

NMB Bank shareholders to receive Sh48bn in dividends

NMB Bank's acting managing director Ruth Zaipuna (centre) speaks during the bank's virtual meeting at the weekend. She is flanked by the chairman of the interim board of directors, M. Ikongo, and the acting Chief Finance Officer, Benedicto Baragomwa.

PHOTO | THE CITIZEN*
CORRESPONDENT

kutano Mkuu wa 20 wa Wana wa Benki ya NMB 2020



This was endorsed during the stakeholders' annual general meeting which was conducted virtually at the weekend under the interim chairperson, Margaret Ikongo

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Dar es Salaam. It is now official that NMB Bank Plc shareholders will pocket Sh96 as dividend per share - thanks to a profit increase in 2019.

This was endorsed during a stakeholders' annual general meeting, which was held virtually at the weekend under interim chairperson Margaret Ikongo. The amount represents Sh48 billion out of the bank's Sh148.6 billion net profit for 2019.

It is also 45 percent more than the Sh66 per share dividend that Tanzania's most profitable bank

paid to its shareholders from its 2018 profit.

A total of Sh33 billion was paid as dividend last year from the bank's 2018 profit.

"NMB has over the years maintained a healthy capital position and we intend to continue doing so. To achieve this, it is crucial that we make the right decisions especially in anticipation of any regulatory changes

in capital requirements," said Ms Ikongo.

NMB's dividend policy requires the lender to share 33.3 percent of its net profit to its shareholders.

The bank's acting managing director, Ms Ruth Zaipuna, said NMB's strength and super profit making was a result of reducing operational costs and investing heavily in modern technologies.

Last year, NMB launched alternative digital channels namely NMB Mkononi and NMB Direct while also enhance-

ing its NMB Wakala network.

"As a bank, we are committed to continue playing a leading role in driving Tanzania's growth agenda through credit extension in the personal or household sector, agriculture, manufacturing and construction," Ms Zaipuna noted.

She said the 2019 results were an indication of sound execution of the management's turnaround strategy that sought to re-affirm three strategic pillars of deposits mobilisation, revenue generation and diversification but also operational efficiency.

The government owns a 31 percent share in NMB while the Netherlands-based Rabobank has a 34 percent stake. The remaining shares are owned by minority shareholders and the public.

We're committed to continue playing a leading role in driving Tanzania's growth agenda

ZAIPUNA | ACTING MANAGING DIRECTOR