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**Mr. Juwang Zhu**  
**Director, Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government, UN DESA**

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**Video Message**

**Tanzania Workshop**

**“Capacity Development and Consultation Workshop on  
Public Service Management and Data Governance Framework”**

21-22 August, 2024  
Dodoma, Tanzania

*His Excellency George Simbachawene, Minister for the President’s Office, Public  
Service Management and Good Governance,*

*Mr. Benedict Ndomba, Director-General of the e-Government Authority,*

*Mr. Emmanuel Mkilia, Director General of the Personal Data Protection  
Commission,*

*Distinguished Participants,*

On behalf of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, I  
welcome all of you to join this Capacity Development and Consultation Workshop on  
National Data Governance Framework.

We are honoured to co-organize this important Workshop in collaboration with the Government of Tanzania, through the President's Office, Public Service Management and Good Governance, the e-Government Authority.

*[Tanzania's e-government development and today's context of data governance]*

Data from the UN E-Government Survey demonstrates that significant improvements have been made by Tanzania in its digital development.

Tanzania has improved its E-Government Development Index from 0.28 to 0.42 in 2022, positioning itself above the regional average.

Despite being categorized as a least developed country, Tanzania is making strides in advancing digital government.

It has introduced new institutions and legal frameworks, including the e-Government Authority and the e-Government Act, both established in 2019.

And Tanzania is on its way to implementing a blueprint – the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 – that will also steer the digital transformation landscape.

I wish to acknowledge the overall good governance and hard work it takes to steer into this strategic development – it is a credit to you all.

Despite all this good news, of course, challenges remain, including limited awareness of people's rights and privacy risks regarding data governance, persistent digital divides, and a need for an enhanced whole-of-government coordination.

But these issues are also faced even by the most developed and affluent countries.

This is where thoughtful incorporation of digital development into public governance can be such an enabling and formidable force.

*Distinguished Participants,*

Data is a critical resource for Governments, and its effective governance is essential.

Data is integral to every sector and function of government. Many institutions would find it difficult, if not impossible, to function effectively without data.

As we advance into the era of artificial intelligence, the significance of data becomes even more pronounced.

High-quality, well-governed data forms the cornerstone upon which AI systems are constructed, to make better predictions and generate insights that can drive innovation and efficacy in the public sector.

It is in this context that UN DESA is implementing a capacity development project on “Developing institutional capacities for digital data management and cooperation to advance progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals”.

Funded by the UN Peace and Development Fund, this Project aims to support countries in developing national data governance framework for ensuring data quality, access and usage, and for enhancing data security and personal data privacy, through consultation and collaboration.

With your indulgence, we hope to achieve these two objectives:

- First is to build and develop institutional and individual capacities, in understanding and developing digital data policies and strategies, and in supporting the national digital transformation in Tanzania.
- Second, the Workshop will also be a consultation platform to explore and advance a national data management and governance framework in Tanzania.

We are grateful for the participation of senior officials and experts, from among government and non-government stakeholders, taking precious time out of your busy schedule to join us here.

Together, let us have an honest, candid and action-oriented discussion about the current challenges and opportunities to advance digital data governance – to tap on the vast potential of data for sustainable development in Tanzania.

I wish all an engaging and fruitful workshop.

Thank you.

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