



## KOMBO PRAISES CHUMBE ISLAND FOR WINNING AWARD IN BERLIN

Press Conference | Park Hyatt  
Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019



**ITB**  
BERLIN



**Best of Africa 2019**



CHUMBE ISLAND  
CORAL PARK  
*Zanzibar Tanzania*



ON 6<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH 2019, ITB BERLIN HOSTED THE AWARD CEREMONY FOR TOP 100 AWARDS, SELECTING THE FINEST TOP 100 DESTINATIONS IN THE WORLD, BASED ON THE JURY-REVIEWED SUSTAINABILITY SUCCESS STORIES. THESE AWARDS AIMED TO RECOGNIZE INNOVATION AND GOOD PRACTICES IN TOURISM MANAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION IN RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD. CHUMBE ISLAND CORAL PARK HAS WON THE "BEST OF AFRICA: SUSTAINABLE DESTINATION TOP 100 AWARDS" IN ITB BERLIN.





Hon. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo congratulated the management of Chumbe Island and their staff for raising the flag of Zanzibar in the Press Conference held in late March at Park Hyatt, Zanzibar. He pointed out that Chumbe victory was a true presentation of responsible and sustainable tourism business practices that the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar through his ministry has relentlessly urging tourism stakeholders across Zanzibar. He further told tourism stakeholders in Zanzibar to take the news as a challenge for them to commit and improve their businesses to the truest definition of responsible and sustainable tourism businesses, for the mutual benefit to their businesses and Zanzibar in general.

He also used that opportunity to welcome all tourism stakeholders to attend and support the Zanzibar Tourism Show second season, which will be held from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September

2019 at Hotel Verde, Zanzibar. Kombo further explained that Zanzibar Tourism Show embarks on the international arena becoming the preferred tourism business platform in East Africa that offers unique touristic linkages, first-hand expert knowledge and significant unpanelled networking opportunity to all participants.

In his final note, the Minister highlighted that on 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2019, they will host the Zanzibar Tourism Awards to recognize those stakeholders that champion on responsible and sustainable tourism practices.

Hon. Minister said "This time the categories are in sense of UTALII KWA WOTE tourism for all including various categories in the travel and tourism industry. I hope many will participate including journalists that promote tourism in their daily reports. There is a special category for that, kindly share the news with other media houses so they can participate too".





Chumbe Island Coral Park Ltd. (CHICOP) is an award-winning private nature reserve that was developed from 1991 for the conservation and sustainable management of uninhabited Chumbe Island off Zanzibar, one of the last pristine coral islands in the region.

The reserve includes a fully protected Coral Reef Sanctuary and Forest Reserve that harbour rare wildlife, a Visitor and Education centre, a small eco-lodge, nature walks and historical monuments. All buildings and operations are based on state-of-the-art eco-technology aiming at zero impact on the environment (rainwater catchment, photovoltaic energy and solar water heating, composting toilets, vegetative greywater filtration etc.).





The company objectives are non-commercial, while operations follow commercial principles. The overall aim of CHICOP is to create a model of financially and ecologically sustainable park management, where ecotourism supports conservation, research and comprehensive Environmental Education programs for local schools and other benefits for local people.

In 2011, Chumbe Island became the first Global Ecosphere Retreat (GER) certified Long Run Destination through the Jochen Zeitz Foundation which means that Chumbe strives for the highest standards in sustainability through the balance of conservation

and commerce, whilst fostering community development and cultural stewardship.

Chumbe's sustainable management and promotion of key ecosystem services for the region has since been recognized on many levels, including being mentioned in the UN Secretary General's report to the General Assembly on protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development, which states: "A noted example for PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services) within the context of coral reefs habitat is the private, non-profit Chumbe Island Coral Park Ltd (CHICOP) in Tanzania (2012).