

country profile											
government structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive: The president is both the head of state and head of government. The president and vice president are directly elected by simple majority popular vote for a five-year term and are eligible for a second term. The prime minister is appointed by the president and has authority over the day-to-day functions of the government and is the leader of government business in the National Assembly. Cabinet is appointed by the president from among members of the National Assembly and headed by the prime minister. • Legislative: Tanzania has a unicameral National Assembly for the United Republic of Tanzania and Zanzibar has its own House of Representatives. • Judicial: The highest court is the Court of Appeal of Tanzania. Below the Court of Appeal are the High Court of the United Republic for Mainland Tanzania and the High Court of Zanzibar. The subordinate courts are the Resident Magistrates' Courts, the district courts, Kadhi courts (applicable in Zanzibar for Islamic family matters) and primary courts. • Next presidential elections: October 2025. 										
economic data	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>• Nominal GDP (USD billions):</td> <td>86.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• GDP per capita (USD):</td> <td>1 327.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Inflation rate (% change):</td> <td>4.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Government revenue (% of GDP):</td> <td>15.44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Government gross debt (% of GDP):</td> <td>37.40</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>*Source: IMF (May 2024 estimates)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanzania's growth has been driven primarily by transportation, infrastructure projects, communications, agriculture, manufacturing, electricity (especially renewable sources), wholesale and retail trade, travel and tourism, real estate, and business services. • The main industries include agricultural processing (sugar, beer, cigarettes, and sisal twine), mining (diamonds, gold, and iron), salt, soda ash, cement, oil refining, shoes, apparel, wood products, and fertiliser. • Tanzania's main export partners are India, the United Arab Emirates, South Africa, Kenya, and Rwanda. The main export commodities include gold, raw copper, refined copper, copper ore, and coconuts, Brazil nuts, and cashew nuts. • Tanzania's main import partners are China, India, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Saudi Arabia. The main import commodities include refined petroleum, refined copper, garments, fertiliser, and plastics. 	• Nominal GDP (USD billions):	86.62	• GDP per capita (USD):	1 327.95	• Inflation rate (% change):	4.24	• Government revenue (% of GDP):	15.44	• Government gross debt (% of GDP):	37.40
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risk ratings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S&P Global Overall Country Risk (Q2 2024): 137/211 • Corruption Perceptions Index (2023): 87/180 										

international treaties and memberships	
international and regional organisations and customs unions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement • African Development Bank Group • African Union • Commonwealth • East African Community ("EAC") • Group of 77 • International Monetary Fund • Nile Basin Initiative • Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States ("OACPS") • Southern African Development Community • United Nations • World Bank Group • World Customs Organization • Tanzania receives preferential treatment under the agreements listed here: http://ptadb.wto.org/Country.aspx?code=834
bilateral investment treaties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanzania has bilateral investment treaties with Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Mauritius, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, and the United Kingdom. • Treaties have been signed with Egypt, Iran, Jordan, the Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Oman, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, but these have not yet entered into force.
investment-related agreements / institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Growth and Opportunity Act • Samoa Agreement (it succeeds the Cotonou Agreement and its provisional application commenced on 1 January 2024. The Agreement will enter into force upon consent by the European Parliament and ratification by all European Union member states and at least two thirds of the OACPS members) • Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency • World Trade Organization
dispute resolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York Convention) • Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States (ICSID Convention) • United Nations Commission on International Trade Law ("UNCITRAL")
intellectual property ("IP") treaties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive list of IP-related treaties signed by Tanzania is available at: https://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/legislation/members/profile/TZ?collection=treaties • See the trade marks section below for further detail.

legal regime	
applicable legal regime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tanzania's legal system is based on English common and case law, Islamic law, and customary law. Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar each has its own judicial system, but both systems are subordinate to the Court of Appeal of Tanzania.
dispute resolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A dispute between a foreign investor and the Tanzania Investment Centre ("TIC") or the government, which is not settled through negotiations, may be submitted to arbitration in accordance with any of the following methods, agreed on by the parties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in accordance with the Arbitration Act, 2020, which has set up the Tanzania Arbitration Centre with the function of conducting and managing arbitrations in Tanzania; in accordance with the rules of arbitration of the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes; or within the framework of any bilateral or multilateral agreement on investment protection agreed to by the Government of Tanzania and the government of the country from which the investor originates. The commercial court, a division of the High Court of Tanzania, is exclusively intended for the speedy adjudication of commercial disputes. In the case of disputes concerning natural resource wealth (mining and petroleum) in particular, the government is prohibited, pursuant to the Natural Wealth and Resources (Permanent Sovereignty) Act, 2017, from submitting itself to foreign courts or arbitral bodies. Accordingly, disputes relating to natural resources must apply Tanzanian law and be resolved through Tanzanian dispute resolution forums.
land acquisition, planning and use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All land is public land vested in the president as trustee on behalf of all citizens and is governed by the Land Act (Chapter 113) which, besides providing a basic framework for the ownership of land other than village land (governed under the Village Land Act, 1999) and the management of land, offers guidance on the settlement of disputes and related matters. Foreigners may acquire the right to occupy and use land through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a "Granted Right of Occupancy" ("GRO") for purposes of investment approved by the TIC or a Special Economic Zone. A GRO is granted by the president in the form of a long-term lease for a term of up to 99 years; or a derivative right, which is created out of a GRO, granted for a term of 10 days less than the period for which the GRO has been granted. Foreigners may also lease land from private owners or government agencies or authorities and any lease with a duration of more than five years must be registered with the Registrar of Titles at the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement.

competition	
<i>merger control</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fair Competition Act, 2003 (the "Competition Act") (as read with the Competition Rules, 2018) regulates merger control and competition law in Tanzania. The Competition Act is enforced by the Fair Competition Commission (the "FCC"). The Competition Act defines a merger as an acquisition of shares, a business or other assets, whether inside or outside Tanzania, resulting in the change of control of a business, part of a business or an asset of a business in Tanzania. The thresholds for notification in Tanzania are based on global annual turnover or asset values of the merging parties. A mandatory notification is required where the combined turnover or asset value of the merging firms exceeds a threshold amount of TZS3.5-billion. Tanzania has a pre-implementation regime; therefore, mergers which meet the thresholds shall not be implemented until they have been approved (with or without conditions) by the FCC. Merger filing fees are payable on a sliding scale ranging between TZS25-million and TZS100-million, based on the combined global annual turnover of the merging parties, as per their latest audited accounts. The FCC may take public interest considerations into account in making a determination on a merger. Any person who implements a merger in contravention of the Competition Act commits an offence and may be liable for a penalty of not less than 5% and not more than 10% of the annual turnover earned in Mainland Tanzania of the undertaking or undertakings in question (during the preceding year). In addition, where a person charged with an offence is a corporate entity, every person who, at the time of the commission of the offence, was a director, manager or officer of the corporate entity may be charged jointly in the same proceedings with such corporate entity, and where the corporate entity is convicted of the offence, every such director, manager or officer shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence unless he or she proves that the offence was committed without his or her knowledge or that he or she exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of the offence. Tanzania is a member of a regional competition body, the EAC. While the EAC has an operational competition law regime its merger control regime is not yet functional. Merger activities in Tanzania should thus be conducted with this regional competition body in mind.

<i>prohibited practices</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Competition Act prohibits horizontal and vertical agreements between undertakings if the object, effect, or likely effect of the agreement is to appreciably prevent, restrict or distort competition. It shall be presumed that an agreement does not have the object, effect, or the likely effect of appreciably preventing, restricting, or distorting competition if none of the parties to the agreement has a dominant position in a market affected by the agreement and either of the following applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the combined market shares of the parties to the agreement of each market affected by the agreement is 35% or less; or none of the parties to the agreement are competitors. Cartel conduct (such as price fixing, market division, collective boycotts by competitors, and collusive tendering) is prohibited by the Competition Act. The Competition Act prohibits the abuse of a dominant position. Contraventions of the prohibited practices sections of the Competition Act constitute an offence under the Competition Act. Offending parties are liable to a fine of not more than 10% but not less than 5% of the offender's annual turnover in Tanzania. In addition, if the FCC is satisfied that a monetary value can reasonably be placed on the damage (including loss of income suffered by a person as a result of an offence) the convicted person may be liable to a fine of twice such monetary value, as the authority may order to be paid to the person suffering the damage. Where a person charged with an offence under the Act is a corporate entity, every person who, at the time of the commission of the offence, was a director, manager, or officer of the corporate entity, may be charged jointly in the same proceedings. The EAC regulates prohibited practices in the EAC Common Market. Activities in Tanzania should be conducted with this regional competition body in mind.
employment	
<i>immigration</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expatriates working in Tanzania must hold a valid work permit issued by the Labour Commissioner and a residence permit issued by the Director of Immigration Services, or a valid certificate of exemption. A work permit is valid for a period of two years and is renewable, provided the total validity of the first grant and its renewals do not exceed eight years. The Non-Citizens (Employment Regulation) Act, 2015 allows an investor whose investment is of great value to the economy or well-being of Tanzanians to have the total period of validity of a work permit exceed 10 years. Employers of non-citizens must submit a succession plan showing when the positions occupied by non-citizens will be assumed by a citizen.

<i>local employment vs secondment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In terms of Tanzania's employment legislation, an employee may be seconded to Tanzania as it is not a legal requirement for either a local or foreign employee to be employed by a local entity. However, in terms of Tanzania's immigration legislation, employment by a local entity is a prerequisite for applying for a work permit.
<i>fixed-term contracts and temporary employment services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fixed-term contracts may be entered into with staff for specific tasks and a specific duration. Such contracts will terminate on their expiry unless renewed by agreement between the employer and employee. The law treats fixed-term contracts on a similar basis as long-term contracts, and termination prior to expiry, other than as prescribed under the law, may be termed as unfair in terms of the employment and labour laws. Licences are no longer issued for employing staff through labour brokers / employment agencies. However, licences are issued for sourcing employees for companies or third parties.
<i>payment in local currency</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is not a legal requirement for remuneration to be paid in local currency. However, accounting must be done in Tanzanian shilling as the legal tender.
<i>restraint of trade agreements</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any agreement that prohibits one from exercising a lawful profession, trade, or business, including restraint of trade agreements, is not valid and enforceable, unless the restraint is in the interest of the parties involved and the public.
foreign investment regime	
investment regime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new Tanzania Investment Act, 2022, which came into force in December 2022, governs investment in Tanzania. The TIC acts as one-stop shop to coordinate, encourage, promote, and facilitate investment in Tanzania. The one-stop shop assists investors in obtaining taxpayer identification numbers, incentives certificates, tax exemption letters, permits, licences, visas, derivative land titles and other business-related services.
registration / licensing requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration with the TIC is not compulsory, but a foreign investor who intends to invest in Tanzania is entitled to apply to the TIC for a certificate of incentives if, <i>inter alia</i>, the amount to be invested by the foreign investor is at least USD500 000 or the equivalent in any currency. Investors in the mineral and petroleum sectors cannot register with the TIC, but the provisions of the Tanzania Investment Act relating to investment protection, guaranteed repatriation of profits and sale proceeds of a business, do apply to such businesses.

non-industry specific registrations / licences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following general non-industry specific registration / licences may also be required:
<i>business licence</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Businesses carrying on any form of trade, commerce, craftsmanship or specified profession for profit or gain in Tanzania must hold a valid business licence, issued either by the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (MITI) electronically through the Tanzania National Business Portal, or physically through Local Government Agencies (LGAs), depending on the type of business.
<i>Tanzania Revenue Authority ("TRA")</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All taxpayers must register with the TRA and obtain a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) within 15 days from commencing business in Tanzania. If an enterprise's turnover exceeds the VAT registration threshold (see 'tax' below), it should also specifically apply for VAT registration.
<i>National Social Security Fund ("NSSF")</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every employer in the private sector must register with the NSSF. In addition, each individual employee must be registered with the fund.
<i>Workers Compensation Fund ("WCF")</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every employer is obliged to register with the WCF when it begins to hire staff.
<i>Occupational Safety and Health Authority ("OSHA")</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The owner or occupier of a workplace is required to register such workplace with OSHA prior to operating. Prior to approving an application, OSHA officials visit the premises for a health and safety inspection.
industry-specific licences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry-specific licences may also be required.
incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incentives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an initial investment allowance of 50% of the cost of qualifying plant and machinery used in manufacturing processes, fish farming and tourism; exemption from withholding tax on interest payable to a non-resident bank by a strategic investor issued with a certificate of incentives issued by the TIC; and a 10-year tax holiday and other incentives granted to qualifying Export Processing Zones (EPZ) investors.
exchange control regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no exchange control restrictions in Tanzania. However, banks may require evidence of the reason for certain payments such as dividend declarations and service fee payments in terms of the Bank of Tanzania Regulations.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreign loans must be registered with the Bank of Tanzania, within 14 days of signing an underlying agreement, through a local commercial bank and repayments made using the Debt Registration Number (DRN) as reference.
types of entities available for foreign investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public company (joint-stock company); limited liability company; and registered branch of a foreign company.
private limited liability company	
minimum number of shareholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of two shareholders is required and the maximum allowed is 50. There is generally no requirement for local shareholding, but it may be required in specified industries, such as mining, banking, insurance, telecommunications, radio, and television and those dealing in gemstones and precious stones. The mining and petroleum local content regulations introduced strict local content requirements, applicable to lien holders and suppliers in the sector.
minimum share capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are generally no minimum share capital requirements in terms of the Companies Act, 2002 in Tanzania. However, the minimum share capital required in terms of the Companies (Fees Payable to Registrar) Regulations, 2017 is TZS20 000. This applies only to sectors where there is no specification for the core capital. Certain prescribed capital adequacy requirements exist for banks, gaming, and insurance companies.
directors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A private company must have a minimum of two directors. There is no general requirement to have any resident directors, except in the case of insurance companies, where one third of the members of the board of directors must be Tanzanian citizens and "unaffiliated directors" and in mining and petroleum companies, where local participation in terms of equity and directorship is mandatory. In the case of banks, while there is no obligatory local directorship, all directors and senior management must have prior approval of the Bank of Tanzania.
company secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every company must appoint a company secretary (an individual). The company secretary does not need to be a Tanzanian resident but, in practice, this is recommended, as the secretary needs to be present in the country to sign documents and take required actions.
auditor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A private company must appoint an auditor.
registered address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every company must have a registered office in Tanzania to which all communications and notices may be addressed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A company may have its registered address at the offices of the company's accountants, lawyers or any other third party.
shelf companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no shelf companies available in Tanzania.
registration process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companies are registered with the Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA), and it takes approximately seven to 14 business days to complete registration once all the required documents have been submitted.
tax	
tax system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tanzania has a residence-based tax system in terms of which Tanzanian residents are subject to tax on their worldwide income, whereas non-residents are subject to tax only on their Tanzanian-sourced income.
corporate residence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A company is resident in Tanzania if it is incorporated or formed under the laws of Tanzania or if the management and control of its affairs are exercised in Tanzania, whether physically or through any electronic means.
corporate tax rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident companies and permanent establishments of foreign companies are subject to corporate income tax at the rate of 30%. A reduced corporate tax rate of 25% applies for the first three years to companies listed on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange if at least 30% of the company's shares are issued to the public. Companies with newly established plants for assembling motor vehicles, tractors, fishing boats or out-boat engines which have a performance agreement with the government are taxed at 10% for a period of five years. Newly established manufacturing companies in the pharmaceutical and leather industries are taxed at 20% for the first five years of operation. Specific tax rates are applicable to some mining and petroleum companies. An alternative minimum tax applies at a rate of 0.5% of the turnover of companies which have been in a tax loss position for the current and preceding three years.
capital gains tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gains arising on the disposal of assets by companies are included in ordinary taxable income and subject to corporate income tax rate at the standard rate. Capital gains on the realisation of an interest in land or buildings situated in Tanzania or on shares and securities are taxed at a rate of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% if realised by a resident person; and 3% of the higher of the gross proceeds or approved value of the asset if realised by a person who cannot furnish records regarding the asset's original cost.

withholding tax ("WHT") rates	WHT rate		
	payment to	residents	non-residents*
	branch profits	N/A	10% (on profits deemed to be repatriated)
	dividends	5% (listed companies or at least 25% shareholder) 10% (other)	5% (listed companies) 10% (other)
	interest	10% (exemptions apply)	10% 0% (if paid by strategic investors holding a TIC certificate of incentives to a non-resident bank)
	royalties	15%	15% 10% (cinematography film, videotapes, sound records)
	management, consulting, and technical service fees	5%	15%
* The withholding tax rate may be reduced in terms of a relevant double tax agreement.			
double tax agreements ("DTAs")	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DTAs are in force with Canada, Denmark, Finland, India, Italy, Norway, South Africa, Sweden, and Zambia. 		
losses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Losses may be carried forward indefinitely. Unutilised losses for four previous consecutive years of income are only deductible up to a maximum of 70% of the income of the year before deducting the losses. The limitation does not apply to companies in the agricultural, health or education services sectors. Tax losses in the agricultural, mining and petroleum sectors are ring-fenced. 		

transfer pricing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In terms of Tanzania's transfer pricing rules, transactions between associates must be entered into on an arm's length basis. A company is an associate of another person where it, <i>inter alia</i>, whether directly or through one or more interposed entities, controls or may benefit from 25% or more of the rights to income or capital or voting power of another entity. 												
limitations on interest deductibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In terms of Tanzania's thin capitalisation rules the maximum accepted debt-to-equity ratio is 7:3 for an "exempt-controlled resident entity". An exempt-controlled resident entity includes a resident entity of which 25% or more of the underlying ownership of the entity is held by a non-resident. Any interest not qualifying for deduction is disallowed permanently. 												
employee taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The income tax rates applicable to resident individuals in Mainland Tanzania are: <table border="1" data-bbox="331 710 1010 914"> <thead> <tr> <th>annual chargeable income (TZS)</th> <th>tax rate</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>up to 3 240 000</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 240 001 – 6 240 000</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 240 001 – 9 120 000</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9 120 001 – 12 000 000</td> <td>25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>above 12 000 000</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Non-resident employees are subject to a flat rate tax of 15%. 	annual chargeable income (TZS)	tax rate	up to 3 240 000	0%	3 240 001 – 6 240 000	8%	6 240 001 – 9 120 000	20%	9 120 001 – 12 000 000	25%	above 12 000 000	30%
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social security contributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employees and employers in the private sector must make monthly social security contributions to the NSSF. Both the employer and employee contribution rate is 10% of the employee's gross monthly salary. Expatriates may apply for exemption from contributing if they contribute to a similar state scheme run by the government of their home country, which provides similar benefits. All employers are required to contribute to the WCF at a rate of 0.5% of their annual wage bill. 												
payroll taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A skills and development levy imposed under the Vocational Education and Training Act, is payable by any company employing 10 or more employees at the rate of 3.5% (4% before 1 July 2023) of the total gross monthly emoluments payable by the employer to all employees. 												

stamp duty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stamp duty is levied under the Stamp Duty Act (Chapter 189) on a number of instruments. Stamp duty at the rate of 1% of the shares' value is payable on the transfer of shares, debentures, bonds, and other securities. The transfer of immovable property is subject to stamp duty at the rate of 1% of the consideration.
value added tax ("VAT")	
<i>taxable supplies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VAT is payable on the supply of goods or services in Mainland Tanzania and on the importation of goods or services.
<i>VAT rate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18%
<i>registration threshold</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any person whose annual taxable turnover is expected to exceed TZS100-million must register for VAT purposes. VAT registration also applies to professional services irrespective of the threshold.
<i>reverse VAT on imported services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A non-resident person who carries on an economic activity (widely defined) in Tanzania and makes taxable supplies, is required to appoint a Tanzanian VAT representative who will be responsible for such non-resident person's VAT obligations in Tanzania. Where it is not practicable to appoint a tax representative due to the non-resident person's business circumstances, the non-resident is required to register for VAT purposes in Tanzania. Resident companies making taxable supplies of between 10% and 90% of total supplies, are required to account for output VAT in respect of imported services rendered by non-residents (not registered for VAT in Tanzania) in terms of the reserve-charge mechanism. To the extent that the services are used for making taxable supplies, such VAT may be claimed as an input credit. Resident companies making taxable supplies of more than 90% of total supplies do not have to account for VAT on imported services in terms of the reverse-charge mechanism as the total resultant input tax will be claimable as a credit. Resident companies making taxable supplies that are less than 10% of total supplies, are required to account for output VAT in respect of imported services, while not being allowed to claim any input credit.

trade marks	
international conventions, treaties, and arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (Banjul Protocol) Harare Protocol Nice Union Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property World Intellectual Property Organization Convention World Trade Organization / Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) The United Republic of Tanzania comprises Tanganyika on the African mainland and the islands of Zanzibar (including Pemba). Zanzibar retained its legislative independence in certain areas, <i>inter alia</i> in intellectual property. So, although the United Republic of Tanzania is a union of the two countries, the IP regime in Tanzania entails two separate and independent legal systems: for purposes of IP regulation, Tanganyika and Zanzibar are two separate jurisdictions.
first-to-file jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. User rights are recognised (the first-to-use system) and priority is given to those who are the first to use a trade mark.
classification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Classification of Goods and Services ("Nice Classification") applies. A separate application is required for each class.
categories of trade marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision is made for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> goods and service marks; series marks; certification marks; three-dimensional marks, upon providing proof of registration from other countries; and collective marks.
filing requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name and address of the applicant; payment of official fee; simply signed Power of Attorney; 10 prints of the mark, except for word marks in ordinary type; certified copy of priority document (if applicable), with verified English translation; and specification of the goods and services for which registration is to be registered in accordance with the Nice Classification current edition.
procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applications are examined as to formalities, inherent registrability and conflict with prior existing registrations / applications. Accepted applications are advertised.

oppositions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opposition may be lodged within 60 days following the date of advertisement of the trade mark application. Extension of the opposition period is possible at the discretion of the Registrar.
duration and renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade mark registrations are valid for seven years from the date of filing and may be renewed indefinitely for 10-year periods thereafter.

ENS is a full-service law firm with significant experience and specialist expertise that spans all commercial areas of law, tax, forensics, and IP across Africa. For more information or assistance please contact:

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