



Mlinzi wa HAKI

Eng Version

Issue No 02

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International Women's Day 2018: Press for Progress

On March 8 every year the world commemorates the International Women's Day. The day was introduced in response to struggles that women began all over the world to get their roles recognized in their societies and nations; in 1975 the United Nations officiated March 8 to be International Women's Day.

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Message from ED



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to another issue of our Mlinzi wa Haki newsletter, with this one compiling stories on activities and interventions that LHRC conducted from January to March 2018. This is the second issue of our newsletter after LHRC was officially granted a license to publish its newsletter titled Mlinzi wa Haki (Human Rights Guardian).

In this reporting period, LHRC engaged into the number of noteworthy activities with a drive of attaining a just and equitable society. Among other things, LHRC marked the international women's day in style by organizing Women's Gala to bring women from various sectors to commemorate the day. Another unforgettable event is a national dialogue on constitution and peacebuilding in Tanzania. The dialogue brought together stakeholders from the government, civil society organizations, religious institutions, political parties, academic institutions, media and the general public to discuss and suggest the way forward in the attainment of the new constitution in Tanzania.

Also, the Centre continued with implementation of various projects in different regions of Tanzania counting implementation of the Dreams Innovation Challenge Project in Shinyanga; implementation of FGM Eradication Project in Serengeti, Mara; the implementation of the Countering Violence Extremism in Arusha and Tanga; implementation of the Urban Legal Empowerment Project in Dar es Salaam region as well as implementation of the project to expand civic space in the country. We have confidently continued to raise our voice against violations of human rights and rule of law, calling on both duty bearers and right holders to play

their roles in the protection of the same. In this reporting quarter, LHRC joined friends of human rights in the country and all over the world to condemn killings of Akwilina Akwilini and Godfrey Luena and call for accountability of the government and the public.

Through its Kinondoni and Arusha legal aid clinics as well as mobile legal aid services, the Legal and Human Rights Centre has continued with the provision of legal aid with a view of tapping issues for advocacy. Total of 2,577 clients (849 Female and 1728 Male) have been provided with legal assistance in the period of January to March 2018. Moreover, in a bid to guarantee access to justice to everyone, LHRC in this reporting quarter launched four legal aid centers in four wards counting Somangila and Kibada in Kigamboni district as well as Mnyamani and Kitunda wards in Ilala districts, Dar es Salaam.

Kindly take your time to enjoy reading through the issue and please do not hesitate to comment.



Dr. Helen Kijo-Bisimba
Executive Director



Editorial

Dear friends of human rights,

Welcome to another issue of our Mlinzi wa Haki newsletter, with this one compiling stories on activities and interventions that LHRC conducted from January to March 2018.

In this reporting period, LHRC conducted the number of memorable activities in an endeavour to realize its vision of attaining a just and equitable society. Some of the noteworthy activities that were conducted by the LHRC include the commemoration of the International Women's Day as well as organizing the national dialogue on constitution and peace building in Tanzania. Also the LHRC continued with implementation of its projects in the different parts of Tanzania counting implementation of the Female Genital Mutilation Eradication Project in Serengeti, Mara region; implementation of the Dreams Innovation Challenge Project in Shinyanga region; implementation of the Countering Violence Extremism in Arusha and Tanga, implementation of the Urban Legal Empowerment in Dar es Salaam region as well as implementation of the project to expand civic space in Tanzania.

Together with direct intervention to its targets through projects, LHRC continued to raise awareness on human rights and legal affairs by means of

media both traditional and social/new media. The Centre has constantly kept on advocating for the change of practice and where necessary legal reforms for the improved situation of human rights in Tanzania. In a period of January to March, LHRC joined friends of human rights in the country and all over the world to condemn killings of Akwilina Akwilini and Godfrey Luena and call for accountability of the government and the public.

So much has been done to be able to squeeze them in a page.

Kindly take your time and enjoy the issue.



Mr Michael Mally
Communication Officer

Women MPs pledge to support anti-child marriage campaign

The 49 civil society organizations LHRC being among them were coordinated by Children's Dignity Forum (CDF) in February 2018 under the Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network (TECMN) conducted meetings with Members of Parliament (MPs) in Dodoma, seeking their support in amending provisions of the Law of Marriage Act of 1971 that allow child marriage. The meetings were conducted as part of TECMN's project called "The Amendment of the Law of Marriage Act, 1971.

As a result of the meeting all women MPs agreed to support the anti-child marriage movement; All women MPs agreed to be champions against child marriage; TECMN was able to meet all

members of the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee; Majority of the MPs (committee members) showed their support of the network's push for amendment of the marriage law to set 18 as minimum age of marriage; Meeting with the Social Services Committee was more positive compared to the one with Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee, as more MPs showed support for amendment of the marriage law; majority of women MPs and committee members promised to support the network's anti child marriage initiative.

In the same development, on March 2, 2018, LHRC through the Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network (TECMN) held a meeting with the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Dr. Tulia Ackson (MP) at her office in Dar es Salaam.

Similarly, LHRC in collaboration with the TECMN network against child marriage participated in a one day meeting coordinated by Msichana Initiative to share the case study on child marriage



TECMN team in a photo with members of the Social Services Committee

as well as sharing the status of the case, which is now at the court of appeal of Tanzania. The case challenges section 13 & 17 of the Law of Marriage Act, 1971 which allows child marriages in Tanzania.

Also, LHRC attended a CSO's partners meeting held in Uganda under the coordination of Equality Now primarily to review progress made in advocacy against Child Marriage within the East African Community; share lessons on best practices and to strengthen coordination and partnership among organizations working to end child marriage in East Africa.

Stakeholders also agreed to deploy the following strategies: Strategic Litigation (defend the pending appeal case); Conducting further Research (economic cost of Child marriage in Tanzania), the research will be used as advocacy tool; Use of Media (have focal person

from medias); Use other legal remedies, once the local ones are exhausted and Prepare private member bill on Child marriage.

Furthermore, LHRC engaged with stakeholders within the East African Community to discuss strategies they can use to help teen girls who are being expelled and refused re-entry back to school due to pregnancy. Presentations from Tanzanian organizations such as (Haki Elimu) were made to present the current situation in Tanzania in 2018 on expulsion of pregnant girls and refusal for re-entry of these girls in school after giving birth. LHRC also presented the judgment on its case against the unconstitutional interpretation of rule 7(b) of the education act. The meeting was attended by 21 participants, out of which women were 17 and men 4. The meeting was hosted by Centre for Reproductive Health.



Tanzania Endin Child Marriage Network (TECMN) team in a Group Photo with Women MPs

Justice Service Providers, AGYWs Empowered on HIV Health Services

In its endeavors to promote and guarantee right to health in Tanzania, the Legal and Human Rights Centre in March 2018 embarked in Shinyanga and Kahama to conduct training to justice services providers counting magistrates, public prosecutors, state attorneys, prison officers and police officers. Total of 50 justice service providers from Shinyanga and Kahama were empowered.

The training compliments the Dreams Innovation Challenge Project aiming at increasing knowledge on gender issues, legal and health frameworks, protection to vulnerable AGYW from HIV and guarantee Quality HIV Health Services. The project is being implemented in Shinyanga Municipal Council and Kahama

Township Council of Shinyanga region targeting Adolescent Girls and Young Women aged 15 to 24.

Adolescent Girls and Young Women account for 71 percent of new HIV infections among young people in sub-Saharan Africa. In Tanzania, a total of approximately 25,000 AGYW become infected with HIV every year and are twice more likely to be living with HIV than men of the same age. Also, the group is more vulnerable to HIV because they are often subjected to a range

of gender and age-based biases, discriminations, and violence, including sexual assault, forced marriage, and trafficking. During the training sessions in Shinyanga, the District AIDS Control Coordinator for the Municipality, Dr. Peter Malale reminded participants that Shinyanga region is among regions ranked higher in terms of HIV prevalence and Gender Based Violence (GBV), ranking sixth with 5.9 HIV prevalence ratios and first in GBV prevalence



Participants of the Justice Service Providers Training in Shinyanga make a presentation after groups discussion



Shinyanga Municipal Council Justice Service Providers in a group photo with LHRC and IDLO representatives after follow up training session

in Tanzania. He further mentioned the number of HIV infections in the Municipality to be 23,060 noting some challenges that hold back the initiatives to attain zero infections. Some of the challenges highlighted include inadequate awareness campaigns on HIV Health in the region, the reluctance of the people to test for HIV and attend medical care, the inadequacy of HIV Health Care Centers and Facilities, traditional and religious believes as well as the ethical dilemma. In her part, the project coordinator Advocate Getrude Dyabene made a call to the justice service providers to consider challenges existing in legal framework and

policies related to Gender and HIV Health Services during justice dispensing to avoid denial of justice to AGYW in particular. During the same period, the LHRC conducted follow up capacity training to the primary beneficiaries of the project who are adolescent girls and young women in Shinyanga and Kahama. From March 19 to 23, 2018, 90 out of 110 AGYW paralegals were

trained on human rights, HIV/AIDS and gender based violence related issues in both Shinyanga and Kahama. A tool to identify cases of GBV and human rights violations was shared with the AGYW paralegals to enhance their capacity in tracking, recording and documentation of the issues.



Adolescent Girls and Young Women in group discussion during training on Human Rights, GBV and HIV Health in Kahama Township Council.

International Women's Day 2018: Press for Progress

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Increasingly, International Women's Day has been a time to reflect on progress made, to call for change, and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women, men, and those who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities.

It is a day when women are recognized for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic,

linguistic, cultural, economic or political. International Women's Day first emerged from the activities of labour movements at the turn of the twentieth century in North America and across Europe. The day aims at celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women together with accelerating gender parity.

To mark the day in Tanzania, Legal and Human Rights Centre organized various



Dr. Helen Kijo-Bisimba (2nd, left) in a buoyant mood with other women during a gala to commemorate International Women's Day

activities including conducting mobile legal aid in Arusha and Dar es Salaam, reaching out to women in selected wards which includes Kaloleni, Elerai, Themti, Sakina and Olemoti in Arusha and in Somangila and Kibada ward of Kigamboni district in Dar es Salaam.

Similarly the Centre organized a reflection gala that brought together women from various sectors in the country to assess their strategies and discuss their role in promoting women's rights and achieve gender equality in Tanzania. The event themed 'Rethinking Women's Rights in Tanzania' and the key objective was to reflect on the progress made so far in advancing women's rights; reflect on the challenges that have been encountered and devise a

way forward.

A total of 35 women attended the gala including women leaders and activists from civil society organizations, individual women and other women from selected government institutions.

Legal and Human Rights Centre joins the world to honor the role that women play in fostering social, economic and political developments. LHRC also calls for the general public to embrace gender equality for sustainable development.

The global theme for this year is "Press for Progress" and the national theme is "Towards Industrialized Tanzania: Accelerate Gender Parity and Empowerment of Rural Women".



During Women's Day gala, women had an opportunity to discuss issues around women's rights in Tanzania

Stakeholders: New Constitution Key for Democracy and Peace Stability In Tanzania

On February 2, 2018, the LHRC organized a one day dialogue session that brought together a total of 61, (16 females and 45 males) stakeholders from various sectors including government institutions, CSOs, political parties, religious institutions, academic institutions and media. The session took place in Dar es Salaam and was themed “Dialogue on Constitution and Peace Building during Elections” aiming at discussing and suggesting peaceful measures towards improving the existing legal framework and practices.

During the session, the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) representative Dr. Daniel Dule praised the Legal and Human Rights Centre for playing a vital role of bringing people together and build consensus on

the matter of national interests. He referred to the session as the best way of sending message to authorities and call for the government authorities to consider using the same forums to bring together people and address their grievances in a nonviolent manner.

He also insisted that in democratic governments dialogues promote respect of human dignity and human rights and hence promotes peace and stability. Dr. Dule

further appealed to the government to consider responding to the people’s demand of a new constitution by reviving the constitutional making process.

In the same development, Adv. John Seka called for the review of the electoral systems and processes starting from understanding and reforming the legal framework that administer electoral system in the country mainly through new constitutional



The Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) representative Dr. Daniel Dule makes a point during stakeholders dialogue on Constitution and Peace Building During Elections

making process. Moreover, the representative from Tanzania Center for Democracy (TCD), Prof. Mwesiga Baregu remarked that the country is in constitutional vacuum due to the fact that the existing constitution was publicly declared bad when the country announced the new constitution making process. Moving forward, Prof. Baregu called for the government to consider revival of the new constitution making process before the upcoming elections in 2019 and 2020 respectively.

national dialogue, the LHRC engaged with various groups in a move to empower and stimulates the public to demand for the revival of the New Constitutional making process. 412 (163 female and 249 male) members of human rights clubs from three Universities in Dodoma including University of Dodoma, Mipango College and St. John's College were engaged in a debate on constitution held on February 11, 2018 at the University of Dodoma. Also On February 11, 2018 the Centre organized a workshop that was attended by 26 Human Rights club's leaders

universities to agree the way forward on how to sustain advocacy for the attainment of the new constitution. Furthermore, the LHRC engaged paralegals and members of the press from community-based media to empower the groups so that they can play their roles to awaken their communities to demand for people centered constitution. On March 16 to 17, 2018, a total of 98 (35 females and 63 males) that included 50 paralegals and 48 members of the press were engaged in training held in Dodoma.

Apart from the said

from afore mentioned



Stakeholders from various sectors follow up the dialogues on Constitution and Peace Building During Elections

LHRC Mourns Akwilina and Luena, Calls for Government's Accountability

On February 2018, the Legal and Human Rights Centre joined the Tanzanian community and human rights defenders all over the world to sturdily condemn the shooting and ruthless killing of the university student named Akwilina Akwilin in Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam on February 16, 2018. Legal and Human Rights Centre received the news with disbelief until when the police force admitted that the girl who was a first-year university student at the National Institute of Transport was shot while in a bus after Police fired warning shots to disperse supporters of the main opposition party CHADEMA from peaceful demonstration to the local Electoral Commission office a day before the parliamentary by-election in Kinondoni constituency.

Reports suggested that CHADEMA supporters were marching to the

Kinondoni District Executive Director office to demand the delayed accreditation of its election observers.

Killing of Godfrey Luena: Human rights monitor and land rights defender Godfrey Luena was brutally attacked and killed by the group of unknown people on February 23, 2018 at his home, Ifakara in Morogoro. Luena worked with the LHRC as a human rights monitor and land rights activist. Before death, Luena who was also a ward councilor for Namwawala ward had been subjected

to multiple arrests, judicial harassment and intimidation. His death was associated with his activism and political affiliation.

LHRC joined the mourners to console the families of the two, (Akwilina and Luena) and condemns the violation of the right to life calling for the government to take stern measures against possible perpetrators. LHRC also appealed the government to take accountability measures against the responsible authorities for constant failure to play their role.



Dr. Helen Kijo-Bisimba (2nd, left) in a company of LHRC staff during the LHRC's condolence visit to Akwilina's family in Dar es Salaam.

Members of the Press, Activists Commit to Supporting Civic Space in Tanzania

On February 14, 2018, Legal and Human Rights Centre convened a one day session to bring together media and human rights stakeholders to discuss and agree on how to address the shrinking civic space in the country.

The session gathered representatives from Media Council of Tanzania (MCT), TWaweza, Women Fund Tanzania, Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF), and Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), WiLDAF, TGNP, Tanganyika Law Society

(TLS), Tanzania Centre for Democracy (TCD) and Policy Forum.

Participants of the meeting agreed on various issues to take into consideration in a bid to address challenges facing public participation in Tanzania; among others participants suggested to concentrate their efforts in directly reaching out to the mass and empower people on significance of public engagement in issues of national interests, also the group agreed to double up efforts in advocating for amendment of restrictive

and repressive laws and change of practices that hinders freedom of expression and assembly in the country. They further agreed on bringing more stakeholders on-board to strengthen the move to expand civic space in the country.

LHRC made use of the forum to introduce the project that aims at promoting civic space in the country through increasing more effective legal advocacy to guarantee freedom of assembly and freedom of expression.



The former Tanzania Editors Forum Chair, Mr. Theophil Makunga makes a point during media and CSO's stakeholders meeting at the LHRC to discuss about civic space in Tanzania.

Respect Rule of Law, Government Officials Urged



RC - Paul Makonda

Legal and Human Rights Centre has continued to monitor the accountability of the government of the United Republic of Tanzania to make sure it adheres to principles of good governance and rule of law. It is in that course LHRC observed ongoing transgression of principles of rule of law and good governance by government officials.

On February 10, 2018, the Regional Commissioner for Dar es Salaam, Paul Makonda made an abuse of his power by unlawfully nullifying functions of the legally established Ward Land Tribunals in Dar es Salaam and verbally attacks the Judiciary.

RC Makonda was addressing the gathering that he organized to bring together people with land disputes related issues and delay of access to justice. During the meeting Makonda unreasonably declared the nullification of functions of Ward Land Tribunal in Dar es Salaam ignoring the fact that Ward Tribunals were legally established and its functions are protected by three different Acts. Ward Tribunals are established by the Ward Tribunals Act 1985, and their functions in land disputes settlement at the grassroots level are recognized by Land Act, 1999 and Land Conflict Resolution Act, 2002.

According to Land Act No 4 and 5, 1999, the

authority to administer the efficacy of the tribunals is vested to neither regional commissioners nor any other authority but the Minister responsible for land. Again, RC Makonda was quoted abusing the power of judiciary claiming that the judiciary has been relaying on separation of power to delay dispensing of justice.

Legal and Human Rights Centre strongly condemn abuse of power and call for the government leaders and politicians to respect the rule of law and principles of separation of power. LHRC also calls upon the government to find proper and viable mechanisms in disputes settlement instead of using citizens' problems for political motives.

LHRC calls on the judiciary to keep on raising awareness to the general public on access to justice and rule of the law in the country in order to enhance the capacity of the general public on justice system in Tanzania and how to go about it. Legal and Human Rights Centre urges the general public to follow proper forums in the process of pursuing legal remedy.

On February 6 every year the world comes together to call for eradication of the Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) practice in the world. Correspondingly the Legal and Human Rights Centre joins the world to campaign for the same in Tanzania. Since its establishment in 1995, Legal and Human Rights Centre has been working hard to realize the eradication of the ruthless cultural practice by carrying out numbers of awareness campaigns to empower the communities practicing FGM on the impact of FGM. Apart from awareness campaigns the LHRC has been working closely with responsible stakeholders counting local government authorities, police force and the judiciary to hold FGM perpetrators into account. LHRC has also been engaging with communities practicing the tradition in Singida,

Let's Build a Society where Women and Girls are Free and Safe From FGM

Manyara, Dodoma and Mara in a bid to make its efforts successful.

During commemoration of the International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM in 2018, the Legal and Human Rights Centre kept on calling on communities practicing FGM to abandon the tradition, given that it is totally unlawful and against principles of human rights.



Victims of female genital mutilation from Serengeti Safe House join anti FGM campaigners in a peaceful march to call for eradication of the practice in the district during commemoration of Anti FGM Day.

Female Genital Mutilation deprives girls/women's rights to health, security and physical integrity, right to be free from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and their right to life particularly when the procedure results into death.

The government should strictly enforce laws against FGM perpetrators to address gender discrimination and inequalities and foster attainment of a just and Equitable Society.

Quick Facts About FGM in Tanzania According to the Tanzania Demographic Health Survey 2015/16:

1. In Tanzania 10% of girls or women have been subjected to female genital cutting/mutilation (FGC/M) despite it being illegal;
2. FGC/M prevalence in rural areas is more than double that in urban areas. The highest percentages of circumcised women are in Manyara (58%), Dodoma (47%), Arusha (41%), Mara (32%) and Singida with (31%) respectively;
3. Aspects of female circumcision: Eighty-one percent of circumcised women reported that some flesh was removed from their genitals, and 7% were infibulated. Eighty-six percent of women's circumcisions were performed by traditional agents;
4. Age at circumcision: Thirty-five percent of circumcised women age 15-49 were circumcised before age 1 and 28% were circumcised at age 13

or older;

5. Prevalence among girls age 0-14: According to their mothers, less than 1% of girl's age 0-14 is circumcised. Girls are more likely to be circumcised if their mothers were circumcised;
6. Opinions about FGC/M: Among the 86% of women who have heard of FGC/M, 95% believe that the practice is not required by their religion and that the practice should not be continued;

Why does Female Genital Mutilation Happen?

Gender inequality and discriminatory social, cultural and religious norms are factors in why this harmful practice takes place. These include the idea that it preserves chastity, cleanliness, family honor and saves a girl for marriage. These beliefs stem from a perceived need to control female sexuality.

This issue requires sensitive handling if we are to persuade families, communities and religious leaders that FGM is not a necessary part of a girl's coming of age ritual and, ultimately, that it will no longer be accepted or tolerated.

What are the consequences of FGM?

Procedures can cause severe bleeding and problems urinating, and later cysts, infections, infertility as well as complications in childbirth and increased risk of newborn and maternal deaths.

The lasting psychological effects on victims can be traumatic, often leading

to long-term mental health issues and sexual dysfunction.

What does the law provide on FGM?

FGM is illegal in Tanzania as provided for under the Law of the Child Act 2009 - (the written laws (miscellaneous amendments) (no.2) act, 2016) sec 158A; furthermore the Penal Code Cap 16 - Section 169A criminalizes FGM; the Constitution of URT 1977 article 12 - 13 provides for non-discrimination on the basis of sex, age, gender or race;

The National Plan of Action to End Violence against Women and Children 2017 - 2022 provides for protection of girls and women from harmful practices and calls for adherence to the existing laws and regulations;

Human Rights Efforts:

FGM is a human right violation and it is contrary to human rights conventions that protect women and children from cruelty and violence and ensure them "bodily integrity" and access to health care, education, and self-realization.

Some of these conventions are:

- ◇ The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
- ◇ The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1959)
- ◇ The African Charter on Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990)
- ◇ The United Nations Convention

on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1992)

- ◇ The United Nations Declaration on Violence Against Women (1993)
- ◇ The World Conference on Human Rights, Declaration and Programme of Action, Vienna (1993)
- ◇ The United Nations High Commission on Refugees, Statement Against Gender-Based Violence (1996).

What should be done to end FGM?

We need to build a strong synergy from grassroots to national level engaging political, religious and traditional leaders; civil societies; medical and education practitioners; policy and law enforcers; girls and boys;

We need to invest on continuous awareness raising and sensitization to bring about positive and protective social behavior that will have respect for human dignity;

The government should be fully engaged and must allocate necessary human and financial resources to eliminate the practice;

We need to have well established, functioning and accessible bodies to ensure there is rule of law and all perpetrators are brought to justice;

Spread the message

Let's build a society where women and girls are free and safe from FGM

Let's Condemn Suppression of Freedom of Expression.

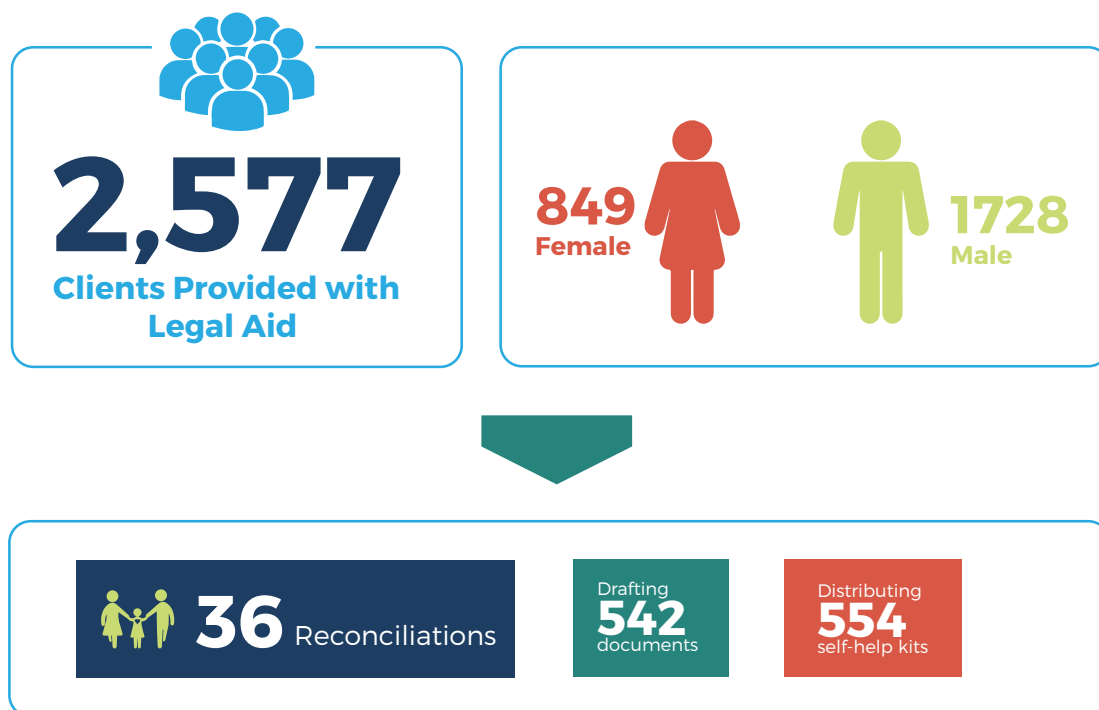
Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) is observing with concern the continuing trend of suppressing the right to freedom of expression and opinion by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania. On January 2, 2018, the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) issued a decision against five prominent television stations in Tanzania namely Azam Two TV, Independent Television (ITV), Channel 10, Star TV and East African TV (EATV). Under the TCRA decision the television stations were found guilty and fined for contravening the rules under the Broadcasting Services (Content) Regulations, 2005, specifically Rules 5(a) (h); 6(2)(b)(c); and 6(3).

The television stations had aired in their news bulletins a Press Statement issued by the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) on November 30, 2017. The Press Statement was on human rights violations observed by LHRC during ward counsellors' by-election conducted in 43 wards on November 26, 2017. LHRC had observed human rights violations such as physical abuse; detention; intimidation of voters, the arrest of political parties' leaders and agents. Among other things, the Press Statement called upon the authorities to make sure that

they take proper measures to address shortcomings and human rights abuses observed, taking into consideration that the country is due to conduct the Local Government Elections in 2019 and the General Elections in 2020. TCRA found the television stations guilty and issued monetary fines citing that the aired news bulletins were seditious, inciting violence and further were against journalist professional conduct contrary to cited provisions above.

In response LHRC took various measures including issuing a press statement condemning the decision and calling for the government and its machinery to observe principles of democracy and right to freedom of opinion and expression. Also, LHRC extended solidarity with the five television stations and inaugurated a fundraising campaign to mitigate the burden of the media houses paying arbitrary fines; Moving forward, the Legal and Human Rights (LHRC) made a call to every Tanzanian to play her/his part in condemning unconstitutional suppression of the right to free expression by the government and its machineries.

2577 clients provided with Legal Aid



Through its Kinondoni and Arusha legal aid clinics as well as mobile legal aid services, the Legal and Human Rights Centre has continued with provision of legal aid with a view of tapping issues for advocacy. Total of 2,577 clients (849 Female and 1728 Male) have been provide with legal assistance while conducting a total of 36 reconciliations, drafting 542 documents and distributing 554 self-help kits. Moreover, the LHRC participated in the law week from January 28, 2018 to February 2, 2018. A total of 53 clients were assisted during the law week (41 Male and 12 Female). Most issues tapped

were land disputes especially compensation on demolished houses as well as trespass.

In a bid to guarantee access to justice to everone, LHRC in this reporting quarter launched four legal aid centers in four wards counting Somangila, Kibada, Mnyamani and Kitunda wards in Kigamboni district, Dar es Salaam. The centers will be administered by paralegals to help cater for legal aid.

The aim of launching these centers is to make legal aid services available and easily accesible at the community level.

Pictorial

Capacity building to Students and Institutions visiting LHRC.



The LHRC's Ally Seif (left) and Tito Magoti instruct students from Zanaki Secondary School who paid a learning visit to LHRC on February 2018.



Students from Zanaki Secondary School pose for a group photo with the LHRC's Ally Seif (back r), Richard Ng'owo (back m) and Tito Magoti (back l) during their learning visit to LHRC.

Comemoration of the International Women's Day 2018



LHRC Staff taking part in the procession to mark the International Women's Day in Arusha City on March 8 , 2018.



Team of lawyers from the LHRC and PLPG International in a photo with paralegals during mobile legal aid in Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam amid commemoration of the International Women's Day 2018.



Yeeeah we can!, Women stretch arms as a symbol of strength during Women's Gala.

Advocacy Meeting with Deputy Speaker



The LHRC's Advocate Naemy Sillayo (c) highlights a point to the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Tulia Ackson (first left) during the advocacy meeting on anti child marriage.

Expanding Civic space



Representatives from CSO's and media in a group photo after stakeholders meeting at the LHRC to discuss about civic space in Tanzania.



Adolescent Girls and Young Women display posters calling for improved quality of HIV Health Services in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region.

It is possible to let go off FGM, Ms. Bhoke has proven it.

Ms. Esther Bhoke (40) years old has decided to abandon the Female Genital Mutilation practice and surrender her traditional cutting instruments and submitted them for burning. She said that she was inaugurated to becoming a traditional circumciser in early 2016 and

on the same year she performed FGM to 687 girls. She added that she was empowered and decided to change after attending several awareness sessions on the effects to FGM as well as after consultation with religious leaders.



Ms. Esther Bhoke

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

1. Launch of Tanzania Human Rights Report
2. Commemoration of World Press Freedom Day
3. LHRC Annual General Meeting
4. Commemoration of African Child Day

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