

**STATEMENT BY HON. NASSORO W. MALOCHO, (MP)  
MINISTER OF STATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - PLANNING  
COMMISSION - HEAD OF THE TANZANIA DELEGATION TO  
THE HAGUE FORUM ON ICPD +5 - FEBRUARY 1999**

**Honourable President/Chairperson,  
Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

**1.0 PREAMBLE**

1.1 Hon. Chairperson, it is now nearly five years since the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) was convened in Cairo, Egypt in 1994 and its Programme of Action adopted of which Tanzania was a signatory.

1.2 Hon. Chairperson, Tanzania has invariably been participating in a number of conferences both Regionally and Internationally, on issues of population, development and environment. These conferences include the World Population Plan of Action, which re-affirmed the Mexico City Declaration of 1984, the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action which charted the path of action for African countries in the area of Population and Development, the Dakar-Ngor Declaration, the World Summit on Children, the 1992 Conference on Environment and Development, the 1996 Second Conference on Human Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995 and the World Social Summit of 1995.

1.3 Chairperson, Tanzania has always been taking positive steps in the implementation of issues related to population and development. The government has undertaken a number of measures in creating an environment conducive to the implementation of the ICPD - Programme of Action. This included the National Development vision 2025. The Roiling Plan and Forward Budgets and the Annual National Budgets which had as the central objectives: the alleviation of poverty and improvements in the quality of health, food nutrition and living standards of the population. Steps have also been taken to reformulate the National Population Policy so as to reflect the new and emerging issues of post ICPD, Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and various sector reforms.

2.0 **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF ICPD  
PROGRAMME OF ACTION:**

2.1 Tanzania has made progress towards implementation of ICPD resolutions. On issues of gender equality, equity and empowerment of women, the government has instituted legislative and institutional changes to enhance gender equity and empowerment of women, apart from establishing a ministry responsible for Community Development, Women Affairs and Children.

2.2 Universal access of girls to education and training by adopting the Education and Training policy in 1995 which among other issues aims at raising participation rates of girls by establishing more boarding schools for girls.

2.3 On participation of women in decision-making positions, women have special seats reserved for them in ail decision-making bodies, starting from the village to the national level. For example, women are guaranteed 15 per cent representation in parliamentary seats and 25 per cent for the local government councils.

2.4 Tanzania has also taken positive steps towards reproductive health care and services as well as reproductive rights. For example, Reproductive and Child Health Unit of the Ministry of Health has been strengthened and given mandate of co-ordinating the various components of Reproductive Health including safe motherhood, family planning, prevention of STDs/HIV/AIDS, reduction of female genital mutilation; and adolescent reproductive health information and services.

2.4.1 Chairperson, in order to stimulate meaningful change for better social services for Tanzanians, the government 'is undertaking social sector reform programmes which identify areas that need to be either reviewed or reinforced with the aim of improving service delivery. The social sector reforms are emphasizing decentralisation of social services delivery. Pilot areas for decentralizations have been established and the community is widely sensitized to participate in the social services management including reproductive health.

2.5 The government is collaborating with Civil Society (NGOs) including Private Sector to increase quality, access, scope and availability of reproductive health services. The Family Planning Association of Tanzania (UMATI), Marie Stopes and Private Hospitals have increased the number of service delivery points in order to make the services more accessible to the majority of the population who are in the rural areas.

### 3.0 CONSTRAINTS:

3.1 Chairperson, while a number of policies existed and some success scored, implementation of programmes had been far more difficult due to a range of factors. Key constraints do include national debt burden and government budgetary constraints, poverty, low levels of education and literacy, the persistence of customary practices and beliefs that discriminate against women, increasing health problems such as HIV/AIDS and the influx of refugees into North-Western Tanzania.

3.1 On reproductive health and rights, major constraints experienced include inadequate funds for reproductive health programmes and existence of some socio-cultural and political barriers which do not provide conducive environment for reproductive health, rights and services.

#### 4.0 FUTURE PROSPECTS/CRITICAL CHALLENGES:

4.1 Chairperson, regional collaboration is among the strategies for Tanzania in implementing Cairo resolutions in the field of population and development. Tanzania is a member of the South African Development Community (SADC) 'group and is participating in the Southern African Ministers Conference on Population and Development. The main agenda of such a forum is for the member countries to review implementation progress of resolutions covering a wide range of population and development issues. Tanzania has also joined the East African Reproductive Health Network in order to share experiences on reproductive health in the region.

4.2 The government political commitment to the control of HIV/AIDS will be enhanced and demonstrated through resource allocation and **recognising** that control of the disease is a **multi-sectoral** issue. New strategies to combat the spread of the disease will be explored. The National Population Policy of 1992 is being revised to incorporate new issues as raised in the ICPD and other international fora.

4.3 The government will extend Family Life Education to different levels of the education system. The general public will be further educated on matters of sexual and reproductive health rights.

4.4 The government is will continue to mobilize and utilise domestic resources so as to ensure the implementation of the objectives of the ICPD Programme of Action.

- 4.5 The government recommits to make universal access to high quality reproductive services, including antenatal, safe delivery and posnatal care and family planning. Top priority will continue to reduce deaths and to increase the use of contraceptives as a means to improve people's health and well-being.
- 4.6 The government will enhance co-operation with NGOs, private sector and international agencies in seeking solutions to problems due to refugees from neighbouring region and thereby promote activities that will strengthen the family so as to meet the challenges of new values and roles of family members.
- 4.7 Chairperson, with the recognition of the importance of this International Forum and in the course of preparing for our country's participation, Tanzania organised a National Forum on ICPD + 5 on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 1999. The Forum brought together policy and decision makers, representatives of civil society, donor agencies and organisations and the media. The outcome of deliberations that ensued at the Forum was the adoption of the "Dar es Salaam Declaration on ICPD + 5".

It is now my duty Chairperson to present to this Hague Forum the Dar es Salaam Declaration as I was required to do by one of the clauses of the Declaration.

**Chairperson,  
Your Excellencies Ambassadors,  
Representatives of UN Agencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**Thank you for your attention.**

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# DAR-ES-SALAAM DECLARATION ON ICPD+5

## Preamble

On 15 January 1999, we, the participants gathered at the Sheraton Hotel in Dar-es-Salaam for the National Forum on ICPD+5. The Forum brought together policy- and decision-makers, representatives of civil society, representatives of donor agencies and organisations and the media to discuss the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

## Declaration

We, the participants at the National Forum on ICPD+5,

While discussing the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in the United Republic of Tanzania:

Recognizing the importance of ensuring basic human rights in the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action;

Cognizant of the fact that the principal aim of social, cultural and economic development, of which population and development programmes are an integral part, is to improve the quality of life of the people;

Acknowledging the work already undertaken in Tanzania by the Governments on both the Mainland and Zanzibar, as well as the non-governmental and private sector and the international community since the International Conference on Population and Development;

Mindful of the fact that the external debt hinders effective implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action;

Welcoming the revision of the 1992 National Population Policy, as well as the formulation of related policies, including the National Reproductive Health and Child Survival Strategy;

Noting the progress made so far in the field of reproductive health, including family planning;

Also noting, with concern, the persistent high levels of infant, child and maternal mortality and morbidity;

Further acknowledging that population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development are closely interlinked and stressing the need for sound policies and programmes to achieve the eradication of poverty and a sustainable balance between population and resources;

Further recognizing the need for gender equality, equity and the empowerment of women as a basic human right;

Underscoring the need to eradicate **all** harmful practices directed against women and girls;

Expressing concern that the lack of access to high-quality reproductive health services for all hampers people's ability to fulfill their right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have the information and means to do so;

Further expressing concern about the rapid **spread of** HIV infections and its social and economic consequences, and noting in this regard the **recommendations** made at the National Multisectoral AIDS Conference, which took place from **6-10 December** 1998 in Arusha,

Hereby,

Reaffirm our commitment to the principles and goals of the ICPD Programme of Action and stress the need for its full and expeditious implementation in the United Republic of Tanzania;

Urge all parties involved in population and development programmes to respect basic human rights in the implementation of their programmes;

Further urge all parties involved in population and development programmes to make human beings and their needs and aspirations the **centre** of their efforts;

Recommit ourselves to make universal access to high-quality reproductive health services, which includes services for antenatal, safe delivery and postnatal care and family planning, a top priority in our efforts to reduce the number of infant and maternal deaths and to increase the use of contraceptives as a means to improve people's health and well-being;

Call upon the Governments, as well as civil society, to make gender equality, equity and the **empowerment of women**, **including** the elimination of harmful practices against women and girls, a reality;

Stress the urgent need for efficient and effective national and **multisectoral measures** in the fight against the AIDS pandemic and the full implementation of the recommendations of the National Multisectoral Aids Conference;

Appeal to all to **redouble** the efforts in order to ensure that the goals and objectives of the ICPD Programme of Action be achieved **no later** than by the year 2015, as agreed in the ICPD Programme of Action;

Recommend that national resources, from both public and private sources, be increased so as to honour the agreements reached during the ICPD on the domestic financing of population and development programmes as spelled out in the ICPD Programme of Action;

Call upon the members of the international community to unequivocally support the efforts of the Governments of the United Republic of Tanzania and of Zanzibar to implement the key provisions of the ICPD Programme of Action and to honour its commitment made at Cairo to complement domestic resources for the financing of population and development programmes;

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Further call upon the international community and donor agencies to consider reducing the external debt of the United Republic of Tanzania;

Request the official Tanzanian delegation to the The Hague Forum (8-12 February 1999) to table this Declaration at the Forum and to bring **its** content to the attention of the participants.

Dar-es-Salaam  
15 January 1999