STATEMENT BY

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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
UNITED NATIONS

DURING THE

UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS EXECUTIVE BOARD
CONSIDERATION OF ITEM 10
ON THE UNCDF

NEW YORK, 30 JANUARY 2014
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Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the African group.

At the outset we wish to thank Ms. Rebeca Greenspan for her well articulated presentation and Mr. Marc Bichler for his presentation on the UNCDF preliminary 2013 institutional and operational results and the UNCDF Strategic Framework 2014-2017.

We welcome and commend the UNCDF’s continue work in Africa, where it is has its operations in 20 countries belonging to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) category, including my own country, Tanzania. The agency’s interventions, which are in support of our national development agenda, focusing on inclusive finance for inclusive growth as well as the local development finance are highly appreciated.

We note with great satisfaction, that these interventions, which are aimed at the improvement of the quality of life at the grassroots level, are changing lives of the poor and vulnerable in our countries, especially women and girls who make up for about 65 per cent of the entire UNCDF clientele. In this regard, UNCDF is contributing to poverty eradication, reduction of inequalities as well as exclusion.

Unfortunately, it is doing so with increasingly limited resources. We note with concern that UNCDF has not been able to attract sufficient levels of core resources to secure continued programming and capital support for all LDCs countries, 34 of which are based in Africa. We thus request those countries in the position to do so, to support UNCDF to enable it to reach a minimum threshold of $25 million in core resources, up from the current $16 million.

That said, we wish to endorse the UNCDF’s Strategic Framework for the 2014-2017 and its focus on innovation, leverage and domestic resource mobilization, including through building inclusive financial sectors and unblocking of domestic financial sectors to smaller, and mid-size investments in both economic and industrial infrastructure and investments – thereby also addressing key blockages in local value chains and giving access to poor families and their enterprises to demanded financial, social and economic services and resources.
We note with satisfaction that the Strategic Framework complements the UNDP Strategic Plan to which UNCDF is also a party. We urge the two agencies, that is – UNDP and UNCDF, to continue working closely together for maximum development impact.

Let me conclude by pledging our continued cooperation and partnership with the UNCDF in the crucial period ahead, where we shall among others, conclude the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and embark on the post-2015 development framework, with the Sustainable development Goals as its integral part. We will continue to count of UNCDF to render its important services, knowing too well that it can only do so with adequate resources.

I thank you.