

# Mengi calls on the media to strive for mastery of trade, objective reportage

By Michael Haonga

THE Chairman of Media Owners' Association of Tanzania (MOAT), Reginald Mengi, has challenged media practitioners to strive for objective reporting and excellence in their profession through training and observance of ethics.

"In the first place, you must strive to become more professionally sound by educating either yourselves, through donors or government sponsorship and avoid compromising your objective reportage with corruption," said Mengi, who is also IPP Executive Chairman.

He threw the challenge at a workshop on "Access to Information, Media and Accountability in Tanzania" held in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Speaking on comments by some participants that some media organisations had a tendency of not reporting some events fearing that they might lose advertisements from subjects implicated, he said

weaknesses of that nature should not be allowed to compromise the cardinal roles the media have been established to play.

For his part, Prof Palamagamba Kabudi of the University of Dar es Salaam said every person had the right to information and that secrecy laws should be amended to give the media more access to information.

The Director of Tanzanian Information Services (Maelezo), Kassim Mpenda, said there was a limit to the types of information that could be made accessible to media practitioners, mainly to protect people's privacy.

He said an individual's health status, for instance, could not be made public.

In his remarks, Prof Sengondo Mvungi also of the University of Dar es Salaam underscored the need to accredit journalists in order to protect their trade and interests.

The two-day workshop is jointly organised by the Media Institute of Southern Africa, the World Bank and the African Capacity Building Foundation.



President Jakaya Kikwete congratulates Catherine the Standard Seven final exams last year. He had Training minister Prof Jumanne Maghembe. (Ph

## Facelift for JK Nyerere Airport soon

From Page 1

and more reliable transportation sector."

Meanwhile, Precision Air Chairman Michael Shirima explained that they were out to develop and expand aviation networks across the African continent "by providing air travel services at international standards of safety and comfort".

"We are focusing on extending our operations to three more African countries

Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Uganda," he said.

In his remarks at the reception, Precision Air Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Alphonse Kioko revealed that the purchase of the aircraft was a result of the recently closed \$129 million "structured lease facility" that had been used to finance the expected purchase of four other ATR 72-500 and two ATR 42-500 turbo props and related spare engines and

parts.

Citi Bank was mandated as the lead arranger for the "two-tranche structured lease facility", he said.

"An estimated \$114 million finance in lease facility is funded solely by Citi Bank, which is 95 per cent supported by European export credit agencies COFACE & SACE," noted the CEO, adding that the other six turbo props are due to be delivered between now and 2010.

## Celtel lau

By Corresp Njonanje S

THE mobile phone Celtel, yesterday new transmission which would improve access n customers all country.

Constructed by E Nokia-Siemens ne cost of USD48m microwave backt Mwanza Region, press statement yesterday said.

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