

# The deadline for verification of NGO's is finally here.

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December 2021

The Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 3) Act, 2019 amended the Section 17 of the Non-Governmental Organisations Act, 2002 (**"the Act"**) requiring registered non-governmental organisations (**"NGO's"**) to ascertain their details with the Registrar of NGOs. The amendment also introduced a new requirement for NGOs to renew their registration after every ten (10) years. Following the mandatory verification exercise, NGOs are now issued with new certificates of registration for NGO's which have a validity period of ten years. The renewal of the certificates will have to be initiated six (6) months before the expiry date. It is noteworthy that the renewal of an NGOs' registration is at the discretion of the BGO Board which may or may not approve the renewal of the certificate.

Following this above stated changes in the law, all registered NGOS were required to submit their registration details by 31st March 2021. However, the stipulated deadline was extended to allow NGOS to complete the verification exercise by 31st December 2021. NGOs that will not have submitted their verification process by 31st December 2021 will be removed from register of NGOs which means that they will no longer be eligible to continue operating in Tanzania.

For purposes of completing the verification exercise, NGOs are reminded to submit the following documents and information to the office of the Registrar of NGOs before 31st December 2021:

- a. original certificate of registration of the NGO and a certified copy thereof;
- b. details of all founding members and their signatures;
- c. Curriculum vitae and identification cards (NIDA cards for Tanzanians nationals and passport copies for non-Tanzanian nationals) of the members;
- d. a stamped copy of the constitution of the NGO;
- e. proof of payment of annual fees for the past three years; and
- f. minutes of the members of the NGO approving the delivery of the documents above for the verification exercise.

Section 29(1) (a) and (b) of the Act, also requires all registered NGOs to file their annual reports and pay their annual fees. NGOs are reminded to file annual reports and pay annual fees for the year 2021 before 15th April 2022. The annual fees payable is TShs 50,000 for local NGOs and US\$ 100 for foreign NGOs. Late filings will attract a fiscal penalty of TShs 100,000 and US\$ 200 for local and foreign NGOs respectively.

With just a few days left to verify the NGO's and file of the annual report, our corporate team at Dentons EALC East African Law Chambers will be pleased to address and queries that you may have and help you with the process to ensure compliance. Please feel free to contact Stella Ndikimi or Isaac Lupi.

## KEY CONTACTS



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