

**STATEMENT BY HER EXCELLENCY SAMIA SULUHU
HASSAN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF
TANZANIA, AT THE AFRICAN-SAUDI SUMMIT 2023,
10TH NOVEMBER 2023, RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA**

*Your Royal Highness Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Muhammad Bin Salman Bin
Abdulaziz Al Saud,*

*Your Excellency President of the Union of the Comoros and
Chairperson of the African Union,*

Excellencies Heads of State and Government,

Good afternoon,

I thank and congratulate the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for hosting this First African-Saudi Summit. We appreciate the generous hospitality accorded to all of us.

Human Capital – Key to Economic Growth

Your Highness, we note with appreciation Saudi Arabia's resolve to *partner with Africa on Human Capital development.*

Just a note of information that in July this year Tanzania hosted the African Heads of State Human Capital Summit, which

underscored the importance of investing in human capital, particularly the youth, as a roadmap to prosperity. Our desire is to see this new African-Saudi partnership build on the commitments of African leaders by mobilizing support and resources towards Human Capital development.

Strengthening Cooperation to Safeguard Regional and Global Food Security

Your Highness, on the issue of food security, Africa has what it takes to be a global food basket. However, massive investment, mechanization and modernization of agriculture are required. Taking as an example my country Tanzania, being a food self-sufficient country, our contribution to global food security is very limited. As such, we have set an ambitious Agenda to boost agricultural sector growth from 5 to 10 percent by the year 2030; this is through a budget increase from 88 million dollars in 2020 to 420 million dollars in 2023. Despite the efforts by the Government, the private sector and local communities, more needs to be done. Thus, we welcome the commitment of this Summit to prioritize investment in safeguarding Regional and Global Food Security.

On the Saudi-Africa Partnership

Your Royal Highness, for Africa and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to ensure the full realization of the outcomes of this Summit, there has to be continuous engagement, robust actions taken, appropriate coordination done and solidarity among ourselves. Mobilization of public and private resources to support development interventions in Africa is the right step to advancing our development agenda. It is in this light that we welcome and appreciate the pledges and commitments made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to enhance trade and investment within Africa and Saudi Africa. I believe this Summit will strengthen African-Saudi ties and will create new avenues for cooperation.

Lastly, *Your Highness*, we pray for the peace and prosperity of both the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and African countries and their people.

I thank you for your kind attention. Shukran.