

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



STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR DR. SULEIMAN HAJI SULEIMAN, DEPUTY
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AT THE 77TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ON AGENDA ITEM 84

“THE RULE OF LAW AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS”

STRENGTHENING AND COORDINATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS RULE OF
LAW ACTIVITIES

07 OCTOBER 2022

Mr. Chairperson

At the outset, as it is my first time to take the floor since our deliberation on this item, I would like to join other delegations in commending you and the bureau on your deserved election. I can assure you of my delegation's support throughout the session.

My delegation wishes to extend gratitude to the Secretary General of the United Nations and the secretariat for presenting a well-detailed report contained in document A/77/213 for which my delegation has taken a note of it.

Mr. Chairperson

My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by Morocco on behalf of the African Group and the statement delivered by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairperson

Tanzania reaffirms its commitment to the rule of law at both the national and international levels. It is our firm belief that rule of law is the foundation of a fair and just society, a guarantee of responsible Government and independent, accessible justice, and a core component of peace, security and sustainable development.

At the national level, Tanzania continues taking several measures to uphold the rule of law through its constitutional commitments by making all organs responsible for dispensing justice easily accessible to all people regardless of their social, political or economic strata.

Other measures include administrative, policy and legal measures. Administratively, the Government of Tanzania has embarked on building the Integrated Justice Center (IJC), in which the High Court Registries, Resident Magistrates Court and Primary Court are housed together, aiming to reduce the movement of its citizen walking from one area to another for the sake of judicial and court-related services.

Mr. Chairperson

In addressing children's rights when in conflict with the law, Tanzania is implementing the second "Child Justice: Five Year Strategy for Progressive Reform 2020/21 – 2024/25". The activities

under this Strategy are anchored in a value-based framework and bear the mark of the best international standards, principles and practices.

My delegation is grateful to the United Nations for its support on the designing of a “Bench Book” to build capacity regarding gender decision-making in Tanzania. The Bench Book is an ideal guiding tool for decision makers presiding over matters involving the rights, justice and security of women, girls and children.

Mr. Chairperson

Tanzania is a true believer in the promotion and protection of human rights. This is a core priority of H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1977 as amended states, "*All persons are equal before the law and are entitled, without discrimination, to protection and equality before the law.*" The Constitution also prohibits any authority within Tanzania from enacting any discriminatory provision in itself or its effect.

It is against this Constitutional position and the willingness to fulfil its obligations as provided for in various international human rights treaties; Tanzania presented its third country report on November 5, 2021, to the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1.

Tanzania has agreed and accepted to implement and work on the total number of hundred Sixty Seven (167) recommendations of the Working Group which are in compliance with the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Constitution of Zanzibar.

These recommendations also aligned with Tanzania's policies, laws and programs, which call for promoting and protecting civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, emerging human rights issues, anti-corruption efforts, environmental conservation and our development priorities

Mr. Chairperson

I wish to turn to the codification and development of international instruments, norms, standards and rules as part of the sub-items in promoting the rule of law at the international level. During

the reporting period, Tanzania ratified the Kigali Amendment on Phasing down Hydro-fluorocarbons (HFCs) to the Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depleting Substance.

Mr. Chairperson

In support of the initiative of the United Nations on capacity-building activities in support of the implementation and further development of international legal and institutional frameworks for oceans, as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related instruments; Tanzania hosted for the second time, the United Nations workshop on *Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects* from 19 - 27 July 2022, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Mr. Chairperson

Last but not least, I thank the Secretary-General for suggesting the sub-topic for consideration, as requested in the General Assembly resolution 76/117, *using technology to advance access to justice for all*. Indeed, this is another crucial sub-topic of our time, which calls for international concerns taking into account the challenges associated with access to justice in most developing countries.

On this sub-topic, Tanzania has been harnessing technology to enhance access to justice by establishing video conferencing facilities in all District and Resident Magistrates Courts, all High Court Registries, and all regional Prisons.

In a bid to continue ensuring speedy disposal of cases, harnessing the use of technology and making justice more accessible and efficient through the use of digital technology, the Chief Justice of Tanzania has issued the Judicature and Application of Laws (Remote Proceedings and Electronic Recording) Rules, 2021 (the Rules). The Rules came into force on August 27 2021. The Rules empower the Court, on its own motion or at the request of either party, to direct the proceedings to be conducted remotely.

Mr. Chairperson

I thank you for your kind attention.