

Introduction by Rt Hon Lord Hurd of Westwell CH CBE PC Chairman of the FIRST Advisory Council

he 50th Anniversary of the foundation of the United Republic of Tanzania is an important landmark to celebrate and the people and leadership of Tanzania should be congratulated on this achievement. Tanzania has maintained, over the years, peaceful inter-tribal and inter-religious relations and political stability – in a region not noted for those attributes – making Tanzania an attractive proposition for foreign investment.

We at FIRST are delighted to publish this official report on Tanzania to mark the 50th Anniversary, and extend our thanks to HE President Dr Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, HE Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda and HE High Commissioner Peter Kallaghe for all their help and encouragement.

Tanzania's political and economic stability of recent years is all the more remarkable given the difficult and bloody progress to statehood. On December 9, 1961 Tanganyika became an independent Commonwealth Realm and Mwalimu Julius Kambarge Nyerere became Prime Minister. One year later a republican constitution was implemented with Mwalimu Julius Kambarge Nyerere appointed as Tanganyika's first President.

Zanzibar received independence from the United Kingdom on December 10th 1963 and became a constitutional monarchy under the Sultan. The following year the African majority revolted against the Sultan and a new government was formed with Abeid Karume as President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council. Within days some 10,000 Arabs and Indians had been murdered, women were raped and homes burned – within weeks a fifth of the population had died or fled the country.

At the same time the army in Tanganyika revolted and Julius Nyerere asked Britain to send in troops. Royal Marine Commandos arrived by air from England via Nairobi and successfully disarmed the military outposts.

On April 26th, 1964, Tanganyika united with Zanzibar to form the United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar. The following October the country was renamed the United Republic of Tanzania – the name being a combination of the words Tanganyika and Zanzibar. Under the terms of this union, the Government of Zanzibar retains considerable autonomy and the unification provided the foundation for national peace and prosperity.

Under President Kikwete modern Tanzania has enjoyed significant economic growth – 7 per cent in 2013 – with the potential to become one of Africa's most important economies, benefitting from a strategic location and major gas reserves, as well as receiving over fifty per cent of all foreign direct investment into the East African Community in 2013.

Tanzania has now largely completed its transition to a liberalised market economy, though sectors including banking, telecommunications, mining and energy are still dominated by the state. Agriculture accounts for some 25 per cent of GDP and employs around 80 per cent of the labour force.

Tanzania's economic infrastructure has been rebuilt with funds from the World Bank, the IMF and bilateral donors and continued donor assistance and progressive macroeconomic policies have supported the country's positive growth rates. Recent banking reforms have also helped boost private sector growth and investment. The key industrial sectors are agricultural processing, mining (diamonds, gold and

iron), salt, soda ash, cement, oil refining, wood products and fertiliser.

Tanzania's future economic prospects are considerably strengthened by its sizeable gas deposits – the first of which were found in the Indian Ocean in 2010. It is estimated that Tanzania's gas reserves amount to over 50 trillion cubic feet. The majority of Tanzania's gas sector is in the exploration phase and major international firms such as BG Group, Petrobras, Shell, Statoil, Ophir and Pavilion are participating.

The United Kingdom and Tanzania enjoy a strong partnership in trade, investment and economic development. This was formally ratified with a High Level Prosperity Partnership signed in 2013 which is designed to promote closer commercial links in oil and gas, renewable energy, agriculture while strengthening the overall business environment.

As well as supporting UK-Tanzania trade and investment, the UK government supports Tanzania's progress towards achieving the Millennium Development

Goals, cooperates on security issues and works with the Tanzanian government and civil society to support human rights.

Tanzania is home to Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro as well as the Serengeti National Park, famous for seasonal migration of animals. The Ngorongoro Conservation Area, an extinct volcanic caldera, has large herds of wildebeest, zebra, lion and the endangered black rhinoceros. These natural resources contribute to Tanzania's tourist industry which generates 25 per cent of the country's foreign exchange.

The 50th Anniversary of Tanzania's unification provides an opportunity to acknowledge Tanzania's achievements and to weigh carefully the opportunities for further cooperation and support. We at FIRST are delighted to have been asked to produce this official publication and hope that it contributes, in a small way, to the celebrations marking the 50th Anniversary and to underlining Tanzania's important international role.

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