



# The Tanganyika Law Society

The Bar Association Of Tanzania Mainland

## PRESS RELEASE

17<sup>th</sup> October, 2010

The National Electoral Commission has granted the Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) observer status in the upcoming General Elections. The TLS will be deploying 200 of its members to 10 regions across Mainland Tanzania to take part in the monitoring of polling stations, as well as general conduct surrounding the election campaign.

The TLS is the Law Society for Mainland Tanzania. As its mandate, the TLS advocates for a society where justice and the rule of law are upheld. The main concern for the TLS in the lead up to the General Elections is that the elections should be conducted in a manner that upholds the rule of law and is in accordance with international best practices/standards.

According to the President of TLS, Mr. Felix George Kibodya, "it is our position that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government. This is our starting point and end point for observing the upcoming general elections".

To this end, the TLS has launched an Elections Manifesto, which articulates the TLS's purpose and contribution to the upcoming October 2010 general elections. The stated goals will form the basis of the monitoring and observations exercises.

On Polling Day, each of the observers will be monitoring the events that transpire at polling stations. Specifically, the observers will be monitoring for voting irregularities, ballot box safety and tampering, vote counting irregularities and tabulation of results.

TLS members will be deployed to the following 10 regions in Mainland Tanzania, that is to say, Tanga, Arusha, Mwanza, Dodoma, Dar Es Salaam, Tabora, Mbeya, Kilimanjaro, Mtwara and Mara.

Following the observation activity, the TLS will produce an evaluation report on its findings for public consumption.

