



Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

STATEMENT BY

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REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF  
THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

AT THE

**SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF THE 2017  
UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT COMMISSION (UNDC)**

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**Madam Chairperson,**

At the outset allow me to express my deepest condolences to the Government of Russia and relatives of those who died yesterday due to the terrorists attack at St. Petersburg subway.

My delegation wishes to congratulate you and the Bureau for your well deserved election. You have our confidence and assurance of cooperation and support.

United Republic of Tanzania aligns itself with the statements delivered by Indonesia and Cameroon on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement and African Group respectively. I will make the following remarks in my national capacity:

**First,** Tanzania recognizes United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC), as a sole specialized and deliberative body within the UN multilateral disarmament machinery. We note with concern that the Commission has not submitted any substantive recommendations to the General Assembly in the course of the previous years. Hence we wish to underscore the need for the Commission to achieve concrete results in this third year of its three year circle.

**Second,** my delegation wishes to underscore the importance of achieving total, irreversible and verifiable disarmament of nuclear weapons and all Weapons of Mass Destruction. As a State Party to NPT, Tanzania is concerned with the 2015 Review Conference which failed to come out with the final document due to lack of political will among Member States.

In this regard it believes that the United Nations Conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading toward total elimination that was convened from 27 to 31 March 2017 is a right approach to achieve that goal.

Tanzania also looks forward for successful Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the NPT that will be convened from 2 to 12 May 2017 in Vienna.

**Third,** my delegation underscores the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) which continues to work with Member States to promote the peaceful use of Nuclear Technology and nuclear energy in the world. Through its programme it encourages nuclear safety and security standards. In that regard, the United Republic of Tanzania commends and supports its important role in promoting the safe and secure use of Nuclear Technology.

**Fourth,** The United Republic of Tanzania has long been cognizant of the presence of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and of the grave threat that the presence of weapons of this nature poses to the peace and security of our nation, our continent and our world especially if fall in the hands of non state actors. Hence Tanzania calls Member States to take appropriate steps to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of any kind in their respective countries.

**Fifth,** the United Republic of Tanzania believes in the importance of the use of Outer Space for peaceful purposes and is deeply concerned about the implications of the arms race such as deployment of ballistic missiles system in space. My delegation therefore calls upon the international community to underline the importance of strict compliance with the relevant disarmament Agreements and the existing legal regime concerning Outer Space use.

**Sixth,** My delegation is acutely aware of the grave threat that the trafficking of the conventional arms poses to the peace and security of the world and specifically to the African continent. The regulation of conventional arms is of the utmost importance to prevent the exacerbation of violence, displacement of people and poverty eradication. In this regard Tanzania signed Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) on 3 June 2013 and strongly supports the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (PoA).

**Madam Chairperson,**

To conclude, my delegation wishes this Substantive session to come up with recommendations in its two agenda items:

- Objectives of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.
- Practical confidence building measures in the field of conventional weapons.

**I thank you.**