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PRESS RELEASE

Dar es Salaam, 6th December, 2012

Tanzania, EU and Germany sign cooperation agreements worth EUR 71.26m for new Water Supply and Sanitation systems for five towns

TODAY (December 6), the European Union, the Federal Republic of Germany and officials from ministries of Finance and Water of the Government of Tanzania signed cooperation agreements for continuation of their long and fruitful collaboration in the water worth EUR 71.26 million. Through the financing agreements, the two development partners and the Government of Tanzania agreed on major improvements in the water and sanitation infrastructure, a project to be implemented by the Ministry of Water (MoW). The project is embedded into the "7 Towns Urban Upgrading Programme" (7TUUP) which aims to support the United Republic of Tanzania in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) related targets, through the improvement of water and sanitation in seven currently under-supplied urban centres.

On the same day the EU and the German Development Bank, KfW signed a delegation agreement, by which the EU delegated its MDG Initiative (MDGI) contribution of EUR 51.26 million to KfW to finance the envisaged investments in Kigoma, Lindi and Sumbawanga. The German government will provide an additional EUR 20 million via KfW to complete the required budget in these three cities and to commit funding for the implementation of measures in Babati and Mtwara. Additional capacity measures will be provided for via the German GIZ. Besides concrete infrastructure improvements, a major programme focus will be the improvement of the performance of the water utilities in the 5 towns. Furthermore, measures will be taken to sustainably sensitize the population for matters of hygiene. This approach aims to increase access to affordable and safe water, and to reduce the risk of infection from water-borne diseases so as to improve the living conditions of the Tanzanian population. Both, EU and Germany, have a long tradition and profound experience in the water and sanitation sector in Tanzania and supported the Ministry of Water to prepare the comprehensive investment programme.

The goal of the programme as a part of the MDGI is to secure an efficient supply of drinking water and improved basic sanitation in the five towns of Kigoma, Lindi, Sumbawanga, Mtwara and Babati. Because of the poor condition of the water and sanitation infrastructure, the Government of Tanzania through its Ministry of Water had identified these towns as priority for water and sanitation investments. Until the completion of the programme, 960.000 people will benefit from the improved systems.

For more information;

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