# wromental tribunal planner omplaints' centre to hear disputes, gauge public views, says Ngala

nd ELIZABETH GITONGA

ribunal to hear disputes on environital degradation will be set up.

complaints' centre has also be blished to enable the government ge public feelings about the environs it, said Environment Minister Noah ana Ngala yesterday.

his will enable the government to lement the Environmental Managet and Co-ordination Act enacted years ago, he said.

chaired by university don ala. has already invited ie cer'

members of the public with complaints to forward them for investigation.

The minister made the announcement when he presided over the launch of a UN report on the 1999/2000 drought which is critical of the government's decision to excise forests.

The launch came only days after the government formalised the excision of hearly 170,000 acres of forest land for private use.

-At the same time, the World Food Programme (WFP) launched an international appeal for cash donations to buy 60,000 tonnes of food for drought-stricken people.

The organisation said the food will be bought in Kenya to help boost local maize prices. "There is a lot of maize in Kenya but the price is below average," he said:

At a meeting with donors in Nairobi, WFP country director Tesema Negash said 3.1 million people were affected by drought in the country.

The UN report follows a comprehensive study by government and United Nations Environmental Programme (Unep) experts at the request of the State.

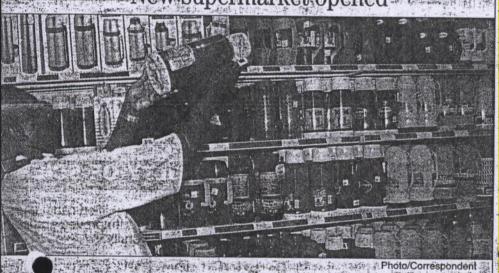
The two-year drought affected all sectors and caused untold human misery,



tion devastation. It, closely follo the El Nino flo and was declare national disaster. International Mc tary Fund estima that Sh38 billion needed to restore damage caused.

Devastating Drought in Kerya: E. ronmental Impacts and Responses released at Unep headquarters, Naire It recommends the strengthening of est management practices."

### New supermarket opened



customer selects an item at the New Nakumatt Nyali, Mombasa, early this week. The supermarket chain opened the branch on Friday.

## Pastor's wife says how she lost Sh1m

By NATION Correspondent

A television evangelist's wife vesterday recounted how senior police officer allegedly threatened her family, making them part with Sh1 million to win their freedom.

Evangelist Pius Muiru's wife -- Lucy-- told a Nairobi con that they were arrested by a police reservist and a constal who told them that Mr Muiru was wanted by Interpol ome crime he had allegedly committed.

Mrs Muiru was testifying before Kibera Senior Princip Magistrate Wanjiru Karanja in a case in which the Kilima police chief, Chief Inspector Gilbert Otieno, police reser





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