

## MINUTES OF THE BWG MEETING – 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2014

VENUE: POLICY FORUM SECRETARIAT – BOARD ROOM.

### Attendance

1. Makumba Mwemezi	Hakielimu
2. Eva Emmanuel	Sikika
3. Bakar Bakar	Kepa
4. Christina Genda	PF
5. Linda Lonqvist	Kepa
6. Nicholas Lekule	PF
7. William Madiwa	TTEJF

### Agenda

1. Confirmation of minutes of meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013 and matters arising
2. 2013 Annual Report
3. 2014 Annual Plan
4. Policy Forum's tax TV spot
5. AOB

### 1. Welcoming note confirming Minutes of the last meeting

The meeting was opened and chaired by the Manager for Budget and Policy Analysis on behalf of the Convener of the group. This being the first meeting for the year, he started by wishing BWG members happy new year as well as welcoming them to the meeting. He then passed members through the agenda from the secretariat which were matters arising from previous meeting and progress updates, **he then asked members to add any other agenda Linda from Kepa added one more agenda on tax tree.**

### 2. 2013 Annual Report

- Members were taken through the 2013 annual report which highlighted what was accomplished last year. The report presented both the success as well as the challenges which were encountered during implementation.
- It was suggested that the report be improved by elaborating more on the annual review of the GBS to state the challenge that was experienced especially of poor participation of CSOs in the organized session between CSOs and Development Partners.
- Kepa was also reminded of its commitment to produce a brief last year which was not fulfilled. **They** promised to finalize one and release it in the first quarter of 2014

### 3. 2014 Annual work plan

## Comments

- The annual work plan for 2014 for the group was presented. Some minor changes to improve the document were suggested.
- Post budget statement by CSOs to be produced right after the budget has been presented in the parliament
- Mid-term review of the 5 year development plan. To avoid duplication of the activity, the secretariat will follow up with the Planning Commission to see if similar study has been conducted before
- The group suggested that the training to new members (those who were not part of the group) to be included in the plan
- Hakielimu will lead the group in updating the 'Citizens Guide to the Budget Process' to reflect the new budget cycle.
- Regarding statement position papers topics for this year, SIKIKA promised to do one on constitution, and BWG suggested doing one on budget like previous years.

### Resolution:

Amend the work plan to include the comments suggested.

#### 4. Policy Forum's tax TV spot

- Members of the group were informed of the move by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority banning our TV spot on tax. The only reason stated for the banning of the spot is said to be content of the spot without specifying what is wrong with the content. The PF board was informed of this and it was decided that we wait until the meeting between TCRA and ITV is held to know the agreement reached between the two parties.

#### 5. AOB

- Tax Tree: There was a presentation of tax tree by Linda from Kepa. The diagram is designed to provide information on revenue and expenditure by the government. It is being adopted in Finland, and it was shared with the group to see the possibility of replicating the same in our country so as to improve transparency
- It was agreed that we can discuss this with the task force responsible for the preparation of the citizens' budget for to hear how they feel about it.
- It can also be tried to publish it on a paper and share with the government to see how it works.

The meeting was closed at 11:50am and it was agreed that another meeting to be held on **6<sup>th</sup> March 2014**.

.....  
**SECRETARY**

.....  
**CONVENER**



**policy forum**