

Dodoma RC ca

**From ABDULWAKIL
SAIBOKO in Dodoma**

DODOMA Regional Commissioner Dr Rehema Nchimbi has announced the outbreak of rabies in the region, calling on district authorities to take precautionary and control measures.

Dr Nchimbi said this during Nane Nane Central Committee meeting for the Central Zone held at Sanju Park Hall located at Nane Nane grounds at Nzuguni area.

She ordered all the district leaders who also attended the meeting to ensure that the public is well informed and that all dogs found loitering around are killed.

“Dogs should be kept in doors and those found hanging around should be killed to avoid possible infection,”

she directed the officials.

Confirmed reports from the regional medical offices has it that on average, 10 cases are reported daily and over 60 per week.

“The matter is serious and critical because as we speak now, over 10 cases are reported daily and an average of 60 per week hence measures should be taken,” said the Regional Immunisation and Vaccination Officer, Dr Paul Mageni.

Dr Mageni, who attended the meeting representing the Regional Medical Officer, said that immediate measures should be taken to control the disease from further spreading.

Earlier, Dr Nchimbi noted that dogs are kept for security purposes and they should always be confined within their respective residences.

Rabies is a viral disease that causes acute inflammation of the brain in humans and other warm-blooded animals.

The time period between contracting the disease and the start of symptoms is usually one to three months; however it can vary from less than one week to more than one year. The time is dependent on the distance the virus must travel to reach the central nervous system.

Early symptoms may include fever and tingling at the site of exposure.

This is then followed by violent movements, uncontrolled excitement, and fear of water or an inability to move parts of the body and confusion followed by loss of consciousness. In both cases once symptoms appear it nearly always results in death.