**PUBLIC STATEMENT**

**THE STATEMENT BY THE TANGANYIKA LAW SOCIETY ON THE RULING OF THE ADVOCATES COMMITTEE TO REMOVE MS. FATMA AMANI KARUME FROM THE ROLL OF ADVOCATES AND THE DECISION OF ADVOCATE FATMA AMANI KARUME TO APPEAL AGAINST THE SAID RULING**

On the 2nd day of October 2020 the Governing Council of the Tanganyika Law Society, after receiving and reading carefully the Ruling of the Advocates Committee in Application No 19 of 2019 between the **Honorable Attorney General v. Fatma Amani Karume**, met and deliberated on its import. The Governing Council noted the reasons given by the Advocates Committee from which it found Ms. Fatma Amani Karume guilty of gross professional misconduct.

Among many things that one sees upon reading the said Ruling, the Governing Council noted and was perturbed by the following:

1. The manner in which the Complaint was lodged afresh by the Attorney General before the Advocates Committee contrary to the Ruling and the directive of Feleshi J.K. in the case of **Ado Shaibu v. John Joseph Pombe Magufuli (The President of the United Republic of Tanzania) & 2 Others** (Misc. Civil Cause No 29 of 2018 (Unreported) that directed the Registrar of the High Court to “refer the professional misconduct matter contained in ***petitioner's reply submission and respondents' rejoinder submission together with this ruling to the Advocate Disciplinary Committee for determination.”***
2. The composition of the Advocates Committee to adjudicate the complaint lodged before it by the Attorney General against Ms. Fatma Amani Karume and the highly likelihood of bias;
3. The reception of electronic evidence in the course of the proceedings which was not attached to the complaint or in the List of Documents to be Relied Upon (if any);
4. The severity of the punishment; and
5. The implications of the Ruling to advocacy and independence of the Bar in Tanzania Mainland.

The Governing Council, through TLS President, contacted Ms. Fatma Amani Karume who informed it that she was completely dissatisfied with the said Ruling and she was ready to appeal against it. The Governing Council mindful of its noble duty imposed upon it by section 4(1)(d) of the Tanganyika Law Society Act Cap 307 R.E. 2002 (as amended) which requires it “to represent, protect and assist members of the legal profession in Tanzania as regards conditions of practice and otherwise” resolved unanimously to rend its support to its Member, Ms. Fatma Amani Karume, to appeal against the whole of the said Ruling and Drawn Order and will avail her all available legal support, at its disposal, to challenge the Ruling of the Advocates Committee before a panel of three judges of the High Court of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Given at Dar es Salaam by the Order of the Governing Council this 6th day of October 2020.

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Dr. Rugemeleza A.K. Nshala

**President**