THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

BANK OF TANZANIA

20th November 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

REGULATION OF NON-DEPOSIT-TAKING MICROFINANCE SERVICE PROVIDERS (TIER II) IN ZANZIBAR

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) wishes to inform the public that it has been mandated to regulate and supervise microfinance service providers in Zanzibar pursuant to Sections 15 and 16 of the Zanzibar Microfinance Services Act No. 9 of 2023. The Act, which was enacted by the Zanzibar House of Representatives (ZHR), officially came into force in 2025 following its publication by the Minister of Finance – Zanzibar, as part of the implementation of the Zanzibar Microfinance Policy of 2019.

To ensure effective implementation of the Act, the Ministry of Finance – Zanzibar, in collaboration with financial sector stakeholders, formulated the Microfinance (Non-Deposit Taking Microfinance Service Providers - Tier II) Regulations, 2025. These Regulations set out the procedures and criteria to be observed in licensing, capital requirements, and corporate governance of institutions providing microfinance services.

Accordingly, non-deposit-taking microfinance service providers (Tier II) currently operating or intending to offer such services in Zanzibar are required to submit their license applications to the Bank of Tanzania – Zanzibar Branch effective from the date of this notice. For existing service providers, the deadline for submitting applications is 31st December 2026.

The public is reminded that it is an offense under Section 6 of the Zanzibar Microfinance Services Act No. 9 of 2023 for any person or institution to conduct microfinance business without a license issued by the BoT or a Delegated Authority.

For further information, please contact the Director of Financial Sector Supervision, Bank of Tanzania, via email at Hamad.Hamad@bot.go.tz; Dickson.Gama@bot.go.tz; and Mary.Ngassa@bot.go.tz, or by telephone at +255 26 2963182 or +255 22 2232541.

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