

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, WORKS, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY, HON. PROF. MAKAME MBARAWA OFFICIAL LAUNCH SPEECH OF THE 1ST GLOBAL LOGISTICS SUMMIT – TANZANIA 2017

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Senior Government Officials

Practitioners in the Transport Industry

Invited Guests

Distinguished Participants

Members of the Press

Dear Esteemed Guests.

Good Morning to you all.

First of all, I am very pleased to have the opportunity to unveil this huge global event today and I thank the President of Tanzania Freight Forwarding Association, Stephen Ngatunga, for the invitation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am being told that the 4- day summit is one of the biggest logistics events on the continent that will host over 350 senior clearing agents and freight forwarders, business delegates, government officials, ambassadors and trade representatives from the Africa and Middle East regions. The GLS - TZ 2017 will also see stakeholders such as shipping companies, terminal operators, freight forwarders shipping agents, and other partnering services providers in attendance. Over 32 countries from all parts of the globe are expected to participate at the summit and a number of logistics stakeholder organisations around the world.

As the government facilitator we expect fruitful interactions among importers, exporters, shipping firms, freight forwarders and even chandelier's, among several others will ultimately lead to increase in logistic activities in Tanzania thereby helping the country attain the desired hub port status within the sub-regions and ultimately advance the Tanzanian economy.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Summit that we are launching today is based on sector players understanding challenges within & without the transport & logistic industry and current government Policy Frameworks/ goals/ objectives for further development and Investment. I wish to commend the TAFFA for organizing such an important forum which among other things will portray Tanzania as an ideal freight

transportation hub as well as opportunities for development. I also commend sponsors as well as who have so far poured their support. We appreciate your assistance & support in investment promotion, facilitation and infrastructure.

This event will also afford Tanzania the opportunity of improving its economy via the transport & logistics sector as issues such as Ports development and its modernization, increasing revenue streams and challenges will be at the front of the discussions.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

With the help of the media, we can together ensure that we attract more delegates , participants to experience Tanzania the Land of Mt. Kilimanjaro & Zanzibar, great hospitality as well as boost conference tourism /business networking. I look forward to welcoming experts from all around the globe for the Inaugural GLS-Tz conference, fruitful deliberations & collaboration among all of you – Government Ministries and Institutions, Development Partners and the Private Sector, in redressing issues brought about in the summit, keeping in mind the ultimate goal of making Tanzania the most viable investment destination globally.

As a government we recognise that we cannot succeed in bringing in trade & investment if we act alone. We require the participation of private sector, civil society, professionals, non-governmental sector, academics and other intertwined sectors for us to make an impact.

With these few remarks, it is now my pleasure to declare the Global Logistics Summit Tanzania 2017 officially launched.

Thank you so much for your kind attention.