



49<sup>th</sup> Session of the HRC  
Item 6 – UPR Outcome of Tanzania  
Geneva, 23-24 March 2022  
Speaker: Maria D’Onofrio

Oral statement submitted by  
**IIMA – Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice**  
And co-signed by  
**VIDES International – International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education  
and Development**

IIMA and VIDES commend the constructive participation of the United Republic of Tanzania in its third UPR.

We welcome the acceptance of recommendations 145.79<sup>1</sup>, 81<sup>2</sup> and 83<sup>3</sup> aiming to increase school enrollment and ensure quality education. We remain concerned by the persistent disparity in access to quality education between the urban and rural districts and by the high rate of children who drop out as they progress along the educational system, especially girls. About 5,500 girls per year stop schooling due to pregnancy.<sup>4</sup> While welcoming the acceptance of recommendation 145.82<sup>5</sup> on the topic, we regret that other relevant recommendations to refrain from imposing a ban on pregnant girls and young women attending schools have only been noted by the United Republic of Tanzania.<sup>6</sup>

Children, especially girls, who are out of school are more at risk of being exposed to early marriages and pregnancies, drug abuse, crimes, child labor, unemployment and gender-related violence. They are trapped in a cycle of poverty.

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<sup>1</sup>Recommendation 145.79 “Strengthen measures for school enrolment and school infrastructure development” (Morocco); 145.83 Continue its efforts to increase school enrolment and enhance access to education (Sri Lanka); See Report of the UPR Working Group, UN Document A/HRC/49/13, 21 December 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Recommendation 145.81 “Continue improving public and technical education in rural areas” (Yemen); *Idem*.

<sup>3</sup> Recommendation 145.83 “Continue its efforts to increase school enrolment and enhance access to education (Sri Lanka); *Idem*.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/factsheet/2020/03/31/tanzania-secondary-education-quality-improvement-program-sequip>

<sup>5</sup> Recommendation 145.82: “Review laws and policies to ensure that girls who fall pregnant while in school, are married or young mothers can re-enter the formal education system” (Slovenia). See Report of the UPR Working Group, UN Document A/HRC/49/13, 21 December 2021.

<sup>6</sup> Recommendations 147.111 to 115, and 147.117. *Idem*.

**Therefore, IIMA and VIDES call on the United Republic of Tanzania to proceed with immediate and effective implementation of relevant UPR recommendations on the above-mentioned issues.**

Thank You