

**STATEMENT BY THE NATIONAL PROSECUTIONS SERVICE OF
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA IN THE 14th MEETING SESSION OF
THE WORKING GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 27 OF THE UNITED
NATIONS CONVENTIONS AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED
CRIMES (LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION)”**

Honorable Chair,

I am honored to address this congregation on this **14th MEETING SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOCUSING ON “IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 27 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTIONS AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIMES (LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION)”**

As a member state to the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC), the United Republic of Tanzania (URT) remains committed in ensuring unwavering implementation of the provisions of the UNTOC and its Protocols at domestic level. Such commitment is manifested not only through the signing of the UNTOC in 2000 and its subsequent ratification 2006 but also through the enactment of various legislations geared at giving effect to the provisions of the UNTOC at National level.

In so far as article 27 of UNTOC is concerned; URT has ensured its implementation by designating a mechanism allowing usage of channels of communication with other member states administratively through

IINTERPOL¹ and AFRIPOL² for purposes of intelligence and exchange and sharing of information on TOC. These mechanisms have allowed a timely exchange of information relating to Transnational Organized Crime and thus allow a swift joint intervention. This form of cooperation has proved to be very useful in curbing some of the most serious TOC such as terrorism and Trafficking in Persons especially in border areas.

Hon. Chairperson,

In order to further give effect to Article 27, the URT has updated its legislations on International judicial cooperation notably; the Mutua Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Act (MACMA) and the Extradition Act. Some of the notable amendments to the MACMA includes a provision that allows direct communication between Central Authorities without recourse to diplomatic Channels all aiming at enabling swift exchange of information on TOC with other LEAs across the world. Moreover, in order to ensure effective compliance, URT has developed guidelines on MLA for guidance to Foreign Authorities making request to URT guiding foreign Central Authorities on key points to consider while making their inbound requests to URT.

In such underrating, information sharing has been extended to sharing of location of suspects, modus of operandi, conducting joint operations among member states. This Cooperation between LEAs has worked very well between Tanzania, Kenya and Mozambique especially in the fight against terrorist elements in bordering Regions. This has facilitated identification of offences covered by UNTOC and collection of evidence or exchange of

¹ The International Criminal Police Organization

² African Union Mechanism for Police Cooperation

criminals through Mutual Legal Assistance, Extradition or other form of cooperation on reliance of the information obtained through cooperation between LEAs.

Hon. Chairperson;

The URT also acknowledges the importance of asset confiscation in combating TOC. To that effect, URT has designated mechanisms to allow LEAs cooperation in identifying, tracing, managing, confiscation and confiscation of the proceeds of crime. To achieve this goal, the URT has developed inter-agency guidelines for coordination, cooperation and collaboration in investigation and prosecution of Money Laundering, Terrorism and Terrorism Financing. The guidelines serve to facilitate effective cooperation between LEAs and other competent authorities in exchange of information.

Hon. Chairperson;

Allow me to wind up by highlighting that URT remains open and willing to accommodate recommendations and good practices from other jurisdictions aiming at paving the way for enhancing the implementation of Article 27 of the UNTOC. This may include further amendments to domestic legislations pertaining to international cooperation to allow more effective and widest measure of cooperation between LEAs thus strengthening the fight against TOC.

THANK YOU