

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



COUNTRY STATEMENT BY HEAD OF THE DELEGATION

PROF. CAROLYNE I. NOMBO

**PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY DURING THE IAEA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
ON NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND APPLICATION
26th – 28th NOVEMBER 2024.**

**Co-Chairs
Ministers and Heads of Delegations,
Director General,
Distinguished Delegates,**

- 1.** On behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, I would like to congratulate Finland and Ghana, the Co-chairs, for their outstanding efforts in coordinating discussions that facilitated the programme and outcome document, the Ministerial Declaration. Please be assured of Tanzania's support for the success of the Conference.
- 2.** In the same vein, Tanzania commends the Director General, Mr. Rafael Grossi for his leadership and the Secretariat for providing the vital support necessary for holding of this Conference.
- 3. Co-chairs,** the convening of this Ministerial Conference provides Member States a platform to deliberate on the various peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology and to address other critical issues which hinder the effective use of nuclear science and technology. In this regard, my delegation wishes to express Tanzania's appreciation to the IAEA for the continued support and contributions received particularly in areas of cancer management and control, food and agriculture, animal production, water resource management, acquisition of the state-of-the-art laboratory equipment, technical expertise and capacity building.

4. **Co-Chairs,** Tanzania is currently participating in several Technical Cooperation projects at both national and regional levels. The current Country Programme Framework (CPF) for 2023-2027 identifies eight priority areas namely; Nuclear Legal Framework; Nuclear and radiation safety and nuclear security; Food and Agriculture; Human health; Water resource management; Energy planning; Industry and Nuclear knowledge and Management. These are indeed aligned to our national development priorities and attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. Through the Rays of Hope Initiative, Tanzania is developing and expanding its cancer treatment facilities to include six government hospitals. This expansion will increase our capacity to manage cancer cases from 3000 per year to 10,200 over the next 10 years and hence reducing premature and avoidable death from cancer by 50%. Pursuant to this expansion, additional medical physicists and oncology specialists are in need. In order to address this, Tanzania established a Master's Degree in Health Physics and Radiation Protection at Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology in 2023. The Institute is starting a Master's program in Nuclear Science and Technology with specialization in Agriculture and Industrial Application starting in 2025. The goal is establishing the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology as a designated Regional Centre of Excellence in Nuclear Science and Technology.

6. Furthermore, Tanzania has introduced a prestigious scholarship program named in the honor of Her Excellency **Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan**, President of the United Republic of Tanzania to support postgraduate studies in the field of Nuclear Science and Technology.
7. Through the Technical Cooperation Programme, Tanzania is currently implementing two projects in the food and agricultural sector: one is in Mutation Breeding for Improved Productivity, Nutritional Quality, and Pest and Disease Resistance in Cotton and Beans and the other one is on Developing Food Safety Laboratory Capabilities in Zanzibar. We commend the IAEA's efforts in promoting sustainable agriculture under the Atoms4Food Initiative and looks forward for continued cooperation with the Agency.
8. Tanzania has also received valuable support in capacity building to assess and monitor water resources using isotope hydrology techniques to enhance water sustainability. Through this project Tanzania has increased assurance of sustainable water sources availability at several parts of the Country. We look forward to continued cooperation with the Agency in similar projects in the near future. Furthermore, Tanzania is in the process of installing the first irradiation facility under: The Enhancing Industrialization through the Establishment of a Multipurpose Irradiator Facility Project. Among other uses, this facility will be used to combat plastic pollution in the ocean as part of the NUTEC Plastics program.

- 9. Co-chairs,** in order to realize universal access to affordable electricity, my country is exploring all available options for electricity generation such as hydropower, wind, solar, geothermal and nuclear energy. To this end, we look forward to effective and continued technical cooperation with the Agency in this area.
- 10.** In conclusion, Tanzania appreciates the partnership and support from the Agency towards the effective use of nuclear science, technology and techniques. We thank Member States and development partners for their invaluable contribution towards expanding and promoting nuclear science and technology for development. We urge other partners to join hands in ensuring adequate, sustainable and predictable resources for the Technical Cooperation Programme.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION