STATEMENT BY HON. PROF. MAKAME M. MBARAWA (MP.), MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, DURING THE ICAO FACILITATION CONFERENCE 2025 (FALC 2025) 14 – 17 APRIL 2025 IN DOHA, QATAR

It is with great honour to be part of this important conference on behalf of the United Republic of Tanzania, and I wish to convey warm greetings from H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

This ICAO Facilitation Conference 2025 is an important event for the aviation community because its objective is to achieve effective implementation of Annex 9 (Facilitation) to the Chicago Convention. This is the only Annex that has a direct bearing on people moving through airports, i.e. Passengers, Crew and a number of multi-sectorial service providers. Implementation of Annex 9 requires effective collaboration, cooperation and coordination in the course of clearing passengers and their luggage at airports during their departures and arrivals, with the objective of expediting the clearance process.

Since, all of us here aim at seeking efficiency of air transport systems at our homes, and therefore assuring sustainable aviation industries, we definitely believe that effective implementation of Annex 9 is a key catalyst to drive the industry to that level. Obviously, this is the reason ICAO came up with the Theme of this event which states that: Facilitating the future of air transport: Collaboration, efficiency, inclusivity.

In the United Republic of Tanzania, we have a vibrant multi-sectorial National Facilitation Committee, coordinated by the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority, which work closely with Airport Facilitation Committees all of which have been established by the Civil Aviation Act. The Committee comprises of members from the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority, Airport Operators, Airlines, Immigration, Customs, Drug Control, Security, Plants, Animals, Consumer Consultative Council, and Ministries responsible for aviation matters, public health, foreign affairs and tourism.

Through the Committee, we also handle other international requirements including implementation of Advance Passenger Information and Passenger Number Information (API/PNR) systems, combating Human and Human Organ Trafficking and Immigration-related issues including implementation of Machine-Readable Travel

Documents (MRTD). We also have a very active multi-sectorial national CAPSCA Team which deals with management of communicable diseases through the air transport system.

The Government supports the aviation industry through investing in airport and communication infrastructures thereby improving customer experience. We also support tourism and as you are all aware, Tanzania is the country of the best-ranked national park (**Serengeti**) and second World's highest mountain (Kilimanjaro) after Mount Everest. We believe, achieving a high standard of facilitation requires heavy investment in aviation to realise growth in this important sector of the economy.

This is the reason the Government has invested heavily in airports including construction of the new international airport, Msalato International Airport in the Capital City of Dodoma. Other airports that are under construction include Tabora, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa and Songea.

H.E. President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan has engineered many changes to promote tourism industry in the country, including through the famous Royal Tour Programme. The Government is highly committed to always position the United Republic of Tanzania at best levels in terms of tourism, business partnership and air transport. Welcome to Tanzania for both leisure and business.

To conclude my remarks, I would like to once again express our appreciation and sincere thanks to Your Excellency, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani, Minister of Transport and through Your Excellency, to the Government of the State of Qatar especially the Civil Aviation Authority for hosting and coordinating this crucial Facilitation Conference in the beautiful City of Doha. I wish to also thank Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of the Council, ICAO for his insightful directives to the esteemed members of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

THANK YOU!