

# Tanzania National Day

## Relationship continues to evolve and improve

**MATHIAS M. CHIKAWÉ**  
AMBASSADOR OF TANZANIA



The union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar was consecrated on April 26, 1964, by the founders of our nation, the first President of Tanganyika, the late Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, and the

first President of Zanzibar, the late Sheikh Abeid Amani Karume. Today, we celebrate the 53rd Anniversary of the founding of the United Republic of Tanzania. On this auspicious day, I would like to pay my deepest respects to the founding fathers of the United Republic of Tanzania.

On behalf of the people and the government of Tanzania, the entire staff at the

Tanzanian embassy here in Tokyo and my fellow Tanzanian nationals living in Japan, I take this opportunity to express my sincere and deepest respect to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko and the distinguished members of the Imperial family, wishing them all good health and happiness.

In the same vein, I convey my warm greetings to Prime Minister H.E. Shinzo Abe and to the government and friendly people of Japan.

Diplomatic relations between Tanzania and Japan have endured for over 40 years. Ever since, the depth and importance of the existing relations have become increasingly significant. Japanese government assistance through the Japanese International Cooperation Agency has continued to support development efforts in the country in a wide range of sectors, including infrastructure development, agriculture, industry, transport, energy, water, health and good governance to mention a few.

Last November, the fifth President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. John Pombe Magufuli, completed a very successful year in office. He has for the first year of his leadership focused on uplifting the moral standards of the nation by launching wars against corruption and misuse of public funds, as well as against illegal drugs and their use. These battles, though difficult, have seen great success. The majority of Tanzanians have rendered great support to the president and this has resulted in forward strides. We are happy to note that Japan, through its embassy in Dar es Salaam, has shown support for the moves made by the president.

In this period there have been four high-level visits by officials from Tanzania. The energy and infrastructure sectors have been the areas that have benefited most from these visits. As Japan is assisting Tanzania in the formulation and development of the Natural Gas Utilization Master Plan, the country in August received a high-level delegation led by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals Justin Ntalikwa that spent a whole week looking at the new natural gas master plan that had been developed with the assistance of the Institute of Energy Economics of Japan. This was later followed by another delegation from the same ministry, and later two experts from the state house's natural gas advisory panel. These contacts reiterate the importance of the natural gas sector to both our countries.

The infrastructure sector has been of utmost importance to Tanzania and Japan has always shown its willingness to assist in the policy formulation and review, as well as the actual construction of roads and bridges. Under the assistance of the government of Japan, Sumitomo Mitsui Construction Co. is constructing the famous Tazara overpass as part of a program for easing of road congestion in Dar es Salaam.

Premier Kassim M. Majaliwa led the Tanzanian delegation at the sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) in Nairobi, Kenya, on Aug. 25 and 26. Hosting the first-ever TICAD summit in the continent and adopting the Nairobi Declaration are major milestones and indeed a big boost toward achieving a more strategic partnership

with Japan. More importantly, it underscores the spirit of partnership and ownership that underpinned the very principles of the formation of TICAD in 1993.

On Dec. 7, the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers celebrated 50 years since its initiation in Tanzania in 1967. The Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service and Good Governance), the Hon. Angellah Kairuki graced the celebrations in Dar es Salaam.

Last but not least, I would like to express my deep appreciation to the companies that volunteered to sponsor this national day supplement.

We highly value your contribution and cooperation as always. I also extend my gratitude to The Japan Times for offering me another opportunity of addressing their distinguished readers on this important occasion. Thank you very much and God bless Tanzania, God bless Japan and God bless you all.



Skyline of Dar es Salaam, the largest city in Tanzania  
EMBASSY OF TANZANIA



Agnu herd roams in the Serengeti National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

EMBASSY OF TANZANIA

Mt. Kilimanjaro is the tallest mountain in Africa.  
EMBASSY OF TANZANIA



Congratulations  
to the People of  
the United Republic of Tanzania  
on the 53rd Anniversary  
of Their Union Day



*from the president and staff of*  
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Congratulations  
to the People  
of  
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of  
Tanzania on  
their 53rd Union Day



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