

# Give SMEs better loan conditions

*By Joshua Mshana.*

SMALL Industries Development Organization (SIDO) should provide soft loans to more Small and Medium Enterprises so as to enable them to increase their capital and expand their businesses.

Janet Mushi, the Chairman of Tumaini Women Group, said this in an interview recently.

"SMEs need loans which will help them meet the orders of customers. The government should help us to get access to markets and get soft loans from banks which have low interest rates. Exhibitions like those conducted by SIDO should also be conducted by other organizations," she said.

The firm has not exported under the AGOA (Africa Growth Opportunity Act) but they are very anxious to do so. The main obstacle is that they can't meet their orders. But their products are of high quality which can meet the requirements stipulated by the AGOA.

"We strive very hard to

improve the quality of our products in order to attract more customers. We have plans to advertise in the media so as to promote our products. What we need right now is training on marketing skills so that we may be able to get access to markets," she said.