

Chairperson, Distinguished delegates

The United Republic of Tanzania aligns itself with the statement delivered by Senegal on behalf of the African Group. Tanzania also appreciates the work undertaken by FAO in coordinating and advancing the Green Cities Initiative. We support the efforts to expand the Green Cities Network and strengthen technical and institutional support to countries and local authorities in promoting greener, healthier, more resilient, and inclusive cities.

Chairperson,

Tanzania is translating these commitments into action through national initiatives, including ***Tanzania ya Kijani***, with a particular focus on urban greening. The ***Dodoma ya Kijani*** initiative, in the capital city of Dodoma, provides an example of efforts to integrate green infrastructure, trees, and restoration into urban development.

Chairperson,

Linking these efforts with broader restoration initiatives creates opportunities to protect and restore urban open spaces, rehabilitate degraded land, enhance biodiversity, improve urban resilience, and integrate trees and other nature-based solutions into rapidly growing neighbourhoods.

Chairperson,

Through these efforts, Tanzania places emphasis on three key priorities:

First, strengthening the integration of urban greening into national forest programmes, urban and spatial planning, climate commitments, adaptation plans, and biodiversity strategies.

Second, promoting the planting and restoration of diverse indigenous tree species that are appropriate to local ecological and climatic conditions, including the conservation and propagation of threatened and endangered tree species.

Third, ensuring the protection and long-term management of existing mature trees and urban forests alongside new planting initiatives.

Chairperson,

In this regard, the United Republic of Tanzania requests FAO and Member States to consider strengthening financial and technical support for Green Cities initiatives in Tanzania. Such support would contribute to capacity building, access to appropriate technologies and facilities, knowledge exchange, and the development of sustainable systems for planning, implementing, monitoring, and maintaining urban greening interventions.

Chairperson,

Tanzania remains committed to working with FAO, Member States, local authorities, communities, and other partners to advance the Green Cities agenda and promote urban environments that are greener, more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable for present and future generations.

Thank you, Chair