Tanzania CSOs Statement at HLPF in July. 2023.

Thank you, Moderator. My statement has had input from across civil society in Tanzania.

We commend the Government of Tanzania for its commitment to the Voluntary National Review (VNR) process and efforts made to involve civil society organizations (CSOs).

Tanzania CSOs recognize that the success of sustainable development efforts relies on meaningful collaboration and engagement with diverse stakeholders, including community groups, marginalized populations, and grassroots movements.

Consequently, we would like to know:

- 1. What strategies is the government planning for the inclusion of all marginalized groups and grassroots communities, including children, young people, women, persons with disabilities, older persons, pastoralists and hunter gatherers?
- 2. How can the government strengthen the framework to meaningfully involve civil society in SDGs implementation?
- 3. What steps can be taken to integrate implementation of SDGs with human rights obligations?
- 4. What actions have been taken to reduce the risk of non-communicable diseases?

While we acknowledge progress made towards realizing the SDGs, there is still more to be done. For example, the Government of Tanzania has ensured free education up to secondary school level, including increased budgetary allocation for training of teachers. However, as many as 31% of girls are still married before the age of 18 years. Children's participation in governance is lacking despite the adoption of the National Guidelines on Child Participation in 2022.

We note the significant strides made in HIV/AIDS prevention. Still, AIDS-related deaths and new HIV/Aids cases are on the rise as early testing, prevention and treatment measures have slowed down. This has resulted in a rise in the risk of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which is further compounded by tobacco and alcohol consumption.

Read on 18th July 2023 at the UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF) By

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