

**ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT
MZEE JOMO KENYATTA ON THE OCCASION OF
THE NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE
12TH DECEMBER, 1972**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN . . .

Messages of greetings and congratulations for the pace and nature of this Republic's progress, have come to us from all over the world, for which we are grateful.

Kenya as a nation has shown marked progress towards economic stability. All this has been due to the hard work and the faith of our people, and the spirit of *Harambee* which has linked the people with their Government. Although so much remains to be done, the people have already earned themselves confidence, pride and dignity.

Within this past year, development has been steadily proceeding in every field. A few days have passed since the new building of our Central Bank was opened as a symbol of Kenya's financial strength and stable currency. These are the matters which underlie the real advancement of a modern nation.

Many new industrial enterprises have been launched. It has been pleasing to observe the extent to which public and private capital have continued rapidly to build up an industrial sector in Kenya's economy. Such industries will have an impact on employment, the saving of imports, the generation of wealth and expansion of all kinds of supporting business. There are sundry mining complexes where further real wealth is being developed along modern lines, for the benefit of local communities and the nation as a whole.

Further significant steps have been taken towards the economic transformation of our rural areas. This will create many new opportunities and manpower demands for skills within manufacturing and construction industries. Aiming at the supply of such trained manpower, this year has seen another vivid example of Kenya's self-help spirit, through the design and enthusiastic support of the emerging colleges of technology in many parts of our country.

Although my Government has pursued a deliberate policy of Africanization, and without being distracted from this overall policy, I must repeat one point. Our policy, no less our economic relationship with investors from all parts of the world, must always be on the basis of live and let live. My Government will give them all necessary protection which will enable them to thrive at the will of a free Kenya. This is equally applicable to those people who have been developing our country with us, in a mutual spirit of give and take. On this basis, it is my Government's principal task to promote and uphold a rapid advancing economy of the country.

All the massive development in our Republic has sprung from the foundation of stability. It is this stability that must be guarded at all costs, since this alone holds the key to the doorway of human contentment. I maintain that national integrity begets stability, and that honesty is the best policy whether it be between people, countries or nations. There will be no long-lasting stability on this planet, on which progress of all kinds can be founded, except on the basis of human justice and mutual respect.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the warm brotherly relations which exist between Kenya and our sister States in the East African Community, as well as members of the O.A.U.

We have built a Republic which has won a respected place in the world, and which is having a more constructive part to play in the counsels and organized activities of mankind. The

recent decision to establish in Nairobi, the United Nations Environment Secretariat and other offices, has represented a fresh and most substantial step on the road to ultimate fulfilment of Kenya's purpose and potential. Kenya will shortly take a seat on the Security Council of the United Nations to serve on this vital world institution. This will be our opportunity to give full support to effective peaceful means. The United Nations has honoured us by this gesture which symbolizes the highest regard of the attitude of the people of Kenya towards humanity. At the same time, within the Security Council, Kenya will constantly uphold and honour the African cause. We shall never yield, both on moral and practical grounds, in our defence of the principle of self-determination or the oppression of any people.

Against all that background, let us now move into the tenth year of our nationhood, with the strength of confidence and pride to inspire further service to our people and to all humanity. In this high endeavour, let the living spirit of *Harambee* be adopted throughout the family of nations.

H A R A M B E E !

STATE HOUSE,

NAIROBI.

December 8th, 1972.