

**CULTURAL POLICY  
(POLICY STATEMENTS)**

# THE CULTURAL POLICY POLICY STATEMENTS

## 1. LANGUAGE

### 1.1 The National Language

- 1.1.1 Kiswahili shall be pronounced the National Language and this pronouncement shall be incorporated in the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania.
- 1.1.2 There shall be incentives to encourage individuals and organisations to publish and disseminate Kiswahili publications.
- 1.1.3 The National Kiswahili Council shall be responsible for research into, and the promotion of Kiswahili
- 1.1.4 The National Kiswahili Council and other institutions responsible for the promotion of Kiswahili shall be strengthened and adequately resourced in order to enable them to discharge their functions.
- 1.1.5 Vernacular languages shall continue

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Cultural Policy (**Sera ya Utamaduni**) was inaugurated on the 23rd of August, 1997 in Dodoma. The policy document is in Kiswahili, the national language, to make it accessible to most Tanzanians. However, it is realized that the implementation of the Policy stands to gain from the participation and support of many different parties who may not understand Kiswahili.

In order to link-up with such parties we are publishing translations of the policy statements contained in the Kiswahili publication of the Cultural Policy titled **Sera ya Utamaduni**.

Ministry of Education and Culture  
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to be used as resources for the development of Kiswahili.

## **1.2 Vernacular Languages**

1.2.1 Our people shall continue to use and be proud of their vernacular languages

1.2.2 Communities, private and public organisations shall be encouraged to

research, write, preserve and translate vernacular languages into other languages.

1.2.3 The writing of vernacular language dictionaries and grammar books shall be encouraged.

1.2.4 Public and private organisations shall be encouraged to publish and disseminate vernacular language materials.

## **1.3 Foreign Languages**

1.3.1 English shall be a compulsory subject in pre-primary, primary and secondary education levels and shall be encouraged in higher education.

In addition the teaching of English shall be strengthened.

- 1.3.2 The teaching of other foreign languages such as French, Portuguese and Russian shall be encouraged.

#### **1.4 The Medium of Instruction**

- 1.4.1 A special programme to enable the use of Kiswahili as a medium of instruction in education and training at all levels shall be designed and implemented.
- 1.4.2 Kiswahili shall be a compulsory subject in pre-primary, primary and secondary education and shall be encouraged in higher education. In addition the teaching of Kiswahili shall be strengthened.

## **2. ARTS AND CRAFTS**

- 2.1.1 The National Arts Council shall collaborate with and promote artists and the arts. Furthermore it shall collect and disseminate information about prices and disseminate information about prices and markets of the products of cultural industries to individual artists and organisations. Moreover the Council shall encourage artists to participate in different festivals and exhibitions.
- 2.1.2 Pre-primary, primary, secondary education and teacher's college curricula shall include art subjects, eg. music, fine art, handicrafts and theater arts. Furthermore these subjects shall be examinable in continuous assessment and final examinations of these levels of education.
- 2.1.3 Artists shall be encouraged to form associations for the purpose of promoting and safeguarding their interests.

- 2.1.4 Government shall establish a mechanism for identifying and honouring renown national artists.
- 2.1.5 Artists shall be required to advocate the need for protecting the environment.
- 2.1.6 Artists shall be required to mobilise the public to preserve and safeguard the environment.
- 2.1.7 Cultural industries shall be identified and encouraged to contribute towards national economic development.
- 2.1.8 Institutions responsible for the marketing of Tanzanian products shall be encouraged to recognise and advertise Tanzanian artistic and music products.
- 2.1.9 Government shall ensure that a national ultra modern art gallery is constructed. The public shall be sensitised to set aside places for exhibitions.
- 2.1.10 Government shall continue to set aside and protect places earmarked for

handicrafts, art exhibitions and music performances both in rural and urban areas.

- 2.1.11 There shall be incentives to individuals and various organisations to establish and manage exhibition halls.



### **3. CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT**

#### **3.1 Civic Responsibilities**

- 3.1.1 The protection and promotion of our cultural heritage is a civic responsibility and shall be supervised by Government.
- 3.1.2 Members of the public, plus private and public organisations shall be sensitised to cultural heritage. The close links between culture, natural resources, the environment and development programmes shall be emphasized.
- 3.1.3 Cultural heritage sites shall be used as educational resources and tourist attractions.
- 3.1.4 In providing education and training all curricula shall emphasize the use of cultural heritage sites, museums, archives, libraries, natural physical formations and vegetation.
- 3.1.5 Mechanisms shall be established to enable the nation to identify, own and preserve national treasures eg. art objects, natural resources, minerals, as well as archaeological,

Palaentological and botanical remains.

- 3.1.6 Cultural heritage sites shall be identified delineated and developed including the establishment of site museums.
- 3.1.7 Government shall ensure that private and public offices recognise the value of records and archival material in their possession and preserve them as our nation's history and culture bearers.
- 3.1.8 Records management shall be taught to all administrators, new employees and in all office Management Training institutions.
- 3.1.9 All leaders at place of work shall be responsible for the management of records created in the day to day discharge of their responsibilities.
- 3.1.10 Government shall encourage regions, districts, villages, private and public institutions to establish and manage museums, libraries and archival centers.
- 3.1.11 All man-made objects shall become

national monuments on attaining the age of one hundred years.

### **3.2 Cultural Resource Assessment**

3.2.1 All land development shall be preceded by Cultural Resource Impact Studies. The costs for undertaking these studies shall be incorporated in the budgets of the respective development projects.

### **3.3 Aquatic Cultural Resources**

3.3.1 Underwater Cultural resources such as shipwrecks shall be identified, documented and legally protected.

### **3.4 Regional and District Books**

3.4.1 The practice of Administrative officers writing and keeping Regional and District Books for the purpose of portraying the characteristics of the communities of the respective regions and districts shall be revived.

### **3.5 Cultural and Environmental Conservation**

3.5.1 Traditional knowledge, skills and

technology which are environmentally friendly shall be identified and their use encouraged.

- 3.5.2 Research on traditions and customs which are supportive of environmental conservation shall be encouraged with a view to identifying and popularizing their use.
- 3.5.3 Research of traditions and customs which lead to environmental destruction shall be encouraged with a view to identifying and discarding them.
- 3.5.4 Various art forms, shall be used to encourage the use of existing environmentally friendly traditions and customs and in disseminating the research results.

#### 4. RECREATION

- 4.1.1 The press i.e., radio, television and newspapers shall encourage the observance of our values, traditions, customs and culture.
- 4.1.2 Radio and television programmes and times when such programmes are aired shall take cognizance of national values, customs and traditions. In addition, such stations shall be encouraged to give more air-time to Tanzanian music and arts.
- 4.1.3 Open spaces and recreation grounds for children and elderly persons shall be set aside and protected.
- 4.1.4 Individuals, the public and various organisations shall be encouraged to establish and manage recreation facilities.
- 4.1.5 There shall be incentives to local producers of recreation equipment and materials so that such equipment becomes easily available and at affordable costs.
- 4.1.6 Government shall ensure that available

recreational activities do not distort our national values and ethics.

- 4.1.7 It shall be ensured that research into traditional recreational activities is undertaken and the findings disseminated in order to facilitate the teaching of these activities.
- 4.1.8 Sportsmen and sportswomen as well as artists shall be sensitised to know their rights and obligations.
- 4.1.9 Community Centers all over the country shall be used for community development and recreational activities. Where such centers do not exist, their establishment shall be encouraged.
- 4.1.10 Employers, including Government institutions and individuals, shall recognise the importance and relevance of recreation at work places in improving productivity and fostering the health of their employees.
- 4.1.11 Non-Competitive sports and non-competitive artistic activities shall be encouraged and promoted so that they

become important aspects of recreation.

- 4.1.12 The public shall be sensitised to realise that sports are important in building a healthy body and mind, and fostering discipline, cooperation and international relations.
- 4.1.13 Land-use and settlement planning shall take into consideration the need to set aside and maintain recreational areas.
- 4.1.14 There shall be incentives to individuals and organizations to establish factories for local production of various recreational equipment and materials.

## **5. CULTURE AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

- 5.1.1 Every citizen must recognise that participation in one's culture is a basic right.
- 5.1.2 Special programmes shall be established to enable women to participate fully in cultural activities.
- 5.1.3 The public shall be sensitised to participate fully in various cultural activities including recreation and sports.
- 5.1.4 It shall be ensured that all cultural institutions conduct their affairs in a democratic and transparent way, and according to the laws, with a view to encouraging wider community participation.
- 5.1.5 The public shall be mobilised to form associations for the different aspects of culture.
- 5.1.6 Sports-for-all programmes and festivals shall be encouraged and promoted.



- 5.1.7 The public, private and public companies and corporations shall be required to join hands in making sure that there are places, equipment, materials and conducive environment to allow the public full participation in cultural activities.
- 5.1.8 Special mechanisms and programmes shall be established to enable elderly persons and the disabled to participate fully in various cultural activities.
- 5.1.9 The public shall remain free to earn a living from cultural activities in accordance with the law.

## **6. EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

### **6.1 Bringing up Children**

- 6.1.1 The family shall be respected as a basic and important institution in our social organisation and shall be the basic for fostering ethics, education, training and culture.
- 6.1.2 The role of religious institutions in fostering value, education, training and culture shall be recognised.
- 6.1.3 Good customs and traditions shall be identified, enhanced and utilised in moulding a peaceful, respectable and harmonious nation.
- 6.1.4 All programmes relating to child care, education and training shall recognise the important role played by women in the promotion of better upbringing of children as well as inculcating culture.
- 6.1.5 Research on child up-bringing, customs, traditions and the environment shall be encouraged and the results of such research shall be used in the betterment of education and training.

- 6.1.6 A system of documenting, preserving and publishing cultural statistics and information shall be established.
- 6.1.7 Parents and the society at large shall be encouraged to respect values and good traditions and customs of child up-bringing.
- 6.1.8 Government and the people shall ensure that the rights of the child are not violated.
- 6.1.9 Government shall ensure that children of school-going age go to school and that school curricula incorporate Tanzanian values including respect for human dignity, gender equity, care for property as well as respect for good traditions and customs.
- 6.1.10 Educational and training institutions shall recognise and utilise good customs and traditions in preparing youth for responsible parenthood.
- 6.1.11 Religious instruction shall be part and parcel of child up-bringing so as to emphasize moral values, respect for work, human dignity and the spirit of tolerance.

- 6.1.12 Mechanisms shall be put in place to enable street children to obtain better upbringing, education and skills for respectable living.
- 6.1.13 The public shall be sensitised to realise that patriotism, respect for work, cleanliness, and the protection of the environment and natural resources are part and parcel of our culture.

## **6.2. Education and Training**

- 6.2.1 Government shall encourage the establishment of educational and training institutions for the teaching of different cultural professions.
- 6.2.2 Traditional technology and apprenticeship shall be recognised and promoted to become part of vocational education and training.
- 6.2.3 Government shall encourage the teaching of museology, archaeology, archival and library studies in institutions of higher education and training.
- 6.2.4 Government shall strengthen colleges

of art, sports, library and archival studies, and shall establish a college for architectural conservation.

- 6.2.5 Curricula for primary, secondary and teacher education shall incorporate the teaching of art subject such as music, fine art, sculpture and the performing arts. Furthermore, these subjects shall be examinable in the final examinations of these levels of education.
- 6.2.6 All forms of education shall recognise and encourage the use of museums, sites, monuments, libraries and archives as teaching and training resources.
- 6.2.7 Reading, writing and counting skills shall be recognised as being part our culture and shall be promoted
- 6.2.8 Individuals as well as various organizations shall be allowed to establish, own and manage institutions for education and training in the fields of culture. Rules and regulations governing the establishment and running of these institutions shall be instituted.

- 6.2.9 Functionaries of the Cultural Sector shall be required to pursue further education and training in their respective specializations in order to enhance productivity and efficiency.
- 6.2.10 The public shall be sensitised to set own goals in life, accept competition, adopt modern technology in production, assess productivity, and keep records of daily activities.

## **7. THE MANAGEMENT AND FINANCING OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

### **7.1 Management**

- 7.1.1 The Cultural Sector shall continue to be part of the Government Structure
- 7.1.2 Government shall have a Cultural Policy and shall supervise its implementation. In addition, Government shall review all culture related legislation.
- 7.1.3 Institutions responsible for culture shall be strengthened by providing them with adequate facilities as well as appropriately qualified personnel.
- 7.1.4 There shall be officers responsible for the Cultural Sector at regional and district levels. These officers shall be assisted by specialists in the fields of Sports, Arts, Languages, Archives and Antiquities.
- 7.1.5 Principal cultural managers at national, regional and district levels shall have a University degree, professional

competence in any field related to culture, training in management and administration, and working experience.

- 7.1.6 Principal cultural managers at national, regional and district levels shall be responsible for co-ordinating and supervising the implementation of the Cultural Policy and other activities related to culture in their areas of jurisdiction.
- 7.1.7 Heads of colleges and institutions providing education and training in the fields of culture shall be required to have at least a Masters degree in one of the disciplines related to culture.
- 7.1.8 Principal cultural managers at national, regional, district and heads of education and training institutions shall get training in management and administration in order to enable them to discharge their duties efficiently.
- 7.1.9 The Ministry responsible for Culture shall establish a system of registration and regulation of training in those skills



which may be misused to threaten people's lives and property such as wrestling, magic/Kung Fu, boxing and other martial arts.

- 7.1.10 Government shall establish a mechanism for the registration of cultural education and training institutions and professionals in the different cultural fields with a view to avoiding a decline in professional standards as well as ensuring that the rules and regulations are not breached.
- 7.1.11 The National Museums of Tanzania, the National Arts Council of Tanzania, the National Sports Council, the National Kiswahili Council of Tanzania and the Film Censorship Board shall provide advice on the establishment and management of similar institutions at regional, district and village levels.
- 7.1.12 Existing national laws shall be translated and published in Kiswahili so as to enable the majority of the people to read and understand them.

7.1.13 Stiffer penalties shall be imposed on all those found guilty of violating laws and regulations protecting our national values and ethics.

## **7.2 National Values and Identity**

7.2.1 Symbols of national identity such as Mount Kilimanjaro, the Giraffe, the National Flag, the National Anthem, the Uhuru Torch, the Coat of Arms, etc., shall be given legal recognition so that the people can understand, respect and protect them in a fitting manner.

7.2.2 The basic principles of the Constitution shall be taught to all students at primary and secondary school levels along with civic responsibilities.

7.2.3 The National Anthem shall be taught to all pupils starting from pre-primary school level.

7.2.4 The National Anthem shall be sung daily in pre-primary, primary and secondary schools before classes start.

- 7.2.5 All people shall be required to stand-up and sing the National Anthem before the commencement of national and international arts and sports events.
- 7.2.6 Hoisting of tattered or faded National Flag shall be prohibited. Government shall institute regulations and make them public as to when and where the national flag may be hoisted or used.
- 7.2.7 The Uhuru Torch shall continue to be raced throughout the country and Government shall ensure that it is respected.
- 7.2.8 There shall be public participation in the selection of area, district, regional, and national names and symbols. Physical features and indigenous flora and fauna shall be considered when designing or selecting new symbols. The existing symbols shall be publicised to enable the public to know them and give them due respect.
- 7.2.9 Special songs shall be composed and taught to pupils and the public in

general so that they become part of national identity.

- 7.2.10 There shall be designed special costumes that shall become part of our national identity.

### **7.3 Copyright**

- 7.3.1 Government shall establish an institution to oversee copyright matters.
- 7.3.2 Tanzania shall ratify and join copyright conventions and organizations, respectively, such as the Berne Convention and the Universal Copyright Convention.
- 7.3.3 The operationalisation and review of existing Copyright-related laws shall be expedited in order to update them and accommodate changes in technology.

### **7.4 Culture and Social Development**

- 7.4.1 The people shall be mobilised to realise their prime obligations to protect and conserve cultural heritage and the environment in

their respective towns, villages and localities.

- 7.4.2 The people shall be sensitised to identify and honour people with special talents in the various fields of culture.
- 7.4.3 People with special talents in various fields of culture shall be encouraged to recognise themselves as such, become self-confident, use their talents to earn a living and improve their standard of life as well as educate the public and enhance national values.
- 7.4.4 People with special skills which may endanger public safety and property shall be identified and be required to abide by rules and regulations in order to prevent the misuse of their skills.
- 7.4.5 People with special skills and talents shall be encouraged to pass on their skills to others.
- 7.4.6 The Education and Culture Committees of the Local Governments shall be mobilised to co-ordinate and enhance cultural activities by, say,

delineation and protection of areas set aside for recreation, sports, cultural heritage and the establishment and management of museums and community centers.

## **7.5 Financing Cultural Activities**

- 7.5.1 Government shall mobilise and involve individuals, various organizations and the public at large to contribute towards the financing of cultural activities.
- 7.5.2 Various cultural groups, clubs and councils shall be encouraged to become self financing and self-reliant.
- 7.5.3 Institutes and colleges providing education and training in cultural fields shall charge fees. These fees shall be used to meet the operational costs of the respective institutions and colleges.
- 7.5.4 Cultural institutions shall charge fees for services rendered. These funds shall be used to promote specific areas of competence.

- 7.5.5 Government shall institute entertainment tax to be used in financing cultural development.
- 7.5.6 Cultural education and training institutions shall be encouraged to have income-generating activities.
- 7.5.7 Services and goods that shall be rendered and produced by cultural institutions shall be sold at market prices.
- 7.5.8 Individuals and various organization shall be encouraged to invest in the cultural sector.