

Newsletter

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EWURA Board Inspects Electricity Infrastructure



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EDITORIAL BOARD

CHAIRMAN

Eng. Godfrey H. Chibulunje

EDITOR

Mr. Titus M. Kaguo

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Mr. Wilfred Mwakalosi

REPORTERS

Ms. Asiatu Msuya

Ms. Tobietha Makafu

EWURA HEAD OFFICE

EWURA House, Plot No 3,

Block AD, Medeli West.

P.O Box 2857, Dodoma

Tel: +255-26 2329002-4;

Fax: +255-26 2329005

Toll Free: 0800110030

Email: info@ewura.go.tz

Website: <https://www.ewura.go.tz>

Social Media

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ewuranews>

Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/ewuratanzania>

You Tube: EWURA TV

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COVER PHOTO:

Members of EWURA Board of Directors, EWURA Management and TANESCO staff exchanging views at ZUZU power substation in Dodoma during EWURA Board's inspection to electricity infrastructure.



FROM THE EDITOR

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR ESTEEMED READERS!

It is with a great pleasure that I welcome you to read our Newsletter for January 2021, being the first issue in the Year 2021.

This is the 29th Edition in series of EWURA Newsletter publications that offer our readers an opportunity to read various interesting articles covering sectors that are regulated by EWURA.

To a large extent, our Newsletter cover news of recent activities that have been undertaken for the period of between September to December 2020.

Along with our Newsletter, EWURA have introduced social media platforms of <https://www.facebook.com/ewuranews>, EWURATV (m.youtube.com/channel/ewuratv), and <https://mobile.twitter.com/ewuratanzania>, to which various TV and Radio Programmes are uploaded.

We believe that these are new tools of communicating with our ever-changing readership preference, that also are of great importance in keeping the regulator closer to the people it serves. This year, with your help, we look forward to gain more likes and followers on both Facebook, YouTube and Twitter. We plan to make 2021 even better!

Your feedback, constructive criticism, and, above all, your readership, have proven invaluable in our mission to produce the best news sites possible.

We hope you will continue to enjoy the content we provide. Our editorial staff will continue to work hard to bring you objective news concerning EWURA's regulated sectors.

You are warmly welcome!



Titus M. Kaguo



EWURA Board of Directors Visit Electricity Infrastructure

By Tobietha Makafu



Delegates of EWURA Board of Directors, led by Board Vice Chairman Alhaj Ahmad Kilima (fourth from right) during a visit to Zuzu power station recently.

EWURA's Board of Directors accompanied by Members of Management has recently made a visit to TANESCO infrastructure at Zuzu Grid Power Substation in Dodoma Region, as a part of the routine process in order to be more informed on the implementation of the electricity infrastructure projects.

The Board paid visit to the existing ZUZU Power Grid Substation 200MW, the Old Zuzu Diesel Power substation 7.4MW and the 400kV Backbone Transmission Investment Project Phase II.

The Board observed that the project implementation status so far was encouraging, however, insisted the need to improve and fast track its completion in order to improve power services delivery in the country.

Speaking during the visit, the Deputy Board Chairman, Mr. Ahmad Kilima appreciated the

progress so far reached in the implementation of the project.

"We appreciate the Government efforts to implement major electricity infrastructure projects of 400kV Backbone Transmission Power Project and the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project in order to stabilize power and improve power quality and reliability in Dodoma city and the entire country," said Mr. Kilima

EWURA is mandated to undertake technical and economic regulatory functions in the Electricity Sub-sector. The regulatory functions that are implemented by the Authority in the Electricity Sub-sector are geared towards, efficient and safe operation of the Electricity Supply Industry, protection of interests of consumers, the Government and other Stakeholders; and attraction of investments into the Sub-sector.



Stakeholders sign MoU on infrastructure way leaves

By Wilfred Edwin

The safety risks associated with uncontrolled third-party activities in the shared way leaves that host multibillion dollars' worth of energy, water, transport and communications infrastructure will now be history, after signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by stakeholders of the infrastructure recently.

The move, spearheaded by the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA), will see establishment of rules to govern underground infrastructure management system during maintenance, repairs and construction involving excavations along the way leaves.

The Acting Director General of EWURA, Eng. Godfrey Chibulunje said the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will enable parties develop a guiding framework for shared way-leaves to make a strong regulatory framework to protect the underground infrastructure.

"Now that the MoU is signed, a Joint Technical Committee and binding guidelines consistent with the MoU would be formed, and EWURA will monitor members' compliance to Rules, Regulations, Guidelines and agreed best practices, which will also help the Authority when it comes to dispute resolutions," he said.

The MoU will be used as a tool to enhance public safety and increase the integrity and reliability of Tanzania's underground utility infrastructure, through development and implementation of effective and efficient damage prevention practices across the country.

Signatories of the MoU are the Tanzania Telecommunications Company Limited (TTCL), Dar es Salaam Water and Sewerage Authority (DAWASA), Pan African Energy (PAET), SONGAS, and Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC).

Others are Tanzania Electric Company Limited (TANESCO), Maurel & Prom, TANROADS, TARURA, Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) and TAZAMA Pipelines Limited.

In the recent years, there have been an increase in number of incidents resulting from uncontrolled third-party activities in the shared way leaves.

"As a result of these incidents, EWURA, TPDC and PAET in 2018 discussed and agreed for an urgent need to engage a wider spectrum of stakeholders—for both the owners and users of the way leave, to work on possible coordinated underground infrastructure management system during maintenance, repairs and construction involving excavations," said the Ag. Director General.

According to EWURA chief, there has been numerous incidents that threaten the shared way leaves. Such incidents include an accident in April 2014 at Kurasini Darajani, where China Railway Construction Engineering Group (CRCEG) was reported to have damaged an underground gas pipeline by excavator.

In May 2014, Shalom Engineering (Nat Oil Contractor) damaged the same gas pipeline at Kurasini near Tanzania Episcopal Council, in January 2018, an excavator engaged by DAWASCO punctured a gas pipeline at Buguruni kwa Mnyamani damaging properties and infrastructure, and in September, 2018 the Standard Gauge Railway contractor (Yapi Merkezi) punctured a gas pipeline at Ilala Bungoni in Dar es Salaam.

In a quest for a solid solution to the problem, EWURA in collaboration with America's National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID), two years ago organized a technical workshop on Gas Pipeline Safety to discuss the impact and mitigation measures of risks posed by third party activities within the natural gas network way leaves.

The technical workshop had passed a resolution that EWURA should spearhead formation of MoU to provide for a framework towards mitigation measures. Each organization signing the MoU will have two personnel to form a Joint Technical Committee as per Article 3 of the MoU.

The Joint Technical Committee, will then embark on the preparation of the guidelines.



Government Clusters Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities

By Staff Reporter



The government has re-configured service areas covered by some Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities, in a move that targets to improve efficiency and enhance service delivery.

The changes have seen some Water Supply and sanitation authorities dissolved while others merged.

According to a statement from the Ministry of Water, 12 Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities in urban centres have been given more areas to provide services.

The Mangaka area, which is an urban centre for Nanyumbu district, for instance, will be operating under the Masasi-Nachingwea Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (MANAWASA). Subsequently, The Mangaka Urban Water and sanitation Authority (Mangaka UWSSA) has been dissolved.

In the new configuration, the Maswa Urban Water Sanitation and Sanitation Authority (MAUWASA) has been allocated with more service areas of Lalago, Malampaka and Sangamwalugesha. Following implementation of this decision, water authorities in these areas have been dissolved.

Other six Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities in regional centres and townships

have been assigned to administer and undertake capacity building initiatives for Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities in peri-urban centres and district townships in their respective regions.

Supervision of these water authorities would follow guidelines for managing Water Authorities issued by the Ministry in December 2019.

As a result of these structural decisions, board of directors in such water Authorities have been dissolved and their roles and responsibilities would be performed by respective boards in mentioned authorities.

The new changes will also mean that water service in other 63 townships will be under the supervision of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA). Following the decision, respective board of directors have been dissolved and their duties would be performed by RUWASA Board of Directors.

The reconfiguration decision has also resulted into formation of three new Water and Sanitation Authorities by merging service areas.

These are Kyela -Kasumulu Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (Mbeya); Itigi - Manyoni Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (Singida); and Same - Mwanga Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (Kilimanjaro).



EWURA reaches out for Albinos in Awareness Programme

By Tobietha Makafu



Participants to a seminar organized by EWURA for Albinos, in a group photo. Seated (centre) is EWURA central Zone Manager, Eng. Norbert Kahyoza.

The Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA), has conducted awareness training on regulation of energy and water services for people with albinism in Dodoma region.

Speaking recently during the opening of the training, EWURA Central Zone Manager, Engineer Norbert Kahyoza said the training will help the group to become ambassadors of EWURA, in educating their peers, on their responsibilities as consumers, as well as those of service providers on energy and water sectors.

"I call upon you to help us spread this knowledge to others, who have not been fortunate enough to attend this training," said Engineer Kahyoza.

He noted that the training is designed to help them to know about EWURA, its activities such as licensing to electrical contractors and wiremen and petrol stations and their conditions, as well as rules and regulations which bound them and complaints handling procedures.

On the other side, the Executive Director of the Albinism Awareness Foundation (AAF), Selemani Magoma, thanked EWURA for the training, saying it will facilitate the group's participation in various development activities in the country, including the energy and water sector regulated by EWURA.

"EWURA has recognized people with albinism as key stakeholders in development issues and find the need to involve us, in educating on various functions and responsibilities of EWURA," he added.

The Chairman of the People with Albinism in Dodoma Region, Ludovick Julius appreciated EWURA for the programme, saying it will assist them in case of any problem concerning energy and water service providers.

EWURA will continue to enhance the welfare of Tanzanian society, by enhancing public knowledge, awareness and understanding of regulated sectors, including the rights and responsibilities of consumers and regulated suppliers, complaints handling procedures, duties functions and activities of the Authority.



Board applauds reverse osmosis plant

By Tobietha Makafu



The Board of Directors for the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA), has commended the performance of a saltwater filtering project (Reverse Osmosis), located at Gairo District in Morogoro region.

The Deputy Chairman of the Board, Mr. Ahmad Kilima said during a recent visit that, his Board has been satisfied with the saltwater filtering plant and that the project has eliminated the longtime water scarcity to Gairo residents.

“EWURA is satisfied and we applaud the performance of this project, as it helps significantly resolving the longtime challenge of water shortages,” said Mr. Kilima.

Mr. Kilima pledged continuous monitoring of other challenges, including that of electricity in the plant.

The Reverse Osmosis plant was imported from Italy at a cost of Tsh. 2.3 billion. It is expected that 32,808 citizens in the district would be served by the plant, by raising water supply rate from the previous 38 percent to 80 percent.

The Gairo District Commissioner, Ms. Siriel Mchembe, called on the citizens to ensure they take care of the project’s infrastructure, and the Government will not hesitate to take legal actions against anyone who will sabotage or destroy the project.

On his side, the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) Manager for Gairo District, Engineer Moses Msuya, said the construction of the reverse osmosis plant for filtering saltwater, has helped to improve access to clean and safe water to Gairo residents.

Furthermore, Gairo citizens expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government for helping them to solve that longtime challenge, and they promised to support the Government’s efforts on various existing projects.

EWURA is responsible for technical and economic regulation of water supply and sanitation services in Tanzania. Regulation is important since water entities are operating in a monopolistic business environment, with limited competition, that would otherwise derail the quality of service provided to consumers adequately.



Regional Commissioner applauds EWURA

By Tobietha Makafu



Iringa Regional Commissioner Hon. Ally Hapi (center) in a group photo with delegates from EWURA Central Zone office led by Central Zone Manager, Eng. Norbert Kahyoza (second left) Senior Petroleum Inspector, Eng. Nathaniel Edward (left), Senior Electricity Engineer Nicholaus Kayombo (second right) and Senior Customer Service Officer, Ms. Getrude Mbiling'i when they visited the Regional Commissioner's office recently.

The IRINGA Regional Commissioner, Hon Ally Hapi, has commended performance of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA), especially in his Iringa region, boasting of availability of regulated services and at an affordable rate, despite some few emerging challenges.

Hon. Hapi said this during his meeting with EWURA Central Zone Manager, Engineer Norbert Kahyoza when the latter paid a courtesy visit at his office.

During the visit, they discussed regulatory awareness, as well as challenges facing the energy and water services in the region.

"In reality water authority in Iringa is doing a very good job, most of residents have access to clean water, and are enjoying the use of prepaid meters in water service, which assist in controlling the revenue collection and reduce wastage of water," Hon Hapi said.

He added: "The existence of client service charter in EWURA and the regulated entities assist in accessing quality services to our people, so I am requesting you to provide adequate education on the service charters, so that we know about our rights from the service provider."

In addition to awareness campaign, EWURA Central Zone had the opportunity to provide education at Iringa

Urban District Commissioner's office as well; and conducted a radio programme in the region so as to reach majority of Iringa residents.

"We started our awareness sessions in Singida region, where we met top regional administration, as well as conducting radio programs in some of the local radios so as to reach residents timely," said Engineer Kahyoza encouraging EWURA stakeholders who need services in Central Zone, to visit the office located at EWURA Building, first floor, Medeli West or through the website www.ewura.go.tz, [facebook@ewuranews](https://www.facebook.com/ewuranews) social media pages, [Twitter@Ewura](https://twitter.com/Ewura) Tanzania, Youtube : EWURA TV.

EWURA Conduct Public awareness to journalists in Lake Zone

By George Mhina



EWURA Acting Director General, Eng. Godfrey H. Chibulunje (right) speaking to journalists from Lake Zone regions who attended a one day seminar organized by EWURA. Others in the picture are EWURA Lake Zone Manager, Mr. George Mhina (left) and Mr. Titus Kago (in the middle) EWURA Communication and Public Relations Manager.

The Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has conducted one day seminar to journalists from Lake Zone Regions. The seminar was conducted on 1st February 2021 in Mwanza City. The seminar aimed at creating public awareness and understanding on the roles and functions of the Authority, its achievements and challenges to media Stakeholders.

The seminar was attended by more than 100 journalists from various media houses including online platforms.

Speaking during the seminar, the acting Director General of EWURA, Eng. Godfrey Chibulunje said EWURA treats media as one of its important stakeholders in executing its functions. "In the course of discharging its functions EWURA has always been so transparent. It involves various stakeholders as required by the law and always ready to give clarifications to media whenever required to do so," he said.

Eng. Chibulunje further stated that EWURA will continue to advise the Government whenever it formulates policies, enact legislation; and regulations which aimed at promoting energy and water supply and sanitation services.

He said, EWURA will continue to perform its regulatory functions in energy and water sub sectors to ensure its quality, availability and affordability.

He added: "EWURA's has intervened on fuel prices inflation through monitoring and setting of monthly price cap in petroleum products, built capacity to Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities (WSSAs) and promoting private investors in electricity sub sectors just to mention but a few."

Eng. Chibulunje insisted that EWURA will continue to discharge its duties in compliance with six good governance rules namely;

professionalism, accountability, consistence, consulting stakeholders, transparent and in compliance to the law.

On the other side, the Manager for Communications and Public Relations, Mr. Titus Kago, said EWURA recognises journalists for their noble services and the Authority will continue to offer good working relation with all media houses.

EWURA Lake Zone Manager, Mr. George Mhina urged journalists to continue working together with EWURA and should not hesitate to contact Zonal office incase they wish to get clarification on any matter that is under EWURA's mandate.

On behalf of the participants, Mr. Edwin Soka, Chairman, Mwanza Press Club (MPC) thanked EWURA for conducting such seminar and he assured EWURA that the journalists will continue to work together with EWURA.