

# Tanzania National Day Special

## Strong relationship continues to grow

**ANDERSON MUTATEMBWA**  
AMBASSADOR OF TANZANIA



On April 26, the United Republic of Tanzania celebrates the 62nd anniversary of the union between what were then known as the Republic of Tanganyika and the People's Republic of Zanzibar, a historic milestone in 1964 that laid the foundation for our strong and vibrant nation.

On this important occasion, we honor the visionary leadership of the late Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, the first president of Tanzania, and the late Sheikh Abeid Amani Karume, the first president of Zanzibar. Their courage and commitment to unity created one of Africa's most enduring unions.

On behalf of the government and the people of Tanzania, I wish to convey our highest respect to Their Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, as well as to all esteemed members of the imperial family. I also extend our warmest greetings to Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi, and the friendly people of Japan for their continued friendship and goodwill.

As the ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania to Japan for the past eight months, I am honored to witness the strong bilateral relations between our countries, which began with Tanganyika's independence in 1961. These ties are built

on mutual trust and cooperation, exemplified by the establishment of Japan International Cooperation Agency operations in Tanzania in 1962 and the opening of embassies in Dar es Salaam and Tokyo in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Over the decades, Tanzania-Japan relations have grown stronger, driven by shared aspirations for sustainable development, economic transformation and poverty reduction. Our economic cooperation has achieved remarkable milestones in recent years.

In July 2025, Tanzania had the honor of hosting a high-level Japanese business delegation, which included over 20 representatives from member companies of the Japan International Association for the Industry of Urban Development, Building and Housing. This event further strengthened business-to-business links and investment opportunities.

Tanzania's showing at Expo 2025 in Osaka marked a key moment in our partnership. On May 25, we celebrated our National Day, followed by the Tanzania Investment, Business and Tourism Forum on May 26, which drew over 300 participants from Tanzania and Japan. These events resulted in eight memorandums of understanding and two statements of cooperation across sectors such as health, education, infrastructure, "the blue economy," the environment (including a joint crediting mechanism), energy, and investment, laying a solid foundation for collaboration and project implementation.

The momentum from the expo was further enhanced by high-level bilateral engagements, including a summit between our prime ministers in Tokyo on May 29.

This meeting reaffirmed both countries' commitment to deepening strategic cooperation and exploring new opportunities for partnership.

Similarly, Tanzania's participation in the ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development, from Aug. 20 to 22, 2025, in Yokohama, was highly successful. Tanzania actively engaged in bilateral meetings and thematic sessions, showcasing itself as a success story of Japan-Africa cooperation. On the sidelines, three additional memorandums of understanding were signed, focusing on human resource development in construction, transport modernization and legal frameworks for business, further expanding the scope of collaboration.

Tanzania continues to regard Japan as a key partner in its development journey. Through platforms such as TICAD, Japan has provided an invaluable framework for advancing cooperation with Africa. Likewise, Tanzania's participation in the Osaka Expo provided a unique opportunity to showcase the country's rich cultural heritage and vast economic potential to the people of Japan and the global community.

In trade, Tanzanian products are gaining recognition in Japan. Kilimanjaro coffee has continued to become a beloved brand among Japanese consumers, ranking among the country's top premium coffee selections. Exports of sesame seeds, tobacco, spices and traditional art, such as Tingatinga paintings and Makonde carvings, are also steadily expanding. Nonetheless, there remains significant untapped potential. Tanzania warmly welcomes increased engagement from Japanese businesses in sectors such as



agriculture, agro-processing, fisheries, manufacturing, mining, infrastructure development, housing and human settlements, renewable energy and tourism.

Under the leadership of Her Excellency President Samia Suluhu Hassan, Tanzania has fostered a favorable environment for investment and trade, enhancing democratic governance and inclusive economic growth. Key infrastructure projects are transforming the economy. In July 2025, the president notably launched Tanzania Development Vision 2050 (Dira 2050), a forward-looking blueprint that outlines the country's ambition to build a resilient, inclusive and competitive economy by mid-century.

On this special occasion, I also warmly invite our Japanese friends and the global community to visit Tanzania and experience its extraordinary natural beauty and cultural richness.

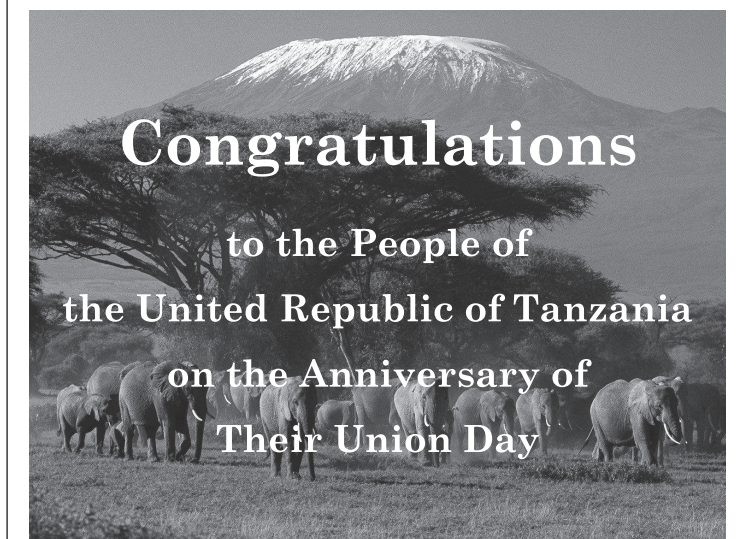
As we mark the 62nd anniversary of our union, we sincerely appreciate Japan's enduring friendship and support and look forward to strengthening our shared vision of peace, prosperity and sustainable development.

Thank you very much.

**A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro is the world's highest free-standing mountain above sea level and Africa's highest peak, at 5,895 meters.**  
EMBASSY OF TANZANIA



President Samia Suluhu Hassan officially launches Tanzania Development Vision 2050 in Dodoma.  
EMBASSY OF TANZANIA



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

**JT**

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