

## **CEO Roundtable of Tanzania**

**Ethical Leadership for Growth and Prosperity** 

PRESS RELEASE

## "Africa is not Rising, Africans are not Changing, and a Dire Prediction for Africa and the World" by Ali A. Mufuruki, CEOrt Chairman

**Dar es Salaam. 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2015:** The CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOrt) will host its first monthly dinner meeting of 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Kilimanjaro in Dar es Salaam this evening.

In December 2014, Mr. Ali Mufuruki, Chairman – CEO Roundtable of Tanzania was selected as the first speaker on the TeDxEuston stage from Tanzania. The event's theme, "Facing Forward" was drawn from Ghana's first president Kwame Nkrumah, who said: "we face neither east nor west, we face forward". During the event, guest speakers considered how Africans united can achieve greater prominence and success across the continent.

As the "Africa Rising" dialogue continues to gain traction internationally, Ali Mufuruki poses the question, is Africa really rising or is the Africa Rising dialogue merely an illusion, our "imagination of what Africa might have been had we heeded Nkrumah's call to not only face forward, but to march forward purposefully, confidently, carefully, intelligently, eyes wide open?" Can Africa claim meaningful development even while the continent continues to face major challenges within the key economic sectors critical to development? The challenges are many; alarmingly low education levels, lack of access to reliable energy for powering industries, inefficient transport and logistics infrastructure to encourage trade, inadequate technological advancements for maximizing agricultural production, and most importantly, depletion of Africa's most precious resource — it's biodiversity at the hands of corruption.

Ali Mufuruki's speech, "Africa is not Rising, Africans are not Changing, and a Dire Prediction for Africa and the World" subsequently created waves of dialogue across the globe. Therefore, to kick start the 2015 Speaker Series, we are delighted to welcome Ali Mufuruki to the CEOrt stage, providing an opportunity to hear views from key stakeholders and look to address the current challenges facing economies across the African continent with the vision of a brighter future for Africa.

## About the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania

Founded in 2000, the CEOrt is a policy dialogue forum with the main objective of creating a platform through which captains of industry can constructively engage the government with the vision of creating a more conducive environment for businesses to prosper and contribute to Tanzania's economic growth. The CEOrt brings together over 100 organizations doing business in Tanzania. The members of the CEOrt and the companies they lead account for more than 40% of the tax revenue collected by the Government of Tanzania.

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For more information, contact:

Gwantwa Kasamala CEOrt Secretariat +255 758 808797 secretariat@ceo-roundtable.co.tz

Directors: Ali A. Mufuruki (Chair), Yogesh Manek, Leonard C. Mususa, Nehemiah K. Mchechu, Nicola Colangelo, Amb. Ami R. Mpungwe, Dr. Alex Nguluma