

From ISSA YUSUF in Zanzibar

IN efforts to improve social services in the Islands, a newly formed non-governmental organization has announced that it would support the construction of unfinished buildings planned for public schools and health clinics.

The good news was revealed in Zanzibar by Ms Sharifa Saif from Milele Zanzibar Foundation (MZF) at a press conference held at the Ministry of Health premises at Mnazi-Mmoja area in Zanzibar Stone Town.

"We are determined to complete the construction of stalled health facilities and schools," said Ms Saif, Chairperson of MZF Board of Trustees, after signing and exchanging documents with Dr Mohammed Saleh Jidawi, Principal Secretary (PS) in Ministry of Health.

Ms Saif said the two-year project would cost about 4bn/- as Dr Jidawi thanked the foundation for the planned support which will increase the number of health facilities and schools in the Isles.

About 27 unfinished health facilities are in Unguja and Pemba Islands, while the number of unfinished school buildings in rural areas is even higher.

Ms Saif said at the meeting also attended by other health officers that the support aims at improving the welfare of Zanzibaris, mostly children, in areas showing slow pace of development.

ZMF, formed in February this year, is derived from a group of concerned individuals from Zanzibar, living in the Islands and abroad.

It also provides water supplies, supports orphanages and provides food to poor communities in both Unguja and Pemba.