

**BRIEF INTERVENTION BY PIUS TESHA DELEGATE OF TANZANIA AT
THE HABITAT III PREPCOM 3 IN SURABAYA INDONESIA.**

25TH -28TH JULY 2016.

Your Excellency The chairman of the PrepCom3 Session

**Dr. Joan Clos, Secretary- General of the United Nations Conference on
Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,**

Distinguished participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Allow me to extend warm regards from the citizens of the United Republic of Tanzania to all participants of this Habitat III Prep Com 3 meeting wishing all fruitful discussion and deliberations. Indeed we are indebted to extend our gratitude to the Government of Indonesia for the warm welcome extended to my delegation since our arrival in Surabaya.

Mr Chairman,

Let me start by commending the UN Habitat for its tireless efforts in pursuing the critical role of harnessing renewed political commitment, assessing progress and identifying challenges and finding solutions for sustainable human settlements development. The efforts commenced in Vancouver Canada in 1976, almost forty years ago during the Habitat I Then Habitat II in Istanbul, Turkey in 1996. Now we are holding preparations of Habitat III conference in Quito in October 2016, which is expected to set New Urban Agenda for the next twenty year to come. We are hopeful that the future goals and objectives that are championed by UN Habitat will be attained. We hope these efforts will make the world

more habitable since the process has been focused objective, transparent and participatory.

We urge for the continuation of the process so as to attain the desired goal of making our cities, other human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and building on already achieved milestones from the previous adopted Habitat I and II agenda and in particular the Sustainable Development Goals of 2000.

Mr Chairman,

Tanzania commends the remarkable work done in producing the Habitat III Zero Draft Outcome Document, which has given major reference to Cities and Urban development. It is our concern, however, that there is little attention to rural areas and the rural urban linkages.

Despite the fact that urban population is growing tremendously, we should not forget that the rural population is also growing. Rural population still makes the larger part of national population. We should not forget its contribution to the national economy, as well as the support it offers to the urban population. In Tanzania, the total population is over 45.0 million now whereby the rural population constitutes about 70 percent of the national population. Like in many other third world countries, this section requires particular attention in terms of basic amenities for human habitation and livelihood.

In Tanzania the agriculture contributes to about 26 percent of the GDP and employs nearly 71 percent of available active labor. Tourism contributes to about 11.8 percent and most of tourist

attractions are located in rural localities. Yet these areas lack in basic amenities. Compared to urban areas rural areas are disadvantaged. They have inadequate sanitation facilities, inadequate potable water, inefficient and sources of energy, poor accessibility and poor housing.

We should, also, note that, when we report of increasing urban population, it includes the population of intermediate settlements that have transformed into urban centers. The settlements that are rural entities are the urban areas we will be referring to in twenty years to come.

In Tanzania rural areas are vital elements of our economy, social development. Urban development policy is linked with rural development policy.

Mr, Chairman

It is for these reasons that we suggest that rural- urban linkages should feature explicitly in the New Urban Agenda.

It is our expectations that this Precom3 of Habitat III meeting will amalgamate and forward to the forthcoming Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, “Habitat III”, Sustainable Development Goals giving additional attention to the following;-

1. Habitat III should result in renewed political commitment of Member States and shared vision on sustainable urban development. It should anchor the issues of human settlement and urbanization within the sustainable development agenda and increase more global awareness of the extent and the significance

of the challenges facing our urban environment without forgetting their importance with rural linkages.

2. Habitat III should recognize and foster national and local spatial planning and planned human settlements as a public good and service by strengthening the technical and financial capacity of urban and district authorities to implement development plans and effectively manage urban growth realizing the human right to adequate housing in a well-planned manner.

3. Habitat III must commit to progress built on, but well beyond Habitat II and the previous MDGs so that member states and development actors meet the demands and challenges of the future development to ensure social justice, build democracy and respect the environment in human settlements.

4. Member states should commit to formulate more-appropriate development, governance and resource-use policies and practices across physical space, bridging urban, peri-urban and rural areas, and assist central and local governments to address challenges through national and local development policy frameworks giving full consideration to all human kind without any form of segregation.

5. We expect Habitat III to address income inequalities by sharing best practice models to overcome poverty in human habitat and ensure that participating member states meet this challenge fully in their own countries.

6. The future Urban Agenda should address the key challenges due to urbanization capitalizing on their opportunities and hence

improve urban infrastructure and services, in urban, peri-urban and rural housing conditions, and thereby increasing livelihood and creating decent employment opportunities both in urban and in rural areas.

7. The new Urban Agenda should give particular attention to youth in terms of education facility and decent employment opportunities to save them from detrimental lifestyles for the benefit of the future generations.

Mr. Chairman,

Let me reaffirm Tanzania's commitment to the outcomes of this Habitat III Precom3 meeting. My delegation looks forward to constructive discussion and fruitful deliberations which shall be forwarded to Habitat III Conference in Quito October, 2016 and give rise to New Urban agenda to take us through for twenty years to come.

I thank you.