



**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TANZANIA  
DELEGATION**

**TO THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES  
TO THE OTTAWA CONVENTION**

**GENEVA, 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2006**

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Madam President,

Let me on behalf of my delegation congratulate you upon your election to preside over the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of states parties to the Convention. We have seen since the beginning of this meeting a very efficient manner in which you are steering this meeting.

In the same vein, I would like to thank the Swiss government for hosting this important meeting which I believe will be a success.

Madam President,

As we mark the 7<sup>th</sup> year of the Convention, we have every reason to be proud of the achievements reached so far. Of particular interest is the increase of States Parties to the Convention. To this end, we congratulate and welcome Brunei Darussalam, the Cooks Islands, Haiti and Ukraine for joining the Convention.

Madam President,

As you may recall, Tanzania completed destruction of stockpile of antipersonnel mines in July 2004. Since then efforts have been geared at helping others in achieving the same goal. In this context, the APOPO project which develops technology for detection of landmines and explosives using olfactory capacity of African giant

pouched rats has proven to be useful in de-mining activities and are cost effective.

Madam President,

Following their performance in Mozambique, the project will be presented at the Great Lakes Summit to be held in Nairobi later this year. It is expected that the Summit will endorse the project so as to improve de-mining activities in the Great Lake Region.

Madam President,

It would be remiss on our part not to acknowledge the support rendered to the project by various donors who have contributed to the realization of this useful project. It is our hope that this support will be enhanced.

I thank you, Madam President.