

And What a Day!

Groundbreaking - KARUCO Karagwe University College OCTOBER 11, 2012

By Jan B. Hansen, Ph.D.
President/CEO, Educate Tanzania Inc (ETI)

It was an amazing day - the beginning of the future. Groundbreaking was so well organized and so festive. The Honorable Kjell Bergh, Consul to Tanzania, USA and I had breakfast at 8:00, were joined by Rev. Dr. Brighton Juel Katabaro, Coordinator for KARUCO, then were taken to the KARUCO site with Rev. Dr. Benson Bagonza, Bishop and Founder of KARUCO, at 9:00. The Chinese workers are hard at work on the road although it is still under construction and deeply rutted. We entered KARASECO (Karagwe Secondary School) and on to the adjacent KARUCO via a new road--not even built on my last visit to the site in 2010. We headed to the groundbreaking site where the new administration and classroom buildings were already under construction and the laborers hard at work.



Author Note: Photos courtesy of Rev Oscar Samwel Shubira and Ms. Anne Juel Katabaro of Karagwe, Tanzania; and Dr. Jan B. Hansen, Minnesota, USA.

We arrived at the festive site with colorful tents and people milling around. In the background were the laborers, hard at work constructing the foundation for the administration building. A little farther on was another group of local laborers working to build the classrooms.



Music filled the air as the choir practiced what we later learned was a song and dance created specifically for the groundbreaking. The women were in brand new dresses they had made of bright orange satin on top and classy African indigo and other blues on the bottom. It brought tears to my eyes to see my friend Rebecca in the group singing and dancing her heart out. Inspiring.



The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) Karagwe Diocese General Secretary, Mr. Erasto Kamihanda, escorted Kjell Bergh and me to a place reserved for us--a table under one of the tents. We sat, got a program in Swahili from Brighton, and just took in the sights and sounds.



I am glad to have had this experience with Kjell- he is in his element with official and ceremonial tasks and is calm company. He is also ever mindful of the presence and mindsets of politicians and is diligent at encouraging them to do more. My style is informal so I had to deal with my discomfort, trepidation about making mistakes and reminded myself to not take myself too seriously. Either of us could have done it solo, but together we represented Minnesota and our country well.





We waited for the arrival of the Minister of Agriculture, the Honorable Eng. Mr. Christopher Chiza and after he arrived, Brighton asked us to go to the tower site with a group. I rode up the 'hill' with the bishop and Kjell.



It was great to revisit this inspirational site and look out at the 360 degree panorama of the thousand acres of what will be KARUCO.



I met several dignitaries on the hill, one being the Hon. Mr. Christopher Chiza, Eng. and Minister of Agriculture for Tanzania, and another the Hon. Mr. Gozibert Blandes, member of Parliament.



Once on top, we were asked to approach a tent area where there was a small table. Individually and in order of importance, we were asked to sign the visitor book. Ms. Edina Henry, Manager of Guest Services at the Kayanga Hotel--my friend--facilitated. She and Emmanuel were dignified and smooth, attending to each person's need as Tanzanians are so adept at doing. Signing the visitor book on groundbreaking day on top of the hill was a poignant experience.



There were about ten vehicles on top of that small hill and almost miraculously, they seemed to 'fit'. We headed back down and once back to the KARUCO groundbreaking site, we resumed our seats under the tent.



The groundbreaking began with a worship service to thank God for all He has done and to ask His blessing on KARUCO. Bishop Benson Bagonza, Brighton and the choir got things started. The honored guests were welcomed. The list was long and in typical Tanzanian fashion, each of the 13 special guests and groups were carefully thanked. Brighton prepared an English version of this introduction that included the honored guests (attached at the end of this report). I was happy have it to help get a bigger picture of all those who care about KARUCO.



I caught just a few words in Swahili but couldn't follow along, but the liturgy was similar to other Lutheran services so the rhythm and flow made sense.



The Honorable Vice Chancellor of Tumaini University Makumira, Rev. Professor Joseph Parsalaw, sat to my left and translated for me at critical points. I doubt that was in his job description for the day, but like most Tanzanians I know, the professor met another person's need when he saw it. The bishop's sermon was on 'Faith' and belief in the unseen. Fitting for the day. One speaker, later in the day, thanked the bishop for what she said was the shortest African service she had ever attended. The audience applauded heartily.



Toward the end of the service, the honored guests were invited to stand at the groundbreaking stone in the center of everyone. This was the highlight for me.

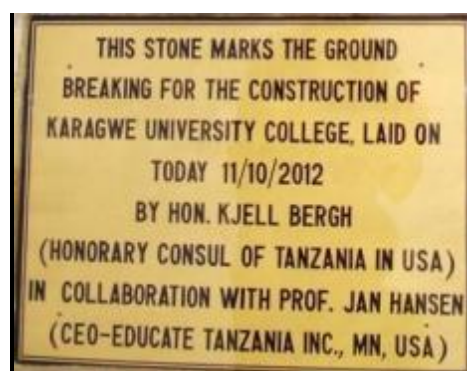


The Groundbreaking Stone

The ELCT made a 3-D triangle about 4.5 feet tall. The bishop invited the honored guests 1) Honorable Minister of Agriculture, Engineer Christopher Chiza; 2) Honorable Kjell Bergh, Consul of Tanzania, U.S.A. and Professor Jan Hansen, CEO Educate Tanzania; to join 3) the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) at the groundbreaking stone in front. The marker was covered in satin and draped with yellow ribbon around it. The bishops prayed, thanking God for bringing KARUCO into reality and for each person's contribution. The bishops prayed specifically for ETI and the other honored guests. ETI was singled out more than once over the course of the day for being 'dear' and 'beloved'. The bishops asked God's blessing on our time together and on KARUCO - *amen*. Each of us was given a scissor and then cued to cut the ribbon. Cut! We lifted the cloth.



I saw immediately the 24"x18" gold colored inset at the base.





Very touching.





The service closed and the choir sang and danced during the short time between the worship service and the groundbreaking ceremony. Brighton then escorted Kjell and me to the next tent over to sit at the table for honored guests. After some well-deserved fanfare, the Groundbreaking Program began.



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The Groundbreaking Program

Bishop Benson Bagonza welcomed and introduced the honored guests.



After more welcomes and thanks, the speeches began. I had braced myself for this part so that I could sit patiently and listen to the four speeches before mine, and the two after, and perhaps a few more if conditions were 'right'. The first four speeches seemed motivating and lively although I had to rely on Brighton's 'real time' translation for the actual content (I really must get better at Swahili)!



The Vice Chancellor from Tumaini finished and then it was my turn.

I went to the podium- with a small frontal cloth. I arranged my notes and saw that Brighton had joined me to translate. ETI board member, Gracious Msuya had translated my speech and helped me practice Swahili. But given my exhaustion, I agreed to have an interpreter and deliver it in English instead. I looked out and took in the site of people encircling the area- all gathered to break ground for KARUCO. Governmental dignitaries, commissioners, a member of Parliament, the American Consul to Tanzania, bishops, professors, church people, students, church leaders, educators, parents, neighbors - young and old, all here to celebrate KARUCO. Hope was visible and palpable.



Brighton began with my requested apology for speaking in English and explained that I am just learning to speak Swahili. I then began with the usual--addressing the honored guests and thanking them for inviting me to the groundbreaking. I greeted everyone on behalf of the board of directors of Educate Tanzania and especially from my husband, Steve. Everyone laughed when Brighton translated so he leaned over and said, 'everyone is laughing because I said *'my husband Steve'*'. Then I laughed. I went on to share with Brighton translating.



I shared that this groundbreaking is a joyous event that we will remember for the rest of our lives because today is the day that KARUCO moves from a hope in people's minds to becoming a reality that we can see with our own eyes. KARUCO is like an infant child that is born and that today we see it take its first step. I told how I came to Karagwe in 2008 and had four hours to decide to come; I shared how I fell in love with the people (applause), how I was introduced to Bishop Bagonza's concept paper for KARUCO, and how I helped Bweranyange Girls School get its first curriculum. The audience liked it when I said that I returned with my husband Steve in 2010 and visited farms and other towns in Karagwe and revisited the concept of KARUCO. I told them that when the bishop invited Steve and me to be ambassadors for KARUCO, we said 'yes'.



I shared a bit about the history of ETI and how we are working very hard to help build KARUCO. Several times during my speech, there was spontaneous applause. Near the end, I presented the "touchstones". Mr. Emmanuel who had been assisting all day, helped me by holding up each stone for the crowd to see as I spoke. Later, the photo of this almost made me cry. I was careful to say that these stones do not honor ourselves but instead honor the donors who care about KARUCO and who contribute to help make it happen. ETI hopes that the people whose names are on the stones and who the stones represent, will visit Karagwe and its people; will visit KARUCO, and will touch the stones.

In Honor of the **Oswald Family Foundation** I took time to share that the Oswald Family Foundation of Minnesota was the first large donor to invest in ETI and KARUCO. Julie Oswald, who is the Executive Director, met with me in 2011 when we were just 5 months old and encouraged ETI to apply for a start up grant. The Oswald Family Foundation believed in the vision of KARUCO before ETI had any track record of achievements. When I shared that the Oswald Family Foundation donated even more than the initial grant, the people clapped with joy. ETI's hope is that Julie Oswald and her family and friends will find their way to Tanzania and touch the stones that honor the ideals of the Oswald Family Foundation and the difference they make through their support of educational causes. They will be welcomed heartily. I presented the touchstone to honor the Oswald Family Foundation to the bishop and he gladly received it.



In Honor of the Oswald Family Foundation

In Memory of Jacqueline Nolte Jones

The second stone was presented in memory of Minnesota philanthropist and supporter of education, Jacqueline Nolte Jones. Jacqueline was from a long line of educators who made big differences in the lives of many by lifelong commitments and contributions to education and related causes. I told those at the groundbreaking that Mrs. Jones became aware of the goals and vision of ETI and KARUCO through her son, Christopher, who was a student of mine at the

University of St. Thomas in Minnesota. Before she passed away in 2011, she shared with Christopher that she would like to make a "game-changing difference" and would like to donate \$55,000 USD to ETI for the KARUCO project. This large gift from the Estate of Jacqueline Nolte Jones made the groundbreaking today possible. ETI's hope is that Jacqueline's family and all who loved her would find their way to the people of Karagwe and would be able to honor Jacqueline's memory and the ideals she upheld as they touch the stone at KARUCO. On behalf of Educate Tanzania, I presented the touchstone in memory of Jacqueline Nolte Jones to the bishop and he gladly received it.



In Memory of Jacqueline Nolte Jones

In Honor of Educate Tanzania

The third touchstone honored Educate Tanzania, Minnesota, USA. I was careful to say that the stone does not honor ourselves but instead honors the hundreds of donors and volunteers who care about KARUCO and support ETI (applause). I mentioned the dedication of our volunteers and the contributions of many--big and small--that all together make KARUCO possible. My hope is that the 450 people in our data base will each find their way to the people of Karagwe, Tanzania and will find this touchstone at KARUCO. I presented the touchstone to the bishop and he gladly accepted. I couldn't help but be moved by Emmanuel who looked so proud as he delivered each of the three stones to the bishop.



In Honor of Educate Tanzania, Inc. (ETI)

In closing my speech, I told the people of Karagwe that this was one of the best days of my life because I am privileged to participate in something that is making a difference. I reminded the people that ETI will continue to work with the people of Karagwe as partners and friends to help build KARUCO. This was a beautiful day. I looked out at the people and felt the hope.

My heart nearly burst as I sat down- relieved it was over and satisfied with how it went. I received quite a bit of feedback that the ideas were appreciated and that people understood what ETI has done and wants to do to support KARUCO.

Directly following me was Kjell Bergh, introduced as the Honorable Kjell Bergh, Ambassador to Tanzania, USA. Kjell looked very ambassadorial and greeted the dignitaries and all others in the proper, official but not pretentious way. He then teased that he had climbed Kilimanjaro 3 times but that his most demanding time in Tanzania so far was his ride on the bumpy, unfinished road to KARUCO. He kiddingly said that if the road is not finished next time he comes, he will have to fly his plane to Karagwe. Kjell applauded the good work of those in various places coming together to help build KARUCO. He encouraged all to continue the solid work and remain in roles that ensure contributions to KARUCO.



One spontaneous speech came from Mr. Gozibert Blandes, member of Parliament, who donated 10 million Tanzanian schillings (about \$6,300 USD). He encouraged others to do the same and offered his commitment that he would continue to help support KARUCO. I had met him on Tower Point and was glad to see his support.



Brighton then introduced the Honorable Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Christopher Chiza. He is a respected government official who supports agricultural efforts that will make a difference. Of course, he greeted everyone properly, even remarking that he and Kjell had worn the same Tanzanian-themed tie. He thanked everyone for their efforts. Brighton helped me understand by translating during the speech. The minister started by calling up a KARASECO (Karagwe Secondary School) student who had written the minister a note that day, saying that he was proud to be from the same area as the minister. The minister then opened his wallet and gave the young man two orange bills, and the student went away happy.



The minister was lively and energetic and made about every point imaginable that aligned with the philosophy and vision for KARUCO. Hands on applications, ethics, environmental sustainability, agri-business, creative and critical thinking, entrepreneurship, etc. As the minister's vision was delivered, an emotional and mental paradigm shift was almost palpable. A broader view of agriculture, centered around KARUCO, was made known and endorsed. There is a beauty about a group of people hearing the same thing at the same time. The minister thanked people and singled out ETI as being significant in making KARUCO a reality. It felt nice. He then committed ten million Tanzanian Schillings to the project. At 2:30 PM, Tanzanian time, 6:30AM CST, the minister announced, **"I hearby establish the official groundbreaking for KARUCO- Karagwe University College!"**.

And the people cheered.

Our Tanzanian friends had organized a piece of the program to show gratitude to the honored guests. The bishop called me up first, expressed deep and sincere thanks, and presented me with two wrapped gifts. He then presented gifts to Kjell, and then the minister of Agriculture also. Importantly I was given a traditional gift of ground nuts wrapped very cleverly in banana leaves. Very touching. (Edina later roasted these for me and let me just say that there is nothing quite like fresh roasted organic ground nuts from Tanzania.)



Gifts



Traditional ground nuts wrapped in banana

Family carving



Traditional farming methods, the river of transformation, KARUCO and a transformed community

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Celebration

A prayer and invitation to come eat. Of course, the best cook in Karagwe, Edina Henry, Manager of Guest Services at Kayanga Hotel made the food. The spread of rice, bananas, potatoes, meat and sauces was a welcome sight. I filled my plate and was invited to sit by the Minister of Agriculture to my left and Kjell Bergh to my right. As we ate, the bishop remarked what great points the minister made. I agreed heartily and thanked him for his vision and insight for his people. He shared some points about having talked with the bishop via phone and how they shared similar views about transformation in rural communities through improvement of agricultural practices. Mr. Chiza asked about ETI so I shared that the curriculum team from the U of MN and from EARTH University are coming to Karagwe in January. The minister acted very interested and said he would love to make time for them if they travel through Dar es Salaam. He then gave me his business card and invited me to contact him with details. He and Kjell then swapped thoughts on economic development in Tanzania while Oscar took photos.



Ambassador Kjell Bergh
Consul Tanzania (USA)

Professor Jan B. Hansen
CEO, Educate Tanzania

Minister of Agriculture
Hon. Christopher Chiza

Bishop Dr. Benson Bagonza
Karagwe Diocese, ELCT

I took a quick 'look-see' of the administration and classroom buildings.





The local laborers worked through the entire groundbreaking service and program.



Eventually we finished our food, and prepared to leave. An elderly man stood next to me and I learned he was Jonathan Katabaro, Brighton's father. He was in a suit and appeared very proud. He looks like Brighton with his wide smile and kind eyes. I was glad to meet him. I later learned that he and two others in their late seventies, had walked from their homes fourteen kilometers away to attend the groundbreaking. They left their homes before the sun was up. I am struck with how the elders are investing in their youth. Hope is palpable.



After milling and an extended African good-bye, the bishop, Kjell and I shared a ride to Kayanga. We basked in the afterglow of KARUCO Groundbreaking.



What a day!



THIS STONE MARKS THE GROUND
BREAKING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
KARAGWE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LAID ON
TODAY 11/10/2012
BY HON. KJELL BERGH
(HONORARY CONSUL OF TANZANIA IN USA)
IN COLLABORATION WITH PROF. JAN HANSEN
(CEO-EDUCATE TANZANIA INC., MN, USA)



ALAMA HII YA UZINDUZI WA UJENZI WA
CHUO KIKUU CHA KARAGWE
IMEWEKWA LEO TAREHE 11/10/2012 NA
MH. ENG. CHRISTOPHER CHIZA
WAZIRI WA KILIMO, CHAKULA NA USHIRIKA
WA JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA



ALAMA HII YA UZINDUZI WA UJENZI WA
CHUO KIKUU CHA KARAGWE
IMEWEKWA LEO TAREHE 11/10/2012 NA
MH. ASKOFU DR. BENSON K. BAGONZA,
ELCT/KAD



The Future
KARESECO students reflect on KARUCO

**Welcome to the Groundbreaking for KARUCO – Karagwe University College
Dr. Brighton Juel Katabaro, Coordinator for KARUCO**

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**SHORT INFORMATION ABOUT KARAGWE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (KARUCO)
PROJECT AT THE GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION
OF KARUCO, KISHOJO, 11TH OF OCTOBER 2012**

- Hon. Guest of Honour, Minister for Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives of the United Republic of Tanzania, Eng. Christopher Chiza,
 - Hon. Kagera Region Commissioner, Retired Col. Fabian Inyasi Massawe,
 - Hon. Ambassador Kjell Bergh from the U.S.,
 - Hon. Bishop, Dr. Benson Bagonza, and all the bishops who have given us the honour to attend this ceremony,
 - Hon. Karagwe District Commissioner and District Commissioners from the neighbouring districts,
 - Hon. Vice Chancellor of the Tumaini University Makumira, Rev. Prof. Joseph Parsalaw,
 - Dear Hon. Prof. Jan Hansen (President of Educate Tanzania Inc. (ETI)),
 - Hon. heads of various governmental departments and non-governmental organizations,
 - Hon. Members of the Executive Council of the Diocese,
 - Hon. Pastors and Sisters,
 - Hon. Members of the Task Force for the Establishment of the Karagwe University College,
 - Hon. Missionaries working in Karagwe,
 - Dear invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen!
- 1) On behalf of the Task Force for the Establishment of the Karagwe University College and on my own behalf, I would like, first of all, to express my sincere appreciation to you, Hon. Minister Christopher Chiza, for accepting our invitation to be the guest of honour at the launching ceremony of the construction activities of the proposed Karagwe University College. This is a great, unique and historic event here in Karagwe District, because today we officially begin a long but very important journey for the development and the prosperity of the people of Karagwe, Kagera Region and Tanzania in general. So, we feel very honoured by your presence among us. You are warmly welcome!
 - 2) Secondly, I would like to take this opportunity, to thank all the invited guests and all people who have come to witness this event of launching the construction activities of our University. We would like to say "pole" to our brothers and sisters who have travelled a long journey to this place. Thank you so much!
 - 3) May I also take this opportunity, in a very special way, to thank our beloved brother and sister from the US., Hon. Consul Kjell Bergh, and our very dear friend, Prof. Jan Hansen, who have travelled all the way from the United States of America to this part of the world in order to take part in the groundbreaking ceremonies. We feel very privileged to have you here today and to begin this journey of constructing KARUCO together. Thank you for your love to us, to the people of Karagwe and Tanzania as a whole!

- 4) Hon. Guest of Honour, after saying those few words of thanks, I would like to present to you and to this gathering some brief information about the Karagwe University project which we officially launch today.
- 5) The process of establishing the Karagwe University College of Agriculture and Environmental Studies was started in 2006 in the Synod of the Karagwe Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. Given the importance and uniqueness of the agricultural sector in the country, the Diocese saw the need to establish a University College which will offer education and produce experts with skills in matters of agriculture and environmental management. The aim is to improve the lives of the majority of Tanzanians; especially those living in rural areas, who depend on agriculture for their livelihood.
- 6) As we all know, many Tanzanians, who depend on agriculture, live poor and destitute lives. Many are worn-out because of using a lot of energy in farming activities. This is due to the poor tools they use in agriculture, such as hand-hoes, machetes, "*ebihasha*", etc. The use of poor production equipments result in poor, ineffective and discouraging productivity for the farmers. Poor equipments and agricultural methods do not lead to the desired development. Despite the challenges posed by inadequate tools and resources, farmers are faced with many other challenges such as lack of markets for their crops, poor infrastructure, drought, diseases of plants and animals, and the lack of quality education.
- 7) Hon. Guest of Honour and all invited Guests, lack of quality education is one of the biggest factors that lead to poverty and misery lives for some people in Karagwe District and elsewhere in the country. Thus, the struggle against poverty, ignorance and disease can never succeed if there are no deliberate measures taken to raise the level of education, especially for farmers, who make out the majority in Tanzania. Karagwe University College will provide a significant contribution in the fight against poverty, and thus contribute to the efforts of the government to bring about a better life for every Tanzanian.
- 8) The Proposed Karagwe University College will be the first University in Tanzania in providing a specialized training and putting emphasis on environmental conservation issues for us and for future generations. As we know and see, the speed of the environment degradation is very high and will continue to bring many negative effects in Tanzania and other parts of the world, if we do not take deliberate actions against such environmental damage as soon as possible. This University College that we have gathered here to witness its groundbreaking will provide a significant contribution in this important area.
- 9) Our vision at KARUCO is to produce experts and scholars specializing in agriculture and animal husbandry. KARUCO graduates are not expected to be elites who just sit in offices, but academicians who really want to participate in farming; who dwell in the midst of the community of farmers and herdsmen, educating and providing advice on better farming and husbandry for the farmers in order to maximize productivity and the income of the farmers. That way, the University of Karagwe will contribute a great deal in making rural areas better places to live. And this will also reduce the rate of young people fleeing to the cities.
- 10) Hon. Guest of Honour and dear invited guests, we believe this vision is possible, if we will make joint efforts to improve living conditions in rural areas. It is a fact that one of the major factors for the refuge of many young from rural to urban areas is to avoid the hardships they face in poor, agricultural rural communities. KARUCO

wants to build the capacity of individual farmers, so that they can engage in modern and commercial agriculture that can raise their income and bring about development. The establishment of the Karagwe University College will contribute significantly to the concept and campaign of "agriculture first" (kilimo kwanza).

- 11) After completion of all the prerequisites for inaugurating a university, we will start with three faculties namely the faculty of agriculture, the faculty of education, and the faculty of information and communication technology. However, agriculture will be interdisciplinary. All disciplines at KARUCO will focus on improving agriculture. We want every student in any field he/she chooses to take, to learn how to use his/her expertise in his/her profession in improving agriculture and environmental conservation. The work of preparing the curriculum has already started.
- 12) KARUCO will start as a constituent college of the Tumaini University Makumira (TUMA), whose Vice Chancellor, Hon. Prof. Joseph Parsalaw, is with us today. TUMA is also owned and operated by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. Since its inception, TUMA has given a great contribution to the higher education sector in the country. By way of establishing a constituent college in Karagwe, we expand the scope of the Tumaini University Makumira to reach and serve more people across the country.
- 13) The land allocated for the construction of the University of Karagwe has a size of 372 hectares, equivalent to 919 acres. This land was given to the Diocese of Karagwe by the Government of the Village of Kishojo in 1980. It is part of a bigger area of 422.6 hectares (1044 acres) which was offered by the Village of Kishojo for the construction of Karagwe Secondary School (KARASECO). We express our sincere gratitude to the Government, in particular, the leadership of the Government of this village and of the district level for allocating this land for educational use.
- 14) In addition, we are thankful for the Ministry of Lands and Housing under the leadership of Hon. Minister, Prof. Anna Tibaijuka, for offering a land rent exemption for the proposed Karagwe University College for a period of five years. We appreciate the great cooperation that we have had from the government in our efforts to provide better education and fight poverty in the country.
- 15) Hon. Guest of Honour, the idea of establishing the University of Karagwe has been received with great excitement by the residents and development stakeholders of Karagwe, Kyerwa and other places in Tanzania. I would like to take this opportunity again to thank, before you, all the stakeholders who have given their contribution to support the process of establishing a university in Karagwe District. We made two fundraiser(s) in Karagwe and in the new District of Kyerwa, where people responded in bulk and gave contributions for the construction of the University of Karagwe. Thank you!
- 16) The construction of the two lecture halls and the administration building, which we have already started, is part of the first phase of the construction of KARUCO. This has become possible due to the support of the Educate Tanzania Inc. (ETI), a non-profit organisation, based in Minnesota (U.S.A.). It is a joint project between ETI and Karagwe Diocese in collaboration with the residents and friends of Karagwe from within the country. ETI will contribute to the construction of the two lecture halls which will cost approximately 140 million Tanzanian shillings, and we the people of Karagwe will build the first phase of the administration building which will cost

nearly 70 million Tanzanian shillings. On behalf of the Task Force, I would like, once again, to express our sincere appreciation to ETI and to all KARUCO friends in the U.S. for this great contribution. This groundbreaking of the construction activities at KARUCO would not have been possible today, if we did not have this great contribution from these dear friends. We give very special thanks to a very dear friend, Prof. Jan Hansen, her husband, Steve, and the board members of ETI for their sincerity and goodwill to help Karagwe and our nation of Tanzania in general. Prof. Jan Hansen and her husband were the ones who initiated the organization of ETI which keeps growing, and today we have begun to see the success of their efforts with our eyes.

- 17) Hon. Guest of Honour, as I mentioned earlier, we have begun the long journey of implementing a vision of establishing a university college at this place. This vision has existed for a couple of years. We feel strong because we have begun this work together. We believe successes will be achieved quickly, if the existing cooperation and solidarity between the government, the Church as a private sector and donors from within and outside the country are maintained. We will continue to share our vision with other friends and development stakeholders from within and outside the country, so that, together, we can cooperate in raising the level of education and the living standards of the people of Tanzania. Together, we are stronger!
- 18) In recognition of the power of unity and cooperation in the implementation of this project, we have invited other stakeholders to collaborate with us at this official groundbreaking for the construction of KARUCO. We have invited you, Hon. Minister, to represent the government; we have invited Hon. Ambassador Kjell Bergh and Prof. Jan Hansen to represent foreign donors; and the Hon. Bishop Dr. Benson Bagonza represents the Diocese of Karagwe and the Church as a whole.
- 19) With this brief report, I would like, with great honour, to welcome you, Hon. Minister to officially launch the construction of the proposed Karagwe University College.

Respectfully submitted by:



Rev. Dr. Brighton Juel Katabaro
Coordinator for the Establishing of Karagwe University College
(On Behalf of the Task Force of KARUCO)