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FOREIGN AFFAIRS BULLETIN

October - December 2024

TANZANIA ON THE GLOBAL STAGE

PRESIDENT SAMIA ATTENDS G20 BRAZIL AS THE ONLY FEMALE PRESIDENT IN AFRICA

RIO'S RESOLUTIONS ALIGN WITH NATIONAL GOALS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	2
Official Statements	4
Bilateral Relations and Cooperation	10
State, Official and Working Visits	36
Regional Integration and Multilateral Diplomacy	81
Economic Diplomacy	103
Health Diplomacy	123
Public Diplomacy and Engagement	132

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Foreword



Hon. Amb. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND EAST AFRICAN COOPERATION

It is with great honor that I present the second edition of the *Foreign Affairs Bulletin* for the period October to December 2024. This publication showcases the remarkable strides made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation in advancing Tanzania's foreign policy and diplomatic priorities during this quarter.

The bulletin highlights notable achievements across diverse domains, underscoring Tanzania's active and strategic engagement in bilateral, regional, and multilateral arenas. From high-level state visits and the establishment of strategic partnerships to breakthroughs in economic and health diplomacy, this quarter exemplifies Tanzania's rising prominence on the global stage.

Regional integration and multilateral diplomacy remain at the heart of Tanzania's foreign policy. Our robust engagement in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), including President Samia Suluhu Hassan's leadership as Chair of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence, and Security Cooperation, reflects

our steadfast commitment to fostering peace and stability. As we commemorate 25 years of the East African Community (EAC), Tanzania continues to champion regional unity and sustainable development for the benefit of all Africans.

Economic diplomacy has also been a focal point, as we continue to explore trade and investment opportunities with key partners, in all regions worldwide. The global promotion of Kiswahili, tourism, coupled with governance and taxation reforms spearheaded by Her Excellency President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, has further positioned Tanzania as an emerging hub for business, cultural exchange and world leading travel destination.

Health diplomacy has also seen remarkable progress. Tanzania hosted the prestigious Merck Foundation Africa-Asia Luminary meeting in Dar es Salaam and strengthened regional healthcare collaboration by extending specialized medical services to neighbouring countries. These efforts underscore Tanzania's growing role in shaping health solutions for the region.

Additionally, public diplomacy has played a crucial role in enhancing Tanzania's global reputation. Through diaspora engagement, cultural events, and tourism initiatives, we continue to project Tanzania's rich heritage, diversity, and economic potential to the world.

As we conclude 2024, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated staff of the Ministry, our diplomatic missions, and all stakeholders who have contributed to the realization of our foreign policy objectives. May this bulletin serve as a valuable resource and inspiration, reaffirming our shared commitment to building a prosperous, peaceful, and globally respected Tanzania through impactful diplomacy.

How. Amb. Mahmoud Whatit Kombo Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation

Official Statements



OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY THE
PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
EAST AFRICAN COOPERATION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation is pleased to share an update on its progress in advancing Tanzania's foreign policy objectives for the period of October to December 2024. This quarter has been marked by notable achievements in bilateral and multilateral engagements, economic diplomacy, and public outreach, all aligned with our strategic vision of fostering sustainable development through strong and dynamic international partnerships.

Key accomplishments include the successful conclusion of bilateral agreements to enhance cooperation in trade, investment, and cultural exchange with key partner countries. Tanzania has also demonstrated its unwavering commitment to regional integration by actively participating in initiatives under the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the East African Community (EAC), reinforcing its role in promoting peace, security, and regional development.

In the sphere of economic diplomacy, the Ministry has prioritized attracting foreign investment and expanding trade opportunities. This is exemplified by the signing of pivotal Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and constructive engagements with development partners. Additionally, health diplomacy remains a cornerstone of our efforts, with initiatives such as universal health coverage dialogues and regional medical collaborations delivering tangible benefits for the people of Tanzania and the wider region.

As we advance Tanzania's national interests on the global stage, the Ministry reaffirms its commitment to practicing transparent, accountable, and impactful diplomacy. We express our sincere gratitude to all stakeholders, both domestic and international, for their steadfast support and partnership in achieving our shared aspirations.

Ambassador Dr. Samuel Shelukindo Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation



OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY THE
PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AND EAST AFRICAN
COOPERATION RESPONSIBLE FOR
EAST AFRICAN AFFAIRS

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation is delighted to present a summary of key milestones achieved in advancing East African integration from October to December 2024. Throughout this quarter, Tanzania has reinforced its commitment to fostering regional cooperation, peace, and security, with a focus on the East African Community (EAC) and other multilateral frameworks.

As the Permanent Secretary responsible for East African Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, I am honored to reflect on some of the significant milestones achieved by the EAC during the quarter of October to December 2024:

Strengthening the EAC Customs Union

The EAC continues to position itself as one of Africa's most dynamic and forward-looking Regional Economic Communities. The implementation of the Customs Union has significantly advanced intra-regional trade by eliminating internal tariffs, harmonizing external tariffs, and streamlining cross-border trade processes. During the last quarter, the EAC initiated development of:

- (i) Regulations to institutionalize the single customs territory, thereby expediting the clearance and transit of goods across partner states; and
- (ii) Guidelines to review the eac customs union (rules of origin) rules, 2015, to fostering regional value chains and aligning with evolving global manufacturing trends.

These initiatives underscore the EAC's dedication to enhancing economic collaboration and creating a seamless trading environment among the Partner States.

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the EAC

On November 30, 2024, the EAC commemorated its 25th Anniversary under the theme "EAC@25: Promoting Trade, Sustainable Development, and Peace and Security for Improved Livelihoods."

The celebrations underscored the EAC's journey from its inception in 1999 with three Partner States namely Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania to its current membership of eight countries, following the accession of Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia.

East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)

The East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) has been instrumental in promoting regional integration by fulfilling its oversight and legislative mandates. During the quarter under review, EALA demonstrated its unwavering commitment to advancing oversight role to ensure implementation of agreed regional programs and projects. Besides, through its legislative processes, EALA has played a critical role in creating a legal framework that fosters cooperation among Partner States and ensures alignment with the objectives of the Community.

A notable milestone achieved in this quarter was the EALA Committee on General Purpose's engagement with key stakeholders to address concerns raised by some Partner States regarding the East African Financial Services Commission Bill, 2022. This engagement culminated in unlocking the stalemate of the Bill, paving the way for the Committee to urge the Council of Ministers to forward the East African Financial Services Commission Bill, 2022 (as passed by the Assembly in December 2022) to the EAC Heads of States for assent at the earliest opportunity.

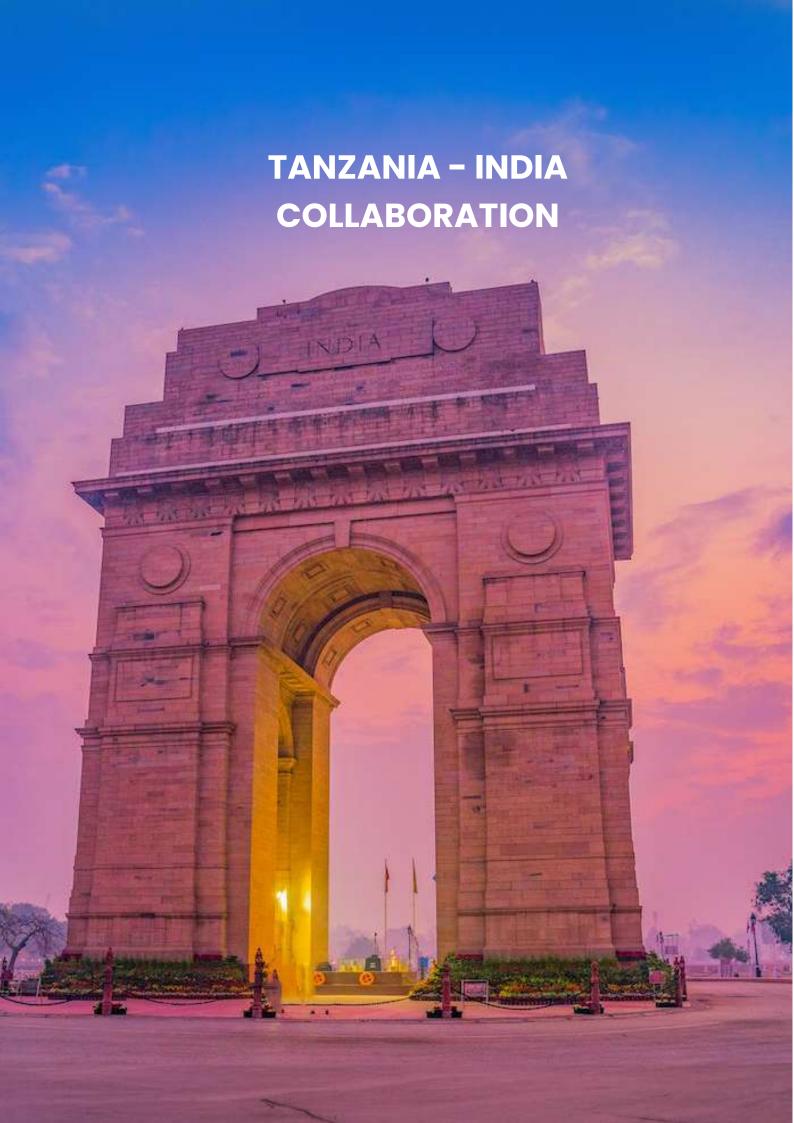
Role of Tanzania

The quarter of October to December 2024 marked significant progress in the EAC's journey towards deeper integration and cooperation. The 25th Anniversary celebrations stood as a testament to the Community's resilience and unwavering commitment to promoting trade, sustainable development, and peace both within the region and beyond. As a founding member and host nation, Tanzania continues to play a pivotal role in advancing the EAC's agenda. The country remains committed in its dedication to championing shared aspirations and realization of the EAC objectives.

Ambassador Stephen Mbundi Permanent Secretary

Ministry Of Foreign Affairs And East African

Cooperation Responsible For East African Affairs





Tanzania and India to Strengthen Cooperation in Strategic Sectors

By Rose Mbilinyi

The governments of the United Republic of Tanzania and Republic of India have agreed to enhance collaboration in strategic sectors underpinned by their historical, diplomatic, and strategic relations. The agreement reached during discussions between the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation (responsible for East African Affairs), Ambassador Stephen Mbundi and the High Commissioner of India to Tanzania, H.E. Bishwadip Dey, held on 3rd October, 2024, in Dodoma.

The two leaders discussed advancing cooperation in key sectors including trade, investment, tourism, energy, water, health, and education. Ambassador Mbundi congratulated H.E. Dey on his appointment and expressed satisfaction with the growing partnership between Tanzania and India, exemplified by recent high-level visits and joint initiatives.

Ambassador Mbundi cited the successful state visit of H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, to India in October 2023, as well as the achievements of the Joint Permanent Commission (JPC) meeting held in July 2023 in Dar es Salaam and emphasized Tanzania's commitment

to fully utilizing strategic opportunities for mutual benefit, including promoting tourism, offering scholarships in fields such as artificial intelligence, diplomacy, engineering, and leadership, and enhancing the capabilities of public servants.

"Tanzania has unique tourist attractions with unparalleled natural beauty," Ambassador Mbundi noted, inviting H.E. Dey to visit iconic sites such as Ngorongoro, Serengeti, and Butiama, the birthplace of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere. He also highlighted untapped opportunities in Mtwara, Lindi, Pwani, Ruvuma, and Rukwa regions, which boast rich historical and natural attractions.

Ambassador Mbundi further emphasized the importance of expanding cooperation in energy, agriculture (especially cashew nuts), and water sectors to improve services for Tanzanians. He commended the positive trade relations between the two countries, with bilateral trade volume reaching \$8 billion (approximately TZS 21.5 trillion), making Tanzania India's second-largest trading partner in Africa.

H.E. Bishwadip Dey expressed his government's commitment to strengthening ties with Tanzania, noting the growing number of Tanzanians visiting India for education, health, and business opportunities. He also highlighted India's increasing investment in Tanzania's tourism and hospitality sectors, which significantly contribute to economic growth.

In education, H.E. Dey underscored India's provision of training in artificial intelligence and technology, with initiatives already benefiting students in Zanzibar. He also pointed to ongoing capacity-building programs for Tanzanian professionals in energy and water sectors, including TANESCO staff receiving training in India to enhance their technical skills and performance.

"Tanzania has vast energy resources, and India is ready to collaborate in building the capacity of experts and investing in this strategic sector. Tanzania offers a safe and welcoming environment for investment, and many Indian investors are already satisfied with their experience here," said H.E. Dey.

The leaders also discussed the potential for deeper cooperation between East African Community (EAC) Ministers and their Indian counterparts in mutually beneficial sectors, further solidifying the strategic partnership between Tanzania and India.

Tanzania and Korea Celebrate 32 Years of Diplomatic Relations: Strengthening Tanzania - Korea Cooperation for Mutual Growth

By Rose Shayo

During his speech at the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the Republic of Korea and celebrations of 32 years of diplomatic cooperation between the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Korea, the then Minister for Information, Communications, and Information Technology, Hon. Jerry Silaa, reiterated Tanzania's commitment to strengthening bilateral relations with the Republic of Korea, for the mutual benefit of both countries and their people.



Tanzania and the Republic of Korea continue to cooperate in various sectors, including education, health, and infrastructure. The Korean government has supported a number of development projects in the country including; the construction of the State-of-the-Art, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, Mloganzila branch, the construction of bridges (Kigoma and the Tanzanite Bridge). Additionally, other on-going Korea-funded projects funded projects include, the construction of Binguni Hospital and the expansion of the Dar es Salaam Port.

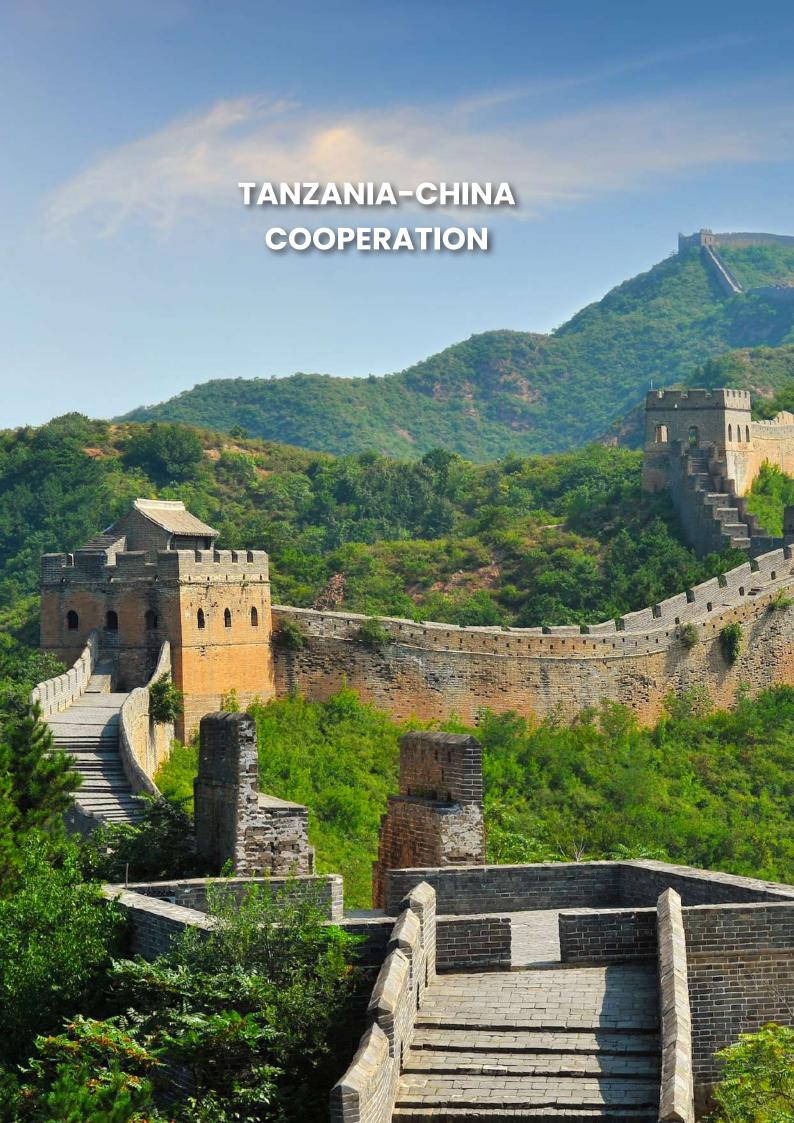


On her part, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Tanzania, Hon. Ahn Eun-Ju, expressed her satisfaction with the increasing cooperation between Tanzania and Korea for 32 years, highlighting the positive outcomes in terms of growing people-to-people interaction as well as knowledge exchange.

In June, 2024, the President of Tanzania, H.E Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, paid an Official and Working Visit to Korea where she also participated in the Africa – Korea Summit.

Other leaders who accompanied Hon. Jerry Silaa in the 60th Anniversary of the Republic of Korea included; Hon. Innocent Bashungwa (MP.), the then Minister for Works, H.E Togolani Mavura, Ambassador of Tanzania to the Republic of Korea and Hon. Ambassador Liberata Mulamula, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation.





Tourism and Culture Sectors Benefit from Tanzania-China 60-Year Partnership

By Rose Shayo & Koleta Njelekela

The Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Hon. Pindi Chana, highlighted that the 60-year diplomatic relationship between Tanzania and China has significantly fostered investment, trade, and development between the two nations.

Hon. Chana made these remarks on November 4, 2024, while delivering her speech on behalf of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, at the 60th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Tanzania and China and the Year of Tourism and Culture, held at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam

"This diplomatic relationship has enabled Tanzania to benefit from the financing of the TAZARA railway that connects Tanzania with the neighboring country of Zambia; and to achieve a large investment of 11 billion US dollars from Chinese companies in the country, and generate 150,000 jobs for Tanzanians, through various sectors," said Hon. Chana.

She also explained that between 2013 and 2023, the number of tourists increased from 1,140,000 to 1,800,000, thus increasing the income from tourism from 2 billion USD to 3.3 billion USD.

During the closing ceremony of the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Tanzania and China, the Amazing Tanzania Film was launched aiming to promote Tanzania and its tourist attractions, in Asia.

China's Vice Minister for Tourism and Culture, Hon. Lu Yingchuan, assured Tanzania that his country is committed to further strengthening their partnership to ensure that the diplomatic ties, which have lasted for six decades, continue to grow for future generations.

Earlier, the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ambassador Samwel Shelukindo, thanked the participants of the event and urged Tanzanians to explore business opportunities arising from the long-term relations between Tanzania and China as well as to promote people-to-people relations.



Tanzania and Cuba Commit to Strengthening Strategic Cooperation

By Rose Mbilinyi

The governments of Tanzania and Cuba have reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing strategic cooperation to further solidify the historical and fraternal ties established by the founding leaders of the two nations, the late Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere of Tanzania and the late Fidel Castro Ruz of Cuba.

This commitment was underscored during the inaugural meeting of the Joint Commission for Cooperation between Tanzania and Cuba, held virtually on October 30, 2024, at the expert level. The Tanzanian delegation participated in the meeting from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation's offices in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking at the opening of the meeting, Assistant Director of the Europe and Americas Department, Ms. Naomi Mpemba, on behalf of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Ambassador Dr. Samwel Shelukindo, expressed confidence in the participants and emphasized Tanzania's readiness to collaborate closely with Cuba for sustainable development and mutual prosperity.

She noted that the meeting was a result of the visit by the Vice President of the Republic of Cuba, H.E. Salvador Valdés Mesa, to Tanzania in January 2024. During that visit, he engaged in discussions with Tanzania's Vice President, H.E. Dr. Philip Isdor Mpango, and agreed to convene the Joint Commission for Cooperation between the two nations.

"This meeting is clear evidence of the strong commitment of our leaders and technical teams to advancing diplomatic and economic cooperation by establishing a formal framework for monitoring implementation, evaluating progress, and setting strategic objectives," said Ms. Mpemba.

While the Tanzania-Cuba partnership remains strong in political and diplomatic terms, it has also served as a vital channel for fostering opportunities in key sectors, including health, education, tourism, trade, investment, and research. This partnership has been formalized through agreements and memoranda of understanding, facilitating scholarships, advanced technologies, medical training, and knowledge exchange in various fields.

Ms. Mpemba also highlighted the untapped potential in the Tanzania-Cuba partnership and emphasized the need for strategic measures to expand and strengthen collaboration in new areas.

The Cuban delegation was led by Ambassador Carlos Hernandez, Director General for Bilateral Cooperation at Cuba's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He expressed optimism about the meeting's outcomes and stressed the importance of deep and fruitful discussions to reinforce strategic cooperation.

"With the limited resources we have, we are ready to collaborate with the Government of Tanzania in capacity building and skills transfer, particularly in technology, for the advancement of both nations," said Ambassador Hernandez.

The meeting focused on enhancing strategic cooperation in areas such as health, agriculture and food production, education, culture, and sports. It also served as a preparatory session for the Joint Ministerial Meeting between Tanzania and Cuba that took place on November 4, 2024, in Havana, Cuba.

The expert-level meeting was attended by Tanzania's Ambassador to Cuba, H.E. Humphrey Polepole, and Cuba's Ambassador to Tanzania, H.E. Yordenis Despaigne Vera.

Tanzania and Cuba established diplomatic relations in 1962, shortly after Tanzania's independence. In 1986, the two countries signed a cooperation agreement that created the Joint Commission for Cooperation, focusing on economic, scientific, and technical collaboration.







Advancing Tanzania-Japan partnership: A call to seize emerging cooperation opportunities

By Tatu Lugusa

Tanzania and Japan have enjoyed strong diplomatic relations for over 50 years, with Japan being one of the first countries to recognize Tanganyika after it gained independence from the United Kingdom in December 1961. This early recognition laid the groundwork for strong bilateral relations, which grew even deeper following the Union of Tangnyika and Zanzibar in the formation of the United Republic of Tanzania in April 1964. Since then, Tanzania and Japan have developed close diplomatic ties that prioritizes mutual benefits for both countries.

Under the leadership of the current President of Tanzania, H. E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the 6th phase government has actively sought to create an investment friendly environment in Tanzania for investors.

Ambassadors representing Tanzania in foreign nations are tasked with the important role of attracting reputable companies to invest in Tanzania. The country is well known for its political and economic stability, as well as a suite of favorable policies designed to promote investment opportunities.

•

Tanzania's Ambassador to Japan, Baraka Luvanda, recently visited Tanzania with the aim of promoting collaboration opportunities between Tanzania and Japan.



Ambassador Luvanda embarked on an official visit to Tanzania from October 1 to October 5, 2024. The primary aim of this visit was to showcase the diverse investment opportunities available in Tanzania, with a particular focus on attracting Japanese investors to key strategic sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure, renewable energy, tourism and Blue Economy. During the visit, the Ambassador engaged in discussions with government officials and business leaders to highlight Tanzania's potential as a vibrant investment destination. Additionally, meetings were held to explore collaborative initiatives that could facilitate investment and foster economic growth in the region. The visit underscored the importance of strengthening economic ties between Tanzania and Japan, promoting mutual benefits for both countries.

Ambassador Luvanda conducted a media tour where he highlighted the cooperative partnership between Tanzania and Japan, emphasizing the mutual benefits at both international and bilateral levels. Tanzania is focusing on its development goals, and Japan has expressed a commitment to collaborating on sustainable and inclusive economic growth, aimed at enhancing stability and reducing poverty.

Ambassador Luvanda stated during the media tour that there are numerous opportunities for collaboration in various sectors, particularly in Agriculture, Education, Infrastructure, Mining, Tourism, Livestock, and Fisheries.

Amb. Luvanda engaged Tanzanians with reputable Japanese companies to explore potential investments in priority sectors in Tanzania through various meetings and conferences. His efforts focused on enhancing bilateral relations and supporting Tanzania's economic development initiatives.

This engagement was highlighted during the Tanzania-Japan Quality Infrastructure Dialogue, which was part of Luvanda's mobilization efforts during his visit to Tanzania. The dialogue included 60 experts from Japanese construction companies and served as a demonstration of the collective commitment to quality, sustainability, and innovation in infrastructure.

Experts in Tanzania were encouraged to collaborate with professionals from the Japanese infrastructure sector to leverage advanced technologies and extensive expertise. The presence of robust infrastructure is critical to facilitating economic development. The conference served as a platform for the exchange of ideas and practical methodologies pertaining to the advancement of infrastructure technology within the country, while also addressing the challenges faced in this sector.

The conference on infrastructure provided an opportunity for Tanzanians to learn about Japanese technology related to modern infrastructure construction, particularly in challenging areas that may be affected by natural disasters. Ambassador Luvanda stated that the experts attending the conference are members of the Infrastructure Association Between Japan and Africa, with a primary focus on construction projects in Africa. The companies represented at the conference are primarily involved in the construction of roads, airports, and ports.

The conference provided a platform for discussions on cooperation between the government and private companies. Participants explored more opportunities for collaboration in various economic areas, including business and agriculture.

Moreover Amb. Luvanda accompanied the Ambassador of Japan in Tanzania Hon. Yasushi Misawa, and representatives from various Japanese companies visited the Kongani area in Bagamoyo, located in the coastal region. The visit focused on the regions designated for Japanese investment.

Ambassador Baraka Luvanda, in his address, encouraged Japanese businessmen and investors to consider investments in a range of sectors in Tanzania, with an emphasis on strategic areas such as tourism, energy, mining, agriculture, industry, and the blue economy. He outlined several factors that support investment in Tanzania, including the presence of peace and political stability, an attractive investment climate, favorable geography, and well-established borders.

Additionally, he emphasized the importance for Tanzanians to explore available opportunities, particularly in cultivating crops such as pineapples, coffee, and



sesame, which are in demand in the Japanese market. He also highlighted the benefits of existing partnerships between Tanzania and Japan in areas such as trade, education, and skills exchange.

Ambassador Luvanda's recent visit to Tanzania has led to a range of positive outcomes for both nations involved. This diplomatic engagement has yielded significant benefits across several sectors, particularly in the economic, social, and developmental spheres.

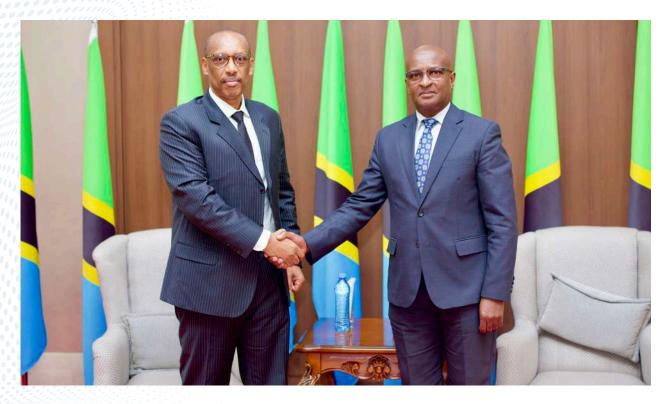
As a result of the collaboration initiated during this visit, Tanzania has witnessed a notable boost in productivity, which is crucial for its ongoing growth. The ambassador's discussions have paved the way for enhanced cooperation in key areas, including tourism and investment. This partnership has not only opened up new avenues for foreign direct investment but also fostered better conditions for local businesses to thrive.

Furthermore, the visit has had a profound impact on social development, with initiatives aimed at improving education, healthcare, and infrastructure being launched as a result. These developments are expected to create numerous job opportunities, ultimately contributing to the overall economic upliftment of the nation.

The cooperation established through Ambassador Luvanda's visit has been instrumental in strengthening ties between the two parties, resulting in a more prosperous and interconnected future for Tanzania.



Tanzania-Rwanda Collaboration: Ambassador Shelukindo meets with Ambassador of Rwanda



By Rose Shayo

Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Ambassador Dr. Samwel Shelukindo met with the Ambassador of Rwanda to Tanzania, Hon. Gen. Patrick Nyamvumba to highlight the areas of cooperation between Tanzania and Rwanda and the possibility of increasing the scope of the cooperation.

In their conversation, they touched on the importance of speeding up the construction of the Mwanza dairy factory, calling for a Joint Commission for Cooperation between Tanzania and Rwanda and increasing cooperation in the use of the Dar es Salaam Port for the benefit of both parties.





TANZANIA-DPRK COOPERATION



Minister Chumi meets with DPRK Ambassador

By Sheiba Bulu

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Cosato Chumi, met and held discussions with the Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), H.E Kim Yong Su, at Ministry's sub office in Dar es Salaam.



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Cosato Chumi, in a photo with the Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), H.E Kim Yong Su, at Ministry's sub office in Dar es Salaam.

During the meeting, Hon. Chumi reaffirmed the Tanzanian government's commitment to fostering close cooperation with the DPRK government for mutual benefit of both nations and their citizens.

Hon. Chumi highlighted the longstanding, historic ties between Tanzania and the DPRK, established by the founding leaders, the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere and the late Kim II Sung.

On his side, H.E Ambassador Kim Yong Su expressed his satisfaction with the current state of diplomatic and fraternal relations between Tanzania and the DPRK and pledged to further strengthen the ties.

TANZANIA-EUROPEAN UNION COOPERATION



Strengthening Tanzania-EU Relations: Ambassador Shelukindo and EU Ambassador Grau Discuss Cooperation and Upcoming Dialogue

By Ally Kondo

The Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Ambassador Dr. Samwel Shelukindo, met with the European Union (EU) Ambassador to Tanzania, H.E. Christine Grau, in Dar es Salaam on October 4, 2024.

The purpose of the meeting was to establish rapport and exchange information regarding the implementation of various matters related to the cooperation between Tanzania and the EU.

During the meeting, they discussed preparations for the upcoming Partnership Dialogue between the EU and Tanzania, which took place in Dar es Salaam on 10th December 2024.

Furthermore, Ambassador Shelukindo expressed gratitude to the EU for the various forms of assistance provided to Tanzania, and emphasized that the Government will continue to collaborate with the EU to ensure that its obligations are fulfilled accordingly.



AMBASSADOR NAIMI PRESENTS LETTERS OF CREDENCE TO THE IAEA CHIEF



Ambassador Naimi Presents Letters of Credence to the IAEA Chief

By Reginald Phillip

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the Republic of Austria, the United Nations, and other International Organisations in Vienna, H. E. Naimi Aziz presented her Letters of Credence to the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) H. E Rafael Mariano Grossi in Vienna, Austria.



Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the Republic of Austria, the United Nations, and other International Organisations in Vienna, H. E. Naimi Aziz presenting her Letters of Credence to the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) H. E Rafael Mariano Grossi in Vienna, Austria.

During their meeting, Ambassador Naimi reaffirmed her commitment to continue strengthening Tanzania's relations with the IAEA, particularly in the application of nuclear science and technology in various sectors of health, agriculture and food security, pest control, and energy production.



Strengthening Diplomatic Ties with Hungary: Hon. Cosato Chumi Meets Hungarian Ambassador to Tanzania

By Sheiba Bulu

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Cosato Chumi, met with the Hungarian Ambassador to Tanzania, based in Nairobi, Kenya, H.E Zsolt Mészáros, in Dar es Salaam on 4th October, 2024.

The two diplomats agreed to continue strengthening diplomatic relations between their countries for the mutual benefit of both nations.

H.E Ambassador Mészáros expressed Hungary's commitment to supporting the efforts of Tanzania's Sixth Phase Government, under the leadership of President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, to drive socio-economic development by improving public services, fostering a conducive investment environment, and promoting tourism.

H.E Ambassador highlighted Hungary's readiness to assist Tanzania by offering concessional loans to advance the water sector, aligning with the Tanzanian government's initiative to alleviate the burden of water collection for women.

On investment, H.E Ambassador noted ongoing efforts by Hungarian investors to establish a fertilizer production plant in Bagamoyo and to construct a fivestar hotel in Manyara Region.

The meeting also addressed progress toward signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that would enable Hungary's national airline to operate direct flights between Hungary and Tanzania. Once finalized, this agreement is expected to boost Tanzania's efforts to attract tourists and investment.

For his part, Hon. Chumi thanked the Hungarian government for developmental support to Tanzania. He assured that the Ministry would fulfill its role in coordinating with other stakeholders to ensure the MoU and investment processes are completed without any obstacles

STATE, OFFICIAL AND WORKING VISITS



President Samia Attends G20 Brazil as the only Female President in Africa



By Rose Shayo

A new historic milestone for Tanzania, as H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, became the first female African leader to participate in the prestigious G20 Leaders' Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on November 18 and 19, 2024.

On the invitation extended by the President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, H.E. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President Samia's participation at the G20 Leaders' Summit marked a significant moment not only for Tanzania but also for Africa's representation on the global stage. The summit also marked Tanzania's long-awaited return to the global forum after a decade, highlighting the country's increasing influence globally under President Samia's visionary leadership.

Previously, Tanzania had participated in G8 meetings under former Presidents the late Benjamin Mkapa in 2005 and H.E. Dr. Jakaya Kikwete in 2008.

The invitation to the G20 Summit also signifies Tanzania's increasing influence and visibility and highlights President Samia's diplomatic efforts to empower youth and women while addressing persistent national and regional challenges such as energy transition, poverty, hunger, youth unemployment, climate change, and food security all of which were key priorities of the 2024 G20 Leaders' Summit.

During the Summit, President Samia contributed to two crucial debates that were beneficial both for Tanzania and the global community. She highlighted on Tanzania's position on fighting hunger and poverty and transitioning to clean energy. In her address on combating hunger and poverty, President Samia shared some of the measures the Tanzanian government has taken to reduce poverty and improve its citizens' economic well-being.

Regarding energy, she stressed the importance of developing countries exploring alternative energy sources, such as natural gas, to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

President Samia further emphasized the need to secure funding for the clean cooking energy program and invited the G20 Heads of State to participate in the African Heads of State Energy Summit, which will convene in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on January 27–28, 2025.

She also also participated at the launch of the Global Alliance Against Poverty and Hunger and the Global Clean Power Alliance and its finance mission, both of which were founded by Brazil and the United Kingdom, respectively. The United Republic of Tanzania supports and has joined these important initiatives.



President Samia's participation has yielded positive results, as Tanzania has successfully contributed to the G20 discussions. This has created a conducive environment for increased cooperation, offering access to a wider range of international opportunities in investment, capital, and markets.

Besides Tanzania, a18 other countries, were invited to participate at the prestigious meeting, including four African nations: Angola, Mozambique, Egypt, and Nigeria.

G20 Rio de Janeiro Leaders' Declaration Aligning with Tanzania's Agenda

During the Summit the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to building a fair world and a sustainable planet, to crucial issues that shape the global future including energy and agriculture among others which aligns with Tanzania's agenda for development as follows: -

On Clean Cooking Energy:

The Leaders committed to accelerating clean, sustainable, just, affordable, and inclusive energy transitions, in line with SDG 7, the Paris Agreement, and the outcome of the GST-1 adopted at the UN Climate Change Conference in Dubai (COP28), ensuring that no one is left behind, particularly the poor and those in vulnerable situations, considering different national circumstances."

"We commit to accelerating efforts to achieve universal access to clean cooking by 2030, including the formulation and implementation of enabling policies and the mobilization of financial and technological support from all sources to developing countries. This will increase annual investments and support the





affordability of clean cooking projects," stated the Declaration.

In Tanzania, President Samia is the champion of clean cooking energy whereby her goal is to transform Tanzanians from using firewood and charcoal to clean cooking energy, setting a target of converting 88 per cent of the population by 2030.

In May 2024, President Samia launched the National Clean Cooking Energy Strategy, outlining a clear roadmap to reach the target of providing clean cooking solutions to over 80 per cent of the population. As part of the global initiative of advocating for clean cooking energy campaign, she successfully raised \$2.2 billion (approximately 5.7 trillion Tanzanian shillings) during the Heads of State Global Summit on Clean Energy held in Paris France on May 12, 2024 where she was co-chair. The initiative aimed to contribute to a broader goal of securing \$4 billion at the upcoming for the course.

Agriculture

The leaders indicated that agriculture was at the forefront of addressing key challenges such as fighting poverty, ending hunger, improving nutrition, and confronting climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, and desertification.

"While recognizing that there is no one-size-fits-all solution to the challenges of agriculture and food systems, we commit to supporting developing countries to enhance their capacity for sustainable food production and marketing. We also renew our commitment to work towards sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and reducing food loss and waste, including by increasing efforts to achieve the UN SDG 12.3 target on food losses and waste," the Declaration noted.

As for Tanzania, the government in 2022 launched the Agenda 10/30 Roadmap, aiming for a 10 per cent annual growth in agriculture by 2030. This ambitious plan focuses on increasing productivity, value addition, and export capacity, particularly for horticultural products. It also seeks to improve irrigation coverage, expand post-harvest infrastructure, and enhance export earnings, aligning with the global goal of food security and sustainable agriculture under Sustainable Development Goal 2.

Agriculture remains a cornerstone of Tanzania's economy, contributing 26.5 per cent to the national GDP and employing 65.6 per cent of the population. In 2023, the sector grew by 4.2 per cent, with food production reaching 20.4 million tonnes, a 19 per cent increase from the previous year. This surge resulted in a food self-sufficiency rate of 124 per cent, with surplus production of over 4 million tonnes. Key crops such as maize and rice saw impressive growth, with production rising by 24.8 per cent and 36.5 per cent respectively.

Broadening Bilateral Relations

In addition to her participation in the summit sessions, President Samia held talks with several world leaders including South Africa, Indonesia, Norway, Egypt, Vietnam and various Heads of global financial institutions like the African Development Bank (AfDB), World Bank (WB) and Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

South Africa:



President Samia applauded H.E. President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa on becoming the next G20 Summit Chairman in 2025. During their talks, President Samia assured President Ramaphosa of Tanzania's unwavering support during his leadership, stressing that the success of the G20 Summit in South Africa not only brings pride to South Africans but the entire African Continent.

She also extended congratulations to her counterpart for holding successful elections in South Africa which secured him another term in office.

Besides, the two Leaders also discussed expanding issues on bilateral cooperation for the benefit of their citizens and reaffirmed the strong existing ties between Tanzania and South Africa.

Indonesia:



President Samia also met with H.E. President Prabowo Subianto of Indonesia, whereby their engagement delved on bilateral issues.

She also used the occasion to congratulate him on his victory and expressed her commitment to continuing the strong cooperation between Tanzania and Indonesia, especially in the area of oil and gas.

Tanzania and Indonesia have cooperations in the oil and gas sector whereby the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), M&P, and the Pertamina Company from Indonesia have been working closely to monitor the development of cooperation between these two countries in oil and gas.

On the other hand, the two leaders discussed the 1.5 billion ESSA investment for the implementation of a fertilizer factory project, signed in August 2023, and explored opportunities for greater business exchanges.

On his part, President Prabowo has also promised to continue the strong cooperation between his Country and Tanzania as was the case with his predecessors.

Norway:

In a meeting with Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre of Norway, President Samia discussed strategies for improving cooperation in clean cooking energy, an area where Norway has significant expertise and experience. The two leaders agreed to collaborate on advancing clean energy initiatives globally.

Egypt:

President Samia also met with H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of Egypt to discuss the progress of the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project. The discussion also highlighted the importance of good management of Nile River water, which is a vital resource for Egypt.

Vietnam:

President Samia met with Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh of Vietnam to discuss the ongoing telecommunications collaboration between the two countries.

Tanzania and Vietnam have had that cooperation and are focusing on developing and improving it for the benefit of both countries.

Prime Minister Chinh extended an invitation to President Samia for a working visit to explore further areas of mutual cooperation.

Engagement with Global Financial Institutions

African Development Bank (AfDB):

Ahead of the Energy Summit in Tanzania in January 2025, President Samia met with the President of the African Development Bank, Dr. Akinumwi Adesina, to discuss the key role of AfDB in the success of the Summit.

World Bank:

President Samia also engaged with World Bank President, Mr. Ajay Banga, emphasizing the need for the World Bank to prioritize funding for infrastructure projects, particularly railway infrastructure, in the upcoming replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA21).

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB):

Along with other meetings, President Samia also met with Mr. Jin Liqun, President of the AllB, as Tanzania begins the process of joining the bank. The partnership is envisioned to open new opportunities for infrastructure development in the country.

President Samia invited President Liqun to the upcoming African Heads of State Energy Summit, the aim being to create a great platform to go through the many possible areas that Tanzania could benefit from joining the Bank.

Did You Know?

Trailblazing Women Leaders in G20 Summits:

Several pioneering women have made history by attending G20 Summits. They include:

Cristina Fernández de Kirchner

The former President of Argentina who held the position from 2007 to 2015 participated in the G20 Summit held in Pittsburgh, USA in 2009.

Julia Gillard

It should be noted that for the Commonwealth of Australia, the Prime Minister is the highest-level leader of the country. H. E. Julia Gillard served as the Prime Minister of Australia from 2010 to 2013, and luckily, with only 139 days in the office, on June 24, 2010, H.E. Gillard attended the 2010 G20 Summit held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, November 11 and 12. She also participated in the G20 meetings in 2011 Cannes, France; 2012 Los Cabos, Mexico; 2013 in St. Petersburg, Russia; and 2014 in Brisbane, Australia

Dilma Rousseff

From 2011 to 2016, H. E. Dilma Rousseff served as the President of the Federative Republic of Brazil and, as was the case with H. E. Gillard, in the first term of her leadership, she participated in the G20 Summit held in France that year. Generally, H. E. Rousseff has participated in three G20 meetings, including in 2013 in Russia and 2014 in Australia.



Angela Merkel

The renowned politician and Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel is the leader who set the record so far for attending the most G20 Summits while in power between 2005 and 2021. Chancellor is the 3rd highest position in Germany after the President of Germany and the President of the Bundestag.

Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan

Bringing it home, unlike the four leaders mentioned above, who are all from G20 member countries, their positions automatically secure them a seat at the summits, in contrast to those who are invited. President Samia made history in 2024 by becoming the first female President of Africa to be invited to the G20 Summit and the first Tanzanian leader to attend the event. This recognition highlights her leadership in addressing key global issues such as poverty, hunger, energy reform, and environmental protection.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan playing a central role in representing an initiative which is witnessing Tanzania's increasing role on the global stage, the likes of G20 Summit invitation and many others. Her leadership is not only advancing national priorities but also enhancing Tanzania's international relations and opportunities for economic growth.





Tanzania Making Progress to become a Dependable Food Basket

By Sheiba Bulu

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, reaffirmed Tanzania's steady progress toward becoming a food basket for East and Southern Africa at the Norman Borlaug International Dialogue.

Speaking at the Africa Agriculture Dialogue during the World Food Prize event on October 31, 2024 in Iowa, United States of America, H.E. Dr. Samia highlighted the lessons drawn from the Feed Africa Dakar 2 Summit as instrumental in advancing Tanzania's agricultural strategy. President Samia shared the efforts made by Tanzania in response to Dakar's recommendations and emphasized that Tanzania is committed to establishing itself as a food basket for East and Southern Africa.

"Tanzania is building its capacity as a dependable food basket for East Africa, with the potential to support other regions, including Southern Africa," she remarked.

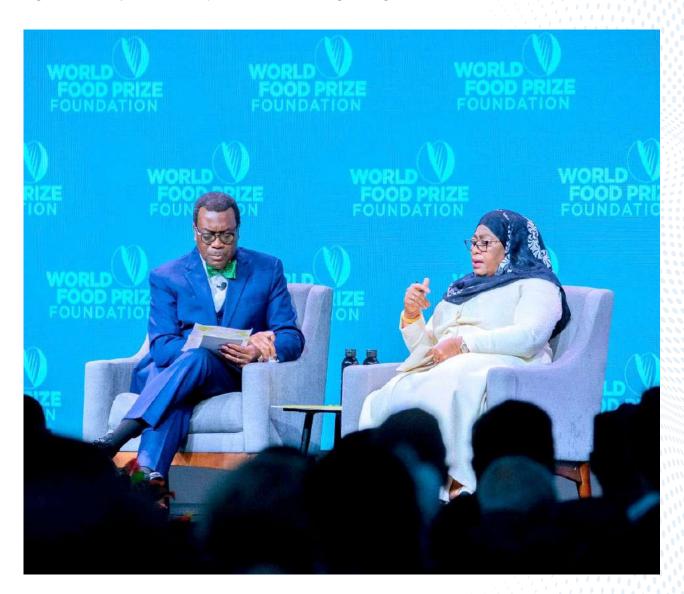
Speaking on Tanzania's progress, President Samia outlined the country's focus on achieving food security, reducing post-harvest losses, and enhancing its

capacity to supply food across the region. She highlighted that these efforts align with a broader vision to leverage Tanzania's agricultural potential to address food insecurity, foster economic growth, and strengthen regional cooperation.

The President emphasized her administration's dedication to prioritizing agriculture and food systems, building resilient and sustainable frameworks for food production and delivery, and ensuring Tanzania's role as a dependable contributor to regional food security.

The Norman Borlaug International Dialogue is an annual event organized by the World Food Prize Foundation that brings together leaders, experts, dignitaries, and policymakers, particularly in agriculture, nutrition, and resource management.

It is named after Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, often called the "Father of the Green Revolution" for his work in increasing global agricultural productivity and combating hunger.



President Samia Leads SADC Troika Meeting in Zanzibar

By Reginald Philip

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defense and Security Cooperation (SADC Organ), H.E Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan chaired an Extra-Ordinary Troika Summit meeting which convened virtually in Zanzibar early December 2024.

The SADC Troika is made up of three SADC member states, including Tanzania as the current chairperson, Zambia, outgoing chairperson and Malawi the incoming chairperson.

The meeting was convened to discuss pressing issues within the Southern Africa region including the budget for the extended mandate of Security and Defence Mission in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (SAMIDRC) for the period of 2024–2025. And, the appointment of the Special Representative of SADC and Head of Mission of SAMIDRC.

During the meeting the meeting stressed on the need for continued efforts in conflict resolution and promoting peace in countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Mozambique, where political stability remains a significant challenge.

In her opening remarks, President Samia highlighted Tanzania's commitment to regional peace and stability, as well as its ongoing efforts to support conflict resolution and peace-building initiatives in the region.

She reiterated the need for a comprehensive approach to peace, which includes economic development, good governance, and strong institutions.

President Samia further stressed on the need for regional cooperation to achieve the

President Samia further stressed on the need for regional cooperation to achieve the SADC Vision 2050, which aims to transform the region into a more integrated, peaceful, and prosperous community, expressing optimism on the future of SADC.

"This meeting reinforces the commitment of member states to work together to overcome challenges and seize opportunities for growth," said President Samia.

The Zanzibar meeting marked a significant milestone for Tanzania's leadership within SADC and underscored H.E President Samia's role in advancing regional cooperation and stability. The discussions held during the Troika meeting are expected to shape the direction of SADC's political and security efforts in the coming years.

The meeting was preceded by Ministerial meetings which were led by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Hon. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (MP) due to his capacity as the Chairperson of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO).

Vice President Mpango Advocates for Clean Energy at COP29 and Highlights Tanzania's Efforts to Mitigate Climate Change

By Sheiba Bulu



The Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Dr. Philip Mpango, called on the 29th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) to prioritize clean cooking energy in discussions on financing climate change mitigation efforts. Dr. Mpango made the appeal during his address at COP29, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, on November 12, 2024.

The Conference, themed "Solidarity in Building a Green World," emphasized the need for united global efforts to address the impacts of climate change effectively. The Vice President called for strengthening the Loss and Damage Fund, aligning it with the progress achieved at COP28 in Dubai as well as addressing challenges in carbon markets, highlighting insufficient data and

structural issues that prevent equitable participation and payments for countries like Tanzania.

Dr. Mipango emphasized Tanzania's continued commitment to global efforts against climate change. He noted that the launch of the Pan-African Women Clean Energy Support Programme by President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, is evident of that. The program which aims to promote clean cooking energy across the continent has an annual investment target of approximately \$4 billion to be attained by 2030.

He highlighted that it will be crucial in assisting the 900 million people in Africa who still rely on polluting cooking energy sources, leading to deforestation, loss of carbon sinks, and health complications caused by smoke from traditional fuels.

Dr. Mpango urged the conference to ensure that pledges for climate financing are honoured, calling for decisions that expedite funding allocations to countries based on their climate change vulnerabilities. He also stressed the importance of revisiting the \$100 billion climate financing goal set in 2009, as its outcomes will shape future global climate funding mechanisms.

Furthermore, Dr, Mipango informed the Conference that Tanzania, like other developing countries, is also utilizing its domestic resources to implement development projects that promote clean energy, environmentally friendly transportation infrastructure, enhanced early warning systems, and effective waste management. Tanzania has committed to ensuring that 80% of households have access to safe, affordable, and clean cooking energy by 2034, as part of its national strategy.

He said Tanzania is dedicated to conserving its marine and forest resources, with 48.1 million hectares of forest reserves capable of sequestering approximately 2% of the world's total carbon, with a 1,424-kilometer coastline and 64,500 square kilometers of marine area providing significant opportunities for the blue economy.



SADC EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT: Reaffirmation of Commitment and Unity toward SADC's Peace and Security Agenda



President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, H.E. Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, represented the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, at the Extraordinary Summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) held in Harare, Zimbabwe, on 20 November 2024. The Summit included Heads of State and Government from 16 member countries of SADC.

The meeting served as a platform for member states to address regional issues, with a primary focus on peace and security concerning the ongoing crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The Summit, chaired by President Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe, emphasized the need for sustainable solutions to restore peace and stability in Eastern DRC. President Mnangagwa stated that the people of Eastern DRC deserve peace and security, urging all member states to support initiatives aimed at restoring stability.

In his remarks, President Mwinyi emphasized Tanzania's commitment in standing together as a community so as to find lasting solutions for the citizens of Eastern DRC. He firmly articulated Tanzania's dedication to advancing diplomatic

initiatives aimed at resolving the conflict between the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda.

President Mwinyi emphasized that peace and security are foundational elements essential for sustainable development within the region and advocated for a collaborative approach among nations to coordinate regional peace efforts.

He highlighted that effective conflict resolution is not only a political necessity but also a critical factor for both economic and social progress. He added that stability in neighbouring countries significantly contributes to a more prosperous future for all member states within the community.

"We recognize that peace and security are crucial components in achieving development therefore, it is our commitment as member countries of the community to support diplomatic efforts aimed at resolving the hostilities between the DRC and Rwanda," stated President Mwinyi.

His assertion underscores a collective responsibility among regional leaders to cooperate in mitigating tensions and fostering an environment conducive to long-term growth and collaboration. President Mwinyi's statement clearly show Tanzania's proactive approach to engaging in dialogue and endorsing initiatives that prioritize peace as a prerequisite for development.

During the Summit, members agreed to extend the SADC Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (SAMIDRC) which was deployed in December 2023 with troops



from Tanzania, Malawi, and South Africa for one year to continue stabilization efforts in Eastern DRC.

Member states also reiterated their support for the Luanda Process, aimed at improving DRC-Rwanda relations, and recognized the contributions of Angolan President H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço in achieving peace and facilitating a ceasefire. In addition, members condemned ceasefire violations and urged all parties to adhere to their obligations to maintain regional security.

Members also reaffirmed their commitment to the SADC Mutual Defence Pact and expressed appreciation to the African Union Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Security Council for the ongoing initiatives in support of SAMIDRC. Recognising SADC's impact in the conflict, President of DRC, H.E. Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, also expressed his appreciation for its role in restoring peace and ensuring security in the country.

Prior to the Summit, key meetings were held, including the Extraordinary SADC Organ Troika Summit chaired by President Mwinyi, as well as the SADC Senior meeting and the Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defence, and Security Cooperation indicating a thorough collective effort to address regional challenges and foster stability.

The Summit concluded with significant outcomes advocating for coordinated efforts toward a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Eastern DRC.

The Tanzanian delegation at the Summit included the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (MP), Minister for Defence and National Service, Hon. Dr. Stergomena Tax (MP), Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Amb. Dr. Samwel Shelukindo, Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Defence and National Service Dr. Faraja Mnyepe, Chief of Defence Force Gen. Jacob Mkunda, Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Finance Dr. Natu El-Maarmy Mwamba, Director of Regional Cooperation for Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Ms. Talha Waziri, and other officials from various government ministries.













Prime Minister Majaliwa Addresses the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa participating in a discussion on democracy at a meeting organized by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in New York, USA, on 25th September, 2024

Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania Hon. Kassim Majaliwa addresses the general debate of the 79th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA) in New York.

Hon. Majaliwa addressed the General Assembly representing President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan and became the 2nd Prime Minister of Tanzania to attend and address United Nations General Assembly after Mizengo Pinda who attended the 65th Sessions

Hon. Majaliwa emphasized Tanzania's ongoing efforts to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through initiatives that prioritize poverty eradication, quality education, healthcare, and climate action. He highlighted the importance of the SDGs as a "beacon of hope" in tackling global challenges and voiced concerns about the slow progress in achieving them, with only 17 per cent of targets on track and over a third stalling or regressing.

He called for urgent actions and global solidarity as a way to overcome challenges like economic imbalances, climate change and conflicts. He detailed Tanzania's progress in achieving the SDGs and spotlighted initiatives like the agricultural initiative for youth "the Building a Better Tomorrow" (BBT) and women's empowerment in Zanzibar through seaweed farming.

He emphasized that in light of global health threats and geopolitical tensions that does not leave anyone safe until everyone is safe, urging to invest more in peace, foster unity and rebuild trust. He welcomed the adoption of the World Kiswahili Language Day by the General Assembly and called for Kiswahili to become the seventh official UN language.

He called for greater investments in climate finance to help recover economies already suffering from these effects, noting that Tanzania is highly vulnerable to rising sea levels and other climate impacts.



Driving Sustainable Development: Tanzania's Commitment to Clean Energy and Climate Action at the 27th CHOGM



By Rose Shayo

Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo represented the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, at the 27th Commonwealth Heads of State and Government Meeting (CHOGM) held in Apia, Samoa October 25, 2024; driving Tanzania's sustainable development agenda while committing to clean energy and climate action.

The meeting's theme 'One Resilient Common Future: Transforming our Common Wealth' pushes for oneness in achieving the Commonwealth countries' goals, where member countries have been advised to continue to create a resilient economy, environment, democracy, rule of law, human rights, and the welfare of the people for a greater future.

In achieving this endeavor, Tanzania aims to collaborate with various stakeholders, including regional and international communities, including Commonwealth members, private sectors, and financial institutions, to facilitate access to affordable and easily accessible clean cooking energy to address health challenges caused by using unclean fuels like wood and charcoal, while also reducing environmental damage.

The Minister for Blue Economy and Fisheries from Zanzibar, Hon. Shaaban Ali Othman together with the Tanzanian youth who participated in the CHOGM



Youth Forum, carried the clean cooking agenda for cooking by motivating the Member States of CHOGM to be at the forefront in developing effective strategies to generate energy for the sustainable development of those countries, as a key approach to addressing climate change.

The Prime Minister of Samoa, Hon. Fiamē Naomi Mata'afa, stated that, if the discussions held by the Members States will be implemented by each country, then the desired goals will be achieved. He also expressed gratitude to the Commonwealth for their support during the Constitutional crisis in Samoa in 2021.

The King of Great Britain, Charles III, while officiating the opening of the 2024 CHOGM urged the Member States to join efforts in fostering sustainable development, particularly in addressing the urgent challenges of climate change. His Majesty King Charles III, emphasized that climate change poses a significant threat of environment in the world, and requires immediate action, with each member country having a vital role in tackling the global emerging challenges.

King Charles further added that, youth empowerment, both professionally and intellectually, should be a central focus in all programs of the Commonwealth, especially for those living in small island countries, highlighting that the King's Fund will play a crucial role in offering support to the youth.

The Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Hon. Patricia Scotland KC also underscored the importance of environmental protection, calling for greater unity in accelerating the efforts to combat climate change and prevent major disasters. She also thanked the community for allowing her to serve in her position. "We work together, or we suffer in isolation. It is in this togetherness that the real strength and value of the Commonwealth Aiga is realized," she stated.

Additionally, on October 26, 2024, the current Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of the Republic of Ghana, Hon. Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey was elected as the new incoming Secretary General of the Commonwealth. Hon. Botchwey is set to assume office in April, 2025.

Minister Kombo: Tanzania Remains Commited to Support Efforts for Peace and Security in The Great Lakes Region

By Teodos Komba



On November 24, 2024 the Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (MP) attended the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs (RIMC) of ICGLR Member States, which took place in Luanda, Angola.

During the meeting, Hon. Kombo reaffirmed Tanzania's commitment to continue working closely with the Member States of the ICGLR, the international community and other stakeholders in efforts to achieve lasting peace in the region.

Through the visionary leadership of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, Tanzania will continue to work tirelessly with member states and the international community to address ongoing conflicts, with the goal of fostering a region characterized by peace, prosperity and resilience.

Minister Kombo also urged member states to ensure that the influence of development partners does not compromise the effectiveness and efficiency of established systems, including the ICGLR Conflict Early Warning and Response Systems.

He also stressed the importance of member states to honour their financial contributions to the Secretariat as a demonstration of solidarity and collective effort, ensuring that the Community can effectively implement its plans and strategies to achieve a region of security, stability, and sustainable development.

"As a founding member of the ICGLR, Tanzania believes that strengthening diplomatic relations and enhancing stability will accelerate the economic development of our people in the Great Lakes Region," stated Minister Kombo.

Additionally, he used the opportunity to urge the ICGLR Secretariat to ensure the effective use and management of funds for the benefit of the region.

For his part, the Chair of the meeting, Hon. Ambassador Téte António, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Angola, expressed his satisfaction with the ongoing discussions aimed at restoring diplomatic relations between Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). He also called on member states to unite in addressing the challenges threatening peace, security, and humanitarian conditions in the Republic of Sudan, the Central African Republic, South Sudan and the ongoing violence in eastern DRC.



Strengthening Ties: Hon. Kombo's Pioneering Visit to Finland for Enhanced Tanzania-Finland Cooperation

By Ally Kondo

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (MP) held a working visit to Finland, the first bilateral visit since his appointment to assume the portfolio on 21st July 2024.

The visit held from 8th to 10th October 2024 was to attend the Second meeting of the Tanzania – Finland Political Consultations which was held in Helsinki on the 9th of October 2024, where Hon. Kombo Co-chaired the sessions alongside Foreign Affairs Minister, Hon. Elina Valtonen and Under-Secretary of State for International Development, Mr. Pasi Hellman.

In their discussions, Hon. Elina Valtonen and Hon. Mahmoud Kombo underlined the significance of the second Tanzania-Finland Political Consultations which provided a platform for the two nations to reflect on the enduring partnership which flourished since the 1960s. They emphasized on strengthening and maintaining the existing diplomatic relations and open new areas of cooperation across various sectors including but not limited to education, forestry, ICT, health and gender equality.





It was further mentioned that the Finnish Development Cooperation Strategy in Tanzania, which was to expire in December 2024, has been extended for another year with a focus on gender empowerment and skills development for the youth so as to create employment. Through the Geological Survey of Finland (GTK), Finland will continue supporting the mining sector in Tanzania through capacity building to the Geological Survey of Tanzania (GST). Also, Finland, Estonia, and the European Union (EU) are looking on ways of working together to support and strengthening the e-Government in Tanzania.

Honorable Kombo informed on the untapped investment opportunities in Tanzania particularly in sectors such as agriculture, tourism and mining. He said Tanzania is number 3 (three) in critical minerals in Africa despite not having enough data on the said minerals in the country. He, therefore, appreciated Finnish support in building the capacity of Geological Survey of Tanzania and welcomed more partnerships in the mining sector, forestry, sustainable small island investments and cruise ship tourism.

Through this visit, Hon. Minister Kombo tabled a proposal for the establishment of a scholarship programme for Tanzanians to study in Finland. He suggested that the scholarship can start with a few programmes, such as nursing and medicine, as a pilot, and later on, if both parties agree, it can be broadened to other fields. Through this arrangement, Finland could also retain beneficiaries of the scholarship as workers in the Finnish health system that imports many workers from abroad.

The proposal was well received and Tanzania was requested to prepare a concept note on the idea and submit it to the Finnish government for consideration.

In this visit, Hon. Kombo was honored to pay courtesy call to the Finnish President, H.E. Alexander Stubb where they vowed to deepen and maintain the excellent existing historic bilateral relations and supporting each other on global matters.

The conversation held at President's residence on 10th October 2024, had the two leaders highlighting on the various political conflicts in various parts of the world. They noted the harmful impacts of the conflicts to the world economy and order and called upon all parties to engage in peaceful resolutions.

Apart from attending the Political Consultations, Hon. Minister Kombo also held various meetings and visited monumental places in Finland

Visit to the CMI - Martti Ahtisagri Peace Foundation

While in Finland, Hon. Minister Kombo also visited CMI – Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation located in Helsinki, where the Chief Executive Officer of CMI, Dr. Janne Taalas, received him. Hon. Minister used the opportunity to express appreciation for CMI's support of peace processes in African countries. In addition, he called for CMI to do more on conflict prevention, citing an example of training on early warning systems for African countries. He also requested CMI to facilitate training a new generation of mediators in Africa as the old generation of mediators is slowly diminishing.

On his part, the Chief Executive Officer mentioned that Africa is a priority for CMI and that it will continue to support peace strategies in the continent.

Meeting at Wärtsilä Energy

During the visit, Mr. Anders Lindberg, President of Wärtsilä Energy provided an overview of Wärtsilä's profile and its projects across Africa, with a focus on Tanzania. Wärtsilä, a provider of flexible energy solutions, specializes in balancing renewable energy sources through engine power plants and energy storage technologies. In Tanzania, Wärtsilä operates three key projects: Geita Gold Mine (41.6 MW), Tegeta Emergency Project (41.5 MW and Ubungo Emergence Project (104.8 MW).

In response, the Honorable Minister acknowledged Wärtsilä's role in ensuring a sustainable energy supply and encouraged the company to strengthen its efforts by collaborating with financial institutions and exploring export credit facilities like Finland's Public Investment Facility (PIF) to finance energy projects. He also urged Wärtsilä to support rural energy projects aligned with the government's Rural Electrification Agency (REA) initiative.

Working Lunch at Geological survey of Finland

At the Geological Survey of Finland (GTK), Hon. Minister held talks with the Director General of GTK, Mr. Kimmo Tiilikainen who introduced GTK as a leading research institution specializing in geological resources, operating globally and supporting sustainable growth through innovation. In 2024, GTK and Tanzania's Geological Survey (GST) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation in mineral research, capacity building, and funding for critical minerals projects to bolster Tanzania's mining sector.

Hon. Minister congratulated GTK for the support to Tanzania and on the MoU. He emphasized its importance in unlocking Tanzania's mineral potential. He urged GTK to support Tanzania's mineral mapping initiative, as only 16% of the country's landscape has been surveyed and highlighted ongoing government efforts, including a new advanced laboratory in Dodoma.

Meeting with Finnfund

In the meeting, the Director General of Finnfund, Mr. Jaakko Kangasniemi introduced the entity to Hon. Minister Kombo and identified itself as a development financier offering equity-based risk financing, long-term investment loans, and expertise to private companies operating in, or expanding to developing countries.

Hon. Minister welcomed Finnfund to expand its financing in Tanzania, stressing the private sector's need for capital, including grants and concessional loans, to support business growth. He highlighted that the Tanzanian government's interest in ensuring that the private sector is well-capitalized to boost production and increase value-added goods for export.

Visit to Oodi Library and Meeting with Business Finland



Hon. Minister also visited Helsinki central library to underscored the importance of fostering knowledge exchange and cultural diplomacy between Finland and Tanzania. He further visited Business Finland and was received by Senior Director, Mr. Jusa Susia. Business Finland is the government's entity for innovation, funding, and promoting trade, travel, and investment. Business Finland connects Finnish companies to global market opportunities, aiming to accelerate sustainable growth while positioning Finland as a leading innovation hub and attractive investment destination. Hon. Minister in the meeting emphasized the need to narrow the trade imbalance between Tanzania and Finland for the benefit of both countries and people.

Tanzania and The UAE Marks a Golden Jubilee Of Strong Diplomatic Ties and Shared Prosperity

By Sheiba Bulu



December 2024, marked a historic milestone for Tanzania and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as the two countries commemorated 50 years' anniversary of their strong diplomatic ties and share prosperity. This golden jubilee offers not only offers opportunity long-standing reflect on the partnership between the two nations, but built on mutual respect, cultural exchange, and shared ambitions for future growth as partners bilaterally and on the global stage.

Tanzania was one of the first African nations to recognize the UAE following its unification in 1971, and their relationship dates back to centuries, rooted in early trade routes that connected the Persian Gulf to the shores of East Africa. From the unification of the UAE to the formal establishment of diplomatic

relations in 1974, the two nations have developed a deep bond, founded on the visions of their founding leaders the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan of the UAE.

Since then the two nations have enjoyed friendly and cordial relations, leading Tanzania to open its embassy in Abu Dhabi in the 2000's, whereas the UAE reciprocated the same in Dar es Salaam in 2005. Moreover, Tanzania maintains its consulate office in Dubai, while the UAE has opened its consulate in Zanzibar in 2023. Both consulates serve as focal points for Tanzanians and UAE citizens. Besides, the opened offices have over the years facilitate the growing number of people travelling between Tanzania and the UAE for business, tourism, arts, and culture.

Through the above endeavors, it is clear that Tanzania and the UAE enjoy and share warm, long-standing relations that are underpinned by strong economic cooperation, bonds of heritage, and the shared destiny of the people of the two nations. Since inception of their ties, Tanzania and the UAE clearly identified areas of mutual interest, including trade, investment, and regional peacebuilding, leaders from both sides emphasizing importance of collaboration. the Today, Tanzania and the UAE are collaborating and cooperating through sectors of trade, industry, agriculture, infrastructure, energy, mining, tourism, arts and culture, education, science and technology, and security, politics and diplomacy, communications, fisheries, investment, and community development.

Strengthening diplomatic relations

The 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations commemorations coincided with Tanzania's 63rd National Day and the UAE's 53rd National Day, marking a shared moment of pride, reflection, and strengthened partnership. To mark the occasion, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African **Ambassador** Cooperation, Hon. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo, visited the UAE from 1-5 December, 2024, and took part in a series of events specifically organized to commemorate anniversary, further cementing the bilateral bond.

The events include a landmark address at the Anwar Gargash UAE Diplomatic Academy, participating in a first political consultation between Tanzania and the UAE, attending as a special guest at the 53rd UAE



National Day Celebrations organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as visiting the Louvre Museum in the UAE's Capital, Abu Dhabi.

As a part of a series of activities to commemorate 53rd anniversary of UAE National Day in Abu Dhabi, Hon. Ambassador Kombo had the honour to attend the special national day event hosted by the UAE President,, H. H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, held on 2nd December, 2024, in Abu Dhabi.

On 3rd of December, 2024, Hon. Ambassador Kombo had the chance to visit the Louvre art gallery museum in Abu Dhabi. During the visit at the Louvre Museum, Hon. Minister Kombo witnessed how the museum is uniquely preserved and educates the visitors through a modern setting reflects and contemplates that governance, knowledge, craftsmanship while showcasing the culture and leadership of the people of the UAE. The Louvre Museum is described as among France's largest cultural projects abroad and operates under an agreement between the UAE and France of 2007, which permits the use of the Louvre name until 2047.

On 4th December, 2024, as the series of events continued, the Anwar Gargash UAE Diplomatic Academy prepared a special lecture that was themed "From Foundations to Futures: A Half Century of UAE-Tanzania Relations - From Historical Relations to Diplomatic Relations Towards Economic Cooperation for Mutual Benefits," where Minister Kombo attended and lectured the audience.



The commemorations at the Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy also went hand in hand with a one-year anniversary since Anwar Gargash established its relations with the Tanzanian Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim Center for International Relations.

Delivering his remarks at Anwar Gargash UAE Diplomatic Academy, Ambassador Kombo highlighted the enduring strength of Tanzania-UAE relations emphasized the need of continuing to strengthen the existing relationship and cooperation between Tanzania and the UAE while laying a solid diplomatic foundation for future generations. He also emphasized the importance of venturing into new areas of cooperation while continuing in areas such as trade, investment, energy, and community development. He also promoted Tanzania's vast economic potential, underscoring the country's natural resources, political stability, and rich tourism industry as key areas for investment.

Ambassador Kombo also pointed out that the Tanzania-UAE relationship has remained friendly and united over the years and expressed his confidence that the relationship will grow even stronger in the coming years and used the platform to highlight Tanzania's vast trade, investment, and tourism potential, emphasizing the country's commitment to fostering mutually partnerships beneficial through economic diplomacy and extended a warm invitation to UAE nationals and businesses in exploring the abundant opportunities in Tanzania's dynamic sectors.

Among other areas that the minister ventured on is the promotion of Tanzania as a prime destination for investment and tourism, encouraging UAE stakeholders to collaborate in unlocking new economic opportunities that would drive prosperity for both nations while strengthening existing ties between Tanzania and the UAE.

On 5th December, 2024, Ambassador Kombo led Tanzania's delegation at the inaugural session of the first diplomatic consultations between the United Republic of Tanzania and the United Arab Emirates. The inaugural diplomatic consultations marked a significant milestone as they coincide with the 50-year celebration of diplomatic relations between Tanzania and the UAE, which is now firmly focused on economic cooperation for mutual prosperity for both nations.

During the unique and historic dialogue, both sides affirmed their commitment to strengthen elevate their bilateral relations for the mutual benefit of their countries and citizens, and both sides emphasized the importance of enhancing economic cooperation and fostering deep, trust-based. As a result, the consultations reached agreements to continue various collaboration in key sectors such as trade, investment, agriculture via Tanzania's "Build Better Tomorrow" initiative (BBT), energy, health, the blue economy, livestock, fisheries, construction, and transport in the course of the consultations, the UAE agreed and pledged to support

Tanzania's Clean Cooking Initiative, which is a key priority of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H. E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, which has also been endorsed by African and global leaders, for it not only empowers women but also contributes significantly to global environmental sustainability goals.

The political consultations also resulted in commitment that a the two nations would work on the development projects funded by the Abu Dhabi Development Fund for mutual benefits. The projects include the expansion and rehabilitation of Wete Hospital in Pemba, which is worth USD 10 million, as well as agreeing to the providing of a 10 million USD grant from the Khalifa Fund so as to support small and medium-scale enterprises in Zanzibar.

Speaking at the discussions, the UAE's Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for Political Affairs, H.E. Lana Nusseibeh, highlighted Tanzania as one of the UAE's key partners in Africa and added that the partnership has led to the signing of cooperation agreements in civil aviation and the waiver of double taxation as well as the establishment of direct flights between the two nations, which are operated by Emirates, Etihad, Fly Dubai, and Air Tanzania.

Later on, 5th December, 2024, Hon. Ambassador Kombo attended 53rd UAE National day celebrations hosted by the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to which he was a special guest. The celebration was graced by the UAE Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister

of Foreign Affairs, His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, and attended by members of the diplomatic corps in the UAE and other UAE government officials.

At the event, Ambassador Kombo had the opportunity to meet and hold talks with H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Al Nahyan and presented a congratulatory message from H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan to the President of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, H. H Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and UAE people all over the world as they celebrate their special day.

As Tanzania and the UAE celebrate 50 years of diplomacy, the future of their partnership looks bright. Both nations are committed to continuing cooperation in areas renewable energy, climate change, digital technology, and regional stability. They also remain dedicated to multilateral platforms such as the United Nations and the African Union, working together to address global challenges and promote mutual prosperity. The golden jubilee of Tanzania-UAE diplomatic relations is not just a celebration of the past but a beacon of hope for future generations. With a legacy of trust, collaboration, and shared goals, the two nations set an example for global diplomacy. Their enduring partnership is a testament to the power of cooperation in addressing common challenges and seizing opportunities that transcend borders.

Tanzania and the UAE's friendship stands as a remarkable model for



other nations, proving that long-term diplomatic ties built on mutual respect and shared values can yield lasting benefits for both countries and their citizens. The next 50 years promise even greater achievements, reinforcing the importance of diplomacy in shaping a brighter, more prosperous world.

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Deputy Minister Londo Calls for Unity In achieving Sustainable Development



By Rose Mbilinyi

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation responsible for East African Affairs, Hon. Dennis Londo, underscored the importance of collective efforts in addressing global challenges and promoting societal prosperity as cornerstone for sustainable development.

Hon. Londo emphasized this during the 1st Ministerial Conference of the Russia – Africa Partnership Forum, held on November 9 to 10, 2024, in Sochi, Russia when he was conveying the Government's greetings on behalf of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo.



In his remarks, Hon. Londo highlighted the strong historical ties between African nations and Russia, rooted in the liberation struggles of the African continent, during which Russia supported various countries in their quest for independence. He stressed that this partnership endures today through collaborative efforts to address global challenges such as peace and security, inequality, and insufficient resources. Hon. Londo also emphasized the importance of joint actions to combat violent conflict, terrorism, extremism and wars that result in the tragic loss of innocent people lives.

Hon. Londo further stated that hunger, infectious diseases, and extreme poverty have become some of the most complex threats to national security. He emphasized that addressing these challenges requires not only commitment but also collective visionary leadership and effective governance.

"The Russia – Africa Forum can accentuate its relevance by strategizing solutions to the challenges we face and reveal to the world that strong cooperation can resolve shared challenges that have been hindering the achievement of sustainable development goals for the well-being of our people and our nations," Hon. Londo asserted.

Hon. Londo also expressed Tanzania's aggressiveness to strengthening and promoting trade and investment with Russia and other Africa countries. Record shows over the past five years, trade relations between Tanzania and Russia have grown from USD 54,243,713 in 2019 to USD 390,388,000 in 2023.

He mentioned that the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) has played a crucial role in stimulating intra-African trade by creating a tariff – free continent. This initiative has boosted trade and investment, grow local business, accelerated

industrialisation and creating jobs, particularly for the youth, who encompasses the majority of the labor force.

He also pointed out that Russia exports five times more goods to Africa than Africa exports to Russia, a disparity that hinders trade and economic development. He urged Russia to increase investment in Africa through its trade and investment companies, helping to develop the continent's manufacturing industries, build technical expertise, and establish strong and competitive business institutions.

Furthermore, he informed that the projected USD 3 trillion borderless market of Africa could be instrument in reversing the current trends of poverty, inequality and slow growth in the African countries, helping to position on a path of inclusive and sustainable growth path.

Hon. Londo also expressed gratitude to the Russian government for its commitment to supporting Africa in building trade and technological capacities, particularly in production sectors. He noted that this support will enable Africa to produce high-quality goods that meet international standards and enhance its competitiveness in global market.

On the sidelines of the 1st Ministerial Conference of the Russia – Africa Partnership Forum, Hon. Londo also held a bilateral talk with Russia's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Bogdanov Mikhail Leonidovich, in Sochi, Russia. The discussions focused on the historical cooperation between Tanzania and Russia, which dates back to the era of Tanzania's founding father, the late Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere. Both leaders pledged to elevate the existing partnership to a greater height.

Hon. Londo also highlighted Tanzania's conducive investment environment, the numerous investment opportunities available in the country, and the strategic sectors which Russia could partner with Tanzania for mutual benefits. Furthermore, he encouraged Russian investors and entrepreneurs to take advantage of the vast investment and market opportunities present in Tanzania.

In response, Hon. Leonidovich thanked the Tanzanian government for its continued efforts to strengthen cooperation with Russia. He assured that Russia is fully committed to ensuring that its partnership with Tanzania brings significant economic and diplomatic benefits to both nations.

On the other hand, African countries and Russia also participated in a Business Forum under the theme, "Strengthening Trade Cooperation between Russia and African Countries." Tanzania was represented by the Chairman of the Tanzania Investment Center (TIC) Board, Dr. Binilith Mahenge. The forum provided an opportunity to showcase investment prospects in Africa, including those in Tanzania, with the goal of attracting more investors across various sectors. This platform highlighted the importance of reinforcing economic ties and fostering mutual growth, as both nations committed to elevating their partnership in trade, investment, and sustainable development.

Deputy Minister Londo Visits the Horohoro Lungalunga One Stop Border Post

By Raymond Kasoga

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation responsible for East African Affairs, Hon. Dennis Londo (MP), visited the Horohoro/Lungalunga One Stop Border Post (OSBP) located in Tanga Region.

The purpose of the visit was to assess the implementation of the East African Community (EAC) Customs Union operations, as well as the state of infrastructure and the overall functioning of the border post.

During the visit, Hon. Londo engaged in a conversation with employees from various institutions operating at the OSBP to understand the operations and see how their services facilitate cross-border trade.

Hon. Londo identified operational challenges faced by the OSBP and issues encountered by traders using the border. He highlighted the Government's



commitment to enhance local government authorities participation in East African Community integration, particularly those located near border areas, to ensure that citizens benefit from the opportunities presented by regional integration.

"The East African Community offers numerous untapped opportunities that can benefit traders as part of implementing Economic Diplomacy," Hon. Londo emphasized.

He urged local government authorities to develop deliberate strategies to empower small-scale traders to add value to their products, enabling them to access EAC member state markets without restrictions. He called on border agency staff to work with professionalism to streamline trade operations.

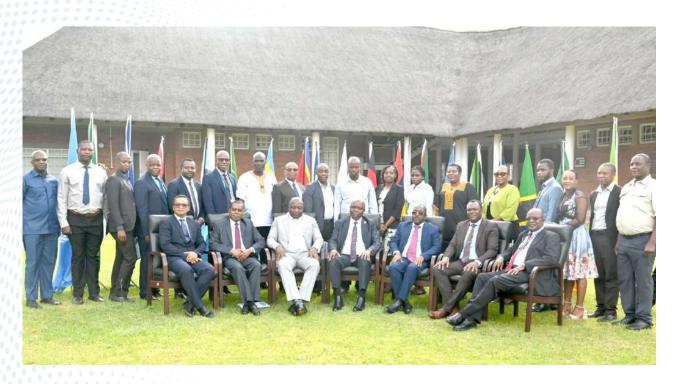
Hon. Londo reassured that the government will continue addressing operational challenges faced by the OSBP and issues affecting traders at Horohoro/Lungalunga and other

border points in the country.

During the visit, Hon. Londo met with various leaders from the Tanga Region, including the Regional Commissioner, Hon. Ambassador Dr. Batilda Buriani, Regional Administrative Secretary, Ms. Pili Mnyema, representatives from the Mkinga District Commissioner's Office, members of the Regional Business Community, and customs agents operating at the Horohoro border.







Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security Conducts a Working Visit to Zimbabwe

By Rosemary Malale

The Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence, and Security of the United Republic of Tanzania conducted a working visit to Zimbabwe at the invitation of the Zimbabwean Committee on Defence, Home Affairs, Security and War Veterans.

During their visit in December 2024, the Members of the Committee, led by their Chairperson Hon. Vita Kawawa, met with their hosts to discuss various issues key of which include the importance of further strengthening the fraternal relationship between Tanzania and Zimbabwe, a bond that has been rooted in the shared history of liberation struggles.

The Committee emphasized further the importance of preserving the long historical cooperation which has existed between the two countries for future generations. Such includes to ensure that they take count of Tanzania's significant contribution to Zimbabwe's independence struggle.

In line to their visit, Hon. Kawawa also seized the opportunity to extend an invitation to their hosts to come to Tanzania for similar exchanges.

In another development, the Committee visited several key sites, including the Tanzanian Embassy in Harare, Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre, the African Liberation Museum, the Blue-Ribbon Food Processing Company, and AZAM TV, which are owned by a Tanzanian based Company, Bakhresa Group, which has investments in Zimbabwe.

Duringtheirvisitatthe Tanzanian Embassy in Zimbabwe, the Committee was received by H.E Amb. Simon Sirro, whereby they discussed various issues and extended congratulations to the Embassy for their efforts in strengthening cooperation in areas of representation and the implementation of Economic Diplomacy.

Additionally, the Committee expressed their gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation and the Embassy for successfully facilitating this strategic visit, and encouraged the Embassy to continue seeking market opportunities for Tanzanian products in Zimbabwe and Mauritius, as well as promoting Tanzanian companies to invest in these countries.



Parliamentary Committee on Administration, Constitution and Legal Affairs Visits Ethiopia

A delegation from Tanzania's Parliamentary Standing Committee on Administration, Constitution, and Legal Affairs, led by Vice Chairperson Hon. Florent Laurent Kyombo, visited Ethiopia from December 15th to 19th, 2024, for a four-day working visit.

The delegation was warmly received by Tanzania's Ambassador to Ethiopia and Permanent Representative to the African Union (AU) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), H.E. Innocent Shiyo, at the Tanzanian Embassy in Addis Ababa.

The primary objective of the visit was to gain insights and build capacity on the management of diaspora affairs, particularly as Ethiopia's diaspora has played a crucial role in the country's economic development, creating significant employment and economic opportunities for its citizens.

During their stay, the Members of Parliament had the opportunity to engage with Ethiopia's Permanent Secretaries and Deputy Permanent Secretaries, who were in Addis Ababa for the First Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) Meeting between the United Republic of Tanzania and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, held on December 17th, 2024.

The visit gave room for the Tanzanian delegation to exchange experiences and explore potential strategies for enhancing diaspora engagement and contributing to the economic development of both countries.



Tanzania attends the First African Peace and Security Dialogue

By Teodos Komba



The First African Peace and Security Dialogue (APSD), organized by Thabo Mbeki Foundation, took place in Johannesburg, South Africa, on October 6, 2024. Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo represented the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan. Minister Kombo used the forum which focused on discussing and finding solutions to ongoing conflicts in various parts of the continent to reaffirm Tanzania's continued commitment to support efforts aimed at restoring peace and security across Africa, including in West Africa, the Horn of Africa, and South Sudan.

"As a member of the United Nations Security Council, Tanzania supports all efforts by regional, international, and other organizations to restore peace and security in the affected areas. Africa is rich in resources, and we must move beyond conflict to unlock our full potential," said Minister Kombo.

Minister Kombo highlighted seven key issues that should be prioritized in efforts to maintain peace and security across Africa; Strengthening cooperation with regional and international stakeholders to secure the necessary resources and

expertise for conflict resolution; Ensuring that peace and security dialogues are inclusive and representative; Upholding good governance; Democracy and Human Rights; Empowering women and youth in peace and security efforts; Investing in regional integration and collaboration; Enhancing systems to detect early warning signs of peace and security violations, including cross-border crime; and Building capacity in peace and security through training and resources.

In addition, Minister Kombo called on peace stakeholders across Africa to ensure that all parties involved in conflicts are included in every stage of conflict resolution. This includes inviting all parties to peace talks and dialogues on security and peacebuilding.

Reflecting on Tanzania's long-standing contributions and experience in peacebuilding and conflict resolution across Africa, Minister Kombo emphasized the critical need to involve women and youth in peace and security initiatives. Currently, Tanzania contributes to peacekeeping operations in several regions, including Central Africa, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Mozambique's Cabo Delgado region, and South Sudan.



Tanzania, European Union Agreed to Continue Supporting Development Efforts

By Rose Mbilinyi

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the European Union (EU) have signed a Joint Communique as a commitment to continue supporting development efforts for the benefit of both parties.

The Joint Communique was signed during the conclusion of the Partnership Dialogue between United Republic of Tanzania and the European Union (EU) held on December 10, 2024, at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) in Dar es Salaam. The discussions were jointly chaired by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Cosato Chumi (MP), representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (MP), and the delegation of the European Union was led by Managing Director for Africa at the European External Action Service, Ambassador Rita Maria Laranjinha.

The dialogue was conducted under the framework of the Samoa Agreement, signed in 2023. This dialogue emphasises the importance of regular engagement between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. As a proud member of the ACP group, Tanzania reaffirms its unwavering commitment to fulfilling its obligations by actively participating in these annual dialogues, which are crucial for advancing our partnership with the EU.



The following are the outcomes of the dialogue:

Strengthening Bilateral Cooperation: Tanzania and European Union reaffirmed their commitment to further enhancing bilateral cooperation under the Samoa Agreement which is the agreed framework for European relations. This relations aligns with Tanzania's Development Vision 2020–2025 and the Five-Year Development Plan III, focusing on sustainable economic growth and governance.

Regarding Development Cooperation, Tanzania expressed gratitude to the EU for its continuous support through the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), which has allocated €726 million for Tanzania. These funds has supported transformation of projects in governance, human capital development, and economic resilience. Tanzania emphasized the importance of aligning future investment with its Vision 2025 and called for timely implementation of ongoing projects under the Global Gateway Strategy.

Governance and Democracy: Tanzania and the EU reaffirmed their dedication to principles of good governance and democracy. During the discussions, Tanzania highlighted significance reforms undertaken under the leadership of Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan President of the United Republic of Tanzania directed by the 4R strategy (Reconciliation, Resilience, Reform, and Reconstruction). The EU also, committed to strengthening its partnership by full adherence to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations by respecting Tanzania sovereignty and align with its priorities.

Trade and investment: Both parties agreed to increase market access for Tanzania products in the EU and encouraging EU investment in strategic sectors such as renewable energy, manufacturing, and infrastructure development. The significance of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) in promoting equitable trade was underscored. The EU is currently engaging in tourism and infrastructure projects in Tanzania worth over TZS 8.3 trillion.

Maritime Security: Both sides emphasized cooperation in addressing maritime security challenges, including illegal fishing, trafficking, and piracy for assurance of the regional peace and stability. The EU pledged continued support to Tanzania due to its strategic location along the Indian Ocean and its importance in regional trade.

Regional Stability: During the discussions Tanzania's role on regional peace and security through its chair ship on SADC Organ on Politics, Defence, and

Security were acknowledge and its contributions to the African Union and East African Community was appreciated by the EU. Both sides acknowledged the importance of recent developments, including successful election in Mauritius, Mozambique, Botswana and Namibia. These peaceful electoral processes demonstrate the region's progress toward democratic consolidation.

The dialogue also touched conflict-affected areas like Northern Mozambique, the Great Lakes region and ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and Middle East. Both parties emphasised efforts on peaceful resolutions through dialogue and diplomacy and pledged to continue contributing to peace initiatives across Africa and the world at large.

The partnership between Tanzania and the European Union focuses on key areas like governance, maritime security, trade, and regional stability. By working together, both parties aim to foster sustainable development, peace, and mutual prosperity, contributing to long-term growth and stability in the region.



Tanzania Spearheads SADC Electoral Observer Missions in Mozambique, Botswana, Mauritius and Namibia

Tanzania, under the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, has taken the role of chair of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Organ on Politics, Defence, and Security Cooperation for the 2024–2025 term, which marks its rising leadership in the region.

The SADC Organ, responsible for matters of politics, security, and defense, plays a key role in enhancing peace and stability that are necessary for the socio-economic development and integration as outlined in SADC Vision 2050 and the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020–2030. Together, with the aim to safeguard the region from instability, instil democratic governance, and enhance cooperation where security and defence is concerned, the Organ operates in terms of the Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security.

Presidential, Legislative and Provincial Elections in Mozambique

By Rosemary Malale





As the current Chair of the Organ, Tanzania recently headed its first SADC Electoral Observer Mission (SEOM) to Mozambique's general elections in October 2024. This significant milestone re-emphasized Tanzania's obligation to ensure that member states adhere to SADC principles and guidelines for democratic elections, as ammended in 2021.

In fulfilling those responsibilities, President Samia appointed former President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar H.E. Dr. Amani Abeid Karume to



lead the SEOM to Mozambique. The mission was tasked with assessing the elections for the President, Members of Parliament, and Provincial Governors.

After Arriving in Mozambique on September 24, 2024, Dr. Karume with key stakeholders, met including government officials, political parties, civil society, and international organizations, review preparations political and security environment. The SEOM was officially launched on October 3, 2024, with 53 observers deployed across 11 constituencies, including Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Maputo

During the election observation, the former president emphasized SADC's commitment to

democracy, transparency, and inclusivity. Despite security concerns in Cabo Delgado, the mission reported that the elections proceeded peacefully and adhered to democratic principles.

Dr. Karume presented the SEOM's preliminary report on October 11, 2024, confirming that the elections were in line with SADC's guidelines for human rights, equality, and media freedom. The mission praised Mozambique's efforts on electoral management and gender representation, commending the country's resilience and positive steps towards democratic governance.

Hon. Pinda Leads the SEOM Mission in Botswana's General Election

By Sheiba Bulu

The former Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Mizengo Pinda, led the Southern African Development Community Election Observation Mission (SADC-SEOM) during Botswana's 2024 general election. Hon. Mizengo Pinda was appointed to lead the SADC-SEOM by the President of Tanzania and the Chairperson of the SADC Organ of Politics, Defence, and Security (TROIKA), H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan.

In fulfilling his primary role of overseeing the election, Hon. Mizengo Pinda engaged with various stakeholders to identify any concerns regarding preparations for the general election, voter registration processes, arrangements for polling day, and the organization of vote counting after the conclusion of the exercise.





During his various engagements with stakeholders, Hon. Pinda and his SEOM team met with political parties, civil society organizations or non-governmental organizations, the media and media institutions, government officials and leaders, the electoral commission, heads of security agencies, diplomats, youth groups, and university lecturers, where he had the opportunity to hear and observe how Botswana had prepared to conduct the general election.

Hon. Pinda and his SEOM team also visited polling stations to witness their opening and assess the overall preparations and observed the voting process and witnessed the closure of polling stations and the commencement of vote counting.



November, On Ist 2024, SEOM released a preliminary report in Gaborone. Hon. Pinda stated that Botswana's election largely adhered the principles to guidelines and SADC for democratic elections, which fairness, emphasize freedom, equality, and transparency to ensure a free, fair, and democratic electoral process.

He said SEOM examined several aspects before and during the election, which included the political and security environment, election management, media coverage, and gender and special group representation, all of which were largely well handled. He stated that SEOM observed Botswana's peaceful and calm environment throughout the pre-election and post-election periods, with campaign meetings, presidential candidate debates, and polling day activities conducted in an orderly, secure, and peaceful manner.

Botswana's 2024 general election stands as a landmark in the nation's political history, ending the Botswana Democratic Party's (BDP) long-standing dominance since independence, where the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) coalition, led by H. E Advocate Duma Boko, emerged victorious over incumbent former President H. E Mokgweetsi Masisi.

Tanzania's Hon. Mohamed Chande Othman Concludes Successful Preliminary Assessment of SEOM in Mauritius

By Ambassador Mindi Kasiga





Port Louis, Mauritius – The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM), led by Hon. Mohamed Chande Othman, has concluded its preliminary assessment of Mauritius' 2024 National Assembly Elections, held on November 10, 2024. Hon. Othman, the former Chief Justice of Tanzania, was appointed by Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chair of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence, and Security Cooperation, to head the mission.

The SEOM deployed 35 observers from nine SADC member states to all 10 administrative districts of Mauritius. Their mandate, guided by the Revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2021), focused on assessing the pre-election, election day, and counting processes.



In his preliminary statement delivered on November 12, Hon. Othman highlighted Mauritius' calm and peaceful electoral environment, which reflected the nation's political maturity and democratic ethos. "The people of Mauritius demonstrated commendable discipline, ensuring a conducive atmosphere for the elections," he stated.

The SEOM commended the people of Mauritius for their political maturity and tolerance during the elections, urging stakeholders to resolve any disputes through established legal frameworks. The final report, which will include

post-election observations, is expected to be released within 30 days.

The 2024 National Assembly Elections in Mauritius changed the nation's political landscape, as voters chose between continuity and change. The elections came at the end of the tenure of Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, who had led the country since 2017. In a competitive race, the electorate favored Navin Ramgoolam, whose campaign focused on inclusive growth, youth empowerment, and fostering greater transparency in governance.

With a peaceful transfer of power, Mauritius once again showcased its political stability and commitment to democratic principles, reaffirming its reputation as a beacon of democracy in the region. The SADC Electoral Observation Mission, under the leadership of Hon. Mohamed Chande Othman, played a vital role in ensuring the credibility of the process and commended the Mauritian people for their active participation in shaping their country's future.

Hon. Anne Makinda Successfully Leads the SADC Election Observation Mission in Namibia's 2024 General Election



By Koleta Njelekela

The Head of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Election Observation Mission (SEOM), and the former Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania, Hon. Anne Makinda successfully leads the mission to monitor Namibia's 2024 General Election, demonstrating strong leadership and commitment to democratic values.

Hon. Makinda was appointed by President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan of Tanzania, to lead the SEOM to NAMIBIA, with a

responsibility of assessing the conduct of the elections against a set of central principles that are stipulated in the revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2021).





During the Mission, Hon. Makinda held meetings with key stakeholders responsible with the Election in Namibia, including representatives from the Government, Political Parties, Namibian Electoral Commission, Local Obsevers and members for the International Community.

On Election Day, November 27, over 1.4 million Namibians cast their votes across 121 constituencies in all 14 regions. Despite logistical challenges such as long wait times and delays in announcing the results, both the SADC-SEOM and other international observers affirmed that the election were free, fair, and fully in compliance with Namibian laws and regulations.

Finally, on the 3rd December, the Namibia Electoral Commission declared Hon. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwa of the SWAPO Party the winner of the elections, making her the first female President of the Republic of Namibia. The results reflected the will of the Namibian people and reaffirmed their commitment to upholding democratic values throughout the country.

Tanzania as Head of SADC Electoral Observer Missions

In all of the above four missions, Tanzania's leadership of the Organ Troika including Malawi and Zambia; has prioritized peace and stability, setting a strong foundation for socio-economic development. As Chair, President Samia Suluhu Hassan's administration continues to build on these principles, enhancing Tanzania's role as a champion of regional stability and democratic governance.

By leading the SEOM in Mozambique, Botswana, Mauritius and Namibia; Tanzania continues to solidify its position as a champion and promoter of peace as well as peaceful transition of power and democracy within the SADC region and beyond. The success of the above missions highlight the importance of collaborative efforts in achieving stability and fostering sustainable development.

As Tanzania continues its tenure as Chair of the SADC Organ, it remains committed to advancing the region's collective goals, ensuring that peace and democracy remain at the forefront of SADC's agenda.

The 24th East African Community (EAC) Summit: A Milestone in Regional Cooperation

By Rosemary Malale



The 24th Ordinary Summit of the East African Community (EAC) Heads of State Summit was held at the EAC headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania, in November 2024. Among other issues, the Heads of State committed to continue implementing the integration agenda for the broader benefit of their citizens, including matters related to boosting trade, politics, defense and security, the environment, and cooperation among the people of East Africa.

Hosted by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the summit was attended by the President of the Republic of Uganda, H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E William Ruto, President of the Republic of Rwanda, H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of South Sudan, H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, the Vice President of the Republic of Burundi, H.E Prosper Bazombanza of Burundi, and the EAC Secretary-General, Hon. Veronica Nduva, among other dignitaries.

The summit, which was preceded by Senior Officials meetings followed by the Coordination Committee of Permanent Secretaries and the 46th Council of Ministers meeting, discussed main themes which revolved around enhancing political federation, improving economic ties, and ensuring security cooperation across the region. As a bloc, the EAC has increasingly emphasized the need for greater collaboration in trade, infrastructure development, security, and governance.

The summit reiterated the importance of creating a seamless trading environment in East Africa, especially with the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) now in effect. Discussions were focused on eliminating non-tariff barriers to trade, improving infrastructure connectivity, and enhancing the region's competitiveness globally. Leaders also discussed strategies for boosting intra-regional trade and ensuring that the benefits of integration are felt at the grassroots level.

Furthermore, the EAC Heads of State devoted a significant portion of their time to discuss on peace and security issues and affirmed their commitment to resolving conflicts in the region, particularly in the Eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo. During the summit, the Heads of State received a report from H.E Uhuru Kenyatta, Facilitator of the EAC-Led Nairobi Process on the restoration of Peace and Security in the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and called for cessation of hostilities and a coordinated approach and a consolidation of the various initiatives, specifically, the Luanda Process and the EAC Process to be merged into one and managed jointly.

On this matter, the Summit underscored the need for a joint meeting between Southern African Development Community and EAC to discuss the modalities in consideration of the wide spread impact of the situation in DRC on the East African Community.

As Climate change becomes a growing concern for East Africa, given the region's vulnerability to droughts, floods, and other extreme weather patterns. Leaders at the summit recognized the need for collaborative action to mitigate the effects of climate change. The EAC has committed to implementing climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, as well as boosting investments in green energy and sustainable agriculture.

The Summit also appointed the Kenyan President, H.E. William Ruto, as the Chairperson of the EAC for one year, from November 2024 to November 2025, and Somali President, H.E. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud was appointed as a Raportour. Moreover, the summit not only approved Swahili and French as official languages of the EAC alongside English but also urged member states including Tanzania, Rwanda, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Somalia to

complete national consultations on the political federation constitution of the EAC by June 30, 2025.

Additionally, the Heads of State approved the appointment of Judge Richard Wejuli Wabwire from Uganda as the Deputy Chief Justice of the East African Court of Justice starting in November 2024.

In addition, the leaders congratulated the citizens of EAC member countries for celebrating 25 years of regional integration, emphasizing the importance of strengthening cooperation in trade, maintaining peace and security, empowering women and youth economically, producing commercial goods, protecting the environment through promoting clean energy use, and embracing digital transformation as key drivers for further integration.

In her remarks, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania and host of the summit, H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, stated that Tanzania will continue supporting the regional integration agenda of the EAC, as the country believes in unity rather than division.

She mentioned that as the EAC celebrates 25 years, Tanzania will continue honoring the vision of the founding leaders of the EAC, including Father of the Nation, the late Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, by ensuring that the unity and brotherhood that bind these countries together is preserved for the benefit of their citizens.



"Since our independence and Union, the word Unity is a treasure here in Tanzania. Therefore, we will continue to uphold our unity in the East African Community to honor the founders of this vision, including the late Mwalimu Nyerere," said President Samia.

She also congratulated President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, who is also a founding member of the community, for continuing to uphold the principles of unity, peace, and solidarity within the Community, wishing him good health and long life.

"We thank President Museveni, who has been a teacher to us, a mediator, and, in short, we call him Dean, meaning our leader in the Community, who always brings us back when we try to deviate," emphasized President Samia.

In addition to President Samia, President Ruto, and President Mohamud, the summit also involved President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda, President Paul Kagame of Rwanda, and Vice President Prosper Bazombaza of Burundi.

The summit was also attended by the EAC Secretary General, H.E. Veronica Nduva, who participated for the first time since her appointment to the position. The summit was attended by ministers and senior officials from the member states of the East African Community. Tanzanian Ministers in attendance included, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo, Minister of Finance, Hon. Dr. Mwigulu Nchemba, the Minister of State in the President's Office for Planning and Investment, Hon. Prof. Kitila Mkumbo, the Minister of State in the President's Office for Labor, Economy, and Investment–Zanzibar, Hon. Shariff Ali Shariff, the Minister of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Hon. Prof. Palamagamba Kabudi, the Minister for Industry and Trade, H.E. Selemani Jafo, and the Minister for Trade and Industrial Development–Zanzibar, H.E. Omar Said Shaaban.

The 24th East African Community Summit was a significant step toward strengthening regional cooperation. The discussions and agreements made during the summit demonstrate the EAC's continued commitment to integrating the region economically, politically, and socially. Again, the summit reaffirmed the importance of working together as East Africa moves toward greater prosperity, stability, and unity.

EALA Members hold Familiarization Meeting with the Foreign Affairs Minister

By Ally Kondo

Tanzanian members of the East African Legislative Assembly have been urged to take their responsibilities seriously while prioritizing the public interest as they carry out their mandates. Advice by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (MP), during his familiarization meeting with the members held in Dodoma on 17th October 2024.

Minister Kombo emphasized the importance of the members using their mandate in the assembly to promote unity, solidarity, and cooperation among the EAC member states.

"Member states of the East African Community (EAC) historically have a brotherly bond; thus, it is your responsibility to ensure that this unity is developed, strengthened, and maintained to fulfil the goals set by Heads of State for a strong integration in the Community," Minister Kombo said.

The Minister told the members that to fulfil their roles effectively in this vital and historic community, they need to be aware of various government plans to articulate and advocate for them effectively. He encouraged them to frequently refer to the CCM party manifesto to understand the targets that need to be achieved in the East African integration and other government development plans, such as the Annual Government Budget.

He further stated that his Ministry is ready to receive advice at any time from EALA members aimed at improving the effective implementation of the East African Community programs. "The ministry has a deputy minister overseeing East African affairs, Hon. Denis Londo; a Secretary–General in charge of East African issues, Ambassador Stephen Mbundi; Directors of departments implementing East African matters, and myself, the Minister, I am available for consultations whenever issues arise that require our advice or guidance," emphasized Ambassador Kombo.

He concluded his remarks to the honourable members by reminding them that his ministry has a significant responsibility for implementing the Foreign Policy that promotes economic diplomacy, thus he urged them to utilize their mandate

to promote opportunities available in Tanzania, including the strategic location advantage of which Tanzania is bordered with many landlocked countries.

On the same vein, members of EALA who were represented by their Secretary, Hon. Ngwaru Maghembe, they expressed their gratitude for the wise decision taken by the Minister for setting aside time to meet with them. They promised to continue cooperating with the Ministry in accomplishing the assembly's roles while putting forward the interests of the nation and the community as a whole.

In this familiarization meeting, Minister Kombo was accompanied by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation overseeing East African affairs, Ambassador Stephen Mbundi; the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Ambassador Samwel Shelukindo; and the Heads of Departments and Units of the ministry.

Members of EALA who attended the meeting were Hon. Dr. Ngwaru Maghembe (CCM), Hon. Mashaka Ngole (CUF), Hon. Kachwamba Ansar (CCM), Hon. Nadra Juma Mohamed (CCM), and Hon. Gladness Salema (CCM).



Deputy Minister Londo Attends The 45th Sctifi Meeting

By Rosemary Malale

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation responsible for East African affairs, Hon. Dennis Londo responsible for East African Affairs, represented the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo at the 45th meeting of the Sectoral Council of Ministers of Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment of the East African Community (SCTIFI) held on November 2024, in Arusha.

The primary goal of the meeting was to discuss on the implementation of previous SCTIFI decisions, EAC tariff offers under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and ways to improve the business environment among the EAC Member States in areas of customs, product standards, product manufacturing, trade and investment and competition matters.

During the meeting, participants reviewed the ongoing efforts being taken to strengthen cooperation and economic development among East African countries, thereby benefiting the citizens and the economy of the entire region.

The meeting also focused on a range of critical issues, including updates on the implementation of previous SCTIFI decisions, EAC tariff offers under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), and reports on customs, trade, standards, investment, and competition matters.

Other ministers who participated in the meeting included Hon. Dr. Selemani Jafo (MP), the Minister of Industry and Trade, and the Minister of Trade and Industrial Development of Zanzibar Hon. Shaban Omary.



Deputy Minister Londo Attends Regional Power Trade Conference

The East African Power Pool (EAPP) Regional Trade Conference convened on 8th December, 2024 in Mombasa, Kenya was attended by Ministers from 13 African countries, heads of power distribution companies, and development partners. Leading Tanzania's delegation was Deputy Minister of Energy, Hon. Judith Kapinga (MP). The Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation responsible for East African Affairs, Hon. Dennis Londo (MP) was also in attendance.

The East African Power Pool (EAPP) Regional Trade Conference is a key forum aimed at fostering regional cooperation and integration in the energy sector among East African countries. The conference brings together government officials, energy ministers, utility heads, private sector stakeholders, and development partners from across the region to discuss opportunities, challenges, and strategies for enhancing cross-border electricity trade.

The EAPP, established in 2005, serves as a framework for facilitating the interconnection of power grids among member states to enable the efficient use of electricity resources. Conferences like these play a critical role in advancing the vision of affordable, reliable, and clean energy across East Africa, ultimately driving regional economic growth and integration.

This year's conference focused on coordinating the energy market among EAPP member states and reviewing progress made by member countries in electricity generation projects. The meeting also aimed at discussing electricity generation and supply projects by member states to review progress on ongoing and planned electricity generation and transmission projects, ensuring that they align with regional energy goals and strengthen partnerships.

The conference provided a platform for stakeholders to collaborate on investments, technical expertise, and innovative solutions to address energy challenges and enhance energy security and sustainability. The discussions focused on diversifying energy sources, adopting renewable energy, and improving infrastructure to ensure reliable and sustainable power for the region.

Tanzania is ready to Strengthen African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Integration

By Tatu Lugusa



Tanzania has reaffirmed its commitment to regional integration during an official visit by members of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation. The discussions took place on October 22, 2024, in Dodoma, were led by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Cosato Chumi (MP).

The PAP Committee on Trade, Customs, and Immigration visited Tanzania for eight days. The primary objective of the delegation was to assess and evaluate Tanzania's progress in implementing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). This initiative is designed to strengthen trade relationships across the continent and foster economic growth within the region.

In his discussions with the parliamentarians, Deputy Minister Chumi highlighted that Tanzania has been actively engaged in numerous trade activities within the East African region and across the African continent through the AfCFTA.

He pointed out that Tanzania was selected as one of the eight pilot countries for the initial implementation of the trade initiatives, alongside Rwanda, Ghana, Egypt, Mauritius, Cameroon, and Tunisia.

AfCFTA is part of the implementation of Agenda 2063, which was signed in Rwanda in 2018 by the African Heads of State and Government. It is aimed at promoting regional integration, peace, and prosperity.

Deputy Minister Chumi highlighted Tanzania's initiatives to educate local traders on accessing new markets under the AfCFTA. He stated that collaboration between the government and business associations, including the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) and the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture (TCCIA), plays an essential role in improving traders' awareness of cross-border opportunities

"Public awareness is still needed to help business people understand and utilize the opportunities available in the African markets. Therefore, Tanzania continues to build capacity in this area to increase access to commercial goods and improve trade procedures," said Hon. Chumi.

Hon. Chumi has articulated that the Government, in partnership with the private sector, is committed to enhancing the knowledge of Tanzanians, particularly entrepreneurs and investors, regarding the vast opportunities that exist within the nation as well as under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation responsible for East African Community Affairs Amb. Stephen Mbundi, outlined significant developments in Tanzania's trade infrastructure. These include improvements in electricity reliability, modernized road networks, an enhanced railway system, and the expansion of the national airline, which now includes cargo planes for global transportation of goods.

"Tanzania's investment in infrastructure has facilitated the movement of goods, and the GTI has enabled the export of value-added products such as sisal, coffee, spices, and peanuts," stated Ambassador Mbundi.

Moreover, he emphasized the ongoing efforts to identify and create additional avenues for businesspeople to access broader markets, enabling them to effectively promote and sell their products within the expansive African marketplace.

A delegation from the Pan-African Parliament, led by Hon. Prof. Margaret Kamar from Kenya, acknowledged Tanzania's role in promoting African integration. The delegation highlighted Tanzania's historical leadership in African affairs, referencing its founding fathers' contributions to the establishment of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the predecessor to the African Union.

Prof. Kamar stated, "Tanzania's legacy in fostering African unity and its early ratification of key protocols under AfCFTA further underscores its commitment to a prosperous and integrated Africa." The discussions emphasized Tanzania's continued involvement in initiatives aimed at regional integration and development.

During their visit, the delegation noted the Tanzanian government's successful implementation of business reforms, particularly in infrastructure development. Improvements in roads, railways, and essential infrastructure were recognized as factors that have enhanced Tanzania's connectivity with neighboring countries, which in turn supports trade opportunities across the continent.

The delegation highlighted their visit to Arusha, where they observed the positive effects of infrastructure enhancements, particularly well-maintained roads that facilitated travel. This was presented as an example of how regional integration can be advanced with robust foundational infrastructure.

Additionally, the delegation commended Tanzania for ratifying and domesticating significant African Union protocols aimed at advancing regional integration, specifically mentioning the swift implementation of agreements such as AfCFTA and protocols promoting the free movement of people and goods. This positions Tanzania as a leader in efforts toward continental unity.

Tanzania is committed to African unity and plays a key role in ratifying AU protocols and implementing the AfCFTA, which supports economic integration on the continent. The Pan-African Parliament has urged Tanzania to ratify the Protocol related to the Free Movement of Persons, which is essential for the full potential of the AfCFTA. Although Tanzania has signed the protocol, it has not yet ratified it. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is actively working towards this goal and has already implemented measures to facilitate the free movement of Africans within the country.





Deputy Minister Londo meets the AfCHPR Delegation

By Rose Shayo

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation in charge of East African affairs, Hon. Dennis L. Londo (MP.), on December 8, 2024, welcomed a delegation from the African Court of Human and People's Rights (AfCHPR) led by Judge Imani Aboud, the President of the Court.

Hon. Londo reiterated the Government's appreciation of the activities of the Court and its significant contribution to protecting and defending Human and People Rights in Africa and that the Government is determined to abide by the Locality Agreement.

During the meeting held in the Ministry's sub-Offices in Dar es Salaam, the President of the Court, Hon. Judge Aboud, expressed gratitude to the Government for continuing to implement the requirements of the Locality Agreement between Tanzania and the African Union, which enabled the Court to establish its base in the Arusha, Tanzania.

Both parties committed to maintaining close collaboration and to hold Joint Facilitative Meetings to address and resolve various challenges raised by the Court.





President Samia highlights Diplomatic Achievents for the Year 2024

By Ally Kondo



Tanzanian diplomacy registered enormous achievements in the year 2024 that led the nation to secure international recognition and respect in various global platforms.

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan disclosed that in her speech to the nation to farewell the year 2024 and welcome the new year 2025 aired through various media outlets on 31st December. 2024.

Invitation to Tanzania to participate in the G20 Conference held in Brazil in November 2024 was a climax of high respect to the country, and the gesture shown to support the clean cooking initiative to Africa was commendable achievements to the continent.

The heads of the G20 also resolved to support the agricultural sector as a potential strategy to eliminate hunger and poverty in the world, the initiative that is similar to the sixth phase government's goals.

President Samia said that in the same year of 2024, Tanzania's diplomacy brightened following the victory of Late Dr. Faustine Ndugulile to the post of Regional Director of World Health Organization Africa Region. However, Dr. Ndungulile passed away prior to assuming the post, which it would have been in July, this year. Tanzania has expressed an intention to vie for the position again and Managing Director of Muhimbili National Hospital, Prof. Mohamed Janab has been nominated to contend for the post when it is re-advertised.

President Samia continues saying that her visits to 16 countries have not only strengthened diplomatic relations between Tanzania and those nations but also earned economic benefits in various areas.

The President mentioned her visit to the Republic of Korea enabled to secure a concessional loan of USD 2.5 billion that will fund development projects in various sectors.

"This fund, we will direct it to the construction of railway engineering workshop; pilot and aviation college, minerals Research laboratory and Nyakanazi Electricity Transmission Line," President Samia quoted as saying

Other projects that are earmarked are the rehabilitation of Muhimbili National Hospital, construction of Bagamoyo Industrial Park, purchases of passengers, and cargo wagons for a railway line from Tabora to Isaka, construction of Wete port and fishing port in Bagamoyo.

The fund is also going to finance the construction of various roads in Zanzibar, Zanzibar International Trade Fair and Convention Centre, Film Studios, and the entertainment industry that aims to generate employment to youths.

In addition to that, the visit witnessed the signing of the USD 163.6 million loan for the construction of Referral and Teaching College Hospital at Binguni in Zanzibar. President Samia added that her visit to China not only strengthened historic bilateral relations between the two nations but also opened the market for Tanzanian various products such as fish balls, sunflower residuals, soya, dry cassava, sea products, honey and peppers.

President Samia called upon farmers to utilize fully these opportunities geared to improve their well-being and the growth of the nation's economy. During the visit is witnessed also Tanzania and Zambia signed an agreement to revitalize TAZARA Railway to hasten smooth movements of passengers and cargo that is very critical for the economic growth of both nations and have multiplier impact to the neighbouring nations.

On the Southern African Development Community (SADC), President Samia said that Tanzania has been appointed as the chair of SADC Organ for Politics, Defence and Security, whose mandate is to provide foundation for peace and security in the SADC region. In the year 2024, Tanzania led the SADC Electoral Mission Observation teams (SEOM) in General Elections held in member countries of Mozambique, Namibia, Mauritius, and Botswana. The Former President of Zanzibar, H.E. Aman Abeid Karume led SEOM team in Mozambique; Former Prime Minister of United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Mizengo Peter Pinda led SEOM team in Botswana, Former Speaker of National Assembly, Hon. Anne Makinda led SEOM team in Namibia and Former Chief Justice, Judge Mohamed Chande led SEOM team in Mauritius.

Advancing Diplomatic Relations: Ambassador Kombo Engages Diplomatic Corps in Inaugural Meeting

By Koleta Njelekela



On 13th November 2024, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (MP.) convened his inaugural formal meeting with the Diplomatic Community in Tanzania at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Center in Dar es Salaam, subsequent to his appointment as Minister.

Hon. Minister Kombo briefed the Diplomatic Community on significant reforms, with a focus on foreign policy, judicial and legal systems, law enforcement, political participation, dialogue facilitation, and the safeguarding of media freedoms. He introduced the Tanzania Foreign Policy Edition 2024, which prioritizes economic diplomacy, the blue economy, environmental conservation, climate change, diaspora engagement, and the inclusion of gender and youth, all within the framework of Tanzania's cultural values. He further emphasized the policy's strategic focus on utilizing Swahili as a diplomatic tool.

Hon. Minister Kombo reassured the Diplomatic Community of Tanzania's commitment to strengthening bilateral, regional, and multilateral relations, aligning foreign engagements with domestic development and international obligations. He further emphasized Tanzania's stability and peaceful standing in Africa, within Africa, reaffirming the country's steadfast the dedication to peace, security and stability. The Minister pledged to further invest in these areas and reiterated Tanzania's resolve to fostering an inclusive, accountable governance system based on the rule of law, while strengthening its democratic institutions as a model, regionally and globally.

Hon. Minister Kombo reaffirmed Tanzania's commitment to the full realization of the 4R's philosophy—Reconciliation, Resilience, Reforms, and Rebuilding—introduced by H.E President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan. He emphasized that Tanzania's democratic electoral system, grounded in the Constitution and legal frameworks, ensures citizen participation through free, fair, and transparent elections. Highlighting the government's comprehensive voter registration campaign, he assured the Diplomatic Community that Tanzania's local elections in held in November, 2024 would not disrupt the country's peace, stability, or its favorable business and investment climate.

On bilateral issues, Hon. Minister Kombo expressed Tanzania's satisfaction with its bilateral relations, valuing both longstanding and new partnerships, and reaffirmed the government's commitment to further strengthening these ties



to achieve regional, global, and multilateral objectives. At the regional level, he highlighted Tanzania's continued engagement and active participation through frameworks such as Joint Political Consultations (JPC), Joint Permanent Commissions, and Joint Economic and Trade Commissions, all aimed at fostering economic and social progress. He noted Tanzania's leadership in SADC Electoral Observation Missions in Mozambique, Botswana, Mauritius, and Namibia, which have led to significant improvements in the Missions. Hon. Minister reaffirmed Tanzania's dedication to multilateralism, including advancing the climate change agenda and championing the Clean Cooking Agenda, particularly for women in Africa, under the leadership of H.E. President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Hon. Minister Kombo also reaffirmed his team's readiness to engage with the Diplomatic Community on mutual interests and expressed heartfelt appreciation for their presence, emphasizing the importance of this initial engagement as he assumed his duties. He underscored the importance of adhering to established communication channels and the provisions of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Hon. Minister Kombo committed to working closely with the diplomatic corps to advance shared goals, particularly in strengthening bilateral trade and investment between Tanzania and its friendly nations. "We shall continue to uphold our open-door policy so as to ensure issues are tabled, discussed, and addressed in a timely manner between us," he told members of the diplomatic corps in Dar es Salaam.



Strengthening Tanzania-Malaysia Aviation and Business Cooperation: Air Asia visited TCCIA and TTB

By Rose Shayo

Ambassador of Tanzania to Malaysia H. E. Dr. Mahadhi Juma Maalim led a delegation of investors from Malaysia Airlines (Air Asia) to a meeting with the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture (TCCIA) President, Mr. Vicent Bruno Minja at the TCCIA Offices in Dar es Salaam.



The Air Asia delegation also met with the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB), Amb. Dr. Ramadhan Dau.

Both visits to TCCIA and TTB were aimed at strengthening the cooperation of the aviation sector between Tanzania and Malaysia and the possibility of starting direct flights from Malaysia to Tanzania thus increasing the number of tourists from various countries in the world to Tanzania.

In addition, it also aimed at exploring commercial opportunities between both parties and looking at how to promote and advertise the business market between Tanzania and Malaysia once the organization starts its activities in this country.

AirAsia delegation encompassing the organization's CEO, Mr. Benyamin Ismail accompanied by the Chief Business Officer, Mr. Paul Carroll, and the Head of Business Development, Mrs. Allenie Caccam, Air Asia has 250 aircraft that land in 147 airports around the world.

AICC a Key Player in Tanzania Tourism Sector

Management Challenged to Maximize Conference Tourism Potential

By Ally Kondo



The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation (EAC), Hon. Denis Londo has described the Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC) as among key player in advancing President Samia Suluhu Hassan's agenda to promote the country's tourism sector.

Hon. Londo disclosed this during a meeting with the Management of AICC on 31st October 2024 in Arusha, indicating that despite President Samia places great importance on the tourism sector.

"Despite the President Samia's tight schedule, she decided to allocate time to act as the main character in the 'Tanzania: The Royal Tour' and the 'Amazing Tanzania' documentary films to promote the country's tourism sector, whereby its benefits have been significant through the increased number of tourist and foreign currency," he said.

According to him, despite tourism acquiring many facets, but among them was conference tourism which is very key. And, in Tanzania, its only AICC which has been mandated to carry out the task, therefore their expertise in the area was important.

He further added that AICC was the face and mirror of the country and is one of the hubs of Tanzania's diplomacy. Thus, if the staff of the centre dedicate themselves to providing services of international standards, they will have effectively promoted Tanzania's image abroad.

"You host many international guests who come to participate in meetings. These guests often have limited time and stay within the AICC compounds due to their busy schedules. Therefore, if they are satisfied with your service delivery, you will have successfully promoted the image of Tanzania. Conversely, if the service falls short of their expectations, it could tarnish Tanzania's image," cautioned Hon. Londo.



For her part, AICC Managing Director, Ms. Christine Mwakatobe, who is the first woman to hold that position, stated that her goal is to makesure the centre becomes the number one institution in effectively facilitating conference tourism within the country and beyond. Thus, requested the centre's stakeholders to accord all necessary cooperation in order to arrive at their envisioned goal.

She identified various challenges facing the centre including the aging infrastructure, noting that through the support of the Board of Directors, concrete steps are being taken to improve the buildings and purchase modern equipment such as interpreting devices, toilets, and air conditioning systems.

Additionally, she noted that in collaboration with the e-Government Agency, the centre has begun developing IT systems so that all activities can be conducted digitally to increase revenue and enhance efficiency in customer service delivery.

She went on to reveal that despite the challenge the centre has recorded an increase in their gross profit of 6.5 billion in the year 2023/2024 compared to a profit of 1.7 billion in the year 2022/2023.

Prior to the meeting with the AICC management, the Deputy Minister also had the opportunity to visit various establishments owned by the centre. The establishments include Kijenge site D1, which has residential houses covering an area of 21 acres, Kijenge site E, which has residential houses covering an area of 48 acres, and Soweto, which also has residences covering more than 50 acres.

Upon his visit to the respective areas which were all situated at the heart of Arusha City, Hon. Londo was of the view that AICC has the potential to transform the city if the resources are utilized well.

SADC Delegation Visits Tanzania to Evaluate Implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan

BY Rose Malale

A team of experts from the Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) visited Tanzania to evaluate the implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020–2030.

During the visit, the delegation held a meeting with Monitoring and Evaluation experts from various sectoral ministries, coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation on 4th November, 2024, in Dodoma.

The meeting aimed at gathering updates on the implementation of various initiatives, including resolutions from SADC meetings, public awareness and promotion of opportunities within SADC, and the country's readiness to implement SADC's framework for monitoring development, accountability, and decision-making in various programs and projects.

During the session, the Tanzanian participants led by the Acting Director of Regional Cooperation Ms. Nice Munisi had the opportunity to discuss various issues related to regional cooperation under the RISDP framework at the national level and provided recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of the Plan's implementation.

The SADC Six-member delegation, led by Senior Policy and Planning Officer Mr. Dennis Rweyemamu, arrived in Tanzania from Zambia, visited all SADC Member States to carry out this assessment.

The Southern African Development Community through its Member States is implementing the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP 2020-2030) to further deepen Southern Africa regional integration and foster development.

The RISDP 2020–2030 and Vision 2050 cover six strategic priority areas namely: – Peace, Security, and Good Governance; Industrial Development and Market Integration; Infrastructure Development in Support of Regional Integration; Social and Human Capital Development; and Cross-cutting issues including Gender, Youth, Environment and Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Management.

In each of these priority areas, the RISDP 2020-2050 and Vision 2050 provide strategic guidance in the form of actions, interventions, targets, and timelines that, if implemented and met, will further deepen integration in SADC.

Advancing Kiswahili Globally: Tanzania Leads Cultural Diplomacy at the First International Kiswahili Conference in Havanna - Cuba

By Rose Mbilinyi



The Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (MP), reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to advance initiatives and strategies aimed at creating global opportunities for Kiswahili language. He emphasized that Tanzania's missions abroad will play a pivotal role in promoting the language as part of the country's cultural diplomacy efforts.

This commitment was expressed by the Minister during his address at the opening ceremony of the First International Kiswahili Conference, held on the 8th and 9th November, 2024 in Havana, Cuba. The conference brought together approximately 4000 participants from Africa, Asia, America, and Europe, including stakeholders from Tanzania.

The conference was a result of the concerted efforts by Tanzanian missions, including the Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania in Cuba, which played an important role in successfully organizing this significant and remarkable event. This achievement aligns with the Ministry's core mandate of promoting Kiswahili globally.



"Kiswahili requires competitiveness to continue growing. I urge Kiswahili experts and stakeholders to learn other languages to simplify teaching and spreading Kiswahili to foreigners. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation will continue creating opportunities for Kiswahili globally through our embassies. This need shared responsibility to ensure these opportunities are fully utilized, since records indicates that currently Kiswahili has about 350 million speakers," Emphasized by Minister Kombo.

Minister Kombo also commended President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan for her exemplary leadership and commitment to promote Kiswahili. He noted that H.E. the President consistently delivers speeches in Kiswahili at regional forums including meetings of the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Furthermore, the Ministry is actively working to advocate for adoption of Kiswahili in other regional organizations where Tanzania is a member.

During the official opening ceremony of the conference, Minister of Culture, Arts, and Sports, Hon. Dr. Damas Ndumbaro (MP), delivered a speech on behalf of President Samia Suluhu Hassan. He emphasized on the vital the role of Kiswahili language in simplifying communication and driving economic activities, including trade. He also acknowledged Cuba's contributions to Africa's liberation struggles and reiterated Tanzania's ongoing commitment to strengthen collaboration with Cuba.

"Tanzania was a key hub for Africa's liberation fighters especially the Southern African fighters, and Kiswahili was the primary language used during those struggles. As we continue to pursue economic liberation across Africa, Kiswahili can facilitate strong integration, trade, tourism, and investment," Dr. Ndumbaro stated.

On the other hand, Cuba's Minister of Higher Education, Hon. Walter Baluja Garcia, expressed gratitude to Tanzania for its respect and recognition in choosing Cuba to host the First International Kiswahili conference. He highlighted the strong and longstanding relations between Tanzania and Cuba, noting that the University of Havana is working closely with the Tanzania Embassy in Cuba. The cooperation has led to a notable rise in the number of students learning Kiswahili, with the current figure now reaching 50.

It is important to recall that July 7 is internationally recognized as World Kiswahili Day, established by United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2022. This special day acknowledges Kiswahili as a significant African cultural symbol, with over 350 million speakers worldwide. Moreover, regional organizations such as SADC and EAC have adopted Kiswahili as an official language, a step which signifies its growing role in promoting unity across the African continent.

Additionally, efforts by countries such as South Africa, Botswana, Ghana, and Ethiopia to teach Kiswahili in schools underscores the language's increase importance across the continent. This initiative aligns with the vision of African founding leaders, who desired a unified continent with a common language. Similarly, promoting Kiswahili will contribute to strengthening economic integration and expanding opportunities through protocols established under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).



Accomplishment of the International Kiswahili Conference

The Sixth Phase Government of the United Republic of Tanzania under President Samia continues to create favorable conditions for the global promotion of Kiswahili. The launch of International Kiswahili Conference stands as significant achievement in making Kiswahili one of the most widely spoken African languages. The tremendous turn out of participants highlighted the promising future of Kiswahili and its growing global presence and importance.

Key milestones of the conference included the launch of a Spanish-Kiswahili dictionary and phrasebook featuring common expression in both languages. Another important achievement is the unveiling of Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere statue at the Heroes' Garden in Havana, Cuba. This symbolizes the profound respect for Mwalimu Nyerere and cemented the strong historical ties that exist between Tanzania and Cuba.

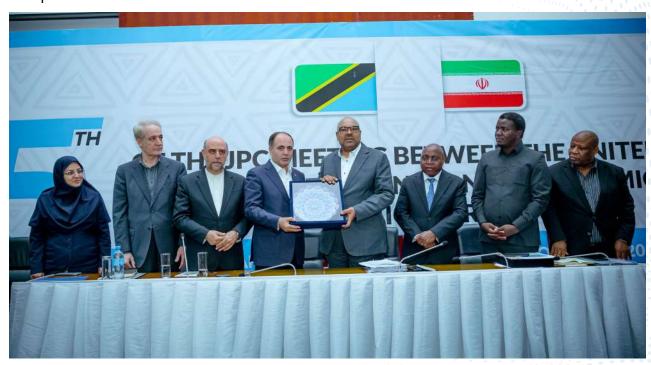
In view of the aforementioned, the first International Kiswahili Conference marked a momentous step in the global promotion of Kiswahili, reflecting its growing importance as unifying African language and a tool for cultural and economic integration. With continued efforts from Tanzania and its international partners, Kiswahili poised to expand its global influence.



Tanzania and Iran to Enhance Diplomatic Ties on Trade and Investment

By Koleta Njelekela

The United Republic of Tanzania and the Islamic Republic of Iran have expressed their intention to sign various memorandums of understanding to enhance diplomatic cooperation in trade and investment for the mutual benefit of both nations.



The Director of the Middle East Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, H.E. Ambassador Abdalah Kilima, delivered a statement during a meeting at the Expert and Senior Officials level between Tanzania and Iran, which was held on October 17, 2024, at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) in Dar es Salaam. The meeting focused on preparing agendas, aimed at strengthening diplomatic cooperation between the two countries for mutual benefit.

Ambassador Kilima, who co-chaired the meeting, highlighted that the focus of trade and investment enhancement between Tanzania and Iran would be on key sectors, including agriculture, livestock, fisheries, energy, information technology, and the conservation of cultural heritage.

Additionally, other sectors such as oil and gas, defence and security, disaster management, and legal cooperation were also prioritized. These discussions laid the groundwork for the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) marking the start of the implementation process.

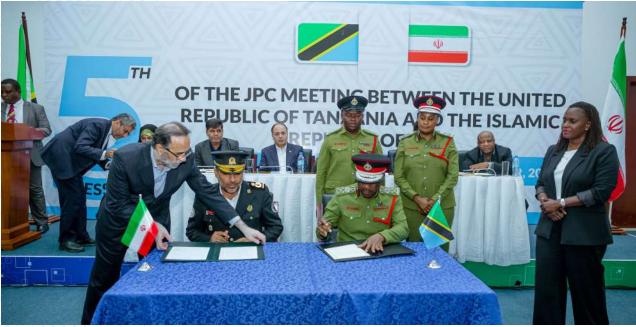
The MoUs were formally signed on October 19, 2024, by H.E. Ambassador Thabit Kombo (MP), Tanzania's Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation,

and H.E. Dr. Gholamreza Nouri, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Iran, during the high-level Ministerial meeting at the JNICC in Dar es Salaam.

Ambassador Kilima revealed that the MoUs will foster collaboration between the two countries on taxation, the defence sector, disaster management, arts and sports, as well as in the field of archives and records management.

H.E. Dr. Gholamreza Nouri, the Iranian co-chair of the meeting and Deputy Minister of Agriculture, expressed gratitude to Tanzania for strengthening international cooperation with Iran. He emphasized that this collaboration would allow both countries to expand and further develop their diplomatic relations, benefiting the citizens of both nations.





U.S. Applauds President Samia's Visionary Reforms

The United States, through its Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), has hailed Tanzania's Sixth Phase Government for implementing transformative reforms that are reshaping the nation. The reforms, anchored on strengthening democracy, enhancing good governance, and upholding human rights, have drawn international admiration, including high praise from the U.S. government.

This sentiment was underscored during a high-level meeting held on October 17, 2024, in Dodoma. Delegates from Tanzania and the MCC convened to review progress and discuss future collaborations. Leading the MCC delegation, Mr. Dan Barnes, Director of Policy and Evaluation, commended the Tanzanian government's progress over the past three years. "The strides Tanzania has made in economic development are both commendable and inspiring," he remarked.

Tangible Results, Renewed Support

Mr. Barnes further revealed that the U.S. Congress has approved continued MCC funding for Tanzania, a testament to the nation's improved performance in governance and development. This funding will fuel critical initiatives aimed at uplifting citizens and accelerating national growth.

Central to this success is the 4Rs philosophy championed by H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania. Her strategic focus on Reconciliation, Resilience, Reforms, and Rebuilding has not only revitalized Tanzania's socio-economic landscape but also reinforced its standing as a reliable partner on the global stage.



A Partnership Rooted in Shared Values

Hon. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo, Tanzania's Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, reiterated the importance of this enduring partnership. He highlighted Tanzania's commitment to fostering strong ties with the United States, a relationship spanning over six decades. From education and health to trade, technology, and energy, the U.S.-Tanzania collaboration has delivered tangible benefits through programs such as USAID, PEPFAR, and the Peace Corps.

Minister Kombo also reaffirmed Tanzania's dedication to upholding democratic values and good governance, principles that underpin the partnership with the United States. He pointed to the recent visit of U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris in March 2023 as evidence of the deepening ties between the two nations.

Decades of Impactful Development

Since 2005, MCC funding has catalyzed transformative projects across Tanzania. These include infrastructure projects like the Tunduma-Sumbawanga and Tanga-Horohoro roads, rural road networks in Pemba, and energy initiatives such as solar installations in Kigoma. The expansion of water systems in Morogoro and the Mafia airport project stand as testaments to this enduring partnership.

Moreover, capacity-building programs for TANESCO and ZECO have further empowered Tanzania's energy sector, ensuring a brighter future for millions.

MCC: Driving Global Progress

The MCC, a U.S. government institution, aims to combat global poverty through grants and development programs. Its partnership with Tanzania underscores the shared commitment to good governance, transparency, and the rule of law—pillars that define both nations' aspirations for a better future.

As Tanzania continues on its reform-driven journey under President Samia's leadership, the partnership with the MCC and the United States promises to unlock even greater potential, setting a benchmark for sustainable development and international cooperation.



Tanzania - Somalia Signed Four Agreements On Cooperation

- Minister Kombo praises economic reforms and political stability in Somalia
- Describes Tanzania's unity, peace, and security as a model for Africa

The United Republic of Tanzania and the Federal Republic of Somalia have signed four cooperation agreements during a meeting held on December 19, 2024, in Mogadishu.

The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Hon. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (MP), and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Somalia, Hon. Ambassador Ahmed Moalim Fiqi.

The four signed agreements involve general cooperation, the tourism sector, defense, and health. This initiative aims to enhance diplomatic and economic cooperation while improving service delivery in these sectors for the benefit of citizens of both nations.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Minister Kombo highlighted Tanzania's significant progress in the healthcare sector, noting that through these agreements, Somalia will benefit from various services available in Tanzania, including medical treatment, purchasing medicines and medical equipment, and training.

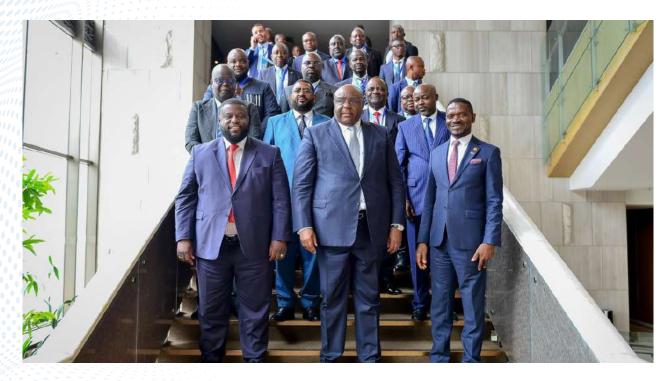
He further emphasized that both governments recognize the importance of strengthening communication and transport services between Tanzania and Somalia to ensure that citizens can fully benefit from these opportunities. Minister Kombo urged for the acceleration of ongoing discussions to establish direct air transport services between Dar es Salaam and Mogadishu as soon as possible.

Additionally, Minister Kombo instructed officials to establish a special framework to monitor the implementation of the signed agreements, emphasizing the importance of seeing them executed in practice.

"This cooperation will help our nations achieve their economic goals while meeting the expectations of our Heads of State, whose vision is to see the prosperity of our people through the opportunities arising from this collaboration. Therefore, it is crucial for us all to ensure that these agreements are implemented effectively," Minister Kombo concluded.

Ambassador Mshana Represents Minister of Transport at the Central Corridor Meeting

By Sheiba Bulu



Tanzanian Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), H.E. Said Mshana, represented the Minister of Transport, Hon. Prof. Makame Mbarawa (MP), at the Central Corridor Member States meeting held in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The meeting, among other matters, welcomed Zambia as a new member of the Central Corridor who became the seventh member of the Central Corridor after signing the CCTTFA Agreement on October 8th, 2025 in Kinshasa.

The meeting also reviewed on challenges affecting the corridor's performance, including infrastructure gaps, border management inefficiencies, and the need for greater private sector involvement.

The meeting brought together key stakeholders, including government officials, regional representatives, and development partners to discuss strategies for enhancing the efficiency and competitiveness of the Central Corridor, a vital trade and transport route linking Tanzania to its landlocked neighbours and the wider region.

H.E. Mshana highlighted the strategic importance of the Port of Dar es Salaam as a gateway for regional trade and emphasized Tanzania's ongoing efforts to modernize its transport infrastructure to support the corridor's operations.

The Central Corridor is instrumental in facilitating trade, boosting economic growth, and improving the livelihoods of millions in the East and Central African regions.



Tanzania Charts a Path Toward Universal Health Insurance

By Ally Kondo



At the heart of Tanzania's health sector transformation lies an ambitious goal: ensuring universal health insurance for every citizen. This commitment took center stage during the Universal Health Insurance Symposium and National Dialogue on Health Sector Financing, held at the Arusha International Conference Centre from October 30, 2024.

The event, graced by the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Kassim Majaliwa Majaliwa (MP), brought together stakeholders from Tanzania, the East African Community (EAC), and global development partners. With an urgent call to action, the Prime Minister urged participants to devise practical strategies and sustainable solutions to achieve this noble goal.

"In your four days of discussions, I urge you to identify best practices and strategies that will enable the government to provide health insurance to every citizen, ensuring access to medical care regardless of income," said Hon. Majaliwa during the opening ceremony.

The symposium showcased Tanzania's steadfast commitment to health sector development, backed by substantial investments under the leadership of President

Samia Suluhu Hassan. Since her assumption of office in 2021, over TZS 6.2 trillion has been allocated to the health sector, funding new hospitals, modern equipment, and the training of healthcare professionals.

Closing the Gaps in Healthcare

One of the most notable achievements has been addressing the shortage of specialist doctors. When President Samia took office, Tanzania faced a deficit of 2,989 specialists. Through the "Samia Scholarships" program, 1,485 specialists have been trained in just three years, reducing the gap significantly. This has enabled the country to perform advanced procedures like kidney transplants, which previously required treatment abroad.

The availability of medicines has also improved, with dispensaries maintaining a 75% stock level and referral hospitals reaching 98%. The Medical Stores Department (MSD) has played a critical role by establishing medical distribution centers in every region, expediting the delivery of essential medicines to healthcare facilities nationwide.

Hon. Majaliwa noted that these efforts have already reduced mortality rates by 20% to 30%. With the universal health insurance program set to roll out soon, the government expects even greater strides in improving healthcare access and reducing preventable deaths.

Regional Collaboration and the Fight Against Inequality

The symposium also reflected Tanzania's commitment to regional cooperation. Hon. Denis Londo (MP), Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, emphasized that the event aligns with EAC directives issued during a May 2024 meeting in Dar es Salaam. "This dialogue continues Tanzania's fight against the three enemies—disease, poverty, and ignorance—established by the late Julius Kambarage Nyerere," he said.

The symposium drew support from international development partners, including the World Health Organization (WHO), Global Fund, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), the Republic of Korea, Indonesia, and Rwanda. These partners pledged to collaborate with Tanzania on its journey toward universal health insurance, underscoring the shared vision of equitable healthcare for all.

A Vision for the Future

Hon. Majaliwa concluded the event with a clear directive: the Ministry of Health must intensify public education on the benefits of universal health insurance. "When the program is officially launched, we want no one left behind," he stressed.

Tanzania's bold steps toward universal health insurance mark a pivotal moment in its healthcare journey. With a solid foundation of investment, strategic partnerships, and political will, the country is setting a precedent for equitable and accessible healthcare in the region.

Tanzanian Doctors Enhances Medical Tourism With Successful Camp In Comoros

By Ally Kondo

Specialized doctors from the United Republic of Tanzania have carried out a-week-long medical camp from 28th November to 05th December, 2024 in the Comoros, to strengthen the country's ambitious goal of promoting medical tourism.

The doctors comprised of 16 specialists and four nurses who come from hospitals including Muhimbili National Hospital, Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI), Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI), Benjamin Mkapa Hospital and The Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute (MOI).

Led by the Managing Director of JKCI, Dr. Peter Kisenge medical team arrived in Moroni on 28th November and was received by the Minister of Defence of Comoros. Hon. Youssoufa Mohamed Ali.

During the week-long medical camp, the doctors attended 2,770 patients, with seven patients undergoing surgeries, and 269 other patients requiring medical referrals outside the country.

The Camp, which was organized by the Tanzanian Embassy in Comoro under Ambassador Saidi Yakubu, identified more opportunities in the medical sector that the two parts laid





down frameworks for collaboration for the future. The Head of mission, Dr. Kisenge acknowledged that the camp was successful and the response from the people of Comoros was substantial, with more individuals attending the camp than the ability of the camp to be able to serve the patients.

"Despite the doctors having to work late at night, "we have been able to identify a significant need for our services, and there are those who require referrals for further investigation and care.

"We have agreed with our colleagues at El Maarouf Hospital that this medical camp should be included in our priority calendars, for there is a need to embark on a better modern referral system for those coming to Tanzania. Such will help to ensure that they do not face difficulties upon their arrival as they will be equipped with the procedures beforehand," said Dr Kisenge indicating that they have also identified crucial areas for further collaboration, especially in bringing in specialists from various fields to work alongside their counterparts.

Dr. Kisenge also mentioned the discussions they had with the Minister of Health of Comoros, Dr. Nassuha Ousseni Salim, which provided a good direction for the Comoros government's intent to collaborate with Tanzania in several areas, including the provision of remote medical services (Telemedicine) that some Tanzanian medical institutions can offer.

During the closure of the camp, the Minister of Defence, who was the guest of Honor and also doubles as the Secretary-General of the ruling party - CRC and Secretary to the country's president, Hon. Youssoufa Mohamed Ali extended appreciation for the noble services given to the people of Comoros and requested the camp to be held periodically in the future.

The closing event was also attended by the UN Resident Coordinator, the Ambassadors from Libya, Saudi Arabia to Comoros and representatives from the World Health Organization (WHO).





JKCI to Treat Heart Patients from Malawi

By Ally Kondo



Malawi has pledged to cooperate with the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) so that cardiac patients, especially children can receive treatment at the institute.

This was disclosed by the Minister of Health, Hon. Khumbize Kandodo Chiponda, during her visit to the institute to observe the provision of cardiology services to patients held on 31st October 2024.

Hon. Chiponda, who is pharmacist by profession, expressed her satisfaction with the modern cardiology medical services being provided by the institution that is also well equipped with advanced medical equipment for heart treatment and specialized experts in the field, praising JKCI for divine job of saving the lives of heart patients.

"I am very pleased to be here and to see the huge investment made by your government. The services provided here are admirable, and it is surprising to see such services are available in Africa, especially in the neighbouring country of Tanzania. When we return home, we will look into the possibility of reaching an agreement with this institute so that our patients, especially children, can come here for treatment." The Minister said.

"I thank the experts at this institution for their services to the people of Malawi. I urge you to continue helping them as we need your support. We are happy to see patients return home healthy and joyful after receiving treatment", Hon. Minister added.

Hon. Minister requested JKCI to go and place a medical camp of two weeks in Malawi to help people with cardiology problems, the request that JKCI embraced with two hands.

Speaking on behalf of the Managing Director of the JKCI, Dr. Peter Kisenge, the Director of Cardiac Surgery, Dr. Angela Muhozya, thanked the minister for visiting JKCI and assured her that the institute would continue to provide heart treatment services to Malawian patients.

Dr. Angela mentioned that last year, experts from the institute visited Malawi's Queen Elizabeth Hospital to conduct a special heart screening and treatment camp, where they saw 724 people, of whom 537 had found with heart problems.

"Our institution has been receiving patients from various African countries, especially those sharing borders with us, including Malawi. So far, we have seen 33 patients from Malawi of which 22 adults and 11 children," Dr. Angela said

Dr. Angela added that their institute apart from providing heart medical services, is also offers various training for medical professionals. Thus, she urged the government of Malawi to send doctors, nurses, and biomedical equipment technicians to learn how to treat heart patients and uses of medical equipment.

On the same vein, Tanzania's Ambassador to Malawi, H.E. Agnes Kayola, said the embassy will continue to make use of various platforms to promote economic diplomacy of which a component of medical tourism is paramount.

"Our friends from Malawi came to Tanzania to attend the MERCK Foundation conference, and we saw this as an opportunity to bring them to JKCI so they could see the heart treatment services we provide. They have visited and recognized the services, and this will help persuade Malawians to come for treatment in our country," said Ambassador Agnes.

Tanzania and ALMA Strengthen Ties to Combat Malaria and Advance Agenda 2030

By Tatu Lugusa



The Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, H.E. Ambassador Mahmoud Thabit Kombo, has held discussions with the Executive Secretary of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA), Dr. Joy Phumaphi, at the Ministry's offices in Dodoma. The meeting focused on strengthening cooperation in the health sector, particularly in the fight against malaria, through the improvement of laboratories and the production of health products, including those for malaria control.

Their discussions aligned with the African Union's 2030 Agenda for Malaria in Africa is a comprehensive plan aimed at significantly reducing the burden of malaria across the continent by the end of the decade, with the ultimate goal of elimination or effective control of the disease. This agenda reflects a unified approach to combat malaria, a disease that continues to affect millions of people in Africa and contributes to a large number of deaths, particularly among children under the age of five.

Minister Kombo commended ALMA for its continued collaboration with the Government of Tanzania in the fight against malaria, as well as non-communicable diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, cancer, and schistosomiasis. Additionally, Minister Kombo expressed that the Government of Tanzania will continue to work closely with ALMA through its embassies in New York, Addis Ababa, and Geneva to advance health agendas that are proposed and deliberated upon in these regional and international diplomatic forums.

"Our embassies in Addis Ababa, New York, and Geneva will continue to collaborate with you closely as the government values your contributions to strengthening the health sector. Therefore, do not hesitate to involve us when needed to help make decisions for the public good," Ambassador Kombo stated.

Aditionally, Minister Kombo emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts in the ongoing battle against malaria. He expressed a strong commitment to exploring diverse professional strategies and innovative approaches aimed at eradicating this devastating disease. With a shared resolve, he outlined a clear vision to eliminate malaria by 2030, urging stakeholders to fully embrace the agenda and collective responsibilities required to achieve this critical goal. This collective effort is critical not only for the immediate benefit of reducing malaria-related morbidity and mortality but also for fostering a healthier, more robust society capable of responding to future health emergencies stated by Minister Kombo.

On the side of Dr.Phumaphi expressed her firm commitment to supporting the government's initiatives aimed at eradicating malaria. She emphasized that ALMA is fully prepared to invest in these crucial efforts, recognizing the importance of collaborative action in the fight against this disease.

Dr. Phumathi emphasized the profound impact of eradicating malaria, stating that by successfully eliminating this disease, we are not merely tackling a persistent health challenge, but also laying the groundwork for our healthcare systems to effectively manage a range of other pressing health issues. This critical initiative serves a dual purpose not only addresses malaria, a disease that has plagued humanity for centuries, but it also strengthens the resilience of our health systems by enhancing the infrastructure and workforce essential for promoting the overall well-being of communities.

Additionally, Dr Phumaphi took the opportunity to commend the government, particularly the Ministry of Health, for their impressive use of the scorecard system in their malaria control strategies. She praised the effectiveness of this approach, highlighting how it has contributed to the ongoing battle against malaria in the country.

This fruitful meeting reinforced the vital importance of collaboration and innovation in our efforts to combat malaria and other non-communicable diseases. It painted a vivid picture of a future where malaria no longer poses a threat, highlighting the necessity of united actions and joint initiatives to achieve this shared vision.

Pinda Graces 30th Anniversary of Tanzanian Community in Botswana

By Sheiba Bulu

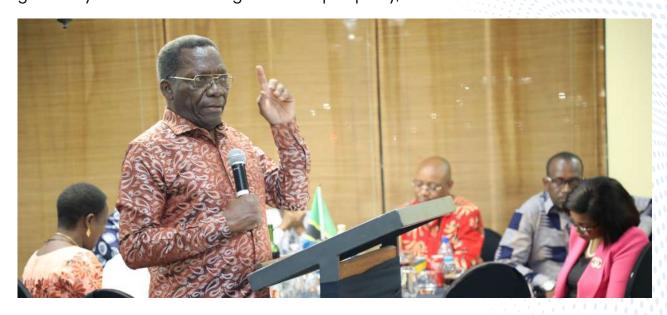
Former Prime Minister (PM) of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Mizengo Pinda graced the 30th anniversary celebration of the Tanzania Community in Botswana, held in Gaborone on November 2, 2024.

The event which was organized by the Tanzanian Embassy in Botswana in partnership with the Association of Tanzanians in Botswana (ATB), took place in honor of the longstanding presence and contributions of Tanzanians living in the country. Hon. Pinda who was in Botswana as the Head of the SADC Election Observer Mission (SEOM), engaged with the Tanzanian Diaspora on various issues relating to their country including giving them latest developments on government efforts to empower its citizens globally so they can contribute meaningfully to the national development.

He noted that the government has developed comprehensive strategies to tap into the Diaspora's potential, particularly in business, investment, and skills transfer. Hon. Pinda also encouraged the Tanzanians in Botswana to actively engage in investment opportunities back home in supporting the government's development goals.

He underscored the importance of using formal remittance channels, enabling the government to collect accurate data on the Diaspora's contributions to the national economy.

"The government is preparing the Vision 2050 Development Plan, and your experiences and expertise gained abroad can significantly shape this vision,... "I urge you to contribute your ideas and insights to ensure that Tanzania's future is guided by a shared vision of growth and prosperity," Hon. Pinda stated.



Besides, the retired PM also highlighted the significance of the Diaspora Digital Hub (DDH), a platform designed to register Tanzanians living abroad.

According to him, the initiative is geared towards helping the government to make informed policy decisions based on comprehensive data regarding the size and impact of the Tanzanian Diaspora.

Expounding further, he reiterated the importance of maintaining strong cultural ties, promoting mutual support within the community, and fostering advocacy for Tanzania. He, equally encouraged the community to continue collaborating with the Tanzanian Ambassador to South Africa, who also represents Botswana and Lesotho, and to remain respectful of their host country's laws while cherishing their Tanzanian heritage.

The celebration was attended by several distinguished guests, including Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Ambassador Said Shaib Mussa; Tanzanian Ambassador to South Africa, Hon. James Bwana; Ambassador Dr. Salim Omar Othman; and Trade and Investment Attaché at the Tanzanian Embassy in South Africa, Ms. Happyness Godfrey.

The anniversary was preceded by the ATB's Annual General Meeting, whereby a new leadership was elected seeing Mr. Naiman Kissasi as Chairman, Peace Byengozi (Secretary), and several other members of the Executive Committee were chosen. Additionally, CRDB Bank and KC LAND Company took the opportunity to showcase services designed specifically to support the Tanzanian Diaspora in Botswana.

This event underscored the importance of the Tanzanian Diaspora as a vital component in the country's diplomatic relations, with the community playing a crucial role in supporting national development and fostering stronger ties with the international community.



Strengthening Public Diplomacy: Tanzania's Transformative Benchmarking Visit to Namibia

By Ambassador Mindi Kasiga

In an era where global challenges necessitate innovative and collaborative approaches to diplomacy, Tanzania is redefining its public diplomacy strategies to enhance its global standing. A recent benchmarking visit to Namibia's Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation (MIRCO) provided an opportunity for the country to draw valuable insights into leveraging public diplomacy as a strategic tool to achieve foreign policy objectives.

From September 30 to October 5, 2024, a Tanzanian delegation led by the Director of Government Communication Unit, engaged in a comprehensive knowledge-sharing initiative in Windhoek, Namibia. The visit, hosted by Namibia's Directorate of Information, Technology, and Research; under the leadership of Ms. Bertha Amakali, highlighted Namibia's innovative public diplomacy framework and its alignment with the country's broader foreign policy goals.

Namibia has positioned itself as a regional leader in public diplomacy, deploying a range of tools to project its values and strengthen its international relationships. These include diplomatic communiqués, public lecture series, exhibitions, e-newsletters, and a strong social media presence. The Namibian model integrates public diplomacy across various sectors, emphasizing economic diplomacy to promote trade, tourism, and foreign investment while safeguarding national interests.

The Tanzanian delegation's engagement with Namibian counterparts revealed how these strategies bolster Namibia's global outreach and national branding. Namibia's Directorate of Information also manages a dedicated library and knowledge repository, fostering research and preserving the country's diplomatic history. Discussions during the visit focused on how Namibia's structured approach ensures consistent and impactful public diplomacy.

Tanzania, in turn, shared its vision for enhancing public diplomacy through institutional reforms such as transforming the Government Communication Unit (GCU) into the Directorate of Public Diplomacy and Strategic Communication (DPDSC); as well as other deliberate strategic initiatives all aimed at enhancing Tanzania's diplomatic visibility and fostering greater public understanding of its foreign policy agenda.

The benchmarking visit underscored several actionable insights for Tanzania as it embarks on its public diplomacy reform journey:

Establishing a Knowledge Resource Centre: Tanzania aims to create a central hub for diplomatic research and archiving, which will serve as a repository for the

country's diplomatic history and a platform for public education. Staffed by IT and library science professionals, the center will ensure modern, efficient operations to support scholarly exchange and policy formulation.

Strengthening Strategic Communication: By elevating the GCU to the DPDSC, Tanzania plans to integrate strategic communication, digital diplomacy, and public engagement into its foreign policy framework. This approach will improve the country's capacity to communicate its values and priorities on the global stage. Launching the Dr. Augustine Mahiga Speaker Series: Named in honor of the late diplomat and former Minister of Foreign Affairs, this initiative will feature public lectures across Tanzania to promote dialogue on international affairs and foster a deeper understanding of the nation's diplomatic agenda.

Introducing "Diplomatic Communiqué" on National Television: In collaboration with the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC), this program will feature ambassadors discussing their work, promoting Tanzania's diplomatic engagements, and enhancing public awareness of foreign policy initiatives.

Enhancing Digital Engagement: Recognising the importance of digital platforms, Tanzania plans to recruit IT and social media experts to ensure professional, real-time communication with global audiences. This will amplify the country's online presence and effectively project a positive image of Tanzania.

Charting a Dynamic Diplomatic Future

The benchmarking visit to Namibia highlighted the critical role of collaboration, innovation, and strategic planning in public diplomacy. Namibia's successes in integrating public diplomacy into its foreign policy framework offer a valuable roadmap for Tanzania as it seeks to elevate its global presence.

By adopting tools such as strategic communication, digital engagement, and public outreach, Tanzania is poised to strengthen its international partnerships, enhance its global reputation, and cultivate a more informed and engaged citizenry. The proposed reforms signal a bold step towards ensuring that public diplomacy becomes a cornerstone of Tanzania's foreign policy.

As the nation navigates the complexities of 21st-century diplomacy, its commitment to advancing public diplomacy underscores its readiness to address global challenges with confidence and vision. Through innovation and collaboration, Tanzania is charting a path towards greater diplomatic influence and connectivity on the world stage.

A Global Street Cultural Extravaganza brings together international communities at the 'Geneva of Africa'

By Rose Shayo



The beauty of cross-cultural interaction comes alive at the Arusha Global Street Cultural Extravaganza & New Year 2025 Celebration, a fusion of local and international dance, music, and cuisine at the 'Geneva of Africa.' Together, we bid farewell to the incredible 2024 and eagerly await the New Year 2025.

The event brought together the local and international communities who witnessed several activities, including car and motorcycle racing and a live show by the renowned Congolese singer Bozi Boziana, among other great activities.

A vibrant comedy show preceded the New Year celebrations, bringing together comedians from Tanzania and Kenya at the 'Churchill Show Tanzania' in Arusha on the night of December 28, organized by the leadership of Arusha Region in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation.

Together with the Regional Commissioner of Arusha, Hon. Paul Makonda was joined by Arusha District Commissioner Hon. Felician Mtahengerwa, Ambassador of Kenya in Tanzania, Hon. Isaac Njenga, Ambassador of Somalia in Tanzania, Hon. Ilyas Ali Hassan, Pastor Tony Osborn among other notable people.

The comedy entertainment involved famous comedians from Tanzania and Kenya, including Eliud Samwel, Churchill, Chipukeezy, Mzee Shayo, and Eric Omondi.

Car racing

The streets of Arusha are packed as people head towards the Clock Tower to witness the eye-catching activities ongoing on the grounds ahead of New Year celebrations.

Excitement intensifies with thrilling car and motorcycle races on Old Moshi Road as crowds line up to cheer the high-speed action.

Interactions

People of different nationalities came together at the Arusha Global Street Cultural Extravaganza & New Year 2025 Celebration, where each culture is celebrated.

The beauty of cross-cultural interaction comes alive at the Arusha Global Street Cultural Extravaganza & New Year 2025 Celebration, a fusion of local and international dance, music, and cuisine at the 'Geneva of Africa.' Together, we bid farewell to an incredible 2024 and eagerly await the New Year 2025.





Tanzania Expands Diaspora Engagement in the UK

By sheiba bulu

The Director of Diaspora Engagement and Opportunities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Mr. Salvator Mbilinyi, led a delegation of stakeholders from various public and private institutions in Tanzania to offer services to Tanzanian Diaspora in the United Kingdom.

The initiative coincided with the 63rd Anniversary of Tanzania Mainland's Independence commemorated by the Tanzanian community through the Birmingham and Black Country Association.

The specialized Diaspora Service Clinic was honored by the presence of Tanzania's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, H.E. Mbelwa Kairuki, who joined the community in celebrating the independence anniversary and got an opportunity to acquire services offered directly from Tanzania.

Speaking at the celebrations, Mr. Mbilinyi highlighted several key policy and legal initiatives carried out under the leadership of H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania which are aimed at enhancing the participation of Tanzanians abroad in the country's social and economic development.



Notably, the efforts include amending the Foreign Policy to formally recognize the Diaspora category, which includes foreign nationals of Tanzanian origin, as well as initiating the legal process to grant Special Status to eligible foreign nationals of Tanzanian descent. The status would allow them to enter, reside, and exit Tanzania without time limitations typically imposed on non-citizens.

Mr. Mbilinyi also acknowledged the diaspora's significant contributions, particularly through remittances, which reached USD 762.5 million in the 2023/24 financial year, as indicated by the Bank of Tanzania.

He, however noted that the amount reported is likely smaller than the total figure, since much of the remittance flow is channeled through informal systems such as hawala.

He stressed on the need for unity and mutual support within the Diaspora community, urging Tanzanians abroad to uphold the values of solidarity rather than allowing division to foster within their ranks.

The event and clinic were also attended by the Mayor of Birmingham, Mr. Richard Parker, who commended the Tanzanian government for implementing a system that brings comprehensive services directly to its citizens abroad, thereby enhancing their participation in the Tanzania's national development.

The Diaspora Service Clinic is part of the Ministry's ongoing efforts to provide Tanzanians living abroad with essential services and support, facilitating their continued engagement in the country's economic and social development.



Tanzania Calls on German Tourism Giants to explore investment potentials

By Rose Shayo



Ambassador of Tanzania to Germany H. E. Hassan Mwamweta has called upon major tourism companies in Germany to consider the United Republic of Tanzania as their number one choice investment and tourism destination in the African Continent.

He made the call while officiating at the major Tourism Exhibition, known as "My Tanzania Roadshow 2024," held in Frankfurt, Germany under the coordination of Kili Fair Tourism Company in collaboration with Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), the Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB) and Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA).

Among other issues, Amb. Mwamweta seized the opportunity to point the wider vision of Government of Tanzania under the leadership of H. E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan was to create favourable business environment for tourism and investment in the country.

"Our President has vowed to work tirelessly to a create a friendly and reliable environment in the tourism sector to attract investors and promote the tourism market and investment," he said.

He reiterated the commitment of Tanzania authorities to ensure the President vision and aspirations are met. Such includes the provision of better tourist services the likes of "Visa on arrival" service.

Data from the Bank of Tanzania (BoT), as of August 2024, indicated that the country welcomed over two million international tourists, generating an unprecedented 3.5 billion US dollars in revenue.

This economic boon has significantly contributed to Tanzania's GDP, with tourism now accounting for 17.2 per cent of the national GDP and 29 per of Zanzibar's GDP. According to the ruling Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) Manifesto the goal is to arrive at 5 million tourists and generate Six billion US dollars in revenue by 2025. The implementation of this task has been facilitated by the film The Royal Tour, which features the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan, and is intended to promote Tanzania's tourist attractions across the globe.





Ambassador Mshana meets DRC Minister of Sports

By Sheiba Bulu

Tanzanian Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), H.E. Said Mshana held talks with the DRC Minister of Sports and Entertainment, Hon. Didier Budimbu Ntubuanga, at the minister's office in Kinshasa.

During the meeting, H.E. Ambassador Mshana conveyed the heartfelt appreciation of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for the warm reception and generous hospitality extended by the DRC Government to Tanzania's national football team, "Taifa Stars" when arrived in Kinshasa.

Taifa Stars were in Kinshasa to participate in a pivotal qualifying match against the DRC national team, The Leopards, which took place on 10th October, 2024 and lost 1-0 to DRC

in a qualifying match for the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) scheduled to be held in Morocco from 21st December, 2025, to 18th January, 2026.







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