



Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania
to the United Nations

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**STATEMENT BY MS. JOYCE KAFANABO,
CHARGE D' AFFAIRES OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

**ON INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY ON UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM-WIDE
COHERENCE - GENDER**

MONDAY, 30 MARCH 2009 – NEW YORK

201 East 42nd Street, Room 1700, New York, New York 10017
Tel. No. (212) 972-9160

**STATEMENT BY MS. JOYCE KAFANABO, CHARGE D'
AFFAIRES OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED
REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA ON INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM-
WIDE COHERENCE - GENDER**

MONDAY, 30 MARCH 2009 – NEW YORK

Co Chairs,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

At the outset let me congratulate the Co Chairs on System Wide Coherence H.E. Kaire Mbuende of Namibia and H.E. Juan Antonio Yanez Barnuevo of Spain for organizing this important consultation on Gender. My delegation has full confidence in their skills and capacity to lead these discussions and will support their work in the 63rd Session of the General Assembly consultations on system wide coherence.

The delegation of Tanzania aligns itself to the joint Statement of G77 and NAM.

Co Chairs,

We particularly wish to thank the Secretary General and his team for his commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women and also for his resolve to heed the call to provide a way forward on reforms of Gender Architecture as was requested in Resolution 62/677. We welcome the discussion paper entitled "Further Details for Institutional Options for Strengthening the Institutional Arrangements for Support of Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women" and the recommendations contained therein provide a good basis for our discussion. We commend the leadership role that the Deputy Secretary General is undertaking in the reform of the gender architecture.

Co Chairs,

From our point of view, the paper before us is concise and has further clarified the different options for reforming the gender entity. The paper has also taken on board various interests including those of my delegation. The paper further builds on the previous discussions and has further elaborated the different modalities for the Gender Entity. My delegation thus hopes that the paper will be thoroughly discussed so that we can emerge with a consensus on the optimal Institutional arrangement for the Gender Entity.

Co Chairs,

We have studied the different options before us and my delegation is of the view that the composite option presents a more viable solution to strengthen the United Nations response to gender equality and the empowerment of women. The composite option will meet the needs for operational work and normative and policy development work and will have a strong field presence to support national efforts. As we had indicated in the previous discussions, a strong field presence is very important for us. Country ownership through the UNDAF is another key advantage for the composite option. This option will allow for coherence within the UN system as at country level for better advancement of the goals of gender equality and the empowerment of women. . At the same time the composite option presents us with an opportunity to be innovative in developing the gender structure and allows us to also take bold decisions that will lead to the strengthening of the gender architecture.

Co-chairs,

We all share a common understanding that gender equality and the empowerment of women is pivotal to development, peace and security. In this regard we should we give the opportunity for the General Assembly consultations on gender to culminate into a best consensual agreement. We have been able to converge into many challenging deliberations. Some examples include the consultations

on Tri Annual Comprehensive Policy Review (TCPR) of which member State positions were far apart, finally the process culminated to a resolution A/62/208 that was approved by the membership. Similarly, the resolution on system wide coherence A/Res/62/677 is another demonstration that whenever there is a political will there is a way, and our shared commitments on gender should thus provide us with the thrust for reaching an agreement.

To conclude, we are looking forward to open and transparent discussions on this matter hoping to achieve consensus as soon as practicable. We also wish to request delegations to give these discussions a chance to stand amidst divergent interests across the membership.

I thank you Co Chairs.