

EUROPEAN UNION

PRESS RELEASE

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Celebrating 40 Years of Partnership between Tanzania and the European Union

Tuesday, 10 November 2015; Dar es Salaam: 2015 marks forty years of partnership between Tanzania and the European Union.

To celebrate this partnership, the EU Ambassador Filiberto Ceriani Sebregondi and the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Finance Servacius Likwelele hosted a special event to mark the launch of a commemorative book - "Partnership in Action" - celebrating the strong and rich relationship between the United Republic of Tanzania and the European Union.

Looking back at the making of what Tanzania and the EU are today, the book offers testimonies and examples of how the relationship has grown and deepened to include various themes and common interests. This includes the regional integration dynamic with the East African Community and the action of EU Member States present in Tanzania. It is fitting that this publication is issued during the European Year for Development 2015, which comes at a time of drawing lessons from the Millennium Development Goals and the launch of 17 new ambitious Sustainable Development Goals. Through these last forty years, development cooperation has been a major feature of the EU-Tanzania relations. More than EUR 3 billion has been devolved in grant projects and initiatives, which have ranged from infrastructure construction to rural development, from support to education to cultural heritage promotion, from electrification to water supply, from empowering local communities to strengthening good governance and protecting human rights. But the partnership goes beyond that, with increased trade, economic partnerships and political dialogue on a wide range of issues of mutual interest.

In addition to the launch of the new book, seven Tanzanian Personalities, advocating for a better life for all Tanzanians, and appointed as European Year for Development 2015 Champions earlier this year will be recognized. The Champions come from very different walks of life: musicians – Fid Q and Keisha-, public figures - Ambassador Mpungwe-, artists – Paul Nduguru-, human right activists – Dr Kijo Bisimba and sports figures - Sophia Mwasikili and Nadir Haroub-.

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Looking back at his time as EU Ambassador to Tanzania Filiberto Ceriani Sebregondi reflected on the longstanding partnership with Tanzania: "We are proud to have helped the Tanzanian people in their quest towards a decent life for all. We saw the progress, we saw the prevailing peace, and most of all we learned from the fantastic positive attitude of the people. As I approach the end of my duty tour to Tanzania and to the East African Community, I wish all the best to the Tanzanian people and I will cherish the memories of the places I have seen, the projects we have realised but especially the people I met and worked with."

Background

nation at both a social and economic level.

11 EU Member States have diplomatic missions in Tanzania and have over time developed commercial and cultural ties in sectors ranging from agriculture to industries, tourism, and services.

The development cooperation activities of the EU Member States are coordinated with those of the European Development Fund (EDF) managed by the EU Delegation. For the period of 2014-2020, EUR 626 million of EDF cooperation will focus on good governance and budget support, energy and sustainable agriculture. The EDF will be complemented by other funding sources in support of infrastructure and civil society.

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