Public, private sectors forge closer links

From a Correspondent in Zanzibar

THE Chief Secretary of the Revolutionary Council of Zanzibar, Mr. Ramadhani Mwinyi Muombwa, said here it was logical for the public and private sectors to join hands in fighting poverty and address other economic challenges facing Tanzania.

Mr. Muombwa was closing a six-day seminar on leadership attended by senior officials from the Union and the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar and representatives of the private sector.

The seminar is the first in a two-year series of seminars to be delivered by the Enhancing Public Service Leadership in the Globalised Era (EPSL) programme targeting leaders from the government and the private sector. "It is clear to me as it should be clear to you that it is only through increased collaboration and partnership between the private and public sectors that we are going to succeed in our Endeavour to free our people from the trap of abject poverty," the chief secretary told the participants.

Underscoring the government's readiness to support and strengthen ties with the private sector, Mr. Muombwa said Tanzania's competitiveness would not be forged by the government or the private sector in isolation but by the leaders of the two sectors working together to find "effective ways of collaborating and sharing ideas on how to lead our people."

Assuring the government of a reciprocal collaboration by the private sector, the Co-Chairman of the CEO Scholarship Fund Trust, Mr. Ali Mufuruki, said the private sector viewed the EPSL programme as a welcome initiative to the common goal of establishing better understanding and relations between the two sectors.

The EPSL Programme is a three-year initiative that is jointly funded by the Government of Tanzania, development partners and the CEO Roundtable — a forum consisting of 40 members, mainly chief executive officers from leading private sector companies operating in Tanzania.

The programme aims at providing an innovative training curriculum for selected members of the civil service and the private sector within Tanzania, with the goal of developing flexible leaders who are well prepared to succeed in the changing global business environment.

According to Mufuruki, two EPSL seminars have been held in Zanzibar in the past two weeks, attracting a total of 40 participants. He said a similar number of participants would attend the second session of the EPSL programme seminars to be held before the end of this year.