

**CONGRATULATORY REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR OMBENI Y. SEFUE,
CHIEF SECRETARY OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA ON THE
OCCASION OF PRESENTING THE AAPAM AWARDS FOR INNOVATIVE
MANAGEMENT TO THE WINNERS, WEDNESDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2012**

President and Executive Committee of AAPAM;

**Dr A.Y. Mzee, Chief Secretary, Secretary to the Cabinet and Head of Public Service
of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar;**

Ministers;

Chief Secretaries, Secretaries to Cabinet, and Heads of Public Service;

**Permanent Secretaries, Principal Secretaries and other Senior Government
Officials;**

Representatives of International Organisations;

Distinguished delegates;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

AAPAM has identified factors that make the public sector, in particular the public service, strong and efficient. The AAPAM awards, therefore, are important tools for building capacities of the African administrative and management systems for effective service delivery to our people. I wish to congratulate AAPAM for the innovations it has made in enhancing the performance of the African Public Services through a programme of Awards and recognition.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to congratulate winners of this year's prestigious AAPAM Awards for Innovative Management. The Award selection process presented by the jury has picked the most deserving innovative projects from African public service institutions. I commend the five finalist organizations for reaching the finals of the competition and in winning the AAPAM Awards for Innovative Management. I believe there are numerous ongoing innovation endeavours that are not in today's list of winners. They, nevertheless, stand as potential applicants/contestants for the future. To all of you, I say Congratulations!

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Innovation in public service institutions has existed since time immemorial. But its need and its speed is increasing, driven by new demands on public service delivery and facilitated by technology and globalisation. There was a time in the past when the most important condition for success was information. In today and tomorrow's world the key ingredient for success is innovation, because information is increasingly freely available online. The future success of African public service depends, therefore, on how much attention we place in developing capacities for innovation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In today's world, innovation by the public service cannot be avoided. The programme this evening, therefore, is not, and cannot be, an end in itself. The critical

work begins tomorrow, where a huge task of transforming and modernizing the public sector is ahead of us, lest we lose every shred of public trust. I encourage you to continue being creative and innovative throughout all spheres of your organizations. I repeat, it is only through a continuous process of innovation that we can improve our methods of delivering services to our citizens in an efficient and timely manner, producing the outcomes that earn the public service the trust and confidence of the citizenry.

I urge all of us present in this occasion to learn from these award winning innovations, whose projects or initiatives can permeate to other countries and public service institutions. But we also need to go beyond emulating to creating new innovations. Inter and intra organization continuous learning through networking should be carried over beyond Zanzibar.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again, congratulations to the finalists who received AAPAM Innovative Awards this evening, and to AAPAM for organizing such a successful event.

Enjoy the rest of the evening!

THANK YOU!