

# Concept Note: Launching of HelpAge Tanzania & National Symposium on Ageing

**Guest of Honor:** Former Prime Minister: Hon Mizengo Peter Pinda

**Date:** September 12-13, 2024

**Location:** Four Point by Sheraton Hotel, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

## BACKGROUND

HelpAge Tanzania envision a society of equal rights and opportunities where older people and persons with disabilities are empowered, healthy, aware and prosperous. We are committed to improving the quality of life and social well-being of older people and persons with disabilities through awareness creation, health systems improvement, social and economic empowerment, networking and policy advocacy. We exist to influence policies to protect the rights of older people, offer health care, social protection, and community support, change societal attitudes towards ageing and involve older people in decision-making and program implementation.

Our journey began in 1993, working as HelpAge International Tanzania office to support older people with Ophthalmic services. Our focus, evolved over the years, to include projects around health and care; social protection and livelihoods; addressing violence, abuse, and neglect; and Inclusive humanitarian supports to older people and people with disabilities. Our advocacy efforts have successfully resulted in several achievements including inclusion of older people in various government and stakeholder's programs and positive attitudes among community members towards older and their dependents.

Recognizing the need for a more focused and autonomous entity, HelpAge International Tanzania office was transitioned to a local organisation, HelpAge Tanzania that was officially registered on 10th January 2023. The establishment process involved extensive consultations with older people, community leaders, government officials, and international partners to ensure that the new organization can effectively address the specific needs of the Tanzania's older population. The new entity, HelpAge Tanzania, has since then endeavored to building a robust organizational structure, strengthening partnerships with various stakeholders, and encoring a dedicated team of professionals' lead by a committed board of directors to establish tailor-made strategies that resonate with the cultural, social, and economic contexts of our country.

The Launching of HelpAge Tanzania and the national symposium aims to bring together key stakeholders to discuss, celebrate, and strategize on the future of ageing in Tanzania. It will serve as a platform to highlight HelpAge Tanzania transformation processes, rationale and strategic direction; and foster a collaborative environment for addressing the multifaceted issues faced by older people.

*“Imagine Tanzania where older people are empowered, healthy, aware and prosperous. Not just present but thrive in every aspect of life—social, economic, and political. A society that embraces an environment where religion, spirituality and/or belief held in their everyday lives can be*

*incorporated into the idea of positive ageing, being a source of strength, support, comfort and hope in difficult times and bringing about a sense of community and belonging. A society where older people are actively participating and contributing their invaluable wisdom and experiences; and that is promoting healthy ageing through preventive care, nutrition, and physical activity programs. A society where older people’s needs and rights, economic, livelihood and social security are reinforced through policies and legal frameworks and championed at all levels of government. A society where strategies are developed and implemented to safeguard older people in emergencies, including natural disasters; and where technology plays a pivotal role, addressing digital divide and enhancing access to telehealth, social connectivity, market information etc.”.*

The Launching of HelpAge Tanzania and the national symposium, will be tapped to reflect on these and shape the future we want for our Senior Citizens. The event will explore stakeholder’s opinions and recommendations around the present and future opportunities, challenges, innovative strategies and interventions for achieving a nation where older people are empowered, healthy, aware and prosperous. A society, where every older person, everywhere in Tanzania, can say: *“I enjoy wellbeing, I am treated with dignity and My voice is heard”.*

Attendees to the events will include: Senior Government Officials from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar, HelpAge Tanzania Board Members, Donors, UN Agencies, Older people representatives, CSOs, Academicians, Representatives, Religious leaders, HelpAge International Representatives, Support Members, Media and Diplomats.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- 1 Gather and integrate diverse stakeholder opinions to address opportunities and challenges for older people.
- 2 Identify and apply innovative interventions to enhance the quality of life for older people in Tanzania.
- 3 Promote strategies and Interventions that ensure older people are healthy, aware, and prosperous.
- 4 Foster an environment that ensure older people are treated with dignity and their voices are heard, prioritizing their well-being in society.

## **PROGRAM SCHEDULE.**

<b>Day: 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Time</b>
Arrivals/ Registration/ Breakfast	Organizing Committee	08.30 - 09.30
<b>Arrival of the Guest of Honor-</b>	<b>Hon Mizengo K.P. Pinda</b>	<b>09.35</b>
Introduction/ Opening Players	Main presenter/ HATBC/RC	09.35 – 4.45
Objectives of the event	Main presenter	09.45 - 09.50
Overview of HelpAge Transformations	HAT HoP	09.50 - 10.30
	Smart Daniel, <i>HAT Executive Director</i>	

<b>Welcoming Remarks</b>	Dr. Zena Mabeyo, <i>Chairperson HAT Board</i> Albert Chalamila; <i>RC Dar Es Salaam</i> Mrs. Riziki Pembe, <i>Minister, Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children</i>	10:30 – 11:05
<b>Opening and Launching Speech</b>	<b>Hon Kayanza Mizengo Peter Pinda (Retd Prime minister)</b>	<b>11:05 – 11:35</b>
<b>Official Launch of HelpAge Tanzania</b>	<b>Hon Kayanza Mizengo Peter Pinda (Retd Prime minister)</b>	<b>11:35 – 11:55</b>
<b>Vote of thanks</b>	<b>Mr. Gerson Msigwa, HAT Board Member</b>	<b>11:55 – 12:05</b>
Group photo	Main presenter	12:05 – 12:20
<b>Lunch Break</b>	<b>Organizing Committee</b>	<b>12:25 – 14:15</b>
<b>Topic 1:</b> Situation of older people in Tanzania: Efforts that have been done to improve the wellbeing of older people: Gaps, Challenges and Opportunities.	Main presenter/ Dr Salum Mohamed	14:15 – 15:15
<b>Topic 2:</b> Forgotten Password: The unique contributions of older people in our societies: Evidence of their productivity, creativity, vitality and their participation addressing social-cultural norms and values through social behavior change communication.	Main presenter/ Mr. Joseph Mbasha	15:15 -16:15
<b>Evening tea &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>Organizing Committee</b>	<b>16:15 – 17:00</b>
<b>End of Day one</b>		

<b>Day: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Arrivals/ Registration/ Breakfast/ Racap</b>	<b>Organizing Committee</b>	<b>08.30 – 9.15</b>
<b>Topic 3:</b> Role of Religious Institutions in promoting and protecting the rights of older people: What has worked, what could be improved?	Main presenter/ <b>Dr. Charles Kitima</b> , <i>Board chair, Tanzania Interfaith Partnership -TIP</i> <b>Alhaji Nuhu Jabir Mruma-BAKWATA</b> Secretary Mainland-DSM Mainland	9:30 – 10:30
<b>Topic 4:</b> Global and Regional Older People Focused Legal Frameworks and Protocols: How these have been incorporated in the legal Frameworks in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.	Main presenter/ <b>Dr. Hellen Kijo Bisimba</b> ,	10:30 -11:00
<b>Topic 5:</b> Decade of Health Ageing (2021-2030) – What need to be done to effectively embrace the framework in Tanzania	<i>Main presenter/ Dr. Edwin Swai, WHO - UHC-LC: NPO MCH &amp; Ageing</i>	11:00 – 12:00
<b>Topic 6:</b> Resourcing Programs that Support Older people in Tanzania: What does experience tell us. Can we do better in the context of localization?	<i>Main presenter/ RCK Executive Director</i>	12:00 – 13:00
<b>Topic 8:</b> What does technology offer to older people: Obstacles and opportunities for older	Main presenter/ Bert Maerten, <b>Head of Transformation, HelpAge International</b>	13:00 – 14:00

people to benefit from technology advancement		
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Organizing Committee</b>	<b>14:00 – 15:00</b>
<b>Symposium resolutions and recommendations Symposium resolutions and recommendations</b>	<b>Main presenter/ Secretariat</b>	<b>15:00 – 16:00</b>
<b>Closing Remarks,</b>	<b>Dr. Dorothy Gwajima, <i>Minister of MCDGC</i></b>	<b>16:00 – 16:30</b>
<b>End of the Symposium</b>		