



EALA elects new members of commission

From DAILY NEWS Reporter in Arusha

THE East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) has elected new members of its Commission as its first Session of the fifth Assembly kicked off here last week.

The new Commission Members replace those whose tenure ended in December 2022. They shall serve for the balance of two and a half years up to June 2025.

The functions of the EALA Commission include to manage the affairs of the Assembly; to organise the business and programme of the House, to nominate members of the Standing and other Committees; and to do any other function that is incidental to the furtherance of the above.

Commission Members from all Partner States were unanimously elected by acclamation on the floor of the House.

The move followed the nomination of two Members each by the respective Partner State.

Those who made to the commission include Karerwa Mo Mamo and Ntisezerana Gabriel from Burundi, while Fatuma Ndagiza and Musangabware Clément who formed a team from Rwanda.

Uganda was represented by Denis Namara and George Odongo while Tanzania, which also hosts the EAC headquarters featured Dr Makame Abdulla Hasnuu and Dr Maghembe Ng'waru Jumanne.

The functions of the Commission include manag-

ing and organising the business and programmes of the Assembly, nominating Members of Standing and other Committees and making recommendations to the Council on terms and conditions of service of Members of the Assembly.

In line with Section 3 (2) of the Administration of the East African Legislative Assembly Act, 2012, the Commission is composed of the Speaker, the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers who shall be an ex-officio and two Members of the Assembly from each Partner State elected by the Assembly.

The East African Legislative Assembly is the Legislative Organ of the East African Community. Its Membership consists of a total of 72, of whom 63 are

elected Members (9 from each Partner State) and 9 ex-officio members (the Ministers responsible for EAC Affairs from the Partner States, the Secretary General of the Community and the Counsel to the Community).

The East African Legislative Assembly has legislative functions as well as oversight of all East African Community matters.

The enactment of legislation of the Community is put in effect by means of Bills passed by the Assembly and assented to by the Heads of State, and every Bill that has been duly passed and assented to become an Act of the Community and takes precedent over similar legislations in the Partner States.

EALA has to date passed 79 pieces of legislation.



A SIGN post with a spelling error of the name of the founder and chairman of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) the late Yasser Arafat is placed on the street as captured at Oysterbay area in Dar es Salaam, over the weekend. (Photo by Mohamed Mambo)

Expert decries child abuse acts

From DAILY NEWS Reporter in Moshi

AN expert in sexual reproductive health has decried the level of child abuse in Tanzania.

Ms Suzana Mkanzabi, who is also the Executive Director of UMATI noted here recently that cases of child abuse were so alarming, calling on authorities to swing to action to avert further cases.

Ms Mkanzabi, who was briefing reporters on the sidelines of UMATI General Meeting here midweek, said such a reality was derailing the country from realising the Sustainable Development Goal(SDG) of ending all forms of violence against children by 2030.

“Child abuse is still rife and it could possibly compromise the SDGs goal,” she said.

According to Ms Mkanzabi, some partner states within the East African Community (EAC) were registering strides in realising the goal.

A 2021 report by HakiElimu, a leading NGO in education in Tanzania, indicated that 87.9 per cent of schoolchildren have experienced one or more forms of physical violence in their life.

Caning was identified as the leading form of physical violence experienced by schoolchildren. More than 90 per cent of all schoolchildren stated that they have experienced caning.

For his part, UMATI National Chairperson Swedi Twaibu Swedi said the annual gathering would, among other things receive key board updates and also inform members on the initiation of new projects in Morogoro, Pemba and Dodoma.

UMATI is an autonomous, not for profit, non-political national NGO providing Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) information, education and services in Tanzania.

It was established in 1959 and is a full Member Association of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF); recently accredited by IPPF in September, 2019.

CCM women’s wing leaders urged to shun favouritism in elections

From GEORGE SEMBONY in Tanga

LEADERS and executives of Women’s Wing of the Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) have been warned against favouring candidates of their choice in intraparty elections.

They have instead been asked to let the members choose the candidates they believe will best serve them.

Ms Mary Chatanda, new Chairperson of the UWT and a member of the CCM Central Committee, made the plea recently in Korogwe when addressing UWT and CCM members from all nine districts and neighbouring regions during her reception as the new wing’s chairperson.

According to Chatanda, the party lost some constituencies, wards, or villages in the elections as a result of the malpractice.

“Let us do what is right for our members and citizens. Leaders and executives should stop dictating who should and should not run for office. Allow members and citizens to speak for themselves,” Ms Chatanda stated.

She asserted that the words she is pronouncing are the instructions of the CCM Chairman, Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan, who has expressed her displeasure with some of the deeds of some leaders and executives who force candidates of their choice on members during the election, Ms Chatanda said when responding to comments made by Kwashemshi Ward Councillor in Korogwe and Mr Twahiru Tindikai, who joined CCM from Chama cha Demokrasi na Maendeleo (CHADEMA).

Tindikai claimed that opponents have been winning votes in some constituencies, wards, or villages due to the weakness of some CCM leaders and executives, who have been forcing members to ap-

prove candidates who are unpopular among members and citizens in general.

Ms Chatanda also stated that CCM leaders and executives have not taken the necessary steps to publicise the great work done by the party and Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan.

She directed them to take action beginning in January of next year to go to members and citizens and speak about the work being done by the CCM government and President Samia.

She also directed them to monitor projects carried out in accordance with the CCM Manifesto.

“Don’t wait for the Prime Minister to arrive and find out about bad projects. We could have discovered them ourselves if we had made a

habit of keeping an eye on these projects. Let’s stop talking about

people. Let us carry out our responsibilities,” She stated.

The UWT Chairperson also criticised party leaders for going to government officials and begging for money, which he said gave the officials an opportunity to embezzle funds under the guise of helping the party.

She challenged leaders and executives to change and design projects that will enable UWT and CCM to become self-sufficient and avoid becoming beggars. She warned that if they would fail to be honest and supervise civil servants they will continue to rely on them financially.

Ms Zainab Shomari, Vice Chairperson of the UWT, emphasised the importance of solidarity and love among UWT and CCM members.

“We want UWT to be a safe haven for all women, regardless of party, race, religion, or ethnicity,” Ms Shomari said.



STRENGTH BEYOND ALL ODDS

Nusra Ally Juma, of Mvumero District splits stones outside her home on May 31, 2022 -By Denis Robert

Disability, according to the 2006 UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is defined as physical, attitudinal, and environmental barriers that hinder one’s full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. In Tanzania disability is associated with prejudice and negative attitude. People with disabilities are viewed as worthy of pity, dependent and as such not an integral part of the community they live in. This view is contrary to basic human rights. The constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania firmly states that all human beings are equal and are entitled to equal rights irrespective of color, tribe, gender, and/or religion. These rights however have not been a guarantee for many in Tanzania especially people with albinism who continue to be discriminated against and have limited opportunities to live dignified lives.

The 69-year-old Bi Nusra Ally, however, has defied the odds. A resident of Turian village in Mvumero District, Nusra mostly spends her time in her compound splitting stones to make a living. Nusra was born with albinism. At 4 years, Nusra could not join others to play in the compound, neither could she follow as they went to the borehole to fetch water. She was mainly looking on in the morning when others leave for school and when they come in the evenings as her parents could not allow her to go to school fearing that she could be kidnapped or killed. Nusra simply recalls back the way her parents refused her the right to education in excuse of her albinism as they were thinking that something bad could happen to her if they let her walk miles to school. Nusra however, is a true example of the saying that “disability is not inability”. Just because someone has different limits than yours, doesn’t mean that they are unable, Bi Nusra says.”

Nusra’s testimony and advice. “All my life, I have heard that people who have disabilities are limited”, admits Nusra. She further comments that “there is a need to differentiate the person from the disability”. Too often, people refer to me as “ALBINO,” when in reality, I am a person who only happens to have a disability of albinism. I wish people could appreciate the power of their words, and how they affect others! The words we choose to use are powerful, and once we say them, there’s no taking them back. In our village, people named us *Zeru Zeru* meaning *Zero Zero* “that we are nothing”. This is to the extent that when I pass near a pregnant woman, she spits saliva around her stomach so that she cannot give birth to a child like me. This is insanity. It’s important that we are not only mindful of the words that we use, but that we are also educated on the meanings behind them and the appropriate manner in which we should use them. For more than twenty years now I have been splitting tones to make a living and to prove people wrong that people with albinism can also do hard work like other people with no albinism. In spite of her old age, Nusra walks 2-3 kilometers to fetch the stones so that she can come back to split them and make gravel out of them and sell the aggregate therefrom.



Currently, ADRA is implementing *Support for Entrepreneurship and Employment for Persons with Albinism* (SEEPa II) project, targeting 315 youths in Morogoro and Dodoma regions of Tanzania mainland. The project is co-financed within the framework of the Polish Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland (www.gov.pl/polishaid). SEEPa is implemented in partnership with Small Industries Development organization (SIDO), Regional and District Health departments and Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS) to promote access to employment (both salaried and own business) for through vocational and business development skills training and start-up support.

In consonance with the 2030 Agenda which advocates for the Leave No One Behind (LNOB), ADRA calls upon all government and other stakeholders to support the empowerment of persons with albinism with livelihood opportunities so that they can live self-reliant and dignified lives. “*Being enabled to make a living and contribute to society doesn’t only make a difference, it makes a life.*” (The Albino Foundation)

This story is exclusively the view of the author and cannot be identified with the official stance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland.

She sells one bucket of split stones for 1,000TZS equivalent to 0.4297USD. In a day, she is able to split up to three buckets.

By
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