

**UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA COUNTRY STATEMENT TO THE 60th
REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY 26nd TO 30th SEPTEMBER
2016 IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

**Mr. President,
Director General,
Excellences,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

On behalf of the United Republic of Tanzania and my delegation, let me join previous speakers in congratulating you on your election to the Presidency of the 60th Regular Session of the IAEA's General Conference. My delegation is confident that under your able leadership, the conference will accomplish all the tasks successfully. My delegation assures you all of its unwavering support and cooperation in ensuring that the conference concludes all the businesses before it successfully.

Mr. President,

The United Republic of Tanzania wishes to thank the Director General, Ambassador Yukiya Amano for the good work in implementing the mandates of the Agency. We would like to

appreciate his untiring efforts to support appropriate strategies and programmes for the advancement of peaceful applications of nuclear technologies and indeed the control of, if not the total ban of nuclear weapons proliferation

Mr. President,

I wish also to congratulate the Islamic Republic of Gambia, St Lucia and St Vincent and Grenadines for joining the IAEA family. Tanzania welcomes these new member states to the IAEA and wishes that this becomes the beginning of a rewarding strategic partnership between these new member states, the Agency and other member states.

Mr. President,

My delegation is pleased to note that this year's Scientific Forum theme highlights the goals related to health, hunger, energy and the environment, issues that are very pertinent to social economic development of our country as realized in our Country Programme Framework. We are also pleased to note that the scientific forum this year is focusing on how nuclear technology contributes to the SDGs, while showcasing achievements and how nuclear technology can further contribute to the well-being of people, help protect the planet and boost prosperity. The SDGs cover poverty, hunger,

human health, clean water, affordable and clean energy, Industrialization, innovation, and climate change, to name just a few. These are areas in which nuclear science and technology has much to offer. Our new Country Programme Framework on the developed programmes reflects and capitalizes on technology available through the Agency, which can make significant contributions to the overall development agenda.

Mr. President

The United Republic of Tanzania continues to express its concern regarding nature of recent nuclear programs in some countries. The programmes have increased international doubts on the purpose and assurance of exclusive peaceful applications of nuclear technologies. We urge that all countries to fully cooperate with Agency on international obligations including implementation and ratification of Additional Protocol and subsidiary arrangements to the Safeguard Agreement as well as exercise transparency measures. The ongoing developments remind the need for effective and efficient safeguard regime. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, together with international terrorism remain the pre-eminent threat to international peace and security. The international community must therefore boldly confront this challenge, and act decisively to tackle this threat. We call on all states not Party to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear

Weapons (NPT) and the related treaties and convention, to accede to them without delay. Any expansion of the peaceful use of nuclear energy must be carried forward in a manner consistent with nuclear non-proliferation commitments and standards.

Mr. President,

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania appreciates the work done by the IAEA international team of senior safety experts that conducted an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission last year (2015) that reviewed our country's radiation and nuclear safety regulatory framework and activities against the relevant IAEA safety standards on regulatory effectiveness and to exchange information. Like in the previous missions, the United Republic of Tanzania has gained a new experience that will enhance the national legal, governmental and regulatory framework for nuclear and radiation safety, and national arrangements for emergency preparedness and response. In this regard, Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC), in collaboration with other stakeholders internally, continues to carry out several programmes with IAEA assistance in order to ensure their very effective regulator infrastructure for safe use of nuclear technology. These include strengthening: the radioactive waste management; environmental radiation monitoring; radiological emergency

response preparedness, and compliance with international conventions on atomic energy matters.

Mr. President

Over the years, Tanzania has recorded increased in the number of new cancer cases and deaths due to inadequate facilities, capacity and funded national cancer control program. This has resulted in inequitable access to services. Cancer is now a major cause of morbidity and mortality in Tanzania, being the 5th cause of death among adult men and 2nd among female adults. At present about 350,000 people develop cancer each year. Recent forecasts suggest that by 2020 this number will increase by 50%. This will cause increasing strain on already stretched health systems and resources. The National Cancer Control Strategy (NCCS) was developed as a roadmap toward the development and implementation of a comprehensive and coordinated national response to cancer in Tanzania. The Government is looking at ways to help move the process forward, fast. These include training staff and establishing screening initiatives in regional hospitals, especially for breast, cervical and prostate cancers in line with the implementation of National Cancer Control Strategy (NCCS). My country has noted with great appreciation the growing attention being given to cancer therapy in developing countries particularly the assistance provided under the "Programme of Action for Cancer therapy

"PACT" which seeks to increase the IAEA's capacity to assist Member States in providing cancer treatment and care. To meet future needs, Tanzania will require more machines, more centres and a corresponding number of doctors, nurses and technicians to operate them. We are very delighted that our call for expanded access to cancer treatment in Tanzania has been heard. The IAEA and PACT project has gone a long way to helping save lives in Tanzania. But also, partner countries including Government of India has helped to provide therapy machine for the second cancer centre at the Bugando Medical Centre.

Mr. President

Livestock keeping is one among the major livelihood sources for the people of Zanzibar at the moment with almost 39,420 small scale holders engaged in livestock keeping and almost 155,624 heads of cattle for various purposes including commercial milk production. The Government of URT appreciates efforts made in the late 70s early 80s collaboratively with the IAEA to elimination of Tse tse flies in Zanzibar, which has brought us to this era of livestock proliferation in these Islands. In the fourth coming Country Program Framework the government is expecting to include a project on improving Indigenous Cattle Breeds through Enhanced Artificial Insemination Service and promotion of smallholder dairy producers in Tanga and

Zanzibar. This will improve the livelihood of small scale milk producers in Zanzibar which has already started attracting private investors that have created a sustainable milk market. We are looking at a multiplier effect in dairy industry in Zanzibar that will enhance youth employment, reduce poverty and improve nutrition to the society.

Mr. President,

I wish to conclude my statement by reaffirming my Government's commitment to meet its obligations and to support the Agency's efforts towards the realization of its mandated objectives. URT has complied with its obligations to the IAEA by timely contributing its share into the IAEA budget as required for each Member State. In this regard, I am happy to pledge the full share of the URT's Voluntary Contribution to the Technical Cooperation Fund of the IAEA.

Mr. President,

I thank you and distinguished delegates for your very kind attention.