

**STATEMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA DURING THE
TWENTY-EIGHT SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL
SEA BED AUTHORITY, KINGSTON - JAMAICA**

26 JULY 2023

Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates

1. As it is the first time my Delegation is taking the floor, allow me to join previous speakers in congratulating you for the well-deserved election as the President of the 28th Session of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority. As you advance our deliberations, I assure you of my Delegation's full support.

2. My Delegation also wishes to express gratitude to the Government of Jamaica for the warm welcome and good hospitality extended to us. We also join other delegations to welcome Rwanda, a new member of the ISA family.

Mr. President

3. Much has been said by previous speakers in relation to the work of the Authority and activities in the Area. My Delegation aligns itself with the Statement delivered by Ghana on behalf of the African Group and wishes to add a few remarks in its national capacity.

4. Tanzania has taken note of the Secretary-General's report on the work of the Authority contained in document ISBA/28/A/2. My Delegation commends the Secretary-General and his team for the informative report, more importantly on implementing the mandate of the Authority as enshrined in Part XI of the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea and the 1994 Agreement.

Mr. President

5. Ocean-related activities need robust capacity, science and technological innovation. We therefore, commend the International Seabed Authority for standing firm on implementing its mandates entrusted to it by the State Parties to the Convention, which includes the obligation to take measures to promote and encourage the transfer of technology and scientific knowledge relating to activities in the Area to the developing countries.

6. Tanzania is pleased to be one of the first beneficiaries of the joint project launched in May 2023 by the International Seabed Authority and United Nations Technology Bank for Least Developing Countries titled "*Building and developing the capacities of least developed countries in deep-seabed related Science, technology and innovation in support of sustainable development of blue emerging economies*",

7. Tanzania is grateful to the International Seabed Authority and United Nations Technology Bank for least Developing Countries for their efforts to initiate this joint project, which comes in at the right time; we need it most. We have embarked on establishing policy, legal and institutional frameworks on emerging blue economies.

Mr. President

9. We also commend and congratulate Ms.Rima Browne from the Cook Islands for receiving the Secretary General Award for Excellence in Deep-Sea Research. Her research provides essential information useful not only to the Cook Islands but also to other Member States engaging in ocean economic activities. We wish her the best in her career.

Mr. President,

10. I wish to turn to the ongoing negotiations on the intended regulations on seabed exploitation. My Delegation commends the Member States for the progress thus far made. There have been constructive conflicting views and opinions aimed at improving the draft regulations. The 2025 timeline should not bind us. Let's constructively continue the negotiations to formulate the rules that will, if effectively applied, guide us in governing the mining activities in the Area.

Mr. President

12. I would like to inform Member States herein present that Tanzania will host the ***2023 Annual Contractors Meeting in Dar es Salaam from 22 to 24 October this year.*** Tanzania is pleased to be afforded an opportunity to contribute to the work of the Authority by hosting this important meeting. My Delegation would like to welcome the Contractors, Sponsoring States, Member States and other Stakeholders to the meeting and explore Tanzania, the land of Mount Kilimajaro, Serengeti National Park and the beautiful Islands of Zanzibar.

13. The Contractors Annual Meeting will be followed by ***the Tanzania Mining & Investment Forum*** under the theme, ***Unlocking Tanzania's Future Mining Potentials***, to be held from 25 to 26 October 2023 in Dar-es Salaam. My Delegation would appreciate the participation of all member states in this important forum.

Mr. President

14. Before I end my Statement, I wish to reaffirm and reiterate Tanzania's commitment on supporting the work of the Authority. Tanzania is seized to continue strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation on ensuring sustainable exploitation of marine resources, including seabed minerals while protecting the marine environment, a key pillar of ocean governance.

Thank You for your Attention.