

the credentials of German ambassador Dr Albrecht Conze, the President called for more German investors in Uganda and more support to the security situation in Somalia.

He said Uganda is willing to help but is constrained by shortage of funds.

"Somalia is semi-attended to by both the outside and inside forces," Museveni said.

Ambassador Conze commended Uganda's work to restore peace in Somalia and the efforts to unite the various factions in South Sudan.

He re-assured President

Museveni that German entrepreneurs were ready to invest in Uganda if laws are put in place to protect them. The envoy said many investors were scared of squatters that

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President John Magufuli visit to boost trade ties

By David Lumu

The Tanzanian president, John Magufuli, will today be in Uganda in his second high-profile visit to Kampala, which many say symbolises a firm re-ignition of trade ties between the two East African Community (EAC) states.

According to Uganda's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Richard Kabonero, the Tanzanian leader is leading a 90-member team, including the First Lady, Janeth Magufuli, five ministers, permanent secretaries and heads of government agencies.

"We welcome the visit because it will strengthen trade ties between our two countries and help citizens develop their businesses," Kabonero said in a telephone interview.

Magufuli's three-day state visit, November 9-11, begins at Mutukula border, where he will, together with President Yoweri Museveni, commission the one-stop border post. He is also expected to sign various agreements touching bilateral and regional issues.

'Bulldozer'

Nicknamed 'bulldozer' by Tanzanians over his aggressive reform of the often lazy government service delivery process, Magufuli is accompanied by five ministers from key sectors, a move regional experts say is tailored towards the future, especially within the context of trade and regional co-operation with Uganda and the greater EAC.

Other people on Magufuli's team to

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Uganda are ministers, Dr. Harrison Mwakyembe (constitution and legal affairs), Charles Mwijage (industries and trade), Dr Augustine Mahiga (foreign affairs), Prof. Makame Mbarawa (works and transport) and Medard Kalemani (energy).

"President Magufuli's visit also creates several opportunities, especially cross-border trade among the citizens of the two countries," Kabonero said, revealing that bilateral talks on the optic fibre cable cutting through the two countries through River Kagera, increasing the flight travels between Entebbe, Dar-es-Salaam and Zanzibar and weeding out looming charges of telecommunication services among the two states are some of the key issues that will shape the talks.

Magufuli's first visit to Uganda as a head of state was in May 2016 when he attended Museveni's swearing-in ceremony at Kololo Independence Grounds.

During Museveni's visit to Tanzania in February, the two leaders met in Dar-es-Salaam and signed agreements relating

to the joint construction of the crude oil pipeline, and the August visit to Tanga, where Museveni laid a foundation stone, marking Uganda's endorsement of the joint pipeline construction co-operation.

Elected in 2015, President Magufuli, 58, formerly served as minister of works, a docket that gave him a front-bench examination of the regional infrastructural challenges. It is against this backdrop that many believe that joint infrastructural projects such as one-stop border post at Mutukula, crude oil pipeline, power and transport projects will get the desired implementation.

In Tanzania, Magufuli was nicknamed 'bulldozer' partly because of initiating a programme to build roads across the country during his tenure as minister. The road construction saw many bulldozers or excavators plying through unpaved roads – hence the nickname 'bulldozer'.

And when he was elected president, his bulldozer tag continued, but it took a different shape in fighting corruption and advocating a lean public administration.

A keen man on detail, and with a zeal to finish what he embarks on, Magufuli's first term in office has been graced by surprise spot checks on public servants, who in most cases have been caught offguard.

The man, who is also loved for his zero-tolerance to corruption, has geared most of his efforts towards ending power shortages in Tanzania. To shut power shortage blues in Tanzania, he has pledged to exploit natural resources such as gas.