

Fresh registration of NGOs under VPO starts

By **DAILY NEWS**
Reporter

THE government has started to register all non-governmental organisations (NGOs) under the new law that aims to place them under a central co-ordinating unit within the Vice-President's Office (VPO).

The Director of NGOs in the VPO, Mr Marcel Katemba, told the *Daily News* in Dar es Salaam yesterday that many NGOs have so far obtained endorsement from their respective districts and regions.

According to the NGO Act of 2002, all NGOs are required to register with the Director of NGOs in the VPO. Formerly, societies were registered at the Ministry of Home Affairs while

foundations and trusts were under the Administrator General.

The Minister of State in the VPO, Mr Edgar Maokola-Majogo, launched the exercise in Dodoma early this year.

Mr Katemba said the registration would help his office monitor the activities of NGOs

countrywide. "We first want to get their exact number, location and activities," he said.

He said the economic contribution of the NGOs would be evaluated and included in the country's calculation for GDP.

"The NGOs do a lot of economic and social activities but their contribution is not reflected in the GDP," he said. The Act compels NGOs to prepare and make public their reports and activities.

They have also to prepare and submit annual audited accounts to the National Council for NGOs.

All the estimated 4,000 NGOs in the country would be issued with certificates of compliance, Mr Katemba added.



MR Edgar Maokola-Majogo