



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**Greetings:**

As Governor of Texas, it is my pleasure to welcome all of those in attendance at the East Africa Chamber of Commerce's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Trade Conference in Irving.

With our business-friendly climate and spirit of innovation, Texas has continued to boast the strongest economy in the United States. For 15 years running we have been the nation's top exporter and continue to be a national leader in job creation. Events like this trade conference are excellent opportunities for our partners from around the globe to tap into the entrepreneurial nature of the Lone Star State. They also help forge stronger business relationships between the United States and Africa, which is a vital connection in our expanding global economy.

As you network, explore opportunities for new partnerships and share knowledge with your peers, I commend you on all you have achieved and wish you continued success.

I would also like to extend a special welcome to our international visitors here in Irving. The Dallas-Fort Worth area is renowned for its many attractions, from fine dining to historic buildings and an array of cultural attractions. This vibrant area has something for everyone. I encourage you all to explore and enjoy.

First Lady Cecilia Abbott joins me in wishing you a successful conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg Abbott  
Governor