

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

**STATEMENT AT THE 61th REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF IAEA**

18 - 22 SEPTEMBER 2017, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Madam President,

Director General, IAEA

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

- 1 I would like to start my statement by congratulating you **Mdm President**, for your election as President of the 61st Session of the **General Conference** of the IAEA. We also congratulate all the elected members of the bureau.
- 2 **Mdm President**, Tanzania would also like to congratulate Mr Yukiya Amano for his appointment as **DG of IAEA** for four more years, starting this December. My Government pledges close cooperation with the Agency in implementing its mandates.
- 3 We are pleased to welcome **Granada** as a new member to the IAEA.
- 4 **Mdm President**, my delegation welcomes, with appreciation, the statement of the UN Secretary General, Mr. António Manuel de Oliveira Guterres. We are pleased to note that Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) has continued to play a vital role in helping countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Notable also is that, this year's scientific forum theme will highlight the goals related to health, and will focus on how to employ *Nuclear Techniques in Human Health: Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment*.
- 5 **Mdm President**, Tanzania continues to call for peaceful applications of nuclear programs, and urge for cooperation with IAEA on international obligations. The proliferation of weapons of

massive destruction and their means of delivery, together with international terrorism, remain as a pre-eminent threat to international peace and security. The international community must therefore boldly confront this challenge, and *act decisively*. 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 the soonest.

- 6 **Mdm President**, In 2015 Tanzania requested for an international team of senior safety experts to conduct an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission in Tanzania. The results of the mission enabled enhancement of the national legal and regulatory frameworks for nuclear radiation safety, and improved the national arrangements for emergency preparedness & response. The Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC), in collaboration with IAEA and other stakeholders, has continued to implement programmes that seek to see that sound infrastructure is put in place for a more effective **regulatory body** in the country.
- 7 **Mdm President**, Tanzania is grateful to the IAEA for the assistance in Development of Human Resources in the fields of Nuclear Medicine, Radiotherapy, and Cancer Control & treatment. Currently, through Technical Cooperation, a procurement process for a **brachytherapy machine** is ongoing. The arrival of this machine will enable the country to have the Bugando Medical Centre (BMC) as its second Cancer Centre. On the whole, Tanzania is very appreciative of the assistance towards her quest to expand access to cancer-treatment within the country.
- 8 **Mdm President**, we value the long-standing commitment of the IAEA in assisting us to deliver nuclear technology for development, especially in the fields of agriculture, livestock-development, mining, water-resources management, Industries and Energy. The strategy for us, in this, is to build the appropriate infrastructure and human-resource capacity for the use of nuclear technology.

Thus, Tanzania highly lauds the Agency for accepting a new project in human resource capacity-building, which will strengthen our engineering and scientific bases in modern applications of Nuclear Science and Technology.

9 **Mdm President**, 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, the efforts to strengthen nuclear technology applications will be enhanced. Tanzania is grateful to member states that are providing extra-budgetary funding to ensure the success of programmes under the IAEA's Peaceful Uses Initiative, and urge other international partners to join this initiative.

10 **Mdm President**, I wish to conclude my statement by reaffirming the Government of United Republic of Tanzania's commitment in meeting its obligations and support, to enable the Agency achieve its mandated objectives.

I thank you Mdm President and all Distinguished Delegates for your kind attention.