National Day of Tanzania Publicity

Feting 1st National Day after moving to middle-income status

By Hussein Athman Kattanga Ambassador of Tanzania

On behalf of the Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania in Japan, I wish to extend my most heartfelt

congratulations to all my fellow Tanzanians and in particular to my fellow nationals living in Japan for celebrating the 57th anniversary of the Union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar.

Also on behalf of the government of the United Republic of Tanzania. and on my own behalf, I take this opportunity to express my sincere Hussein Athman and deepest respect to Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and

Empress, and to the distinguished members of the Imperial family, and wish them good health and happiness.

In the same vein, I wish to convey my warm greetings to H.E. Yoshihide Suga, the Prime Minister of Japan, and to the friendly and brotherly people of Japan.

First and foremost, I would like to convey my most sincere appreciation for the solidarity shown by the government of Japan upon the sudden demise of H.E. Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, the fifth President of the United Republic of Tanzania, that occurred on March 17, 2021.

I would also like to thank the government of Japan for the congratulatory messages and good wishes conveyed to H.E. Samia Sululu Hassan, the sixth President of the United Republic of Tanzania, who was sworn in on March 19, 2021.

Our National Day celebrations are occurring at a time when a new government has just successfully assumed office in a peaceful transition as a sign of the maturity of our democratic system.

As you are all aware, the United Republic of Tanzania is the result of the union between Tanganyika and the Isle of Zanzibar and it was formed on April 26, 1964, when the late Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, the first President of the Union and the late Abeid Amani Karume, the first President of Zanzibar, cordially decided to unite the then Tanganyika and the Isle of Zanzibar to form the United Republic of Tanzania, and today we celebrate 57 years of this historic union.

A major milestone for Tanzania this year was to be declared a middle-income country by the World Bank in July 2020, due to Tanzania's discipline in financial expenditure with our government making consistent plans and taking hard decisions that have improved our economic development and the livelihood of our people. This goal has been achieved five years ahead of schedule.

The government has embarked on major strategic infrastructure projects with a direct impact on the economy that will ensure Tanzania becomes a major force in the region. Currently, the government through the Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) is constructing a 2.561-kilometer SGR (standard gauge railway) network that links Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Kigoma, Katavi and the neighboring countries of Rwanda. Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The over 7-trillion Tanzanian shilling (\$3 billion) project is being implemented in phases and the first round covering the 300-km distance between Dar es Salaam and Morogoro is almost complete.

Another big ongoing project is the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere hydropower dam that is expected to generate 2,115 megawatts. It is a hydroelectric dam under construction across the Rufiji River in eastern Tanzania. Upon completion, the dam will be the fourth largest in Africa, the ninth largest in the world, and the largest power station in East Africa. Construction began in 2019 and is expected to be completed in 2022. It will provide enough electricity to enable Tanzania to become an industrialized economy by 2050.

Japan continues to be Tanzania's major partner in various sectors such as power and infrastructure, water, health and education. Due to the current pandemic, we have not had any exchange of visits during the last year. We are looking to the upcoming TICAD8 Summit, which will be held in Tunis. Tunisia, in 2022, where we shall have the opportunity to further strengthen the already strong relations that exist between Japan and Africa, and Tanzania in particular.

The whole world is gripped with the ongoing global pandemic caused by the coronavirus - COVID-19. Thousands of people around the world have lost their lives due to this virus, I would like to hail all front-liners, health workers, volunteers and others who put their lives at risk with tireless efforts to save lives of millions.

Once this outbreak is over, I hope to see many Japanese tourists travelling to Tanzania, "The Soul of Africa," to see the wonders bestowed upon it such as the Serengeti National Park, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Mt. Kilimanjaro - the roof of Africa - and the Selous Game Reserve, and to explore the beauty of Zanzibar Island. This is to mention just a few of attractions that we have.

I would like to express my deep appreciation to all the sponsors of this year's National Day supplement. We highly value their contributions as always. I also extend my gratitude to The Japan News for offering the Embassy another opportunity of addressing their readers.

Finally, I would like to wish the government of Japan all the best in the upcoming Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games due to be held later this year. I am sure the Games will be a great success despite the ongoing pandemic.

Thank you very much and God Bless Tanzania. God Bless Japan and God Bless vou all.

And I wish you all the best during this challenging period and please stav safe.

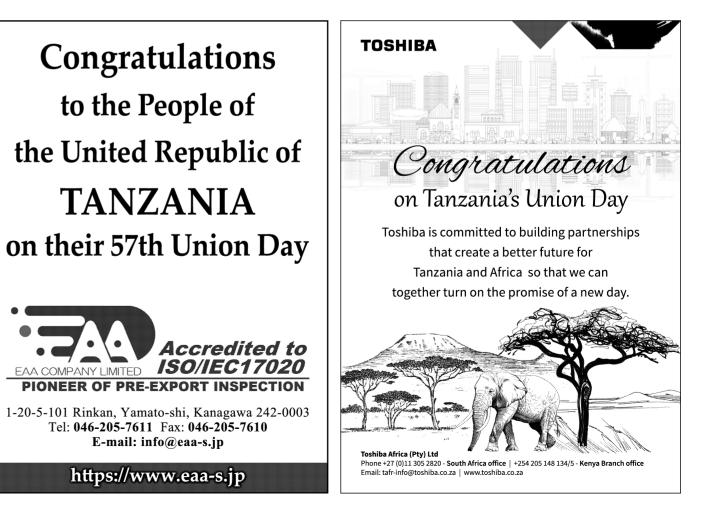
Ahsanteni Sana na Karibuni Tanzania Arigato gozaimashita

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Tanzania's 2,561-km SGR (standard gauge railway) link project is under construction with the first phase almost completed, covering the 300-km distance between Dar es Salaam and Morogoro.









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