PRESS RELEASE
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Policy Forum has decided to dedicate this month's debate to the issue of Governance. The debate is titled **"Oil and Petroleum Exploration in Tanzania" A baseline Survey Report 2009**.

The government of Tanzania has during 1985/6 – 2008/9 taken major reforms in political, social, economic and monetary policies with the view of enabling international oil companies among others, to invest and explore in the petroleum sector for the benefit of all parties. Tanzania has excellent opportunities for oil and gas exploration and development in its mostly unexplored but highly potential sedimentary basins.

Although the history of Petroleum Exploration in Tanzania started long time ago but there had been an increasing number of complex primary and secondary constraints and risks affecting the performance in oil and petroleum exploration in Tanzania. What are these constraints and challenges? What measures has been taken by the government to address these problems?

While it is acknowledged that for over twenty years there had been an increasing number of operators and licensees both internationally known and unknown private and public firms operating in the country but yet there are few new and unknown junior private and international oil companies. These international oil companies or contractors with PSA operate under the command and ownership of TPDC.

While it is urged that petroleum exploration and development is a complex function of financial capital sizes, levels of economic development, financing framework, technological advancements and other international input and output market systems which are risk and uncertain, however, it is important to note that lack of direct indigenous participation limit their roles, interests and rights over resource use. There will also be minimum direct social economic linkages, impacts and benefits to the people and Tanzanian domestic private sector.

Moreover, what are the National Energy Policies and other National Development Policies in place to facilitate the promotion of the development of the petroleum industry in Tanzania?. These issues, along with suggested alternatives to address the oil and petroleum exploration issues will feature as part of the discussion during the Breakfast Debate on Friday, 26th of March 2010. Invited participants at the meeting include Government representatives, private sector, civil society, donors, the media and concerned citizens. The discussions are held over light breakfast and enable participants to reflect and debate the issues.

The 7:30 People and Policy Debates are held on the last Friday of every month and this month the venue will be the BRITISH COUNCIL along **Ohio Street**, from 0730 to 0930. Their main purpose is to examine and debate the extent to which policies serve ordinary people, and identify imaginative questions and solutions.

The debates are organized by Policy Forum. The main presenters for this month's debate are **Dr. Semboja Haji Hatibu** of Economic Research Bureau, University of Dar es salaam. and **Honorable Zitto Kabwe (MP)**, Kigoma North, Tanzania.

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Signed for Policy Forum
