

WELCOME REMARKS BY H.E. AMBASSADOR BARAKA
LUVANDA A THE JAPAN-TANZANIA FRIENDSHIP PARTY,
KYOTO, 28th OCTOBER 2023

*Mister Goro Chairman Yamaguchi,
Chairman of the Kyocera Corporation Board,*

*Ms. Shimizu Kuniko-san,
President & Chief Executive Officer of TanzaniaPhilia Ltd.*

Distinguished Guests,

Dear Colleagues,

Dear Friends

Ladies and Gentlemen

As you have heard or even seen on media my name is Baraka Luvanda, Ambassador of Tanzania to Japan. I arrived in Tokyo on transfer from New Delhi, India on December 1, 2021. I will soon be celebrating my two years in Japan.

I have been assigned this evening to propose very short welcoming remarks. And being conscious of the purpose of this gathering – ie wining and dining, I do not intend to dampen your appetite and be accused of keeping you away from the sumptuous food s and beverages that have been prepared for you.

Therefore, let me begin by sincerely thanking Kuniko-san for great effort put for this event. She has worked around the clock to put up together everything that we see today. I just cannot thank you enough.

But I also thank you for many other reasons:

When I arrived in Tokyo in December 2021 as I have intimated, I immediately met this Great Friend of Tanzania (Kuniko-san) almost immediately.

If my memory serves me well it was in March 2022, and we had a great moment together exchanging a wide range of information. I

came to learn how much branding work for Tanzania she has been doing for many years and I was impressed.

Through the famous Tingatinga exhibitions and other Tanzania art works she has organized over the years, she has promoted Tanzania more than the Embassy has been able to do.

You may have been made aware that for this year, the Tingatinga Exhibitions were launched on 20th October 2023 and will end on 12th November 2023. As I have said before, we cannot thank you enough.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In another interaction I had with Kuniko - san in May 2022, she informed me about the long and enduring collaboration between the Embassy and Kyocera Corporation which was nurtured during the time of the former Ambassador Elly E.E. Mtango who served successfully from 2000 to 2009.

I told Kuniko – san many stories about Ambassador Mtango and revealed to her his being a mentor to me.

I have always looked upon him with great admiration. Amongst the many notable works he did during his time as Ambassador in Japan is the translation into Swahili Language of the famous masterpiece by the founder of Kyocera Corporation, Late Doctor

Kazuo Inamori – “A Passion for Success”. May his soul rest well in eternal Peace. Amen

This masterpiece has impacted and changed many lives of not only Tanzanians but also, the Swahili speaking friends in the region and beyond.

I am keeping both the English version and the Swahili version for my daily reference and I cannot stop from perusing over and over. Like in many other friends, I find Dr. Inamori's book inspirational and guiding tenets worth memorizing.

Dear Friends,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At this juncture, I would like to take this opportunity to convey my heartfelt appreciation for the work that Kyocera Corporation has done in Tanzania over the years.

Through the various donations such as the donation of solar power generating systems to many primary schools in Tanzania, the learning environment for Tanzanian children has drastically improved. As it turned to be, the solar power has not only lightened up the classrooms but also, they brought a lot of smiles to the children faces.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me mention to you that today's event gives another opportunity to learn more about Tanzania's rich cultural heritage and so many unique tourist attractions.

Even those of you who have been to Tanzania before will be astonished to hear about them, and you will undoubtedly want to visit again.

Kazuma-San is well prepared for this assignment and therefore I will refrain from attempting to give those details to you, but I will let him do that.

Let me conclude by once again welcoming you to Tanzania, the land of natural wonders and unforgettable experiences such as climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa and

the highest free-standing mountain in the world (its height is 5,895 meters above sea level); touring in the largest Serengeti National Park and in the volcanic crater at Ngorongoro, as well as relaxing on Zanzibar's finest beaches.

Lastly, Tanzania boasts of being a beautiful nation, with friendly, welcoming people and the ideal environment, making it suitable for your travel-related adventures and subsequently your investment.

I therefore, invite all of you to come and taste the warmth, kindness and hospitality by the people of Tanzania.

I wish you a pleasant moment together here in Kyoto.

Thank you very much!
Domo Arigato Gozaimashita!