



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Tanzania Launches the First Regional Exchange Traded Fund in East Africa: iTrust EAC Large Cap ETF

The Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA), the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) and iTrust Finance Limited are pleased to announce, a successful launch and listing of the **iTrust EAC Large Cap Exchange Traded Fund (IEACLC-ETF)** on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE). This historic listing marks a significant milestone in the development and regional integration of Tanzania's capital markets as it is the **first Regional ETF to be listed on a stock exchange in East Africa**.

Managed by iTrust Finance Limited, with NBC Bank Limited as the Custodian, the iTrust EAC Large Cap ETF tracks the performance of a diversified portfolio of large-cap equity securities listed across EAC stock exchanges including CRDB Bank PLC, NMB Bank PLC, Tanzania Portland Cement Company (Twiga Cement), Tanga Cement PLC, Tanzania Cigarette Company Ltd (TCC), Vodacom Tanzania PLC, Safaricom PLC, Equity Group Holdings PLC, KCB Group PLC, British American Tobacco (BAT) Kenya, Jubilee Insurance, MTN Uganda Ltd, Stanbic Bank Uganda and the Bank of Kigali. It is a strategically designed investment product aimed at broadening asset portfolio, enhancing market liquidity and heightening investor participation.

The iTrust EAC Large Cap ETF provides investors with a transparent, diversified, and cost-effective avenue to access regional equity markets, while enabling investors to buy and sell units throughout the trading day at prevailing market prices.

Speaking during the listing ceremony, **CPA. Nicodemus Mkama, Chief Executive Officer of CMSA**, remarked that, *“The Initial Public Offer for the iTrust EAC Large Cap ETF has attained a success rate of 540 percent with 99.44 percent retail investors and 0.56 institutional investors. The introduction of the first Regional ETF in East Africa underscores Tanzania's commitment to developing a modern, inclusive, and diversified capital market.*

CPA. Mkama also highlighted that *“The successful issuance and listing of iTrust EAC Large Cap ETF units on the DSE solidifies Tanzania's position on the global map as a market that embraces innovation and sustainable financing. This pioneering product aligns with national and regional development agendas, including the **Tanzania Development Vision (TDV) 2050**, which aims to build a competitive and inclusive economy supported by well-functioning capital markets.*

*We encourage other licensed Fund Managers and market intermediaries to emulate this initiative by introducing innovative products that broaden and diversify investment opportunities.”*

**Mr. Peter Nalitolela, Chief Executive Officer of the DSE**, stated:

*“The listing of the iTrust EAC Large Cap ETF reflects the continued evolution of the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange as a platform for innovative and regionally integrated investment products. This milestone enhances product diversity on the Exchange and supports increased participation of both local and international investors.”*

**Mr. Faiz Arab, Chief Executive Officer of iTrust Finance Limited**, added:

*“The iTrust EAC Large Cap ETF offers investors a unique opportunity to gain exposure to leading EAC companies through a single, diversified investment instrument, while reinforcing our commitment to innovation, financial inclusion, and regional market development.*

*The listing of the iTrust EAC Large Cap ETF expands investment options, promotes financial inclusion, and reinforces investor confidence, supporting the country’s broader economic development goals and the wider East African region.*

*The launch and listing of the iTrust EAC Large Cap ETF is expected to expand investment opportunities, promote cross-border capital flows, and reinforce investor confidence, contributing to sustainable economic growth across Tanzania and the wider East African region.”*

#### **About CMSA**

The Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) is the regulatory authority for the securities industry in Tanzania. Its mission is to foster fair, efficient, and transparent capital markets to support economic growth.

#### **About the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange**

The Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) is Tanzania’s principal securities exchange, providing a transparent and efficient platform for capital raising and investment.

#### **About iTrust Finance Limited**

iTrust Finance Limited is a CMSA-licensed Fund Manager, Dealer, and Investment Advisor focused on developing innovative investment products that promote financial inclusion and support capital market development in Tanzania and the East African region.