

CONCEPT NOTE

Building A Borderless East Africa Region: Championing Unity, Youth Employment, Culture and Climate Resilience

Introduction

In an increasingly interconnected world, strong regional blocks are becoming the order of the day. The East Africa region stands at a unique crossroads because of the immense potential for economic, cultural, and social growth provided the barriers of borders and divisions can be transcended.

The theme for this year's Julius Nyerere Symposium is "*Building a Borderless East Africa Region*". Building on the success of the Nyerere @100 Symposium in 2022 that put the youth at the forefront of the debates and proposals on development, this year's Symposium aims to interrogate the challenges, opportunities, and more specifically the strategies needed to foster collaboration and unity in the pursuit of shared prosperity.

The two-day youth-focused event will bring together students, thought leaders, and other stakeholders from across the region to envision and strategize for a more integrated and harmonious future.

Objectives: The symposium aims to:

1. **Share Knowledge and Showcase Innovations:** Share insights, research findings, and case studies on successful cross-border collaborations within East Africa.
2. **Facilitate Dialogue that is Solution Oriented:** Provide a platform for open and informed discussions among diverse stakeholders on the benefits and challenges of a borderless East African region. Identify practical solutions, policy recommendations, and actionable steps to overcome barriers and promote integration
3. **Cultivate Networks:** Encourage networking and relationship-building among participants, fostering partnerships that transcend geographical boundaries.

Themes: The symposium will cover themes that include:

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1. **Economic Integration / Employment Opportunities / Markets:** Exploring the potential benefits of a borderless East African market, including trade, investment, and economic growth.
2. **Cultural Exchange:** Celebrating the diverse cultures of the region while promoting cultural exchange and understanding to strengthen social ties.
3. **Infrastructure and Connectivity:** Discussing the need for improved transportation, communication, and technological infrastructure to facilitate seamless cross-border interactions.
4. **Environmental Sustainability:** Exploring how regional cooperation can address environmental issues, such as climate change, resource management and food security.

Format

The symposium will consist of a mix of keynote speeches, panel discussions, and networking sessions. It will host important thought leaders, academics, policymakers, business leaders, and representatives from civil society.

Expected Outcomes

1. A clearer understanding of the potential benefits of a borderless East African region.
2. Policy recommendations and best practices for promoting integration.
3. An actionable roadmap for fostering cross-border collaborations and initiatives.
4. Strengthened networks among participants to continue discussions and collaborations beyond the event.

Venue: Julius Nyerere Leadership Centre (JNLC) The Yusuf Lule Auditorium, Pool Road. Makerere University.

Dates: October 13th -14th 2023

Conclusion

The "**Building a Borderless East Africa Region**" Symposium is youth focused because of the sheer number of young people in the region and the expectations that it is they who will drive and benefit from changes in the structure and focus of economic and social relationships in the region. By fostering dialogue, sharing knowledge, and cultivating networks, we aim to contribute to a future where

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geographical borders are no longer barriers, but bridges to shared success and prosperity.

We invite all stakeholders committed to the region's growth to join us in this transformative journey towards a *Borderless East African Community*.

PARTICIPANTS

1. STUDENTS FROM DIFFERENT UNIVERSITIES AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
2. STUDENT LEADERSHIP
3. ALUMNI OF JNLC LEADERSHIP TRAININGS
4. NGO FORUM
5. CSOs
6. THE EAC SECRETARIAT
7. EAC LAW SOCIETY
8. NEMA
9. PRIVATE SECTOR FOUNDATION (PSF)
10. NEXT MEDIA
11. MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
12. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS
13. MWALIMU NYERERE FOUNDATION (MNF)
14. UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM
15. MS - TCDC
16. JAKAYA KIKWETE FOUNDATION (JKF)
17. HIGH COMMISSIONS / EMBASSIES:
 - a. TANZANIA
 - b. KENYA
 - c. RWANDA
 - d. DRC
 - e. SOUTH SUDAN
 - f. BURUNDI
 - g. CHINA
 - h. EGYPT
 - i. SOUTH AFRICA
18. KAS
19. PEDN

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PROGRAMME

DAY TWO: OCTOBER 14TH 2023

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSON
8:00am – 9:00am	Arrival, Registration, and Accreditation	JNLC Secretariat
DAY TWO: OCTOBER 14TH, 2023		
9:00am- 9:30 am	Opening Ceremony – Makerere University – CTF2 - Yusuf Lule Auditorium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Anthems, Uganda, East African, Tanzania 	
	MC – Henry Kasacca and Namale Alyce Grace	
9:30am-10:00am	Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Nansozi K. Muwanga; Executive Director, Julius Nyerere Leadership Centre (JNLC) • Dr. Kasozi-Mulindwa Saturninus - Chair of the Julius Nyerere Leadership Centre (JNLC) Board of Directors • Professor Barnabas Nawangwe - Vice Chancellor - Makerere University • His Excellency the High Commissioner of the United Republic of Tanzania 	
10:00am -10:30am	Keynote Speech	Ms. Stella Agara - Governance and Youth Development Specialist – MS -TCDC. Arusha. Tanzania
10:20am – 11:00am	Guest of Honour: His Excellency, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni . President of the Republic of Uganda and Patron – Julius Nyerere Leadership Centre (JNLC)	Represented by: SPECIAL ENVOY The Rt. Hon. Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda
11:00am-12:00pm	A Cross-Generational Conversation on Building A Borderless East African Region Moderated Conversation with Q & A. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is this Conversation Important? And; • Why is it important for it to be cross-generational? 	Business and Enterprise: the Engines for Unity and a Borderless East Africa Region? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patrick Bitature: Entrepreneur & CEO Simba Group of Companies • Ms. Sangu Butiku - Senior Expert on Service (SES) / Pan-African activist • Mr. Edwin Musiime; Entrepreneur, Pastor and author • Mr. Nshuti Balaam Kabaasa Makerere University Student • Mrs. Joanita Mukasa Menya- Economist and Commercial Expert
CULTURAL DANCE		
12:00- 1:00pm	Moderated Conversation with Q & A.	Youth Socio-Political Engagement: A Key Building Block for a Borderless East Africa Region?

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is this Conversation Important? And; • Why is it important for it to be cross-generational? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joram Nkumbi - PLO Lumumba Foundation, Tanzania • Mr. Ivan Ssegawa Sebastian - East Africa Youth Ambassador Platform • Ms. Martha Kiiza Kalema- Investment Manager with Bank of Uganda (BoU) Moderated by: Professor Josephine Ahikire Principal - CHUSS
1:00pm - 2:00pm	LUNCH	
2:00pm - 2:40pm		Kiswahili: a language of Unity and Key to Building a Borderless East Africa? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Boaz Mutungi, School of Languages • Dr. Levy Masereka, School of Languages • Dr. Salli Simba Kayunga Moderated: by Joseph Tusigwire, Kiswahili PhD Candidate
2:40pm - 2:45pm	Kiswahili Poem	
2:45pm - 3:30pm	BOLD IDEAS OUR PERSPECTIVE ON: Building A Borderless East Africa Region A Moderated Discussion with the Audience on Championing Unity, Youth Employment, Culture and Climate Resilience: The Why? The How? The Where? And The When?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oundo Bernard- President Emeritus of the East African Law Society & current President of the Uganda Law Society • Nelson Naturinda-Bureau Chief of the East African and Overseas Coverage - Kampala Office. • Dr. Charles Batte - Climate Change and Resilience Activist • Dr. Gardner Rwakiseta Herbert- Mind-Educationist Moderated by: Mr. Julius Bukyana - Freelance Journalist
3:30pm - 3:45pm	JNLC - A Year in Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutesi Joan - Makerere University • Masereka Edison- Busitema University
TRIBUTES	Mwalimu's Legacy and Gift to the Unity of the East Africa Region	
3:45pm - 3:50pm	His Excellency, Rtd Col. Fred Mwesigye. Uganda's High Commissioner to the United Republic of Tanzania	
3:50pm - 4:00pm	Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation (MNF)	Mzee Joseph Butiku. Chair - Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation (MNF)
4:00pm - 4:15pm	Remarks and Tribute from the Family of His Excellency the Late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere	Ms. Bhoke Nyerere Representing Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere's Family

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CLOSING REMARKS	Mwalimu Julius Nyerere's Legacy on Leadership, Training and Mentoring for a Borderless East Africa Region	
4:15pm -4:30pm	Uganda Management Institute (UMI)	Dr. James L. Nkata; Director General. Uganda Management Institute (UMI)
4:30pm - 4:45pm	Makerere University	Mr. Dan Kidega. Vice Chairperson - Makerere University Council
4:45pm - 5:15pm	Official Closing	National Anthems, Tanzania, East African, Uganda
5:15pm- 6:00pm	ENTERTAINMENT	Our Borderless Culture: Music / Art / Fashion

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