STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA DURING THE 18THUNIDO'S GENERAL CONFERENCE 3-7 NOVEMBER, 2019 ABU DHABI, UAE

Madam/Mr.President,
Honorable Ministers,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Assalam Aleykum,

At the outset, Allow me, on behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania to congratulate **H.E Suhail Al Mazrouei**, the Minister of Industry and Energy of the United Arab Emirates, for being elected as the Chair of the 18thSession of the General Conference. Likewise, I would like to pay tribute to **H.E Ms. Alena Kupchyna**, the outgoing president of the 17thSession of the General Conference, for her outstanding leadership.

By the same token, let me express my profound appreciation to the Government and people of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to my delegation since our arrival in this great country and beautiful city of Abu Dhabi.

Madam/Mr. President,

Tanzania commends the Director General, Mr. Li Yong, and the entire staff of UNIDO for their tireless efforts in promoting industrial development agenda, particularly in the LDCs. UNIDO has continued to support the industrial developments in LDCs and Africa, including my country Tanzania. Tanzania is benefiting from a number of projects being implemented in the area of capacity building to enhance competitiveness and promote environmental sustainability projects. Some of the key projects being implemented in Tanzania include the promotion of rural electrification through mini grids based on small hydropower sources, the Waste to Energy Applications in Agro-industries, and the promotion of the use of alternative energy, specifically bioethanol, for environmental conservation. These projects among other things, will accelerate rural industrial activities, particularly agro-processing and value addition, supporting the country's industrialization efforts.

In this regard, Tanzania will continue to cooperate with UNIDO in the implementation of various programs, including the Program for Sustainable Industrial Development (PSID) being implemented under the Ministry of Industry and Trade. The program aims at strengthening the Industrial Support Entities to better design and implement policies and provide high quality services. We believe that this will boost investment growth in the manufacturing sector and enhance competitiveness of productive enterprises.

Madam/Mr. President,

It is undisputable that industrial development is the key factor for structural transformation in LDCs. However, it is well known that the path to industrialization is not an easy one. It is associated with many impediments, including the lack of or poor industrial infrastructures and other related services. To curb some of these impediments, the Government of Tanzania is taking some deliberate efforts to build a conducive business environment for the prosperity of trade and investment. Recently, the Government launched a *Blue Print* Document for regulatory reforms. The blue print identifies a number of hindrances to the industrial development that need immediate Government interventions. In the Blue Print Document, we have adopted integrated multi-sectoral approach implementation with key interventions focusing on regulatory reforms by harmonizing all policy and legal issues in the strategic sectors of agriculture, manufacturing, mining, tourism, infrastructure development and the service sectors among others.

Mr. President,

Under the current leadership of H.E Dr. John Pombe Magufuli, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, who has been stressing on industrialization, with a view to transform the country's economy from agro-based to industrial and knowledge-based economy, we are witnessing noticeable growth of the industrial sector. For example, in

2018 the sector's growth reached 8.1 percent, a significant increase compared to the 7.7 percent growth attained in 2017. The target of the Government is to attain and maintain an average growth of 8.2 percent per annum.

Madam/Mr. President,

The new UNIDO approach and engagement with Members and Development Partners is warmly welcomed by the Tanzania Government. As such, we are pleased with UNIDO's new approach which is aimed at strengthening partnerships at National, Regional and Multilateral levels through the Program for Country Partnership (PCP) framework. Tanzania is very keen to be included in the PCP initiative and it is in the final stage of getting high level endorsement before submitting a formal request for the program.

In conclusion, **Madam/Mr. President,** I would like to reaffirm Tanzania's commitment to the continued cooperation with UNIDO in promoting the Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development with a view to achieving the 2030 SDGs.

I thank you for your attention