



**Message from  
His Excellency  
Peter A. Kallaghe,  
High Commissioner of  
the United Republic of  
Tanzania**

**A**s Tanzania commemorates 50 years of its historical Union, I am honored as High Commissioner to provide a personal reflection on the current state of Tanzania-United Kingdom diplomatic relations.

Looking back, the Union celebration could not have arrived at a more opportune moment in Tanzania-UK bilateral relations. Significant transformations are taking place, shifting the relationship from one of donor and aid recipient, to that of a trade and investment partnership.

In 2010 Tanzania became one of five priority African countries that the UK selected to build special relations with in four key sectors, including oil and gas. This relationship was formulated via the High Level Prosperity Partnership. More recently we have witnessed greatly increased ministerial visits and the intensification of the exchange of trade missions from both sides.

Traditional diplomatic relations between the two countries continue to improve. In 2011 Their Royal Highnesses Prince Charles and The Duchess of Cornwall visited Dar Es Salaam, Zanzibar and Arusha where they represented Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as Tanzania celebrated 50 Years of Independence. These friendly visits culminated with President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete visiting the United Kingdom as a Guest of Government in April 2014, during which, at discussions held at No. 10 Downing Street, both he and Prime Minister Cameron reaffirmed their pledge

to build stronger ties under the new Trade and Investment Partnership.

As a member of the Commonwealth and in recognition of its growing role in the organisation, Tanzania currently chairs the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG). This crucial body oversees the implementation of Commonwealth values and principles by member states. As Chair, Tanzania continues to spearhead Commonwealth efforts to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Finally, I would also like to highlight the ever growing personal relationship that exists between the people of our two countries. More than at any time in history we are witnessing greater numbers of British citizens travelling to Tanzania as tourists, business people, volunteers or investors. The volume of positive feedback the High Commission receives about their experiences in working and doing business with Tanzanians is very encouraging. In this context the members of the British Tanzania Society (BTS) must be commended for their continued support in fostering positive person to person relations between our peoples down through the decades.

In conclusion, I would like to thank First Magazine for this wonderful commemorative report. It is our hope, that through this special report, readers will join Tanzania in celebrating this historical milestone. The broad range of personalities and opinions presented in the publication will provide readers with a unique insight into Tanzania on her 50th anniversary. **E**