



RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF VOICE OF AMERICA'S SWAHILI SERVICE

June 14, 2017

WHEREAS, the Voice of America (VOA) began broadcasting in Swahili on May 15, 1962 to provide accurate, balanced and comprehensive news and information to the Swahili-speaking people;

WHEREAS, VOA's Swahili Service has served for more than five decades as a vital communications link with the Swahili-speaking people in support of freedom and democracy during the last 55 years, during the years of several political and social changes, and the challenges Swahili-speaking people face today;

WHEREAS, VOA's Swahili Service has successfully adopted web cast television, online, mobile and social media platforms to reach even greater numbers of listeners;

WHEREAS, VOA Swahili is a leading source of news and information for the Swahili-speaking people about United States policy, and expert analysis on Swahili-speaking countries, the African continent, the United States and the world;

WHEREAS, VOA Swahili is a unique source of news and information for the Swahili-speaking people about American society and its achievements in democratic governance, business, medicine, science, technology and the arts, which can serve as an inspiration and a model for Swahili speakers;

WHEREAS, VOA Swahili remains a respected source of objective and accurate news and information about Swahili-speaking countries in East Africa and parts of Central Africa, many parts of diaspora including the United States and the rest of the world, with a major focus on human rights, social and cultural rights, freedom of speech, and democratic values and practices; and

WHEREAS, VOA's Swahili Service is among the leading international broadcasters in Swahili and, remains a top contender among international competitors with increasing audience reach on Radio, Internet, weekly TV and mobile, with arguably the most popular and influential radio programs in international Swahili language broadcasting.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Broadcasting Board of Governors and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) that we celebrate and commemorate the 55th anniversary of the Voice of America's Swahili Service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Broadcasting Board of Governors and CEO commend and congratulate both the current and former members of the Voice of America's Swahili Service for their dedication in serving the Swahili-speaking people and fostering friendship and the open communication of information and ideas between them and the United States.