# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviations</th>
<th>(iii)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>(iv)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0. Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Children’s Situational Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Right to survival</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Right to development</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Right to protection</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Right to participation</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Non discrimination</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Policy’s Importance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Policy’s rationale</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Policy’s direction</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.0. Vision, Mission, Goals and Objectives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Vision</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Mission</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Objectives</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Goals</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Policy Issue and Statement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Policy Issues pertaining to the right to live</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Policy Issues pertaining to the right to develop</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Policy Issues pertaining to the right for protection</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Policy Issues pertaining to the right for participation</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Policy Issues pertaining to the right against discrimination</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Cross cutting Issues</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.0. Institutional and Legal Organization Structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Institutional organization</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Legal organization</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.0. The Stakeholders’ Responsibilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ The Central Government</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ The Local Governments</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ The family and the society</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8.0. Policy Coordination

- Policy coordination ................................................................. 30
- Conclusion ............................................................................... 30
ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASDP</td>
<td>Agriculture Sector Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRC</td>
<td>Conventions on the Rights of a Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSPD</td>
<td>Child Survival, Protection and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHS</td>
<td>Demographic Health Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT/HB</td>
<td>Diphtheria Pertusis Tetanus/Hepatitis B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HESAWA</td>
<td>Health through Sanitation and Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mb (MP)</td>
<td>Member of the Parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDGs</td>
<td>Millennium Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMEM (PEDP)</td>
<td>Primary Education Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MES (SEDP)</td>
<td>Secondary Education Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMKWA (AE-NFE)</td>
<td>Adult Education and Non Formal Education Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSGRP</td>
<td>National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TASAF</td>
<td>Tanzania Social Action Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMC</td>
<td>Tanzania Movement for, and with, Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children’s Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PREFACE

Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children, was established in 1990, with the mandate to deal with community development, gender and children’s issues in the country. One of the Ministry’s activities was to formulate the 1996 Child Development Policy as a major step towards fulfilling children’s rights. During eleven (11) years of implementation of the Child Development Policy, some achievements have been recorded. Examples of such achievements are:-

- Raised awareness on the provision of immunization as regards to polio, missle and DPT/HP.
- Raised awareness on the improving education in the community through Primary Education Development Program (PEDP) and Secondary School Development Program (SEDP)
- Raised public awareness on the establishment of pre-school and day care centres.
- Government to ratify different conventions and protocols on the rights and welfare of the child, this has built conducive environment for promoting and protecting child rights and welfare
- Establishment of national machinery to enable the participation of children to national development. These are the Tanzania Movement for and with Children (TMC), the National Junior Council (URTJC) and Children’s Council at the Regional and District Level.
- The establishment of the Department of Children Development within the Ministry of Community Development Gender and Children to consider children’s issues more carefully

Despite all these achievement, there have been social economic factors that hindered the realization of children’s rights. These factors called for a review of the Child Development Policy to consider current social economic situation and the realization of the children’s basic rights.

Basically, children are a resource than any other. We entrust them with our ideals and values, they are the ones we hand over our knowledge and expectations. Their activities, plans and curiosity gratify us. Therefore, it is their right to be developed to face these challenges and to be raised in a secure and peaceful environment.

The revised policy will enable everyone to understand their duties and responsibilities more clearly. Hence, these will result in building an enabling socio-economic environment, which will assist in bringing about real development that enables families to meet sufficiently the basic needs of children.

The review of this Policy entailed pulling together ideas through workshops, seminars and meetings involving people from ward to national levels. Experts and leaders from different levels, NGOs and some development partners were also involved. I take this opportunity to thank various ministries of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania; Ministry of Labour, Employment, Youth, Women and Children’s Development of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar for exchange of ideas; NGOs, FBOs and CSOs; and international organisations such as UNICEF and the Swedish Embassy, who contributed immensely in expertise and financially. All these stakeholders collaborated with us to complete this work.

It is my hope that this Policy will help in making children’s’ lives better and ensure that they get their rights.

Margret Simwanza Sitta (MP)
MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, GENDER AND CHILDREN
CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1. This is a second version of the 1996 Child Development Policy formulated after a review of the Policy. The Government endorsed the 1996 Child Development Policy with the aim of providing a guide to the fulfilment of children’s rights, welfare and development in Tanzania. Child development means physical, mental and spiritual growth. So as to grow, a child needs to be supported and cares for in accordance with societal norms and values. The 1996 Policy was compiled in accordance to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

2. There are various definitions of the word “child” depending on the context – legal, social and administrative. However, according to this Policy, a child is any person below 18 years of age. This is in accordance with the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1977 and the various international conventions on the rights of the child.

3. Children are the social and national foundation who will grow up to be good leaders, producers, who will bring about economic growth and carry on our people’s morals and values. Moreover, children are the source of love and harmony in families and the society a whole. Hence, they deserve to be protected and developed through special programs and to participate in national development, without discrimination so that they can grow well to form a strong nation. Such programs include vaccination to children below the age of five years, early childhood education, primary and secondary education. Although good nutrition is essential to all human being, but it is more important children to enable their mental and physical development.

4. New developments in major national socio-economic policies in our country since soon after beginning implementation of the 1996 Child Development Policy, has resulted in revising the policy. Some of such developments include the increase of HIV and AIDS infection and its effect, globalization, free trade system and community moral. These changes give new challenges ensuring the basic rights of the child.

5. Other reasons which necessitated in reviewing the Policy were the inclusion of all five pillars of child rights as against the three pillars that were indicated in the first edition of Child Development Policy of 1996. These rights include; rights to survival, development, protection, participation and non-discrimination.

6. The Child Development Policy was prepared in accordance to children’s goals which were adopted by the world summit involved national leaders and government. The goals were initiated so as to provide direction and guidance on the basic rights of the child as stipulated by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989.

7. Tanzania is among nations that ratified the UNCRC. It has also ratified the Declaration of the World Summit for Children 1990, where world leaders and government committed themselves to achieving a set of goals for children. The following are Major Goals for Child Survival, Development and Protection to be met by 2000:
i. Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of infant and under-5 child mortality rate by one third or to 50 and 70 per 1,000 live births respectively,

ii. Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of maternal mortality rate by half;

iii. Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among under-5 children by half;

iv. Universal access to safe drinking water and to sanitary means of excreta disposal;

v. By the year 2000, universal access to basic education and completion of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary school-age children (7 years) and be able to read, write and have access to community environment before reaching the age of 15 years;

vi. Up to 2000 reduction of the adult illiteracy rate by half of the 1990 rates comprised of 7 percent (7%) male adults and 12 percent (12%) female with emphasis on female literacy;

vii. Improved protection of children in especially difficult circumstances.

Despite this, the Millennium Development Goals of 2000 stated that by the year 2015 the following goals will be achieved:

• Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
• Achieve universal primary education
• Promote gender equality and empower women
• Reduce child mortality
• Improve maternal health
• Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
• Ensure environmental sustainability
• Develop a Global Partnership for Development

8. Soon after three years (3) of implementation experience of various children development goals including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2002 the UN conducted General Assembly Special Session on Children that discussed the implementation of MDGs. Tanzania was implementing MDGs through various national strategies and programs such as the Child Survival, Protection and Development Programme, the Primary Education Development Plan (PEDP), Heath, Sanitation and Water Programme (HESAWA), the Agricultural Sectoral Development Programme (ASDP) and Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF). In meantime, these goals are implemented through the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP) popular known as MKUKUTA. Most of those goals, especially for those related to the survival and development rights, are expected to be met by the year 2015.
CHAPTER TWO

THE SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

9. The National Population and Housing Census of 2002 indicated that in 2007 the total population was estimated to be 39,446,061. Among that population 20,192,608 which is 50.6% will be children with an average of 5 children in every family. Among those children 10,136,882 are girls and 10,033,726 are boys. According to the statistics children form more than half of the total population. Nevertheless, statistics shows that 10% of all children are orphans loosing one or both parent.

10. According to Demographic Health Surey DHS 2004/05 61 per cent of children live with both parents, 19 per cent of children reside with only their mother, 5 per cent with only their father, 15 per cent of children do not live with either parent but both their parents are still alive. ‘

11. As the availability and accessibility of Child’s Rights depend to a great extent on the socio-economic status of the parents, in situations where poverty is rampant as it is in Tanzania (in most areas), the ability of the parents to access their children to their rights is very minimal. The extent (of the denial of children’s rights) is even more pronounced to vulnerable children, in particular the orphaned ones, who do not have parents to provide the rights and thus posing unique challenges to the community and the nation as a whole in providing basic rights to such children.

12. The Child’s Rights as pointed out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and in the objectives resulting from the United Nations World summit on children of Heads of States and Heads of Governments of 1990; the implementation involves different sectoral policies and plans. Such plans are in health, education, nutrition, safe water, food security, public security, laws and legal issues, sports and entertainment. Therefore, the situational analysis of the children in the country, according to the policy, has been evaluated through the above plans and is as follows:-

13. The Right to Live
The Right to Live usually commences at the conception. Good progress of the pregnancy depends on a healthy follow up, good nutritional management and the environmental conditions in which the pregnant woman resides. Also, the survival of the after delivery depends on the availability of basic needs, which are adequate and appropriate quality food and nutrition, good quality health services and security from the parents, the community and the Government. The objectives concerned with the right to live include the control of all childhood, immunizable diseases, to eradicate polio disease and malnutrition in particular, under-nutrition. The other objective is to reduce maternal deaths by 50 percent and ensure that all communities have access to safe and clean water.

14. In the implementation of the objectives the Government has invented and implemented different plans including the Child Survival, Protection and Development programme (CSPD). The programme involves vaccination against immunizable childhood diseases, good and proper nutrition and the availability of safe and clean water. Other plans and programme are the ones for the provision of safe and clean water such as the Health through Sanitation
and Water – HESAWA Program and several other rural water plans in Iringa, Mbeya, Ruvuma, Shinyanga, Morogoro, Lindi, Mtwara etc.

15. As a result of such efforts and several others, there has been success in the implementation of the objectives. According to the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), 2004/5, infant deaths have been reduced from 88 in 1996 to 68 for every 1000 live birth. Also, deaths in children under five years of age have been reduced from 137 in 1996 to 112 out of every 1,000 live births. To a large extent, the success is a result of good quality health services and education on proper child care and upbringing. Nonetheless, 90 percent of such deaths are a result of preventable diseases such as Malaria, Pneumonia, Diarrhea, Malnutrition, especially under nutrition, low birth weight associated disorders and HIV / AIDS. Maternal deaths have increased from 529 in 1996 to 578 in the year 2005 for every 100,000 women with live births due to HIV / AIDS, poor nutritional management and lack of adequate and good quality health services.

16. Nevertheless, there is still a significant difference in the quality of services provided in the urban as compared to that in the rural set up. For example, statistics show that it is only 42 percent of the rural population that has access to safe and clean water as compared to 85 percent of urban inhabitants in the same. Also, in the rural set up, the reliable health service post is the dispensary as compared to the urban set up where there are dispensaries and hospitals. In the rural areas, at every division there is a health center, but there is a general lack of transport to enable the transport of pregnant women to health services posts at the appropriate time. Due to this, most rural children are born at home, instead of being born at proper health service posts (a hospital), thus being at more risk of bad obstetric outcomes (including macerated stillbirths, fresh stillbirths, perinatal deaths) as compared to those in the urban set up; and if they are lucky to be alive, they are at more risk of developing malnutrition, in particular, under nutrition. There are also other challenges facing rural women, including pregnant women having a big workload burden, obtaining poor nutritional management, thus failing to produce enough milk to suckle their young ones – failing to satisfy the nutritional needs to their sucklings.

The Right to Develop

17. Childhood development involves the existence of an appropriate level of physical, intellectual, spiritual, moral and social growth as holistic as possible. In order for a child to grow and develop well, s/he needs to be cared for, to be directed and influenced accordingly and be reared in the foundations which conform to the concerned community. To develop a child physically is to have a follow up of the child’s body weight according to the age. This depends on the nutritional status management and good quality health services including being fully vaccinated and the availability of all important nutrients.

18. To develop a child morally is to enable the child to build up a good interpersonal relationship with fellow children and other people living with him / her in the community. This depends upon love and guidance and counseling which a child gets from the parents, guardians, the community and the behaviour characteristics of the community as a whole. Moral development monitoring to a large extent has been left to parents and guardians as the communities have different moral standards. Due to this daunting situation, there is no one uniform behavioral characteristic or directive for child care or upbringing except every parent and guardian has to rear his / her offspring based on the foundations which the community agree upon. Nevertheless, the Tanzanian community expects the Nation’s children to
continue to maintain peace, respect, love, unity, the zeal for self – reliance and valuing work / employment.

19. Tanzania is a country with many tribes with different customs, norms and moral standard. The customs and norms of some of the tribes, discriminate against, humiliate and de-dignify to an extent of even exercising violent behaviour and actions to children, especially girl children. Also, superstitious beliefs, alcohol use and abuse; and substance abuse contribute to the neglect and humiliation of children such as raping them or even killing them.

20. A Child’s good moral standards are also affected by the existence of familial estrangements, use of vile language by parents, marriage breakdown, and lack of privacy in parents, physical fights and some of the children sleeping and spending nights in neighbors’ houses, thus lacking a proper day to day supervision. A hurried and materialistic lifestyle has also led to parents failing to instil good morals to their offspring as they may lack time to be close to their offspring to communicate to them especially verbally. Globalization has caused the sprouting and flourishing of foreign cultures through modern technologies such as the television and the internet. Such gadgets provoke the youth and young people to ape and imitate negative foreign lifestyles which seep into our country without proper control, thus deviating the children from having good moral standards. Such children are the future hope of the nation.

21. Childhood physical development is contributed upon by parents, community and the Government as a whole. Different efforts have been made by the parents, community and the Government in order to ensure the children are developed physically. Such efforts include the existence of health education and good nutritional management to children under five years of age. Such education has contributed in the reduction in stunting of children from 44 percent in 1999 to 38 percent in the year 2004.

22. Basically, intellectual growth in a child is to increase the levels of potential limit, awareness, understanding and comprehension, creativity and curiosity on different issues around the child’s environment as the chronological age increases. This situation also depends upon the health, nutrition, the living conditions, morals, sports equipment, entertainment and the education provided (to the child). One of the indicators for developing the child intellectually is the registration of children in primary schools. Such indicators show that for substantial number of years, there was an increase of 50 percent in school registration for children aged 7 – 13 years. The numbers have risen to 80.7 percent in the year 2002 to 95 percent in the year 2005. To a large extent, such an increase has been a result of the implementation of the Primary Education Development Plan – (EDP). This education is delivered free of charge to all children except that parents contribute to the school uniforms, exercise books, pens and pencils. Nevertheless, in some of the areas, there is still the challenge of low attendance as compared to the registration. For example, from 1997 to 1999 the average number of children who attended and completed standard four were 86 percent while the ones who completed standard seven (completed primary education) were 84 percent as compared to the registered ones in standard one.

23. On average, the passing level in primary schools has been good. From 1997 to year 2006 the passing level was 20 percent while in the year 2003 the passing level had reached 40 percent.
Though there are no statistics to show the comparison of passing levels between the urban and rural areas, the urban environment, taking into account the buildings and venues, teaching and learning equipment and aids, especially extra tuition classes, contribute to more passes in the urban areas as compared to rural areas. In fulfilling the educational objectives, there are still challenges which have to be dealt with. Such challenges include lack of pre – primary educational services and day care centers; an inappropriate ratio of teachers to pupils, that is, 1:50 instead of 1:45; childhood school pregnancies, low levels of parental awareness on the importance of education and the lack of school lunch services. Also the community and Government efforts are directed in developing the children intellectually and academically, while not laying enough emphasis to develop the children’s talents such as those for games and sports, in choirs, and in arts. Such a situation denies children of the opportunity to develop their talents.

24. The Right for Protection

The Right for Protection concerns the prevention of wicked and evil actions which are done to children. Such protection and security is needed in all stages of growth of children, before and after being born. So, a child needs security and protection against heavy duties and occupations, which are incongruent with the age; tyranny over the children’s assets, especially the orphaned ones; to be abandoned, to be neglected; illegitimate / criminal abortions; to be oppressed; not to to be taken into consideration; to be denied of one’s nationality. Further still, a child needs protection against abuse, violent action such as genital mutilation especially to girl children; or being sent into childhood marriages (for both girls and boys); substance abuse and rapes. The research done by the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) in 2005 shows that neglect actions to children lead by 32 percent, followed by gender based abuse being 29 percent, physical abuse 26 percent and 29 percent for harassment and abuse. Other actions include the employment of children in bars, mines, domestic chores and in the commercial sex industry.

25. Research done in the year 2000/2001 revealed that children who are estimated to be around 4.2 million, aged between 5 – 17 years, are involved in agricultural work in plantations, in the mining industry, in prostitution and in domestic chores. A majority of such children migrate from rural areas to urban areas; where they are employed and engage themselves in occupations which have a big workload which exceeds their capacity, for relatively small wages.

26. Tanzania in collaboration with the International Labor Organization (ILO) operates a campaign on educating the community in the war against child labor. Through the Time Bound Programme of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, around 13,246 children, including 9,510 girls and 3,736 boys have been removed from hazardous occupations and have been trained for different vocational skills such as masonry, carpentry, needlework and technical subjects in order to empower them to be self – reliant. Other children have been registered in primary and secondary schools, whereas those aged above 13 years join the Adult Education and Non Formal Education Strategy (AE – NFE).

27. In order to protect children and make sure that they get their basic rights, the Government continues to revise different acts which have a direction which may lead to denying children of their rights; the objective being the amendment of such acts. Such laws include the Law of Marriage Act (1971), The Adoption Act (1955); The Children and Young Persons (1937),

The Right to Participate

28. Participation of a child is a situation which enables a child in the different stages of growth to have an opportunity of participating fully in airing out views and participate as well in the decision of issues which concern his / her development and those which are needed to be implemented within the concerned community. Participation steps commence from when the child is a grown up. The participation and sharing for a child depends on the age and the type of issues the child has to participate in and share. The basis of a child’s right to participate is part of human regulations, in spite of being in the international conventions for a Child’s Rights, the country constitution and in the different rules and regulations.

29. In the monitoring of the implementation of the Child’s Right to participation, The Ministry for Community Development, Gender and Children (MCDGC) in collaboration with the stakeholders dealing with children’s issues have laid down a directive on participatory tactics for children, which have analyzed in depth the concept of children participation in different issues. Also, the Ministry has supervised the institution of children’s organs which are the Tanzania Movement for and with Children (TMC), and the Junior Council of the United Republic of Tanzania so as to help in the implementation of children’s issues countrywide. Also, the games and sports and entertainment issues operated by children, especially in the school and street set ups, create a conducive environment for building up children’s health both physically, intellectually and mentally. Through the Department of Urban Planning, the Government set aside open spaces in some areas so as to enable the children to operate different sports and games; and entertainment.

30. In spite of the participation of children in their development being emphasized in different conventions, regulations and laws, still the children never get the right as appropriately. The community as a whole believes that children lack the ability and awareness to contribute in different decisions in the familial level. Therefore, the children are not fully involved in the participation in different plans and decisions. For example, a child may be forced against his / her wish to pursue vocational skills training. Nevertheless, the biggest challenge in the participation of children is to tally the level of involving a child in participation, the age and the capacity of the concerned child.

31. The lack of priority in the development of different talents, entertainment and sports has affected to an extent, childhood development. In the contemporary world, the developing of a child’s talents, the existence of several, different entertainment and children sports and games are a good way of a child’s welfare and development, which will ensure employment in their lives. In many areas, both rural and urban, no areas have been set aside for children’s games and sports; and entertainment, which cause children to involve themselves in negative escapist behaviors such as substance abuse, alcohol use and abuse etc.

The Right against Discrimination

12
32. Childhood discrimination is divided into different groups. There is gender discrimination where a girl or a boy child is discriminated against by parents, guardians and the community. There is discrimination which results from the child’s lifestyle and physical condition, for example poor or affluent; righteousness, illnesses, disability, being an orphan or vulnerable and the image portrayed to the community.

33. There are efforts done by the Government, Civil Societies and parents in the fight against discrimination. For example, the Plan for Enhancing Education in Tanzania involves all education stakeholders, emphasizes on gender equality and Child’s Rights availability to all children. The plan also encourages and emphasizes on the special needs for the disabled. There is also the Plan for Technical Skills for the Disabled, which was commenced in 1991 in collaboration between the Tanzanian and Swedish Governments which emphasizes on increasing equal opportunities to the disabled.

34. On the other side of the coin, disabled children have low levels opportunities to be registered for schooling as compared to other children. Year 2004 statistical census shows that only 1% of registered children for primary entrance – standard one are disabled. The community’s negative attitude against the disabled contributes to disabled children to be denied of their basic services, in particular education, where some parents do not think they have to invest in such children, thus deciding against sending such children to school.. One of the major challenges existing is the non friendly school environment which does not consider the needs of disabled children, thus causing them to be denied of their educational rights. Such environment includes the absence of friendly pathways in school grounds disabling the disabled children at times to climb storey buildings or the absence of disabled friendly toilets. Also, lack of equipment for self – reliance (of disabled) and not using sign language and Braille to the disabled, causes the children registering for commencement of primary education – standard one to fail to understand their lessons adequately, therefore loosing faith and abscond school.
CHAPTER THREE

THE POLICY’S SIGNIFICANCE

Rationale of the Policy

35. The Child Development Policy gives vision and mission for providing Tanzania Children their rights, welfare and development. The development of child involve their health growth physically, intellectual, ethical and spiritually. The presence of the Child Development Policy, second edition will help to reduce or to eradicate problems which emanate for not fulfilling the essential basic needs. The needs of the children differ according to the stages of growth and development as follows:

I. Pregnancy (inception) to one year

At this stage, precaution should be taken in order to ensure the safety of the mother and the child before and after delivery. Other needs of pregnant mothers are nutrition, health services, preventive vaccination and breastfeeding.

II. From two years to five years

The essential needs includes nutrition, conducive environmental sanitation, care, health survival, pre-education, playing center facilities in order to prepare them grow physically and intellectually.

III. From six to thirteen years

Basic need at this stage includes survival, protection, development, involvement, participation, counselling in order to take precaution on early pregnancies, use of illicit drugs and involvement in worst forms of child labour at tender age.

IV. From fourteen to under eighteen years

In this stage, the needs for the child include survival, protection, education and participation. In addition, they need protection against early marriages and pregnancies, sexual transmitted diseases and HIV AIDS. Also they need to be empowered so as to be self reliant.

The rationale for the Policy to be in place is to provide direction for solving problems of children in need of special needs such as orphans, disabled, street children and others living in hardship conditions.

36. When the Child Development Policy of 1996 was being developed, there was no Child Development Department in the Ministry of Community Development Gender and Children. The Child Development Department was established in 2003 in order to deal with the children issues effectively. The Child Development Policy has a specific essential for facilitating the role of the Department in coordinating, follow up, evaluating and developing strategies and programs for children’s development and safeguarding child rights.

The Policy Direction

37. The Policy aims at providing an enabling environment for stakeholders to participate fully in the implementations various programmes that seek to provide children with their rights, welfare and raises standard of life by focusing on appropriate traditions, morals and values.
POLICY VISION, MISSION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

VISION

38. The Vision of the Child Development Policy second edition is to have a nation whose children are healthily, well educated with integrity who can participate in development for a strong nation.

MISSION

39. The Policy mission targets for accelerating development and welfare of the child by developing strategies and programmes for monitoring on the implementation of the Policy. This will facilitate families, communities and Non-Governmental Organisations to understand and promote effectively the rights and development of children.

GOAL

40. The main goal of the Child Development Policy is to ensure that eventually children develop and lead a good life, as their basic right to development, protection and participation in matters that concerns them, without any discrimination.

OBJECTIVES

41. The Objectives of the Policy are:
   (i) To have a single definition of a child so as to avoid confusion in fulfilling child rights.
   (ii) To mobilize communities to understand children in most vulnerable circumstance and provide them with basic services and give direction on their care and protection.
   (iii) To educate communities on the child basic rights.
   (iv) To provide direction on survival, protection, participation, non discrimination and development of the child.
   (v) To enable communities to understand the sources of problems facing children and how to solve them.
   (vi) To provide direction for the child so as to be good citizen.
   (vii) To clarify on roles and responsibilities of children, parents, guardians, communities, institutions and government in planning, coordination and implementation of children development plans.
   (viii) To emphasise the responsibilities of all parents/guardians that is both men and women in providing care and upbringing of children.
   (ix) To educate communities in order to ensure that children inherit and safeguard Tanzanian’s culture, traditions and practices.
   (x) To ensure that all laws relating to children welfare and effectively enforced.
CHAPTER FIVE

POLICY ISSUES AND STATEMENTS

The Child Development Policy second edition, gives out policy oriented directives in every issue which has been raised in order to direct its implementation. There are twenty two (22) issues which were pointed out. These issues have emerged as a result of the children’s rights situation and thus they have been divided into five (5) parts in the same manner as theses rights are. Also, a sixth area has been added in order to carter for the crosscutting issues as such issues cut across all the rights.

(a) Issue pertaining to inherent right to life

42. Issue: Child Survival

Most Tanzanians lack enough awareness on good and appropriate nutrition and its importance to pregnant women. Maternal deaths have increased due to lack of proper nutrition, AIDS related disorders, HIV/AIDS and the lack of good quality health facilities. It is also noted that pregnant women, especially those in the rural set up have a relatively over worked. This usually leads to some of the children being born with low birth weight leading to stunting or even stillbirths as well as neonatal deaths. In addition, there has been an increase in illegal abortions which end the innocent life, and at most times affecting maternal health.

Policy Statement

| (i) | The Government in collaboration with the stakeholders dealing with children’s issues should educate the community and the society on the importance of pregnancy women to attend health centers in order to receive appropriate services. |
| (ii) | The Government in collaboration with stakeholders dealing with children’s issues should encourage male participation in enhancing the reproductive health and good nutrition for pregnant women. |
| (iii) | The Government in collaboration with stakeholders dealing with children’s issues should educate the community and the society on the effects of illegal abortion. |

43. Issue: Low levels of awareness on the basics of early childhood development

Some parents have inadequate or low level of awareness on the basics of a child’s development from conception, delivery, proper nutrition, educational provision and psychological issues. Deficits in proper nutrition, coupled with other problems such as malarial infestations, pneumonia, diarrhea, malnutrition and AIDS disease usually affect the child’s growth physically, intellectually and psychologically; and leads to deaths in particular of children aged 0 – 5 years.

Policy Statement

| (i) | The community should be educated on the importance of parents breastfeeding their children and practicing appropriate weaning during the first two (2) years of life. |
| (ii) | The Government in collaboration with the stakeholders who deal with children’s issues should educate and encourage parents, guardians and the community on the importance of providing proper nutritional care, and health services including immunization. |
| (iii) | Children should be well prepared beforehand from early childhood so as to be good citizens with proper Tanzanian morals, and be able to accept roles in their families and |
(b) Issue on the Right to Development

44. Issue: Globalization and Child Development/upbringing
Globalization has caused a sprouting of external cultures through modern technologies such as the television and the Internet. Such gadgets encourage youth to adopt foreign negative lifestyles which seep in our country without proper control and which leads to the disintegration of the morals of children who are the future nation.

Policy Statement

(i) The Government in collaboration with the family, the community and the stakeholders dealing with children’s issues should educate the children on good moral standards.

(ii) The Government in collaboration with nongovernmental organizations, the private sector and the community at large should ensure the proper and correct use of communication technologies so as to maintain appropriate upbringing and development of Tanzanian children.

(iii) Parents, guardians and the community should be educated on their responsibilities towards children.

45. Issue: Detecting and Developing Children with Special Talents
Tanzania has a substantial amount of children with special talents but there is a lack of proper coordinated system of discovering, recognizing and developing them in their respective talents. This consequently results in the loss of the nation’s future human resource with beneficial potential.

Policy Statement

(i) The Government in collaboration with the stakeholders dealing with children’s issues should lay down a coordinated system enabling the discovery and development of such children’s special talents.

(ii) The Government in collaboration with nongovernmental organizations should enable children to be educated on acquisition of vocational skills in order to develop their talents.

46. Issue: Discrepancies in the quality of service delivery between the urban and the rural set ups
There is a significant difference in the delivery and quality of services provided in the rural set up as compared to the urban set up. Children living in the rural areas are faced with many problems including poverty, lack of or inadequate social services such as schools, health services,
communications and unreliable and poor transporting system. In addition, the majority of such children walk for long distances to schools and hospitals or health centers due to poor infrastructure.

**Policy Statement**

(i) The Government in collaboration with other stakeholders should strengthen plans to deliver adequate and appropriate social services in rural communities.

(ii) Both the Central and Local governments should ensure that in towns and village development plans, playgrounds for children are set aside.

(iii) The Central Government in collaboration with the local government and nongovernment organizations should ensure the accessibility of day care centers especially for pre-primary children in the rural areas.

47. **Issue: Development of Children with disabilities**

Frequently, children with disabilities lack basic services in particular, education. This is due to parents and guardians not comprehending the thought of investing in such children, thus not sending such children to school. Also some of the children with disabilities are usually abused, stigmatized, discriminated against and neglected by their respective families. These children face different problems including the lack of special teaching and learning aids, self sustaining means, appropriate infrastructure and qualified teachers. This leads to violation of rights of such children thus at times failing to cope with the environment in which they are.

**Policy Statement**

(i) The Government in collaboration with different stakeholders dealing with children with disabilities issues should continue to identify early enough such children and establish their needs.

(ii) The Government should ensure that all stakeholders consider the needs of disabled children at their respective domains.

(iii) The Government in collaboration with nongovernmental civil societies and different stakeholders should strengthen the coordination of providing educational services for children with disabilities.

48. **Issue: Street children**

There has been an increase in the number of children and parents who live in the streets due to poverty and other family problems such as conflict and disintegration. This leads to an increased number of street children. Problems encountered by such children include lack of education, proper childhood care, up bringing food, accommodation, clothing, health care and protection.

**Policy Statement**

(i) In collaboration with the stakeholders the Government should strengthen and expand the program of returning both parents and their children who live in the streets to their respective families.

(ii) The Government should prepare a special education and training program for
children who have returned from street life to re-enter proper family life.

(iii) Both the Central and local governments should prepare special capacity building programmes for families and children re-entering family life from street life.

(iv) The Government in collaboration with the stakeholders should prepare a coordinated system of educating the community on proper child upbringing and development; and control the increase in street children.

(C) Arguments pertaining to the right for protection

49. Argument: Early Marriages
There are some customs that allow marriages in particular for girls to get married in their early years. Moreover poverty and some wrongheaded customs and norms cause an increase in early marriages. As a result, girl children have been facing problems such as reproductive complications, and intellectual and mental inadequacies which are needed in sustaining and withstanding marriage roles.

Policy Statement

(i) The government and stakeholders dealing with children’s issues should educate the society that girls and boys not to marry in their early years so as to protect their rights and development.

(ii) The Government should amend the Law of Marriage Act, No. 5 of 1971 on the legal age of marriage, considering international Conventions on the Children Rights and welfare.

(iii) The Government in collaboration with non-government organizations should lay down a coordinated system of educating the children / parents/ guardians and the community as a whole on the effects especially the negative ones resulting from early marriages.

50. Argument: Early child pregnancies
Some of the girl children get pregnant when under eighteen (18) years of age. There are several reasons leading to the problem, such as income poverty. Due to this, girl children have been experiencing the negative effects such as health hazards, especially obstetric complications.

Policy Statement

(i) The Government should raise the community’s awareness on reproductive health issues.

(ii) The Government should provide reproductive health education to children commencing at the primary school level.

(iii) The Government should amend the Sexual Offences Special Provision Act, No. 4 of 1998.

(iv) Parents and guardians should educate their children on the adverse effects of early and teenage pregnancies through norms and customs prevailing in the community.
51. **Issue: The development, care and upbringing of Orphans Vulnerable Children**

The emergence of the HIV/AIDS catastrophe with other catastrophes such as marriage conflict, violence against women, hunger and drought leads to an increase in the orphans and vulnerable children. The vulnerable children include street children, those who are in hazardous works, the neglected ones, institutionalized and those who are in conflict with the law. There is an importance of having strategies and comprehensive plans which will reduce the increase in orphans and vulnerable children in the country.

**Policy Statement**

(i) The Government should amend Inheritance Laws in order to protect the rights of orphaned children.

(ii) The Government in collaboration with nongovernmental organisations should have continuous campaigns aiming at the reduction of HIV/AIDS infections, both in urban and rural areas.

(iii) Both the Central and local governments should lay down a coordinated system of strengthening community and society systems which take care of orphans and vulnerable children.

(iv) Both the Central and local government at all levels in collaboration with stakeholders in children’s developmental issues, should prepare a coordinated system of raising funds for helping out the care of orphaned and vulnerable children.

(v) The community should be educated on the importance of preparing wills.

52. **Issue: Moral Disintegration within the Community and the Society**

Factors which contribute to moral disintegration in the community and society include estrangements in the family, marriage breakdowns, difficult life conditions and globalization. The moral disintegration causes a substantial increase in illegitimate children born out of wedlock, which causes such children not to be legally recognized thus, denied their rights. Furthermore it leads to the children imitating undesirable behaviors such as; prostitution, rapes, murder, theft, substance abuse, alcohol and cigarette use. These create a threat for developing into a weak disoriented nation which lack Tanzanian morals.

**Policy Statement**

(i) The Government in collaboration with other stakeholders should educate the community and the society on the importance of abiding to Tanzanian morals.

(ii) The Government should amend laws concerned with the care of a child born out of wedlock (Affiliation Ordinance Cap. 278/1949).

53. **Issue: Violence against Children**

Some of the violence done to children include neglect, abandonment, battering, being burnt, raped; female genital mutilation, exploitation, prostitution, internally and externally trafficked. For such children, their growth and development are affected physically, health wise, intellectually and psychologically.

**Policy Statement**
(i) The Government in collaboration with the community and the society and other stakeholders in children’s issues should prepare strategies and programs protecting children against violence.

(ii) The Government should establish a system of educating the community on the children’s right for protection.

(iii) The Government in collaboration with stakeholders should educate and encourage the community to bring to a halt the practice of female genital mutilation and other harmful customs and practices.

(iv) The Government should encourage parents and the community to execute their responsibility of caring for children less than eight (8) years of age instead of depending on institutions and boarding schools inside and outside the country.

54. **Issue: Children Abuse and humiliation**

In our communities, children are abused and degraded and de-dignified by abusive language being used towards them, vile abused, being stripped off clothes during punishment, forced on errands not congruent to their ages, discriminated against and being shoved about in public transport vehicles especially in urban areas and being denied food. This affects the children psychologically and physically, especially health wise.

**Policy Statement**

(i) The Government in collaboration with stakeholders dealing with children issues should coordinate a system of providing education to the community on especially the negative effects of abusing and humiliating children.

(ii) The Government in collaboration with stakeholders dealing with children issues should lay down a coordinated system which will supervise the transporting of pupils and students to and from schools especially in the urban set up.

(iii) Local governments should supervise transporting systems for students and pupils in their domains.

55. **Issue: The exploitation of children in worst forum of child labour**

The exploitation of children in worst forum of child labour is a national and international issue. Some of the Tanzanian children are exploited in occupations including domestic chores, in mines, in prostitution, in farms and plantations, in fishing industry and in petty vending. These dangerous occupations affect the said children in their health aspect and in their growth and development which may lead to stunting and also denying of their basic rights including the right for education and training.

**Policy Statement**

(i) A coordinated system should be instituted which will ensure that the exploitation of children in worst forms of child labour is controlled and eventually is eliminated in
accordance with International Treaties and Conventions in particular those of the International Labour Organization (ILO) which the Government has ratified.

(ii) The Government should lay down a coordinated system which will ensure that laws concerned with the exploitation of children are understood by average citizens and supervised upon appropriately.

(iii) Local governments should lay down bylaws which aim at grounding or stopping the exploitation of children at all levels.

(d) Issues pertaining to the right to participate

56. Issue: Children’s participation in decisions on issues concerning their own development
Parents, guardians and the community as a whole rarely give out adequate opportunities for children to air out their views and contributions in different decisional situations concerning their own as well as family development and welfare. This situation has arisen due to the view that children lack awareness and capacity to contribute to different decisional situations in the family and the community as a whole, a view which denies the children on their right to participate.

Policy Statement

(i) The Government should strengthen the system of enabling the children to participate in the process of giving out views concerning their developmental issues.

(ii) The Government in collaboration with the local governments should strengthen children’s fora and platforms at the national and regional levels, and eventually, fora and platforms should be formed and developed at all levels.

(iii) Local governments, institutions and religious corporations should supervise and ensure that special areas set aside for children’s games and sports and entertainment are used as intended for.

(iv) The Government in collaboration with the stakeholders should educate and encourage the community on the importance of children participation and sharing in issues concerning their development.

(v) The Government should increase children’s participation in discussions pertaining to policies, plans and the budget.

(vi) The Local Governments and Non Governmental Organisations should persuade the children to develop themselves through heir clubs, group discussions, games and sports within the vicinity of their residential areas.

(e) Issues pertaining Non-discrimination

57. Issue: Gender discrimination in Children
Equal rights in the upbringing and growth of children is important for their development. In some families, the care and upbringing of girl children differs from that of boy children. Due to different Tanzanian cultures and customs, parents and guardians usually value boy children more as compared to girls children, which leads to girl children at times to be denied of their basic rights, and consequently having relatively poor development. For example, boys are always preferred over girl, in schooling issues, they are always given the chance to play, rest and the right to recreation while girls are necessitated to help their mothers with domestic chores.

**Policy Statement**

(i) The Government in collaboration with stakeholders dealing with children’s issues should encourage parents, families and the community to give all the children, irrespective of their gender and sex, equal care and growth practices.

(ii) Both the Central and Local Governments should encourage the family and the community to recognize and implement the basic rights of a child and to pass down to the children the desirable and appropriate Tanzanian customs and behaviours.

(iii) The Government and children’s issues stakeholders should encourage the community with special and specific emphasis on the family to give out equal opportunities and rights to all children irrespective of their gender and sex.

58. **Issue: Discrimination against children in the community**

Discrimination against children is an irritating issue in the community. There is the positional or lifestyle discrimination (in the sense that children are somehow inferior as compared to their parents) and discriminated as a result of a disability child. Such discrimination leads to some of the children being denied their basic rights.

**Policy Statement**

(i) The Government in collaboration with civil societies dealing with childhood development should educate the community against children discrimination.

(ii) The Government in collaboration with different stakeholders should lay down conducive environment to ensure that discrimination against children, in particular the children with disabilities, should be grounded to a halt.

(iii) The local government and developmental stakeholders should help to minimize or eradicate altogether wrongheaded customs and views which propagate discrimination against children.
(f) Crosscutting issue

59. Issue: Definition of a child
In Tanzania there are different definitions of a child according to legal, social and governance fields. Such definitions cause some of the children to be denied of their rights due to the complexity of concerned definitions.

Policy Statement

(i) According to this policy, a child is a person who is aged below eighteen (18) years.

(ii) Outdated laws and regulation concerning the child should be amended in order to give out a correct definition on the age of a child, while also considering the International Conventions on rights and welfare of the child.

(iii) The Government in collaboration with children’s issues stakeholders should educate the community on the definition of a child and the age of a child which is agreed upon by this policy.

60. Issue: Inadequate and poor service delivery to the child in the family
Majority of Tanzanians experience income poverty, where 75% of household’s income in many households is used on food budgeting leaving a small proportion of the income which does not suffice other needs such as clothing, health services, shelter and educating the children.

Policy Statement

(i) The Central Government in collaboration with other stakeholders should ensure that loans with fewer obligations are directed to families with low income levels.

(ii) Both Central and local governments in collaboration with the private sector and financial institutions should encourage and direct families the way to access loans with non tight obligations especially through SACCOS in order to raise the families’ levels of income.

(iii) The Central Government in collaboration with the local governments and other stakeholders should encourage and educate the community on appropriate, easy and affordable technologies in order to raise the family income levels.

61. Issue: Children’s Legal Rights
Some of the laws used within the country concerning children are outdated and at times do not conform to the international treaties and conventions on the Child’s Rights which Tanzania have signed and ratified. Most decisions done by judicial and quasi-judicial bodies using such laws, usually deny children their rights completely.

Policy Statement

(i) The Government should amend the existing laws or altogether set up new laws dealing with children issues so that such laws conform to the existing standard.

(ii) The Government in collaboration with the stakeholders dealing with children issues should educate the community on the different International Conventions on Children’s
Rights, together with the laws concerning children.

(iii) The Government should establish a special section for children in all the police stations in order to deal appropriately with children’s problems.

62. Issue: Coordination of the children’s issues
Issues concerning children are crosscutting that they involve several sectors. A comprehensive information system need to be established from such respective sectors to enable the ministry which deals with children’s issues to coordinate such issues accordingly

Policy Statement

(i) The Government should introduce a systematic coordination mechanism for children’s issues which are implemented by the different sectors in the country.

(ii) Sectors which deal with issues pertaining to children should report on implementation information on the Policy on Child Development and present such information to the Prime Minister’s Office and send a copy to the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children.

(iii) The ministry coordinating children’s issues should have a systematic arrangement of obtaining half yearly reports on the implementation of children’s issues from the District Councils.

63. Issue: Children’s Responsibility in the Family and the Society
Children have the responsibility to obey, follow the advice and directives from their parents, guardians and leaders in the family, society and the nation as a whole. Lack of good morals in children causes lack of discipline and disobeying parents and the society thus building up a disrespectful and immoral nation.

Policy Statement

(i) Religious institutions, the family, parents, guardians and the community should educate the children on the importance of respecting their parents, guardians and the community as a whole.

(ii) Children have an obligation to receive directives, advice and trainings from parents, guardians and the society.
64. **Institutional Framework**

Institutional framework is needed for Implementation of the Child Development Policy. The institutional framework will facilitate interpretation of the policy objectives into different strategies at the national, council and community levels. There shall be a plan at each level but more implementation will be at the Council and Community level. Generally the institutional framework will be as follow:

I. **National Level**

Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children through the Child Development Department will coordinate child related issues at the national level. Ministries and Agencies that deals with children issues includes: Ministry of Health and Social Welfare; Ministry of Education and Vocational Education; Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Development; Ministry of Constitutional Affairs and Justice; Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives; President’s Office, Regional and Local Governments; Ministry of Water and Irrigation; Ministry of Livestock Development and Fisheries; Ministry of Information, Culture and Sports; Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs and Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance.

II. **Regional Level**

Children related issues will be coordinated by the Regional Secretariat through the Community Development advisor at the responsible secretariat. Each Council in every Region will be responsible to implement child related matters.

III. **Council Level**

Responsible Council through the Community Development Officer at the District will be responsible for implementation of the Child Development Policy. Government Departments responsible for Children’s matters will implement this Policy in collaboration with civil society’s organisations.

IV. **Community Level**

People at the Community will be the major implementer of the Child Development Policy through the Council and Civil Societies Organisation. Community Development Officers at the Ward and village Level will be the main advocate for implementation of child related issues and the Policy.

V. **Family level**

Children’s related matters will be implemented by the parents and the guardians as the first child rights duty bearers. Parents and Guardians will collaborate with the Community and the Village Government to manage and control child rights.
64. Legal Framework

There are different national, regional and international Laws and Conventions that create conducive environment for the implementation of the Child Development Policy. Such laws and conventions are: the 1971 Law of Marriage Act; the 1947 Probation of Offenders Act as revised in 1962; the 1949 Affiliation Ordinance as revised in 1964; the 1955 Adoption Ordinance; the 1937 Children and Young Persons Ordinance as revised in 1964; the 1982 Disabled Persons Act; the Law of Succession and Inheritance, the 1978 Education Act; the 1998 Sexual Offences (Special Provisions) Act; the 1963 Age of Majority Act; the 1963 Customary Law (Declaration Order); the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the 1990 African Charter for the Rights and Welfare of the Child; the 2004 Employment and Labour Relations Act; the 1999 ILO Convention on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour; and the 1973 ILO Convention on Minimum Age of Employment.

Laws and ratification to international and regional Convention Child is not enough to protect the rights of the child as most of the laws are outdated. The Ministry Of Community Development Gender and Children will keep on lobbying from the relevant authorities for Law reform that protect children.
CHAPTER 7
STAKEHOLDERS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

65. The Child Development Policy will be implemented by various stakeholders who have the mandate in the development and welfare of children. Division of responsibilities shall include the stakeholders, who are: the Central Government, Local Governments, the society, families, NGOs, FBOs, the media, International Organisations, extension workers, children’s councils through Tanzania Movement for and with Children (TMC).

66. The Central Government
Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies with the mandate of child development shall implement this Policy accordingly.

67. Local Governments
Local Governments have the responsibility of involving effectively the public, including children, in bringing about social, economic and political development. Therefore, Local Governments shall organize and oversee the implementation of this Policy. In addition, they will oversee and coordinate the enforcement of laws, regulations and rules on child welfare, development and rights at Family, Village, Ward and District levels.

68. Families and the Community
Families and the society are responsible for changing behaviours, traditions and practices. Hence, they will be fully involved in child survival, protection and development by enhancing good traditions and practices; community child care; and providing for all children without any discrimination. Furthermore, parents and guardians have the duty to ensure development and welfare during early childhood and to care and support children until adulthood. Nevertheless parents and guardians have a primary responsibility to protect their children from any harm such as road accidents, sexual abuse and exploitation, neglect, sale and trafficking.

69. Children
Children are the main beneficiaries of this Policy, hence they have the right to defend and carry on good traditions, practices and values, such as self development, not to engage in drug abuse, prostitution and loitering. Also, they are duty bound to obey, respect, love and assist their parents, the society and national development. In addition, they are responsible for participating and contributing ideas and practically, in national plans and strategies to boost economic growth at all levels, from the family level.

70. Civil Societies Organisation
Civil Societies that deal with human rights and child development have the responsibility of educating the society and children on child rights and welfare. Also, these organisations have the duty to facilitate families and the society to fulfil such rights.
71. **Faith based Organisations (BOs)**

FBOs are responsible for facilitating parents and guardians to care and support children spiritually. Moreover, these organisations are duty bound to bring about positive change in parents, guardians and children so as they preserve Tanzanian values.

72. **The Media**

Information and communication institutions are responsible for motivating and educating families and the community on child rights. Also, these institutions have the duty to spell out families’ and community duties in child care, including exposing all acts of discrimination, abuse and repression against children. These institutions should also give children an opportunity to be heard and participate in national development. Moreover, these institutions are responsible for educating children on their rights and responsibilities to their families.

73. **Development Partners**

The main responsibility of development partners in the implementation of this Policy is to offer technical, equipment and financial support to the Government to facilitate children’s development.

74. **Extension Workers**

Different extension workers, particularly Community Development Officers, are responsible for facilitating the public, government and other institutions to motivate families and communities to fulfil child rights. Therefore, the extension workers should be the link of all stakeholders in implementing this Policy at all levels, from the village level.

75. **Tanzania Movement for and with Children (TMC)**

TMC is an organisation that was established to assist the Government to deal with children’s issues and to build children’s capacity in participation. TMC also assists children to organise in children’s councils that are at all levels from the Village, Ward, District, Regional and National levels.

76. **Workers’ Organisations**

Workers’ organisations are responsible for protecting children’s rights, including vulnerable children, those engaged in worst forms of child labour, and those who are exploited by not being paid justly for their work.

77. **The Private Sector**

The private sector is important in child development and welfare. The sector is duty bound to assist in raising children’s standard of living by providing material, financial and credit facilities support to the community.
CHAPTER 8
POLICY COORDINATION

78. Policy Coordination
The coordination in the implementation of this Policy shall be organised through different levels from the Family and Village District, Towns Cities, Municipalities councils and Regional Secretariats. At the national level, the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children is responsible for the coordination, supervision and assessment of the implementation of the Child Development Policy.

The coordination in implementing this Policy will be in line with other general and sectoral plans and programmes on child survival, protection and development, such as the National Development 2025; National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA); National Health Policy; Community Development Policy, National Policy on Children’s and Youth Support; Population Policy, Women and/Gender Development Policy, Education and Training Policy, Agricultural Policy, Food and Nutrition Policy.

79. Conclusion
There will be an Implementation Framework for the Child Development Policy. The Framework will facilitate major actors to adhere to their responsibilities and duties more effectively, in line with set priorities. Also, the Framework will guide the monitoring and evaluation process.

The Policy shall only be successful if it is coupled with appropriate plans and programmes that aim at providing children the right to grow in a peaceful, happy and loving family; the right to participate in social issues; and equal rights to all children.

80. Furthermore, effective implementation of the Child Development Policy shall depend very much on the participation of individuals, families, the society, institutions, departments, various ministries, NGOs, international organisations, donors and religious organisations in fulfilling their responsibilities as put forward by this Policy.

81. The implementation of the Child Development Policy will minimise and even eliminate the problems that are facing children and to guide the values in good child care by enhancing trust, integrity, creativity, self-confidence, to value and have pride in their families and the nation.