UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



STATEMENT BY HONOURABLE JAKAYA M. KIKWETE, (MP)

MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA,

AT THE SECOND SOUTH-SUMMIT OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA

DOHA, QATAR, JUNE 16, 2005

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Mr. Chairman,
Your Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani,
the Emir of the State of Qatar,
Your Majesties and Highnesses,
Excellencies,
Heads of Delegations,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

My delegation wishes to express sincere appreciation to His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar, his Government and people of the State of Qatar for the warm hospitality and for facilitating the participation of delegations in this Summit. Furthermore, I wish to commend the Chairman of G-77 and China, the Right Honourable P.J. Patterson, the Prime Minister of Jamaica for good leadership, and the Secretariat of the Group and the organizing Secretariat for their tireless efforts in ensuring the success of this Summit.

Mr. Chairman,

This Second South Summit in Doha is a major milestone in advancing South-South co-operation built on the foundations of the first Summit in Havana and subsequent Ministerial meetings in between and the many years of efforts expended by members of the G77 and China. This Summit confirms our conviction in the value of unity and solidarity in promoting our shared development concerns and interests in this globalizing world. A world characterized by unprecedented economic growth but uneven share of benefits.

It is heart-warming, indeed, Mr. Chairman, to note that our efforts are being rewarded with some successes. However, much more is yet to be done hence the critical imperative to maintain the momentum. We have to continue to demand and work for a fairer deal in world trade, increased ODA and more comprehensive debt cancellation. Above all

we have to continue to demand to be integrated into the world economic system on a win-win basis.

Mr. Chairman,

We are meeting at a time when our understanding of globalization has been enriched by many thoughtful deliberations and practical experiences of the economic, social and cultural dimensions of globalization. As we rise up to its challenges, our response should be collective.

Mr. Chairman,

The timing of this Summit is significant as it coincides with a renewed debate on development as an integral part of the reforms of the United Nations leading up to the special Summit in September 2005 in New York to review the implementation of the Millennium Declaration in particular the Millennium Declaration Goals.

The development agenda articulated by the Secretary General in his document "In Larger Freedom" and the "Draft Outcome Document" by the President of the General Assembly is very welcome indeed. My delegation is happy that these two important documents have been appropriately reflected in our draft Declaration and Plan of Action of this Summit as well as the draft Declaration of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The United Republic of Tanzania welcomes and encourages the new spirit which is emerging internationally on the issue of development assistance particularly among our development partners with respect to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and outcomes of other international conferences. The long overdue commitment of 0.7% of GDP of the developed partners to be contributed to ODA has finally received a timetable stretching to 2015 by the European Union. This is a very encouraging development, indeed. While we commend those countries which had reached the target earlier and the EU for this landmark decision we should continue to encourage others who are not yet there, to take appropriate action, in this regard.

In the same vain, Mr. Chairman, Tanzania welcomes the decision announced recently by the Finance Ministers of the G8 countries to cancel debt for 18 poorest countries. Tanzania, my country, is among the beneficiaries. This is a path-breaking decision in development partnership as the debts of developing countries are mill-stones round

the necks of poor developing countries. We hope, in due course, this relief would be extended to all indebted developing countries. We urge the forthcoming G8 Summit in Gleneagles, Scotland to endorse both decisions on development assistance and debt cancellation.

Mr. Chairman,

We sincerely hope that, the international financial institutions will also exercise the needed flexibility and co-operation to sustain this new momentum and direction in economic partnerships. For, smooth implementation of these decisions, it is the view of my delegation that some kind of a follow up or monitoring mechanism may be required. Our partners may wish to consider this proposal. On our part, we have to continue to consolidate the gains in macro-economic fundamentals, political reforms, good governance, as well as economic reforms and good corporate management and accountability. Where any of this is in deficit we should strive for excellence for it is for our own good and the good of our people.

Mr. Chairman,

The documents which we shall adopt at this Summit are explicit enough and affirmative on trade issues. With the hindsight of Cancun, we hope the Doha Development Round negotiations under the WTO in Hong Kong in December 2005 will be decisive with a view to reaching an agreement by next year. The issues of market access, subsidies and supply side constraints should be conclusively addressed especially as they are related to the developing countries as a whole and the least developed, landlocked and small island states in particular.

Mr. Chairman, Your Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies,

Trade should be at the centre of the development agenda. In this globalizing world, greater participation in international trade is the rational and compelling option in development.

With regard to trade, I would not hesitate to state that charity must begin at home. The opportunities and potential for South-South trade are enormous but we are yet to fully exploit them. It is time we moved from rhetoric to action. Political will is critical in this regard. We should render our full political backing to all initiatives to promote bilateral and multilateral South-South trade and encourage the private sector to take the lead.

Mr. Chairman,

Cooperation between and among regional and sub-regional economic co-operation and integration organizations are the ideal frameworks to promote South-South trade and other forms of cooperation. Technical and scientific cooperation including information technology are areas with enormous promise for cooperation and progress among us which should be developed to the fullest. Likewise, co-operation and research in the field of medicine to combat pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other communicable diseases merit political encouragement, patronage and involvement of our respective civil societies and organizations.

In this regard, we welcome and applaud the proposal by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar and his Government for the establishment of "The South Fund for Development and Human Circumstances". We commend His Highness' generous willingness to contribute the sum of USD20 million to this Fund. We also welcome China's offer of contributing USD 2 million to the Fund. This is an exemplary initiative that provides and encourages motivation for the rest of us to follow suit.

It would be remiss of us, Mr. Chairman, if I did not reiterate the importance of the South Centre, our research and think tank which many of us have generously supported for many years. Our organization has benefited immensely from its expert advice. Let us continue to support this institution morally and materially in the interest of South-South co-operation.

Your Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies,

The collective message of this Summit will have a positive bearing for a successful outcome of the Millennium Review Summit in September on the issues we have deliberated and adopted. Tanzania is fully committed to working in cooperation with all of us in the G-77 and China towards the attainment of the objectives and goals of this Second South Summit.

I THANK YOU MR CHAIRMAN.