

CPA AFRICA REGION



**REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY AT THE OPENING OF THE
CWP REGIONAL SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP 20TH OCTOBER, 2022
RAMADA RESORT, DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA**

20 OCTOBER, 2022

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RAMADA RESORT, DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA

Rt. Hon. Dr. Tulia Ackson, (MP)

Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania and Guest of Honour,

Hon. Dr. Zainab Gimba (MP)

Chairperson of CWP International and Chairperson of CWP Africa Region,

Hon. Ntombi Mekingwe (MP)

Treasurer of CPA (Africa Region) and Speaker of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature,

Hon. Dr. Dorothy Gwajima (MP)

Minister of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups;

Hon. Kayanga Baroda Wantongola (MP)

Vice –Chairperson CWP,

Members of the CWP Steering Committee

Ms. Hodan Addou

UN Women Country Representative

Distinguished Delegates,

The CPA Africa Regional Secretariat Officials;

Resource Persons;

Staff of Parliaments and accompanying Officials;

Members of the Press;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

GOOD MORNING TO YOU ALL

First and foremost, I thank the Almighty God who has made it possible for all of us to be here this morning and for enabling those who have travelled long distances to arrive here safely. At the very outset, I wish to extend a very warm Welcome all of you to our Commercial City of Dar es Salaam for this important Workshop. **KARIBUNI SANA.**

Honorable Guest of Honour, Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

One of the main responsibilities of the Regional Secretariat according to Article 6 (b) of the Constitution is to arrange for Meetings, Seminars, Conferences, Sports and Cultural events at both regional and inter-regional levels. The holding of this workshop therefore marks the fulfillment of the above requirement of our constitution.

Honorable Guest of Honour, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you are all aware, this Workshop was previously planned to take place in October, 2021. However, due to travel restrictions that applied in our countries because of COVID-19 Pandemic, we couldn't get enough confirmations to hold the workshop.

I am delighted to learn that, this time around we have a total of 32 delegates from 10 National branches and four sub-national branches.

Honorable Guest of Honour, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The challenges facing women in our Region and in our Parliaments are numerous and diverse in spite of the achievements registered in recent years. They include barriers to sustaining women's political participation, such as limited enforcement of gender equality laws and persistent gender stereotypes and patriarchal attitudes. It is therefore imperative that CWP Africa Region strives for active role of women in positions of leadership and decision making through increased number of women in positions of leadership and decision making bodies.

It is within this context that the CWP has organized this Workshop to build the capacity of women parliamentarians in leadership and politics. The Regional Secretariat will continue to arrange for similar Workshops in the future in line with the CWP (2021-2025) Strategic Plan and directives of the relevant governance organs of the Region.

Honorable Guest of Honour, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

There will be four main topics to be presented and discussed at this Workshop, namely:-

1. Sharing election success stories among Women Parliamentarians.
2. The impact of increased Women's Representation in Parliaments.

3. Women's Mobilization in Political Participation before and after the election.
4. Women Parliamentary Discourses during the post-election conflict.

I am hoping that, the recommendations that will arise out of the discussions will go a long way towards making our parliaments more gender sensitive. For our part, the Regional Secretariat will disseminate the recommendations and resolutions of the workshop to all branches across the Region and follow-up on their implementation.

Honorable Speaker, Guest of Honour, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

Allow me to extend my heart felt appreciation to all resource persons who have agreed to share their insights and knowledge on the various topics that will be presented.

To conclude my remarks, I wish to once again, reiterate my warm welcome to all distinguished participants. The Regional Secretariat will be at your disposal to make your two day stay with us comfortable and enjoyable. I wish you a fruitful, engaging and successful workshop.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION
ASANTENI SANA