



***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**Date: 16/02/22**

**GOVERNMENT URGED TO DISCLOSE THE ECONOMIC REFORMS IT HAS PLANNED TO UNDERTAKE**

The Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) has appealed to Government to disclose to the Nation details of the economic reforms it has planned to undertake.

CTPD Executive Director Mr. Isaac Mwaipopo notes with concern that while citizens have seen a number of changes being undertaken by the current Government, it remains unclear if these changes are part of the economic reforms it had planned to undertake.

Mr. Mwaipopo adds that it is very critical for these reforms to be shared with the public as it will help various stakeholders such as the private sector to position themselves in providing support towards the implementation of these economic reforms.

“We appeal to Government to disclose the detailed economic reforms it plans to undertake. While we have seen a number of changes being made by the current Government it remains unclear if at all these changes are part of the economic reforms it plans to undertake. It is critical for government share these reforms to the public to make it easy for the stakeholders such as the private sector to support its implementation,” He said.

And Mr. Mwaipopo has also appealed to the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprise to give a clear policy direction on how it seeks to provide support the growth of Small and Medium Enterprise.

“ The Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprise needs to give a clear policy direction on how it seeks to support Small and Medium Enterprise (SMES) in the country. This is important if the country is to have proper representation of our SMES, furthermore, there is need for government to disclose the form of support in intends to provide in supporting the growth of this sector”, He said.

Mr. Mwaipopo is concerned that currently Government has not disclosed what form of support this Ministry will be providing to SMES to ensure growth that spurs production and ultimately contribute to economic growth.

“All things being equal, SMEs should be promoted by the government in its quest to develop the country so that people can benefit through buying goods and services at reasonable or cheap price.

This is very much tenable as it has worked in developed countries provided there is political will from national leadership”, Mr Mwaipopo noted.

**Issued by**

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Editor’s Note

The Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) is a not-for-profit, membership based trade policy and development think tank. The organization was established in 1999 and existed as the civil society trade network (CSTNZ), until 2009 when it was rebranded as the Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD).

The mandate of CTPD is to influence pro-poor trade and investment reforms at national, regional and multilateral levels as well as facilitate the participation of various stakeholders including member organizations in ensuring that trade is used as a tool for poverty eradication.

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