

**ADDRESS BY HONORABLE ZAKIA HAMDANI MEGHJI, MP –
MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES & TOURISM DURING THE
TANZANIA CULTURAL EVENING AND MULTIMEDIA CONCERT:
“TORCH OF PEACE” TO BE HELD AT MNAZI MMOJA GROUNDS DAR
ES SALAAM ON AUGUST 25, 2003**

**Hon. Frederick Sumaye, MP, Prime Minister of the United Republic
of Tanzania,**

Honorable Ministers,

Your Excellencies members of the diplomatic Missions,

Distinguished SADC Summit delegates,

Distinguished Japanese tourists,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are very pleased and honored to welcome you to Tanzania and in particular to Mnazi Mmoja Grounds, here in Dar es Salaam.

On the occasion of the 23rd SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government, the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has been keen to make sure that all the components of our society are represented and that today's presence of the representatives of our civil society, the world of business and public institutions symbolizes unity and complementarity in our Nation.

One year after the Angola SADC Summit, the floor is open again to those working for progress and development in Southern Africa. We share the worries and responsibilities for mastering and humanizing the process of globalization. Our 23rd SADC Summit motto is: **'PEACE, DEVELOPMENT and UNITY'**. This motto is in line with the SADC

theme: “**TOWARDS A COMMON FUTURE**” – a hope for everybody in our Region.

Our vision is through solidarity which we want to see existing between peoples from now on and which we are working to implement on behalf of future generations, to bring an end to underdevelopment and poverty, conflicts, and diseases.

**Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Today we are gathering here to witness an International Multimedia Concert – “TORCH OF PEACE. As we light this “Torch of Peace”, I am also very pleased to announce that the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania will be hosting the second IIPT African Conference on Peace through Tourism here in Dar es Salaam, from December 7 to 12, 2003.

The Conference is being organized by the International Institute for Peace through Tourism (IIPT) in partnership with the Africa Travel Association (ATA). Its theme is: **Community Tourism – Gateway to Poverty Reduction.**

The aim of the Second IIPT African Conference is to develop partnerships, implementation of strategies and action initiatives that contribute to sustainable community development, peace and poverty reduction.

Emphasis will be given to mobilizing travel and tourism – the world’s largest industry – as a leading force for Poverty Reduction – and the role that youth can play in developing a **“Culture of Peace through Tourism”**.

We invite – and encourage a delegation from each of your countries to actively participate in the Conference. We also invite your suggestions for achieving a successful Conference with a focus on developing partnerships and strategic initiatives for implementation that will benefit all of Southern Africa Region.

**Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The objective we wish to reach with you is noble and challenging. We are willingly involved because we see that human beings must remain the centre of all our political, economic, social and environmental pre-occupations. All the vital forces of our countries must be brought together to realize this.

On behalf of the Tanzania Government, I take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Kaiko Koma, President of NPO KOMA and Mr. Idaki Shin, the famous artiste for their devotion in propagating the need of PEACE among all human kind. We in Tanzania support their mission and we will treasure their performance here in Tanzania “Idaki Shin Tanzania Concert – “TORCH OF PEACE”.

The Tanzania Cultural Evening programme to feature Tanzania musicians and Mr. Idaki Shin Tanzania Concert “TORCH OF PEACE” to be presented to you in a few minutes to come is part of this involvement. It is meant to aptly illustrate it.

On behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, I wish you an exciting evening.

KARIBUNI SANA!