<u>Declaration by the High Representative</u> <u>on behalf of the EU on the upcoming</u> elections in Tanzania

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The citizens of the United Republic of Tanzania will elect on 28 October their President, Members of the parliaments of the Union and Zanzibar, as well as local councillors. The European Union would like to reiterate its support to the development and prosperity of the people of Tanzania and, in line with Article 4 of the Southern Africa Development Community treaty establishing the principles of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, its attachment to this process towards the consolidation of democratic institutions.

Reports of incidents and limitations in the run-up to the elections are of concern. The EU encourages all parties to work together diligently to enable inclusive, transparent, peaceful and credible elections. Democracy thrives from freedom of expression and assembly, and a political environment that values citizen engagement, equal participation, impartiality of state institutions, and upholds human rights. We look forward to our next steps for constructive, full cooperation between the EU and Tanzania.