

SPEECH BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AT THE INVESTORS' ENGAGEMENT ON HEALTH - RELATED MANUFACTURING

Honourable Guest of Honour,

Distinguished Investors,

Development Partners,

Senior Government Officials,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning!

It is my honour and privilege to address you today on a matter of strategic importance to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania - the development of domestic and regional manufacturing capacity for health-related supplies, and the role of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in realizing this objective.

Honourable Guest of Honour, the COVID-19 pandemic and other global disruptions provided a clear lesson: health security is inseparable from economic security. Countries that depend heavily on imports for essential medical supplies are vulnerable to external shocks, supply disruptions, and foreign exchange pressures. Tanzania has therefore made a deliberate policy choice to strengthen local production of pharmaceuticals, medical devices, diagnostics, and other health commodities.

At the same time, demand for health products is growing rapidly—both domestically and across the East African and Southern African regions. This presents not only a public health imperative, but also a significant industrial and investment opportunity.

Honourable Guest of Honour, the Government recognizes that achieving this ambition requires **strong collaboration with the private sector**. Public-Private Partnerships offer a powerful mechanism to mobilize private capital,

technology, innovation, and managerial expertise, while ensuring that public interests are safeguarded. Through PPP arrangements, Tanzania is opening opportunities for investors to participate in:

- Pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturing facilities;
- Diagnostics, laboratory supplies, and reagents;
- Shared infrastructure such as quality control laboratories, cold chains, and logistics platforms; and
- Technology transfer and contract manufacturing partnerships.

To support these opportunities, the Government has strengthened the legal and institutional framework for PPPs. Amendments to the Public-Private Partnership Act in 2023 have enhanced flexibility, transparency, and investor confidence, while aligning PPP projects with incentives available under the Tanzania Investment and Special Economic Zone Act (TISEZA).

Honourable Guest of Honour, We are equally committed to ensuring that Tanzania remains a competitive and attractive investment destination. Investors in health-related manufacturing benefit from a range of fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, including tax reliefs, exemptions on capital goods and raw materials, access to serviced land in Special Economic Zones, and streamlined regulatory support. Importantly, locally manufactured health products also enjoy preferential access to public procurement, providing stable and predictable demand.

Beyond the domestic market, Tanzania offers strategic access to regional markets under the East African Community and SADC, positioning investors to serve a population of over 400 million people from a stable and well-connected base.

Honourable Guest of Honour, our long-term vision is clear. Tanzania aims to become a regional hub for the manufacturing of health-related products—a center of quality production, innovation, and export competitiveness. This vision is anchored in policy consistency, macroeconomic stability, and a firm commitment to public-private collaboration.

To our investors and partners present today, I wish to emphasize this message:

Tanzania is open for partnership.

We are ready to engage, to co-design bankable projects, and to walk with you through implementation - so that together we can build resilient health supply chains, create jobs, transfer technology, and deliver lasting value to our people and the region.

Honourable Guest of Honour and Distinguished guests, I thank you for your attention and for your continued confidence in Tanzania.

I look forward to fruitful discussions and enduring partnerships.

Thank you.