

**INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TANZANIA T<sup>2</sup> CENTRE  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, ENG. JOHN W.H.V. KIJAZI AT THE OPENING  
CEREMONY OF THE FIRST ROAD TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER  
CONFERENCE IN AFRICA (AFRICA T<sup>2</sup> 2001)**

**HELD AT ARUSHA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE (AICC) - ARUSHA,  
23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2001.**

- *Your Excellency the Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Omari Ali Juma,*
- *Honourable Minister for Works of Tanzania, Mr. John P. Magufuli,*
- *Honourable the Regional Commissioner for Arusha Region, Mr. Daniel Ole Njoolay,*
- *The Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Works, Mr. Solomon Odunga,*
- *Representatives from PIARC, RMI, FHWA, ILO and SATCC,*
- *Distinguished Delegates to this Conference,*
- *Invited Guests,*
- *Ladies and Gentlemen.*

1. On behalf of the Tanzania T<sup>2</sup> Centre, it is indeed great honour and pleasure for me to welcome you all to this Conference on “Technology Transfer in Road Transportation in Africa”.

My task this morning is to invite the Honourable Minister for Works to say a few words of welcome before he invites *His Excellency the Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania* to formally open this Conference.

2. Before I do so, please allow me to present before this distinguished audience a brief introduction of the Tanzania T<sup>2</sup> Centre and this Conference in general.

*Your Excellency the Vice President and Distinguished Conference Delegates,*

3. The Tanzania Technology Transfer Centre was established in the year 1997 by the Ministry of Works of Tanzania in collaboration with the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Dar es Salaam and with support from the USA Federal Highway Administration. The Centre is located at the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Dar es Salaam.
4. The purpose of establishing the Centre is *to improve road transport infrastructure in the Country through technology transfer*. The Centre achieves this mission through *dissemination* of relevant technological information, facilitating *experience sharing* and providing *education* and *training* to both providers and users of roads.

The justification for establishing the Centre arises from the necessity to enable users and providers of road transport in the Country to *keep pace with the fast changing highway and transportation technology in the World*. Such users and providers include Road Authorities, Contractors, Consultants, Decision Makers, Transporters, Law Enforcers, Academic Institutions and the General Public.

5. The running of the Centre activities is enabled by Staff of the Centre and Steered by a Management Committee which comprises 11 members appointed from both *Public* and *Private* Road Sector stakeholder organizations. On the achievements of the Centre so far, I am aware there will be a presentation of the same by the T<sup>2</sup> Centre Manager during the Conference. It is therefore not my intention spend more time on this subject at present.

*Honourable the Guest of Honour and Distinguished Conference Delegates,*

6. With regard to this conference, the decision to organize it was formally made by the Tanzania T<sup>2</sup> Centre in April year 2000. The idea was conceived with the primary objective of *providing a forum for facilitating road technology information and experience sharing among various local and international road transportation experts, road providers and road users*. This is the first ever Africa Conference in technology transfer and I am pleased to report that the response has been very encouraging in terms of financial support from sponsors, quality and quantity of paper presentations and the number of delegates to the conference.
7. A total of *52 papers* have been received from various paper presenters Worldwide. Authors of the papers are from *Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, United States of America, United Kingdom, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Thailand, RMI of the World Bank, ILO/ASIST and the World Road Association (PIARC)*. These papers cover a wide range of subjects such as Technology Transfer Initiatives and Programmes, Road Safety, Traffic Management, Road Maintenance and Management, Soil Improvement, Labour Based Technology, Road Materials, Road Design and Capacity Building of Road Construction Industry.

So far a total of 180 delegates are in this room attending the conference. Delegates from African Countries are from *Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Malawi, South Africa, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana and Ethiopia*.

The conference has also attracted delegates from countries outside Africa. These are from *the United States of America, United Kingdom, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Iceland and Thailand*.

Also in attendance are delegates from International and Regional Organizations such as *the RMI of the World Bank, the World Road Association (commonly known as PIARC), ILO/ASSIST and SATCC*.

Judging from the cross-section of this gathering, the quality of papers to be presented and the diversity of subjects to be covered, we in the Tanzania T<sup>2</sup> Centre have no doubt

that the intended primary objective of sharing technological information and experience will be achieved through this conference.

On behalf of the Tanzania T<sup>2</sup> Centre, I take this opportunity to thank all the sponsors, delegates and paper presenters for their dedication to this Conference. Thank you very much and welcome to this historical event.

***Your Excellency the Vice President, Distinguished Conference Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,***

8. After this brief background of the Tanzania T<sup>2</sup> Centre and the Conference, it is now my pleasure to humbly request the Honourable Minister for Works to say a few words of welcome before ***His Excellency the Vice President*** officially opens this conference.

***Welcome Honourable Minister for Works and thank you very much for your kind attention!***