TANZANIA WEEKLY LEGAL DIGEST



08TH TO 12ND SEPTEMBER 2025

LAW | TAX | COMPLIANCE | NOTARY | ADVISORY

08th September 2025

Source: The East African

KENYAN FIRM CHALLENGES TANZANIA'S FINANCE ACT IN COURT

Kenya-based company has filed a lawsuit at the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) against Tanzania over provisions in the recently enacted Finance Act 2025. Whereby the Company alleges that the Finance Act 2025 introduces import duty and tax policies that are discriminatory and violate regional trade agreements. The basis of their claim is centered on Article 75(6) of the EAC Treaty, which prohibit new fiscal barriers on intra community trade and forbid discriminatory treatment of goods from Partner States, The application dated 29th August 2025, states that effective 01st July 2025, Tanzania imposed an excise duty on imported matches under the new law in contravention of the Treaty Establishing the East African Community as well as the provisions of the East African Customs union and the Common External Tarriff (CET) to which Tanzania subscribes.

Source: The Guardian

CHIEF JUSTICE ADVISES JUDICIARY TO FOCUS ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT VISION 2050

Chief Justice, Hon. George Masaju has called on judges and other judicial officers across Tanzania to prepare for the implementation of the National Development Vision 2050, emphasizing adherence to the guidelines outlined for effective execution of the strategy. Speaking during the closing session of a three days judges' meeting at the Judiciary Headquarters in Dodoma, Hon. Masaju highlighted that the priority area of good governance and justice within the vision requires active participation from the judiciary to improve access to justice and institutional efficiency. Hon. Masaju stressed that Vision 2050 calls for a shift in mindset towards action and tangible results, rather relying on promises. He then reminded judges to uphold their oaths and administer justice in accordance with the Constitution and other laws, emphasizing the judiciary's ultimate authority in legal matters under Articles 4, 107A, and 107B of the Constitution. The Chief Justice concluded by emphasizing that a well-functioning judiciary is crucial for national development and urged all judicial personnel to take responsibility for ensuring justice, accountability and transparent in alignment with Vision 2050's objectives.

Source: The Guardian

COMMUNITY SILENCE FUELS CHILD ABUSE, STUDY SHOWING OVER 800 CASES IN DAR ES SALAAM

A new study by a child right organization has exposed 856 cases of child abuse in 2024 alone, highlighting to a disturbing trend of secrecy and underreporting in communities. The findings from an initiative by Macho Jamii, underscore an urgent need for the public to break the silence surrounding this pervasive issue. The cases which include sexual violence, sodomy, and domestic abuse, were discovered during outreach activities in five schools within the Kwembe and Manzese wards of Dar es Salaam. Ms. Jamila Kisinga, a service provider with Macho Jamii, revealed that many of the child victims admitted they had stayed silent because

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they did not know who to turn to for help. This silence only protects abusers and worsens the suffering of victims. Thus, she urged communities to report offenders to allow the law to take its course.

09th September 2025

Source: The Guardian

PRIME MINISTER DIRECTS NEW ENVOY TO JAPAN TO PRIORITISE ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

Prime Minister, Hon. Mr. Kassim Majaliwa has instructed Amb. Anderson Mutatembwa, the new ambassador to Japan, to prioritise economic diplomacy as the key parameter of his activities, promoting investment opportunities and securing new markets for Tanzanian products. Pointing to investment opportunities in the country, he urged the envoy to make good use of the country's relationship with Japan to attract investors in various sectors, hinting at visiting potential investors there. Hon Kassim Majaliwa stated that there are specific areas where Tanzania needs to benefit. The directive comes as the government seeks to leverage its foreign missions in driving economic growth and job creation, aligned with the broader agenda of revitalizing the nation's economy through international partnerships. Amb. Mutatembwa's role is not just diplomatic but also commercial, requiring a proactive approach to connect Japanese capital within Tanzanian ventures, noting that beyond attracting foreign direct investment, the Tanzania ambassador need to Engage with Tanzanian diaspora in Japan.

Source: Daily News

TANZANIA PUSHES FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE, WARNS OF GROWING FINANCE GAP

Tanzania has called on the international community to honour its climate finance commitments, saying that Africa's pursuit of resilient and green development depends on urgent and predictable support, speaking at the 2nd Africa Climate summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Vice-President Hon. Dr. Philip Mpango said that limited fiscal space continues to constrain Tanzania and many other African countries from closing the widening climate finance gap. He stressed that global partnerships and increased climate financing are crucial to keep Africa's development on track amid escalating climate threats. Hon. Dr. Mpango outlined Tanzania's efforts and priorities addressing climate change. He noted that Tanzania is already experiencing severe climate shocks, including unpredictable rainfall patterns, prolonged droughts, recurrent floods, rising sea.

10th September 2025

Source: The Citizen

ICC OPENING ITS WAR CRIMES CASES AGAINST UGANDAN REBEL LEADER

International Criminal Court prosecutors will begin presenting evidence to support their charges against fugitive Ugandan rebel leader, Mr. Joseph Kony at the global court's first ever in absentia hearing. Mr. Kony, the founder and leader of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) faces accusations of war crimes and crimes against humanity. The court's so-called confirmation of charges hearing comes two decades after it issued an arrest warrant for Mr. Kony over his alleged leadership of the brutal rebel group which became notorious for atrocities, including kidnapping children and

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mutilating captives. The ICC hearing is not a trial but allows prosecutors to outline their case in court. Mr. Kony will be represented in his absence by a defense lawyer. After weighing the evidence, judges can rule on whether to confirm the charges against Kony, but he cannot be tried unless he is in custody of the ICC.

Mr. Kony is facing 39 counts including murder, sexual enslavement, rape, and enlisting child soldiers allegedly committed in 2003 and 2004 in northern Uganda. The hearing has been seen as a test case for the court moving forward with other cases where the likelihood of having a suspect detained is considered remote. The ICC proceedings against Mr. Kony will be followed by many in Uganda, where survivors welcome the charges even as they regret the failure to catch him.

Source: Daily News

TCRA WARNS AGAINST SHARING MANIPULATED INFORMATION

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) has issued a stem warning to the public about the dangers of disinformation and misinformation during the ongoing campaign season The authority expressed concern that individuals with malicious intent may exploit Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology to alter images, videos, or audio of politicians to mislead the public, sow confusion. or damage a candidate's reputation. TCRA Head of Communications and Public Relations, Mr. Rolf Kibaja, reminded citizens that sharing manipulated content, whether knowingly or unknowingly constitute a criminal offence under Tanzanian law. In addition. Mr. Kibaja reaffirmed TCRA's commitment to promoting fair competition and economic efficiency in the communications sector, protecting consumer interests, ensuring the financial viability of service providers and expanding access to regulated services for all low-income, rural and disadvantaged communities.

Source: Daily News

GOVERNMENT OUTLINES KEY INVESTMENT AREAS FOR OMANI INVESTORS

The government has outlined four key sectors as high priority areas for investment by Omani businesses, as part of broader efforts to promote industrial development, boost local production and reduce reliance on imports The four sectors identified as strategic are wheat and edible oil production, textile manufacturing, development of cold chain infrastructure and seed production Ministry of Agriculture Permanent Secretary, Mr. Gerald Mweli, said during a business eating between the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Agriculture (TCCIA) and a 17 delegation from Oman that the government welcomes particularly Investors, In agriculture and agroprocessing. Mr. Gerald Mweli said Oman currently imports wheat and some products from countries like Russia. Oman Chamber of Commerce and industry (OCCI) Chairman, Dr. Salim bin Al Janaibu said both share a similar countries economic vision that emphasizes for security, energy diversification and logistics development.

Dr. Milanzi made the remarks during a media orientation session themed "Partnering for Awareness Action on Tanzania Development Vision 2050", organized by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in collaboration with NPC. He said that once the five-year plan is

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finalized, the Commission will begin preparing annual plans to be rolled out from the 2026/27 fiscal year.

IIth September 2025

Source: The Citizen

UNITED STATES JUDGE BLOCKS TRUMP FROM FIRING CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR

A United States federal judge has temporarily barred President Donald Trump from removing Federal Reserve Governor Ms. Lisa Cook, in a legal battle that could redefine the boundaries of central bank independence. District Judge Jia Cobb issued a preliminary ruling preventing the president from dismissing Ms. Cook while the court determines whether alleged misconduct prior to her appointment constitutes legitimate grounds for removal. The Trump administration sought to oust Cook in late August, citing claims of mortgage fraud before she assumed office allegations she has firmly denied. The case, widely expected to reach the Supreme Court, carries profound implications for the Federal Reserve's ability to set monetary policy free from political interference. President Trump has been vocal in his demands for aggressive interest rate cuts and has repeatedly criticised Fed Chair Jerome Powell's stewardship ahead of the September policy meeting. The White House declined to comment on Judge Cobb's decision, and the president brushed off questions from reporters. Federal Reserve law stipulates that governors may only be removed "for cause," yet the statute offers no clear definition or procedure.

Judge Cobb noted that the provision more likely pertains to conduct during a governor's tenure rather than behaviour before appointment. President Trump and Federal Housing and Finance Authority Director, Mr. William Pulte allege that Ms. Cook misrepresented property details on mortgage applications to gain favourable rates and tax benefits. The Justice Department has opened a criminal inquiry, with grand jury subpoenas issued in both Georgia and Michigan. Ms. Cook, the first Black woman to serve as a Fed governor, has sued both Trump and the Federal Reserve, arguing the claims are a pretext for her removal based on policy differences rather than valid legal grounds. She maintains that any pre-office matters cannot justify dismissal. The Trump administration insists that the president retains broad authority to remove Fed governors and that such decisions should remain beyond judicial review.

NATURAL GAS USE EXPANDS AS EWURA CHAMPIONS CLEAN COOKING TRANSITION

The Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) continue to strengthen regulation and oversight of Tanzania's natural gas sub-sector, with a clear focus on advocating household connections for clean cooking in line with the National Clean Cooking Strategy 2024/34. Recent figures from the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), reveal a steady rise in household connections in Dar es Salaam, Lindi, Mtwara, and Pwani's Mkuranga District, under scoring progress in expanding access to affordable and safe alternatives to charcoal and firewood TPDC statistics indicated that in Dar es Salaam, 88 households are now connected to piped natural gas. In Lindi, connections have risen sharply to 677 households, with 470 of these being new connections added in the financial year 2024/2025 or top of 207 earlier connections. In Mtwara, a total of 425 households are connected while in Mkuranga District, construction of pipelines has already begun to serve 530 homes. The government is committed to supporting investors and ensuring that these

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projects become successful as planned, Dr. Andilile added, underlining the national priority of expanding access to clean cooking situations.

EU UNVEILS EURO 350 MILLION CREDIT LINE TO BOOST TANZANIA'S BLUE ECONOMY

The European Investment Bank (EIB) has launched Euro 350 million (about TZS. 1.02 trillion) credit line to expand access to finance for Tanzania's blue economy, including women-led enterprises and other key sectors, Loans have already been signed with CRDB, NMB, and KCB banks, with more partnerships expected soon. So far, more than 11,000 micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and cooperatives have benefited from the initiative, officials confirmed. The Team Europe approach brings together the European Commission and member states including Germany, France, Belgium, and Sweden, which are contributing aligned programs and investments, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), Mr. Abdalah Hassan Mitawi, said both mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar had developed a policy framework to harness blue economy opportunities. He added that the recently launched Vision 2025 places the sector at the center of the country's economic transformation strategy. Regulatory reforms have also been introduced, including amendments to transport laws and reinforcement of the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) to enhance efficiency and safety in maritime operations.

Source; Daily News

TANZANIA BUREAU OF STANDARDS UNVEILS 2024 FOOD FORTIFICATION REGULATIONS

Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has rolled out the 2024 food fortification regulations requiring mandatory addition of essential nutrients to staple foods like maize flour to improve public health. This was unveiled by the TBS Director of Standards Development, Mr. David Ndibalema in Dar es Salaam during the training to stakeholders on quality, standards and food fortification regulations for maize products. He said by mandating the addition of vital nutrients to widely consumed staple foods like maize flour, the regulations aim to reduce deficiencies that cause anemia, stunted growth and other health problems Especially among vulnerable populations Mr. Ndibalema stated that TBS had organized the special training for stakeholders in the maize industry to ensure that maize flour products are processed and sold in compliance with Standard No 328. The Dar es Salaam Maize Flour Processors Association (UWAWASE) representative, Tabrani Kinoni pledged to fully apply the TBS training, highlighting its importance for meeting quality standards. The Chairman of Grain Distributors for Milling Machines, Mr. Emanuel Benjamin praised the training for addressing concerns about low-quality grains and he said they will now educate customers on the importance of maintaining quality.

12th September 2025

Source: The Citizen

TANZANIA TO CONDUCT VERIFICATION OF RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMIT FOR FOREIGNERS

The Immigration Department has launched a month-long verification exercise targeting residence permits and other immigration statuses of foreign nationals working and residing in Tanzania. The exercise, which officially began on 11th September and will run until 08th October 2025, will cover all regions. An official source at the Immigration Department confirmed that the notice circulating online was authentic and urged employers, business

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owners, and foreign residents to comply with the directive. The notice reads that all concerned parties are advised to visit the Kurasini Immigration Office in Dar es Salaam, the Zanzibar Immigration Headquarters, or their respective Regional Immigration Offices with their passports and valid immigration documents for verification. Authorities emphasized that the exercise seeks to ensure compliance with immigration laws and enhance oversight of foreign nationals in the country. Employers and businesses that hire expatriates are also required to facilitate the verification of their staff.

IRINGA LAWYERS FILES PETITION SEEKING CONJUGAL VISITS FOR MARRIED INMATES

A lawyer in Iringa has petitioned the High Court seeking to declare unconstitutional legal provisions that prevent prison inmates from enjoying conjugal visits with their legally married spouses, arguing that the restrictions infringe on fundamental constitutional rights. Mr. Geoffrey Mwalasege, in a case filed at the High Court's Tringa sub-registry, is asking the court to grant legally married inmates the right to spend private time with their spouses, including engaging in sexual relations, without supervision from prison authorities. According to Mr. Mwakasege, the absence of explicit provisions in the Prisons Act and the Prisons (Prison Management) Regulations of 1968 allowing conjugal visits contravenes Article 16(1) of the Constitution of United Republic of Tanzania, which guarantees respect and protection of the person, privacy, family life, matrimonial life, residence, and private communications. The respondents in the case are the Tanzania Prisons Service, the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRGG), and the Attorney General who also serve as the government's chief legal adviser.

Under current prison regulations, visits are permitted but heavily restricted and must take place under the supervision of a prison officer. Mr. Mwakasege contends that these limitations contravene the Law of Marriage Act, Cap. 29 and the rights of married individuals, while also indirectly promoting divorces when one spouse is incarcerated. He said this approach contradicts Tanzanian customs and traditions that value marital cohesion. Describing conjugal rights as a tool to strengthen the bond between couples.

Source: Daily News

ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE TO ALIGN LAWS WITH VISION 2050

The Office of the Attorney General (AG) has embarked on a legal reform programme to align the nation's policies and laws with National Development Vision 2050. Speaking at a working session with media editors in Dodoma, the Deputy Attorney General, Mr. Samwel Maneno said that these reforms are crucial for building a strong legal foundation to achieve the nation's objectives. Mr. Maneno said the AG's Chambers has begun analyzing existing laws and collecting input from various forums. The programme is a direct result of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's directives. During the official launch of Dira 2050 in July, she instructed the Law Reforms Commission of Tanzania (LRCT) and the AG's Chambers to review existing laws and propose reforms to ensure the smooth implementation of the long-term with national blueprint.

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