



PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

March 4, 2011

Greetings from the Prime Minister

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the Legacies of Nyerere: Economies, Politics, and Solidarities in Tanzania and Beyond conference at Carleton University. I am delighted to welcome the former Speaker of the East African Assembly, the Honourable Abdulramah Kinana and everyone participating from the University of Dar es Salaam via video link.

Julius Nyerere had an enduring influence on African politics. The first President of the United Republic of Tanzania, he led a peaceful independence and sought to build a society of equal rights and opportunities. His legacy is widely admired and constructively debated throughout the continent and around the world. In a region fraught with conflict and struggles, Nyerere's integrity, dignity and compassion as a leader of African liberation, is a source of pride for Tanzanians and an inspiration to many beyond its borders.

Tanzania has emerged as an important and influential player on the African continent. It is playing a key role in maintaining regional security and expanding trade, setting a positive example for other African nations. Canada has enjoyed a longstanding and cooperative friendship with Tanzania. The country's favourable business climate has attracted Canadian companies heavily invested in mining, energy and infrastructure development.

Our countries share a commitment to democracy, free markets and good governance. Canada admires Tanzania's efforts to uphold these values. I am especially pleased to serve as co-chair of the UN Commission to improve global reporting, oversight and accountability on women's and children's health alongside His Excellency Jakaya Kikwete, President of Tanzania. Together, we are working to develop a rigorous accountability framework to ensure the world meets G-8 and Millennium Development Goal commitments that will save the lives of women and children.

As we commemorate the achievements of the "Father to the Nation," may we be inspired to build on his vision for a thriving Tanzania within a stronger Africa.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada