STATEMENT BY DEUSDEDIT B. KAGANDA, A REPRESENTATIVE OF TANZANIA DURING THE ACCRA REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE UNIVERSALIZATION OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS, 28 TO 30 MAY 2012

Chairperson,

At the outset, I would like on behalf of the Tanzania delegation to commend the meeting organizers for organizing this meeting, which provides us opportunity to take stock of the Convention implementation in Africa and to chart out the way forward.

My delegation wishes also to express its gratitude to the government and people of Ghana for accepting to host this meeting and for availing us excellent facilities since our arrival in Accra.

We thank the office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the government of the Kingdom of Norway for facilitating our participation to this meeting.

Chairperson,

Tanzania takes this opportunity to reaffirm the utmost importance it attaches to the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Tanzania does not produce, stockpile, transfer and has never used Cluster Munitions. The government is committed on ensuring the ratification of the treaty and indeed in order to garner views of all relevant stakeholders, the government is currently undertaking internal consultations under the leadership of the Ministry of Defence and National Service. It is our sincere

hope that the consultations will pave the way for decision that will be deliberated upon and approved by the Cabinet.

We welcome the 19 ratifications and 22 signatures by African states, and we seize this occasion to urge states that are yet to sign the Convention to consider doing so. We congratulate efforts made by Cameroon in ratifying the Convention.

In conclusion, **Chairperson**, we call on the international community and particularly the United Nations to continue providing financial and technical support necessary to the implementation process of the Convention by African States.

I thank you,