



**JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF THE BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA TO
ADDRESS ISSUES AFFECTING TRADE 26TH – 29TH MAY, 2021
ARUSHA, TANZANIA**

1. The Meeting was held pursuant to the directive of the Head of States of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Kenya given during the State visit of the Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan to the Republic of Kenya from 4th to 5th May, 2021. The Head of States directed the Ministers of Trade to meet and address issues affecting trade. In implementation of the directive, the Ministers of both countries held a 5th Bilateral Meeting from 26th – 29th May, 2021 in Arusha, Tanzania.
2. The meeting was co-chaired by Hon. Prof. Kitila A. Mkumbo (MP), Minister for Industry and Trade of the United Republic of Tanzania and Hon. Betty C. Maina, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Enterprises Development of the Republic of Kenya.
3. In attendance from Tanzania were: Hon. Geoffrey I. Mwambe, Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office (Investment); Hon Prof. Adolf Mkenda, Minister for Agriculture; Hon. Dr. Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children; Hon. Omari Said Shaaban, Minister for Trade and Industrial Development (Zanzibar); Hon. Exaud Kigahe, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Industry and Trade; Hon. Geoffrey Kasekenya Deputy Minister for Works and Transport, Hon. John Mongella, Regional Commissioner, Arusha; Hon. Adam Malima, Regional Commissioner, Tanga; Hon. Dr. Stephen Kagaigai, Regional Commissioner, Kilimanjaro; Prof. Godius Kahyarara, Permanent Secretary, Prime Minister's Office (Investment); Mr. Doto M. James, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of

Industry and Trade; Mr. Gabriel Migire, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works and Transport (Transport); Dr. Islam Seif Salum, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industrial Development (Zanzibar); Ms Amina K. Shaaban - Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Planning; Ms. Judica Omari, Regional Administrative Secretary, Tanga; Dr. Bedan Masuruli, representing the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries; Mr. Nyasebwa Chimagu, representing the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture; H.E. Dr. John Simbachawene, High Commissioner of the United Republic of Tanzania to the Republic of Kenya, Hon. Amb. Edwin Rutageruka, Director General Tanzania Trade Development Authority; Dr. Jumaa Mhina District Executive Director, Longindo District Council and Dr. Athman Y. Ngenya, Director General, Tanzania Bureau of Standards.

4. In attendance from Kenya were: Amb. Johnson Weru, Principal Secretary, State Department for Trade & Enterprise Development; Prof, Hamadi Boga, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Crops Development and Agricultural Research; Mr. Harry Kimutai, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Livestock; Safina Kwekwe Tsungu, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Tourism; Solomon Kitungu, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Transport; Dr. Kevit Desai, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for East African Community Affairs; Amb. Dan M. Kazungu, High Commissioner of the Republic of Kenya to the Republic of Tanzania; Amb. Nyambura Kamau, representing Principal Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Dr. Eddyson Nyale, OGW, representing the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Interior.

5. The meeting reviewed progress made in implementing decisions from previous bilateral meeting and underscored the importance of ensuring they comply with the commitments made between the two countries. During this Meeting, 64 issues were handled out of which 30 issues were resolved and decisions have been made on how to resolve the remaining 34. Further the parties agreed to meet in the next 90 days to assess the level of the implementation.

6. Some of the issues resolved on the side of the United Republic of Tanzania include: facilitating clearance of soft drinks such as juices, removal of inspection fees for processed products with standardization mark including wheat flour; parties agreed to facilitate maize entry to Kenya, as well as to waive the excise duty for glass products from Tanzania.

7. Matters resolved on the part of the Republic of Kenya include; granting cement products preferential treatment, the United Republic of Tanzania has started implementing the Single Window System which has reduced delays in clearance of pineapple juices produced in Kenya; streamlined some of the standards regulating Institutions such as TBS and TFDA and agreed to expedite verification and clearance of perishable goods in accordance to EAC CMA as well as increased the validity period of permits for veterinary products from 15 to 30 days. The meeting directed Kenya Revenue Authority and Tanzania Revenue Authority to explore the possibilities of granting preferential access to cigarettes made in Kenya tobacco sourced from the United Republic of Tanzania and report back in the next bilateral meeting.

8. Pursuant to the meeting, some of the issues to be implemented related to trade are as follows: -

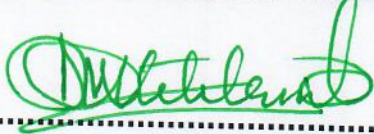
- 8.1 To establish a Permanent Implementation Committee to monitor implementation of decisions agreed upon in the bilateral meetings;
- 8.2 To strengthen bilateral engagement whereby they will be held biannually at Ministerial level, quarterly at senior officials and technical level;
- 8.3 To champion the process of harmonization of domestic taxes, levies and fees in the EAC region;
- 8.4 To continue following procedures stipulated in the EAC Customs Management Act. 2004 and SQMT Act. 2006 with respect to inspection and clearance of goods;

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- 8.5 To ensure compliance with the Rules of Origin to be upheld and preferential treatment to be accorded to products that qualify, and in case of doubt to expedite the process of verification and implementation of the recommendation;
- 8.6 To enhance the process of clearance of goods, it was agreed that Single Customs Territory to be fully implemented by both parties;
- 8.7 Parties agreed to recognize products with standardization mark as per SQMT Act. 2006 framework on mutual recognition;
- 8.8 Regulatory Agencies to engage and address administrative/operational issues whenever they arise before they are brought to bilateral meetings. Regulatory Agencies to meet ahead of quarterly bilateral meetings;
- 8.9 Chiefs of Immigration Services together with Commissioners for Labour from the two countries to convene a meeting to consider Immigration and Labour issues;
- 8.10 A dedicated meeting of Ministers responsible for Health to meet within 14 days to resolve issue related to COVID-19; and
- 8.11 To direct border agencies to implement immediately issues which have been resolved.

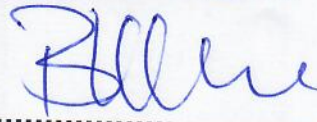
Done at Arusha, on this the 29th day of May, 2021

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**



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Hon. PROF. KITILA A. MKUMBO (MP)

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KENYA**



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Hon. BETTY C. MAINA (EGH)