

Dear Members,

I wanted to take this opportunity to communicate with you about the upcoming General Elections scheduled for 31st October, 2010.

Apart from this being an important period of reflection for all citizens of Tanzania, this is also a time for the legal profession to galvanize itself to make a meaningful contribution in ensuring that the electoral processes are both free and fair - an opportunity to reinforce the public confidence in the profession and democratic processes in Tanzania.

It is in this spirit that the TLS Council decided to apply for Local Observer Status with the National Electoral Commission, which has been confirmed. This is an historical moment for the Tanganyika Law Society, which as you know (or should know) was instrumental in reviving the multiparty system in the lead up to the 1995 General Elections. Here again is an opportunity for us to lend our expertise, experience and professionalism to an important process. Here again is an opportunity to see the Tanganyika Law Society playing a major part in Tanzanian history.

And it is in this spirit that I call upon you (and especially the younger lawyers) to register and join with us to be election observers - space is limited to 200 participants.

What Will You be Required To Do?

Three simple things:

- 1.You will be required to complete the attached application form and submit it to your Chapter Convener OR the TLS Secretariat either physically or via e-mail to [info@tls.or.tz](mailto:info@tls.or.tz);
- 2.Attend a one-day training seminar, for free, for which you will be awarded two (2) CLE credits; and
- 3.Avail yourself for the whole day on Sunday, 31st October to be an election observer.

What Will You Get In Return?

In the spirit of public interest and giving back to the community, it is our desired hope that all of the two hundred members who participate in this exercise do so as volunteers. However, we shall provide training materials and refreshments during the training and a TZS 50,000 stipend for election observation.

The original communication from the TLS Secretariat stated that the deadline for registration would be this Sunday, 3rd October; however, I would wish to extend the registration to Thursday, 7th October to allow more of you to have the time to read my communication and submit your forms.

In the meantime, I wish to inform you that the Council has formed a small Committee to steer this Election Observation Exercise (EOE) comprised of myself, Mr. Joseph Mpuya, Madame Commissioner De Mello, Mr. Deusdedit Simbakalia (Chair,

Standing Law Committee), Mr. James Jesse (Chair, Human Rights Committee) and Mr. Zephrine Galeba (Chair, Legal Assistance Committee).

The Secretariat shall continue to channel information and updates to you and I would wish to urge you to respond positively.

Otherwise, I look forward to working with you in this important endeavour.  
Tupo pamoja katika ujenzi wa taifa yetu!

Yours Truly,

FELIX G. KIBODYA  
PRESIDENT