



Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania

STATEMENT BY

**H.E. MR. MODEST J. MERO,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
AT THE FIRST RESUMED PART OF THE
72nd SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY FIFTH COMMITTEE**

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Mr. Chairman,

I wish to take this opportunity to express my delegation's appreciation for your able leadership and the dedication of members of the bureau. Further, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Bureau on the successful completion of its work during the main part of the 72nd Session, despite its heavy agenda. We are confident that under your leadership, the committee will reach a successful and timely conclusion of its work in this session.

In this first resumed session, we have before us many important issues, we hope that delegations will build on the positive momentum created during the main session for a successful conclusion of our work within the timeframe of the programme of work.

Mr. Chairman,

In the seventh progress report on the construction of the new facility for the IRM in Arusha, the Secretary General indicates that a substantial completion of the project was achieved on 1 December 2016, marking the conclusion of the construction phase. Offices are now occupied and the court room building is also fully functional and ready to host trial activities.

On the other hand, the completion of this phase marks the beginning of the post occupancy/defect and liability phase, during which the contractor is required to complete any minor outstanding works or remedy any defective works. My delegation would like to underline the importance of ensuring that necessary funding is provided for the IRM to complete items indicated in the punch list of outstanding works that was generated as part of the substantial inspection.

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania recalls that at the main part of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, the GA approved the commitment

authority in the amount of USD 87.8 Million for the maintenance of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals pending a re-submission of the revised budget proposal for the biennium 2018 - 2019.

My delegation notes that, the revised budget proposal of the Mechanism is not included as part of the items for consideration during this first resumed session of the Committee. We are concerned that the continued delay in the budget approval continue to bring negative impact on the mandate of the Mechanism due to uncertainty on the financing of the core functions of the Mechanism as per our observation on the ground. We further note that the delay could potentially lead to a complete halt of operations at the Mechanism, a situation which should be avoided at all costs.

It is our strong expectation that, the Secretary-General will as a matter of priority, submit a revised budget proposal for the Mechanism at the second resumed session scheduled to be held in May this year. Further delay beyond May is not an option for my delegation.

We appeal through you, Chair, to facilitate the Bureau in consideration of this matter. Despite the heavy agenda, we are prepared to work with other delegations including by applying innovative ideas to ensure that time is spent wisely and all the items on the table are addressed properly and as a matter of priority.

I thank you Mr. Chairman