

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



COUNTRY STATEMENT BY HEAD OF URT DELEGATION

PROF. CAROLYNE NOMBO

**PERMANENT SECRETARY FOR THE MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**DURING THE 67th REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL
CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY
AGENCY 25th – 29th SEPTEMBER 2023, VIENNA, AUSTRIA.**

Madam President,

Director General, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of United Republic of Tanzania and my delegation, I would like to congratulate you, Madam President on your election to the Presidency of the sixty seventh regular Sessions of the International Atomic Energy Agency's General Conference. I would also like to congratulate all other Members that have been elected to the bureau.

Madam President

The United Republic of Tanzania wishes to congratulate **Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi** having been re-appointed as Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). URT assures him the support and cooperation in implementing its mandates with vigor and energy.

Madam President

The United Republic of Tanzania acknowledges the work and support of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to member states in their efforts to implement the 17 Sustainable Develop-

ment Goals (SDGs) set out in the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda. Tanzania continues to embrace Nuclear Science and Technology as a vital tool in achieving the global development objectives in areas of human health, food production, water management, energy and environmental protection. We intend to strengthen our Technical Cooperation with the Agency through the newly signed Country Programme Framework (CPF) 2023 to 2027.

We hope that, the proposed resources allocation will facilitate achieving the developmental goals (SDGs) 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 12, 15, and 17 under the Technical Cooperation Programme between the United Republic of Tanzania and IAEA which will continue focusing on end-user-oriented activities with visible socio-economic impacts.

Madam President

Nuclear energy is key to achieving global net zero objectives. The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania believes it is important for all member states to work towards ensuring use of renewable energy sources and other low carbon options to reach this goal. This year's theme for the **Scientific Forum** namely ***“Nuclear Innovations for Net Zero”*** will reinvigorate and revive

techno-economic assessment of the potential roles and contribution of nuclear energy.

Madam President

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania recognizes and appreciates the importance of and need for partnership with International Atomic Energy Agency for Nuclear *Innovations for Net Zero* in ensuring strategic energy planning, which aims at contributing to the development of an updated national energy plan and future consideration for alternative energy sources.

Madam President

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania is considering various options for electricity generation including the Small Modular Reactors (SMRs). This consideration, which is at its infancy stage, aims at ensuring adequate electric energy availability and affordability. As such, the Government has continued to strengthen energy policies and strategies to promote the economic growth. Our country and others elsewhere, need reliable and cost-effective sources of energy where nuclear energy could be an attractive option in contributing to the already available sources of electricity in the country. For these reasons, Tanzania will continue to build capacity in these areas, and as

such strengthening partnership and collaborations to achieve this end.

Madam President

In the effort to combat hunger and malnutrition, the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania acknowledges Agency's work in cooperation with FAO for using nuclear technology in agriculture to develop plant varieties with superior characteristics, such as drought tolerance or increased yields. Nuclear technology in plant breeding has shown positive results in contributing to food security in the country. Tanzania, in cooperation with the Agency, developed improved crop varieties such as SUPA BC rice variety which produce more by 60% and is resistant to diseases and saline soil.

To continue with the fight against hunger and malnutrition as well as improving the economic well-being of our people, agriculture will remain one of the priorities for our Country. As such, in the new TC (Technical Cooperation) cycle 2024/2025, the United Republic of Tanzania will continue developing new crop varieties using Nuclear Technology in order to improve productivity and quality of crops such as cotton, beans and maize.

Madam President

The United Republic of Tanzania is supportive of the African Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training related to Nuclear Science and Technology Programme (AFRA). We believe that, through this programme, efforts to strengthen nuclear technology applications will be enhanced. Our country is grateful to member states that are providing extra-budgetary support to ensure successful implementation of the Agency's Peaceful Programmes and Initiatives, and we urge other international partners to join hands.

Madam President,

I wish to conclude my statement by reiterating my country's commitment to the Agency's activities, as we move hand in hand to achieve goals that are aimed at advancing nuclear science and technology for humanity's social well-being. Therefore, we support the plans and the budget that has been proposed.

I thank you Madam President, Excellencies and all Distinguished Delegates for your kind attention.