

Tanzania**First Open Government and Public Financial Management Operation****Chair Summary*****June 23, 2015**

Executive Directors considered the President's Memorandum and Recommendation and approved the First Open Government and Public Financial Management (OGPFM-1) Development Policy Operation (IDA/R2015-0087) to the United Republic of Tanzania for SDR 71.1 million (US\$100 million equivalent).

Directors noted the positive progress made by the government in recent years in economic growth but noted that poverty remains a major challenge in Tanzania. They welcomed World Bank support to Tanzania's efforts to enable improved access to information and open data to public servants and citizens, as well as to address key public financial management policy reforms that will enhance cash management, public investment management, and procurement. The operation would be essential in addressing the challenges identified in the Country Assistance Strategy by strengthening open government and public finance foundations to improve public expenditure transparency and management, and strengthening the delivery of social services. Directors highlighted the potential for improved information and service delivery to reduce disparities between rural and urban populations. Directors noted the importance of continued, close coordination with development partners on external assistance, including bilateral donors and the IMF. They emphasized that capacity building and technical assistance would be essential during implementation of the operation.

Directors agreed that the operation proposes a new approach that will support Tanzania's commitment to the Open Government Partnership and Public Financial Management reforms, and encouraged the government to continue to progressively and proactively engage with citizens on service delivery performance and, more broadly, in the design and implementation of public policies. Directors encouraged greater emphasis on the efficient use of resources and underscored the role of the private sector in job creation and poverty reduction.

While noting that the operation supports a coherent and self-standing set of policy actions to bolster delivery of public services in three key sectors, Directors underscored the challenges related to the discussion in Tanzania on certain pieces of legislation that would support the open government agenda. Directors urged continued policy dialogue with the authorities on the implementation of the Statistics Act and the finalization of the Access to Information bill, and requested close monitoring of the impact of the relevant legislative activities on the operation's development objectives. Directors also encouraged a robust results framework linked to the important objectives of the operation.

*This summary is not an approved record.