



LVBC Monthly Review

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CONSTRUCTION OF MRCC UNDERWAY IN MWANZA



The MRCC currently under construction in Mwanza, United Republic of Tanzania

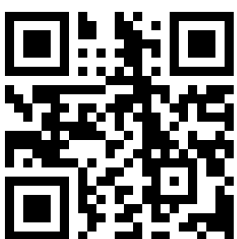
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**PREPARATION FOR
THE 13th MARA DAY
CELEBRATION KICKS
OFF**



**MWANZA CITY TO HOST
THE FIRST LAKE VICTORIA
DAY CELEBRATIONS IN
NOVEMBER**



The construction of Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) is underway in Ilmela, Mwanza City in the United Republic of Tanzania.

Already the construction of the ground floor of the main office and the first floor is at thirty eight percent. The construction of the centre that will cost USD 1,870,000 officially kicked off in December 13th 2023.

The Government of Uganda (GoU) and the United Republic of Tanzania (URT) through the Lake Victoria Basic Commission (LVBC) and with support from the African Development Bank (AfDB) procured a contractor to Design and build the centre.

LVBC Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire expressed his satisfaction with the progress.

Bwire said, "I am pleased with the progress so far and call upon the contractor to speed up so that we can beat the deadline".

Upon completion, the rescue centre will help in improving maritime safety within the East African Community.



LVBC Executive secretary. Dr Masinde Bwire with contractors during the tour of the site





PREPARATION FOR THE 13TH MARA DAY CELEBRATION KICKS OFF



Wildebeest crossing the Mara River

Preparation for the 13th Mara Day celebration has kicked off. The scientific conference will be held in Maasai Mara University in Narok County, Republic of Kenya on 14th September.

The climax of the event will be held in Talek town on 15th September. This year's theme will be, ***"flowing forward together: conserving Mara Basin Ecosystem for sustainable Biodiversity and climate resilience"***.

The Republic of Kenya through the Ministry of East African Community (EAC), the ASALs and Regional Development has officially confirmed readiness to host the event. In a letter sent to Lake Victoria Basin Commission Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire, the Ministry stated that the preparations to host the event are underway.

Among the activities planned for the event include a scientific conference, tree planting, exhibitions and competitions. The event is held on a rotational basis between the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Last year, the United Republic of Tanzania hosted the 12th Mara Day Celebrations in Mugumu, Serengeti district, Mara Region.

The Mara River Basin forms one of ten major rivers that drain into Lake Victoria, the second largest freshwater lake in the world.

The river is the lifeline of the world's renowned Maasai Mara and Serengeti ecosystem which forms the bedrock of tourism activities for the two sister EAC countries. Mara Day celebration helps to recognize and safeguards the vitality of the shared Mara Serengeti ecosystem.

Positive results including signing of MOU between Kenya and United Republic of Tanzania on the trans-boundary water resources management for Mara River Basin and formation of Mara River Trans-boundary water users' forum have been birthed because of the past celebrations. Several dignitaries from the East African partner states are expected to grace the occasion

MWANZA CITY TO HOST THE FIRST LAKE VICTORIA DAY CELEBRATIONS IN NOVEMBER



Regional Commissioners from the Lake Region in the United Republic of Tanzania pose for a photo with LVBC Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire in Mwanza.

The inaugural Lake Victoria Day celebrations will be held in Mwanza City, in the United Republic of Tanzania in November. Preliminary events will also be held in other Lake Region Provinces of Geita, Kagera, Simiyu and Mara.

During the planning meeting with Regional Commissioners of the Lake Region from the United Republic of Tanzania in Mwanza on 14th June, a resolution on the formation of regional organizing committee of the event was also made.

The meeting also resolved on the formation of zonal committees by the respective Regional Commissioners.

Regional Administrative Secretaries from various provinces will serve as the technical arm of the committee.

The meeting which was chaired by Mwanza Regional Commissioner Hon Said Mohammed Mtanda, was also attended by other regional commissioners including

Hon Martine Shigera (Geita) Hon Anamringi Macha (Shinyanga) and Hon Col Evans Alfred (Mara).

Kagera and Simiyu Regional Commissioners also sent their representatives. Hon Mtanda said, "Lake Victoria is not only important to as a region but also as a country.

The fishing sector contributes 1.7% of the Country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 10% of National export".

Lake Victoria Basin Commission's Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire also highlighted the importance of conserving Lake Victoria, the second largest fresh water lake in the world.

Dr Bwire said, "There is need to conserve the Lake from pollution considering its importance in promoting the livelihood of millions of people living within the larger Lake Victoria Basin"...**Contd Pg4**



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The 22nd Sectoral Council of Ministers on Lake Victoria Basin meeting in Kisumu in February this year approved the celebration. The theme for the inaugural celebratuion is ***"Revive and Thrive: Uniting for Lake Victoria's Future"***.

The theme encapsulates a sense of rejuvenation and collective effort, emphasizing the importance of working together to ensure the sustainability and prosperity of the Lake Victoria Basin (LVB).

Among the activities planned for the event include cleanup activities, scientific conference, Eco tourism activities, Exhibitions and stakeholders dialogue.



LVBC Executive Secretary, Dr Masinde Bwire addresses the meeting

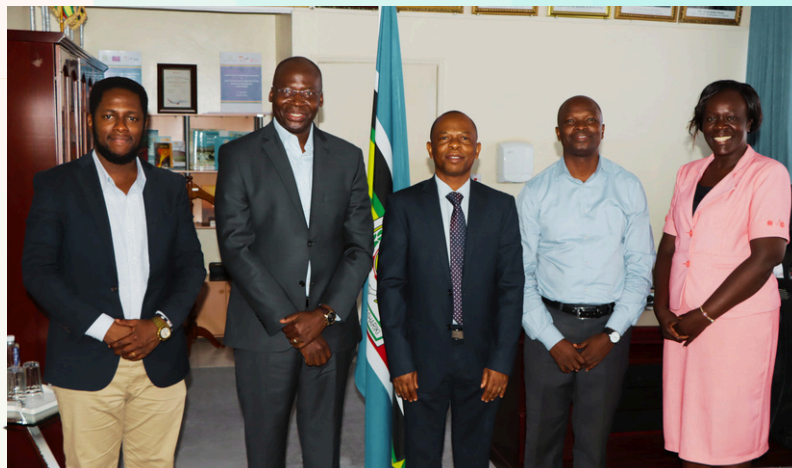




PICTORIAL



The refurbished RV Jumuiya docked at the Mwanza Port.



LVBC team with Eco Bank Kenya Executive director Mr Sam Odhiambo during his visit at the LVBC headquarters.



Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire makes his submission before the EALA committee on accounts in Arusha.



LVBC team with the leadership of Masaai Mara University during their recent visit

East African Community - Lake Victoria Basin Commission

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PICTORIAL



Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire receives a gift from Eco Bank Kenya Executive director Mr Sam Odhiambo



LVBC headquarters currently under construction



A poultry farmer in Nambale Busia County, operates an incubator funded by ACC-LVB project



LVBC staff during a tour at the new headquarters under construction

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