

Tanzania | Tanzania national day

Safe and secure for investment, tourism



Salome Thaddaus Sijaona
AMBASSADOR
OF TANZANIA

Today, April 26, 2015, we are celebrating the 51st Anniversary

of foundation of the United Republic of Tanzania — the union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar. On this auspicious day, I would like to pay my most deep respect to the founders of the union — the late Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, Father of the Nation and the first President of Zanzibar, the late Abeid Amani Karume. I also wish extend my most heartfelt congratulations to all my fellow Tanzanian nationals living in Japan.

On behalf of the government, the people, the entire staff of the Tanzania Embassy and on my own behalf, I take this opportunity to express my sincere and deepest respect to Their Imperial Majesties, Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, the distinguished members of the Imperial family and wish them good health and happiness.

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

There is a common realization between our two countries that there is a need to move from the traditional

donor-recipient relationship to that of two countries seeking the common goal of betterment of the lives of their people hand in hand.

Recently, we have seen two very high profile visits from Tanzania. In May 2014, H.E. Dr. Mohammed Gharib Bilal, vice president of the United Republic of Tanzania made a five-day working visit to Japan. The vice president had the opportunity to meet with the Hon. Yoshihide Suga, chief cabinet secretary of the government of Japan, and discuss bilateral issues between our two countries. Bilal also visited Japanese companies interested in investing in Tanzania.

In March this year, the Hon. Peter Mizengo Pinda, prime minister of the United Republic of Tanzania visited Japan and attended the Third UN Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which was held in Sendai. During the conference, bilateral talks were held with Abe. Pinda also had an opportunity to visit various Japanese companies and invite them to invest in Tanzania.

On this occasion of our National Day, we reflect on our continued achievements, both at home and in relationship with the rest of the world. I would like to mention some of laudable progress that has been realized in the spheres of politics, the economy, society, as well as in international relations.

On the political front, Tanzania con-



Mount Kilimanjaro is the highest peak in Africa and tallest free-standing mountain in the world.

EMBASSY OF TANZANIA

tinues to enjoy peace and political stability; while democracy continues to take roots; and basic freedoms, human rights and rule of law continue to be respected and observed. We shall be having general elections this October and all preparations are on track to ensure they will be held in a fair and transparent manner.

In the economic sphere, Tanzania continued to have sound economic performance. The economy recorded a growth rate of 6.5 percent in 2014, the driving force for growth being the sectors of mining, tourism and manufacturing. The government has continued to take necessary action in creating a conducive business environment, including measures to reduce the cost of doing business, in order to attract both foreign and domestic investors.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the government of Japan for their continued support in various sectors such as education, health, agriculture and, in particular, road infrastructure. The importance of roads and other infrastructure that connect agricultural production areas to markets and industrial centers is one of the government's main concerns.

As for investment opportunities, the Tanzanian economy can absorb massive injections of investment in every conceivable area. Plenty of opportunities exist in sectors such as agriculture, energy, infrastructure, transportation, tourism, mining, manufacturing and services. The continuing discovery of huge reserves of natural gas both onshore and offshore have heightened the expecta-

tions of the country becoming a major gas producer.

As an ambassador to Japan, I would like to see more Japanese investment in Tanzania, particularly in the areas highlighted above. Tanzania's comparative advantages as a premier investment destination include a stable political environment; strong economic performance; unlimited investment opportunities; attractive finance incentives; vibrant private sector; pro-business government; huge regional market; preferential access to some of the world's markets; and the geographic location — the gateway to East, Central and Southern Africa.

I also warmly welcome Japanese tourists to visit Tanzania, which has surpassed others as a true safari destination. Tanzania is home of the world-renowned Serengeti National Park; the Selous Game Reserve, the biggest game reserve in the world; Ngorongoro Crater, the biggest unbroken crater in the world; Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa; Lake Victoria and Lake Tanganyika, the largest and the deepest lakes in Africa, respectively; and Zanzibar, the island of spices; to name only a few.

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 contributions 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 you!

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to the People of

the United Republic of Tanzania

on the 51st Anniversary of

Their Union Day

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