



**D**ear Readers,

# Foreword

The UNESCO National Commission of the United Republic of Tanzania has a task of ensuring that Tanzania participates in and benefits from the various approved UNESCO programmes. It coordinates the implementation of UNESCO Programmes by ensuring that as a member state Tanzania benefits from UNESCO expertise in Education, Science, Culture and Communication and Information. In discharging its duties, the Commission seeks to strategize in order to ensure enhanced cooperation between Tanzania and the UNESCO within the context of the governments' medium and long term development strategies and goals on the one hand and the UNESCO Biennium Programme and Budget and Medium Term Strategy on the other.

It is therefore within the above context that the government of the United Republic of Tanzania is committed to ensure that the UNESCO National Commission acquires the human, financial and material resources required for it to discharge its mandate effectively. This commitment was partly demonstrated by the enactment of the UNESCO National Commission Act of 2008 which elevated the status of the Commission to an independent government organization. Other commitments of government include allocating additional resources to the Commission's budget, providing the Commission with additional human resources to cater for its expanding roles and needs and new office premises in order to create a conducive working environment.

There is no doubt that, Tanzania has all along benefited from UNESCO activities but we believe that with enhanced status of the Commission, Tanzania will play a more significant role in execution of UNESCO programmes and in advancing UNESCO ideals in the country and in promoting peace among nations through creation of strategic and constructive partnerships and engagements with other member states and stakeholders.

During the year under the review, Tanzania has started to implement the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) programme in partnership with UNESCO under the auspices of the UN Delivery as One Framework, it has also mobilized stakeholders in the Environment and Earth Sciences and Astronomy to continue with the implementation of the International Year of Planet Earth Programme (IYPE) and the International Year of Astronomy (IYA) activities respectively. It has also mobilized stakeholders in the water sector to implement the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and is in the process of forming a National Committee for the Programme. In the Social Sciences, Tanzania, through the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children has participated in the initiative that culminated into the establishment of UNESCO Category two Regional Gender Centre in the Great Lakes Region located in Democratic Republic of the Congo. With the support from UNESCO, Tanzania is in the process of establishing its own National Gender Centre at Tengere in Arusha region as agreed by Ministers of Gender in the Great Lakes region. In the Education sector, UNESCO is a partner in the implementation of the Education Sector Development Programme and has been involved in a number of activities including capacity building for teachers through Teacher Training Initiative in Sub Saharan Africa (TTISSA), Education Sector Management Information System (ESMIS) among others. In the culture sector, Tanzania is host to the African Liberation Heritage Programme (ALHP) involving a number of African countries. The Programme is expected to be launched in Tanzania later in 2010. With regard to conservation and management of Tanzania's World Heritage Sites, the country has greatly benefited from UNESCO's technical expertise. In Communication and Information (CI) sector, Tanzania journalists have benefited from capacity building programmes and Tanzanians in some areas are benefiting from information accessed from Community Radio established in different parts of the country such as in Pemba, Sengerema and Kyela through the UNESCO International Programme for Development Communication (IPDC).

With all the UNESCO activities and initiatives in the country, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the government of the United Republic of Tanzania, to thank the former Director General of UNESCO, Koïchiro Matsuura for his unwavering support to the ideals of UNESCO and in creating strong partnerships with member states. We hope that the new Director General for UNESCO, Ms. Irina Bokova who was elected during the 35<sup>th</sup> session of UNESCO General Conference will follow the footsteps of her predecessor Mr. Koïchiro Matsuura by seeking to further strengthen the already established close cooperation between Tanzania and UNESCO.

Esteemed readers, welcome to the seventh edition of the Tanzania and UNESCO Magazine.

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