

## United Republic of Tanzania



### **Poliomyelitis eradication Agenda item 15.4 [Document 76/13]**

**Chairperson,** Tanzania has successfully interrupted wild Polio virus and was Certified as Polio free in November 2015 and has managed to sustain the status thus far. The last laboratory confirmed case of wild Poliomyelitis was July 30th, 1996. The country has not reported any indigenous or imported case of vaccine derived poliomyelitis. The Country has maintained sensitive surveillance as evidenced by meeting set Target indicators for both AFP and Environmental surveillance.

**Chairperson,** The Country is aware and concerned of the ongoing Wild and Vaccine derived Polio virus outbreaks in neighboring countries of Malawi (early 2022), Mozambique, DRC and Burundi thus remain at high risk of importation. We have continued to strengthen AFP and ES for maintaining high quality sensitive surveillance to ensure timely detection of any importation of Poliovirus, particularly at high-risk regions bordering the outbreak countries.

**Chairperson,** To mitigate the perceived risk, the country implemented several measures to close immunity gaps and ensure timely detection through four rounds of vaccination campaigns using oral Polio vaccine (bOPV) as part of multi-country vaccination responses ,continues to conduct Periodic Intensification of Routine immunization (PIRI) in all areas identified with suboptimal coverage for under-five immunization, plan to re-introduce Inactivated Polio Vaccine second dose (IPV2) into routine immunization, and establishment of 11 new environmental surveillance sites for Poliovirus to supplement the AFP surveillance in priority and border regions.

**Chairperson,** we continue to sustain the gains on Polio eradication and utilize the strong Polio network experiences to overcome reemerging infections. **Thank you.**