

# UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



## COUNTRY STATEMENT TO THE 63<sup>rd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

**Madam President,**

**Excellences,**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

On behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and my delegation, I would like to congratulate you on your election to the Presidency of the sixty third regular Sessions of the IAEA's General Conference. I would also like to congratulate all other Members elected to the bureau. The United Republic of Tanzania assures you all of its unwavering support and cooperation.

**Madam President,**

Before I proceed, please allow me to bring forth sincere condolences from the President of the United Republic of Tanzania Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli for the passing away of the former IAEA Director General, Mr. Yukiya Amano. We have lost a champion of peace who worked tirelessly to

ensure that atomic energy is used solely for the benefit of humankind. It is with a heavy heart that we bid farewell to Mr. Amano who was an outstanding diplomat. Mr. Amano confronted serious global challenges, including those related to the proliferation of nuclear weapons, with equanimity and determination. We will always have a memory of his wisdom, foresight and fruitful work from which he has rightfully earned recognition and respect throughout the world. Please accept our deepest condolences for this loss and we continue praying that his soul rests in eternal peace; Amen.

**Madam President;**

The United Republic of Tanzania wishes to congratulate **Mr. Cornel Feruta** for being appointed by the IAEA Board of Governors as the Acting Director General. Let me assure him that our country will continue to work in close cooperation with the Agency in implementing its mandates. The United Republic of Tanzania is confident that the Agency will continue with its effort to achieve its development objectives in the areas of health, food, energy and nuclear security, among others and support appropriate strategies and programmes for the advancement of peaceful applications of nuclear technology and its control.

**Madam President;**

The United Republic of Tanzania has always played an active role in the implementation of IAEA's mandate towards peaceful use of nuclear technology. With this commitment, our country was privileged to host the

African National Liaison Officers' (NLOs) meeting in Arusha in March, 2019. This strategic meeting was aimed at strengthening and enhancing the delivery of IAEA's Technical Cooperation Programme activities in Africa. Through this meeting NLOs were empowered to further improve the coordination of the Technical Cooperation Programme activities in their respective countries. As such, my country has been able to continue benefiting from the technical cooperation in various programmes by improving sectors such as agriculture, health, water, nuclear safety and security.

**Madam President,**

My delegation is pleased to note this year's Scientific Forum under the theme "*A Decade of Action on Cancer Control and the Way Forward*". The United Republic of Tanzania recognizes and appreciates the importance of and the need for partnership with IAEA to fight cancer so as to ensure that we achieve the strategic goals of our National Cancer Control Strategy. As such, the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania is highly pleased with the technical cooperation with the Agency on Cancer Control Programme. The technical cooperation in Nuclear Medicine, Radiotherapy and Human Resource Development with the Agency has brought tremendous results in provision of health services to our people. We look forward to even more cooperation and support in this area.

**Madam President;**

Cancer is a major cause of mortality in Tanzania; it ranks 5th and the number of cancer cases is increasing annually. In this regard, the Government is committed to strengthen its infrastructures to meet the needs and control of the cancer disease. In light of the above, in July 2019, His Excellency, Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, President of the United Republic of Tanzania inaugurated a Cancer Treatment Services Centre at Bugando Medical Centre (BMC) in Mwanza Tanzania. This is the second radiotherapy centre, supplementing the long existing one at Ocean Road Cancer Institute in Dar es Salaam. During his remarks, H. E. President Magufuli commended the technical cooperation and support provided by the Agency to Bugando Medical Centre. In view of that, I would like to bring forth our President's sincere gratitude for the continuous support that we have been receiving from the Agency

**Madam President;**

With increased nuclear power prospects and the significant rise of atomic energy applications in the country, my delegation would like to reaffirm its commitment towards strengthening our national infrastructure for nuclear safety, security and safeguard.

**Madam President;**

Finally, I also wish to thank the IAEA officials who tirelessly participated in offering technical support to my country. These efforts have

strengthened even more the partnership and cooperation between my country and the Agency.

**Madam President;**

I wish to conclude my statement by reaffirming our Government's commitment in meeting its obligations and maximizing its support to the Agency in order to achieve its mandated objectives.

**Madam President,** I thank you for your very kind attention.