



Message from
Ambassador Juma V. Mwapachu
Secretary General of the
East African Community

In November 2009, the East African Community (EAC) celebrated 10 years since the signing of the Treaty establishing it on 30th November 1999. However, the EAC was effectively born on 1st July 2000 after the Treaty was ratified by all the Regional Partner States, namely Uganda, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania.

In commemorating the EAC's 10th Anniversary, a decision was taken to publish a special and dedicated magazine which would feature the EAC story – its history, achievements made, challenges faced and the prospects for the future. In this regard, FIRST, the UK's premier magazine dedicated to enhancing communication between leaders and industry, finance and government on international strategic issues, was approached to publish the EAC Special Magazine.

It is the hope of the EAC that this publication will help to showcase the potential and vibrancy of one of Africa's leading regional integration organisations. The East African Community region is one of the most peaceful, democratic and stable in Africa. It has abundant natural resources which, if well harnessed and developed, can transform the

economies of the region, create substantial wealth and jobs which are crucial in reducing the current high levels of poverty. The EAC prides itself of being, one people, one destiny, a mantra that captures the strength of its unity, founded on cultural affinity and a collective quest for shared equitable development.

Through this publication, it is also the hope of the EAC that potential investors as well as development partners will find both the appetite and the excitement to join us in what we believe would be a highly rewarding partnership in development as well as in mutual gains.

As the EAC enters its second decade, at a time when it has set the Common Market in motion and is ardently pursuing the establishment of a Monetary Union, time could not be more opportune for investors, social entrepreneurs and indeed all those who see regional economic integration as a new force of development, to learn more about the EAC and what it offers. I welcome you all to visit us at www.eac.int to savour the EAC's rich menu of opportunities. F