

Dar meet urges reconciliation

TANZANIA

PARTICIPANTS to the Moral Re-armament Association (MRA) conference have called for increased efforts to ensure that political disputes in Africa were solved amicably.

Speakers from various countries in the world participating in the conference which wound up yesterday in Dar es Salaam stressed the need for reconciliation and forgiveness.

Retired Bishop Elinaza Sendoro of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania

said reconciliation and forgiveness was greatly needed in Africa, particularly in the Great Lakes regions.

"Countries in the Great Lakes region are very poor but, surprisingly, they buy guns and ammunitions to kill each other when the core issue should be to resolve raging conflict in the region," said Bishop Sendoro.

The Bishop underlined that reconciliation in Africa would not be achieved through fighting but "talking together and eventually striking a mutual

By *DAILY NEWS* Reporter

agreement."

A Sudanese retired general, whose name was not immediately available, said it was paramount that reconciliation started from an individual level than at nation level.

Mr David Holella, a former legislator, traced the genesis of political conflicts in Africa to the adamancy to retire, explaining that most countries were facing civil wars and discontent simply because of

that.

"African leaders should learn to relinquish power, especially when the need to create room for new blood becomes important," said Mr Hollela.

A speaker from Uganda urged women to come out in large numbers during general elections in the continent to vie for different posts and also cast their votes to determine their destinies.

The five-day conference, which was opened by a Minister

of State in the President's Office, Mr Wilson Masilingi, at the Diamond Jubilee Hall in the city on Thursday, wound up yesterday at the Tanzania Episcopal Conference centre in the city.

Participants in the conference included delegates from the Nordic countries, South Africa, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Sudan, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and other African countries.