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## **JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

### **THE 72<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

#### **“Industrial Development and Environmental Conservation for Sustainable Development”**

**October 19, 2017 Dar es Salaam – Every October 24, the United Nations celebrates its establishment.** The United Nations System in Tanzania in partnership with the Government, development partners and youth will mark the 72<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

According to a statement released at a press conference held at Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC), Dar es Salaam, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation in collaboration with United Nations Tanzania, this year’s UN Day will be marked at Karimjee Grounds in Dar es Salaam on 24 October 2017. The celebrations will reach their climax at an event scheduled for 26 October 2017 in Unguja Island, Zanzibar. The theme for this year’s anniversary is: ***“Industrial Development and Environmental Conservation for Sustainable Development.”***

Speaking to journalists, the UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez, emphasized the achievements under Phase I of the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP I - 2011 to 2016) as well as the early implementation of Phase II of the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP II - 2016 to 2021) that includes a focus on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national development plans for the mainland and Zanzibar.

Mr. Rodriguez also highlighted the Kigoma Joint Programme, currently supported by Norway and KOICA, which has been specially formulated to meet the priority development needs for Kigoma Region and specifically the host Tanzanian population in the three districts of Kasulu, Kibondo and Kakonko which currently host over 300,000 refugees.

The anniversary this year, will be graced by H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan, Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania. This express the importance the Government attaches to the United Nation's work in Tanzania. During the Press Conference, Hon. Dr. Susan Kolimba, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation emphasized the importance of the industrial sector in the implementation of the SDGs and thus achievement of Sustainable Development in the country. She stated *"The theme for this year's anniversary, **Industrial Development and Environmental Conservation for Sustainable Development**, is in line with the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 and the Second Phase of the Five Year Development Plan 2016/2017-2020/2021, which aspires to drive Tanzania to an industrial economy by 2025."*

The Deputy Minister also called on the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) to consolidate gains that have been registered through the implementation of UNDAP I and UNDAP II which is currently being implemented. Dr. Kolimba insisted on the UN in Tanzania 'Delivering as One' whereby UNCT is supposed to coordinate and harmonize its activities to avoid duplication and wastage of resources. Finally, she called on youth and journalists to be good ambassadors for the Sustainable Development Goals for the well-being and development of the nation.

Speaking ahead of this 72<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the United Nations, the United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez, added: *"Tanzania and the United Nations have enjoyed a very solid partnership for many decades. As Tanzania is undergoing massive transformation as it reaches middle-income status, the United Nations' assistance must meet new requirements and challenges as it must redefine its mission in a more complex, youthful and vibrant Tanzania"*.

**Note to Editors:**

The United Nations started its operations on October 24, 1945. Thus, 72 years since its establishment.

This year marks the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the implementation of UNDAP II and the focus is on the SDGs, environmental protection and industrialization, and the recently-launched area-based programming for Kigoma, ‘the Kigoma Joint Programme’ which will be implemented between 2016 – 2021 in three districts (Kasulu, Kibondo and Kakonko) focusing on host Tanzanian communities.

This year also saw the UN partner with the private sector through Fursa to reach out to youth across the country with different messages from UN Agencies on priority SDGs in Tanzania.

**For more information on the United Nations Week, please contact:**

Ms. Mindi Kasiga – Head of Information MOFAEAC ([minditarimo@nje.go.tz](mailto:minditarimo@nje.go.tz))

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation (MOFAEAC) 0784 777606

Ms. Hoyce Temu, United Nations Tanzania Communications Specialist ([hoyce.temu@one.un.org](mailto:hoyce.temu@one.un.org)) -

0682262627