

Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers

Ref.: AL TZA 4/2025
(Please use this reference in your reply)

14 July 2025

Excellency,

We have the honour to address you in our capacities as Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 52/9, 54/14, 53/4, 50/17 and 53/12.

In this connection, we would like to bring to the attention of your Excellency's Government information we have received concerning the ongoing crackdown of political opposition and civil society in Tanzania, as well as the **detention of prominent opposition leaders Mr. Tundu Lissu and Mr. Mdude Nyagali, which seems to be directly connected to their political activity and criticism of the Government, as well as the blocking of the social media platform "X" across the country.** Notably, Mr. Nyagali is subject to enforced disappearance, as his fate and whereabouts remain unknown. These arrests and ongoing detention, as well as enforced disappearances and blocking of digital platform takes place only months before the Presidential election scheduled to take place in October 2025.

Mr. Tundu Lissu is a Tanzanian lawyer and current Chairperson of the country's main opposition party, "Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo" (CHADEMA). He was the runner-up candidate in the last Presidential elections held in 2020 and is known for his work leading the opposition in Tanzania.

Mr. Mpaluka Said Nyagali, known as "Mdude", is a Tanzanian human rights activist, author, and a senior member of the opposition party CHADEMA.

In this context we wish to recall the previous communications AL TZA 1/2025, sent on 10 June 2025, and [TZA 3/2024](#), sent on 9 October 2024, as well as [TZA 2/2023](#), [TZA 1/2021](#), [TZA 2/2021](#) and [TZA 6/2020](#), in which Special Procedures mandate holders raised their concerns in relation to alleged enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention, intimidation and harassment of journalists, human rights defenders or political opponents. In this context we thank your Excellency's Government for your response for [TZA 2/2021](#) and [TZA 6/2020](#) however, we remain concerned in light of recent developments and lack of responses to recent communications.

According to the information received:

Crackdown on political opposition and civil society

On 11 August 2024, Tanzanian police arrested CHADEMA party members, including Mr. Lissu, then-vice chairperson and former presidential candidate, two other senior party officials, as well as more than 500 youth supporters and five journalists. They were arrested at, or on their way to a meeting in CHADEMA's Nyasa office in Mbeya, in south-western Tanzania, ahead of International Youth Day on 12 August. They were arrested on charges of violating a ban on a youth conference and planning a violent demonstration. The next day, police arrested two other senior party officials after they went to Mbeya in response to the arrests. All party leaders were released on bail on 13 August 2024, while the supporters detained were granted bail in the following days.

On 13 September 2024, the Tanzanian police announced a ban on all CHADEMA protests. Reports indicate that a police spokesperson had announced the ban and had issued a warning that the *"police will deal with anyone who violates this order"*

On 23 September 2024, the Tanzanian police arrested Mr. Lissu and seven other party officials in Dar es Salaam before planned protests against the killings and abductions of government critics. They were released on bail on the same day. Three journalists from Mwananchi Communications Ltd and East Africa TV were arrested also while covering protests and released the same day.

On 11 November 2024, widespread complaints emerged regarding the disqualifications of opposition candidates during the nomination process. Reports indicated that most of CHADEMA's candidates, including 95% of their candidates in the Dar es Salaam region, and 60% of the "ACT-Wazalendo" party's candidates were disqualified, with appeals being dismissed.

On 23 March 2025, CHADEMA launched the campaign "No Reforms, No Election" ahead of the October 2025 scheduled presidential elections in a context of alleged increasing violence against political opposition, which was reportedly accelerated in 2024.

On 12 April 2025, the Independent National Elections Commission (INEC), Tanzania's electoral commission, barred CHADEMA from contesting in elections for five years, including the coming October elections, asserting that the party had failed to sign a mandatory code of conduct agreement.

On 24 April 2025, following the scheduled hearing for Mr. Lissu, police arrested dozens of people, including senior party leaders, who reportedly tried to access Ksutu Resident Magistrate's Court in Dar es Salaam, where Mr. Lissu's case was being heard. The violent police response reportedly resulted in the death of one person and around 23 injured.

On 10 June 2025, a temporary injunction by the High Court suspended CHADEMA's political activities and use of its assets, on the basis of alleged irregularities in their allocation of resources.

Reports indicate that since 2024, and notably in recent weeks, an alarming escalation has taken place, as human rights violations against journalists, lawyers, human rights defenders, members of civil society organizations and opposition political groups have spiked, including enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention, intimidation, harassment and at least one killing.

Arrest of Mr. Tundu Lissu

On 3 April 2025, Mr. Lissu claimed in a YouTube video that Tanzanian police participated in alleged electoral malpractices ordered by the President following the November 2024 local elections. He further stated that judges in the country are not independent but are subject to pressure from the ruling party.

On 9 April 2025, Tanzanian police arrested Mr. Lissu after he held a political rally addressing CHADEMA members as part of their electoral campaign held in Mbinga town, southwest of Tanzania. After the arrest, Mr. Lissu was reportedly forced into a police vehicle. Police reportedly used excessive force to disperse Mr. Lissu's supporters that had gathered during his arrest, including by firing teargas and shooting in the air.

Police had initially demanded Mr. Lissu to report to the Mbinga District police station, but the reasons were not specified. Additionally, it is reported that Mr. Lissu was not informed of the reason for his arrest or the charges against him. Mr. Lissu was subsequently transferred to Dar es Salaam, more than 1,000 kilometres away by road during the night.

Following his arrest, Mr. Lissu was held incommunicado for almost 24 hours. He was not allowed access to his legal representatives during this period. Reportedly, the Tanzanian police refused to inform his legal representatives or relatives of his location or the reasons for his arrest, this subjecting him to enforced disappearance.

On 10 April 2025, police charged Mr. Lissu with three offences, including "publication of false information," under section 16 of the country's Cyber Crimes Act No. 14 of 2015, and, the non-bailable offence of "treason", under sections 39(2)(d) and 40 of the Tanzanian Penal Code, which can result in the death penalty.

These charges were brought against Mr. Lissu in connection to a video-statement published on YouTube on 3 April 2025 where he called on Tanzanians to boycott the forthcoming elections, citing the possibility of vote rigging. Police allege that the YouTube video included the following statements: *"CHADEMA candidates were disqualified from the 2024 local government elections on the instructions of the President (...). Police officers are being used to steal votes with backpacks (...). Judges are CCM loyalists; they cannot deliver justice because they are eager to receive appointments and be nominated to*

serve as Justices of Appeal.”

Additionally, with regard to the charge of treason, police allege that Mr. Lissu made the public statements in his video: “[T]hey said this campaign amounts to rebellion. It is true... we say we will prevent the election. We will inspire rebellion. That is the way to get change.” “So, we are going to spoil this election. We are going to really disrupt. ... We are going to spoil it very badly.”

On the same date, 10 April 2025, Mr. Lissu appeared before the court. However, the arraignment for the charge of treason was adjourned, as the court lacked jurisdiction over the matter. The prosecution requested additional time to complete investigations related to the treason charges. During the same hearing, Mr. Lissu pleaded not guilty to the charges of publication of false information. Following the hearing, he was remanded in custody, with his next hearing scheduled for 9 May 2025.

In the interim, preliminary hearings were scheduled for 24 April and 28 April 2025. However, Mr. Lissu reportedly did not attend, as he challenged the decision to appear virtually rather than in person, claiming he had not been given prior notice of this arrangement. The matter was then listed for a further hearing on 6 May 2025, during which the Magistrate ruled that Mr. Lissu should be physically brought before the court for a preliminary hearing on 19 May 2025. The treason charges have been listed separately before a Magistrates’ court with jurisdiction to hear that case. The third mention was scheduled for 19 May 2025, while the prosecution pleads that it has not yet completed the investigation.

Prison conditions

On 10 April 2025, following his initial arraignment, Mr. Lissu was remanded at Keko Prison, a pre-trial detention facility in Dar es Salaam, pending commencement of his trial. Mr. Lissu was apparently housed in a six-foot-diameter cell with two other inmates. Reportedly, Mr. Lissu was allowed to be visited by legal representatives and family and be given homemade food.

On 19 April 2025, Mr. Lissu was moved to Ukonga maximum security prison. The prison holds those who are convicted and condemned of serious offences and are awaiting the death penalty. The relocation seems to be unjustified as his remand warrant had assigned him to Keko Prison, and no court had amended the warrant. Additionally, no advance notification was given of the relocation.

Up to date, he is reportedly being held in solitary confinement. His visits have remained strictly limited, he was reportedly refused access to essential medications and has not been allowed to participate in religious services within the prison.

Enforced disappearance of Mr. Mpaluka Said Nyagali

On 2 May 2025, Mr. Nyagali was taken from his residence in Mbeya town, southern Tanzania, by two armed individuals who identified themselves as police officers and who allegedly subjected him to a violent physical assault.

Reportedly, eyewitness state that the two men did not present an arrest warrant or provide a reason for the arrest.

Mr. Nyagali's fate and whereabouts have remained unknown since his deprivation of liberty.

Block of Social Media

On 20 May 2025, internet observatory groups confirmed a disruption of access to the social media platform "X" (formerly Twitter). In early June 2025, the Government announced a nationwide shutdown of social media platform X, justifying the decision on the account that the platform allowed the distribution of pornographic content. Other reports indicate that the shutdown was justified by the authorities citing the hacking of the official X account of the Tanzania Police Force (TANPOL).

Reports indicate that a similar block of the platform, then "Twitter", took place ahead of the 2020 general election.

As of the date of sending this communication, the block of "X" is still in place.

While we do not wish to prejudge the accuracy of the above information or formulate a conclusion on the allegations, we are deeply troubled by the enforced disappearance of Mr. Nyagali and the arrest and ongoing detention of Mr. Lissu. Additionally, we express our grave concern regarding reports of broader repression, including at least one reported case of extrajudicial killing, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention, degrading treatment or punishment in custody, as well as other alleged violations of the human rights of political opposition leaders and members, protesters, social activists, human rights defenders, and other dissidents and critical voices in Tanzania.

We are extremely concerned about the crackdown of opposition political parties, including CHADEMA, which has been disqualified from participating in the upcoming elections. We are also concerned about the apparently arbitrary and unjustified restriction of the access to some social media platforms, including X (formerly Twitter) which has reportedly been indefinitely blocked by the Government in a manner that does not seem to comply with the requirements of legality, necessity, proportionality required under article 19(3) International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

We express our concern that this growing repressive climate occurs as the country approaches its upcoming elections set for October 2025, and that the growing harassment is affecting journalists, human rights defenders, civil society and members of political parties very harshly.

In line with our previous communication AL TZA 3/2024, we note the seeming misuse of the Cyber Crimes Act and the Criminal Code to suppress the exercise of freedom of expression and access to information, as well as its use to facilitate or conceal the commission of human rights violations.

Should the allegations be confirmed, they could amount to violations, inter alia, of articles 6, 7, 9, 14, 16 and 19, read alone and in conjunction with its article 2(3), of the ICCPR, which the United Republic of Tanzania ratified on 11 June 1976. We recall articles 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the United Nations Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, which, among others, establishes that no State shall practice, permit or tolerate enforced disappearances. Moreover, we would like to refer to the report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances on enforced disappearances and elections (A/HRC/57/54/Add.4), which draws a correlation in the increase of reported cases of enforced disappearances during election cycle, in particular amongst political opponents, dissenters, human rights defenders, and journalists, and emphasized how this practice creates a severe chilling effect on voter turnout and a general sense of disempowerment among citizens.

We note that, in her new report on “freedom of expression and elections in the digital age,” the Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression has expressed her alarm about the “high risk of abuse of criminal law, especially in electoral contexts,” and called on States to refrain from spreading “electoral disinformation and attacks on election officials, fact checkers and the media,” from “internet shutdowns, disruptions and the blocking of platforms or websites, as such actions are inherently disproportionate,” from “compelling platforms to censor, remove or block content that is legitimate under international law,” and from “restricting freedom of expression both online and offline, including for the purposes of combating disinformation, except in accordance with the requirements of legality, necessity, proportionality and legitimate objectives as set out in international law.”

In relation to alleged violations of the right to life, we would like to emphasize the obligation to investigate all potentially unlawful deprivations of life in line with international standards including the Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death (2016).

In connection with the above alleged facts and concerns, please refer to the **Annex on Reference to international human rights law** attached to this letter which cites international human rights instruments and standards relevant to these allegations.

As it is our responsibility, under the mandates provided to us by the Human Rights Council, to seek to clarify all cases brought to our attention, we would be grateful for your observations on the following matters:

1. Please provide any additional information and/or comment(s) you may have on the above-mentioned allegations.
2. Please provide information on the fate and whereabouts, as well as the state of health of Mr. Mpaluka Said Nyagali.
3. Please provide the details of any investigation that has been initiated on the alleged enforced disappearance of Mr. Mpaluka Said Nyagali, indicating the measures taken to determine his fate and whereabouts urgently and to ensure that these are conveyed to his relatives and legal representatives immediately. If no investigation has been initiated, please explain the reasons. If he has been arrested by State security

forces, please provide information on the factual and legal basis for the arrest of Mr. Nyagali.

4. Please provide information on the factual and legal basis for the arrest, ongoing detention and charges brought against of Mr. Tundu Lissu. Please indicate how these are compatible with international human rights standards, including articles 9 and 19 of the ICCPR.
5. Please clarify the safeguards that were granted to Mr. Lissu from the outset of his arrest and throughout judicial proceedings to ensure his trial is fair and in respect of due process standards, including prompt and confidential access to lawyers and contact with the family.
6. Please provide information about measures taken to ensure that all citizens including opposition members, activists, lawyers, journalists and human rights defenders are able exercise the right to freedom of expression, and the right to freedom of assembly and association, including public criticism of the Government and other public authorities as well as their decisions and policies, in a safe and enabling environment without fear of harassment, criminalization or acts of intimidation of any kind in retaliation for expressing views critical of the Government.
7. Please provide the details of any investigation, or judicial or other inquiries, including the specific State entity responsible for such investigation or inquiry, which may have been carried out in relation to the reported enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrest, detention, or degrading treatment or punishment of human rights defenders, civil society members and political activists in Tanzania to establish accountability and ensure justice. If no inquiries or investigations have taken place, or if they have been inconclusive, please explain the reasons for this.
8. Please provide information on any investigations that have been carried out in relation to the alleged extrajudicial killing of one individual as well as the death during a protest on 24 April 2025 of another. Please include information on how the investigations complied with international standards including the Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death.
9. Please indicate the factual and legal grounds for restrictions on the access to the social media platform “X” allegedly implemented by the government since 20 May 2025. Please further indicate whether and how are these restrictions compatible with international human rights law and standards regarding freedom of expression and access to information and how do these measures comply with the requirements of necessity and proportionality.

This communication and any response received from your Excellency’s Government will be made public via the communications reporting [website](#) within 60 days. They will also subsequently be made available in the usual report to be

presented to the Human Rights Council.

While awaiting a reply, we urge that all necessary interim measures be taken to prevent any irreparable harm to the life and personal integrity of Mr. Mpaluka Said Nyagali and Mr. Tindu Lissu, to halt the alleged violations and prevent their re-occurrence and in the event that the investigations support or suggest the allegations to be correct, to ensure the accountability of any person(s) responsible for the alleged violations.

We may publicly express our concerns in the near future as, in our view, the information upon which the press release will be based is sufficiently reliable to indicate a matter warranting immediate attention. We also believe that the wider public should be alerted to the potential implications of the above-mentioned allegations. The press release will indicate that we have been in contact with your Excellency's Government's to clarify the issue/s in question.

We would like to inform you that having transmitted a communication, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention may also transmit the case through its regular procedure in order to render an opinion on whether the deprivation of liberty was arbitrary or not. The present communication in no way prejudices any opinion the Working Group may render. The Government is required to respond separately to this letter and the regular procedure.

We would like to bring to the attention of your Excellency's Government that should sources submit the allegations concerning individual cases of enforced disappearances for the consideration of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances under its humanitarian procedure, the case will be examined by the Working Group according to its methods of work, in which case your Excellency's Government will be informed by separate correspondence.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Irene Khan

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression

Gabriella Citroni

Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Morris Tidball-Binz

Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Gina Romero

Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

Margaret Satterthwaite

Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers

Annex

Reference to international human rights law

In connection with above alleged facts and concerns, we would like to refer to aforementioned articles 6, 7, 9, 14, 16 and 19, read alone and in conjunction with article 2(3) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), ratified by Tanzania on 11 June 1976. In addition we refer to articles 7, 9 and 11 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, ratified by Tanzania on 18 February 1984.

Article 19 of the ICCPR guarantees the right to freedom of opinion and the right to freedom of expression, which includes the right "to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media". This right applies online as well as offline, protects the freedom of the press as one of its core elements and includes not only the exchange of information that is favourable, but also that which may criticize, shock, or offend. Additionally, article 9 and 11 from the African Charter further guarantee the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

In its general comment No. 34, the Human Rights Committee stated that States parties to the ICCPR are required to guarantee the right to freedom of expression, including "political discourse, commentary on one's own and on public affairs, canvassing, discussion of human rights, journalism, cultural and artistic expression, teaching, and religious discourse" (CCPR/C/GC/34, para. 11). The Committee states that article 19 also covers the right of a free press and other media able to comment on public issues without censorship or restraint and to inform public opinion and a corresponding right of the public to receive media output.

The Committee further asserts that there is a duty of States to put in place effective measures to protect against attacks aimed at silencing those exercising their right to freedom of expression (para. 23). Recognizing how journalists and persons who engage in the gathering and analysis of information on the human rights situation and who publish human rights-related reports, including judges and lawyers, are frequently subjected to threats, intimidation and attacks because of their activities, the Committee stresses that "all such attacks should be vigorously investigated in a timely fashion, and the perpetrators prosecuted, and the victims, or, in the case of killings, their representatives, be in receipt of appropriate forms of redress" (para. 23).

Any restriction on the right to freedom of expression must be compatible with the requirements set out in article 19(3) ICCPR. Under these requirements, restrictions must (i) be provided by law; (ii) pursue one of the legitimate aims for restriction, which are the respect of the rights or reputations of others and the protection of national security or of public order (*ordre public*), or of public health or morals; and (iii) be necessary and proportionate for those objectives. The State has the burden of proof to demonstrate that any such restrictions are compatible with the Covenant, proving "in specific and individualized fashion the precise nature of the threat, and the necessity and proportionality of the specific action taken, in particular by establishing a direct and immediate connection between the expression and the threat" (CCPR/C/GC/34, para. 35). The Human Rights Committee recalled that the relation between right and

restriction and between norm and exception must not be reversed. In this regard, the Human Rights Committee stated that the restrictions must be “the least intrusive instrument among those which might achieve their protective function”. (CCPR/C/GC/34, para. 34).

We would also like to recall to your Excellency’s Government of articles 21 and 22 of the ICCPR “The right of peaceful assembly shall be recognized. No restrictions may be placed on the exercise of this right other than those imposed in conformity with the law and which are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, public order (ordre public), the protection of public health or morals or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others” (article 21).

“No restrictions may be placed on the exercise of this right other than those which are prescribed by law and which are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, public order (ordre public), the protection of public health or morals or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others. This article shall not prevent the imposition of lawful restrictions on members of the armed forces and of the police in their exercise of this right” (article 22 (2)).

In her report to the Human Rights Council on the impact of “super election” cycle on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (A/HRC/59/44), the Special Rapporteur on freedom of peaceful assembly and association stressed that “the widespread violations of fundamental freedoms in many countries highlight the necessity of establishing preventive strategies to facilitate the exercise of the rights to freedom of assembly and of association, in consultation with diverse civil society actors and opposition parties, addressing past and current human rights concerns, and systemic discrimination” and recommended that prior to elections, States should implement the Model Protocol for Law enforcement officials to promote and protect human rights in the context of peaceful protests and implement election protection strategies, as well as provide for law enforcement in facilitating peaceful protests and opposition campaign rallies.

In its resolution 12/16, the Human Rights Council called on States to refrain from imposing restrictions that are not consistent with article 19(3), including: discussion of government policies and political debate; reporting on human rights; engaging in peaceful demonstrations or political activities, including for peace or democracy; and expression of opinion and dissent, religion or belief, including by persons belonging to minorities or vulnerable groups (A/HRC/RES/12/26).

We also wish to call Your Excellency’s attention to Human Rights Council resolution 13/13, which urges States to put an end to and take concrete steps to prevent threats, harassment, violence and attacks by States and non-State actors against all those engaged in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms (A/HRC/RES/13/13).

With regard to the alleged enforced disappearance, if confirmed, it would amount to violations of articles 6, 7, 9 and 16 of the ICCPR, read alone and in conjunction with article 2(3). Moreover, it would entail a violation of article 7, read alone and in conjunction with article 2(3) of the ICCPR with regard to the relatives of the disappeared person. Furthermore, the absolute and non-derogable prohibition of

enforced disappearances (articles 2 and 7) has also attained the status of jus cogens and we also draw your Excellency's Government's attention to the United Nations Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, which establishes that no State shall practice, permit or tolerate enforced disappearances and make reference to general comment No. 36 (2018) on article 6 of the ICCPR, which states, *inter alia*, that extreme forms of arbitrary detention that are themselves life-threatening, in particular enforced disappearances, violate the right to personal liberty and personal security and are incompatible with the right to life (para. 57), and that enforced disappearance constitutes a unique and integrated series of acts and omissions representing a grave threat to life, and States parties must take adequate measures to prevent the enforced disappearance of individuals, and conduct an effective and speedy inquiry to establish the fate and whereabouts of persons who may have been subject to enforced disappearance. (para. 58).

We also reiterate that duration is not a constitutive element of enforced disappearance under international human rights law, therefore regardless of the duration, enforced disappearance produces serious harm and consequences for the disappeared and their families (CED/C/11). In addition, we also draw your Excellency's Government's attention to the Working Group's report on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances on enforced disappearances and elections (A/HRC/57/54/Add.4), study on enforced disappearance and economic, social and cultural rights (A/HRC/30/38/Add.5), report on new technologies and enforced disappearances (A/HRC/54/22/ADD.5), and the report on its visit to the African Union judicial and human rights organs and other subregional bodies (A/HRC/57/54/Add.1) in particular in relation to observation of contexts where legislation related to technology (especially to the use of social media and cybercrime) is speciously used to facilitate or conceal the commission of enforced disappearance and for prosecuting human rights defenders and relatives of disappeared persons who employ such means to report enforced disappearances or to denounce abuses. In this regard, Tanzania must take adequate measures to prevent the enforced disappearance of individuals and conduct an effective and speedy inquiry to establish the fate and whereabouts of persons who may have been subject to enforced disappearance. In this regard, we make reference to the [Guidelines on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances in Africa](#).

In addition, we would like to bring to the attention of your Excellency's Government articles 14, 19 and 22 of the ICCPR, which establish the guarantees of due process, and the protection of the rights to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as freedom of association, respectively.

We wish to refer to the inherent right to life and the right not to be subjected to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, as enshrined in article 3 and 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and in article 6 and 7 of the ICCPR, the latter ratified by the United Republic of Tanzania on 11th June 1976.

We would like to remind your Excellency's Government about its obligations under article 6 of the ICCPR which guarantees the right to life.

Article 6 of the ICCPR is included in the list of non-derogable rights in article 4 (2) of the Covenant. Hence, the guarantees against arbitrary deprivation of life contained in article 6 continue to apply in all circumstances, including in situations of

armed conflict and other public emergencies.

An important element of the protection afforded to the right to life by the Covenant is the obligation on the States parties, where they know or should have known of potentially unlawful deprivations of life, to investigate and, where appropriate, prosecute the perpetrators of such incidents, including incidents involving allegations of excessive use of force with lethal consequences. Investigations and prosecutions of potentially unlawful deprivations of life should be undertaken in accordance with relevant international standards, including the Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death, and must be aimed at ensuring that those responsible are brought to justice, at promoting accountability and preventing impunity, at avoiding denial of justice and at drawing necessary lessons for revising practices and policies with a view to avoiding repeated violations (Human Rights Committee, general comment 36).

We would also like to refer your Excellency's Government to article 9 of the ICCPR, which states that everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. Article 9 of the UDHR and article 9 of the ICCPR further states that no one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedure as are established by law. According to Deliberation No. 10 on reparation for arbitrary deprivation of liberty of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, all victims of arbitrary deprivation of liberty are entitled to an enforceable right before the competent national authority to prompt and adequate reparations, which should be proportional to the gravity of the violations and the harm suffered. Additionally, as per the jurisprudence of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and general comment No. 35, detention of an individual as punishment for the legitimate exercise of rights guaranteed by the Covenant is arbitrary. The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has also reiterated that enforced disappearances constitute an aggravated form of arbitrary detention.