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**STATEMENT BY H.E. TUVAKO N. MANONGI, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED
REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS DURING THE 49TH SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

GENERAL DEBATE ON NATIONAL EXPERIENCE ON POPULATION MATTERS: "STRENGTHENING

THE DEMOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE BASE FOR THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Madame Chair,

My delegation aligns itself with the statements made by Thailand on behalf of the G77 and China, Uganda on behalf of the African Group.

We welcome and commend the relevance of this Session's special theme on "Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda".

We are also mindful of the foresight of the Programme of Action adopted in 1994 by the Conference on Population and Development in Cairo among whose Principles, number 6, essentially could be speaking of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as we articulate

statistical systems. Let us not fool ourselves; this will require investments - both financial and technical. It will also require partnerships that that will strengthen data in support of the SDG's

Madam Chair,

It can never be overemphasized that credible data can make an impressive difference. It informs government policies and provides evidence of their success or failure. It also provides for greater transparency and most importantly, accountability.

It is in this regard that the United Republic of Tanzania can only reaffirm the significance of reliable and timely demographic data collection as an invaluable tool for monitoring progress in the implementing of the ICPD Programme of Action and the SDGs. Data lies at the heart of our development progress, its tracking, its assessment and its review.

Tanzania is among countries with a high population growth that has resulted in unprecedented large youthful population that enters the labour market. The increase in youth population has opportunities as well as challenges. We recognize to gain from the ever-increasing youth population there is need for appropriate policies and programmes for training and skills to harness their potential. On the other hand persons aged 60 and above though are of much lower proportion are increasing in large numbers that demand attention to their welfare

particularly health.

We therefore see concrete linkages between demography and development. We know issues related to population go beyond its size. We are sensitive to the importance of the links between components of population such as age, structural composition, density, distribution and its characteristics for sustainability. In this regard, the value of demographic data to

office mandated to providing official statistics to the Government, business community and the public.

Furthermore, the Act authorizes the NBS to act as a co-coordinating agency within the National Statistical System (NSS) to ensure the collection of quality and reliable statistics. To this end, the legislation has strengthened the NBS through the establishment of Statistical Units in

Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies. This is also meant to ensure open-data

We wish to underscore the importance of developing and using innovative approaches

methodologies and technologies that support the generation, collection and use of population data dissemination and analysis. In this regard, we support the establishment of network of