

**Intervention by the United Republic of Tanzania during the 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference on Ocean Action Panel 10: “Enhancing the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Ocean and Their Resources by Implementing International Law as Reflected in the UNCLOS”**

**13 June 2025, Nice, France**

**Excellencies, Distinguished Co-Chairs, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Tanzania reaffirms its commitment to protecting the ocean and supporting coastal communities by aligning national policies with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and Sustainable Development Goal 14.

The country is harmonizing national legislation with UNCLOS by defining maritime zones, regulating offshore industrial fishing through the Deep-Sea Fishing Authority, conserving marine ecosystems via the Marine Parks and Reserves Unit, and improving maritime governance through Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation and Zanzibar Maritime Authority. Tanzania is finalizing the domestication of the Ballast Water Management Convention and recently hosted a regional compliance workshop.

Marine conservation efforts include expanding Marine Protected Areas in Mafia Island, Tanga, Unguja, Pemba, and Mtwara, and promoting community-managed fisheries. The Blue Economy Policies (From Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar) supports aquaculture and seaweed farming, while the Blue Economy Centre of Excellence established in 2023 advances research and training.

Recognizing the link between climate and ocean health, Tanzania is restoring mangroves and coral reefs in Bagamoyo, Mtwara, and Kilwa, guided by its National Climate Change Strategy. The country is also strengthening early warning systems and advocating for inclusion of marine ecosystems in climate finance frameworks.

To combat IUU fishing, Tanzania engages in regional collaborations like FISH-i Africa and Operation Jodari, while enhancing monitoring systems and pursuing legal reforms to criminalize such practices, consistent with Article 73 of UNCLOS.

SDG 14 is integrated into national development plans, including Third National Five-Year Development Plan in Tanzania Mainland and Development Vision 2050 in Zanzibar. With fisheries supporting 4.5 million livelihoods and contributing 1.8% to GDP, ocean-based growth is being linked with conservation, equity and science.

In conclusion, Tanzania urges full implementation of UNCLOS, regional cooperation, and inclusive action to safeguard the ocean. The country stands ready to lead by example and turn commitments into action.

Thank you.