



MLINZI WA HAKI



2nd Quarter 2026

Dear Esteemed Readers,

Warm greetings from the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC).

We are delighted to share with you the Second Quarter 2026 edition of the Mlinzi wa Haki Newsletter, showcasing some of the key milestones, advocacy initiatives, legal interventions, and human rights developments that shaped our work during the past three months.

Throughout this quarter, LHRC continued to champion the protection and promotion of human rights, the rule of law, democratic governance, and access to justice across Tanzania. Our efforts focused on empowering citizens through legal aid and civic education, advancing gender equality and the rights of vulnerable groups, monitoring and responding to emerging human rights concerns, and strengthening partnerships that promote accountability and respect for constitutional freedoms.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our partners, supporters, development partners, government institutions, civil society organizations, and the communities we serve for their unwavering collaboration and trust. Your continued support enables us to make meaningful progress toward a Tanzania where human rights are respected, protected, and enjoyed by everyone.



Dr. Anna Henga (Advocate)
Executive Director
Legal and an Rights Centre (LHRC)

Rehema Ndoje Released After 26 Years on Death Row



Rehema Ndoje at her home with LHRC Legal Aid team following her release from death row.

For 26 years, Rehema Ndoje lived behind prison walls under a death sentence, waiting for her appeal to be heard. Her case remained unresolved for nearly two decades after court records went missing.

Then, in February 2026, everything changed. Following legal intervention and continuous follow-up by the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), the Court of Appeal of Tanzania ordered Rehema's release, finding that her constitutional rights had been severely violated.

Her story is one of a long wait for justice, the persistence of legal advocacy, and the difference that having someone stand by your side can make.

[Read more](#)

Policy Wins this Quarter

**Driving Rights-Based Climate Action: LHRC
Influences Tanzania's National Climate
Strategy**



Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) has successfully secured a commitment from the Vice President's Office (VPO) - Union and Environment to integrate rights-based recommendations into the upcoming National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS) 2027–2031.

This landmark achievement follows a comprehensive assessment conducted by LHRC on the implementation of the current NCCRS 2021–2026. The evaluation exposed critical institutional gaps in environmental monitoring, climate financing, and community-based natural resource management that required urgent attention.

To ensure inclusivity and public ownership, LHRC first presented its findings through a virtual validation meeting that brought together over 120 key stakeholders. Representatives from civil society organizations, academia, the media, and various government agencies actively contributed to refining policy recommendations. By anchoring the review in human rights, LHRC emphasized that future national climate strategies must prioritize the resilience of local communities, particularly in the climate-sensitive sectors of agriculture and fisheries.

Following this robust stakeholder consultation, LHRC formally engaged the Vice President's Office (VPO- Union and Environment). The VPO highly welcomed the assessment and formally committed to utilizing LHRC's insights to draft a more responsive, equitable, and sustainable climate framework for the next five years. To further transparently promote public dialogue on climate governance, LHRC widely disseminated the report's conclusions through Nipashe Newspaper.

This intervention highlights LHRC's strategic role in advancing climate justice and calling for LHRC

institutional accountability a. By aligning national policies with human rights standards, continues to promote sustainable environmental governance.



Strengthening Public Accountability: LHRC Influences Key Reforms in the Finance Act 2026



POLICY WIN

“LHRC's recommendations, submitted during public consultation on the Finance Bill 2026, were incorporated into the Finance Act 2026.”

A safeguard for fiscal discipline and institutional independence.

LHRC achieved a significant advocacy milestone after some of its recommendations submitted during public consultation regarding the Finance Bill, 2026 were incorporated into the Finance Act of 2026.

LHRC's policy recommendations were focused on on proposed amendments across taxation, digital transactions, fuel levies, and the powers of the Bank of Tanzania. These recommendations were developed through a human rights-based approach, with particular attention to vulnerable groups including women, older persons, and rural communities.

For instance, when the Finance Bill proposed to to expand government borrowing powers from the Central Bank during revenue shortfalls, LHRC noted that unclear provisions of the bill could weaken financial accountability and reduce parliamentary oversight over public finances.

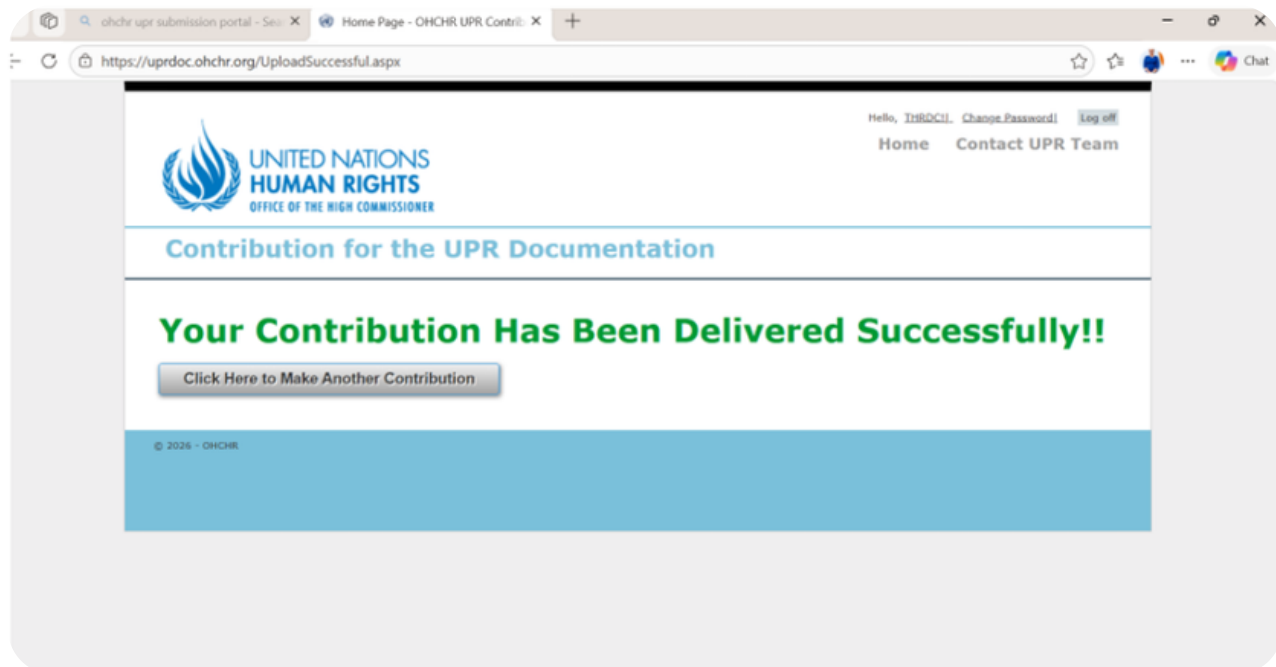
Consequently, the proposed amendment was rejected, thus the Finance Act preserves stronger safeguards for fiscal discipline and institutional independence. This outcome contributes to protecting national resources and ensuring that emergency financial decisions remain guided by transparency and accountability principles.

Besides that, LHRC submission on the proposed amendments of the Income Tax Act to allow investor-specific tax arrangements outside legislative oversight were considered. This legislative intervention ensures that income tax arrangements remain governed by public laws approved through transparent democratic processes.



Advancing Human Rights Accountability: LHRC Coordinates Tanzania's Global Reporting Efforts





Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) has strengthened Tanzania's human rights accountability efforts through its leadership role in coordinating civil society participation in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and Voluntary National Review (VNR) processes. The initiative ensures that human rights concerns, citizens' experiences, and evidence from communities inform national and international discussions.

During the quarter, LHRC worked together with Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), Save the Children Tanzania, and other civil society organizations to prepare and submit the 4th Cycle UPR Civil Society Shadow Report. The process brought together contributions from more than 140 civil society organizations, creating a comprehensive reflection of human rights progress and challenges in Tanzania.

A key milestone in this process was the development and submission of a Child-Led Report, providing children with an opportunity to share their experiences and highlight issues affecting their rights. The report addressed important concerns including child marriage, corporal punishment, and gaps in child protection services, ensuring that children's perspectives are included in human rights advocacy.

LHRC also contributed to the Joint Civil Society Voluntary National Review (VNR) Report by documenting important human rights issues connected to Sustainable Development Goal 16, including access to justice, protection of human rights defenders, freedom of expression, and building peaceful and inclusive societies.

Through engagement with government institutions during UPR and VNR validation processes, LHRC provided evidence-based recommendations aimed at improving transparency, accountability, and alignment with international human rights standards. These engagements helped highlight areas requiring further action to strengthen the protection of fundamental freedoms and the rule of law.

Through these efforts, LHRC continues to play a leading role in connecting national realities with global human rights commitments. The organization remains dedicated to promoting inclusive governance, protecting human rights, and ensuring that citizens' voices are reflected in policy and development processes.

CLIENT STORY

"Justice is achievable when people have access to legal assistance and the courage to defend their rights."

TZS 500,000 awarded in compensation on appeal.

Justice prevailed for Joyce Kulei after a determined legal battle that challenged abuse of authority and protected her property rights. Her case demonstrates how legal support can empower ordinary citizens to seek justice even when they face powerful local institutions.

Joyce's legal troubles began in 2024 when village leaders accused her of stealing trees that she maintained were her own property. She was prosecuted, convicted, and ordered to pay a fine. Believing the decision was unfair, Joyce approached LHRC seeking legal advice and representation to challenge the conviction.

LHRC successfully appealed the criminal case, leading the appellate court to overturn the conviction. Determined to fully restore her rights, Joyce pursued compensation for the trees that had been unlawfully cut down. Although her first civil claim was dismissed, LHRC continued to support her through another appeal, refusing to let injustice have the final word.

The appellate court later found that the lower court had failed to properly assess the available evidence and wrongly treated the matter as a land dispute. As a result, the court partially allowed the appeal, set aside the earlier judgment, and awarded Joyce TZS 500,000 in compensation for the losses she had suffered.

Joyce's journey is a powerful reminder that justice is achievable when people have access to legal assistance and the courage to defend their rights. Through dedicated legal representation, LHRC continues to protect vulnerable citizens, promote accountability, and ensure that no one is denied justice because of unequal power or limited resources.

Legal Aid by Numbers



LHRC Reaches Over 13,000 Tanzanians Through Legal Aid This Quarter



For many people facing legal challenges, the cost and complexity of the justice system can become the biggest barrier of all to protecting their rights. During the second quarter of 2026, LHRC's two legal aid clinics, the Kinondoni Legal Aid Clinic (KLAC) in Dar es Salaam and the LHRC Arusha Office, brought free legal support directly to the people who needed it most.

13,242 clients reached

Combined legal aid clients served by KLAC and the Arusha Office between April and June 2026.



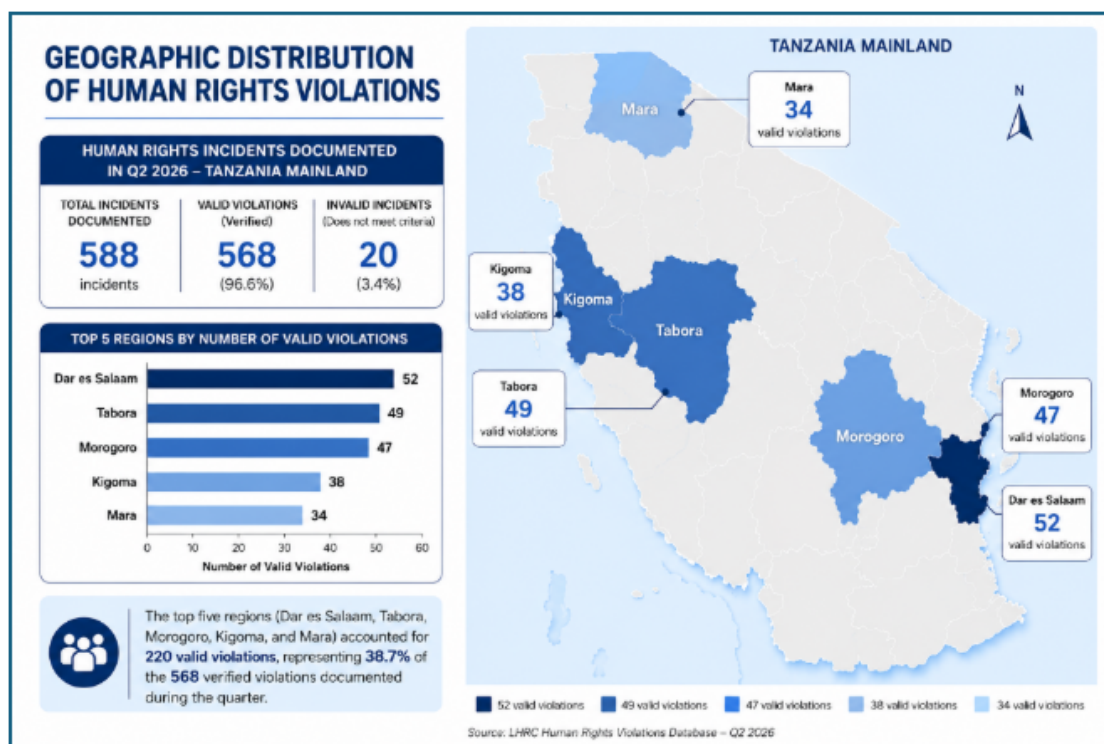
LHRC Advocate Prisca Makori (left) and Rose Omuga (right) giving legal advice at KLAC.

Both clinics offered the same core services: legal advice, court representation, preparation of legal documents, mediation, and distribution of self-help legal materials, reaching women, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups who often face the greatest barriers to justice.

KLAC, DAR ES SALAAM	ARUSHA OFFICE
9,275 clients reached, above the 7,614 quarterly target	3,967 clients reached with advice and representation
599 clients represented in court	348 vulnerable clients served, including GBV survivors and widows
16 cases won before courts, tribunals and commissions	17 cases resolved in clients' favour
23 disputes resolved through mediation	12 persons with disabilities served

Together, these two clinics gave more than 13,000 Tanzanians something the justice system does not always guarantee on its own: someone in their corner. Through KLAC and the Arusha Office, LHRC continues turning access to justice from a privilege into a right that anyone, regardless of income, can claim.

LHRC Documents 588: Rights Violations Across Tanzania on the effort to strengthen human rights protection



The top five regions (Dar es Salaam, Tabora, Morogoro, Kigoma and Mara) accounted for 220 valid violations, representing 38.7% of the 568 verified violations documented during the quarter

During the second quarter of 2026, LHRC strengthened its human rights monitoring and response mechanisms by documenting 588 reported human rights incidents across Tanzania Mainland, providing critical evidence to support advocacy, accountability, and protection of victims.

Out of the documented cases, 568 incidents were verified as valid human rights violations, reflecting increased public confidence in reporting mechanisms and improved capacity among LHRC staff, Friends of Haki, and community-based monitors to identify and document rights violations.

The documented incidents revealed continued human rights challenges affecting communities across the country. Civil and political rights violations remained the most reported category, while killings, violence against children, arbitrary arrests, and violence against women emerged among the major protection concerns requiring sustained attention.

LHRC responded to reported violations through different interventions, including legal support, police station visits, referrals to legal aid clinics, communication with responsible authorities, and advocacy through public statements. These interventions contributed to improving access to justice and strengthening accountability among duty bearers.

The achievement demonstrates the importance of strong human rights monitoring systems in protecting citizens and informing policy discussions. Through improved documentation tools, including the upgraded Haki Kiganjani system and strengthened capacity of Friends of Haki, LHRC continues to build reliable evidence that supports human rights protection across Tanzania.



LHRC Strengthens Child Justice Protection Through Legal Aid Support to Children in Conflict with the Law



CHILD JUSTICE

33 children

Supported at Upanga Remand Home (31 boys, 2 girls) during African Child Day activities.

Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) has continued to promote child-sensitive justice through legal aid support provided to children in conflict with the law. The intervention reflects LHRC's commitment to ensuring that children receive protection and fair treatment within the justice system.

During the second quarter of 2026, KLAC participated in providing legal assistance to children at Upanga Remand Home in Dar es Salaam as part of activities commemorating the African Child Day. The initiative provided legal support to 33 children in conflict with the law, including 31 boys and two girls.

Through this engagement, LHRC provided legal guidance and assessed the legal challenges facing children within the justice system. The support aimed at ensuring that children understand their rights and that justice procedures comply with child protection standards.

LHRC's intervention is particularly important given the challenges facing juvenile justice services, including limited availability of social welfare officers in some areas. These gaps can affect children's ability to receive proper legal protection during court proceedings.

By engaging directly with children and justice institutions, LHRC continues to advocate for improved child justice systems and stronger implementation of laws protecting children's rights.

Through legal aid, advocacy, and policy engagement, LHRC remains committed to ensuring that every child receives protection, dignity, and access to justice regardless of their circumstances



LHRC Expands Community Mediation and Legal Empowerment



COMMUNITY REACH

1,464 clients

Empowered with legal knowledge; 1,074 self-help legal kits distributed this quarter.

Beyond court representation, Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) continues to promote accessible and people-centred justice through legal empowerment, mediation, and community awareness initiatives.

During the second quarter of 2026, KLAC empowered 1,464 clients with legal knowledge to help them understand and defend their rights. The empowerment sessions focused on helping citizens navigate legal processes and make informed decisions regarding their cases.

LHRC also supported citizens through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. During the quarter, 23 disputes were referred for reconciliation, with 17 successfully resolved without requiring court proceedings.

The use of mediation and reconciliation provides important benefits to communities by reducing legal costs, saving time, and promoting peaceful solutions to disputes. It also reduces pressure on courts while allowing parties to reach mutually acceptable agreements.

In addition, KLAC prepared and distributed 1,074 self-help legal kits to citizens, providing practical information on different legal issues including family matters, land disputes, employment rights, and civil cases.

These efforts demonstrate LHRC's commitment to empowering communities with knowledge and tools necessary to protect their rights. Through legal aid and public awareness, LHRC continues to build a society where citizens are informed, empowered, and able to seek justice.



A Mother's Six-Year Wait Ends with Justice



CLIENT STORY

"What had remained unresolved for six years was achieved within a matter of weeks."

Custody order enforced; mother and son reunited in 2026.

For six years, Sada Musa Kitwana lived with the pain of being separated from her son despite having a court order granting her legal custody. Her struggle reflects the challenges many vulnerable parents face when court decisions are not enforced, leaving families divided and children's wellbeing at risk.

The dispute began in 2020 when the Juvenile Court in Arusha dismissed an application filed by the child's father and awarded custody of Nathan Goodluck Kilenga to his mother. However, the father forcefully took the child and continued to deny Sada access. Fear, limited legal knowledge, and financial constraints prevented her from taking further legal action to enforce the judgment.

In April 2026, after years of emotional distress, Sada sought legal assistance from the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC). The legal team immediately assessed the matter, advised her on the available legal remedies, and supported her in filing enforcement proceedings before the court. Throughout the process, LHRC closely followed the case to ensure that justice was not delayed once again.

The intervention resulted in the successful enforcement of the custody order, and the child was finally reunited with his mother. What had remained unresolved for six years was achieved within a matter of weeks through legal representation and continuous follow-up. The outcome restored the mother's legal rights while safeguarding the child's welfare, stability, and future.

This case demonstrates the vital role of legal aid in ensuring that court judgments are not only issued but also effectively implemented. By helping vulnerable individuals enforce their rights, LHRC continues to strengthen access to justice and restore hope to families facing difficult legal challenges.

Environment & Climate Justice





Ripoti: Wanawake wavuvi na ukatili wa kijinsia Tanzania

Imebaini kuwa wanawake wanaojishughulisha na shughuli za uvuvi hukumbana na ukatili wa kijinsia katika maeneo ya uvuvi.

To protect vulnerable coastal communities , LHRC, in partnership with the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), successfully implemented a major human rights dissemination campaign across the Tanga and Pwani regions.

To promoting sustainable marine resources governance, LHRC, in collaboration with the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), conducted research and published a report titled: Human Rights, Small-Scale Fishers (SSF) and Their Access to and Management of Marine Resources in Tanzania.

To disseminate the findings, LHRC and CHRAGG implemented a community outreach campaign in the regions of Tanga, Pwani, Lindi and Mtwara.

. The campaign engaged a total of 290 grassroots participants (M 110, F 180),

The dissemination highlighted the linkages between climate change and the declining fish stock for small scale fishers. It also highlighted how such impacts cause gender-based violence and exacerbate household poverty amongst SSF communities in the coastal Tanzania. To further amplify the voices of the climate vulnerable coastal communities LHRC engaged both local and international media including Deutsche Welle (DW) on a live broadcast that reached over 10,096 verified views on YouTube.

By linking climate change with poverty, human dignity and gender equality, LHRC has contributed to shaping the conversation around small scale fisheries and human rights in Tanzania.



**Protecting Communities Through
Environmental Justice**





In a powerful demonstration of community-led environmental accountability, LHRC successfully wrote to the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) to take prompt regulatory ~~against~~ ^{against} Keds Tanzania Company Ltd for alleged environmental pollution. The intervention was launched following formal complaints raised by residents of Picha ya Ndege Ward, located within Kibaha Municipal Council. Community members had raised concerns over escalating air and water pollution that directly affected their right to live in a clean and healthy environment.

Responding to these concerns, LHRC conducted a fact-finding activity in the said area. After these consultations, LHRC formally wrote to NEMC, petitioning it to take concrete measures to stop the pollution and protect community welfare.

In response, NEMC confirmed that the industry's water and gas emission contravened environmental standards and polluted the environment. . Consequently, NEMC issued several compliance orders, directing Keds Tanzania Company Ltd to immediately stop the pollution and upgrade its control systems, and submit a comprehensive compliance report to NEMC within 14 days. This milestone substantiated that citizens-led accountability is a viable approach in promoting responsible investment.

Partnering for Justice

Partnerships for Justice: Swedish Delegation Visits LHRC Legal Aid Centre



Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Embassy of Sweden in Tanzania and LHRC leadership at the Kinondoni Legal Aid Clinic.

As part of the celebration of 63 years of development cooperation between Tanzania and Sweden, the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) welcomed a delegation from the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Embassy of Sweden in Tanzania to its Legal Aid Clinic in Kinondoni on 24 June 2026. The visit provided an opportunity for the delegation to witness firsthand how Swedish support continues to expand access to justice for vulnerable communities across Tanzania.

During the visit, the delegation engaged with LHRC staff to gain deeper insight into the Centre's legal aid services and its contribution to protecting and promoting human rights. The discussions highlighted the critical role that legal assistance plays in enabling citizens, particularly women, children, and marginalized groups, to seek justice and exercise their rights.

Speaking during the delegation visits, LHRC Executive Director, Dr Anna Henga, reflected on the organization's more than 25-year partnership with the Government of Sweden, describing it as a cornerstone in advancing access to justice, good governance, accountability, and equality in Tanzania. She also shared key achievements made possible through the partnership, while noting that land conflicts and labor disputes remain among the most pressing legal challenges facing many citizens.

The visit also reaffirmed the enduring relationship between LHRC and Sweden, whose broader development cooperation with Tanzania has spanned more than six decades across sectors including education, health, water, sanitation, and energy. For LHRC, the partnership has enabled sustained investment in legal empowerment and the protection of fundamental human rights.

The engagement renewed its commitment to strengthening collaboration in promoting justice and human rights. It also reinforced international confidence in LHRC's work and the shared vision of building an inclusive society where every Tanzanian can access justice and live with dignity.

LHRC and FCC Deepen Institutional Collaboration to Build Stronger Consumer Protection Systems

NEW PARTNERSHIP

“A strategic partnership to decentralize and strengthen consumer protection mechanisms across Tanzania.”

Agreement reached with the Fair Competition Commission on 09 June 2026

On 09 June 2026 LHRC has successfully forged a strategic partnership with the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) to decentralize and strengthen consumer protection mechanisms across Tanzania. The high-level policy engagement meeting was prompted by LHRC's proactive legal analysis of the Fair Competition (Amendment) Act, 2024. This recent law transferred the jurisdiction of handling consumer complaints from traditional courts to the FCC, creating a critical need to adjust operational frameworks.

During the sessions, LHRC presented a series of targeted proposals aimed at reviewing the Consumer Complaint Handling Procedures of 2022 to match the new legal reality. A central recommendation by LHRC was the urgent need to decentralize consumer protection services, making justice accessible to ordinary citizens outside major urban centers. To achieve this, LHRC proposed utilizing Local Government Authority Business Officers as front-line liaison personnel to handle local complaints and inspections.

The FCC warmly embraced LHRC's legal insights and officially committed to integrating the recommendations into its ongoing procedural reviews. The Commission agreed to forward the proposal to the responsible ministries for the immediate development of necessary legal instruments. Furthermore, FCC and LHRC agreed to collaborate in public awareness campaigns to enhance public understanding of fundamental consumer rights.

This collaboration bridges the gap between state regulatory bodies and civil society, ensuring that economic reforms do not leave vulnerable consumers behind. By cementing institutional response to key consumer concerns, LHRC is contributing towards a fairer marketplace. LHRC will continue to collaborate with FCC to ensure these progressive policy commitments are fully realized.

LHRC Helps Retired Employee Recover Employment Benefits

CLIENT STORY

TZS 20 million

Recovered for a retired Nyumba ya Sanaa employee after years of LHRC follow-up.

After years of uncertainty and waiting, Mr. Emmanuel Ndikimunuel Tungilo, a former employee of Nyumba ya Sanaa, has finally received part of his long-awaited employment benefits following continued legal support and follow-up by Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC).

Mr. Tungilo had worked at Nyumba ya Sanaa since 1988 before he was temporarily stopped from working in 2017 after being informed that there were insufficient duties available. Despite repeated follow-ups, he and other affected employees waited for years without receiving their employment entitlements.

In 2019, Mr. Tungilo and his colleagues filed a labour dispute before the Commission for Mediation and Arbitration (CMA), demanding their unpaid salaries. The matter was later settled, with the employer agreeing to pay a total amount of Tanzanian Shillings 496.3 million to the affected workers.

However, implementation of the agreement faced challenges, leaving the beneficiaries unable to access their rightful payments. LHRC intervened through continuous follow-up with relevant institutions, including Nyumba ya Sanaa and responsible government authorities, to ensure the agreement was implemented.

Following LHRC's intervention, Mr. Tungilo received Tanzanian Shillings 20 million and his pension benefits, enabling him to improve his living conditions and construct a small house. The achievement reflects LHRC's commitment to ensuring that legal victories translate into meaningful justice for citizens.

This case highlights the importance of persistent legal support and advocacy in helping vulnerable individuals overcome institutional barriers and obtain their rightful benefits.

More Justice Win this Quarter

LHRC Legal Support Protects Citizens' Property Rights Through Successful Court Appeals

Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) continues to demonstrate the importance of legal aid in protecting citizens' rights through successful court interventions. During the second quarter of 2026, KLAC supported several clients whose cases involved family property, inheritance, and land-related disputes.

One of the beneficiaries was Ms. Ester Ruben Mbwambo, who faced a matrimonial property dispute after a lower court ordered the division of property that belonged to her daughter. Through LHRC's legal support, the matter was appealed and the court reviewed the evidence presented.

The appellate court found that the disputed property was registered under a third party and could not be considered matrimonial property. As a result, the previous decision was overturned, protecting the lawful ownership rights of the affected family member.

Another successful case involved Mr. Rainery Remigi Fundalema, who challenged a decision regarding the division of matrimonial assets. With legal assistance from LHRC, the court reconsidered evidence on each party's contribution and adjusted the division of property based on the circumstances of the case.

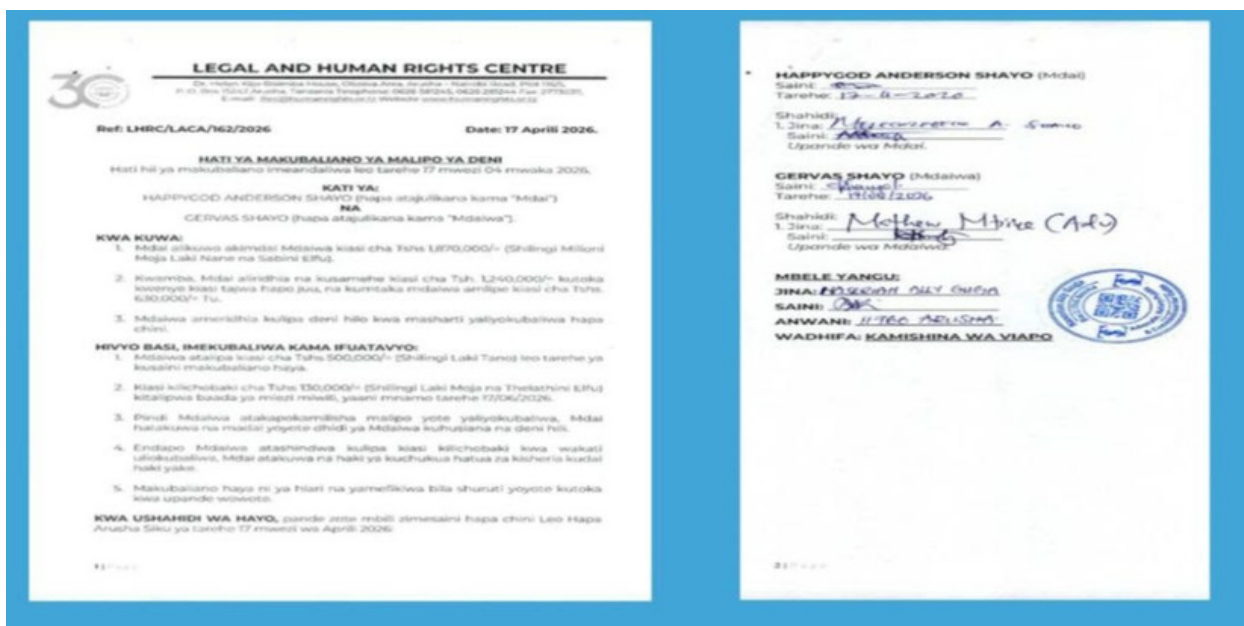
The court decision ensured a fairer outcome while recognizing the importance of evidence in determining ownership and contribution in matrimonial property disputes. These cases demonstrate how access to professional legal representation can change the lives of citizens facing complex legal challenges.

Through strategic legal aid, LHRC continues to ensure that vulnerable citizens have an opportunity to seek justice, defend their rights, and receive fair treatment before the law.



Mediation Delivers Justice Without Lengthy Court Battles





Mediation in progress: a faster, more affordable path to a lasting resolution.

Not every dispute needs to end in a courtroom. During the second quarter of 2026, LHRC successfully resolved a long-standing financial disagreement through Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), demonstrating that dialogue and mediation can provide faster, more affordable, and lasting solutions for communities.

The dispute involved Mr. Happygod Anderson Shayo and Mr. Gervas Shayo, who disagreed over financial support and business assets valued at TZS 1.87 million. Rather than allowing the disagreement to escalate into lengthy litigation, both parties sought assistance from LHRC to find a peaceful solution.

Legal officers from LHRC invited both parties to participate in a structured mediation session. Each party was given an equal opportunity to explain their position while trained mediators guided the discussion in a respectful and impartial environment. The process encouraged openness, understanding, and a willingness to reach common ground.

The mediation resulted in a voluntary settlement. The claimant agreed to reduce the original claim to TZS 630,000, while the respondent immediately paid TZS 500,000 and committed to settle the remaining balance within the agreed timeframe. The agreement was signed willingly by both parties, bringing the dispute to an amicable conclusion without further legal proceedings.

The successful mediation highlights LHRC's commitment to promoting peaceful dispute resolution and expanding access to justice through people-centred approaches. By encouraging dialogue instead of confrontation, the organization continues to reduce unnecessary court cases while helping communities preserve relationships and resolve conflicts efficiently.

Commemorative Days





“Free, safe, and independent media as a cornerstone of human rights, transparency, and democratic governance” - Dr. Anna Henga

The Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) reaffirmed its commitment to protecting freedom of expression and independent journalism during the national commemoration of World Press Freedom Day 2026, held from 28–30 April in Arusha. The annual event brought together journalists, policymakers, civil society organizations, media owners, and development partners to reflect on the future of press freedom under the theme, “Shaping a Future at Peace: Promoting Press Freedom for Human Rights, Development and Security.”

Throughout the three-day commemoration, LHRC maintained an active presence through an exhibition booth that provided free legal aid services, legal education, and human rights publications to participants and members of the public. The engagement offered an opportunity to raise awareness on media rights, access to justice, and the importance of safeguarding civic space as a foundation for democratic governance.

A major highlight of LHRC's participation was the contribution of Executive Director, Dr. Anna Henga, who joined high-level panel discussions and media interviews to address the state of press freedom in Tanzania. She underscored that a free and independent media is essential for innovation, accountability, and democratic development, emphasizing that fear and intimidation continue to undermine journalists' ability to report freely and serve the public interest.

Reflecting on the 2025 General Elections, Dr. Henga noted that many journalists faced an environment of uncertainty and intimidation that limited their ability to report on human rights issues and other matters of public importance. She observed that restrictions on media operations contributed to information gaps and weakened public accountability, reinforcing the need to protect journalists and uphold the public's right to information.

The discussions also drew attention to findings documented in the LHRC Human Rights Report 2025, which highlights challenges affecting media freedom, including restrictions on access to information, intimidation of journalists, and legal and administrative measures affecting media operations. LHRC reiterated the importance of reviewing laws and policies that impact media

freedom to create an enabling environment where journalists can operate independently, professionally, and without fear.

LHRC's participation in the commemoration reinforced its broader advocacy for a free, safe, and independent media as a cornerstone of human rights, transparency, and democratic governance. The event also strengthened collaboration with key stakeholders committed to advancing press freedom and protecting the fundamental right to freedom of expression in Tanzania.



Enhancing Public Awareness on Environmental Rights and Obligations



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

20,000+ views

Verified digital views reached through the cross-amplified broadcast with Crown Media.

LHRC commemorated the World Environment Day by Enhancing Public Awareness on Environmental Rights and Obligations. In commemorating the World Environment Day 2026, under the global theme, "Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future," LHRC partnered with Crown Media and participated in a public awareness program that covered key environmental rights and obligation, in the context of climate change and sensitive communities' livelihoods. .

LHRC further advocated for urgent legal and institutional reforms, emphasizing the need for accessible climate financing models for affected populations. The live discussions demystified state obligations, empowering citizens to demand better environmental conservation strategies from their local leaders.

To maximize the message of the World Environment Day , LHRC and Crown Media cross-amplified the audio broadcasts onto various digital and social media platforms. This approach reached over 20,000 verified digital views . This massive online engagement successfully capitalized on a one-day commemoration into an active public forum on climate resilience.

Also this Quarter

Promoting Inclusive Education: LHRC Supports School Re-entry for Adolescent Mothers



LHRC's Nancy Masenha presenting findings from the ACERWC Recommendations Implementation Study during a high-level government meeting in Dodoma

For many adolescent mothers who leave school due to pregnancy, returning to education remains a major challenge. During the second quarter of 2026, LHRC strengthened advocacy efforts to support implementation of school re-entry commitments and promote the right to education for girls across Tanzania.

Through a high-level government engagement meeting, LHRC brought together key ministries and stakeholders to discuss progress, challenges, and solutions related to implementing recommendations from the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) regarding school re-entry.

The engagement resulted in the development of an action plan outlining priority areas, responsible institutions, timelines, and monitoring mechanisms to improve coordination and accountability in implementing school re-entry guidelines.

The discussions highlighted important challenges affecting successful implementation, including limited awareness of existing guidelines, weak coordination systems, and inadequate resources among some frontline actors. Addressing these barriers remains essential to ensuring that adolescent mothers and girls who leave school have meaningful opportunities to continue their education.

Through evidence-based advocacy and collaboration with government institutions, LHRC continues to promote policies and practices that protect children's rights and advance gender equality. Strengthening education opportunities for adolescent mothers contributes to building a more inclusive society where every child can access their right to learn and achieve their potential.

Our development partners.



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