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Vice president Emmanuel Nchimbi announces on 25 August his resignation from his position, fewer than ten months after assuming the role in November 2025 and making him the first vice president in Tanzania's history to resign. The Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) issues an end-of-year seasonal forecast on 18 August, forecasting that a strong El Niño weather pattern could affect the country's second rainy season that takes place between October and December, known as the Vuli rains, and lead to heavy rainfall, floods, landslides and increased risk of disease outbreaks. President Samia Suluhu Hassan (2021-present) on 22 August inaugurates the \$2.9 billion Julius Nyerere Hydropower Plant (JNHPP), which has a generating capacity of 2,115MW.

Vice president resigns

Vice president **Emmanuel Nchimbi** [announced](#) on 25 August that he had resigned from his position and would leave office on 4 September, fewer than ten months after assuming the role in November 2025 and making him the first vice president in **Tanzania's** history to resign. A statement from Nchimbi's office outlined that he was convinced that President **Samia Suluhu Hassan** (2021-present) wanted a new vice president, a decision he had previously said he would respect.

Shortly after the announcement, the ruling **Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM)** confirmed on 28 August that Nchimbi had been expelled from the party, with the **CCM National Executive Committee (NEC)** [stating](#) that it was "due to conduct that violated our regulations regarding discipline and ethics". Nchimbi served as CCM secretary general from January 2024 until August 2025 when he was announced as Hassan's running mate. While he was set to vacate office on 4 September, his expulsion from the CCM marked his earlier departure from office as he was no longer a member of a political party.

The resignation comes after Nchimbi addressed a rights group in July on the issue of a new constitution, saying that he would urge Tanzanians to fight for a new constitution. A government taskforce found in October 2022 that the current 1977 constitution does not meet the reality of Tanzania's multiparty landscape (see *ARC Briefing Tanzania Nov 2022*). While Hassan had approved the formation of the taskforce to review the constitution and the government had affirmed its plans to draft a new constitution, the process was initially delayed until after the 2025 elections and is likely to be continuously delayed or a prolonged process. This is mainly as the current constitution enables the CCM to keep its dominance in Tanzania's politics.

Nchimbi's public endorsement of a fight for a new constitution was a direct contradiction of the CCM's and Hassan's position on the matter. This, coupled with [rumours](#) that Hassan and Nchimbi were not on good terms, appears to have been the driving force behind his resignation and expulsion from the CCM.

On 28 August, parliament [endorsed](#) **Deogratius Ndejemb**i, aged 43, as the new vice president-elect, with all 324 votes in favour. Hassan had nominated Ndejemb*i*, then-energy minister and member of parliament (MP) for **Chamwino (Dodoma Region)**, on 25 August and the CCM NEC confirmed on 28 August that it had selected him as the new vice president. Ndejemb*i* took his oath of office on 29 August.

Ndejembu's [ascent](#) to the office of the vice presidency was quick. Ndejembu began his political career in 2016, when late former president **John Magufuli** (2015-2021) appointed him as a district commissioner. Prior to this, he worked in the private sector in sales, marketing and management. He was elected as an MP in 2020 before serving as deputy minister for public service management and good governance and then regional administration and local government. Hassan appointed him as energy minister following the 2025 election.

Ndejembu is a younger politician, which helps the CCM appear to be making way for younger leaders, but his relatively new political career means he is also unlikely to disagree with Hassan or promote ideas that do not align with her vision.

Government prepares for El Niño

The **Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA)** [issued](#) an end-of-year seasonal forecast on 18 August, forecasting that a strong **El Niño** weather pattern could affect the country's second rainy season that takes place between October and December, known as the Vuli rains, and lead to heavy rainfall, floods, landslides and increased risk of disease outbreaks. This outlook has led the government to prepare a national emergency plan that requires a worst-case TSh 730 billion (\$275.99m) budget for preparedness and response. This would [cover](#) preparations such as risk mapping, drainage and infrastructure work, rescue, food, shelter and humanitarian aid, and restoration of homes, roads and essential services across the mainland and **Zanzibar**. The prime minister's office (PMO) coordinated the emergency plan with various ministries, government departments and agencies, regional and local authorities, development partners and international agencies including the **United Nations (UN)**.

El Niño is a [naturally](#) occurring fluctuation in **Pacific Ocean** temperatures and atmospheric circulation that impacts rainfall and temperature patterns. Tanzania experienced El Niño episodes in 2023/24, 2015/16 and 1997/98. In the 2023/24 episode, flooding and severe weather [impacted](#) approximately 220,000 people, killing between 150 and 170. Agriculture and livestock losses were estimated at approximately \$69m and \$62m respectively, with widespread infrastructure damage.

Despite the emergency plan requirements, minister of state in the PMO for policy, parliamentary affairs, coordination and persons with disabilities, **Palamagamba Kabudi**, [told](#) a press conference on 2 September that the government has only allocated TSh 10 billion (\$3.78m) in the 2026/27 budget to support implementation of preparedness measures, with the expectation that ministries, government institutions and local authorities finance any additional activities from their existing budgets. The **Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA)** has [confirmed](#) it has set aside about TSh 1 billion (\$378,072) to improve road infrastructure in **Tabora Region** ahead of the expected rains, including flood-mitigation and completing pending projects.

The PMO has directed particularly vulnerable regions including **Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Kigoma, Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Pwani, Morogoro, Mara, Arusha, Kilimanjaro** and **Manyara**, to identify communities and infrastructure at particular risk, prepare evacuation plans and prepare for essential services to continue operating in the case of emergencies.

While the government has been proactive in raising awareness around El Niño and the potential consequences, it is clear that the necessary budget is still not in place. Ministries and government institutions are unlikely to have the additional budget needed to address any major impacts, which will impact the government's ability to respond.

Hassan inaugurates Julius Nyerere Hydropower Plant

President Hassan on 22 August inaugurated the \$2.9 billion **Julius Nyerere Hydropower Plant (JNHPP)**, which has a generating capacity of 2,115MW. The dam and hydropower plant lie on the **Rufiji River** in southern Tanzania and comprise nine hydropower turbines. The electricity is [transferred](#) through a 400-kilovolt switchyard to the national grid through two transmission circuits. The project's first turbine was activated in February 2024 and has helped to alleviate frequent

electricity blackouts. With the completion of the JNHPP, hydropower now accounts for 60% of Tanzania's power generation. Government is [aiming](#) to reach installed capacity of 8,000MW by 2030 through a mix of sources including hydro, gas, solar, wind and geothermal.

The project's completion, after seven years of construction, is a significant milestone for the country. It is the [largest](#) electricity generation project in the country, and was funded entirely by domestic sources. It has also boosted generation capacity of 4,646MW, against a peak electricity demand of approximately 2,271MW, which JNHPP can nearly meet by itself. This now offers Tanzania a buffer, as well as capacity to handle new connections, but also means the country could export excess electricity to neighbouring countries through the **Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP)**. Agreements are in place with **Zambia** and potentially **Kenya**, based on demand. Although Tanzania is also a [member](#) of the **Southern African Power Pool (SAPP)**, it has no physical transmission connection to the rest of the pool. The **Tanzania-Zambia Interconnector (TAZA)** line has reached approximately 98% completion, which will plug this gap.

For now, the government is focused on using the additional generation to connect more households to electricity – aiming for 75% by 2030 – and meeting industry demand for reliable electricity access. However, infrastructure investment is still [required](#) to make this happen, including significantly improving transmission and distribution systems. The energy ministry has outlined that transmission networks are in development to help shift more electricity towards the **Singida, Tabora, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Geita** and **Mwanza** regions, which could feed into the high power demand mining sector and offer mining companies access to a reliable energy source.

Notably, a consortium including **Egypt's Arab Contractors** and **Elsewedy Electric** [implemented](#) the project, with Egypt's prime minister **Mostafa Madbouly**, present at the inauguration on behalf of President **Abdel Fattah El-Sisi** (2014-present), also strengthening cooperation between the two countries.

Planner

19 – 21 Nov 2026 (**Tanzania**) 7th **Tanzania Mining and Investment Conference**
 2026 (**Tanzania**) **Ntorya Gas Project** to begin operations
 Jan 2027 (**Tanzania and Uganda**) Exports of oil via the **East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP)**
 19 Jun – 17 Jul 2027 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** Tanzania, **Uganda** and **Kenya** to co-host the **Africa Cup of Nations 2027 (AFCON)**

Chronology

4 Sep 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *Reuters*. National carrier **Air Tanzania** confirms it will resume flights between Dar es Salaam and **Moscow (Russia)** on 7 September after a temporary suspension, noting that the resumption decision follows a routine risk assessment of the operating environment along the route;

2 Sep 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Tanzania estimates that TSh730 billion (\$277m) could be required to address potential **El Niño** impacts through preparedness, mitigation, emergency response and recovery, but the government stresses that this is not a direct 2026/27 budget allocation;

31 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Tanzania is positioning cold-chain infrastructure as a new investment frontier, with opportunities to improve the storage and distribution of perishable agricultural products and reduce post-harvest losses;

29 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Tanzania swears in **Deogratius Ndejemb** as its new vice president;

27 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Tanzania and **China** sign new memoranda of understanding to deepen cooperation on state asset management, with Tanzania's **Treasury Registrar** and China's **State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (SASAC)** agreeing to share expertise and strengthen institutional capacity;

25 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *Reuters*. **Norway**-headquartered energy company **Equinor** says the disruption to energy flows in the **Strait of Hormuz** is making development of the long-delayed \$42-billion liquefied natural gas (LNG) project in Tanzania more attractive;

25 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Vice president **Emmanuel Nchimbi** resigns from his position and announces his retirement from active politics;

24 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Energy minister **Deogratius Ndejemb** notes that Tanzania is targeting electricity exports after achieving surplus generation capacity, with increased power production creating opportunities to supply neighbouring countries;

23 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. President **Samia Suluhu Hassan** inaugurates the 2,115MW **Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project**, which lifts Tanzania's installed generation capacity to 4,646MW against a peak demand of 2,271MW;

22 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *Africanews*. The **High Court of Tanzania** rules that the treason trial of detained opposition leader **Tundu Lissu** will go ahead after finding that he has a case to answer;

19 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. The **Mtwara Port** expansion is opening new trade opportunities by increasing the port's capacity to handle cargo, including cement shipments to **Zanzibar**;

18 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. **Tanga** regional commissioner **Batilda Burian** reports that the upgraded **Tanga Port** is experiencing a significant increase in capacity, handling 1.7 million tonnes of cargo in the 2025/26 financial year, above its target of 1.64 million;

17 Aug 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. **Pakistan** is seeking to strengthen trade and investment ties with Tanzania, with a focus on expanding bilateral economic cooperation;

About Africa Risk Consulting:

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