

**OPENING SPEECH BY HON. PROF. JOYCE NDALICHAKO,
MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA DURING THE TANZANIA-KOREA
25TH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR AT JNICC, DAR ES SALAAM**

28TH APRIL 2017

**Your Excellency Song Geum-Young, Ambassador of the Republic
of Korea to Tanzania,**

***Madam Justa Nyange, Acting Director, Department of Asia and
Australasia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African
Cooperation,***

Our Panelists,

***Senior Government Officials from various Ministries and
Institutions,***

Students from various Colleges present here,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen;

At the outset allow me to convey the cordial greetings from Hon. Prof. Joyce Ndalichako, Minister for Education, Science and Technology. She would have very much liked to join us here today but unfortunately due to some equally pressing meeting in Dodoma she could not travel to Dar es Salaam to officiate this seminar. In this regard, allow me, therefore, to read, on her behalf, the opening speech:

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania, I would like to extend sincere gratitude to the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation for the excellent organization of this seminar. Personally it is a great honour to me to be given this rare opportunity to reflect on the ties between the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Korea as part of a broader commemoration of 25 years of the Tanzania-Korea diplomatic relations.

April 30 this year is an especially notable day by both Koreans and Tanzanians, as we together commemorate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral relations between our two countries. These ties have been developed in many areas including; diplomacy, education, commerce, Information Technology and people-to-people engagements, each of which could be the subject of individual speeches, panel discussions and conferences.

However, my intention today is to give an overview of our bilateral relations over two and half decades, reflecting on three areas, namely our diplomatic relations, development partnership and the cultural aspect of our bilateral relationship. Our panellists, I'm sure, will discuss details of these.

Your Excellency

At the peak of our relations on the diplomatic front, our two governments exchanged two high profile visits. In February 2017, Tanzania welcomed with delight H.E. **Ambassador Choi Jong-moon**, Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea. In April 2017, as part of the commemoration of this

anniversary, **Hon Dr. Augustine P. Mahiga**, Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania made a one day working visit to Seoul, Korea. These visits have not only served to enhance our diplomatic relations but have also worked to set a good environment for further implementation of our strategic projects that are critical to our development.

As we continue strengthening our diplomatic relations, H.E. Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, early this March appointed Ambassador-Designate of Tanzania to the Republic of Korea with a view to open a fully-fledged Embassy in Seoul. The Government of the Republic of Korea welcomed the decision with enchantment. The Tanzanian and Korean Ministries of Foreign Affairs are jointly working together for the realization of this objective whereby preparations are now at an advanced stage.

Our diplomatic ties are not circumscribed on Government-to-Government relations alone but are as well extended to our Academic Institutions that nurture and refine our diplomats. I'm informed that, the establishment of sisterhood relations between the Centre for Foreign Relations (CFR) and the Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA) is at the verge. The Government of Tanzania welcomes this cooperation and stands ready to extend any support needed to ensure its realisation.

Your Excellency,

Let me take this opportunity, to extend the appreciation of the Government of Tanzania for the decision by the Korean Government to select Tanzania as a Priority Partner Country (PPC), under the Korean Country Partnership Strategy for the period 2016-2020. This makes

Tanzania the largest recipient of Korea's Official Development Assistance (ODA) in Africa during the stated years. The decision will indeed complement my Government's efforts towards achieving the National Development Vision 2025, which aims at industrialization of our economy.

Further, over the last two decades, the Government of the Republic of Korea has continued to support development efforts in Tanzania in a wide range of sectors, including infrastructure development, health, water sanitation and energy to mention just a few. Some land mark projects include among others, the Malagarasi Bridge, the 600 beds New Muhimbili Hospital in Mloganzila, the Mother and Child Hospital in Chanika and the expected State of Art New Selandar Bridge whose construction is expected to commence in September this year. As the implementation of these projects continues, Tanzania firms and institutions are benefiting in the spheres of training and transfer of technology as well as forging successful partnerships with the Korean Enterprises.

Your Excellency,

Apart from economic cooperation, Tanzania has also witnessed a rise of cultural exchanges and people-to-people relations through the Korean Volunteering Programme in Africa, training and education. In that regard, allow me, to express our sincere appreciation to the Korean Government for supporting capacity building efforts in Tanzania through various short and long term trainings offered by KOICA, KOTRA, KISA and the Embassy of Korea here in Dar es Salaam.

We are pleased to note that during the Fourth Korea-Africa Forum which was held for the first time on the African soil, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 6th to 7th December, 2016, Hon. Yun Byung-se, Minister for Foreign

Affairs of the Republic of Korea informed among others, that in the coming five years, six thousands (6,000) talented Africans will be invited for education and training in either Korea or Africa; and that four thousands (4,000) Korean youth volunteers will be working on the grounds in Africa. Certainly, this will add to and enhance the fabric of our ongoing relationship.

Your Excellency,

Before I conclude, I would like to state that twenty-five years is but a brief period in the life of a nation as well as in the history of its diplomatic ties to other countries. However, for both Tanzania and Korea it has been a very fruitful quarter century, one in which our relationship has grown from strength to strength. Looking ahead, I have no doubt that our partnership will deepen, broaden and strengthen even further in the years ahead.

Long live Tanzania-Korea Relations!

Kamsahabnmida ~ Asante sana.