



**Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania
to the United Nations**

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STATEMENT BY

**HON. PROFESSOR JUMA KAPUYA,
MINISTER FOR LABOUR,
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND SPORTS
OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

AT THE

**43RD SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

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FEBRUARY 11TH, 2005.**

Mr. Chairman,

Let me at the onset congratulate you and the members of the bureau in your elections. My delegation has confidence that you would steer this meeting to a successful conclusion and would like to assure you of our full support.

My delegation would like to associate itself with the statements made by Jamaica on behalf of the group of 77 and of Mauritius on behalf by SADC.

Mr. Chairman,

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania attaches great significance to this review of the commitments we made in Copenhagen, and especially to the three core issues of poverty, promotion of employment, and social integration as these issues touch on the foundation of our society. The Government recognizes the central role of social sectors in achieving the overall development goal of improving quality of life and social well being of Tanzanians. Efforts have been made to increase pro-poor social sector

expenditure, but the intended levels of resources have not been fully realized. Due to resource constraints the government puts emphasis on priority outcomes that can effectively reduce poverty. Greater attention is being paid to equity and equality issues in the delivery of social services so as to minimise social disparities in society and between urban and rural citizens in access and use of social services.

Mr Chairman,

Since Copenhagen the government of the United republic of Tanzania has developed a number of policies in the areas of employment social development and poverty reduction. We developed its Vision 2025 that is aimed at seeing a poverty free Tanzania. The Tanzania Assistance Strategy (TAS) has also been developed as a framework for partnership in development, aimed at harmonising development assistance to Tanzania. The emphasis is on national ownership of the development agenda as well as promoting partnership with our development partners in the design and implementation of development programmes.

In the area of poverty reduction, Tanzania developed the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) in the year 2000; under enhanced High Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative. The PRSP focused on the priority sectors of education, health, water, agriculture and rural roads, the judiciary and HIV/AIDS. Successes have been recorded in,

among others, the areas of education and infrastructure development, especially roads. Challenges remain in ensuring the benefits reach a wider population, expanding employment opportunities, attaining higher growth rates, and in effectively integrating the MDGs.

A successor strategy has thus been developed through a broad-based consultation process, and is known as the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP). This is a second generation PRSP, is MDG-led and builds on the PRSP. It however focuses on priority outcomes and focuses on three main clusters, namely: growth and reduction of income poverty, improved quality of life and social well-being, and good governance and accountability. The NSGRP emphasises inter-sectoral collaboration in the achievements of results and provides space for the participation of all stakeholders, private sector and civil society organisations, in the achievement of the intended results. The strategy is to be implemented for five years, 2005/06-2009/10.

Mr Chairman,

We welcome the report of the Secretary General on the review of the further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the Outcome of the Twenty-fourth Special Session of the General

Assembly contained in document E/CN.5.2005/6. The report has provided useful analysis and the way forward.

As we review the Copenhagen Plan of Action, Tanzania has had mixed results. We have recorded gains in some areas, in particular education, health, roads, and water. Substantial achievement has been registered in primary school enrolment, which with the abolition of fees has now reached almost 100%. The transition level to secondary school has also increased and the government has now embarked on a programme to improve secondary education, through a Secondary Education Development Programme (SEDP), as well as increasing the enrolment in tertiary education.

The government of Tanzania believes that while primary education is desirable, it is not adequate in this century of science and technology. In health while there has been no significant change in reduction of infant mortality rate and improvement of the nutrition status, continuous improvement has been registered in immunisation coverage rates, which have reached over 90%. We have also registered good progress in democratisation process as well as in inclusion of the vulnerable groups in the policy making. Currently we have a policies on the elderly, women, youth, and the disabled.

Mr Chairman

An area of policy concern to the government is that of rising unemployment. Unemployment is worse among the youth including the educated youth. However, the measurement of unemployment in Tanzania is not a simple one. There are limited economic opportunities in rural areas. This is reflected rather as underemployment than unemployment.

Globalisation is also posing another challenge. The Report of the Commission on globalization, argues for a new approach to global governance and development—an approach that seeks to integrate people and countries into a collectively beneficial and growing global economy. The Report is clear globalization begins at home. It puts emphasis on decent employment as a Strategy for poverty reduction in urban and rural areas. In Tanzania we are now developing action plan for the implementation of the recommendation by respective stakeholders. A fair globalization that creates opportunities for all can only be built on the foundation of solidarity and international cooperation. The report has inspired initiatives in Tanzania a for formalizing the informal sector especially in urban areas to expand and regularize employment opportunities and entrepreneurial initiatives.

The prospects for the future of many developing countries are threatened by the inadequacies that pervade our human resources needs, which in other countries are made worse due to the HIV/AIDS pandemic that is destroying the workforce, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. It is in such areas as these that many of our people and countries will require significant assistance.

Mr. Chairman,

The United Republic of Tanzania reaffirms its commitments to the Copenhagen Plan for Action and the outcome of the twenty fourth special session of the General Assembly. We also believe that people have to be at the center of all development policies and programmes as we move forward with the social development agenda.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.