



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

SUPERVISION OF MICROFINANCE SERVICE PROVIDERS

The National Assembly of Tanzania enacted a Microfinance Act 2018 on 16th November 2018, in order to operationalize the National Microfinance Policy 2017. Section 12 of the Act *inter alia*, mandates the Bank of Tanzania to license, regulate and supervise microfinance business in Tanzania Mainland. Further, the Act defines “microfinance business” as business that includes: receiving money, by way of deposits or interest on deposits or borrowing and which is lent to members or clients; accepting savings and providing loans or other credit facilities to micro or small enterprises and low income households or individuals; providing micro credit, micro-savings, micro-insurance, micro-leasing, micro-pension and micro-housing finance; transfer and payment services, including digital microfinance services; providing financial education; and any other related service as may be prescribed in the regulations.

Section 16 of the Act prohibits any person from carrying out any microfinance business, unless such person is licensed by the Bank of Tanzania. Applicable sanctions for violation of this Section are also provided for in the Act.

The Bank of Tanzania is preparing Regulations for the different categories of microfinance service providers identified in the Act, including licensing regulation. All persons who are engaged in microfinance business will be required to obtain formal license from the Bank of Tanzania and observe other requirements of the Regulations, once they are issued and published in the Government’s gazette.

In the meantime, all persons who are engaged in microfinance business (except Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies) are required to submit the following information to the Bank of Tanzania by **Thursday, 31th January 2019**, as they are relevant:

- (i) Certificate of Incorporation
- (ii) Business License issued by Business Registration and Licensing Agency of Association
- (iii) Place of business and contract details:
 - a) Physical location (Street, District and Region)
 - b) Telephone contact
 - c) Email address
- (iv) List of owners, Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and their respective citizenship
- (v) All types of microfinance service products offered
- (vi) Statement whether the business is audited annually or not
- (vii) Description of accounting system and information and communication technology in use
- (viii) The following financial statement details:
 - a) Total Assets
 - b) Total Liabilities
 - c) Owners' Equity

The information mentioned herein should be addressed to the Director of Financial Sector Supervision, Bank of Tanzania - Head Office, 6th Floor North Tower, P. O. Box 2939, Dar Es Salaam or emailed to vctarimu@bot.go.tz; nfmongateko@bot.go.tz; or dasasya@bot.go.tz

**BANK OF TANZANIA
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