

## German MPs to hand over field hospital to military

By The Citizen Reporter

A high ranking delegation from the German Parliamentary Budget committee was expected in Dar es Salaam yesterday for a one-week visit.

A statement issued by the German embassy in Dar es Salaam yesterday said the delegation, headed by Lothar Mark, will hold talks with President Jakaya Kikwete, Speaker of the National Assembly Samuel Sitta and minister for Defence and National Service Dr Hussein Mwirnyi among others.

"The primal purpose of the journey to Tanzania is to tour projects executed in the framework of the long lasting cooperation between German and Tanzanian armed forces and to hand over a field hospital donated by German to the Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF)," notes part of the statement.

The field hospital, according to the statement, comprises a fully equipped operating theatre, x-ray machine, laboratory and wards of 30 beds.

The entire equipment could be dismantled and re-built with trained personnel in just three days, the statement notes.

"The field hospital will be the first of its kind in the country and in East Africa. It will help TPDF to provide medical care even in very remote areas," says the statement.

The German embassy also said the hospital would enhance TPDF's management of disaster and its participation in peace keeping missions. The delegation is also expected to visit TPDF central workshop at Lugaló, which was rehabilitated with German support.

The German ambassador to Tanzania, Dr Guido Herz, said the increase of German assistance to TPDF was in recognition of Tanzania's democratic stability and its increased participation in international peace missions in Africa and elsewhere.



President Jakaya Kikwete speaks to a delegation of the German Parliamentary Budget Committee at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

PHOTO: STATE HOUSE