

庆祝中华人民共和国成立 70 周年

In Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China

Building Together a Closer China-Tanzania Community of a Shared Future

The People's Republic of China was founded on October 1, 1949. During the past 70 years, China has gone through an extraordinary journey by developing itself from an impoverished and weak country into a nation of prosperity and strength. China is now the world's second-largest economy, largest manufacturer, largest trader in goods and the biggest holder of foreign exchange reserves.

Over the past 70 years, China's economy has maintained rapid and steady growth. Particularly since the adoption of the reform and opening-up policy in 1978, the average annual GDP growth rate of China is close to 9.5%. Meanwhile, China's per capita GDP has increased from less than US\$240 to about US\$10,000, and in 2018, China's GDP reached US\$13 trillion.

Over the past 70 years, China has made numerous breakthroughs in science and technology. Manned space flight, lunar exploration, quantum science, deep-sea exploration, supercomputing and satellite navigation have been launched one after another, and a large number of world-class achievements have been made in science and technology.

Over the past 70 years, the livelihood and welfare of the Chinese people have been improving continuously. The national annual per capita disposable in-

come surged from less than US\$ 25 in 1978 to over US\$ 4,000 today, increasing by 160 times. In the past 40 years of reform and opening up, China has lifted 740 million people out of poverty, and the life expectancy of the Chinese people has gone up to 77 years old.

China substantially advocates building a community with a shared future for the mankind. The core concept of this community is that, in the face of numerous global issues and challenges, we advocate peace instead of wars, development instead of poverty, cooperation instead of confrontation, and win-win outcomes instead of zero-sum game.

Seventy years of China's experiences demonstrate that only when you never forget why you started will you be able to accomplish your mission. To seek happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation is our determined and unswerving founding aspiration and mission. Next year China is going to realize the first century goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, and the remaining 16 billion poor people in China will be lifted out of poverty.

Seventy years of China's experiences demonstrate that direction determines the future while the path determines the fate. We have successfully blazed a path of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the Chinese people has grown from standing up for itself, to enriching

itself and getting stronger. The world is colorful, there is no fixed mode for development. The path that a country follows must be the one that is in line with its national conditions, promotes development and continuously benefits its people.

Seventy years of China's experiences demonstrate that openness brings progress while isolation leads to backwardness. The policy of reform and opening up is a vital key for China to make significant strides in economic and social development. In the future, China will open wider and conduct closer interaction with the rest of the world, bringing more progress and prosperity to itself and the world as a whole.

This year also marks the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Tanzania. As the Chinese ambassador to Tanzania, I am glad to see that during the past 55 years, the traditional friendship between our two countries established by the old generation of our national leaders has stood the test of international vicissitudes and the bilateral cooperation featuring mutual respect and win-win outcomes has yielded rich achievements and scored a number of the "largest" and the "first" in Tanzania and even in Africa. For example, the Tanzania-Zambia Railway (TAZARA) is by far one of the largest overseas projects built with Chinese aid; the Nyerere Bridge con-

structed by a Chinese company is the first cable-stayed sea-crossing bridge in East Africa; the University of Dar es Salaam Library built with Chinese grant is a state-of-art library in Africa; the National ICT Broadband Backbone Project financed by China Eximbank is the first national information highway in Tanzania; and the Ubungo Flyover in Dar es Salaam being built by a Chinese company is going to be the first multi-layer and multi-track flyover in this country. Meanwhile, China is Tanzania's largest source of foreign investment, the largest trading partner and the largest construction contractor. China is also the country dispatching the largest number of medical aid personnel and providing the largest amount of government scholarships to Tanzania. In a word, the China-Tanzania cooperation has brought concrete benefits to the peoples of our two countries.

Two weeks ago, Chinese President Xi Jinping issued a presidential decree to award the Friend-



H.E. Wang Ke, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the United Republic of Tanzania

ship Medal, China's highest honor for foreigners, to Hon. Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, former Prime Minister of Tanzania. Dr. Salim is one of the best friends of the Chinese people. He was appointed Ambassador of Tanzania to China at the age of 27. In 1971, as Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations, he spearheaded the campaign for the People's Republic of China to restore its lawful seat in the UN. After retirement, Dr. Salim has been the chairman of Tanzania-China Friendship Promotion Association. As the only African awarded the Friendship Medal, Dr. Salim fully deserves the honor. The Friendship Medal is not only commendation of Dr. Salim's outstanding contribution to the development of China-Tanzania relations, but also a great honor to the traditional friendship between China and Tanzania. I would like to extend my congratulations and salutation to Hon. Dr. Salim and the Government of Tanzania. China and Africa have been enjoy-

ing traditional friendship. Over the past half century, China and Africa have been sharing weal and woe, and have formed a community of a shared future.

To Tanzanians and all our friends in Africa, China always sticks to "Five Nos", namely no interference in African countries' pursuit of development paths that fit their national conditions, no interference in African countries' internal affairs, no imposing of our will on African countries, no attachment of political strings to assistance to Africa, and no seeking of selfish political gains in investment and financing cooperation with Africa. Looking into the future, we are willing to work with Tanzania and other African countries to implement the Eight Major Initiatives of 2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and closely integrate the implementation of the Belt and Road initiative (BRI) with African Union's Agenda 2063 and development strategies of Tanzania and other African countries, in order to inject new vigor into the win-win cooperation between China and Tanzania and between China and Africa so as to build closer China-Tanzania and China-Africa communities with a shared future.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to our Tanzanian and international friends who have supported China's reforms and opening up, as well as our national reunification. At the same time, I wish Tanzania achieve greater progress in its endeavor to traditionalize the country under the leadership of President John Pombe Magufuli. Tanzania has a lot of potential in development, and this great country is full of hope.

Achieving People-Centred Development Within Seven Decades: A story of China

OCTOBER 1st 2019 marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Seventy years of independence in itself does not make China an exception. What is exceptional is what the modern China has achieved in the past 70 years of its existence. Achieving a superpower status in just 70 years is what makes China's experience phenomenal and nothing short of miracle.

China has redefined the way we see and approach development by providing an alternative narrative and ways of looking at things. China's development has been people-oriented and aimed at meeting people's aspirations for a better life. While building a strong economy, China has also pursued balanced development in all aspects.

In its 7-decade journey, China has embraced exchange and mutual learning with other countries. Through various regional and international mechanisms, including the Belt and Road Initiative, Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, a wealth of experience and learning has been shared between the people of China and the people in the rest of the world. China's openness to forge win-win cooperation without discrimination has been among the key pillars of its economic cooperation policy.

Reforms and Opening Up

41 years ago, China embraced reforms and opening up that are credited to such celebrated economic miracle that saw China becoming the second largest economy in the world. The pace and scale of China's growth since the adoption of the reform and opening-up strategy is one of the most significant development stories of the last century.

When Deng Xiaoping, the father of China's reform and opening-up

policy, began the push for economic development, the poverty rate in China stood much higher than the majority of countries on the African continent. While China's per capita GDP stood at merely US \$156 in 1978, in the forty years that followed, and with the influence of the reform and opening-up policy, it grew to an average rate of 9.5 percent per annum to reach US \$8,827, measuring 86 percent of the world's average in 2017.

Most significantly, this rapid growth lifted more than 700 million people out of poverty in China alone slashing poverty rates from nearly 90 percent in 1981 to under 2 percent in less than four decades. Since 1978, China's reform and opening-up policy allowed for increased Foreign Direct Investments in productive and manufacturing sectors that proved to be a crucial means to kick start rapid development in a wide range of sectors, especially in hard and soft infrastructure, with positive spillover effects on human capital in terms of raised education and health levels worldwide.

The fact that China's development influenced a country that has a population accounting for a fifth of the world's population has had major implications for the global economy. The reforms encompassed a series of measures aimed at easing the process of "opening up", which meant exactly what the name implied, creating stronger links between China and the rest of the world through trade.

One of the first channels through which China had a visible influence in global growth became the increase of the import of commodities as well as processed and unprocessed materials. This not only had an effect in boosting the export capacity of its international partners, especially resource-rich African

countries, the increased demand also had a great role in raising the prices of these commodities creating more wealth for exporting countries. Furthermore, the export of cost-effective materials worldwide gave rise to new consumption possibilities for consumers worldwide, especially in African countries, where the consumption of affordable commodities has undoubtedly changed lives for the better.

China-Africa Cooperation

Since the establishment of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, Africa has benefited by the 'China Flying Geese'. China has been the Continent's largest trading partner for the past 9 years consecutively. To date, two thirds of Chinese investments in the continent is in hard infrastructure. Chinese investments and aid in the continent are not only changing its face with visible improvements in infrastructure. It's also lighting and firing up the continent's development and industrialization.

Two decades ago, the most common routes of travel between cities in Africa were long and dangerous dirt roads that were easily affected by rains and floods. Now, newly paved highways and high-speed trains are linking cities and countries across the continent, cutting down travel time, reducing costs of travel and boosting connectivity and trade. At the same time, investments in clean energy production such as solar plants are creating affordable and sustainable options for energy. These factors combined with relative increase in security and political stability on the continent are turning Africa into one of the world's most attractive destinations for investment.

As many developing countries in Africa look up to China in awe for the miraculous results achieved in

such a short span of time, the recurring question is how a country turns its fate so successfully. Although China's development can be attributed to numerous intertwining factors, significant investment in health and education services since the beginning of the reform agenda are in my opinion the most important factors that led to the results witnessed today.

While China was able to generate significant incomes through attracting FDI and participation in world trade, it is the increasing quality of life for its people and the increased strength of its demographic advantage of skilled, healthy labor that is powering both national and global growth. Investment in human capital has been pivotal in the success of China's reform and opening-up policy that led to unprecedented socio-economic growth in a nation that has a population close to that of Africa's 54 nations.

China-Tanzania Relations

This year is momentous for both China and Tanzania. As we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, we also celebrate 55 years of China-Tanzania diplomatic ties. There is plenty to rejoice about in this unique relationship, thanks to our founding fathers Chairman Comrade Mao Tseung and Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere. The successive generation of leaders have continued to nurture these relations to date as we witness our relations grow from strength to strength under the leaderships of President Xi Jinping and President Dr. John Joseph Pombe Magufuli.

China-Tanzania relations are all weathered and have stood the test of time. We came to one another in times of need. Tanzania is proudly associated with China's restoration to her lawful seat in the United Na-



H.E. Mbecha Kairuki, Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania to the People's Republic of China

tions by the 26th United Nations General Assembly in 1971. It came as no surprise that as part of celebrating the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, His Excellency President Xi Jinping issued a Presidential Decree to award the Friendship Medal to Tanzania's son of the soil, Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, then President of the United Nations General Assembly.

In the same vein, the people of Tanzania can never forget how China helped Tanzania to train freedom fighters and how it provided a large amount of financial and technological assistance to the national liberation movements in Southern African countries. The Tanzania-Zambia Railway (TAZARA) remains to date one of the largest Chinese foreign-aid projects in Africa and a symbol of China-Africa cooperation.

That is why in 1965, despite strong external pressure, Tanzania was the first country in Eastern and Southern Africa, to sign the Treaty

of Friendship with China.

Tanzania's place in China's foreign policy was well demonstrated in 2013, when Chinese President Xi Jinping made his maiden trip to Africa and chose Tanzania as his first stop. It was in Tanzania that President Xi Jinping proposed the principle of sincerity, real results, affinity and good faith, and the principle of pursuing the greater good and shared interests in developing relations with Africa. These concepts have been further defined as China's guiding principles in its relations with developing countries.

Our relations are not only political but also economic and social. China has been the largest trading partner of Tanzania for 3 consecutive years. In 2018, our bilateral trade volume reached 4 billion US dollars. Moreover, China is the largest foreign investor in Tanzania with a total investment of 7 billion US dollars and over 700 investment projects, which have created about 150,000 direct local jobs. The ever-closer people-to-people exchanges between China and Tanzania have enriched people's lives. Over 5,000 Tanzanians are currently studying in China and over 30,000 Chinese tourists visited Tanzania last year. This is the best example of win-win cooperation.

What is certain and comforting is the unwavering commitment of His Excellency President Dr. John Pombe Magufuli to deepen and widen these relations to even greater heights. Under his leadership, statistics on China's trade, investment and tourism to Tanzania are hitting record highs. It is his confidence that the ever-developing China will create broader prospects for our two countries to engage in more fruitful cooperation and deliver more benefits to the peoples of our two countries and beyond. My job is to deliver just that!

China and Africa have been enjoying traditional friendship. Over the past half century, China and Africa have been sharing weal and woe, and have formed a community of a shared future.



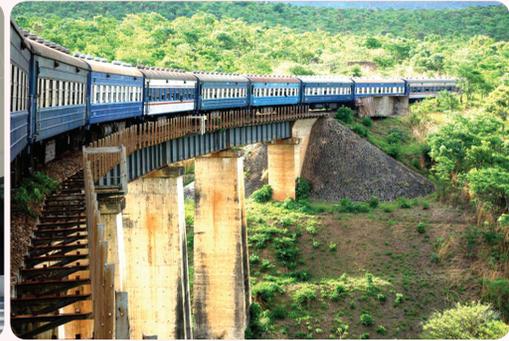
Ms. Maryam Salim, daughter of Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, received the Friendship Medal from Chinese President Xi Jinping on 29 September 2019 on her father's behalf.



The China-aided UDSM Library is a state-of-the-art library with advanced facilities



Mr. Zhang Junle, the author of the article (with glasses) posed for a photo with children at TAZARA Mbeya Station in November 2018.



A TAZARA train passing a bridge

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS BY FORMER TANZANIAN AMBASSADORS TO CHINA

Hon. Job Malecela Lusinde was Tanzanian Ambassador to China from 1975 to 1984.

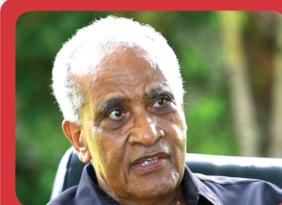
"Warmest congratulations on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Much more I salute your leaders and the people for the tremendous progress you have made within a very short period from a Third World country to an economically second country in the world.

We have cherished the very good friendship and cooperation between our two countries. I wish China and the Chinese people greater and speedy progress in their national development and greater contribution to the world peace and prosperity.

LONG LIVE the friendship between our two Governments and peoples!"



HON. JOB MALECELA LUSINDE



HON. SALIM AHMED SALIM

Hon. Salim Ahmed Salim was Tanzanian Ambassador to China in 1969. He was conferred the Friendship Medal, China's highest honour for foreigners, by Chinese President Xi Jinping on 29 September 2019 for his outstanding contribution to China-Tanzania and China-Africa friendship and cooperation, and restoration of P.R. China's lawful seat in the UN.

"China and Tanzania have a very special relationship that has endured several decades. It is anchored by those who see the bigger picture and always believe that only we have the capacity and ability to promote socio-economic development and prosperity.

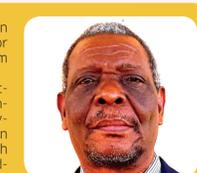
It is a tie of friendship and trust. Over the years, China has made important contributions to Africa's economic development and has been critical to advancing Africa's economic emancipation. I hope China and African countries will boost cooperation to further help Africa fulfill its economic transformation, and I believe the relationship between Tanzanians and the people of China will have a role to play in fostering that development.

China's prosperity over the past seven decades is a testament to the viability of the Chinese path of development."

Hon. Omari Ramadhan Mapuri was Ambassador of Tanzania to China from 2006 to 2012.

"On this auspicious occasion, I would like to congratulate the Chinese Government and its people on commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The commemoration is a historic moment for young Chinese heroes under the strong leadership of Mao Zedong who struggled to liberate their nation. The Chinese liberation struggles play a pivotal role in the independence struggles in other countries under colonial rule and all types of oppression. In view of the fact, Africa will never forget the contribution made by China to support the freedom fighters in their respective countries until the entire nations were fully free from colonial oppression.

At the country level, Tanzania cannot forget the sustainable contributions made by the Chinese Government in a variety of generous economic aid programmes. The People's Republic of China is a special and endear friend assisting our country to achieve its goals in economy, infrastructure,



HON. OMARI RAMADHAN MAPURI

social progress and cultural development. China remains a genuine friend and a reliable partner of Tanzania. For example, the Tanzania-Zambia Railway (TAZARA) is still the notable early aid and the biggest complete set of project that China has ever undertaken in overseas aid items.

Today, China becomes the world's great partners of most African countries and other developing nations. Therefore, the founding of People's Republic of China was a blessing not only to China but to Tanzania, Africa and the entire world.

I'm profoundly honored to get a chance to represent my country as ambassador to the friendly country of China from 2006 to 2012. Congratulations to the People's Republic of China! Long live Tanzania-China Friendship!"

Hon. Charles Asilia Sanga was Tanzanian Ambassador to China from 2000 to 2006.

"China and Tanzania are all-weather friends. The bilateral relations have been very good since the very beginning. Since I was lucky to work with our founding father Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, he always said to me, 'Charles! We have many friends in the world but we have one genuine friend and that's China.

The first time I visited China was in 1985. At that time, though there were some opening up and reforms, but still not much. When I went back in 2000, things have changed dramatically. By the time I left in 2006, the situation in China was even better. I have been visiting China after retirement as a Resource Person of China-Africa Think Tank Forum. Every time I went to China, I could find some dramatic changes there. The living standard of the Chinese people have been raised and people are happier than they used to be. For the past 70 years, especially since the adoption of reforms and opening-up policy in 1978, the Chinese people have done a very great and wonderful job.

I like China because when I worked there, I feel I am among friends among the people who care about you. The sense of togetherness that I feel both in Tanzania and China is missing in Western cities, particularly in New York. That's why I'm saying China is always my second homeland.

Congratulations to the People's Republic of China for its 70th anniversary of the founding!"



HON. CHARLES ASILIA SANGA

TAZARA Revisited: A journey that purifies our soul

By Mr Zhang Junle, General Manager of CCECC East Africa Co. Ltd.

THE cross-border train from Dar es Salaam to New Kapiri Mposhi slowly pulled out of the platform along with the whistle. From 15:50 on November 8th, 2018 to 06:50 on November 11th, the CCECC TAZARA Revisiting Team took 40 hours to traverse about 1,200 kilometers of forests, grasslands, mountains and valleys from Dar es Salaam to Kasama Station in Zambia. The rocking coach with the familiar logo of Chinese Railway and friendly greetings in Kiswahili reminded me of the passionate years when TAZARA railway was built.

I found during my trip that although there were few cross-border passengers, Tanzanian and Zambian domestic passengers took almost all the seats in the coaches, which showed that TAZARA railway could still meet the transport needs of many people in the two countries and makes their life more convenient. A CCECC staff who began his career at construction sites, I was amazed by the superb engineering quality of this railway. Though never being overhauled, many stations, local railway bureaus, rolling stock garages and other facilities we visited are still intact after 40 years of operation. What impressed me most during the 40-hour trip was the cleanliness and tidiness of the coaches which were beyond our expectation. The restrooms, bathrooms, the dining couch and the club car were almost stainless and even the floors were almost spotless.

I found that local passengers pay much attention to hygiene and cleanliness. Hardly anyone littered on the train! The train crew cleaned the coaches frequently and attentively. They washed the floor twice while mopping, used washing powder to remove stains first and then used clean water to wash the foams away. In a word, the cleaning was very thorough.

While we were talking about the cleanliness on the train, one of my colleagues told me that he rushed to the restroom with an upset stomach and found that clean toilet papers were provided, which reminded him of similar experiences in China and it was really heartwarming.

In order to commemorate and record this entire revisit, we prepared a customs clearance book. We got off at every station for the signature and stamp of the stationmaster, and I also left my blessings on the guest book of each station. Along the way, I found that though most stationmasters were beyond their retirement age, they still stuck to their position and work at the front line. What made me admire them more was their love for this railway and their serious and responsible attitude towards their work.

When we arrived at Mlimba Station shortly after 2 a.m., we found Hasan Manyama, a stationmaster in his seventies amid the crowd, leading staff to collect and distribute goods. Under the dim light of the flashlight, the old stationmaster was counting and checking the goods with a list and then receiving or distributing the goods one by one. After knowing our request, this old stationmaster enthusiastically led us to his office to assist us in fulfilling the "customs clearance task". "Thanks for helping us build this railway. We have not forgotten that you Chinese people have always been our family members far away", he said in not-so-fluent Chinese. If it were not because of our limited time, we would have requested him to let us visit his home, have a long conversation with him so as to have a better understanding of his dedication to operating the TAZARA and his little-known touching stories.

Along the way, we found that many of the old stationmasters and workers we met had participated in the construction of TAZARA railway. They had served as workers, technicians, dispatchers, guards on duty, etc. Having worked together with Chinese experts, they had learned not only a lot of knowledge and skills, but also the practical working attitude and life creed of the Chinese

experts. They were rehired as stationmasters after retirement due to their meticulous dedication and responsible working attitude. Many of them joined in the construction of TAZARA railway in their early twenties, sweating or struggling together with Chinese technicians and workers who came from thousands of miles away. TAZARA is not only a job for them, but a precious memory in their lifetime.

The tables and chairs in the offices of many stationmasters are old and worn-out. They are piled with various documents. It was not hard for us to see their full enthusiasm for work and sincere love for the job without feeling tired. I was deeply moved by their commendable earnest attitude and responsible spirit. I was also glad to learn that the TAZARA railway, the biggest complete set of aid items provided by the Chinese Government to foreign countries till today, was well protected by these people.

On the train, I often leaned against the window to see the green mountains and the luxuriantly green trees outside the train. The train went up and down through the vast expanse of Africa, as if telling the stories of the TAZARA railway of the past half century. The train jolted violently on most of the way, which indicated that the roadbed, sleepers and steel rails have suffered from uneven settlement and serious damage, and the amount of railway ballast is insufficient. There were obvious bumps at certain sections of the railway, which could easily lead to derailment. All of us exclaimed that this railway really need a full overhaul!

Although more than 40 years have passed, the open drainage and slope protection that often came into our view are still functioning. There are 318 bridges and 22 tunnels along the TAZARA railway line, among which the longest tunnel, Tunnel No.14, is 817 meters long. These structures stuck to their glorious mission of making the railway unimpeded. They reminded me of the smooth terrazzo floor and wooden handrails at the TAZARA Dar es Salaam Station, from which I could feel the craftsmanship spirit of the TAZARA builders in those days. We, the inheritors of the TAZARA Spirit, must pass down and carry forward this craftsmanship spirit.

The sounds of people chatting, busy passengers walking, vendors hawking their wares and children cheering could be heard everywhere along the railway. The people on the way were very friendly to us. There were even children chasing the train to greet us. At Mbeya Station, I met a group of children who seemed having just left school. At first, they stood in distance and looked at us with big and watery eyes. Some brave children came and shook hands with us. Gradually, more and more children came around to say "Jambo" and shake hands with us proactively. They rushed to pose around us for group photos upon seeing our colleagues were taking photos. They eyes were innocent and their smiles were like sunshine. It felt like I had returned to my childhood when I stayed with them. At that moment, we did not need any word, simply a smile or a hug could make us closer.

Only when you see the varied terrains along the TAZARA railway will you be impressed by the difficulties and hardships of construction at that time, only when you witness the transportation of goods by trains and the great changes of the cities along the railway will you forget the rumors bad-mouthing the railway on the Internet. More importantly, what this railway has brought to the people of China, Tanzania and Zambia is more than transportation of goods and passengers. Sincere cooperation across continents and international friendship beyond national boundaries have all made the railway shine with a unique light. With the implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) by China and other related countries, I strongly believe that TAZARA will be rejuvenated and continue to serve as the Friendship Railway of the Chinese and African people.