



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

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**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR MODEST MERO,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC
OF TANZANIA TO THE FIFTH COMMITTEE ON
AGENDA ITEM 148: CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FACILITY FOR
THE IRM, ARUSHA BRANCH, AT THE FIRST RESUMED PART
OF THE 73RD SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

New York, 12 March 2019

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(New York, 12 March 2019)

Madam Chair,

I would like to start by joining other delegations in conveying my delegation's heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of all the victims of the Sunday morning aircraft accident in Ethiopia.

Madam Chair,

My statement aligns itself with statements made by the representative of Uganda and the State of Palestine on behalf of the African Group and the Group of 77 respectively.

My delegation welcomes the Secretary-General eighth progress report on the construction of a new facility for the IRM Arusha branch, as presented by Mr. Olufemi Elias, the Registrar of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals. We also thank the Chair of the Advisory Committee for introducing the Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that has considered the report of the Secretary-General.

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania have been working hand in hand with the United Nations since the project pre-construction phase up to now, when substantial completion has been achieved and the project is now entering its final stage. Tanzania reiterates its appreciation to the United Nations for the existing cooperation between the Mechanism and the Government of Tanzania which continued to be excellent throughout the project implementation period.

Madam Chair,

We note with a concern that the Secretary General was unable to submit the final progress report as expected, due to among others, uncertainties especially those resulting from the rectification of the HVAC system as a result of error in design by the architectural firm. My delegation calls for joint efforts of all players to ensure the project work gets completed and the project closeout takes place without further delays.

Madam Chair,

My delegation would like to emphasize the need for the establishment of the facility management arrangement to oversee the new facility beyond the project completion as has been highlighted by G77.

I thank you.