



Diaspora Council of Tanzanians in America

October 5, 2016

Ref: DG20161005-01

His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Magufuli
President of the United Republic of Tanzania,
President's Office, State House,
P.O. Box 9120, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Your Excellency President Magufuli,

Re: Tanzania Diaspora Policy and Strategies for Diaspora Engagement

It is with humility and gratitude that we have received your letter, Mr. President. We in the diaspora have been greatly inspired by your leadership of our country to bring social justice through social-economic transformation, allowing citizens to imagine a better Tanzania. Your leadership builds confidence amongst our people to occupy a larger space of opportunities and determine their own destiny. The diaspora community across the world is motivated to be more connected with their culture and heritage. Even more importantly for DICOTA, your recognition of our organization and efforts instills much more confidence in our vision and energizes us to imagine an even larger role for the diaspora community toward Tanzania's socio-economic development.

The DICOTA Leadership Team held a strategic planning retreat in Arlington, Virginia on September 16th to September 18th, 2016. The Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania in Washington, DC accepted our invitation and participated in a healthy and stimulating dialogue and exchange. Among several discussions, **DICOTA offered to support the embassy in achieving its mission of representing and engaging with the Tanzania community in the United States while also being a partner with the government of Tanzania as it works to develop the Tanzania Diaspora Policy and other diaspora initiatives. The embassy in turn, laid out their expectations that DICOTA will continue to foster good citizenship and ambassadorship of Tanzanians abroad.**

DICOTA recognizes that the world population is becoming increasingly mobile and globalized and that world markets are becoming more and more integrated. The significant majority of Tanzanians in the diaspora are hardworking and law-abiding students, professionals and families. These Tanzanians positively contribute to the economies of their host countries and are now increasingly coming into positions where they can play critical roles in their host countries to register concrete results by engaging in investments, trade, development, research, and tourism in Tanzania. Additionally, as the Tanzanian diaspora continues to grow, its contributions to Tanzania's development continues to grow. It is imperative that the government of Tanzania implements policies, programs and takes steps in a direction that would allow the deployment of this resource and provide complementarity and integration with national development policies and strategies.

Mr. President, it is with this key assumption in mind that the DICOTA Leadership Team that met in Arlington, Virginia resolved to submit a formal request to your honorable office and request that DICOTA and the Diaspora community have a broader role in the development of Tanzania's Diaspora Policy. We have vested interest and commitment to the Diaspora policy, as its framework will be promulgated to guide Diaspora affairs and their economic potential in organized and consistent way by establishing institutional structures and designing policies to allow for the diaspora community to participate in knowledge and technology transfer, trade, development, investments and tourism promotions, raising foreign currency, branding and serving as a bridge for the country as well as participating in philanthropic endeavors.

The DICOTA Leadership would like to put together a Diaspora Policy Taskforce that is comprised of Diaspora experts that have studied similar policies that have been effective in Israel, India, Ethiopia and South Africa, as well as the Diaspora

12300 Pierce St NE; Blaine, MN 55434



Diaspora Council of Tanzanians in America

Engagement Framework recommended by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). This critical team of volunteers would be available to conduct background formative research and needs assessment, design and implement surveys among US-based Diaspora communities and publish concept papers that will be available to the Government of Tanzania's experts that are assigned to develop the Tanzania Diaspora Policy to aid in policy analysis and recommendations.

Mr. President, once again, on behalf of DICOTA and the Diaspora community, I would like to express our gratitude for your support of the Tanzanian Diaspora and kind consideration of further opportunities for the Diaspora to contribute to Tanzania's socio-economic activities.

We look forward to hear from your office.

Respectfully,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Ndaga Mwakabuta,
President

cc:

1	H.E. Ambassador Wilson Masilingi, Ambassador of Tanzania to the United States of America, 1232 22nd St. NW Washington, D.C 20037
2	H.E. Ambassador Anisa Mbega Director, Diaspora Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Cooperation, East African and International Cooperation P.O Box 9000, DAR ES SALAAM Tanzania
3	H.E. Ambassador Dr. Augustine Mahiga Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Cooperation, East African and International Cooperation P.O Box 9000, DAR ES SALAAM Tanzania
4	H.E. Ambassador Eng. John Kijazi, Chief Secretary, President's Office, State House, P.O. Box 9120, DAR ES SALAAM Tanzania
5	H.E. Ambassador Dr. Aziz Mlima Permanent Secretary,



Diaspora Council of Tanzanians in America

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Cooperation, East African and International Cooperation P.O Box 9000, DAR ES SALAAM Tanzania
