STATEMENT BY DR. AGNES KIJAZI, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY DURING OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE TRAINING ON DOWNSCALING OF SEASONAL CLIMATE FORECAST USING CLIMATE PREDICTABILITY TOOL FROM 06th TO 08th FEBRUARY 2017, AT TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY SEMINAR ROOM

Directors of Tanzania Meteorological Agency;

Workshop Participants;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

It is a great honor for me to address you today on this official opening ceremony of the *"TRAINING ON DOWNSCALING OF SEASONAL CLIMATE FORECAST USING CLIMATE PREDICTABILITY TOOL"* (CPT). This training is held under the support of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) project in Tanzania entitled "**Climate Services Adaptation Programme in Africa** *on Building Resilience in Disaster Risk Management, Food Security, Nutrition and Health*". On behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and on my own behalf, I wish to express my appreciation and sincere thanks to the Royal Government of Norway through the World Meteorological Organization for supporting this programme. I also thank all implementing

partners for their continued commitment in the implementation of this programme.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Weather and Climate forecasting is the core activity of the Tanzania Meteorological Agency and we are responsible to inform the general public about present and future weather conditions with high level of precision. Due to the changing climate, the weather systems and seasons are also changing. In this regard, we need to improved skills so as to accurately detect those changes. This is the reason why this training has been organized with the objective to enhance capacity of TMA staff to downscale seasonal climate forecast and generate tailor made climate products. It is therefore anticipated that participants will be equipped with

valuable information that will contribute to sustainable development of our country.

I therefore expect that this training will enhance your capacity and improve your forecasting skills to produce tailor made forecast that fits customer needs. Our expectation is that you will make proper utilization of the skills gained to enable the Agency make positive contribution towards for sustainable development of your country.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

To conclude my short speech, I am happy that this training is carried out at this time when we are preparing for March to May seasonal outlook. I would like to see the application of the knowledge acquired in the March to May seasonal outlook. And with these few remarks I wish to declare that this

training workshop on downscaling of seasonal climate forecast using climate predictability tools officially opened.

Thank you

Asante Sana