Hon.Ridhiwani Kikwete calls for stronger cybersecurity measures

Tanzania's National Development Vision (NDV) 2050 outlines a future where over 80 percent of government services are accessible via secure, user-friendly digital platforms, contributing to a digitally empowered society that fosters innovation, productivity, and global competitiveness.

As the government moves towards digitalizing services to enhance delivery, transparency, and accountability, Hon.Ridhiwani Kikwete, Minister of State in the President's Office – Public Service Management and Good Governance, called on stakeholders to prioritize cybersecurity.



He made the remarks at the conclusion of the three-day 6th e-Government Annual Conference held in Arusha, which brought together thousands of delegates from the public and private sectors, as well as government officials.

Held at the Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC) from February 17–19, 2026, the conference was themed "Enhancing Government Performance by Strengthening Public Service Delivery through Secure and Inclusive e-Government Systems."

“One of the major challenges we face today is the frequent cyberattacks on our systems,” Minister Ridhiwani stated, urging participants to continue strengthening the protection of government networks. He stressed the need for public sector institutions to invest in continuous training for ICT experts to keep up with rapidly evolving technologies.

“Without ongoing learning, ICT professionals risk falling behind, which could expose the country to significant security risks,” he added.

Drawing lessons from global cybersecurity practices, Minister Ridhiwani cited Indonesia and Dubai, where countries organize cybersecurity competitions to identify system vulnerabilities through ethical hacking before they can be exploited. He commended the e-Government Authority’s (e-GA) young professionals for their work in safeguarding government platforms, though he highlighted concerns that some institutions only seek e-GA’s help after experiencing cyberattacks.

“There is still a problem where public servants use private platforms to send official government information. This is a huge risk,” Mr Ridhiwani remarked, emphasizing that e-GA has already provided secure communication systems for official government use.

He further emphasized the importance of e-GA’s central role in overseeing and securing government digital systems. “I urge you to ensure that we do not misuse government networks for personal or unofficial communications.”

ICT Progress and Leadership

During the meeting, Dr. Damas Ndumbaro, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Governance, Constitution, and Legal Affairs, praised the role of e-Government in Tanzania's development. He noted that ICT has become a cornerstone of modern life, and Tanzania’s progress in this area is a testament to the leadership of President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan.



"Without e-Government, we cannot make progress today. ICT has become central to how we live and work," Dr. Ndumbaro stated. He also acknowledged Parliament's role in driving the country's digital transformation, pledging support for addressing policy, legal, and budgetary challenges in the ICT sector.

Eng. Benedict Ndomba, Director General of e-GA, noted that the conference offered a critical platform to align Tanzania's digital efforts with the goals of Vision 2050. "e-Government is central to realizing Vision 2050, enabling transparency, accountability, and youth employment in the ICT sector," he stated. Eng. Ndomba reaffirmed e-GA's commitment to collaborating with all stakeholders to ensure the success of Vision 2050.