

# Activists agitate for transparency in mineral earnings

By Correspondent  
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ALL government earnings from natural resources, should be made public, a coalition of transparency activists has demanded in Dar es Salaam, urging corporations such as gold mines to publish what they pay to the state

The activists have this week launched a campaign to pressurize stakeholders, including the government, to publish the data on earnings from natural resources.

The campaign has been dubbed 'publish what you pay,' abbreviated as PWYP and is scheduled to be launched this Friday at Giraffe Oceanic View Hotel

in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking during the PWYP first meeting at the Mbagala Spiritual Centre on Tuesday this week, campaign coordinator Buberwa Kaiza said "PWYP will be a campaign to focus its interventions on promoting resource transparency as well as public oversight roles on revenues obtained from exploitation of the country's mineral resources."

The coordinator added that this campaign will be an important platform to advocate for positive reforms in the mining sector.

"It is embarrassing to live in this state of poverty and deprivation of basic human needs, while Tanzania as a country is endowed with an abundance of extractive

resources," Kaiza noted. "Tanzania is the world's sole producer of Tanzanite, fourth producer of gold in Africa after South Africa, Ghana and Mali."

He attributed the shame that Tanzania faces by remaining a donor dependant country to inadequacies of the mining policy of 1997, the mining act of 1998, the petroleum act of 1980 as revised in 2008 as well as the energy policy of 1992 as revised in 2003.

Earlier, the PWYP coalition members' assembly passed key working documents which will guide day to day activities of the campaign. These included the memorandum of understanding (MoU) as well as the PWYP campaign

regulations, membership declaration forms and the resource inventory strategy for the campaign.

According to the presented PWYP coalition's MoU, the campaign is consistent with the articles of the constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania (URT), particularly with regard to article 8.

Publish What You Pay (PWYP) is a global campaign and not an institution which is conducted by civil society organizations (CSOs) in various compliant countries to promote transparency in management of natural resources. In Tanzania, the country chapter is named PWYP-T and is planned for launching this Friday.

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