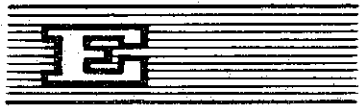




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NEW EDITION OF THE ATLAS OF TANZANIA*

Paper submitted by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania

The present (or first) edition of the Atlas of Tanzania was commenced in February 1964. It began as the fourth edition of the Atlas of Tanganyika but before the work was far along union with Zanzibar was achieved and it was renamed "first edition of the Atlas of Tanzania". It appeared, after some unavoidable delays, at the end of 1969. Much of its data was by the time at least several years old, and some of it was not as full as it should have been, particularly in respect of Zanzibar. The base map was cartography of the territorial period, that had been revised in a piecemeal fashion.

In December 1971, a second edition of the Atlas of Tanzania was announced to ministries, together with a request for new information. Earlier, work had begun on the compilation of a new base map, derived from the International Map of the World at 1/1,000,000, with sundry revisions from various sources. The compilation was made at 1/2,000,000 with a view to its serving also as origin of a new map of the nation at that scale as well as for the atlas, the maps for which were to be generally at 1/3,000,000.

The new edition of the atlas will differ first because of its more up-to-date geography and because it gives the metric system primacy over the duodecimal. Inset maps of Zanzibar and Pemba Islands at larger scale have been included to facilitate the illustration of special phases of the economy there. In addition, some attention is paid to the use of Swahili place-names rather than the English form.

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The first edition numbered 24 pages of maps and three of statistical graphs. A number of the subjects in earlier editions will be covered and a choice of new topics is under consideration. Advice and aid is being given by a committee composed of representatives of some key ministries and from the Department of Geography and the Bureau of Resource Assessment and Land Use Planning of University of Dar-es-Salaam.

Information is being systematically sought and obtained from ministries and parastatal agencies. This is a relatively simple task when these have their own cartographic units attached, since these usually retain records of activities and programmes up-to-date in map form. Fortunately for the atlas, some other ministries have at this time record-gathering programmes of investigations in hand with completion expected shortly. Notably these are: a region-by-region recording of medical facilities, some of which are provided by voluntary agencies in Tanzania; an agricultural census by the Central Statistical Bureau which will provide data on cattle numbers and distribution; by the same bureau the 1971 edition of a biennial directory of industries which, plotted together with data on roads, airfields and the supply of electrical energy, will provide a useful map; the Prime Minister's office is accumulating a detailed store of data on the growing programme of ujamaa villages, of which over 4,000 exist now; the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives has just completed a detailed survey of the tsetse fly situation.

There are certain aspects where new information is unavailable. The map showing vegetation, which has appeared in all recent editions, stems from the work of an eminent scientist, in 1946; it badly requires updating in respect of cultivated areas and areas where scattered cultivation occurs; but since the large and medium-scale mapping of Tanzania is not complete the required information is not available. There has been no new study on malaria in Tanzania since 1948. An epidemiological unit will soon commence operations, but new data on malaria will not be ready in time.

More full information on climate now available will result in more complete maps. Changing emphasis in cattle-raising and marketing and changing relationships in the importance of cash crops will be reflected. Some work in hand but not yet completed will be described either on the map or in the accompanying texts. It is expected that the Tanzania-Zambia railway will be completed before the atlas appears, and it is shown on the maps. Other projects, such as the proposed Arusha-Mwanza highway, or the programme to establish more river-measurement stations in western Tanzania are examples. The large mapping programme now under way will be indicated.

There will also be some improvement in cartography, naturally. The heavy colours of the soil map in the first edition will be replaced by screens. Greater clarity will be sought on other maps in the choice of symbols and the use of colours. It is hoped that a stronger liaison with Zanzibar will make it possible to include more about that land in the atlas. The work is begun. Now, everything depends on the continued energy of the atlas team and a continued stream of information from ministries and agencies.