

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr Speaker: Hon. Members, we are gathered here today at this special sitting of the National Assembly to welcome His Excellency Mr Marc Ravalomanana, the President of the Republic of Madagascar.

We are singularly honoured by this visit inasmuch as it is the first official visit of His Excellency abroad, after his re-election as President.

Hon. Members, may I, on your behalf and in my own name, extend our sincere congratulations to His Excellency.

Since assuming Office as President of the Republic of Madagascar, His Excellency Mr Marc Ravalomanana has indeed a great vision for his country. He has during a very short span of time already made Madagascar into an important Regional Economic Player whilst at the same time preserving the cultures and traditions of the people of Madagascar and consolidating democratic principles.

Hon. Members, His Excellency has kindly agreed to address us today.

It is now my pleasure to invite His Excellency Mr Marc Ravalomanana, President of the Republic of Madagascar, to address the House.

Your Excellency, you have the floor.