



**A PUBLIC STATEMENT TO THRDC'S MEMBERS, STAKEHOLDERS OF THE
COALITION, DONORS AND THE PUBLIC AT LARGE ABOUT UNFREEZING OF
THRDC BANK ACCOUNTS**

The Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), would like to inform its members, civil society, development partners, donors, all its stakeholders and the public in general that the THRDC bank accounts, which had been frozen for almost eight (8) months have been unfrozen.

The decision to unfreeze the said bank accounts has been communicated to the bank by the government authorities which earlier instructed that the accounts in question be frozen to pave way for investigation into alleged "suspicious activities". They have now instructed the bank to unfreeze the organisation's accounts. The freezing of these accounts since August 2020 to date until has dealt a major blow to the Coalition, which was forced to suspend most of its human rights defenders-related projects as stipulated in its 2020 annual strategic plans.

The THRDC Board of Directors would like to express its gratitude to everyone, donors, various institutions and Coalition members, who in one way or another assisted in enabling the Coalition to continue with the implementation of its core mandate and also in ensuring that the prevailing challenges were being resolved. Furthermore, the Board would like to thank various leaders and government authorities, the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance for the manner in which they accorded due cooperation to the Coalition in seeking solutions to the problem-in-question.

The Board would like to thank THRDC's Secretariat for their unwavering steadfastness to carry on with their duties and great perseverance they demonstrated throughout these difficult months, when the Coalition was unable to access its financial resources. The Board, would also like to express its appreciation THRDC's donors for their continued patience and understanding and for rendering immense assistance to the Coalition throughout these turbulent times.

The Board would like to extend sincere gratitude to Her Excellency President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her bold and progressive leadership she has shown so far in respecting the rule of law, human rights and good governance.

The Coalition pledges to continue working in collaboration with its members, the Office of Registrar of NGOs, all progressive stakeholders, various government leaders, government authorities, civil society organizations, the Judiciary, the Commission of Human Rights and Good Governance, development partners, legal experts, the media and academic institutions to ensure that the work of defending human rights and human rights defenders is conducted efficiently and professionally in the country.

The Coalition will without fear, continue to implement its duties in accordance with the laws, regulations and guidelines published by the government NGO coordinating authorities, including the Office of the Registrar of NGOs in order to continue improving, maintaining and strengthening existing cooperation between THRDC / Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) and the government.

Therefore, with this statement the Coalition officially declares that from now it will continue with all its duties in accordance with its 2021 annual strategic plans.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Vicky Ntetema

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Dar es Salaam,**