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**African
Development
Center**
of Minnesota

Your guide to financial success in America

PRESS RELEASE

African Development Center Announces Executive Director

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (JANUARY 14TH, 2014) – The African Development Center is pleased to announce Nasibu Sareva as its new Executive Director. A long-time member of the ADC Management Team, Sareva was appointed as the Interim Executive Director following the passing of ADC Founder, Hussein Samatar, this past August.

With an unquestionable commitment to the organization, a strong understanding of strategic operations, and an optimistic drive, Sareva was extremely successful in the navigation of ADC through this recent and difficult transition.

"During the past few months, Nasibu has shown a remarkable ability to lead in difficult circumstances as well as think and act strategically for ADC's strong future. ADC's Board of Directors is thrilled that Nasibu has accepted this challenge", stated Jo Ann Vano, ADC Board of Directors President.

Prior to this position, Sareva was the ADC Chief Financial Officer, and head of the Business Development department – one of the most active in the state. Over the past seven years with ADC, Mr. Sareva has displayed substantial insight and direction regarding the operations of ADC, and worked tirelessly to increase the efficiencies and impact of ADC programming.

Upon accepting this position, Mr. Sareva noted, "I'm grateful for the support and trust of the ADC Board over these past few months. I believe our continued work and accomplishments through this time illustrates the power of Hussein's vision and the strength that ADC has to persevere toward its mission. I welcome the challenges of this position, and look forward to the opportunities to deepen the positive impact of ADC throughout the state of Minnesota." A native of Tanzania, Sareva holds a BA in accounting from the IIU in Malaysia, and an MBA in accounting from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Joining Sareva in this new leadership is Matthew Holm, who will take the role of Deputy Executive Director. Holm was appointed to the Interim role during the transition, and now moves there permanently from Communications and Development Director. Mr. Holm provides a substantial background of operational leadership in private business, as well as nonprofit management expertise. Holm holds a BA in Globalization and Citizenship from the University of Minnesota and a Masters in Public Policy from the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Support for the African Development Center during the transition period following Samatar's death was immediately apparent from the community, institutional partners, and public entities. ADC hopes to maintain these levels, as it begins the next chapter of the organization's history.

"The African Development Center is an incredibly important asset for the sustainable prosperity of the community and region it serves. Nasibu and Matthew have done an excellent job of managing ADC during a very trying time in its history. I am excited by what they have accomplished, and look forward to supporting them well into the future", stated Gary Cunningham, Vice President of Programs at Northwest Area Foundation.

Headquartered in Minneapolis, the African Development Center is an economic development organization with the mission to grow businesses, build wealth, and increase reinvestment in the African Communities of Minnesota. Through training, consultations, workshops, and providing business loans, ADC is successfully illustrating how cultural competency, financial literacy, and access to resources can empower a community to become linked to the larger regional and mainstream economies.

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