

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



STATEMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AT THE 30TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE VIENNA, AUSTRIA 17-21 MAY, 2021

Chairperson

Fellow delegates

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am honoured to address this 30th Regular Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on behalf of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Allow me to start by congratulating you and your bureau on your election. Let me also commend Japan for successfully hosting the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in March this year (2021). We are particularly appreciative of the adoption of the Kyoto Political Declaration on advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Tanzania looks forward to concrete actions arising out of the

Declaration which contains commitments in addressing critical aspects of crime prevention, criminal justice and promotion of the rule of law and international cooperation.

In this regard, Tanzania undertakes to discharge its international obligations through Mutual Legal Assistance by assisting investigative, prosecuting and judicial authorities worldwide in combating crime and disrupting illicit financial flows. To this end, Tanzania has recently widened its scope of assistance rendered to incorporate: preserving and obtaining all forms of computer and telecommunication data; interception of postal items; interception of communications data; covert electronic surveillance; and facilitating the taking of evidence by video conference. Tanzania has also done away with the requirement of transmission of requests via diplomatic channels to allow for expeditious and execution of requests.

In curbing illicit financial flows, Tanzania has lowered the threshold of legal requirements for registration of foreign restraining, forfeiture and pecuniary penalty orders. Furthermore, in line with relevant international instruments, including the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crimes, 2000 and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, 2003, we have also re-enforced legal and institutional frameworks on asset recovery. These efforts extend to gathering, analysing, and disseminating financial intelligence reports both within and outside the country in collaboration with national, regional, and international agencies. Further, Tanzania continues to play a pivotal role in combating money laundering and financing of terrorism and its proliferation through the Eastern & Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) based in Dar es Salaam,

Tanzania.

In line with Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda, Tanzania has established National Counter-Terrorism Center (NCTC) in response to the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 of 2001. Further, in adherence to the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2341 on protecting critical infrastructures, Tanzania has put in place both hard and soft target preventive measures against terrorist attacks.

On protection of victims, witnesses and reporting persons, Tanzania has introduced concrete measures to conceal the identities and whereabouts of witnesses during criminal proceedings. These measures are in line with the country's commitments enshrined in various United Nations Conventions and Protocols.

With respect to corruption, Tanzania maintains its firm resolve and has taken appropriate measures to ensure zero tolerance to corruption. These measures are taken alongside the country's commitment to the principles of freedom, equality and justice for all. This includes a guarantee that every person has a right to ownership and protection of property acquired by lawful means. We have recently designated corruption offences as economic offences vide amendments in the Economic and Organised Crime Control Act. The amendments have also incorporated stiffer measures against grand corruption. Tanzania has also established the Corruption and Economic Crime Division in the highest court in the country.

The scourge of Illicit Wildlife Trafficking (IWT) still remains. Indeed, wildlife and forest crimes are among the largest international criminal activities, highly organised and lucrative, alongside trafficking in drugs, arms and human beings. Between 2009 and 2014, Tanzania lost about 60.3% of the elephant population due to Illicit Wildlife Trafficking. The rampancy of wildlife and forestry crimes compelled the country to devise new methods in combating these crimes, including amending and standardising investigative and prosecutorial measures. Today, we can report that, thanks to these measures coupled with regional and international cooperation, Tanzania has witnessed a dramatic decline in poaching incidents and a steep rise in the wildlife population.

Chairperson,

In conclusion, I wish to reaffirm the commitment of the United Republic of Tanzania to discharging its obligations under the United Nations Conventions and their respective protocols in advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law. We further express our assurance towards regional and international cooperation through mutual legal assistance and other frameworks with a view to combating organised crimes in all their facets.

Thank you for your kind attention