



**REMARKS BY H. E. AMBASSADOR IRENE F. M. KASYANJU OF
TANZANIA AT THE OCCASION TO MARK THE 54TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE UNION OF TANGANYIKA AND ZANZIBAR: 25TH APRIL 2018
- *KASTEEL DE WITTENBURG – WASSENAAR* -**

**Mr. Paul Litjens, Head of Sub-Saharan Africa Department in the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands,**

**H.E. Ambassador Carlos Jose Arguello Gomez of Nicaragua, Dean of the
Diplomatic Corps,**

Excellencies, Distinguished Heads of International Organizations,

Fellow Tanzanians, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Tanzania's National Day celebrates the day on which the United Republic of Tanzania was formed, following the unification of Tanganyika and Zanzibar, forming the first political union between two Sovereign states ever existed in the African Continent in the post-colonial era, 54 years ago. This unique Union and one of its kind in the World was championed by the late Julius Kambarage Nyerere, then President of the Republic of Tanganyika and the late Abeid Amman Karume, then President of the Peoples Republic of Zanzibar. It is therefore for all Tanzanians, a very special day.

On behalf of the Government and people of the United Republic of Tanzania and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to thank you all for having so kindly honoured this occasion with your presence this evening.

As we are celebrating the 54 years since this Union was established, Tanzania has been enjoying peace and tranquility all the time and thus contributing tremendously in seeking stability within our Region. All this could not be achieved in isolation but by forging and strengthening unity and friendly ties between the people of Tanganyika and Zanzibar. It is Tanzania's pride to keep the Union flourishing and this is what the two Governments have been striving to achieve throughout our history. It is Tanzania's belief that the generations to come will cherish this unique achievement, which has all along been cemented by the economic, social and cultural ties.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I could not think of a better opportunity than this one to acknowledge the excellent bilateral relations that exists between Tanzania and The Netherlands. These relations are historical and can be traced back to early years of independent Tanganyika. They have continued to be nurtured and strengthened from which various forms of cooperation have been established covering different fields.

In strengthening these relations, our Governments have recorded a number of high-ranking Government officials exchanged visits, which had political as well as economic interests. Such visits have marked the achievement of more cherished and strengthened friendly ties between our two countries. For example, between 2013 and 2017, we witnessed former President of Tanzania H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete visiting The Netherlands twice; we also witnessed visits by Ministers of

Agriculture of both countries and their respective Permanent Secretaries or Directors General*; we had Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands leading a group of renowned Dutch Companies to Tanzania; Members of Tanzania Parliament also visited the Netherlands, and other high ranking officials.

Several visits by Her Majesty Queen Màxima to Tanzania in her capacity as Special Advocate for Financial Inclusion for Development have made Tanzania's access to formal financial services grow significantly. More than 50% of the population are now included in the formal financial system.

Our Embassy continues to promote and strengthen these ties through encouraging more investments, businesses and tourism. We are proud to mention that a significant number of renown Dutch companies such as DAMEN Shipyards, BAM International, RIJK ZWAAN, Royal PHILIPS, SHELL International, ZWART TECHNIEK, and many others are active and doing business in Tanzania.

Excellencies, Dear Friends,

Tanzania has continued to achieve a sustained high growth rate of the economy, with signs of economic transformation emerging. These positive developments are aimed at facilitating substantial poverty reduction, creation of quality jobs and increase of productivity. Current key objectives for Tanzania are geared towards achieving national development aspirations articulated in the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 of transforming the economy into a middle income and semi-industrialized country by 2025. Concerted efforts are being pursued to

transform the economy, commensurate with the envisaged development aspirations; a task we have to fulfill in less than 10 years.

Interested parties are welcome to identify and facilitate new alliances and partnerships that will benefit our countries. We are seeking investors in the natural gas sector, renewable energy, infrastructure, agriculture, water sector, heavy and light industries, technology, education, health infrastructure, tourism, real estate, as well as the financial sector.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our mutual solidarity goes back a long way. I am convinced that years of unbroken friendship between Tanzania and The Netherlands will continue to nourish and strengthen our much-treasured partnership by bringing our two countries and peoples even closer. Our joint accomplishment over the years is a reflection of the mutual trust, understanding and shared values.

Excellencies, Dear Friends,

I now ask you to join me in a toast;

- to the continued cooperation between Tanzania and The Netherlands,
- to the friendship between our peoples and,
- to the good health of all of us present here this evening.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VERY KIND ATTENTION!