# OGP16: Paris Summit Highlights for Tanzania

A Briefing Note

13 December, 2016

Key highlights for Tanzania

Several key themes emerged at the summit, many of which have significance for Tanzania. Most notably, this includes the following:

1. **Beneficial ownership disclosure**: There is growing momentum behind requiring companies to provide information on true owners of those companies, and for the information to be made public. This is rapidly becoming the global norm for countries committed to combatting corruption and tax avoidance.

2. **Civic space and media freedoms**: There is widespread concern that many countries – including Tanzania – are not respecting civic space and freedom of the press. There is a recognition that the OGP needs to take civic space more seriously, including working with countries seen as problematic in this area.

3. **Open government at the subnational level**: There is excitement about the potential of open government in local government, through the sub-national pilot programme, in which Kigoma Municipal Council is participating. Among many others, Mo Ibrahim of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation expressed his strong support for localising open government.

Further, it is important to note that many participants were surprised and disappointed at the low level of participation by the Tanzanian government at the summit. For a country that has historically had a high profile at the OGP, this absence was very noticeable. Approving and submitting Tanzania’s third National Action Plan (NAP III) at the earliest opportunity will help counter these concerns.

**Background to the Summit**

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) was launched in 2011 to provide an international platform for domestic reformers committed to making their governments more open, accountable, and responsive to citizens. Since then, OGP has grown from 8 to 70 participating countries, including 10 in Africa. In all of these countries, government and civil society are working together to develop and implement ambitious open government reforms.

The Paris Summit was the fourth global OGP Summit, and involved 3000 representatives from 70 countries. Participants included the President of France, François Hollande, and (via video-link) the President of the United States of America, Barack Obama), as well as numerous ministers, public servants, members of parliament, local authorities, civil society representatives, technological innovators, researchers, journalists and others.
Tanzania has always been a leading light in the OGP at global level. Having joined very early in the process, national leaders have been prominent figures in the OGP at global level, and Tanzania’s progress in the OGP has previously attracted positive comments from other global leaders.

Key Themes of the Summit
The summit covered a wide range of topics, including several that are of direct relevance to Tanzania. In large part, this relevance relates to the anti-corruption drive of President Magufuli, and how open government strategies could build on the President’s momentum in this direction and strengthen his anti-corruption campaign with systemic changes that help reduce opportunities for corruption. Three particular themes are highlighted below:

Beneficial ownership disclosure
There is increasing recognition that opaque corporate ownership records provide opportunities for the corrupt to hide their activities and wealth from the authorities. Where companies are required to provide governments with clear information on their true owners, and where such information is made public, it is much harder to hide tax evasion, conflicts of interest in public procurement, and other corrupt activities.

The United Kingdom has earned widespread acclaim for setting the agenda in this area, having recently launched an open register of beneficial ownership and with plans to go further to require similar information from foreign companies that own property in the UK or enter into contracts with the UK government. Other countries have similarly recognised the value of beneficial ownership registers, most notably including Kenya. There is a growing momentum behind the idea, such that it is well on the way to becoming the new norm. Countries that require minimal information from companies or that maintain private corporate registers will soon be the exceptions.

Tanzania has made some small commitments in this direction, specifically to establish and make public a register of corporate ownership of extractive industry companies. This commitment is expressed through the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and the proposed third national OGP action plan. However, there is room for Tanzania to expand this to include all companies registered in Tanzania. This would ensure Tanzania does not get left behind either in open government reforms or in the fields of tax justice and anti-corruption work.

Civic space and media freedoms
Civil society in many countries – including South Africa, India, Hungary and others – has raised concerns that space for open public debate is being closed down. This includes legal measures such as new laws that restrict key freedoms such as freedom of the press, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, and changes in government and/or policing in practice. In Hungary, a dispute between civil society and the government on closures of civic space led to an investigation by the OGP leadership, which found that civil society had strong grounds for their complaints. The Hungarian government subsequently decided to withdraw participation in the OGP.
These concerns have led to growing calls for the OGP to give greater attention to the issue of civic space. This recognises that civic freedoms are a foundation of open government and that respect for civic space is among the best protections against corruption and mismanagement. Some called for criteria for participation in the OGP to be tightened, such that only countries where basic standards of media freedom and democratic space are respected should be eligible to join the OGP. Others called for tougher responses from the OGP when countries are seen to be moving to restrict civic space.

In the case of Tanzania, the OGP community has concerns about various laws passed since 2015 – notably the Cybercrime Act and Media Services Act – and about moves to restrict space for public assembly and political action. In part, the concern is that these will undermine President Magufuli’s campaign against corruption and waste.

**Open government at the subnational level**

As the first global OGP summit since the launch of the OGP subnational pilot programme – in which Kigoma Municipal Council is a participant – there was much excitement at the potential of open government reforms in local government. This attitude was typified by Mo Ibrahim of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, who celebrated particularly the three African participants in the pilot.

This excitement largely stems from the potential for a wider range of open government reforms, and for a new group of emerging open government champions.

**Tanzania’s Third National Action Plan (NAP III)**

At national level, the Open Government Partnership is operationalised through national action plans (NAPs), each covering a two-year period, developed and implemented by both government and civil society. Tanzania recently completed preparations of a third action plan (NAP III), building on progress of two previous plans and feedback from the OGP’s Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM), and extending open government work into some new areas.

NAP III focuses on seven priority areas: Access to Information; Open Data; Open Budgets; Land Transparency; Extractive Industries; Health Services; and Performance Management. The plan has not yet formally been approved by the Government of Tanzania. Approval and submission of the plan at the earliest opportunity would ensure the government’s ongoing commitment to the OGP is recognised globally.
The Media Coverage highlights

A Tanzanian Media crew facilitated by Twaweza East Africa participated at the Summit. They made a commendable coverage of the Sessions. They basically recorded the sessions and interviewed summit participants. They crafted stories and sent them to all media houses in Tanzania. Some TV stations that broadcasted the OGP stories were TBC, Azam TV, Clouds TV, Channel Ten, East Africa TV, ITV and TV 1. Also about 125 radio stations in Tanzania used the stories for news bulletin and radio shows.

News articles were written and sent to local blogs and newspapers and was published. Some of the blogs that received OGP proceedings included: Tanzania Government Official blog, Michuzi and Full Shangwe blogs, Mo-blog, Mjengwa blog, Mwamba wa Habari, Blog za Mikoani, Millard Ayo blog and many others. Articles were also sent to local newspapers such as The Guardian, Mtanzania, Daily News, HabariLeo, Majira, Uhuru, Jamhuri, Diray Mtanzania, Mwananchi, Tanzania Daima, Mzalendo, Raia Mwema, Raia Tanzania and Mwanahalisi.

OGP sessions including the Opening session by President Francois Hollande was covered and reported on TV, Radio Stations, Twitter of the Government spokesman, on WhatsApp groups and on blogs.

Post Summit Media Programs

After the Summit media programs were booked in order to raise awareness on OGP Summit and OGP in General. Mayor Hussein Luhava from Kigoma Ujiji Municipality attended a one hour TV talk show at EATV that is known as HotMix and he responded well on how an ordinary person benefit from OGP and what is contained in the OGP Action plan of Kigoma Ujiji. He also called upon the District Councils in Tanzania to adopt the OGP Program. This program was on Tuesday 13th December 2016

Again on Saturday 17th December 2016 Aidan Eyakuze attended a Mwanga Bora Radio talk show at Radio Free Africa. It’s a one hour talk show. Aidan explained very well what OGP is, why we need it in Tanzania and he gave the Paris Summit summary. There was a lot of comments and questions from the public through texts, Facebook page, Instagram, and twitter. Most comments was that OGP is a very new term to them and Twaweza needs to invest more in educating the public on OGP so they can be able to demand their rights.

On Tuesday 20th December 2016 Aidan attended a Morning trumpet program at Azam TV and shared the OGP story.

On 21st December 2016 Aidan attended two programs one on TBC Radio and the other on TBC Jambo Tanzania TV program and he discussed a lot on OGP.

On 14th January 2017 Aidan attended a Clouds on Saturday program on Clouds Radio station and this was the most impactful show because one listener called in to complain about the Kigamboni MP who doesn’t live in his constituency but lives in Mikocheni. After some minutes the MP called and clarified that he lives in Kigamboni and has an office in Kigamboni. He also invited the citizen to his office.
Some coverage in the media

Tanzania yaiteka Paris kwa Utawala Bora (This was sent to all newspapers and all blogs)
By Jonas Kamaleki –Paris; 7 Disemba 2016

Tanzania yapongezwa katika Utawala bora kwa kuwa na sheria ya Haki ya kupata Taarifa ambayo itasaidia kupunguza vitendo vya rushwa.

Pongezi hizo zimezimua leo jijini Paris, Ufaransa wakati wa Mkutano wa Kilele kuhusu Mpango wa Utawala bora ya Serikali kwa Uwazi (OGP) na Mkurugenzi wa Asasi za Kiraia na Ushirikishwaji wa OGP, Bw. Paul Maassen.


Naye Mtatifu wa masuala ya Habari, Bi Alina Mungiu amesema nchi zilizo na Sheria ya Haki ya Kupata Taarifa zinafanya vikuu katika kupambana na rushwa na uhusiano. Amezemsa hivyo kwa kufanya kikao cha Asasi za Kiraia baina ya Serikali na wananchi na si sula la Serikali peke yake.

Kwa kufanya hivyo malalamiko ya wananchi kwa viongozi wao. "Wananchi wanapaswa kuwa na maamuzi katika mambo yanayowahusia na si kusubiri kufanya kama katika kuleta na Serikali," alisitiza Mungiu.

Mikutano huu wa Kilele umefunguliwa na Rais wa Ufaransa, Francois Hollande na kuhudhuriwa na Viongozi wa nchi zaidi ya 13 akiwemo Rais Barrack Obama na Waziri Mkuu wa Canada ambao wameshiriki kwa njia ya video.

Suala la msingi linalojadiliwa ni kuhusu uwazi katika kuendesha shughuli shughuli za Serikali ambapo Serikali ya Awamu ya Tano imeonyesha Dhamira ya dhati ya kuendesha shughuli za Serikali ya Kigoma yapania kuwashirikisha wananchi katika mipango yao ya maendeleo (This was sent to all newspapers and all blogs)
By Jonas Kamaleki –Paris; 10 Disemba 2016

Manispaa ya Kigoma Ujiji imeazimia kuwashirikisha wananchi wake katika mipango ya maendeleo na kubadili utamaduni uliokuwepo wa kujitokeza kwa Serikali kuwaletwa mipango yake.

Hayo yamesemwa jana Jijini Paris na Mratibu wa Mpango wa Uendeshaji wa Serikali kwa Uwazi (OGP) Kigoma, Mhandisi Sultan Ndoliwa wakati wa kufungu Mkutano wa Kilele wa mpango huo OGP. Mhandisi Ndoliwa amesema ushirikishwaji huo utasaidia kutatwa changamoto zinazojitokeza kwa wananchi bila kwewo kwa ukuririribina kwani masuala haya yatakuwa yanajulikana wazi kwa wananchi.

"Nimefurahishwa na jinsi jiji la Paris linavyowashirikisha wananchi wake katika kupata maendeleo yao juu ya video ambalo tutaenda kutatwa Kigoma," alisema Ndoliwa.

Ameongeza kuwa anaamini Kigoma Ujiji inakuwepo kwambili kutokana na utaendelea na kula kutoka wa mpango huo OGP. Mhandisi Ndoliwa amesema ushirikishwaji huo utasaidia kutatwa changamoto zinazojitokeza kwa wananchi bila kwewo kwa ukuririribina kwani masuala haya yatakuwa yanajulikana wazi kwa wananchi.

"Nimefurahishwa na jinsi jiji la Paris linavyowashirikisha wananchi wake katika kupata maendeleo yao juu ya video ambalo tutaenda kutatwa Kigoma," alisema Ndoliwa.

Kwa upande wake, Meya wa Manispaa ya Ujiji Kigoma, Hussein Luhava amesema ataenda kuweka mifumo wa utaendelea kwa haraka endapo kunatokea tatizo katika eneo lolote ndani ya Manispaa ili lifanyiwe kazi na wahusika (tracking system).
Amezishauri Manispaa nyingine zijenge utamaduni wa kuwasikiliza wananchi na kuwashirikisha ipasavyo katika mipango ya maendeleo.

"Utendaji wa jinsi hii utabadilisha Manispaa yetu na kuifanya ipige hatua kubwa katika maendeleo," alisema Luhava.

Luhava amezitaka Manispaa na Halmashauri za Miji nchini kuiga mfano wa Manispaa ya Kigoma Ujjii ili kuharakisha maendeleo yao.

Halmashauri ya Manispaa ya Kigoma Ujjii ni Kati ya Manispaa 15 duniani zilizojunga na OGP kama mamlaka za ndani ya nchi husika.

Manispaa nyingine zilizojungiwa na Mpango huo ni pamoja na Austin ya Marekani; Bojonegoro, Indonesia; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Elgeyo Marakwet, Kenya; Jalisco, Mexico; La Libertad, Peru; Madrid, Spain; Ontario, Canada; Paris, France; Sao Paulo, Brazil; Scotland, Uingereza; Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana; Seoul, Korea Kusini and Tbilisi, Georgia.

Manispaa ya kigoma ujjii kuanzisha mfumo wa simu wa kuwasilisha na kufuatilia kero za wananchi (This was sent to all Electronic media houses. The audios and the videos are on Twaweza’s youtube site)

Halmashauri ya Manispaa ya Kigoma Ujjii imepanga kuanzisha utaratibu wa kuwashirikisha wananchi katika bajeti kwa kutoa fursa ya wananchi kusema ni nini wanataka kifanyike ndipo manispaa ikifanye ili kupunguza malalamiko dhidi ya wananchi.

Akiongea mara bada ya kuhudhuria kikao kilichohusisha manispaa 15 duniani zilizo katika mpango wa majoribio wa Uendeshaji wa shughuli za Serikali kwa Uwazi Nchini Ufaransa Mratibu wa mpango huo katika manispaa ya Kigoma Ujjii Mhandisi Sultan Ndoliwa amesema mpango huo utasaidia serikali kujenga imani kwa wananchi kwa utaratibu wa kufuatilia kero za wananchi.

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SEE MHANDISI NDOLIWA CLIP

Aidha Mhandisi Sultan aliongea kuwa Manispaa ya Kigoma Ujjii pia itaanzisha mfumo wa simu wa kuwasilisha na kufuatilia kero za wananchi mfumo utakasaidia kwa kiasi kikubwa kutatua kero huko kwa wakati na kwa viwango vinavyotakiwa.

SEE TRACKING SYSTEM CLIP

Naye Meywa wa Manispaa ya Kigoma Ujjii Hussein Juma Ruhava amezishauri manispaa nyingine nchini Tanzania kujiuunga na Mpango wa Uendeshaji wa Serikali kwa Uwazi (OGP) kwani utasaidia kujenga imani ya wananchi kwa viongozi hasa wa kisiasa.

SEE HUSSEIN RUHAVA CLIP

Manispaa ya Kigoma Ujjii ni moja kati ya Manispaa kumi na tano duniani zilizo katika mpango wa majoribio wa Uendeshaji wa shughuli za Serikali kwa Uwazi

These Video Clips are on you tube site


(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdefyIKPa8o&t=30s)
2. Muanzilishi wa Taasisi ya Mo Ibrahim Foundation Dr Mohammed "Mo" Ibrahim akutana na kufanya mazungumzo na wajumbe kutoka Afrika kwenye mkutano wa Mpango wa kuendesha shughuli za serikali kwa uwazi (OGP) kuhusu masuala mbalimbali ya vita dhidi ya rushwa, uwazi na usawa wa kijinsia (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMQT--U-VIE)

3. Manispaa ya Kigoma Ujiji kuwa ya Mfano katika utekelezaji wa Mpango wa Uendeshaji wa shughuli za Serikali kwa Uwazi (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cquUHg19mww&t=10s)

4. Aidan Eyakuze on Sauti za Wananchi (Citizen’s Voices) - Africa’s first mobile phone panel survey (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6YScM2Ru2s&t=67s)

5. Aidan Eyakuze on the key principles of open government and the visions for the future of OGP (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ut0_mOWaCy0&t=14s)

6. Ushiriki wa Vijana katika Mpango wa Uendeshaji wa Serikali kwa Uwazi (OGP) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sboJ518d1YU&t=44s)

7. Rais wa Ufaransa afungua mkutano wa 4 wa OGP,Mkurugenzi TWAWEZA aeleza muelekeo (http://ruvumatv.com/rais-wa-ufaransa-afungua-mkutano-wa-4-wa-ogpmkurugenzi-twaweza-aeleza-muelekeo/)

8. viongozi wa dunia wapitisha Azimio la Paris katika mkutano wa OGP (http://issamichuzi.blogspot.com/2016/12/viongozi-wa-dunia-wapitisha-zaimio-la.html)


10. The OGP documentary (Swahili) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNoq1--iz7I

Viingozi wa dunia wapitisha zaimio la Paris katika mkutano wa OGP (This was sent to all media)

Hassan Silayo-Paris Maelozo

Serikali themanini na mamia ya mashirika ya kiraia kutoka duniani kote yamesaini hatua ya pamoja katika Azimio la Paris, ikiwa ni pamoja na mumia kadhaa juu ya kupambana na rushwa. Hii inakuja mwishoni mwa siku 3 za mkutano wa nne wa mpango wa kuendeshaji wa shughuli za serikali kwa uwazi(OGP) uliofanyika Jijini Paris Nchini Ufaransa ambao ulishuhudia uzinduzi wa mageuzi mapya ya uendeshaji wa serikali kwa uwazi kwa wananchama 15 walio katika mpango wa majaribio wa OGP ikiwa ni pamoja na Manispaa ya Kigoma kutoka Tanzania.

Azimio la Paris ni pamoja na makusudi kumi na tisa yaliyofikiwa pamoja, ambapo serikali na mashirika ya kiraia wanakubaliana kufanya kazi pamoja ili kufikia matokeo yanayoonekana. Miongoni mwa hatua za pamoja ni: Uwazi na mikataba ya wazi katika sekta ya maliasili, Uwazi juu ya ushawishi, kuondoa matumizi mabaya ya makampuni hewa, utekelezaji wa upatikanaji wa sheria ya habari, msisitizo wa Mapinduzi ya takwimu kwa maendeleo endelevu na mabadiliko ya Hali ya Hewa, utekelezaji wa kanuni za mwongozo kwa ajili ya sera ya takwimu za wazi; na kuongeza mwitikio wa huduma za umma.

Sanjay Pradhan, Mkurugenzi Mtendaji wa mpango wa shughuli za serikali kwa uwazi, amewakumbusha washiriki wa mkutano huu kwamba. "Harakati za Kuendesha Shughuli za Serikari kwa uwazi

hazijawahi kuwa chini ya tishio na bado kazi yetu haijawa muhimu sana kwa ajili ya dunia, hivyo tunahitaji wanaharakati wa mashirika ya kiraia, waandishi wa habari, wabunge, sekta binafsi waongeze nguvu na kuungana ili kupata ujasiri wa pamoja wa kupambana kwa ajili ya maslaha ya wananchi."

Akizungumza mwishoni mwa Mkutano huo Mratibu wa mpango wa kuendesha shuguli za serikali kwa uwazi Kigoma Ujjii Mhandisi Sultani Ndoliwa amesema wamejifunza mambo mengi ambayo yatasaidia manispaa kukuza maendeleo kwa raia na kusaidia kukabiliana na changamoto na kuzitaua kwa wakati na kwa viwango vya ubora unaotakiwa.

Hussein Ruhava Meya wa Manispaa ya Kigoma Ujjii amezishauri manispaa nyingine nchini Tanzania kuwa na tabia ya kusikiliza nini wananchi wanataka kwani itasaidia kujua ni nini wananchi wanataka na mwisho wa siku itasaidia kupunguza malamiko juu ya huduma duni za umma katika Sekta mbalimbali. Anne Hidalgo, Meya wa Paris, akiwakaribisha viongozi kutoka maeneo yaliyo katika mpango wa majaribio wa OGP alisema, "kukutana kwa serikali za mitaa na miji Jijini Paris ambapo linatokea tukio la kihistoria linalotutaka tushiriki kikamilifu katika kukabiliana na changamoto za karne yetu." Aliyasema hayo kwa Viongozi wa Serikali na asasi za kiraia kutoka Austin, Marekani; Bojonegoro, Indonesia; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Elgeyo Marakwet, Kenya; Jalisco, Mexico; Kigoma, Tanzania; La Libertad, Peru; Madrid, Hispania; Ontario, Canada; Paris, Ufaransa; Sao Paulo, Brazil, Scotland, Uingereza; Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana; Seoul, Korea Kusini na Tbilisi, Georgia walihudhuria tukio.

Mameya kutoka mpango wa majoribio wa OGP katika picha ya pamoja baada kumalizika kwa kikao hicho.
World Leaders Endorse Paris Declaration at OGP Summit

Eighty governments and hundreds of civil society organizations from around the world have signed up to collective actions in the Paris Declaration, including several on anti-corruption. This comes at the close of the 3-day Open Government Partnership Global Summit in Paris which also saw the launch of new open government reforms by the 15 members of OGP’s Subnational Pilot Program including Kigoma Municipality from Tanzania.

The Paris Declaration includes nineteen collective actions, where governments and civil society groups agree to work together towards output-oriented tangible results. Collective Actions include: Transparency and open contracts in natural resource sector, Transparency on lobbying, Ending abuse of anonymous companies, implementation of access to information laws, Harnessing the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development and Climate Risk Resilience, implementation of guiding principles for open data policies; and increasing responsiveness of public services.

Sanjay Pradhan, The Open Government Partnership CEO, set the stage for the three day event by reminding participants of the current geopolitical context. “The Open Government movement has never been more under threat - and yet our work have never been very important for a more hopeful world, hence we need civil society activists, journalists, parliamentarians, private sector and reformers in government to leverage the OGP platform to join forces, forge coalitions and find collective courage to fight vested interests.”

Speaking after the ending of the Summit Kigoma Ujiji OGP Coordinator Engineer Sultan Ndoliwa said they have learned a lot of new things form the summit which will help to foster citizen development by tackling challenges faces citizen on time and with the required quality.

Hussein Ruhava The Mayor of Kigoma Ujiji Municipality advises other municipality in Tanzania to have the culture of listening on what citizens wants as it could help to get rid of complains of inadequate public services in various Sectors.

Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris, welcomed leaders from OGP’s pilot subnational program to Paris saying, “The subnational gathering in Paris is a historic achievement that demonstrates how indispensable city participation is in overcoming the challenges of our century.” Government and civil society leaders from Austin, United States; Bojonegoro, Indonesia; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Elgeyo Marakwet, Kenya; Jalisco, Mexico; Kigoma, Tanzania; La Libertad, Peru; Madrid, Spain; Ontario, Canada; Paris, France; Sao Paulo, Brazil; Scotland, United Kingdom; Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana; Seoul, South Korea and Tbilisi, Georgia attended the event.

“Making Transparency Count” was the theme of this year’s Open Government Awards, which was open to civil society organizations that have used OGP results to further their work.
Mkurugenzi wa Ushirikishwaji wa Asasi za Kiraia Bw. Paul Maasen akiongea na washiriki wa mkutano wa Nne wa Mpango wa uendeshaji wa serikali kwa uwazi Jijini Paris Nchini Ufaransa ambapo alisema Serikali kutoa huduma kwa uwazi kutasaidia kuondoa vitendo vya rushwa na uwazi.
Mtafiti katika masuala ya habari Bi. Alina Mungiu akitoa mada kuhusu namna asasi za kiraia na ukuaji wa teknolojia unaweza kusaidia katika mapambano dhidi ya rushwa.

Baadhi ya washiriki wa mkutano wa Nne wa Mpango wa uendeshaji wa serikali kwa uwazi Jijini Paris Nchini Ufaransa wakishiriki katika majadiliano ya masuala mbalimbali yanayohusiana na mpango wa uendeshaji wa serikali kwa uwazi.
Mtafiti katika masuala ya habari Bi. Alina Mungiu (wakwanzakijibu maswali wakati wa kikao cha Asasi za Kiria katika mkutano wa Nne wa Mpango wa uendeshaji wa serikali kwa uwazi Jijini Paris Nchini Ufaransa ambapo alieleza jinsi uwepo za sheria za habari na sheria za haki ya kupata taarifa zinavyoweza kusaidia katika mapambano dhidi ya rushwa.
Rais wa Ufaransa Bw. François Hollande akihubia washiriki katika ufunguzi wa mkuuto wa 4 wa mpango wa Uendeshaji wa Shughuli za Serikali kwa uwazi(OGP) katika ukumbi wa Salle Pleyel, ambapo alisitiza umuhimu wa wananchi kushiriki katika shughuli za maendeleo na kuwashiriki kuja na matokeo ya hatua zilizochukuliwa katika kushirikisha wananchi kwenye masuala ya maendeleo.

Mkurugenzi Mtendaji wa Taasisi ya Twaweza Bw. Aidan Eyakuze (KULIA) akishiriki katika majadiliano wakati wa ufunguzi wa mkuuto wa 4 wa mpango wa Uendeshaji wa Shughuli za Serikali kwa uwazi(OGP) katika ukumbi wa Salle Pleyel, ambapo walijadili masuala mbalimbali ya Serikali kwa uwazi nakueleza mtazamo wake juu muelekeo wa mpango wa Uendeshaji wa Shughuli za Serikali kwa uwazi(OGP).
Kigoma has done Tanzania proud in the heart of Europe.
By Deus Kibamba; 14 Disemba 2016

I travelled last week to participate in the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Global Summit in Paris. I travelled to Europe during the season of the year when it is not as hot and humid (it never is) as Dar es Salaam and not yet freezing, which is what happens from late December through January. Fortunately, France was also calm and peaceful, unlike around this time last year when terrorists killed dozens of people in the multi-racial and culturally diverse city. Having visited France a number of times when I lived in the UK and Holland during my postgraduate studies, I knew my way around Paris and its environs – from Gare du Nord to Lebanese restaurants and comfortable metro trains and buses.

However, this time around I was on gratuity transportation in a campaign to reduce the alarmingly high pollution levels in Europe. It was all free of charge whether I used the subway from Charles de Gaulle Airport to La Chapelle or a metro bus to Salle Pleyel, Hotel Collectionneur, Senat, Assemblee nationale or Palais d’lena, the conference venue. I would hear polite ticket providers say, “C’est gratuity,” meaning “it’s free”. “What a great week!” I kept saying to myself.

At the official opening, President Francois Hollande graced the colorful event that was jointly organized by civil society and the government. Alongside the French Head of State, a whole array of heavyweights attended the debut of the high-level event.

Also in attendance were the presidents of Georgia, Estonia, Paraguay, Uruguay and Honduras as were the prime ministers of Cape Verde, Luxembourg and the Ivory Coast.
Other dignitaries were France’s foreign minister, Germany’s interior minister, Pakistan’s minister of finance, Jamaica’s state minister in the treasury as well as the Comoros’ minister for civil service and modernization, all under one roof.

As for political and citizenry representation, I was there from Tanzania alongside Twaweza CEO Aidan Eyakuze, who also spoke at a roundtable during the opening evening. Similarly, a special team representing Kigoma Municipal Council was there in a special way. The Kigoma mayor and some council officials flew Tanzania’s flag high when the council was mentioned as a sub-national authority with an exemplary record in OGP implementation.
Kigoma was the only delegation from East Africa that was recognized, leaving powerful teams from Kenya and Uganda out in the cold.

Kigoma saved the face of Tanzania, who’s Head of State was invited to the global gathering in Paris. Instead, Tanzania was represented by the newly appointed permanent representative to Unesco and France, Prof Elizabeth Kiondo. I was truly impressed by Prof Kiondo’s presence and active participation in sessions that was in line with President John Magufuli’s assertion that Tanzania’s foreign missions must be more active in representing the country in international events lest they render themselves irrelevant.

As for Kigoma’s recognition, the nation needs to invest more in the municipality’s OGP involvement, including showcasing what it is doing and its achievements so far at as many national, continental and international events in the future as possible.
The water engineer for the Kigoma municipality told me that there was much the rest of the local government fraternity could learn from the authority in western Tanzania.

Like they did in America and Europe recently, Kigoma should be given the chance and encouragement to showcase its successes at the continental level.

Kigoma has joined a handful of other councils in the UNCDF’s municipal financing reforms and the ICLD-financed International Training Programme (ITP), of which I am a mentor in 2016/17. With committed leadership and political will, it is possible to achieve a lot as Kigoma has shown. Being part of the foreign and international relations academia myself, I was thoroughly satisfied with last week’s developments in Paris.

It was my last trip outside Tanzania in 2016, and I thank everyone who played a role making this a particularly successful year. Lest we forget, humble Kigoma has done the nation proud in the heart of Europe.