

BRIEF REPORT OF THE 7:30 BREAKFAST DEBATE –FEBRUARY 22ND 2013

Tanzania Governance Review 2010/2011: Economic Growth without Poverty Reduction

In the build-up to the elections, public concern over corruption, inflation, and youth unemployment put CCM under severe pressure and gave impetus to the opposition parties' campaigns. Tanzania Governance Review (TGR) readers will recall that in 2005, President Kikwete significantly increased the CCM presidential vote while opposition presidential candidates performed poorly. But whereas President Mkapa and CCM improved their showing in 2000 compared to 2005, in 2010 both the President and CCM lost considerable ground. During the review period, the Tanzanian public watched closely as internal conflicts continued to threaten the cohesion and integrity of the ruling party. Central to the conflict was the political future of Edward Lowassa, who was forced to resign as Prime Minister over his alleged involvement in the Richmond-Dowans affair. In 2011, Lowassa showed signs of rekindling his presidential ambitions, seeming to challenge the Kikwete government's resolve on the question of East African integration.

Policy Forum's third Tanzania Governance Review 2010 / 2011, covers a period that witnessed President Kikwete's successful re-election and the first year of his final term. Both the president and Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) were returned to power, albeit with reduced majorities.

This is why Policy Forum dedicated its February 2013 debate on the issue of governance in Tanzania, the debate is titled: **Tanzania Governance Review 2010/2011: Economic Growth without Poverty Reduction**

The debate had one presentation which was followed by critics from a discussant. The presenter of the event was Mr. Brian Cooksey, an Independent Research Professional and Dr. Benson Bana, Lecturer of University of Dar es Salaam was the discussant.

The Debate was facilitated by Nuru Ngailo from the Policy Forum Secretariat.

Although the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 calls for a 'developmental mindset' focusing on economic growth that is 'private

sector-led' with the state facilitating 'strategic investments' and 'selective industrial support,' it was questionable that this was being implemented. This was noted by Brian Cooksey who based his presentation on Policy Forum's third Tanzania Governance Review Titled 'Tanzania Governance Review for 2010-2011: Economic Growth without Poverty Reduction,' the review was compiled by the Tanzania Development Research Group (TADREG) under the supervision of a steering committee made up of Policy Forum network members.

Cooksey said that Tanzania must maintain macro-economic stability, increase smallholder productivity, improve quality, efficiency and equity in public goods and social service provision, channel economic rents into productive activities and develop a pro-active industrial strategy that will create employment and exports.

Dr. Benson Bana, the discussant at the breakfast talk, thanked Brian for his informative presentation.

He suggested that, Mr. Brian could have explained the type of methodology he used to gather his information in the review.

He said he agrees with Brian's definition of a developmental state and said further that, Tanzania is a developmental state and not a predatory state and is moving closely to be a developmental state(is on the right track in creating the same).

He said, he would have appreciated if the review could have captured on where Tanzania came from to where we are today (something which is already captured in the review).

He added that the government has been having so many plans and strategies such as those on poverty reduction, five-year development plans, and the vision 2025. He called upon the planning commission to harmonize those plans instead of proliferating more guiding documents that are not coherent.

He also said that, we must appreciate the steps taken by the government to reestablish the planning commission by the presidential notice.

He alerted that, the question that Tanzanians should be asking is why so much borrowing is it true that we can't do anything.

He said we must appreciate that there has been some significant

improvements in terms of rent management.

He stressed that, there is still some citizens who don't pay taxes hence tax evasion is still a huge issue in our country.

He lastly said that, the review answers mostly 'what' question and not the 'how' question.

Plenary Discussion and comments

- The TGR3 covers so many areas(sectors)
- At the moment in Tanzania, there is no sector that is employing people who are unemployed interms of livelihood due to more intense agriculture so unless Tanzania manufacturing services really boom, Tanzania large scale agriculture should be approached with caution
- The review indicates that there is economic growth, what are the basis of this when there are so many economic problems in our country.

Ms. Nuru Ngailo closed the discussion and welcomed again participants to the next 7:30 Breakfast Debate.



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