STATEMENT BY MR. SONGELAEL WILSON SHILLA, MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY AT THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEMS 147: ON THE SECOND PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 2018-2019 AND THE BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2020 FOR THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDUAL MECHANISM FOR CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS AT THE MAIN PART OF THE 74TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY-FIFTH COMMITTEE

(New York, 18 December 2019)

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset the delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania would like to thank Mr. Chandramouli Ramanathan, Assistant Secretary-General and the Controller for presenting the Secretary-General's Second Performance Report for 2018-2019 and the proposed budget for the year 2020 for the International Residual Mechanism. My delegation would also like to extend our appreciation to Mr. Cihan Terzi, Chair of the ACABQ for presenting the related report.

Allow me also to acknowledge the presence of Mr. Olufemi Elias, Assistant Secretary General and the Registrar and we look forward to interact with him during our informal consultations.

Tanzania aligns itself with the remarks by the distinguished representatives of the States of Palestine and Republic of Botswana on behalf of the Group of 77 plus China and the African Group respectively. We have few additional comments to make on our national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

The United Republic of Tanzania would like to reaffirm our unconditional support to the work of the International Residual Mechanism as part of our support to the work of the United Nations and multilateralism at large. In this regard, consideration of the proposed budget and allocation of the adequate resources for the IRM is one of our priorities in this session.

My delegation takes note of the proposed budget for the Mechanism amounting to US\$ 103 million before recosting, which are presented for first time in an annual experimental approach. My delegation has also taken a number of assumptions deriving the budget proposal before us which includes requirements for the two branches, Arusha and The Hague, as well as oversight and backstopping support at the headquarters. We share the ACABQ concern on the continued paradox on the allocation of resource levels in comparison to workloads between the two branches.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation recalls that, last year we expressed concern on the need to strengthen administration, finance and procurement capacities in Arusha. As a first step to address the gaps, a temporary D1 post was established in Arusha. In the same understanding we expected that additional requirements will be proposed by the secretary general for 2020 and it was not.

It is unfortunate that the current proposal lacks a number of key issues of our expectation. My delegation will once again do our part by contributing to specific proposal to strengthen capacities in Arusha in the areas of administration, budget and finance, procurement, human resources and information technology with a view to increase efficiencies and effectiveness in mandate delivery.

My delegation has taken note that among the issues raised in the biennium 2018-2019, have been acted upon. The Mechanism placed a lot of effort to increase security capacity in Arusha in order to comply with established procedures and standards. We encourage the continued efforts in this regards and that Tanzania authorities stands ready to provide support whenever need arises.

Mr. Chairman,

Turning to the comments and observations of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee, my delegation continues to appreciate useful and constructive comments and suggestion presented. My delegation supports a number of recommendations of the Advisory Committee; however, we have some reservations on the reduction of resources as outlined by the Group of 77 plus China and the Africa Group in particularly the Arusha Branch.

In conclusion, allow me to assure you of my delegation readiness to engage constructively in the deliberations of this important item with a view to arriving positive outcome in a timely manner.

I thank you