



03

June 2022

*"The child deserves a birth certificate give him/her right"*

## THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF UNDER FIVE AGED BIRTH REGISTRATION INITIATIVE IN TABORA REGION



**The** Community in Tabora Region have been urged to register their children so that they can get birth certificates for free of charge through the Registration and Certification Initiative as a basic right to recognition.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Ms. Mary Makondo made the remarks at the launch of the Under-Five Birth Registration and Certification Initiative in Tabora Region on 03 June, 2022.

She said that, it was important for leaders at all level to closely monitor the implementation of the

program to ensure that the registered children are those who fulfill the basic qualifications including the birth should be reported in Tanzania Main land and their parents are well vetted with the utmost care.

"Tabora Region among the regions with the highest interaction with the citizens of neighboring countries so it is important that, all parents should properly identified and as Government we order the security bodies and other recognition authorities to be fully involved in this exercise as well as National Identity Cards should be used in cognition". said Ms. Makondo.

She added that since the first launch of the program on June, 2015 the number of under five aged children registered has increased from 13% in 2012 census figures to 65% in 2021 figures, she also commended RITA and all stakeholders who made that possible.

This program is being implemented in 22 Regions of Mainland Tanzania and more than 7,549,878 children have been registered and obtained free birth certificates and the launch of Tabora Region will increase the number of regions implementing the program to 23 regions.



The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Constitution and Legal affairs Ms. Mary Makondo (fourth from right) following her right is Administrator General Ms. Angela Anatory put their hands as a sign of cooperation to launch the Under-Five birth Registration Initiative, the others are Tabora Regional Administrative Secretary Msalika Makungu (fourth from left), Representative of the Parliamentary Committee on Constitution and Legal affairs, religious leaders, Representative from United Nations Children's Fund - UNICEF Ms. Shalini Bahuguna (second from right), Representative from the Government of Canada Ms. Helen Fytche (third right) representative from TIGO Communications Company Mr. Innocent Rwetabura (first right).

"The government recognizes the significant contribution of development partners in the implementation of this program. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the United Nations Children's Fund - UNICEF, the Government of Canada and the TIGO Communications Company and other stakeholders for continuing to be a part of the implementation of this important program for the development of our country". said Ms. Makondo.

Tabora Regional Commissioner Hon. Ambassador Dr. Batilda Buriani represented by the Regional Administrative Secretary, Mr. Msalika Makungu said that Tabora Region has 7 districts and 8 councils that will implement the Program using Health facilities and Ward Executive Offices totaling 542 and expecting to enroll more than 549,167 under five aged children.

He added that according to the 2012 Census Statistics only 9% of children in Tabora Region are registered and obtain birth certificates, this number clearly indicates that many children are not registered and made us snags to get appropriate statistics in order to plan for health services and education programs.



The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs  
Ms. Mary Makondo

"All the basic preparations are accomplished and I believe all the facilities have already started providing services. As part of the preparation, we held a seminar for all leaders from the regional, district and council level where RITA provided us with thorough training. "We have fully understood and I hope will fully manage and assure you that the targets will be met in a right time." added Dr Batilda Buriani.

The Administrator General Ms. Angela Anatory said the initiative has moved registration services closer to the residential areas where the services are available for free at Maternal and Child Health facilities and Ward Executive Offices.

Ms. Anatory added that the program has been able to improve the registration system, sending and storing registered information using a mobile devices (smart phones) which installed a special birth registration application that enables to transfer information directly to the RITA Headquarters database, unlike in the past the registered documents were transported using vehicles to Dar es Salaam from each District across Mainland Tanzania.

"Every Health facility and ward office staff have been provided with mobile phones and other equipment so I believe from now to see the number of registered children is increasing because the information will be sent directly to RITA database and able to view for monitoring, we will see who is registering and who is not." Said Ms. Anatory.

