



Speech for the signing ceremony of the partnership agreement between Moshi Municipal Council and the University Town of Tübingen on 16 June 2014.

Your Lordship, hon. Mayor Michael,
dear Municipal Director, Mr. Shaaban,
dear city councilors,

Almost exactly a hundred years ago, on August 1, 1914, Germany declared war on Russia and thus started World War I. The City of Moshi used to be a part of the German colony of "Deutsch Ost-Afrika" a hundred years ago. As you all well know, that colony had been started in 1884 by Carl Peters and it ended after a short period of just 30 years. German troops were defeated by the British in 1916. On the one hand, Germans brought progress to Tanzania; perhaps still most important is the railway from Moshi to Dar es Salaam. On the other hand, more than 100,000 people were killed in colonial wars in the late 19th century. A bloodshed that must not be forgotten.

It is thus a very special honor for us, German citizens, to be here today and sign a document of peace and friendship. We cannot make undone the evil that Tanzanian people have suffered from our ancestors, but we can build upon the good links between our countries and create a new era of partnership and progress for both our nations.

The links between Moshi and Tübingen are more special than just between any German and Tanzanian city. Ludwig Krapf, the German missionary, was born in 1810 in Derendingen, back then a small village, which is today part of the City of Tübingen. It was Ludwig Krapf who "discovered" Mount Kenya und Mount Kilimanjaro for European eyes with his friend Johannes Rebmann. Of course we know the mountains had been around long before, but no European would believe the existence of snow so close to the equator at that time. And, what is even more important to you, Ludwig Krapf was interested in Kiswahili. In 1844 he translated the Bible into Kiswahili for the first time and in 1850 he published the first Kiswahili grammar book. He thus contributed to the ongoing success of Kiswahili, which is today the most important language of African origin. Krapf himself had studied theology at no other place than the University of Tübingen from 1829 to 1834.

These historic links form a solid basis for a partnership between our two cities. During the last five years we have established new links and created projects of mutual benefit.

Tunakunywa Kahwa ya Moshi mingi kwetu. (In Tübingen trinkt man viel Kaffee aus Moshi)

Moshi coffee is the official coffee of the Tübingen administration. We serve that coffee to all our guests. Just two weeks ago, we had the honor of receiving the Ambassador of Tanzania to Germany in the Tübingen city hall. We are very proud of this project of cooperation because it is of mutual benefit. We have the pleasure of tasting a wonderful



blend of coffee that has been grown in biological organic agriculture and is sold according to fair trade standards. Your coffee farmers all too often do not receive the money they deserve. As your Ambassador put it in Tübingen: Today's unfair trading conditions allow big international coffee companies like Starbucks to make 100 euros out of one kilogram of coffee, whereas Tanzanian coffee farmers only get a tiny share of 2 euros. We are happy that we have found a better way of trading and enjoying coffee together.

I hope we will create more projects like this in the years to come. We have already started a research project that aims to turn waste to electricity. A group of people in Tübingen would like to assist the KCMC in building up a solar power system that could improve energy security and environmental conditions. We believe that it will be of mutual benefit to fight jointly against global warming and start mitigation projects. Some scientists say that the Uhuru Peak will no longer be white in a few decades because all the ice will melt away. A sad thought and a dangerous development, because we do not fully understand what the consequences of such changes will be. The other day, I learned of the existence of TAPAFE, the Tanzanian Parliamentarians Friends of the Environment. It is an influential group of people very concerned about global warming and an important support for our efforts. I hope we will successfully continue collaborating in the climate partnership initiative that the German government has started only recently.

Twinning between German and Tanzanian cities is still very rare. As far as I know, we are the third official couple between our two countries. I believe it is important that we put more effort in this relationship. Since World War II we have focused on European partnerships and thus successfully contributed to the longest period of peace Europe has ever seen. In this century we face new challenges. We must not accept poverty and poor medical conditions in which hundreds of millions of people have to live to this very day. We have to work together to fight starvation, droughts and diseases. We must improve medical conditions and education. Thus, I hope very much that we can intensify the existing cooperation between schools and hospitals in both our cities.

During the last five years, delegations have travelled between Moshi and Tübingen and vice versa, thus strengthening mutual understanding and spreading ideas. I do hope very much that we will be able to intensify the newly established links between our two cities. I urge you and ourselves to create more projects to mutual benefit in the years to come and hope that our partnership will contribute a little to making the world a better place for all mankind.

Thank you very much for your friendship!