TANZANIA STATEMENT TO THE 62 CND MEETING

Chair Person,
Distinguished Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tanzania joins the comity of nations gathered here to participate in the stock taking of how we fared in the implementation of the directives given at Political Declaration and Plan of Action 2009 as well as the UNGASS Outcome Document of 2016.

From the onset let me say the following:

1. The World Drug Problem after 10 years of Implementation of Political Declaration and Plan of Action continues to pose a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity in particular to our young men and women who are our most precious asset.
2. Drug Trafficking and Abuse has posed a major threat to the health, dignity and hopes of millions of people and their families and has led to the loss of human lives.
3. The drug problem has undermined and is continuing to undermine Sustainable Development, Political Stability and Democratic Institutions including efforts to eradicate poverty and threatens National Security and the rule of law.
4. The Drug Trade has corrupted People, Governments together with business and finance.

This realization of the dire consequences of the drug trade is for us a part of the solution. It is important to note that knowing your problem is part of the solution. Political Declaration and Plan of Action as well as the UNGASS Outcome Document 2016 have played a significant role in structuring down the Drug Problem for all of us to understand the gravity and magnitude of the Drug Problem. CND together with INCB and WHO, and with the support of UNODC and UNAIDS have teamed up with nations represented here today to scale up different programs around the world to address and counter the World Drug Problem.

These bodies of the UN have played a significant role in increasing our awareness that drug dependence is an illness and needs medical intervention. We should place this problem on our development agenda and refer people with drug use disorders to the hands of the doctors rather than in the hands of the Law Enforcement.