

# CCM gives land office 14 days to resolve disputes

From SHAKILA MTAMBO in Nzega

RULING Chama Cha Mapinduzi Secretary for Ideology, Publicity and Training Mr Kenani Kihongosi has issued a two-week ultimatum to Nzega District Land Office to investigate and resolve the ongoing land disputes in the area.

He further warned that legal action will be taken against local government leaders found to be complicit in causing the conflicts.

Mr Kihongosi also directed the Nzega District Commissioner, Naitapwaki Tukai to conduct a thorough investigation into a land dispute said to have persisted since 1996 between Richard Charles and his neighbours to ensure a lasting solution is reached.

He issued the directives while addressing residents' grievances during a public rally held at the Old Bus Stand grounds in Nzega District, Tabora Region on Monday.

Mr Kihongosi stated that some leaders have been exacerbating land conflicts by accepting bribes from prospective buyers, resulting in situations where a single plot is allocated to multiple individuals.

"There are individuals intentionally creating disputes by accepting bribes. Don't hastily assume there are two owners and just ask each party to show their boundaries. Investigate thoroughly to uncover the truth. If a local chairperson claims

not to know one of the claimants, verify the facts to ensure the truth is revealed," he said.

His remarks followed a complaint by a Nzega resident, Fatuma Abdallah, who alleged that her neighbour, identified as Selemani, sold her plot to two different buyers. She further claimed that the local chairperson denied recognising her as the rightful owner.

Fatuma said she had travelled to Dar es Salaam to care for her sick child and upon returning found her land oc-

cupied. She was informed that Selemani had sold the plot to two people, claiming to be the registered owner following a land formalisation process.

Mr Kihongosi instructed the Assistant Land Commissioner to verify the legitimate owner of the land and establish from whom the buyers had purchased it. He stressed that any local government official found complicit should face appropriate disciplinary measures.

"Confirm where the buy-

ers obtained the land and identify the original owner. Land matters are sensitive and vulnerable groups, especially elderly women, are often unfairly dispossessed. Fulfil your responsibilities and thoroughly investigate the matter," he ordered.

Regarding the dispute involving Richard Charles, the resident claimed that the case was initially filed at the District Court in 1996 but was later dismissed. A new case was filed in 2010, which he won, but he alleged that the

village government failed to enforce the ruling.

"Currently, the village chairperson is mobilising residents to protest and even close a school, while some are cultivating the land by force. I have reported the matter to the District Commissioner, who advised me to consult the District Executive Director," he said.

Mr Kihongosi directed the District Commissioner to follow up on the matter and ensure justice is served to the rightful owner after review-

ing evidence from both sides, in order to end the long-running dispute.

Another issue raised during the meeting concerned compensation claims by Kihongosi residents, who said their land was taken by the military without compensation.

During the rally, Mr Kihongosi listened to and addressed more than 40 grievances relating to land disputes, compensation, health services, roads and electricity in the district.

## CS calls for responsible use of ICT for national development

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create technologies that contribute to development while putting safeguards in place to prevent misuse," Dr Kusiluka said.

"The world is becoming less safe due to the misuse of the internet."

Dr Kusiluka was speaking at the opening of the 6th e-Government Annual Meeting 2026 at the Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC) in Arusha, where he urged participants to guide the youth and internet users in using ICT responsibly.

"We need to ensure that we provide guidance to internet users, particularly the youth, to harness ICT in positive ways that drive development rather than crime," he added.

He further stressed that the success of Tanzania's Vision 2050 heavily relies on the appropriate use of ICT. "We must be serious about ICT if we are to achieve the goals of our national development agenda," Dr Kusiluka said, encouraging the meeting's participants to engage deeply in discussions on how ICT can enhance national growth.

According to Dr Kusiluka, significant strides have been made in the e-Government sector, and the government is committed to increasing the digitalisation of public services.

"Tanzania has gained international recognition for its use of ICT in public service delivery, and we commend the efforts of the e-Government Authority (e-GA)," he said.

Tanzania's achievements include winning the UN Public Service Award and being recognised in the World Bank's Govtech Maturity Index.

"Our country is on the right path in digital transformation," Dr Kusiluka affirmed, noting the success of Tanzanian ICT professionals in international institutions and organisations. "ICT experts from Tanzania are doing well globally and are capable of excelling anywhere in the world."

The government has invested heavily in education to prepare the next generation of ICT professionals. "In the areas where we have not fallen behind as a nation, ICT is a key factor, and we must continue to stay ahead in this field," he said, reinforcing the importance of ICT in achieving sustainable development.

Dr Kusiluka also used the occasion to remind heads of public institutions to ensure that they secure e-Government systems from sabotage. "Some people are not prepared to see the government operate transparently, with accountability and efficiency," he remarked. He further urged public institutions to adhere to the guidance provided by e-GA to ensure government online systems are safe and effective.

Director-General of e-GA, Engineer Benedict Ndomba, explained that the meeting, with around 1,400 participants, aimed to discuss the implementation of e-Government in service delivery and address emerging challenges.

The theme for this year's meeting is 'Improving Government Performance by Strengthening Public Service Delivery through Secure and Inclusive E-Government Systems.'

Eng Ndomba highlighted that the meeting's theme aligns with Tanzania's Vision 2050, which aims to ensure that by 2050, 80 per cent of government services will be provided digitally.

Chairperson of the e-GA Board, Dr Mussa Kisaka, reiterated that the meeting was part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the e-Government framework in Tanzania. "The Authority will continue to play a pivotal role in building an efficient and secure e-Government system," Dr Kisaka said.



## PM stresses value for money

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school and health projects. He cited cases where newly installed building components deteriorated within months and where cement meant for public projects was left to harden due to poor supervision. He directed that responsible officials face disciplinary action and that losses be recovered.

Dr Nchemba also instructed the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to investigate projects with unusual cost escalations and suspected misuse of funds.

"Hiding behind rising costs to justify incomplete projects is a tactic to conceal misuse of public funds. Follow up every detail and take legal action where necessary," he said.

In Kilindi District, he laid the foundation stone for a 2.64bn/- District Hospital project, saying it will ease referral burdens and reduce treatment costs for residents who previously travelled long distances for healthcare services. He directed that the facility be strengthened to handle emergency cases locally.

The Prime Minister also inspected and launched major power infrastructure projects, including the Mkata power

substation and transmission lines, stressing that reliable electricity is vital for industrial growth and improved service delivery.

He warned contractors against diverting project funds, insisting that payments must reflect actual work completed.

"We want to see value for money in every project. The amount paid must match the work done," he said.

During the tour, he also inspected the Kwamaligwa water project, which is expected to serve more than 36,000 residents upon completion, calling for close monitoring to ensure timely delivery.

Dr Nchemba described the large-scale infrastructure investments in the region as evidence of the government's commitment to people-centred development.

He further inspected the Pangani Bridge project, valued at over 100bn/-, saying it will unlock trade, transport and tourism by replacing ferry services and ensuring 24-hour connectivity. He directed local authorities to develop supporting infrastructure, including a modern bus terminal and access roads, alongside the bridge.

At the Tanga Campus of Mzumbe University, he laid

the foundation stone for higher education infrastructure worth more than 12bn/- under the Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) programme. Construction has reached over 80 per cent and includes academic buildings, laboratories, hostels and a health centre.

The Prime Minister also toured the East African Crude Oil Pipeline facilities in Tanga and expressed satisfaction with the progress of the multi-billion-dollar project linking Tanzania and Uganda.

He described the pipeline as a strategic regional investment offering employment and local content opportunities for Tanzanians. However, he warned against foreign firms attempting to misuse local registration arrangements to bypass local content regulations.

"This project reserves a significant share for Tanzanians. Anyone attempting to unlawfully take away that share will face strict action," he said.

Dr Nchemba concluded by reaffirming the government's commitment to strict supervision, accountability and the timely completion of development projects to ensure citizens directly benefit from public investments.

## Zanzibar unveils 8.27tri/- growth plan

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"The Blue Economy remains central to our strategy. We are investing in deep-sea fishing infrastructure, fish processing industries, seaweed farming expansion and marine tourism, including conference and medical tourism," he said.

He added, "The aim is to increase value addition, boost export earnings and raise incomes in coastal communities."

Under economic reforms, Dr Akili said the government will revive dormant factories, expand Free Economic Zones, promote agro-processing and support local manufacturers through policy and tax reforms.

"Strengthening domestic production will reduce imports, create employment opportunities and improve our trade balance," he said.

In the social sectors, the plan prioritises healthcare

expansion through the Zanzibar Health Services Fund, hospital upgrades, education quality improvements, skills development and broader social protection for elderly citizens. Nearly half of the population has already been registered under the health fund.

On governance and public finance, the framework focuses on improving efficiency, strengthening financial management systems, expanding digital revenue collection and promoting Gender Responsive Budgeting to ensure equitable allocation of resources.

For 2026, the government projects real GDP growth of 7.5 per cent, inflation at around five per cent, domestic revenue reaching 33.4 per cent of GDP and a fiscal deficit below three per cent. Per capita income is expected to rise to 1,449 US dollars.

"Our objective is to drive structural transformation, expand private sector participation and ensure sustainable growth that benefits all citizens," Dr Akili said.

The 8.27tri/- budget will be financed through domestic revenue, development loans, bonds and support from development partners. Public debt currently stands at 36.29 per cent of GDP, which the government says remains within sustainable levels.

The debt level remains below regional sustainability thresholds, giving the government fiscal space to finance priority development projects without undermining macroeconomic stability.

The framework is aligned with the Zanzibar Development Plan and the 2025-2030 ruling party manifesto, which prioritise economic diversification and inclusive growth.

## Alarm raised on drug-heavy poultry farming

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frontline veterinary officers on the major repercussions of using excessive drugs for disease prevention and the resulting impact on human consumption," Mr Koopmans stated.

He noted that as health-conscious consumers, particularly the younger generation turn to poultry as a vital source of protein, poultry farming must evolve to meet safety standards.

"To protect the future of the young generation, it is vital to rely on better management practices rather than drugs while raising chickens," he said. "I am not opposed to medication; rather, I believe it should be used as a last resort. We are at a crossroads where we must choose sustainable health practices over a culture of treatment."

The Deputy Ambassador said that the quality of poultry products begins with robust 'health production mechanisms' rather than reactive medication sales. He urged professionals to resist the urge to push drug sales at the expense of long-term consumer health.

Tanzania and the Netherlands have been collaborating in the poultry sector for five years now, Mr Koopmans revealed that this partnership had moved beyond simple aid to deep investments in knowledge, technology and innovation.

A key milestone of this bilateral tie is the collaboration between the Aeres Training Centre (Netherlands) and Tanzania's Livestock

Training Agency (LITA) to develop a specialised, modern poultry curriculum.

Ms Josje Hakker, a lead trainer, said that biosecurity and preventive measures were the true drivers of efficiency. She stressed that veterinary officers must guide farmers on foundational issues, such as the quality of drinking water, to prevent common diseases and potential pandemics without reaching for the medicine cabinet.

Agriculture Adviser at the Netherlands Embassy, Ms Theo Mutabingwa noted that a recent survey revealed a worrying trend: Many poultry farmers currently view drugs as their primary tool for disease prevention.

"We are engaging LITA to ensure this knowledge is embedded in the teaching curriculum so that this sustainable approach reaches the majority of poultry farmers nationwide," Ms Mutabingwa added.

One of the participants Mr Azory Mbuma noted that they have learnt that in keeping best animals without using medicine is possible by following best farm regulations and rules.

The Tanzanian poultry sector is currently experiencing rapid growth, fuelled by the protein demands of a booming population. While much of the sub-sector still operates informally, more farmers are transitioning from subsistence to commercial ventures, making the call for 'drug-free' farming, a timely intervention for the country's public health and economic future.

**DEPUTY Ambassador of the Netherlands to Tanzania Onno Koopmans delivers a keynote speech during the opening of a specialised poultry health seminar for veterinary professionals in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The forum focused on reducing drug use to achieve sustainable production. (Photo by a Correspondent)**

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