

**TANZANIA GENDER NETWORKING PROGRAMME  
(TGNP)**

**CLOSING SPEECH FOR THE TRAINING OF  
TRAINERS COURSE ON GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT  
(TOT) HELD AT THE TGNP GENDER RESOURCE  
CENTRE FROM 8<sup>TH</sup> TO 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2006**

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The Course organizer;

**(Tanzania Gender Networking Programme)**

- Course participants;
- Invited Guests;
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

**Good afternoon.**

I am greatly honored to be amidst you this afternoon to close this auspicious Training occasion that has drawn Gender facilitators and trainers from various Institutions and Organizations.

**Distinguished participants**

As citizens living in a world where development challenges are becoming increasingly intense and evident, many would agree that the need for conceptual clarity and analysis of the underlying factors of this situation has never been so apparent. As a country, Tanzania is experiencing an era of globalization, with its socio- economic and political context that has a lot of pervasive effects on gender inequalities. These include: impoverishment, deteriorating social provisioning, environmental degradation, limited democratic participation and gross human rights abuse at various levels of society especially those of women, children and poor people (refer to news in radios, TVs, newspaper on the gender based violence and killings of innocent women and children). While this situation calls for scaling up efforts to intergrate Human Rights and Gender perspectiveness in development policies, programmes and processes, it highlights on the urgent need for facilitators, trainers and animators to take up that role at all levels.

I therefore appreciate the fact that, TGNP has designed this TOT course on Gender and Development with the purpose of equipping trainers from various levels with basic conceptual clarity on issues related to gender and development. The course has also equipped trainers with facilitation skills and methodologies for organizing transformation at all levels. It is through such training and others that gender trainings are geared towards strengthening capacities of the Civil Societies organisations and other development partners

that can provide conceptual and methodological clarity within the larger social movement for social transformation in order to challenge gender and other social hierarchies that led to, and maintains inequalities and women's subordination at different levels.

Dear participants and invited guests, I have been informed that, this TOT on Gender and Development, unlike other conventional Trainings of Trainers (TOT), is geared towards transforming the learning process and interrogating power structures that locate women in lower positions. I believe the course has deconstructed knowledge through the use of animation and gender participatory methodologies.

I hope with the use of such methodologies you are going to be change agents and activists in your own contexts including Civil Society Organisations, Media, Research and Higher learning Institutions and the government.

As we end today, I trust that, TOT Course in Gender and Development participants are going out with:

- Strengthened skills and capacities on gender animation philosophy; and participatory facilitation methods and techniques;
- Conceptual clarity and articulation of underlying factors for inequalities including retrogressive laws, policies, development processes and culture
- Have appreciated the need to become transformed gender facilitators who are able to lead and facilitate different processes (including training) that challenge oppressive social structures and gender inequalities;
- Developed forward looking strategies networked and shared information;

Dear participants and invited guests, we understand that policy changes and policy implementation results from sensitized communities, focused leadership and strong strategies. But let me say with utmost conviction that, the foundation of this lies in the preparedness, willingness and commitment of transformed leaders and facilitators, a role which you have been playing and facilitating various development processes in your own settings.

I believe you have taken this opportunity to share your own experiences, learnt and motivated to take a leading role, facilitating actions directed at demystifying and eventually dismantling patriarchy and other social structures and ideologies that foster oppressive and discriminatory power relations.

Once again, I thank TGNP for organizing this strategic training and to wish you all the best in your future. With these remarks, I declare this Training of Trainers course on Gender and Development **closed**.

**Thank you for your attention and Good luck.**