CITIES CONTRACTOR OF CONTRA



THE CITIZEN AG says TZ needs better negotiators in resource deals

By Alex Bitekeye The Citizen Reporter

Dar es Salaam. Tanzania needs lawyers with negotiation skills who can protect public interests when signing contracts with investors, the Attorney General, Judge Frederick Werema, has said.

He said this recently when officially opening a five-day intensive training on negotiation skills for a group of 40 state attorneys specialising in contracts.

The training, conducted by IMMA advocates in collaboration with an international law firm DLA PIPER, aims at giving local attorneys confidence in negotiating various types of contracts.

"This is essential at this time when various explorations are going on in the country, bearing in mind that my office has been accused of endorsing unbalanced contracts," said Judge Werema, stressing on the need for lawyers to have strong negotiation powers.

Apart from negotiating, the person should also have expertise in law concerning the issue which the contract is signed for so that the bargaining process could achieve a win-win situation.

Judge Werema challenged advocates to go back to school and acquire language skills to have an edge in contract negotiations, especially those presented in the English Language.

"It is a shame, but I have to say it, most of us do not master the language, please join extra-mural classes in a bid to master the language so that these people won't deceive you any more," he stressed.

For his part, lead trainer, Mr Jay Klenstein, urged state attorneys attending the training to use their skills to bring significant benefits to the society.

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