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NIRC, TRC to build six dams



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# New US drug reported to give 'total protection' against HIV



Awadh Haji (5th-R), Tanzania Police Commissioner of Operations and Training, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting the national flag to 58 women police officers expected to leave for Nigeria to participate in Africa Region leadership, mental health and defence training scheduled to run from July 1 to 9. Photo courtesy of Abel Paul of Tanzania Police

*It has not proved to be a potent prevention tool in Africa, where uptake has been low, particularly among young African women, the group with the highest rates of new infection*

By Special Correspondent

GILEAD Sciences, Inc. a pharmaceutical research firm based in Forster City, California in the United States, has obtained approval of a new therapy for resistant HIV/AIDS named Sunlenca, trading by the medical name of lenacapavir. The new drug, in combination with other antiretroviral(s) (ARV), has been granted approval by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in heavily treatment-experienced (HTE) adults. Synthesised in relation to multi-drug resistant (MDR) HIV-1 infection, Sunlenca or lenacapavir has a multi-stage mechanism of action distinguishable from other currently approved classes of antiviral agents, business daily reported early in the week. It said the new drug has no known cross resistance exhibited in vitro in relation to other existing drug classes. "Sunlenca offers a new, twice-yearly treatment option for adults with HIV that is not adequately controlled by their current treatment regimen," the chronicle indicated.

In the wake of the news, researchers and activists in the trenches of the long fight against HIV had a rare piece of excitement, as the world came to grips with the fact that results from a large clinical trial in Africa showed that a twice-yearly injection of the new antiviral drug gave young women total protection from the virus. "I got cold shivers," said Dr Linda-Gail Bekker, an investigator in the trial of the drug, lenacapavir, describing the startling sight of a line of zeros in the data column for new infections. "After all our years of sadness, particularly over vaccines, this truly is surreal." Yvette Raphael, the leader of a group called 'Advocacy for Prevention of HIV/AIDS in South Africa,' said it was "the best news ever." The randomised controlled trial, called Purpose 1, was conducted in Uganda and South Africa. It tested whether the every-six-months injection of lenacapavir, made by Gilead Sciences, would provide better protection against HIV infection than two other drugs in wide use in high-income countries, both daily pills. "The results were so convincing that

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## Massive demonstration sets Parliament premises on fire



NAIROBI

SECTIONS of Kenya's legislature building were set on fire yesterday as protesters overwhelmed police to storm the compound where lawmakers had just passed a conten-

tious bill that would introduce a raft of new taxes.

At least 50 people were injured by gunfire, a paramedic outside parliament said, as police clashed with hundreds of demonstrators.

In chaotic scenes, protesters overwhelmed police and chased them away in an attempt to storm the parliament compound. Flames could be seen coming from inside.

Police opened fire after tear gas and water cannons failed to disperse the crowds. A Reuter's journalist counted the bodies of at least five protesters outside parliament.

"We want to shut down parliament and every MP should go down and resign,"

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## MPs set to approve Budget as House suspends Mpina

By Correspondent Paul Mabeja, Dodoma

LEGISLATIVE approval of the 49.34trn/- central government Budget estimates is expected today after a week-long debate.

Debate on the estimates was coloured by controversy around Kisesa MP Luhaga Mpina who was on Monday suspended from attending 15 sessions of the legislature for contempt of Parliament.

A review panel on his defence said he failed to substantiate claims that Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe lied to the House on presumed violations of sugar importation laws.

In the Budget approval session, the

“When he was the Live-stock and Fisheries minister, a couple of years ago, he sent fish inspection officials to the parliamentary canteen to measure fish length with a ruler

MPs are expected to vote yes or no as their names are called, with the Speaker asking each to state his or her approve and thus the Bill be approved on a simple majority basis, in line with section 107(1) of the parliamentary standing orders and section 90(2) (b) of the 1977 constitution as amended.

During the debate, MPs raised key issues including increased sugar production, cooking gas access and timely payment of contractors for completion of stalled projects.

A firestorm of controversy engulfed the debating chamber, igniting fierce debates

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## Vegetable growers checking on 'chameleon sensors' technology

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

VEGETABLE growers in northern regions are exploring the possibility of adopting the 'chameleon sensor' technology from South Africa to ensure effective control of soil moisture in their farms.

Dr Manuel Magombeyi, a scientist with

the International Water Management Institute of South Africa, says that just like chameleons, the sensors change colour depending on the environment around them.

"They operate like traffic lights, switching between green, blue and red depending on moisture contents in the soil," he stated, having introduced the chameleon

sensor technology to Sangananu village vegetable growers in Nkoanekoli ward, Meru District.

The technology is applicable in all types of irrigation farming including drip, furrows and channel irrigation methods, he said, elaborating that when the sensor

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## MPs set to approve Budget as House suspends Mpina

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after Kisesa MP Luhaga Mpina launched a blistering attack against Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe.

He accused him of repeatedly misleading the House on critical issues relating to sugar imports, whereupon Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson, on June 4, ordered the MP, a former cabinet minister, to submit evidence for the lies he alleged, on violating legislation on sugar importation.

The evidence was required by June 14, with the MP submitting the evidence to the Speaker's office, then proceeded to hold a press conference and disclose the details of his submission to the media.

He was thus referred to the Parliamentary Privileges, Ethics, and Powers Committee for contempt of parliamentary procedure, as well as checking the evidence presented against Bashe, to report in another ten days, June 24.

MPs who debated the resolution to ban Mpina advocated for severe punishment, with some vowing to take the matter to the ruling party national executive committee (NEC), slated to sit at the weekend,

on June 30.

Those seeking to file the matter to CCM NEC include Joseph Musukuma (Geita Rural) and Livingstone Lusinde (Mvumi), with the Geita MP saying it was not the first time for Mpina to scorn Parliament.

When he was the Livestock and Fisheries minister, a couple of years ago, he sent fish inspection officials to the parliamentary canteen to measure fish length with a ruler.

He averted severe punishment as he apologised to MPs and the Speaker, Job Ndugai at the time, pronounced his forgiveness.

Augustine Holle (Kasulu Rural), in addition to asking Mpina to apologise to Parliament, also asked his fellow MPs to advise Mpina to resign as MP.

Other MPs who debated the resolution include Hamis Tabasamu (Sengerema) and Godwin Kunambi (Mlimba), who also asked Mpina to apologise to Parliament.

Yet others are Katani Katani (Tandahimba), Mariam Ditopile (Special Seats), Elibariki Kingu (Singida West), Tauhida Gallos and Cecilia Pareso (Special Seats), Prof Patrick Ndakidemi (Moshi Rural) and Josephat Gwajima (Kawe).

## Vegetable growers checking on 'chameleon sensors' technology

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lights flashes blue it means there is adequate moisture in the soil.

Green indicates that it is time for farmers to prepare for the next round of irrigation while red signals that the soil is dry and needs to be watered promptly, he specified.

The World Vegetable Center consultant was introduced to the local farmers by Judith Assenga Paul, a research associate at the center specialising in agronomy and agribusiness, who said it is high time growers use new technology so as to remove guess work on water input needs.

"Adopting new tech and responsible farming is among topics that the World Vegetable Center addresses in the ongoing series of special field

training for farmers through 'Fresh,' implying 'fruits and vegetables for sustainable diet,' he said.

Arumeru farmers were also exposed to wetting front detectors dubbed 'Full Stop,' analysing fertilizer content in the soil, along with an 'electric conductivity measure' which tests the salinity of the soil on a patch of land.

The consultant said that there are direct relations between water content and fertilisers applied, requiring that farmers regulate water and fertiliser ratios, thus demanding the use of the sensors.

Dorcus Mbise, the Nkoanekoli ward extension officer, said field training sessions help local growers to adopt responsible farming making use of the new technological applications.

## Massive demonstration sets Parliament premises on fire

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one protestor, Davis Tafari, trying to enter parliament, told Reuters. "We will have a new government."

Protests and clashes also took place in several other cities and towns across the country.

Parliament approved the finance bill, moving it through to a third

reading by lawmakers. The next step is for the legislation to be sent to the president for signing. He can send it back to parliament if he has any objections.

The protesters oppose tax rises in a country already reeling from a cost-of-living crisis, and many are also calling for President William Ruto to step down.

## FAO trains farmers online how to curb African swine fever

HARARE

THE UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has launched an innovative online course aimed at empowering veterinarians and smallholder pig producers to combat African swine fever (ASF) in southern Africa.

The course, which is based on the FAO's 2023 guidelines titled "African Swine Fever Prevention, Detection and Control in Resource-limited Settings," addresses the unique challenges faced by pig producers in preventing and controlling ASF amid resource constraints.

The Harare-based FAO regional office for southern Africa said on Monday that the first online course for the region was delivered from May 10 to June 21, with 81 participants from Botswana, Eswatini, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe taking part.

"The southern Africa region is endowed with large numbers of pigs, with Angola, Malawi and Mozambique each recording over two million heads," the regional office said in a statement.

It noted that the pig population in the region was growing at the rate of

more than six percent per year, the highest growth rate compared to other species of livestock.

"Unfortunately, the presence of African swine fever, the most feared pig disease, constitutes a major challenge to production and market access for the smallholder producers in resource-limited settings."

Rome-based FAO animal health officer Andriy Rozstalny said resource-limited settings present unique barriers to the prevention and control of ASF, with methods for prevention, detection and control recommended for higher resource settings being inappropriate or impossible to implement.

"The training course builds on experiences from Africa and elsewhere to provide participants with information and methods that could improve prevention and control of ASF in resource-limited settings," said Rozstalny who is coordinating FAO's global efforts in the prevention and control of ASF.

*"The southern Africa region is endowed with large numbers of pigs, with Angola, Malawi and Mozambique each recording over two million heads"*



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa exchanges greetings at Parliament grounds in Dodoma city yesterday with Kigamboni constituency legislator Dr Faustine Ndugulle (L), Tanzania's candidate for the position of Director of the World Health Organisation's Africa Region. Photo: PMO

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the trial was halted early at the recommendation of the independent data review committee, which said all participants should be offered the injection because it clearly provided superior protection against the virus," the trial scientist noted.

None of the 2,134 women in the arm of the trial who received lenacapavir contracted HIV. By comparison, 16 of the 1,068 women (or 1.5 percent) who took Truvada, a daily pill that has been available for more than a decade, and 39 of 2,136 women (1.8 percent) who received a newer daily pill called

## New US drug reported to give 'total protection' against HIV

Descovy were infected.

The findings announced by Gilead Sciences and its accumulated data are yet to be subjected to peer review, while a second trial, conducted in six other countries including Brazil and the United States, is assessing the effectiveness of lenacapavir in other sources of HIV infection like transgender people and those injecting

drugs.

The chronicle said that midterm review of those results will take place later this year, as Truvada, taken daily, provides high levels of protection against HIV infection and has been widely used by transgender people in the United States and other high-income countries for years.

It has not proved to be a potent

prevention tool in Africa, where uptake has been low, particularly among young African women, the group with the highest rates of new infection, it said.

The hope is that a twice-a-year injection, which women can put on their calendars and then not think about for months, will prove more effective. The South African activist intoned.



Zanzibar Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdulla addresses the opening of the 14th Meeting of the Council Ministers of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

RABAT

OCP Africa, the leading fertilizer supplier on the African continent, is charting a new strategic course towards agribusiness. This strategic transformation aims to boost production, processing and marketing of agricultural products, thereby consolidating its commitment to food security in Africa.

Youssef Lahmiti, head of agribusiness at OCP Africa, said this new direction in the company's 2023 annual report. After consolidating its role in fertiliser supply, OCP Africa is diversifying to meet another major challenge, that of agri-food.

To make this vision a reality, OCP Africa plans to create a Business Unit dedicated to agribusiness, independent of its traditional fertiliser marketing activities. This unit

## Africa's fertiliser supplier invests in agri-business to ensure food security

will spearhead a strategic diversification, exploring business opportunities in the agricultural sector so as to maximise the development potential of value chains in Côte d'Ivoire and Rwanda.

OCP Africa's investment strategy is based on three major pillars, with an inclusive focus. Firstly, increasing the productivity of food crops such as rice and wheat. Secondly, enhancing commercial agriculture by generating value for OCP Africa while including local farmers.

Finally, the promotion of the so-called "lost" crops, such as fonio, teff and sorghum, which are essen-

tial for food diversification and ecological sustainability.

Several emblematic projects are currently in the implementation phase.

In Côte d'Ivoire, OCP Africa is leading initiatives on rice and maize, with expansions planned for 2024. A notable project in Rwanda involves the development of 1,000 hectares of rice cultivation, combining production, processing and marketing. The project will include a model farm with modern irrigation techniques and support for small local producers.

The Moroccan company is focus-

ing on sustainable farming practices, adopting techniques such as cover cropping, reduced tillage and agroforestry to improve carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The company will also invest in research and development to adapt its strategies to the specific agro-ecological conditions of the regions in which it operates, and introduce customised fertilisers. The use of innovative irrigation systems and advanced mechanisation technologies will also form part of this strategy to ensure optimum productivity.



# Govt urged to increase tax base, not tax rate annually

By Guardian Reporter

WOMEN in the private sector have proposed a number of issues which need to be incorporated in the Development Vision 2050 including policies and laws that focus on expanding the tax base.

The women are against the government's system of adding more taxes every financial year, saying that this greatly affects people and development.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam on Monday before the national committee mandated to coordinate the drafting of Vision 2050, the women wanted the document to prioritise improving business environment, strengthening skills and vocational education as well as financial inclusion.

Mercy Silla, Chairperson of the Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC), said that there is no need to increase tax every year on the same products. Instead, the government should invest efforts in expanding the tax base by registering new taxpayers.

She said women need a conducive business environment as well as training on entrepreneurship.

"Many women are affected by challenges in the tax system because many own small-scale enterprises. We want to see the government through the vision underlining strategies to lift up women to become big traders and thus contribute well to the country's economy," she said.

Silla said that women want to see an easy system of formalising business which will reduce levies charged by multiple authorities.

"Having a one stop centre for small-scale traders to formalise their businesses is very important; a businessperson who wants to formalise a project should attend one place and do everything that is needed which include registration, licence and others. This should go along with reducing taxes to those who commence business," she said.

Francisca Lyimo, Tanzania Bakers Association (TBA) Chairperson, said businesswomen want to see the country's laws, policies and plans creating a friendly environment of paying taxes and levies to the government.

"As per current situation, it is like the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) applies force, something which kills voluntarism among taxpayers. It is better to invest in continual educational programmes instead of increasing tax rates every year," she said.

Lyimo said that increasing tax rate ends-up reducing taxpayers because some people are forced to close their businesses due to unfavourable environment.

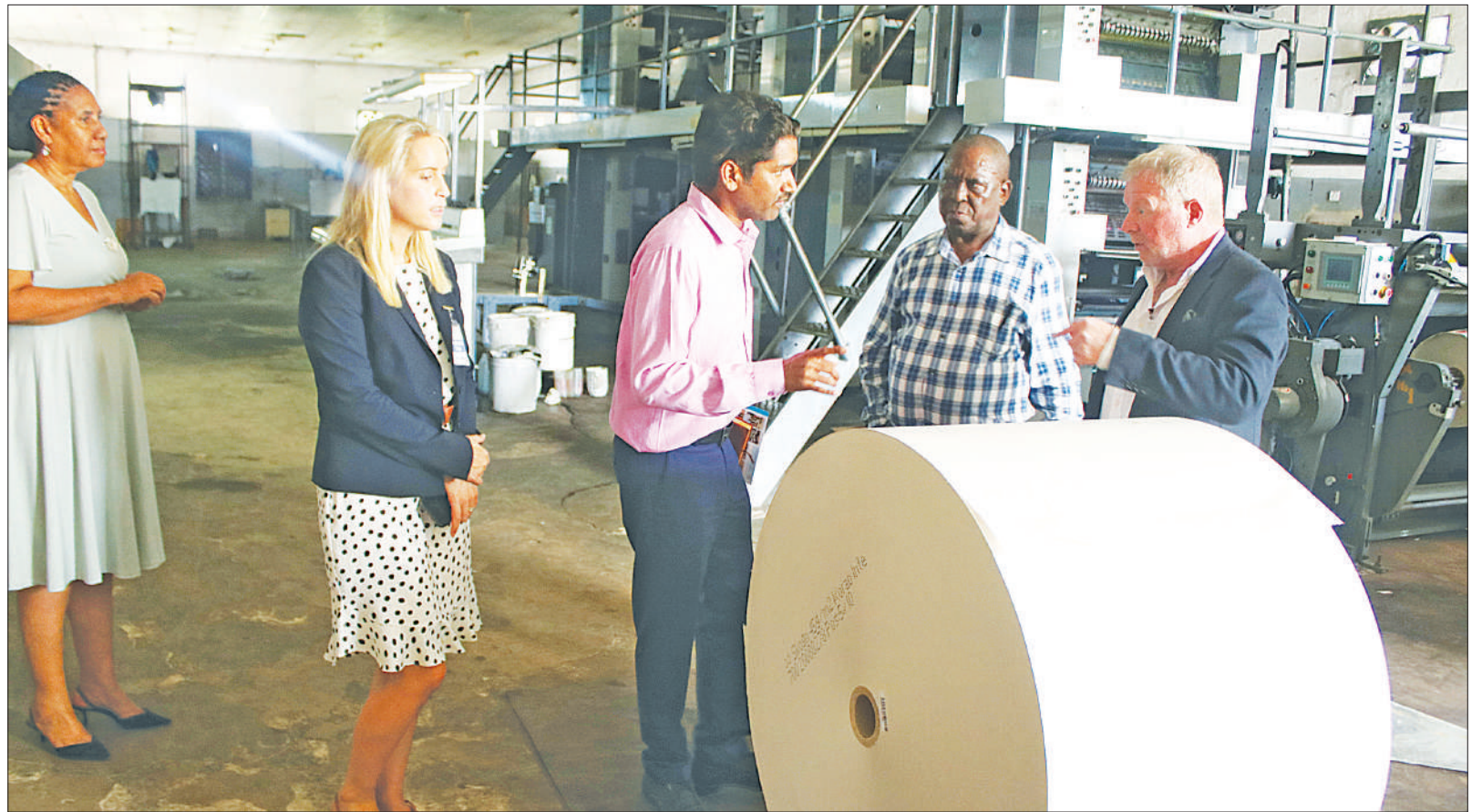
Jacqueline Maleko, Founder and former Chair of TWCC, said the Vision 2050 should come up with a plan to merge all resources meant to empower and uplift women.

"There are a number of initiatives implemented by the government and stakeholders with the aim of uplifting women; if all these resources are merged it will help support many women," she said.

Maida Waziri, President of Voice of Women Entrepreneurs in Tanzania (VOWET) also wanted to see Vision 2050 coming up with strategies to increase the number of women in decision-making bodies as well as in implementation of mega development projects in the country.



**Many women are affected by challenges in the tax system because many own small-scale enterprises**



Ajay Goyal (C), Commercial Director with The Guardian Ltd (TGL), briefs Helium-One Global Ltd's Financial and Commercial Director Graham Jacobs (R) and CEO Lorna Blaise (2nd-L) in Dar es Salaam's Mikocheni Light Industrial Area yesterday on operations at the TGL printing unit. Also showing the two visitors around were The Guardian newspaper managing editor Wallace Mauggo (2nd-R) and his Nipashe counterpart, Beatrice Bandawe. Helium One Global Ltd is a London-based firm predominantly involved in helium exploration. It holds the Rukwa, Eyasi and Balangida project areas within its portfolio in Tanzania. Photo: John Badi

# Govt set to put up six dams to protect SGR from floods

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) and Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) have embarked on an initial feasibility study for the construction of six irrigation dams to protect the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) project from floods.

With support from the World Bank, the construction of dams will be implemented at Kidete area in Morogoro Region as well as Kimagai, Dabalo, Hombolo, Ikowa and Buigiri areas in Dodoma Region.

Raymond Mndolwa, NIRC Director General, made a preparatory tour of the areas recently accompanied by TRC and NIRC specialists and said that

construction of dams will greatly help strengthen safety of the SGR infrastructure.

The experts visited the sites in Dodoma to witness the real situation of the dams prior to commencement of the feasibility study.

The project involves construction of new dams and rehabilitation of the existing ones which are Hombolo and Dabalo dams.

He said apart from harvesting water to prevent flooding along the central railway line, the project also aims to promote irrigation agriculture in the two regions.

"The project will also involve detailed design for development of a multipurpose water utilization programme for the six dams

that will include water supply to surrounding communities, fisheries, livestock and irrigation schemes for both livelihood of surrounding communities and large commercial agriculture investments," he said.

In another development, experts from NIRC have been trained on essential safety skills as well as preparation for construction of the dams as part of initial steps in the implementation of the mega project. "We want to ensure that the project is efficiently implemented, enabling effective harvesting of rain water to prevent floods in our SGR line," he added.

The training was offered by experts from WB to enable NIRC experts to consider safety of dams in the initial stages of project

implementation in order to avoid possible harm, including deaths and damage to settlements and other infrastructure.

In the training, the experts were taught how to recognize danger indicators on the part of the dams as well as the best way to prepare to reduce or face the possible harm if the dams show any signs of danger.

Implementation of SGR is expected to not only improve passenger travel but also enhance transportation of goods across the country, thereby reducing costs and improving efficiency in the logistics sector. This aligns with Tanzania's broader economic goals of fostering regional integration and boosting trade within the East African Community.

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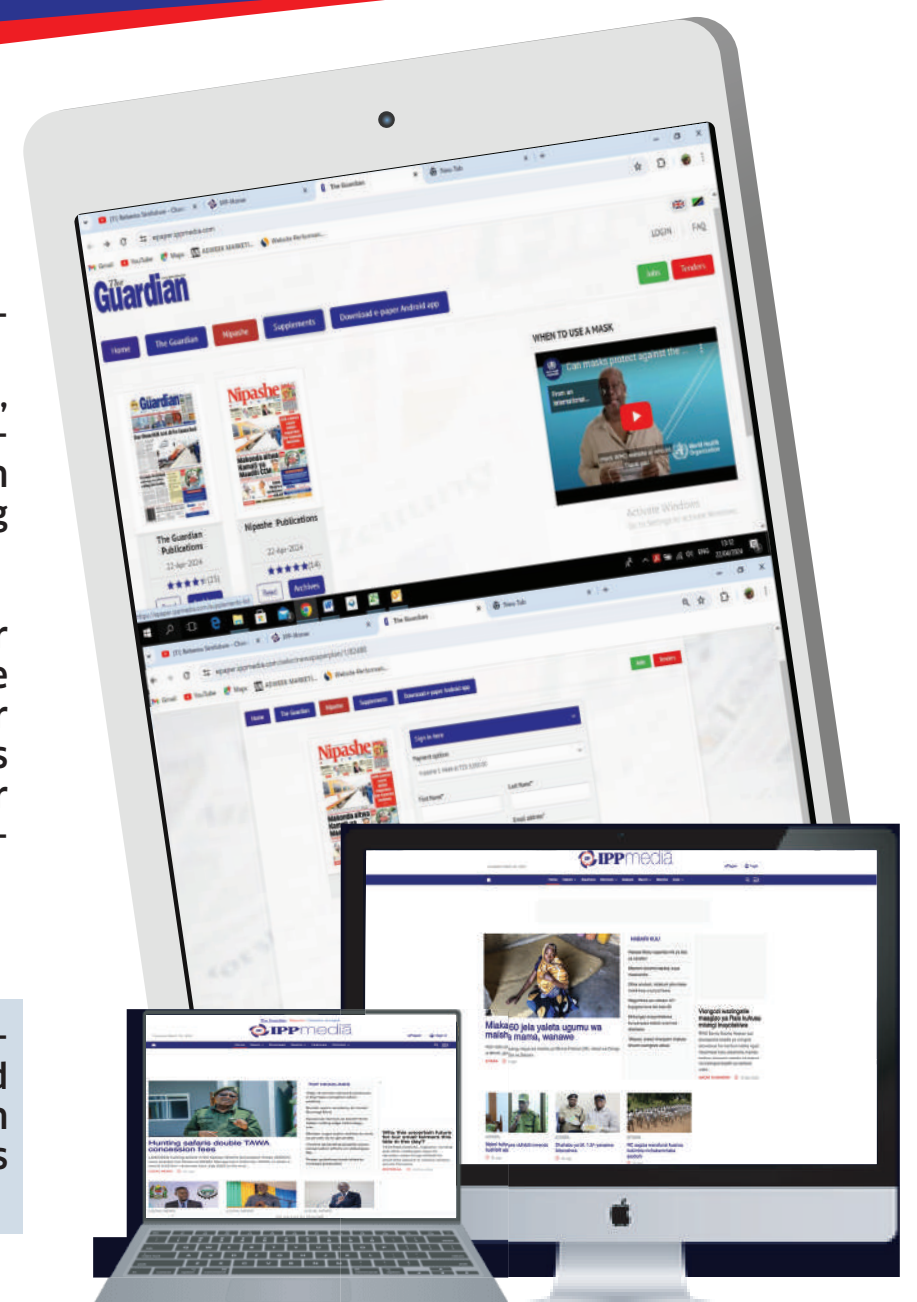
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## Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Supply of one only Austin Engineering, JEC T3-S 2500kg Tyre Handler for AUMS Geofields Tanzania Limited operations at Geita Gold Mine in Tanzania.

AUMS Geofields Tanzania Limited invites eligible, Tanzanian companies to express their interest for the "Supply of one only Austin Engineering, JEC T3-S 2500kg Tyre Handler for AUMS Geofields Tanzania Limited operations at Geita Gold Mine in Tanzania.

### 1. Schedule and deadline for submission

The contract is to be awarded through a competitive tender process. If your company wishes to be considered for pre-qualification please submit an EOI by email to [ContractsTanzania@aumsg.com](mailto:ContractsTanzania@aumsg.com) by not later than 16:00HRS Local Time on **05/07/2024** quoting "EOI Supply of Austin Engineering JEC T3-S 2500kg Tyre Handler" in the subject line of your email. Email size should not exceed 20Mbs.

### Please submit an EOI on your company letterhead with the following mandatory information:

- Company Profile, Shareholding structure, List of directors, Number of employees with a foreign to national ratio indicated.
- Valid Tax Compliance, VAT Registration & TIN certificates, BRELA registration.
- Certificate of Incorporation, Valid Business Permit/License
- Summary of Court proceedings (pending and completed), Court Judgments and /or insolvency/bankruptcy proceedings if any, against your company and or any of your shareholders, directors and/or senior leadership/management team over the last 3 years.
- Three Trade references, Sample contracts and completion certificates.
- Key Employees CV & Certificates
- Compliance to Tanzania's Mining Local Content Requirements as per the Mining Local Content Regulations 2018.

Any response received beyond 16:00HRS Local Time on **05/07/2024** shall not be considered.

### 2. Assessment criteria

The mandatory information requested at paragraph 1 will be evaluated and scored to shortlist pre-qualified companies.

The pre-qualification of any company submitting an EOI shall be at the sole discretion of AUMS Geofields Tanzania Limited.

The bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of his EOI, and AUMS Geofields Tanzania Limited shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.

For more information on **AUMS Geofields Tanzania Limited** and its operations please refer to the following website [www.aumsg.com](http://www.aumsg.com).

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**National Assembly Deputy Speaker Mussa Hassan 'Zungu' (R) attends the opening of the two-day third edition of the annual Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholders Learning Event in Dodoma city on Monday. Organised by the Agricultural Markets Development Trust under the theme 'Commercialising Innovation for Sustainable Food Systems, the event has attracted more than 60 participants. Left is the AMDT CEO Charles Ogutu. Photo: Guardian Correspondent**

## Dimwa now wants CCM leaders to listen to challenges facing citizens for solution

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

DEPUTY Secretary General CCM-Zanzibar Dr Mohamed Said Dimwa has urged party leaders from village to regional level to identify and document challenges facing people and present them to upper levels for action.

Dr Dimwa made the statement here yesterday when addressing CCM members at Mwananyanya branch in Unguja as part of his tour to strengthen the party in the isles.

He said one of the major priorities of the party is to listen to people's challenges and seek for permanent solutions while improving livelihoods.

"The party believes that members and voters are in the cells and branches and our aim is to ensure that leaders act by serving the people efficiently as they are the

ones who trusted and gave us the opportunity to lead the country," he said.

He said that the government has done a lot in bolstering development of the country with major investments made in education, health, water, roads and economic empowerment both in urban and rural areas.

"Given how the government is devoted to bringing development transformation, it is important for party leaders to back it by listening to people's challenges and presenting them to upper levels for implementation," he said.

He also wanted the leaders to continue to encourage more people to join CCM in order to expand the base of members.

When at Bububu ward in Urban West District, Dr Dimwa wanted party members to work hard and in

synergy to achieve intended goals.

He commended all constituency leaders including members of the House of Representatives and councillors for the good job which they do to implement the election manifesto of 2020.

The party leader further urged citizens to register in the voters' permanent registry for them to exercise their right to vote and be voted for.

In the tour, the leader is accompanied by heads of the party's departments and deputy permanent secretaries of all wings.

Dimwa kicked up the storm at the weekend when he announced that the party supported the extending presidential term limit from the current five to seven. President Hussein Mwinyi was later quoted terming the ideas "unproductive and awkward."

## Finance & Administration Manager

Ref 32718

Our client, **The Tanzanian Environmental Sustainability Trust** (the Trust) is recruiting a **Finance and Administration Manager** to oversee the financial operations of the Trust, under the authority of the Chief Executive Officer. The Finance and Administration Manager is a member of the Trust's Secretariat's senior management team.

### Responsibilities

The Finance and Administration Manager oversees the financial operations of the Trust under the direct authority of the Chief Executive Officer. They are responsible for ensuring the integrity of the Trust's accounting systems and processes, its bank accounts, cash flow management, financial forecasting and financial reporting, contracting (including the financial aspects of grant making) and procurement, and for ensuring that the Trust is in compliance with Tanzania laws and regulations as well as the terms of contracts with clients and funders.

The Finance and Administration Manager reports to the CEO and may be required to liaise directly with any Board committee established to oversee the Trust's finances and financial operations. An individual with suitable experience who has demonstrated a thorough mastery of the requirements of managing the Trust's finances may be given responsibilities with respect to day-to-day administration, with a corresponding adjustment of title and terms of employment. The Finance and Administration Manager is bound by the Trust's policies with respect to conflict of interest.

The Finance and Administration Manager's responsibilities include:

- Financial Management
- Grant Management
- Administration
- Other Duties

**Successful applicants will be sent a more detailed job description**

### Qualifications & Experience

- Bachelor's degree in finance, accounting or related field and a minimum of 8 years of relevant experience.
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or equivalent qualification.
- Strong understanding of Tanzania financial regulations, including relating to international financial transactions.
- Ability to quickly master provisions related to trusts, NGOs, and grant making institutions.
- Demonstrated progression in financial leadership and supervisory roles with at least three years of experience managing the finances of a nonprofit organization, preferably with a mix of funding sources, including from international donors and clients.
- Strong knowledge of: general ledger, banking, accounting, budgeting, accounts payable & receivable, fixed assets, petty cash management and similar functions.
- Thorough understanding of nonprofit accounting and Generally Accepted Accounting Standards (GAAP).
- Proficient in the use of financial software programs and Microsoft Office applications.
- Experience with procurement, contracting, conflict-of-interest management, anti-fraud and other provisions.
- Ability to prioritize multiple tasks and balance day-to-day tasks with strategic, long-term goals and timelines.
- Adept at presenting complex financial information in a clear manner to board members, senior management, staff members and others.
- Experience supervising staff, developing job descriptions, monitoring performance and conducting performance reviews
- Experience with office management, oversight of leasing, maintenance & security, vehicles management, office supplies, etc.
- Experience with ICT, data protection and related provisions.

### How To Apply

Email your CV and application letter to [nasra@radarrecruitment.com](mailto:nasra@radarrecruitment.com) stating the Reference Number **32718** in the subject line.

To view the full job description go to [www.radarrecruitment.com](http://www.radarrecruitment.com) and enter the Job Reference Number in the search field.

The closing date for applications is **Monday 8th July 2024**.

*Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.*



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## CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Guardian Limited, publishers of leading Tanzanian newspapers The Guardian, Nipashe and Nipashe Jumapili, is looking for motivated and experienced professionals to fill the following position:

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#### Experience:

- Minimum of 2-3 years of experience in advertising sales, preferably in the media or publishing industry.
- Proven track record of meeting or exceeding sales target

Interested candidates who meet the above criteria should send in their applications enclosing a detailed CV addressed to the:

**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
THE GUARDIAN LIMITED  
P.O. BOX 31042  
DAR ES SALAAM - TANZANIA**

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Education, Science and Technology deputy minister Omary Kipanga (L), constituency legislator for Mafia Island, has a word with students and teachers of Mafia District's St. Joseph School at the National Assembly grounds in Dodoma city yesterday. The delegation is on an ongoing study tour. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Uplift devoted conservationists strapped for resources - appeal

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Dr Selemani Jafo has appealed to Tanzanian and international organisations interested in environmental protection to support dedicated conservationists who work hard to address the impact of climate change but with limited resources.

Dr Jafo made the appeal here yesterday when speaking at the launch of production of a documentary on environmental conservation efforts.

The minister urged both individuals and institutions to reward and encourage the unsung heroes and heroines in the fight against climate change.

"There are people who really show a sincere desire and readiness to participate in environmental protection campaigns but they lack resources to carry out such activities; these are the people to support," he said.

Minister Jafo said that due to the effects of climate change in Tanzania and the world in general, the government has put in place various long-term and short-term strategies to address the same.

He said that the strategies include the launch of the National Environmental Policy of 2021 which has set strategies to deal with various environmental challenges in different areas of the country.

Dr Jafo noted that the government continues to improve the carbon trade environment so that citizens and investors from abroad can invest and make money while addressing climate change impacts.

He said that the government prepared the National Regulations and Guidelines for the Management of Carbon Trading in the country with the aim of establishing procedures and conditions that stakeholders and entrepreneurs in carbon trade will have to consider during implementation of new projects.

Dr Jafo said that in facilitating provision of weather information in the country that directly affects the environment, the government has invested heavily in the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA).

He said that weather forecast information helps citizens to prepare and protect themselves or avoid serious consequences during environmental and extreme weather events, including hurricanes.

## Dar to host general assembly of English teachers in Africa

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA is set to host the General Conference of the African English Teachers Association at the University of Dar es Salaam next year.

President of Tanzania English Language Teachers Association (TELTA) Ayoub Msuya has said the meeting will be attended by more than 600 teachers from all over the continent with 300 teachers from Tanzania.

Msuya Soke in Arusha during the just-ended Tanzanian English Language Teachers Association's Fifth Annual Conference held at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA), which was attended by 300 English teachers from all over the country.

Msuya listed some of TELTA's achievements as including the grooming of proficient English language teachers and leaders across Tanzania through various programmes.

According to him, Tanzania had previously sent six teachers to attend the Great Lakes Region's English Teachers Conference in Ethiopia, adding that earlier the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam funded nine teachers to participate in another meeting of African English Teachers held in Egypt.

The Arusha conference which was funded by the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam brought together English language teachers from across Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar as well as instructors and trainers from Kenya, Djibouti, USA and Qatar.

The conference, themed 'Motivating English Language Teachers to Adopt Advanced Teaching Methodologies and Tools' was also attended by US Embassy's public affairs officials.

"This year we celebrate 20th anniversary of our access programme which is a micro scholarship programme for students," said Jeanne Clark, Public Affairs Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam.

"Students wouldn't have benefitted from that programme if there weren't dedicated English language teachers willing to learn and adopt new methodologies of teaching," she said.

In her opening remarks, the chairperson of the event Irene Maganga emphasized the need for enhancing classroom experiences through the latest innovations in teaching.

"Our goal is to inspire and equip educators with the latest innovations in teaching to enhance their classroom experiences," she maintained.

Dr Aymen Elsheikh, an instructional associate professor of English at Texas A&M University in Qatar, delivered a keynote address critiquing traditional teaching methods and promoting the 'post-method' approach, encouraging teachers to adopt advanced methodologies suited to their teaching contexts.



**Students wouldn't have benefitted from that programme if there weren't dedicated English language teachers willing to learn and adopt new methodologies of teaching**

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 0677 082 397  
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 calvin.lyimo@guardian.co.tz

**TANGA**  
**ELIA ELISHA**  
 0677 082 399  
 elia.elisha@guardian.co.tz

**DODOMA**  
**SEKELA KILEMBE**  
 0677 082 404  
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Tanga regional CCM chairman Rajabu Abdallah (R) presents the party's official T-shirts to Muheza district CCM chairperson Laick Gugu at a meeting of party's district council committee meeting at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

# ACCA stresses importance of innovation to SMEs in Africa

By Guardian Reporter

NEW study to mark United Nations Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) Day reveals inside stories highlighting resilience and growth as small businesses face broader challenges than ever.

Empathy, adaptability and the human touch are vital to SMEs navigating through today's dynamic and challenging business landscape, according to a new report launched by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA).

This collection of stories and a toolkit brings together real-world experiences from finance leaders, entrepreneurs and business support organisations across the globe, showcasing the role of accountants in guiding SMEs through the challenges and opportunities of today's dynamic business landscape.

The stories being featured include that of Zwelani Nkomo, an ACCA member and CEO of McGerals Entrepreneurship Centre, who is at the forefront of empowering SMEs to overcome hurdles.

George Njari, Head of Eastern Africa at ACCA, said: "In the dynamic entrepreneurial landscape of Africa, SMEs play a vital role in driving economic growth and creating employment opportunities - but access to markets, funding, and maintaining relevance amidst rapid changes are pressing challenges. Finance professionals ignite entrepreneurial success by deeply understanding SMEs' business models - and advising on market

strategies, pricing and global expansion to maintain relevance."

Aleksandra Zaronina-Kirillova, ACCA's Head of SME Professional Insights, said: "In a world where SMEs are confronted with rapid change, from navigating digital transformation and sustainability, to managing talent shortages and inflation, the role of accountancy professionals as empathetic and indispensable partners has never been more vital."

"Accountants, with their unique blend of financial expertise, strategic vision, and human understanding, are the listeners, the problem-solvers, and the trusted advisors who stand alongside entrepreneurs, offering not just financial guidance, but also emotional support and a deep understanding of the human stories behind the businesses they serve. This collection of stories celebrates successes from around the world."

The report, 'Accountants at the heart of SME resilience and growth' includes a range of stories from around the world - in written and video formats - designed to be a useful resource for SMEs and the accountancy professionals who support them. It also includes a toolkit offering practical tools and insights on a range of topics of interest to SMEs.

To support the launch, ACCA is hosting a webinar on June 27, providing a platform for discussion and deeper insights into the toolkit. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with experts, ask questions, and learn more about the strategic role of accountancy professionals in empowering SMEs.

By Correspondent Halfani Chusi

## Call for more support to protect adolescent girls against HIV/Aids

THE government and stakeholders have been urged to widen the scope of awareness programmes to reach more people, especially adolescent girls with essential education to enable them protect themselves against HIV/Aids.

Rosemary Richard, programmes officer at Msichana Initiative, made the call in Dar es Salaam at the weekend in a meeting which brought together gender activists and girl rights campaigners from various regions to discuss challenges facing young women and girls in the country and Africa.

She said that reports show that despite the decrease in new HIV infections in the country,

the challenge remains for girls and young women between the ages of 15 and 24 among whom new infections of the virus have increased.

She said Tanzania's goal is to reach HIV epidemic control by 2030, with 95 percent of people living with the disease aware of their HIV status, 95 percent of those testing positive placed on continuous HIV treatment and 95 percent of those on treatment reaching viral suppression.

"We implement the Sauti Yetu project which, among others, aims

at behavioural change, educating the public and encouraging people to test for HIV as well as protect girls from HIV infection as many are still unaware on how to protect themselves," she said.

Richard said in order to win the war against the disease, it is critical that all people living with HIV get tested, learn their status and begin lifesaving services while also protecting others from contracting the disease.

She said the project is implemented in four regions of Dar es Salaam, Coast, Kongwa

and Tabora and that the major aim is to expand education and interventions to other regions.

Mariam Rajabu, a project beneficiary from Bagamoyo, Coast Region, thanked the stakeholders for joining forces to educate girls on their rights as well as fight against HIV/Aids.

"Some of us who have benefited from the training should be champions of educating our fellow girls to understand their value, fight violence and protect themselves against HIV/Aids," she said.



Opposition Tanzania Labour Party secretary general Richard Lyimo (R) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the postponement of the election of the party's chairman to next Saturday. Others are acting chairman Hamad Mkadam (C) and women's wing chairperson Nuru Mwangila. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

## Foreign investment in Africa dips, clean energy records biggest deals

By Mohammed Yusuf, Nairobi

AFRICA became less attractive to foreign investors last year and finance deals declined by 50 percent to \$64 billion, according to a new report.

The World Investment Report released on Thursday by the UN Trade and Development, said foreign investment remains subdued by the global economic slowdown and rising geopolitical tensions.

On the continent, central African countries recorded the largest drop in foreign investment, 17 percent, and West Africa recorded the lowest dip, 1 percent.

Bruce Nsereko-Lule, a general partner at Seedstars Africa Ventures, a venture capital firm that invests in high-growth companies, said conditions in Western economies have contributed to the reduction in foreign direct investment in Africa.

"We have seen very high interest rates in Western economies," he said. "With the devaluation of the currency, we saw this is partially driven by the same factor. Investment in these developing markets, emerging markets, even became less attractive as the companies effectively had to work significantly hard to generate a return that would make a good return for Western investors."

Researchers say that the lack of financial inflows to Africa and other countries affected sustainable development, with new funding dropping by 10 percent globally. Lack of financing for development programs will hinder countries from achieving the 2030 agenda, which covers economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection.

The reduction of foreign investments is also blamed on protectionist policies by African governments and on regional realignments, which investigators say are disrupting the world

economy, fragmenting trade networks, regulatory environments and global supply chains.

Some governments' actions have undermined the stability and predictability of global investment flows, creating obstacles and isolating opportunities.

Samuel Nyandemo, economics lecturer at the University of Nairobi, said the behaviour of some African governments is turning away investors.

"There is corruption, there is bureaucracy in investments, the red tape bureaucracies, and then the marginal rates of returns from investments are not forthcoming," he said.

The fall of foreign direct investment in Africa is blamed on insecurity in some African countries, the weakening of local currencies, a harsh business environment, corruption and political uncertainty.

However, Africa has received investment in a growing share of Greenfield mega projects worth \$5 billion, plus wind and solar energy production worth \$10 billion. And Morocco, a North African nation, is getting \$6.4 billion to manufacture electric vehicle batteries.

Nyandemo said Africa needs to create an environment where investors feel safe with their businesses.

"They need to have investor confidence, create a conducive macroeconomic environment for investments and enable investors to repatriate their profits appropriately without any bureaucratic procedures, and minimize taxation," he said. "Create a tax regime which is conducive for investment."

The UN report predicted that despite challenges, financial conditions in Africa are expected to improve. Governments can address low investments by creating transparent and streamlined business environments.

## SUA, ministry out to check water shortages in Dodoma

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Ministry of Water have embarked on implementation of a climate change resilience project to address water shortage in Dodoma Region.

The project will be implemented for a period of three consecutive years to identify underground water availability and mitigate effects of climate change in the region.

This was unveiled here on Monday by Prof Japhet Kashaigili,

Director of Postgraduate Studies, Research, Technology Transfer and Consultancy at SUA when briefing reporters on the project.

"This project will be carried out in Dodoma, the region with the biggest challenge of access to water. Dodoma depends heavily on underground water sources in the Makutupora valley by 60 percent," he said.

He added that due to the increasing demand for water, there is a need to conduct research on availability of underground water in areas that receive less than 500 millimetres of rain per year.

In addition, he said the project which was launched last year is

implemented through a change laboratory method.

"There are many wells being dug on residential houses as well as commercial ones such as hotels. It is therefore very important to understand the state of underground water so that we can come up with sustainable water use plans" he said.

He said the research seeks to understand the entire underground water system and the ongoing consumption activities.

Prof Maulid Mwatawala, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) at SUA said Dodoma region is part of dry plains with a problem of

water; therefore, there is a need to study underground water and take care of it.

"That's why the team is here to see how underground can help solve the problem of water shortage in Dodoma," he said.

He said the effects of climate change are many, including reduction of water sources in many parts of the country.

"At the moment we are looking at what has brought us here. Stakeholders have identified various issues that lead to loss of water sources, including having large herds of livestock and arbitrary issuance of permits for sand mining," he said.



## The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO  
Circulation Manager: DENNIS NTAITA  
feedback@guardian.co.tz

## Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON  
0757154767  
General line: 0745700710  
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

## Advertising

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## Having thousands at medical camp is opportunity for important lessons

A RARE medical camp is in the course of being held in Arusha city, part of a tour of hundreds of medical personnel including specialist doctors and other medical practitioners, where the number of qualified doctors is put at 450.

It apparently started as a charity and solidarity gesture or otherwise expressing support in one or other aspect of the social inclusion drive, based on appeals of President Samia Suluhu Hassan to charity groups and various stakeholders.

A few visiting doctors have at times served at free health (diagnosis and treatment) camps in urban centres or major hospitals, but having hundreds of doctors doing so as a team is a different matter.

Reports from Arusha say that over 10,000 residents were already gathered at the city's Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium for free diagnosis and treatment before the doctors set foot in the region for the mission.

Seeing people leaving their day-to-day activities to attend a non-entertaining event like seeing a doctor, just as long as it is free, implies that this is a sphere of public expenditure or demand that is insufficiently regarded.

Some will say that the newly introduced universal insurance scheme is the answer, but there are doubts in that regard in the structure of payments and adequacy of funds to be harnessed for the purpose.

That the free medical camp has attracted thousands of people from around seven districts of Arusha Region during the very first day says plenty, in the sense that free medical is a massive yearning at the street level that has long been all but removed from the public debate.

It was in the early 1990s that 'free things' were removed from government expenditure, virtually as a nuisance, especially in health and largely as well in education.

There has over the years been

greater debate with respect to the impact of that policy in education, less so on health, for the simple reason that it is common for people to pay to be treated while easily ignoring schooling.

The term adopted for paying in hospitals and in schools was 'cost sharing' between the government and the people, with the background interpretation being that education and Medicare were family needs.

Families would make an effort to pay for their sick and educate their children, and the impact in education was visible.

Families, where education matters, would preferably put boys to secondary school while girls were married off or sent to urban areas as house helps. It took up to two decades of gender campaigns and special focus on girl pupils or students for the situation to be rectified.

It started with primary schools, with the arc later widened to include secondary schools. Higher education shifted to loan methods rather than bursaries, this partly to ease administrative control of students' demands and tendencies of taking to rowdy methods to realise their objectives.

There has been much less of that sort of reflection for the medical dimension of popular needs, but the matter could not be totally ignored as 'cost sharing' led to some serious consequences.

Various remedial measures were later taken - chiefly with a view to making hospitals and other health institutions friendlier.

'Cost sharing' specialists are now come back with universal medical insurance where everyone will be paying for everyone else.

However, whether this will see huge enough amounts of money collected for the purpose remains to be seen - and services extended at the likes of the Arusha will continue to be of immense utility and relevance.

## Higher incomes are vital for greater use of collective investment entities

THERE is an expression that there are two things that one can't avoid in life - death and taxes, in that order.

Tied to the second aspect in that list is that money is unavoidable as a key factor in life and, by extension, savings and a minimal assurance in later life.

This is what is supposed to be taken care of by creating collective investment institutions, and for which there are now campaigns or appeals for individuals to purchase units or invest their surplus cash with those entities for future needs.

But the bigger question is how far each person needs to spend money that way, while appealing to the public that this is where most people live.

This is much the same as taking to the market a company's goods like a new brand of soap or soft drink, in which case one makes an effort to excite a section of the public on collective investment facilities.

That would be all right if directed to incoming wealth where the family dimension and even one's future welfare as regards residence or statutory income isn't at issue as then it is a diversification of savings as different from starting some other risky business.

That would be to suggest that the number of people in the particular category isn't too big to start with. Even regularly employed people don't have access to public housing to which they are entitled all their lives.

In other words, the first-choice savings item in routine urban life is a plot of land and a house. Business has to lead to that basic assurance,

while monetary investments are just another way to bank one's cash.

With incomes tending to rise at least for a wider section of the middle class, with numerous individuals affording private transport on each passing day and even farmers now planting crops earning them millions, ideas of collective investments have a greater hearing.

Many families have houses they rent and are thus assured of dignified incomes, not to speak of large salaries for a large number of couples. They are people susceptible to seeking ways of investing for the future of their children and even grandchildren, 'where neither thief nor moth doth corrupt', as bank cash can be misspent in a matter of years.

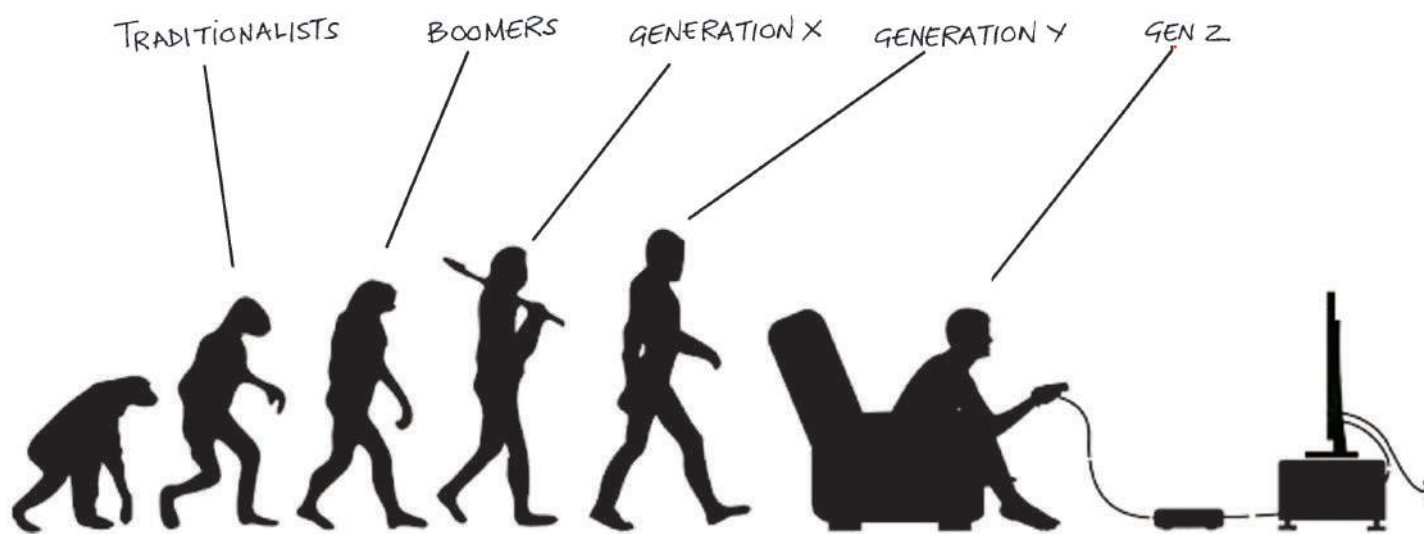
Yet it is unlikely that collective instruments grow as they should on account of the low level of capitalisation in the economy, this in an economy overly dominated by public sector firms.

They generate substantial individual surpluses often at the cost of efficiency and being condemned to live on state subsidies.

However, they are the core dimension of national pride in a particular sector, thus not running any risks of excessive liberalisation like selling a big chunk of shares.

With that assurance, which can come after just a wink from some high place, it is business as usual. Thus, it is crucial to subject to serious analysis ongoing campaigns or appeals for individuals to purchase units or invest their surplus cash with collective investment entities for future needs.

## Evolution of man



## KADUNA

LAMI Kwasu, a farmer in the village of Kafanchan in Kaduna State, north-central Nigeria, was at home one evening in October 2020 when the sound of sporadic gunshots filled the air.

Gunmen, suspected to be Fulani nomadic herders, had surrounded the village, shooting from different angles.

Kwasu placed her three-year-old son on her back and attempted to run to a nearby bush for safety. But she was shot in the head and went unconscious.

"I woke up in a hospital in Kaduna metropolis two weeks later and was very happy to find out that my son was alive," she recalled.

Residents who spoke with IPS reported that the attack, which lasted for about four hours, left over 30 houses burned, dozens injured, and over 20 people dead, including Kwasu's mother, whom the herders butchered to death.

The attackers fled before security operatives arrived in the troubled area.

Kwasu's ordeal is part of a troubling pattern. In recent years, tensions between farmers and cattle herders have escalated in Nigeria's north-central states, often referred to as the Middle Belt. This region has witnessed a series of violent clashes. For instance, last year in Zangon Kataf district, Kaduna state, 33 people lost their lives in an attack by Fulani herders on a farming village.

Similarly, in Bokkos district, Plateau state, over 200 individuals were brutally murdered during a herder-led attack on Christmas Eve last year.

According to Human Rights Watch, approximately 60,000 people have been killed and over 300,000 have been displaced across the region due to the conflict. This includes Grace Mahan, who lost her first son during the attack in Bokkos and is now a refugee in one of the 14 refugee camps in the area.

"Everything was destroyed - our animals, our houses - they destroyed everything. I escaped with nothing but the clothes I am wearing," she told IPS.

## Climate Change

Observers say the situation has been triggered by drought linked to climate change in the north. The region's average yearly rainfall has significantly decreased to less than 600 mm, a stark contrast to the 3,500 mm received in the southern areas. As a result, herders are compelled to migrate southward in search of grazing land for their livestock.

Livestock in Nigeria are growing at a very fast rate, around 20 million - making it one of the world's largest. The human population is growing too. With a population

## Climate change, ethnicity and neglect fuel violence in Nigeria's Kaduna State



At a camp for internally displaced people in Bokkos. Credit: Promise Eze/IPS

of more than 200 million, it is the highest in Africa.

The swelling populations of livestock and humans, especially in the north-central region, leaving farmers and pastoralists to compete for very few resources, has resulted in one of the bloodiest conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The conflict is now spreading to southern states in the country, with mass killings increasingly reported over the past years as herders accuse the local farmers of stealing their cattle, and the farmers blame the herders for trespassing their farmlands and destroying their crops.

## Religious Fire Amid Ethnic Tensions

In recent years, the conflict has shifted from being a battle for resources to being interpreted as an ethno-religious crisis between the indigenous ethnic groups in the Middle Belt, who are predominantly Christian, and the Fulani, who are predominantly Muslim and are seen as settlers.

For many Christian groups in Nigeria and outside the country, the attacks have been termed an "Islamic war of expansion". This view is coming on the backdrop of concerns suggesting that Nigeria is one of the most dangerous places to be a Christian following the rise of jihadist groups and politically motivated killings that have targeted Christians. According to a report, 90 per cent of the nearly 5,000 Christians killed for faith-based reasons last year were in Nigeria.

Even before US Secretary of State Antony Blinken's visit to Nigeria in February, Christian advocacy and religious freedom groups in the US criticized President Joe Biden's administration for not including Nigeria on its religious freedom watchlist.

Some Muslims in the North perceive attacks on Fulani communities by Christians as an assault on Islam, prompting

calls for retaliation from some quarters.

These clashes, typically occurring in villages, can quickly spiral into violent confrontations between Christians and Muslims in northern towns, leading to devastating consequences.

Muslim groups in Nigeria have consistently denounced the killings perpetrated by both sides, asserting that the attacks are not driven by religious motives.

## Underlying Factors

For Oludare Ogunlana, Professor of National Security at Collin College in Texas, the conflict has shifted from a contest for resources to a religious crisis because the government has, for decades, neglected to address underlying factors such as religious tensions, ethno-political crises, poverty, unemployment, and illiteracy that have plagued the region.

While Nigeria is a secular state, religion plays an important role in the country's politics. Politicians often exploit religious sentiments to attract voters during elections. Socio-political issues swiftly escalate into religious crises, especially in the north-central region. For example, a protest by Christians in Kaduna against the government's plans to adopt Sharia law in the state in 2000 escalated into a series of conflicts that resulted in the deaths of no fewer than 2000 people.

In the early 2000s, in Jos, Plateau State, following the appointments of government officials along religious lines, there were a series of violence incidents between Christians and Muslims that led to hundreds of deaths.

"Religious intolerance arises as a result of poverty, not just in terms of material possessions but also in terms of ideas. The majority of farmers and herders in the middle belt are relatively poor. Given the existing religious tensions in a

region plagued by illiteracy and the government's inability to address these issues, it is not unexpected that the farmer-herder crisis would now revolve around religion," Ogunlana told IPS.

## Government Negligence

Critics argue that the government is not affording the crisis the requisite attention, despite its efforts to mitigate the killings. In 2019, the presidency proposed grazing camps and cattle colonies nationwide. However, this plan faced opposition from middle belt leaders who viewed it as a strategy to assist herders in seizing land and promoting Islam.

The 2024 annual report from the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) placed blame on the Nigerian government for its negligence in addressing religious extremist violence.

For Ogunlana, community policing, frequent roundtable discussions with religious and traditional leaders, and creating opportunities to encourage herders to invest into other profitable ventures other than pastoring will help to douse the flames.

He added, "The government has to promote inclusive governance and implement policies that ensure equitable representation and participation of diverse religious communities in the decision-making process at all levels of governance. That can foster trust and a sense of belonging among different religious and ethnic groups."

Nigeria, despite strict gun control, is a hub for illegal small arms, fueling security issues. The UN reports 70% of West Africa's 500 million illegal weapons are in Nigeria, perpetuating cycles of violence between farmers and herders.

The Fulani herders' leadership, Miyetti Allah, claims that herders' attacks are retaliatory responses to farmers' alleged cattle theft, while farmers maintain that they are defending their lands.

As the crisis worsens, the scar deepens. Abdulrahman Muhammed, a herder from Bokkos, shared with IPS that after the attack on Christmas Eve, Christian natives seeking revenge attacked numerous Fulani settlements the next day, burning many houses, including his own.

"I managed to escape, but some of my cattle were stolen. I wish there could be a dialogue between the natives and herders to find a way to end the killings," he said.



# Why land restoration deserves a seat at the sustainability table

**T**HIS year's World Environment Day, celebrated annually on June 5, shines a spotlight on three urgent global issues: land restoration, desertification, and drought resilience. According to the United Nations, 2 billion hectares of land are degraded globally, impacting 3.2 billion people, driving species to extinction, and exacerbating climate change. As a testament to its commitment to addressing these challenges, Saudi Arabia has been chosen to host this year's event, reflecting its efforts to restore and protect its arid landscapes.

At NEOM, we are proud to be at the forefront of these important efforts in Saudi Arabia. Committed to preserving 95 percent of NEOM for nature, we are pioneering a new balance between economic development and biodiversity conservation. Here, nature conservation is not an afterthought, but a central pillar of our vision for the future. The NEOM Nature Reserve lies at the heart of our conservation efforts. Like many other arid areas across the Kingdom, the NEOM region has previously been affected by common contributors to the degradation of natural landscapes. These include desertification, overgrazing and overuse of groundwater. We aim to implement innovative, globally significant conservation practices that reverse these impacts and reconnect people with nature. Our restoration, greening, and rewilding programs are driven by cutting-edge technology and the best available science.

Our journey towards this ambitious vision is well underway. In just our second year, we have restored 734 hectares of land, with plans to restore an additional 1,500 hectares by the end of 2024. Our greening program, part of the Saudi Green Initiative, has already planted over 2 million trees. This is just the first step towards our target of planting 100 million native trees, shrubs, and grasses by 2030. The benefits are already evident, with a significant increase in birds and insects at our planted sites. Natural regeneration is also thriving, with over 50 plant species reemerging alongside the 41 species we have planted.

Our rewilding efforts are equally impressive. We have established two rewilding sites, reintroducing native animals such as mountain and sand gazelles, oryx, ibex, and ostriches. For species like the oryx, this marks the first time we have witnessed a new generation born in the wild in this part of Saudi Arabia for over 100 years. We aim to rewild 1.5 million hectares across NEOM, and our breeding program is promising, with over 80 offspring from an initial introduction of 400 animals.

Our conservation efforts extend beyond the land to



the crystal-clear waters of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aqaba. The entire marine area of NEOM is part of the Nature Reserve, with programs in place to protect endangered sea turtles, dugongs, sooty falcons, and other marine life. We are committed to helping these populations return to their historical abundance through comprehensive surveys, assessments and management.

NEOM is supporting conservation efforts by applying world-class monitoring and reporting systems. Through the targeted use of satellites, drones, and infrared technology, combined with advanced AI

tools, we're tracking species abundance and monitoring changes in vegetation cover. We are also piloting innovative methods like eDNA testing to gain deeper insight into species diversity and ecosystem health.

Through our extensive technology program, our aim is to support pioneering research to share with other reserves and experts, ultimately improving the natural environment beyond NEOM's nature reserve.

As we celebrate World Environment Day, NEOM's approach to greening, rewilding, marine conservation and new conservation technology stands as a testament to what can be achieved through

innovative thinking and collaborative efforts.

By restoring our landscapes, we are rejuvenating ecosystems and fostering a healthier and more sustainable future for generations to come, creating a place where people and nature are reunited.

## Summer Davos highlights global cooperation for shared, green growth

### DALIAN

**T**HE call for strengthened partnership has rung clear at the ongoing 2024 Summer Davos as the world seeks new growth engines to propel a sluggish global economy.

Over 1,700 representatives of the political, business, academic and media communities from more than 100 countries and regions are attending the three-day meeting, which kicked off on Tuesday in the coastal city of Dalian in northeast China's Liaoning Province.

Though there are diverse views on the "Next Frontiers for Growth," the theme of the 15th Annual Meeting of the New Champions, there is consensus that cooperation is paramount to successfully navigating the rapidly evolving world.

#### EXPANDING THE PIE TOGETHER

The grand gathering is taking place amid an increasingly uncertain global landscape. Klaus Schwab, founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum, highlighted the significant issues facing the world today – issues such as environmental concerns, geopolitical tensions, and social challenges like pandemics and rising income inequality.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the global economy has been mired in sluggish recovery. While the World Bank and the United Nations have raised their projections for global economic growth in 2024, they caution that the pace of growth remains below the annual average of the decade before the pandemic.

Facing the global economic growth dilemma, countries that prioritize maximizing their own interests without considering the interests of others – even backtracking by promoting decoupling and erecting barriers – will drag the world into a vicious cycle of competing for a diminishing pie, Chinese Premier Li Qiang said when addressing the event's opening plenary.

"The correct course of action is to approach development issues with a broader perspective and a more inclusive mindset, seeking one's own legitimate interests within the framework of expanding the pie together," Li said.

Global cooperation and long-term cooperation to move to new horizons is essential, Schwab said, echoing Li's sentiment.

#### CHINA REMAINS KEY GROWTH ENGINE

Owing to China's resilient recovery, the world's second-largest economy has emerged as a significant force in bolstering global economic expansion.

The Chinese economy has shown a robust performance this year, with a year-on-year growth rate of 5.3 percent in the first quarter and a sustained positive trajectory in the second quarter.

Recognizing this, the International Monetary Fund has revised its 2024 GDP growth forecast for China from 4.6 percent to 5 percent, citing the country's strong first-quarter growth and recent policy initiatives.

"China is confident it will meet its annual GDP growth target for this year," Li said.

Fred Hu, founder, chairman and CEO of Primavera Capital Group, said that China has the ability to drive global economic growth, particularly in developing countries.



This photo taken on June 14, 2024 shows samples of the hydrogen fuel cell power system in Mixwell Technology (Dalian) Co., Ltd. in Dalian, northeast China's Liaoning Province.

#### SHARED GROWTH DIVIDENDS

With its huge market, strong manufacturing capabilities and leaps in technological innovation, China is both a beneficiary of openness and a catalyst for a virtuous global economic cycle, Hu said.

A total of 21,764 foreign-invested firms were established in China in the first five months of this year, a year-on-year increase of 17.4 percent.

Over the past six years, the China International Import Expo, the world's first national-level expo to promote imports, has attracted the participation of more than 10,000 overseas enterprises and seen the release of more than 2,400 new products, technologies and services.

"We're bullish about China going forward," said Shin Hak-Cheol,

CEO of LG Chem. The chemical giant from the Republic of Korea has built over 10 production bases in China since it entered the market over three decades ago. "We're not downsizing here, and we're really investing for the future."

While opening up its market, China has also contributed to the global green shift by providing high-quality and cost-effective new energy products, including electric vehicles, lithium batteries and photovoltaic products.

"We are willing to share our technology with others around the world as addressing climate change and promoting sustainability are so important for each and every one of us," said Robin Zeng, founder and chairman of leading Chinese battery manufacturer Contemporary Amperex Technology Co., Ltd.



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES  
REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
(EWURA)



### PUBLIC NOTICE

**(Issued under section 19 of the EWURA Act, Cap. 414 and Rule 20(4) of the Petroleum (Wholesale, Storage, Retail and Consumer Installation Operations) Rules, GN No. 150 of 2022)**


**NOTICE** is hereby given to the public that, EWURA has received an application seeking approval on the transfer of a licence of a petroleum retail outlet with the particulars set out hereinafter below:

<b>The current name of the Station:</b>	Jonas N. Nyagawa – J. N. Petrol Station
<b>Licence Number:</b>	PRL-2021-073
<b>Physical Location:</b>	Plot No. 125, Block 'E', Kitwiru, Iringa Municipality in Iringa Region
<b>Proposed change of name:</b>	Manyanya's Oil Limited
<b>Transferor:</b>	Jonas N. Nyagawa
<b>Transferee:</b>	Manyanya's Oil Limited


Any person who wishes to make any representations or objections with respect to the application should do so in writing and submit it to EWURA within fourteen (14) days from the date of publication of this notice. All representations or objections should be addressed to the address below.

**EWURA House, 3 EWURA Street, 41104 Tambukareli**  
P.O Box 2857, Dodoma, Tel: +255-26 2329003-3; Fax: +255-26 2329005;  
Toll-Free 0800110030, Email: info@ewura.go.tz Website: www.ewura.go.tz

Issued by:  
**Director General**



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES  
REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
(EWURA)



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**NOTICE** is hereby given to the public that, EWURA has received an application seeking approval on the transfer of a licence of a petroleum retail outlet with the particulars set out hereinafter below:

<b>The current name of the Station:</b>	Blue Coast Investment Limited
<b>Licence Number:</b>	PRL-2023-236
<b>Physical Location:</b>	Plot No. 176, Block "E", Ihayabuyaga, Geita Urban Area, Geita District in Geita Region
<b>Proposed change of name:</b>	Blue Coast Energy (T) Limited
<b>Transferor:</b>	Blue Coast Investment Limited
<b>Transferee:</b>	Blue Coast Energy (T) Limited

Any person who wishes to make any representations or objections with respect to the application should do so in writing and submit it to EWURA within fourteen (14) days from the date of publication of this notice. All representations or objections should be addressed to the address below.

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Toll-Free 0800110030, Email: info@ewura.go.tz Website: www.ewura.go.tz

Issued by:  
**Director General**



# Islanders 'wage war' to save their Indian Ocean coral reef

**L**OOKING out now over the Indian Ocean from Mnemba Island, it is hard to believe that just three years ago the stunning coral reef surrounding this part of Tanzania's Zanzibar archipelago was dying.

Under threat from climate change, overfishing and other human activity, the islanders faced losing their livelihoods and the prospect of moving away altogether.

Anxious to save the colourful, oval-shaped reef that is fairly close to the shore and around 7km (4.3 miles) in length, communities on the small island have embraced a conservation project which has managed to restore some of what has been lost.

The initiative also aims in other ways to protect the reef, which is known around the world for its beauty.

The water is so clear that the reef, which lies 10m (32ft) below the surface, seems almost within touching distance.

But a few years ago locals began to notice how stressed the coral was looking - part of this was due to the changing climate, which has brought warmer sea temperatures.

Coral may look like a plant, but it is a kind of animal - in fact multiple tiny creatures called polyps. They grow very slowly and make a hard outer shell by extracting salt from seawater, then fuse together to make what are called colonies.

Reefs are sometimes referred to as the "rainforests of the sea" because they create ecosystems that support a diverse range of marine life.

But when the water heats up by a few degrees more than normal it causes the coral to drive out the brightly coloured algae that live within and provide nutrients. As the algae leave, the coral fades, becomes bleached and eventually dies.

Dynamite being used by fishermen has also been killing off the coral, as well as the volume of unregulated tourist boats and divers causing damage to the reef.

Mnemba Island fishmonger Juma Mshindan says it became clear something was very wrong: "There is a significant difference in the availability of fish before compared to now. In the past, fish were plentiful."

The sustainable tourism group &Beyond and non-profit organisation Africa Foundation began collaborating with islanders in September 2021 to help address some of these issues.

Underwater nurseries were created using steel-mesh tables, where coral fragments are grown to be replanted on the coral reef.

They are tended and nurtured by local divers who have been trained as conservation rangers.

It takes about two or three months for a coral colony to form and then the rangers take them to the reef.

The results so far are encouraging, with 80% coverage restored on what is called the "house reef" which surrounds the island.

"It's like they have grown by themselves," says conservation ranger Hija Uledi.

"We have restored the reef, and you can't tell the difference. Now they have fish around. The work is great, and many species can be seen."

The conservationists also created artificial reefs - steel and stone structures which were placed about 3km off the island and where the conservation rangers also plant newly grown coral from the nurseries.

These are intended to help replenish marine life - which benefits fishermen and they have also become destinations for snorkellers and divers.

Dr Camilla Floros, principal scientist with Africa Foundation's Oceans Without Borders programme, says the ongoing restoration scheme is careful to work with the right materials - learning from past mistakes around the world.

"When artificial reefs were in their infancy, people used the wrong materials such as tyres to try and create them, which is not the right approach," she says.

The success of regeneration work around Mnemba Island is thanks to support of the local community, Dr Floros acknowledges.

"Whenever we have a new initiative, we discuss it



Atuwa Omar is one local resident who has become involved in the restoration

with them, and we get their buy-in," she says.

Atuwa Omar is one local resident who has become involved in the restoration. Before taking up a position as a conservation ranger, the 24-year-old was at home looking after her young child.

"Being a ranger in this project at Mnemba Island not only enables me to provide food for my family but also supports my son's education," she says.

Though Ms Omar admits it has not been easy for her, as she is the only woman working on the project.

She has faced conservative attitudes from some who do not want women involved - but she says such challenges have been worth it.

The conservation groups have been working hand-in-glove with the local authorities and the seas around Mnemba were designated a protected area by the government of Zanzibar, a semi-autonomous part of Tanzania, in 2022.

This means that action can now be taken to limit the damage caused by tourists and fishermen.

Bakari Jaha, co-ordinator of Africa Foundation Zan-

zibar, points to the amount of tourist traffic that used to visit the house reef.

"Initially, the area faced significant pressure from tourism, with 200 boats carrying at least 400 guests entering an area of only 200 sq metres," he says.

"To preserve the area, the government, along with &Beyond and the Africa Foundation, decided to limit the number of visitors to 80."

In the past, visitors were charged \$3 (£2.40) - this cost has now been increased to \$25.

"This approach has not only enhanced environmental preservation but also increased revenue," says Mr Jaha.

Fishing has also been suspended around the house reef as it is being restored.

"We've seen positive changes. Illegal practices, like the use of dynamite, have decreased, and fishermen have become more knowledgeable about sustainable fishing methods," says fisherman Mshenga Ally.

The Zanzibar government says it is so encouraged by the success of the Mnemba restoration project, it is

looking to expand it to other areas under threat.

"The government has identified 14 areas with undamaged reefs and others with damaged corals and we are planning to preserve them," says Dr Makame Omar Makame, director of the Zanzibar Marine Department.

"We have placed buoys so that people are careful, understanding that fishing activities are not allowed at that place."

The pressures on Zanzibar's reefs mirror threats facing coral reefs around the world. Those involved in the Mnemba project say, while they cannot stop warmer sea currents, they hope their efforts will be able to help other areas under threat.

"The relationship between the sea and coral is crucial for ocean health. We've witnessed corals regenerating, even at significant depths," says Mr Jaha.

"We are allowing sea conditions to restore the reefs to their original state."

BBC

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS  21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI  09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI  01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Millions of children going hungry in Sudan - Unicef

KHARTOUM

**T**HE head of the United Nations children's agency, UNICEF, says Sudan is one of the worst places in the world for children.

Catherine Russell says it now has the largest displacement of children anywhere, with millions facing malnutrition and most not in school.

She is travelling to the country torn apart by more than a year of brutal civil war as warnings of famine grow louder.

The pillars of Sudan's food economy have collapsed, and both warring parties - the Sudanese army and a paramilitary group called the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) - are restricting the delivery of desperately needed aid.

Children were at the sharp end of this hunger crisis, Ms Russell told the BBC while en route in Nairobi: nine million don't get enough to eat regularly, and nearly four million face acute malnutrition.

"We're long past time where we need to act, we need to act now or it's just going to get worse," she said.

"You can always eventually make progress on something, so nothing is completely impossible. But for individual babies, for children, who are starving now, who are hungry, who are now severely malnourished, it will be too late for them."

Earlier this month, the BBC spoke to a food security expert who said that by September, 70% of Sudan's population will be extremely hungry.

"That could lead to two-and-a-half million deaths, or more" Timmo

Gaasbeek said. "It could be as many as four million. There is just not enough food."

Catherine Russell told the BBC that Sudan's children are suffering immensely from the country's brutal civil war. The Sudanese Armed Forces and RSF, have divided the country roughly in two, and plunged it into a humanitarian catastrophe.

The army has restricted access for food deliveries across conflict lines into areas controlled by the RSF.

RSF fighters are accused of widely plundering resources, and have been besieging a city of nearly two million people, El Fasher, for more than a month. Russell said she couldn't speak to whether they were using hunger as a weapon of war. But she said the crisis was "100 percent man made."

"The challenge for us is not that we don't have the food, it's that we can't get it to the people who need it. And that is really a crisis."

Ms Russell said Sudan had the highest number of displaced children in the world - five million - and nearly all of its children were out of school, in danger of becoming a lost generation that could contribute to future instability.

"It's hard to re-teach them, because that's a lot of lost learning. But it's also hard, in many cases, to get them back into the classroom," she said. "So in that sense, they can become lost... And if you lose that, what do we think the future is going to be like? It's going to be unstable."

She will add her voice to the chorus of demands for an end to the fighting. But a recent UN appeal for



calm in El Fasher was ignored, and US efforts to restart peace talks have so far failed.

"There's limited bandwidth" she

said when asked about the lack of persistent international engagement to wrest order from the growing chaos in the strategic African

country, citing the conflicts in Gaza, Ukraine and Haiti.

"That's really the reason I'm going, to try to draw some attention to

it and say, we need to focus on this right now. This is quite dire.

"And if we don't do something, it's hard to imagine how bad it will be."

# Climate change, ethnicity and neglect fuel violence in Nigeria's Kaduna State

KADUNA

**L**AMI Kwasa, a farmer in the village of Kafanchan in Kaduna State, north-central Nigeria, was at home one evening in October 2020 when the sound of sporadic gunshots filled the air.

Gummen, suspected to be Fulani nomadic herders, had surrounded the village, shooting from different angles.

Kwasa placed her three-year-old son on her back and attempted to run to a nearby bush for safety. But she was shot in the head and went unconscious.

"I woke up in a hospital in Kaduna metropolis two weeks later and was very happy to find out that my son was alive," she recalled.

Residents reported that the attack, which lasted for about four hours, left over 30 houses burned, dozens injured, and over 20 people dead, including Kwasa's mother, whom the herders butchered to death.

The attackers fled before security operatives arrived in the troubled area.

Kwasa's ordeal is part of a troubling pattern. In recent years, tensions between farmers and cattle herders have escalated in Nigeria's north-central states, often referred to as the Middle Belt. This region has witnessed a series of violent clashes. For instance, last year in Zangon Kataf district, Kaduna state, 33 people lost their lives in an attack by Fulani herders on a farming village.

Similarly, in Bokkos district, Plateau state, over 200 individuals were brutally murdered during a herder-led attack on Christmas Eve last year.

According to Human Rights Watch, approximately 60,000 people have been killed and over 300,000 have been displaced across the region due to the conflict. This includes Grace Mahan, who lost her first son during the attack in Bokkos and is now a refugee in one of the 14 refugee camps in the area.

"Everything was destroyed—our animals, our houses—they destroyed everything. I escaped with nothing but the clothes I am wearing," she said.

Observers say the situation has been triggered by drought linked to climate change in the north. The region's average yearly rainfall has significantly decreased to less than 600 mm, a stark contrast to the 3,500 mm received in the southern areas. As a result, herders are compelled to migrate southward in search of grazing land for their livestock.

Livestock in Nigeria are growing at a very fast rate, around 20 million—making it one of the world's largest. The human population is growing too. With a population of more than 200 million, it is the highest in Africa.

The swelling populations of livestock and humans, especially in the north-central region, leaving farmers and pastoralists to compete for very few resources, has resulted in one of the bloodiest conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The conflict is now spreading to southern states in the country, with mass killings increasingly reported over the past years as herders accuse the local farmers of stealing their cattle, and the farmers blame the herders for trespassing their farmlands and destroying their crops.

In recent years, the conflict has shifted from being a battle for resources to being interpreted as an ethno-religious crisis between the indigenous ethnic groups in the Middle



At a camp for internally displaced people in Bokkos

Belt, who are predominantly Christian, and the Fulani, who are predominantly Muslim and are seen as settlers.

For many Christian groups in Nigeria and outside the country, the attacks have been termed an "Islamic war of expansion". This view is coming on the backdrop of concerns suggesting that Nigeria is one of the most dangerous places to be a Christian following the rise of jihadist groups and politically motivated killings that have targeted Christians. According to a report, 90 per cent of the nearly 5,000 Christians killed for faith-based reasons last year were in Nigeria.

Even before US Secretary of State Antony Blinken's visit to Nigeria in February, Christian advocacy and religious freedom groups in the US criticized President Joe Biden's administration for not including Nigeria on its religious freedom watchlist.

Some Muslims in the North perceive attacks on Fulani communities by Christians as an assault on Islam, prompting calls for retaliation from some quarters. These clashes, typically occurring in villages, can quickly spiral into violent confrontations between Christians and Muslims in northern towns, leading to devastating consequences.

Muslim groups in Nigeria have consistently denounced the killings perpetrated by both sides, asserting that the attacks are not driven by religious motives.

For Oludare Ogunlana, Professor of National Security at Collin College in Texas, the conflict has shifted from a contest for resources to a religious crisis because the government has, for decades, neglected to address

underlying factors such as religious tensions, ethno-political crises, poverty, unemployment, and illiteracy that have plagued the region.

While Nigeria is a secular state, religion plays an important role in the country's politics. Politicians often exploit religious sentiments to attract voters during elections. Socio-political issues swiftly escalate into religious crises, especially in the north-central region. For example, a protest by Christians in Kaduna against the government's plans to adopt Sharia law in the state in 2000 escalated into a series of conflicts that resulted in the deaths of no fewer than 2000 people.

In the early 2000s, in Jos, Plateau State, following the appointments of government officials along religious lines, there were a series of violence incidents between Christians and Muslims that led to hundreds of deaths.

"Religious intolerance arises as a result of poverty, not just in terms of material possessions but also in terms of ideas. The majority of farmers and herders in the middle belt are relatively poor. Given the existing religious tensions in a region plagued by illiteracy and the government's inability to address these issues, it is

not unexpected that the farmer-herder crisis would now revolve around religion," Ogunlana said.

Critics argue that the government is not affording the crisis the requisite attention, despite its efforts to mitigate the killings. In 2019, the presidency proposed grazing camps and cattle colonies nationwide. However, this plan faced opposition from middle belt leaders who viewed it as a strategy to assist herders in seizing land and promoting Islam.

The 2024 annual report from the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) placed blame on the Nigerian government for its negligence in addressing religious extremist violence.

For Ogunlana, community policing, frequent roundtable discussions with religious and traditional leaders, and creating opportunities to encourage herders to divest into other profitable ventures other than pastoring will help to douse the flames.

He added, "The government has to promote inclusive governance and implement policies that ensure equitable representation and participation of diverse religious communities in the decision-making process at all levels of governance. That can foster trust and a sense of belonging among different religious and ethnic groups."

Nigeria, despite strict gun control, is a hub for illegal small arms, fuelling security issues. The UN reports 70% of West Africa's 500 million illegal weapons are in Nigeria, perpetuating cycles of violence between farmers and herders.

The Fulani herders' leadership, Miyetti Allah, claims that herders' attacks are retaliatory responses to farmers' alleged cattle theft, while farmers maintain that they are defending their lands.

As the crisis worsens, the scar deepens. Abdulrahman Muhammed, a herder from Bokkos, shared with IPS that after the attack on Christmas Eve, Christian natives seeking revenge attacked numerous Fulani settlements the next day, burning many houses, including his own.

"I managed to escape, but some of my cattle were stolen. I wish there could be a dialogue between the natives and herders to find a way to end the killings," he said.







## BUSINESS

## DSE sees 5.7 billion/- in annual profit after tax

## More Paris-KIA flights confirmed for late this year

By Guardian Correspondent

IN a bid to enhance its connectivity in Africa, Air France has introduced flights from Paris-Charles de Gaulle to Kilimanjaro commencing late this year.

This strategic addition is part of the airline's strategy to expand its long-haul network across the continent and improve service delivery to travellers in the region. The new route will operate three times a week.

Passengers will travel aboard the state-of-the-art Airbus A350-900 aircraft, featuring 34 seats in Business Class, 24 in Premium Economy, and 266 in Economy Class, ensuring a comfortable and exciting journey.

This route marks a significant enhancement in Air France's African operations, replacing the Paris-Zanzibar-Dar Es Salaam route.

However, travellers to Dar Es Salaam can still conveniently access the city via Amsterdam through Air France's partner airline KLM, which maintains seven weekly flights to the destination. KLM also offers flights to Kilimanjaro five times a week and Zanzibar twice a week, further expanding travel options in Tanzania.

"The addition of the Paris-Kilimanjaro route is a strategic decision aimed at meeting the growing demand for travel to East Africa," said Rajat Kumar, Air France - KLM's Tanzania Country Manager adding:

"Kilimanjaro not only serves as a gateway to the region's renowned natural beauty and adventure opportunities but also aligns with our commitment to offering diverse and enriching travel experiences."

The new route will facilitate access to Tanzania's famed Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Travellers can explore the surrounding Kilimanjaro National Park, renowned for its diverse ecosystems and wildlife, making it an ideal starting point for safaris in Tanzania and neighbouring Kenya.

Flight AF874 will depart Paris-Charles de Gaulle at 10:10 AM on designated days, arriving in Zanzibar at 9:10 PM local time, with onward flights to Kilimanjaro departing at 10:40 PM and arriving at 11:40 PM on the same day. The return flight, AF874, will depart Kilimanjaro at 1:10 AM and arrive at Paris-Charles de Gaulle at 8:35 AM local time.

Meanwhile, Air France continues to connect East Africa to Paris-Charles de Gaulle through direct flights to Nairobi, Kenya seven times a week. As with the new route, all Air France flights are serviced by modern aircraft, which have substantially reduced emissions.

This is in addition to the intentional use of the much-cleaner Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAFs), with travellers allowed to contribute to its cost through voluntary premiums at the time of booking.



By Henry Mwangonde

THE Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) has recorded a 5.7bn/- profit after tax of which 60 per cent is to be shared as dividends to shareholders.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the 9th Annual General Meeting DSE Chief Executive Officer Mary Mniwasa said the profits were due to increased investment and sales in shares and bonds.

"This year shareholders will receive 145/- per share as divided compared to 116/- per share which they received the previous year," she said.

Mniwasa said the profits have been attributed to increase in investment income, Sales

in shares and bonds on the market and market data sales.

She also said the factors for performance is attributed to a good turnover in the market shares including the number of sustainable bonds listed in the year.

According to the official, shareholders will get their shares in August this year.

In the first quarter of this year, local investors emerged as key players as the stock market recorded a 183 percent increase in total turnover during the first quarter of 2024.

In quarter 1 of 2023, the bourse recorded 20.36bn/- in total turnover with a local lender emerging as the top trading counter at the equities market during the first quarter of 2024, contributing over 54 percent of

the total turnover.

Kijani Bond by CRDB Bank was launched in August 2023 to boost environmental, social, and sustainability projects in the country and was successfully listed at the DSE on November 7, 2023.

The Jamii Bond was listed at the DSE in December 2023 to raise funds to finance eligible climate, social, and environment-focused projects that positively impact resilience against climate change, achieve sustainable infrastructure, and promote efficient and sustainable use of natural resources. During the period the reopening of the long-term Treasury bonds, such as the 20-year bonds and the 25-year bonds, had also contributed significantly.

## Bring in workable plans to equip people with financial knowledge, DED tells govt

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

SIKONGE District Executive Director, Selemu Pandawe has called on the Ministry of Finance to have sustainable and long-term plans to provide financial education to the public as the move will contribute to the economic growth of individuals and the nation at large.

Pandawe made the call here yesterday when speaking to the team of experts who are in the district to provide financial literacy education to people of various groups, including civil servants and traders.

The series of seminars are part of the implementation of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's directives to ensure that every person is aware of all issues related to micro-financial services in the country.

Pandawe stated: "The need for financial education is still needed, we are witnessing our brothers and sisters who are in various areas, especially in rural areas, they do not know about financial management, and most of them hide money under the mattress, to the extent that they are being eaten by ants and they are no longer suitable for use."

He said that in his district people are doing various economic activities, but the money they earn is not compatible with their lives due to the lack of financial education, including financial discipline such as the best ways of saving and spending as "many people have no culture of saving money they get from their activities."

Pandawe praised the Ministry of Finance for reaching out to people of various groups to provide them with important financial education, adding that many citizens have incomes but do not understand the best way to spend money.

CCM chairman in Ipole Ward, Deus Evalist, congratulated the team of experts from



Sikonge district executive director Selemu Pandawe (C) receives a book investment, savings, and loans that will be used to provide financial education to people in the district from Limi Bulugu (L) financial management officer with financial sector development Department in the Ministry of Finance (L) and Stella John, public relations and education officer at the Capital Markets and Securities Authority.

the Ministry of Finance for reaching them and giving them the important education that will change their way of life in the use of money without having a budget.

Ipole ward executive officer Clementina Kadiko promised to cooperate with her fellow leaders at the ward level to ensure that every citizen gets the necessary education so that they can have productive plans in the use of their money and get rid of themselves economically.

Stella John, public relations and education officer at the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA), thanked the peo-

ple of Tabora region for fully participating in the seminars given.

"People have shown great cooperation, there are those who asked questions, there are those who answered, but there are also those who gave opinions and advice which we have taken and we will consider it in the next phase," she said.

The Ministry of Finance continues with the exercise of providing education to citizens about small financial services, which is the implementation of the Master Plan for the Development of the Financial Sector for the 2021/2022 to 2029/2030 fiscal years.

## NCAA commends investor for environmental conservation

By Francis Kajubi

THE Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) has granted a 33-year leasing contract to strategic investor Ngorongoro Serena Hotels citing environment conservation as the key aspect that has attracted the authority to reach such a decision.

Elirehema Doriye, NCAA Conservation Commissioner said in a statement yesterday that the authority has reached a decision of renewing the investor's leasing agreement after satisfying itself on measures that are being initiated by the investor for environment conservation.

He asserted that in conserving the environ-

ment, the investor has succeeded in building a power substation with a capacity of receiving 500 kilovolt from the Tanzania Electric Company Limited (TANESCO) for the investor's hotel consumption.

He said the investor approached the NCAA to seek authorization to connect electricity to the hotel, to reduce pollution caused by diesel generators and protect the environment.

Doriye said this is the second leasing agreement the authority has entered with the investor after the first one ended last year.

He commended the investor for continuing to strengthen the tourism service and attract tourists to stay in the country



Elirehema Doriye, NCAA Acting Conservation Commissioner (L) shares a word with Ashish Sharma, CEO of Ngorongoro Serena Hotels at the launch of an electricity substation. Looking on is Mbanot Tipilit, Legwainani of the Ngorongoro Maasai community. Photo courtesy of NCAA.

for a long time.

"For the entire period of the first lease agreement, the investor was

using the electricity produced by the generator. Using electricity guarantees environmental conser-

vation," he said.

Legwainani of the Ngorongoro Maasai community, Mbanot Tip-

ilit, said the investor has been active in participating in improving health and education services through corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects. Ashish Sharma, the company's Chief Executive Officer said the hotel's operations adhere to economic development vision while impacting environment conservation.

"We have been spending almost 100mn/- a month in petrol for running the generator. With electricity connection from TANESCO we will be spending a maximum of 30mn/- a month," said Sharma.

In Tanzania, he said, the company has 716 employees and three expatriates from East Africa.

"Over the past 30 years, we have not breached any term of the lease. Our contribution was the highest to the NCAA. The Serena brand and standards is seen as the model for excellence," he said.

The company has appointed Electrical Power Solutions LTD to install electrical connection through a project worth 1.6bn/- (\$630,000).

"The reliance generators have now come to its end as people will be connected to the national grid. These activities are not only about improving the infrastructure but completing our mission in environmental conservation," he said.

Sharma said the company will continue setting high standards for sustainable tourism and improve tourism-related services.

The company had during the past eleven years injected \$836million in the East African region economy.



## Mkuya: Timiza Fund to bolster investment opportunities in Z'bar

By Rahma Suleiman, Zanzibar

THE newly launched collective scheme—Timiza Fund will help Zanzibar government to widen the scope and increase engagement of people in investment and various economic activities to improve livelihoods.

Zanzibar's Minister of State in the President's Office, Finance and Planning, Dr Saada Mkuya Salum made the remark here over the weekend when launching the fund in

the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Introduced by Zan Securities, one of the leading stock brokerage firms licensed by the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA), Timiza Fund is the first private sector mutual fund that targets the low-income bracket.

Minister said the launch of the scheme represents a significant milestone in the government's efforts to foster financial inclusivity and economic empowerment for all citizens.



Zanzibar's Minister of State in the President's Office, Finance and Planning, Dr Saada Mkuya Salum

"Mutual funds play a vital role in enabling people to access financial markets through close professional guidance which in-turn promote inclusion and

boost development," she said.

According to her, as the scheme targets the low-income populace, a number of people will be able to participate in

the financial markets hence accelerating financial inclusion in the country.

She also underscored the need for the Timiza Fund leadership to work hard

and efficiently implement all what they have promised in order to build trust among people.

Raphael Masumbuko, Director of Zan Securities said the mutual fund will help open doors of various opportunities of investment to all people regardless of financial status.

"Opportunities for economic progress should not just be accessible to a select few but should instead be open to everyone in order to attain development goals," he said.

Abdissalaam Issa Khatib, Zan Securities Board Chairman said the Fund will help elevate the degree of financial inclusion in the country by motivating numerous citizens, especially income earners, to engage in capital market investments.

He said the specific objectives of the Fund are to empower Tanzanians from different cadres, including the youth, women, and special groups, to benefit from the financial sector, build a culture of saving and investing among Tanzanians to enable citizens to participate in the economy.

## Realise your pledges, Zanzibar minister urges stakeholders

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

HEALTH stakeholders have urged to fulfil their promises of contributing 1bn/- for purchasing medical equipment to be distributed to 28 health centres across Zanzibar.

Zanzibar's Health Minister Nassor Ahmed Mazrui made the call here on Monday when receiving part of the medical equipment donation from the NMB Bank during the handing over ceremony of medical equipment donations provided by stakeholders in the health sector.

Mazrui urged health stakeholders who have not fulfilled their promises to do so before

the end of the year, we also request the government to assist with the costs of importing 10 mobile vans which are currently in Nairobi, Kenya.

Dr. Serafina Mkuwa, AMREF Health Africa - Tanzania's Acting Director, mentioned that stakeholders had pledged 900m/- out of the planned 1bn/-.

"AMREF extends heartfelt gratitude towards the Zanzibar Government through the Ministry of Health for making these collections possible.

"Our sincere gratitude goes to every individual, institution, organization, company, and health stakeholder touched by our

campaign to save the lives of mothers and children, leading them to donate money and medical equipment, which will aid maternal services across Zanzibar," she said.

Dr. Serafina expressed her appreciation and gratitude to the bank for their 20.17m/- contributions during the event, raising their total contribution to 60m/- after initially donating 40m/- in the first year of its Safe Motherhood Campaign that kicked off 2022 by the Zanzibar President Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi. "We sincerely and wholeheartedly thank the bank for their significant contribution throughout the campaign. Their crucial support greatly aids our overall goal of

collecting medical equipment for the designated 28 health centres.

"We thank the bank for standing shoulder to shoulder not only with AMREF Health Africa but also with the Ministry of Health from the very first day of this campaign in 2022. We believe that their collaboration with us will continue even as we conclude this campaign this year," emphasized Dr. Serafina. Naima Shaame, the bank's business manager in Zanzibar stated that the medical equipment handed over to AMREF Health Africa - Tanzania, then passed to the Zanzibar Minister of Health, included 11 delivery beds, 250 bed sheets, and 30 weigh-

ing scales. "We thank AMREF and the Zanzibar government for their collaboration. Inspired by their goals, and aware of our obligation to the surrounding community, we felt compelled to contribute equipment for the well-being of mothers in Zanzibar.

"When AMREF reached out to us, we saw it as an opportunity to continue with our commitment to the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program, ensuring the safety of mothers and children. At the bank, the secret to our success is the people, and we care for our customers from the very beginning, nurturing our future clients by caring for their mothers," said Naima.

## Financial markets entity strengthens stakeholder engagement in the sector

By Francis Kajubi

THE ACI Financial Markets Association of Tanzania (ACI-FMA) has affirmed its commitment to strengthening stakeholder engagement and fostering a collaborative environment within the financial markets arena.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam during the association's leadership team strategic meeting at the weekend, marking the charter's first 100 days in office, Tanzania's charter President Naomi Rhubera highlighted the substantial strides the new team has made in supporting financial market players while upholding rigorous ethical standards.

"One of the key initiatives we have undertaken during our first 100 days includes proactive engagement with the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) to ensure strict adherence to the 'FX Code of Conduct 2024,'" she said.

According to her, through a series of physical and virtual meetings, all stakeholders have been sensitized and briefed on the framework.

She said amid challenges such as the scarcity of the greenback, the association has collaborated closely with stakeholders to enhance forex liquidity by implementing crucial measures.



ACI FMA Tanzania President Naomi Mafwiri (2nd-L) exchanges greetings with, Catherine Mwita, in Dar es Salaam shortly after the meeting which discussed the achievements of the association over the 100 days since their leadership came into power.

Rhubera mentioned several impactful training sessions, notably a comprehensive exploration into the derivatives.

"Going forward, plans include further training sessions, panel discussions, and social gatherings aimed at promoting networking and addressing ongoing challenges," she said.

She said that the leadership team's 'open door policy' encourages feedback and collaboration from financial market players to achieve shared goals and enhance the association in Tanzania.

The association is a non-profit organization under the umbrella of ACI FMA. The association's goal is to influence industry behavior and support best market practices by providing access to relevant training, engagements, and professional certifications in the attempt of creating ethical and professional financial markets practitioners.



**One of the key initiatives we have undertaken during our first 100 days includes proactive engagement with the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) to ensure strict adherence to the 'FX Code of Conduct 2024**

## Ride-hailing app appoints new country manager for Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

RIDE-hailing app—Bolt has appointed Dimmy Kanyankole as the new Country Manager for the transport firm in Tanzania.

In a statement issued yesterday in Dar es Salaam, the global mobility platform said that the strategic move is part of the company's continued commitment to enhancing its operations and customer experience in the region.

According to Bolt, Dimmy is revenue driven business leader with a track record in business development, performance marketing, distribution, commercial operations and team management. He brings a wealth of experience and a proven track record working with Pan African renewable energy and Fintech leaders such as Engie and Cellulant.

"Dimmy has demonstrated exceptional leadership and a deep understanding of the market dynamics,

making him the perfect fit for this pivotal role," the statement reads in part.

Before joining Bolt, Dimmy was the Group Head of Retail Marketing at Cellulant, Africa's leading Fintech Company. He was leading a Retail Function responsible for overall product growth in 6 African markets—Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria & Zambia.

In this role, he was responsible for merchants (SME) acquisition and activation, product growth & overall revenue growth. Prior to that, he served as a Group Head of Activation-driving Billpay & Checkout products, where he was responsible for hundreds of global and local merchants across Africa. He also helped Engie (former Mobisol) cement their position as a leading renewable energy company in the region.

Caroline Wanjihia, Regional Director for Rides, Africa and International

Markets said: "We are delighted to welcome Dimmy to our team. His extensive experience and visionary approach will be instrumental in driving our mission to provide safe, reliable, and convenient transportation solutions to the people of Tanzania. We are confident that he will lead our operations to new heights."

Under Dimmy's leadership, Bolt aims to further solidify its presence in Tanzania, focusing on innovation, safety, and customer satisfaction. His appointment comes at a crucial time as the company continues to launch several new initiatives designed to improve service delivery and expand its reach across the country. Recently, Bolt Tanzania launched its Driver Engagement Centre in efforts to enhance its driver relations and address drivers' expectations in terms of handling their concerns.

For his part, Dimmy said: "I am honored to join Bolt

as the new Country Manager for Tanzania. With a strong commitment to innovation and customer satisfaction, I am excited to lead our dedicated team in enhancing the ride-hailing experience for all Tanzanians. Our focus will be on expanding our services, ensuring safety and reliability, and fostering strong partnerships within the community. Together, we will continue to drive growth and provide exceptional value to our riders and drivers across the country."



**Under Dimmy's leadership, Bolt aims to further solidify its presence in Tanzania, focusing on innovation, safety, and customer satisfaction**



Dimmy Kanyankole



# More Chinese set for Dubai as tourists

## DUBAI

THERE has been a significant surge in Chinese tourists to Dubai, the city's Department of Economy and Tourism (DET) said during a roadshow in Shanghai last week.

According to Saud Hareb Al Mheiri, assistant manager of DET, the city welcomed 620,000 overnight visitors from China in 2023, and in the first four months of 2024, almost 290,000 overnight visitors arrived, a 101 percent increase compared to the same period last year.

"China has been one of the top source markets for Dubai's tourism sector," Al Mheiri said during the Shanghai leg of the DET Chinese mainland roadshow. "We are highly optimistic that this year's visitor numbers will surpass last year's figures."

The United Arab Emirates started granting visas on arrival to Chinese visitors in 2016. In 2017, over 764,000 Chinese tourists visited the UAE, representing a 41 percent increase year-on-year.

Qiu Weining, senior manager of international operations at the DET, highlighted Dubai's tourism achievements, noting that the city experienced its peak year in 2019 with 16.7 million international tourists. The number surged to 17.1 million in 2023.

Before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, China was Dubai's fifth-largest tourist source market. After China's reopening of its borders, Dubai continued to implement a visa-free policy and other convenient measures to attract more Chinese tourists.

The roadshow, which was held in Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, and Guangzhou from June 17 to Monday, is a strategic effort to promote Dubai's tourism development, and attracted 22 travel industry suppliers from Dubai, including airlines, hotels, attractions, shopping malls and destination management companies.

"The DET has long recognized the significance of the Chinese outbound tourism market, and the strong affinity visitors from China have already shown toward Dubai, making it a major contributor to our continued growth. We are committed to engaging with tourism professionals in China, and hosting roadshows like



these is a critical part of our strategic approach to showcase Dubai's diverse destination offering," said Al Mheiri.

"We are deeply passionate about sharing our love for the city, showcasing the best of what it has to offer, and encouraging more and more Chinese visitors to experience the same affection that we hold for it," he added.

Looking ahead, the DET has launched the "China Ready" strategy, continually refining measures to meet the needs of Chinese tourists.

With direct flights now available from 14 Chinese cities and widespread acceptance of Alipay and WeChat in Dubai, the city is well-prepared to accommodate Chinese visitors seamlessly.

"Recently, Alipay has been rolled out for tax refunds in Dubai, a service already available via WeChat, and both platforms are also accepted on transportation services such as metros and taxis," said Qiu.

To enhance engagement with Chinese consumers, the DET is intensifying in-market marketing campaigns, deepening collaborations with social platforms such as

Xiaohongshu (Little Red Book) and Douyin, and partnering with podcast platforms like Xiaoyuzhou and Ximalaya, he said.

"Several attractions are also waiting for tourists to experience and explore, especially Inside Burj Al Arab, Arte Museum in Dubai Mall, China Town in Dubai Mall, and Real Madrid World," Qiu said.

# Amex optimistic over China credit card deal

## NEW YORK

AMERICAN Express sees great potential in China's credit card market and is ready to further increase investment in the country as needed, said the head of the global financial services corporation's joint venture in China.

Yamin Zhu, CEO and general manager of Express (Hangzhou) Technology Service Co Ltd, American Express's majority-owned JV with Chinese fintech company Lianlian DigiTech Co Ltd, said American Express has a long-term commitment to the Chinese market and is willing to further inject capital into the JV if needed.

"Our shareholders are upbeat about the Chinese market and have confidence in our management team, and are willing to support the joint venture in the long run," she said.

In 2020, Express (Hangzhou) received approval from the People's Bank of China, the country's central bank, for a network clearing license. This made American Express the first foreign payments network eligible to clear renminbi transactions in the Chinese mainland, meaning that it can authorize banks to issue and accept American Express renminbi bank cards in the country.

American Express has increased capital in the JV three times since then. In December, the venture's registered capital rose from 5.06 billion yuan (\$696.8 million) to 5.76 billion yuan, data from the PBOC showed.

While recognizing that China's credit card market is now undergoing consolidation, Zhu said the market still boasts huge growth potential as the average number of credit cards held per person is about 0.5 in China, compared with approximately 3 to 4 in the United States and South Korea.

A report from the PBOC said that the number of credit cards as well as dual-function cards – which are combined debit and credit cards – in China stood at 767 million as of the end of 2023, marking a year-on-year decrease of 3.89 percent.

Despite the shrinking number of credit cards in circulation, Zhu said the JV has seen its revenue register continuous improvement over the past two years, although it has yet to turn a profit when accounting for initial investments.

"High-net-worth individuals' consumption behavior is actually hardly impacted by ups and downs in economic cycles," Zhu said, adding that the JV has a strategic focus on the premium credit market, cross-border payments and local merchant coverage.

While continuing to collaborate with banks to launch more credit cards, the venture will also provide value-added services to its bank clients, including issuing reports and offering training on accurately identifying the needs of high-end credit card holders.

American Express is not the only international credit card network that is eyeing the growth potential of the Chinese market as the country deepens financial opening-up. In November, Mastercard's JV also received a clearing license from the PBOC.

China's financial opening-up also benefited American Express in that the country's efforts to improve payment services for foreign visitors will help boost transaction volume made via foreign credit cards, Zhu said.

Zhu said American Express has cut its commission fees charged in China to a level comparable to domestic credit cards of less than 1 percent since 2020 to reduce the cost of accepting foreign cards and boost merchants' willingness to accept them.



# MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM



WEDNESDAY 12 June		FRIDAY 14 June		SUNDAY 16 June		THURS 13 June		SATURDAY 15 June	
5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo	5:00	Uwajira wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwajira wa Mazoezi	06:00	Al Jazeera	5:30	Uwajira wa Mazoezi
5:30	Uwajira wa Mazoezi	5:30	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	06:00	Kumekucha Michozo rpt	6:00	HABARI
6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	7:00	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michozo	8:00	Kumekucha Michozo	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	7:30	HABARI
8:55	Habari za saa	8:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	8:00	Kumekucha Michozo
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	8:55	Habari za saa
9:30	Sosp: Laws of love	9:30	Sosp: Laws of love	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:55	Habari za saa	9:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	9:30	Sosp: Laws of love
10:00	Watoto wetu	10:00	Watoto wetu	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	9:55	Habari za saa
10:30	Jungu Kuu rpt	10:30	Jungu kuu	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	10:00	Watoto wetu
10:55	Habari za saa	10:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	10:30	Shamba Lulu
11:00	Mjuzi zaidi	11:00	Mjuzi zaidi	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	10:55	Habari za saa
11:40	Mapishi	11:40	Mapishi	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	11:00	Ripoti maalum
11:55	Habari za saa	11:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	12:00	Al Jazeera
12:50	Bundesliga na DW rpt	12:50	Bundesliga na DW rpt	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	12:50	Jarida la wanawake rpt
12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	HABARI	13:00	HABARI	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	13:00	HABARI
13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Chetu ni chetu rpt	14:00	Chetu ni chetu rpt	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	14:00	Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:40	Kipindi maalum: NHIF rpt	14:40	Kipindi maalum: NHIF rpt	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	14:40	Kipindi maalum: NHIF rpt
14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza huru	15:00	Meza huru	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	15:00	Meza huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	Music: The Base	17:00	Music: The Base	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	17:00	Music: The Base
18:00	Hapa na Pale	18:00	Hapa na Pale	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	18:00	Hapa na Pale
18:15	Maji Kilimanjaro	18:15	Maji Kilimanjaro	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	18:15	Maji Kilimanjaro
18:30	Jarida la wanawake	18:30	Jarida la wanawake	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	18:30	Jarida la wanawake
19:00	Kipindi maalum: BOT	19:00	Kipindi maalum: BOT	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	19:00	Kipindi maalum: BOT
19:30	Sosp: Laws of love	19:30	Sosp: Laws of love	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	19:30	Sosp: Laws of love
20:00	HABARI	20:00	HABARI	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	20:00	HABARI
21:05	Abu Yako	21:05	Abu Yako	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	21:05	Abu Yako
21:05	Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing	21:05	Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	21:05	Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing
21:20	Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	21:20	Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	21:20	Kipindi maalum: Tanesco
21:50	Ripoti maalum	21:50	Ripoti maalum	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	21:50	Ripoti maalum
22:30	Sosp: Uzalo	22:30	Sosp: Uzalo	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	22:30	Sosp: Uzalo
23:00	Jiji letu	23:00	Jiji letu	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	23:00	Jiji letu
23:30	Music: The Base	23:30	Music: The Base	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	23:30	Music: The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera	00:30	Al Jazeera	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	00:30	Al Jazeera
5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo	5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo	5:30	Uwajira wa Mazoezi	06:00	Al Jazeera	5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo
5:30	Uwajira wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwajira wa Mazoezi	6:00	HABARI	06:00	Kumekucha Michozo rpt	5:30	Uwajira wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michozo	8:00	Kumekucha Michozo	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	8:00	Kumekucha Michozo
8:55	Habari za saa	8:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	8:55	Habari za saa
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Sosp: Laws of love	9:30	Sosp: Laws of love	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	9:30	Sosp: Laws of love
9:55	Habari za saa	9:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Watoto wetu	10:00	Watoto wetu	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	10:00	Watoto wetu
10:30	Shamba Lulu	10:30	Shamba Lulu	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	10:30	Shamba Lulu
10:55	Habari za saa	10:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	Ripoti maalum	11:00	Ripoti maalum	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	11:00	Ripoti maalum
11:55	Habari za saa	11:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Jarida la wanawake rpt	12:30	Jarida la wanawake rpt	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	12:30	Jarida la wanawake rpt
6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	HABARI	7:00	HABARI	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	7:00	HABARI
8:00	Watoto wetu	8:00	Watoto wetu	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	8:00	Watoto wetu
9:00	Mjuzi zaidi	9:00	Mjuzi zaidi	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	9:00	Mjuzi zaidi
11:15	Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:15	Chetu ni chetu rpt	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	11:15	Chetu ni chetu rpt
11:50	Hawawumi lakini wamo	11:50	Hawawumi lakini wamo	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	11:50	Hawawumi lakini wamo
12:50	Art and lifestyle	12:50	Art and lifestyle	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	12:50	Art and lifestyle
13:20	Shamba Lulu	13:20	Shamba Lulu	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	13:20	Shamba Lulu
13:50	Sosp rpt: Laws of love	13:50	Sosp rpt: Laws of love	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	13:50	Sosp rpt: Laws of love
15:45	Igizo: Mizungwe	15:45	Igizo: Mizungwe	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	15:45	Igizo: Mizungwe
16:10	Shamsham za Pwani	16:10	Shamsham za Pwani	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	16:10	Shamsham za Pwani
17:00	Hapa na Pale	17:00	Hapa na Pale	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	17:00	Hapa na Pale
18:10	ITV Top 10 rpt	18:10	ITV Top 10 rpt	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	18:10	ITV Top 10 rpt
19:00	Jungu kuu	19:00	Jungu kuu	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	19:00	Jungu kuu
19:30	Shika Bamba	19:30	Shika Bamba	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	19:30	Shika Bamba
20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	20:00	Habari
21:05	Igizo: Hakufuma	21:05	Igizo: Hakufuma	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	21:05	Igizo: Hakufuma
21:35	Kipindi maalum: Michozo Supa Min Jackpot	21:35	Kipindi maalum: Michozo Supa Min Jackpot	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	21:35	Kipindi maalum: Michozo Supa Min Jackpot
21:45	Art and Lifestyle	21:45	Art and Lifestyle	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	21:45	Art and Lifestyle
22:15	ITV Top 10	22:15	ITV Top 10	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	22:15	ITV Top 10
23:00	Hawawumi lakini wamo	23:00	Hawawumi lakini wamo	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	23:00	Hawawumi lakini wamo
23:40	Sosp: Uzalo rpt	23:40	Sosp: Uzalo rpt	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	23:40	Sosp: Uzalo rpt
00:30	Al Jazeera	00:30	Al Jazeera	7:00	HABARI	06:00	Meza Huru Rpt	00:30	Al Jazeera
13:00	Telenovela rpt: I Plead Guilty Rpt	13:00	Telenovela rpt: I Plead Guilty Rpt	13:00	Telenovela rpt: I Plead Guilty Rpt	06:00	Al Jazeera	13:00	Telenovela rpt: I Plead Guilty Rpt
14:00	Business Edition Rpt	14:00	Business Edition Rpt	13:00	Telenovela rpt: I Plead Guilty Rpt	06:00	Al Jazeera	14:00	Business Edition Rpt
14:30	Ingood Shape	14:30	Ingood Shape	13:00	Telenovela rpt: I Plead Guilty Rpt	06:00	Al Jazeera	14:30	Ingood Shape
15:0									



## WORLD

## Israeli PM Netanyahu says committed to truce proposal

JERUSALEM

PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Monday that Israel remained committed to its proposed Gaza ceasefire and hostage deal, and his military chief said the remaining Hamas forces in the southern Gaza city of Rafah were nearly dismantled.

"We are committed to the Israeli proposal that President Biden welcomed. Our position has not changed. The second thing, which does not contradict the first, we will not end the war until we eliminate Hamas," Netanyahu said in a speech to parliament.

Netanyahu (pictured) said that Israel will not end the conflict "until we bring back all the hostages, all 120 of them – both the living and the fallen" and until Hamas is "eliminated" and the residents in southern

and northern can safely return to their homes.

Israel's military issued a statement from a situational assessment by its chief of staff in the area of Rafah, where Israeli forces have been fighting Hamas' remaining battalions.

"We are clearly approaching the point where we can say we have dismantled the Rafah Brigade, that it is defeated not in the sense that there are no more terrorists, but in the sense that it can no longer function as a fighting unit," said Lieutenant-General Herzi Halevi.

He said that the Israel Defense Forces' 162nd Division now controls the "Philadelphia Corridor", the military's code name for the 14 km-long strip of land along Gaza's only border with Egypt. "It is very signifi-



cant in cutting off Hamas' supply for future smuggling," Halevi said.

Hamas's deputy chief in Gaza, Khalil Al-Hayya, said: "We are a people on its land and a resistance (group) defending its land. If the occupation (Israel) announces it is achieving its goals, let it do so and let it say what it wants and the field can validate and falsify."

He added: "If Israel wants to convince itself that it is done, it should exit the strip," in response to a question about the Israeli army's remarks on dis-

mantling Hamas during an interview with the Qatar-based Al Jazeera TV on Monday. Israel has been carrying out a massive offensive in the Gaza Strip in retaliation for a Hamas rampage on Oct 7, 2023, during which about 1,200 people were killed and about 250 were taken hostage.

The Israeli assault caused a severe humanitarian crisis in the Palestinian enclave and killed more than 37,600 people, according to the health authorities in Gaza.

## ICC issues arrest warrants for Russia's Shoigu, Gerasimov

THE HAGUE

A pre-trial chamber of the International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants for Russia's former Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu and current chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces, Valery Gerasimov, the court said in a statement on its website.

"Pre-Trial Chamber II of the International Criminal Court issued warrants of arrest for two individuals, Mr Sergey Kuzhugetovich Shoigu and Mr Valery Vasilyevich Gerasimov, in the context of the situation in Ukraine for alleged international crimes committed from at least 10 October 2022 until at least 9 March 2023," the statement said.

According to the court, Shoigu and Gerasimov are "allegedly responsible" for directing attacks at objects in Ukraine.

Last year, the ICC issued arrest warrants for Russian President Vladimir Putin and Russian Children's Rights Commissioner Maria Lvova-Belova on charges of alleged unlawful deportation of Ukrainian children.

Putin said Russian officials acted absolutely within the law when they removed children from the conflict area to save their lives and health, and never opposed their reunification with their families.

According to the Russian Foreign Ministry, the court "failed to live up to expectations and did not become a truly independent body of international justice."



Chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces Valery Gerasimov and Russian Security Council Secretary Sergey Shoigu

## WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange leaves UK after striking plea deal with Biden administration

LONDON

WIKILEAKS founder Julian Assange has agreed to enter a plea deal with the Joe Biden administration that could pave the way for him to avoid imprisonment in the United States, according to recently filed federal court documents, CNN reported.

The WikiLeaks founder has reportedly consented to plead guilty to a felony charge connected to his alleged involvement in one of the largest breaches of classified US government material.

This agreement, if approved by a federal judge, would see Assange receiving a 62-month sentence, which matches the duration he has already served in London's high-security Belmarsh prison while contesting extradition to the US. The plea deal includes crediting his time served, potentially allowing Assange to immediately return to his native Australia.

Assange's release from Belmarsh was confirmed by WikiLeaks, who announced on Tuesday that he had been granted bail by the High Court in London and subsequently departed from Stansted airport. A video posted by the organisation showed Assange boarding a plane after leaving the UK, as reported by CNN.

According to the US District Court in the Northern Mariana Islands, a plea hearing and sentencing have been scheduled for Wednesday morning. Prosecutors explained to the court that Assange preferred not to set foot in the continental US for his guilty plea, hence the choice of venue near Australia, where he intends to return following the court proceedings.

The Justice Department prosecutors anticipate Assange will plead guilty to the charge and be sentenced accordingly. Assange had been sought by US authorities for publishing confidential military records leaked by Chelsea Manning between 2010 and 2011. He faced 18 counts from a 2019 indictment related to the breach, which carried a potential maximum sentence of up to 175 years in prison, although it was unlikely he would receive the full term.

US officials alleged Assange had actively encouraged Manning to obtain extensive amounts of unfiltered US diplomatic cables, potentially endangering confidential sources, as well as significant Iraq war-related reports and Guantanamo Bay detainee information, according to CNN. **ANI**

## US military looks for West Africa 'Plan B' after Niger ousting

GABORONE

THE top US general is making a rare trip to Africa to discuss ways to preserve some of the US presence in West Africa after Niger decided to kick out the US military in favour of partnering with Russia in a major setback for Washington.

Air Force General CQ Brown, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters before landing in Botswana on Monday for a gathering of African chiefs of defense that he was going to speak with several partners in the region.

"I do see some opportunities. And there's countries that we're already working with in West Africa," Brown told reporters traveling with him.

Building on those relationships may "provide opportunities for us to posture some of the capability we had in Niger in some other locations," he added.

Brown declined to say which countries were under consideration. But a US official told Reuters that President Joe Biden's administration has had initial conversations with countries including Benin, Ivory Coast and Ghana.

Still, the US military is not expected to be able to replicate its muscular counter-terrorism footprint in Niger anytime soon. In particular, its ejection means losing Air Base 201, which the US built near Agadez in central Niger at a cost of more than \$100 million.

Until Niger's military coup last year, the base had been key to the US and Niger's shared fight against insurgents who have killed thousands of people and displaced millions more.

A second US official, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said not to expect another big US base or wholesale relocation of US troops from Niger to somewhere else.

"We do not expect a large military construction announcement or a significant new base to appear anywhere," the second official said.

## Political upheaval

The changing political landscape in West and Central Africa presents a dilemma for the United States. The region has seen eight coups over four years, including in Niger and its neighbors Burkina Faso and Mali.

"The US had solid partners in the region," said Catherine Nzuki at the Washington-based Center for Strategic



Until Niger's military coup last year, the base had been key to the US and Niger's shared fight against insurgents who have killed thousands of people and displaced millions more. (File photo: Reuters)

and International Studies.

"And now that the US has been pushed out of Niger, the political question that I think the Department of State is asking, the Department of Defense is asking, is: Are we losing allies in the region? Are things changing too rapidly for us to keep up?"

The second US official acknowledged that the US military was taking stock of the rapid changes.

"We are doing some introspection right now and thinking about what our modified goals should be," the official said.

The extent to which America's modified goals will allow it to address

the threat from Islamist groups expanding across the arid, impoverished Sahel region remains unclear. "The terrorist threat is alarming," the second official said.

So far, the US withdrawal from Niger is being completed on schedule ahead of a Sept. 15 deadline. US officials say, with only about 600 troops remaining at Air Base 101, which is next to Diori Hamani International Airport in the capital Niamey.

As the US exits, Russia has deployed a number of military forces to the same base, where they are carrying out training activities. US officials say US and Russian troops

have no contact with each other.

Brown held out hope that even after the US withdraws there might be a way to maintain some kind of future security relationship with Niger, given the years-long investment in military ties.

"We have an embassy there, so we still have relationships. And so I don't know if the door is completely closed," Brown said. "And so if in the future, if the opportunity presents itself to rebuild, strengthen the relationship, we'll work with the rest of the USG (US government) to figure out how best to do that."

## Macron warns of 'civil war' threat if far left or far right wins in snap election

PARIS

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron issued a stark warning on Monday, cautioning that a victory for either the far left or the far right in the upcoming snap election could potentially ignite "civil war," Politico - an

American political newspaper, reported.

Macron expressed concerns about the divisive policies pursued by both ends of the political spectrum. He singled out Marine Le Pen's far-right National Rally and the far-left France

Unbowed, led by Jean-Luc Mélenchon, accusing them of exacerbating tensions within French society.

Macron criticised the far-right's approach to insecurity, arguing that it "reduces people to their religion or their origin"

and therefore "pushes people towards civil war," Politico reported, citing an interview with the podcast "Generation Do It Yourself." Similarly, he denounced the far-left's strategy of dividing people along religious or ethnic lines for electoral gains, warning

that such tactics also sow seeds of potential conflict.

The French president's decision to call for a snap election on June 9 came after his coalition suffered a significant setback against the National Rally in the European elections. **ANI**

## China's efforts to cultivate new quality productive forces to deliver global benefits

BEIJING

CHINA'S ongoing efforts to foster new quality productive forces will inject fresh vigor into global development, according to financial experts and relevant officials.

During the latest episode of the China Economic Roundtable, an all-media talk platform hosted by Xinhua News Agency, guest speakers concurred that this development strategy will not only generate vast opportunities for global investors seeking innovation-driven growth, but also create a more prosperous and sustainable future for the world.

First introduced in 2023, new quality productive forces

refer to advanced productivity freed from the traditional economic growth mode and productivity development paths. It features high-tech, high efficiency and high quality.

## CREATING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

"Alongside Chinese companies, global investors are seizing a new round of opportunities arising from the development of new quality productive forces," said Wang Jinxia, deputy director of the Qianhai Authority. Qianhai is a modern service industry demonstration zone in the southern economic powerhouse Shenzhen.

Wang noted that as China re-

mains the world's largest market, the development of new quality productive forces will continue to generate market demand, attracting a growing number of global investors.

Eyeing new business opportunities, foreign companies have invested over 40 billion U.S. dollars in Qianhai, official data shows.

"Additionally, the development of new quality productive forces is offering global investors opportunities to play a greater role in the latest round of technological revolution as well as globalization," Wang said.

French multinational Schneider Electric established several research and develop-

ment centers across China in 2023 on digital power, automation and artificial intelligence.

"The importance of the Chinese market, from my point of view, has not changed," said Barbara Frei, the executive vice president of Schneider Electric, in a recent interview with Xinhua. She voiced confidence in China's position as a more mature economy and the biggest market in industrial automation, and highlighted the country's role as an "innovation driver."

Amid China's latest efforts to foster new quality productive forces, Vice Premier Zhang Guoqing recently emphasized the need to integrate sci-tech innovation with industrial in-

novation, calling for efforts to promote large-scale equipment and technological upgrades in China's manufacturing industry.

The country has also pledged to continue shortening its negative list for foreign investors, scrapping all restrictions for those entering the country's manufacturing industry.

Driven by the country's unwavering focus on innovation, foreign direct investment in China's hi-tech manufacturing sectors reached 37.76 billion yuan (about 5.32 billion U.S. dollars) during the first quarter of this year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

## FUELING GLOBAL GREEN SHIFT

As China continues to cultivate new quality productive forces through sci-tech innovation, the country is also sharing its intelligent, eco-friendly and inclusive technologies with other countries, said Liu Dongmei, secretary of the Party Committee of the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development, during the China Economic Roundtable.

The world is faced with challenges including food security, natural disasters and climate change, Liu noted, adding that with its rich experience, China has much to offer in addressing these issues.

"The country is developing new quality productive forces in an open and inclusive manner, which means that it is willing to share its knowledge and innovation outcomes with the rest of the world," Liu said. "I believe that developing new quality productive forces is essential for not only driving global economic growth but also for forging a better future for humanity as a whole."

Frei said that China boasts global leadership in supplying components for renewable markets, including wind turbines, solar panels and electric vehicle batteries. "In today's energy landscape, China leads the way." **Xinhua**



## UAE contributes USD 25 million to UN World Food Programme for Humanitarian Efforts in Sudan

### NEW YORK

THE United Arab Emirates has signed an agreement with the UN World Food Programme (WFP) to provide emergency food assistance to populations affected by the crisis in Sudan and South Sudan. This includes refugees, host communities, internally displaced people, and returnees impacted by the war.

The agreement, formalised between the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and WFP, was signed on the behalf of the UAE by Sultan Al Shamsi, Assistant Minister for International Development Affairs, and on the behalf of WFP by Matthew Nims, Director of Washington Office, and in the presence

of Lana Zaki Nusseibeh, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs for Political Affairs, and Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, at a special ceremony at the UAE Mission to the UN in New York.

17.7 million people in Sudan and 7.1 million in South Sudan facing acute food insecurity as a result of war in Sudan. To help alleviate this crisis, UAE has committed a total of US\$25 million in aid: USD 20 million for Sudan and US\$5 million for South Sudan.

Cindy McCain, Executive Director of the World Food Programme, said, "WFP welcomes all pledges towards our lifesaving food operations in Sudan. With this contribution, we will be able to assist vulnerable people who are at risk of sliding into famine."

This contribution is part of UAE's USD 70 million commitment announced in April at the "International Humanitarian Conference for Sudan and Neighbouring Countries" to UN agencies and humanitarian organisations to alleviate the severe humanitarian crisis in Sudan.

Lana Zaki Nusseibeh stated, "With widespread hunger in Sudan and neighbouring countries, our partnership with WFP will assist those most vulnerable facing the devastating ramifications of this war. We cannot allow another famine to unfold in Sudan. The long-term impacts of famine, particularly on children, are incalculable. This is a call to action to halt famine in its tracks."

ANI

## Warnings raised about risks of escalating violence against health personnel, facilities in Sudan's El Fasher

### KHARTOUM

AS the armed clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) rages on in El Fasher city in western Sudan, warnings have been raised about the dangers of escalating violence against health personnel and facilities in the city.

Doctors Without Borders, or Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), one of the few international humanitarian organizations still present in El Fasher, warned that hospitals continue to be attacked, and that no outside help can reach the city due to the intensity of the violence.

"In El Fasher, we are seeing a cycle of offensives and counterattacks where hospitals are not being spared and the warring parties are failing in their responsibilities to protect civilians," said Michel-Olivier Lacharité, head of MSF's emergency operations, in a statement on Saturday.

"Since the fighting began six weeks ago, over 260 people have been killed and over 1,630 wounded – these figures include women and children. We do not know if hospitals are being deliberately targeted, but their protection is an imperative that must be respected," he said.

Lacharité urged the warring parties to protect civilians and hospitals and enable safe access so as to ensure life-saving assistance to people in El Fasher, saying "we urgently need to bring in more supplies and more personnel to be able to respond to this crisis, but the fighting is preventing us from being able to enter."

Meanwhile, Ibrahim Khatir, director-general of North Darfur State's health authorities, accused the RSF of systematically targeting health personnel and



facilities in El Fasher.

"The RSF's systematic targeting of health services aims to put health institutions or the health system out of service. This is an immoral goal," Khatir told Xinhua on Sunday.

He stressed that a number of hospitals in the city have already stopped working due to the RSF attacks, noting that only the Saudi Hospital was still operative though it was attacked two days ago.

In the meantime, during the past 72 hours, Sudan has witnessed a significant escalation in violence against medical personnel and health facilities, as two doctors, a pharmacist, and a medical volunteer were killed in separate incidents, according to the Preliminary Committee of the Sudan Doctors Syndicate.

The RSF assassinated the medical director of Um Dawan Ban Hospital, Dr. Omer Al-Sayed Mustafa, at his home east of the capital Khartoum, while Dr. Molhem Mohamed Imam was killed in an RSF bombardment on Al-Huda city in central Sudan, the committee, a non-governmental

organization, said in a statement on Sunday.

Ashraf Abul-Majd, a medical volunteer, was killed inside Al-Nao Hospital in Omdurman as a result of an RSF artillery shelling on the hospital, the committee said, noting that Dr. Amna Ahmed Bakhit, a pharmacist, was killed in an artillery attack by the RSF on the Saudi Hospital in El Fasher on Friday night. "Attacks on medical personnel constitute a flagrant violation of international humanitarian law, which protects medical personnel and health facilities in armed conflicts," the committee said.

On Thursday, Director-General of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, described the ongoing attacks on health care in Sudan as "appalling."

"Such violence impacts entire communities, depriving them of lifesaving health care, which is already a scarce resource due to the conflict," Ghebreyesus said on the social media platform X.

He called for stopping the

attacks on health facilities, protecting civilians and health workers, and work for peace in Sudan. Mediations led by the African Union, the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development, an east African bloc, and Saudi Arabia and the United States have not succeeded in ending the Sudanese armed conflict, which has entered its second year.

Recently the African Union decided to form an Ad-hoc Presidential Committee, comprising one Head of State and Government from each region of the continent and led by Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, to facilitate face-to-face engagements between the leaders of the SAF and the RSF, demanding unconditional ceasefire. Sudan has been embroiled in a deadly conflict between the SAF and the RSF since April 2023, which has claimed more than 15,550 lives and displaced over 8.8 million people nationwide, according to estimates by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.



## Russia to handle sanctions, deal with attempts to harm it – Medvedev

### MOSCOW

RUSSIA will survive new sanctions but will not forget or forgive this attempt to harm its people, Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev said on his Telegram channel.

"We will survive this. But we won't just forgive and forget, we've got a good memory. We won't leave without response the intent to harm our people," he wrote, posting a similar commentary on X.

According to Medvedev, with the exception of sanctions against the Artek international children's center, "it is boring even to list" the new sanctions. According to him, European politicians are working "in a dull and uncreative manner, once again repeating themselves," sacrificing the interests of their

own countries and people. He added that the restrictions hurt Russia "far less than the EU citizens and companies."

Medvedev said that by the end of last year, "the total Europe's loss caused by the anti-Russian sanctions reached about \$1.5 trillion," while Russia switched to Asian markets and recouped lost revenues.

"This is why in Europe they have to approve packages of new sanctions with one hand and go on buying Russian gas with the other: that is their only lifeline," he said. "Your own shirt is closer to the body. Yet, the shirt is wearing off," Medvedev added. "So the 14th package of sanctions will not reach the goal, but will be yet another act of hostility," he concluded.

The 14th package of EU sanctions was approved on June 24.

Agencies

## Kenya, UNHCR launch hub for refugee information exchange

### NAIROBI

THE Kenyan government, in partnership with the United Nations refugee agency, on Monday launched a Refugee Resource Center to foster research and knowledge sharing on people displaced by wars, natural disasters, and economic hardships in their native countries.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, senior government officials, faculty, and students graced the launch of the center to be domiciled at the University of Nairobi, Kenya's oldest university.

According to Grandi, the center's launch will boost Kenya's and the international community's efforts to find sustainable models for managing refugees and asylum seekers in their adopted countries. The center will also provide a platform for policymakers, researchers, and humanitarian actors to explore new ways to promote the

integration of refugees by host communities in the face of diminishing external support. Climate change, unemployment, and civil strife are behind an influx of refugees and asylum seekers in the region, he said, adding that good governance, accountability, and pro-poor growth could provide some respite.

Julius Bitok, principal secretary in the State Department for Migration and Citizen Services, noted that as a host to more than 600,000 refugees from neighboring countries, Kenya is committed to uplifting their living standards through formal education, advanced skills, and employment. Bitok said the refugee resource center will boost ongoing efforts to integrate displaced civilians and asylum seekers from the region into key economic sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, mining, transportation, and information and communications technology.

# China unleashes new quality productive forces in push for reform, innovation

### BEIJING

IN China's pursuit of high-quality development, the term "new quality productive forces" is grabbing the spotlight, highlighting the direction for the transformation and upgrading of the world's second-largest economy.

What are the core elements of "new quality productive forces"? How should they be developed, and what are the implications for the rest of the world? In the sixth episode of the China Economic Roundtable, an all-media talk platform hosted by Xinhua News Agency, government officials and industry insiders shared their insights on some of the most frequently asked questions about the buzzphrase.

### INNOVATION AT CORE

First introduced in 2023, new quality productive forces refer to advanced productivity freed from the traditional economic growth mode and productivity development paths. It features high-tech, high efficiency and high quality, and comes in line with the new development philosophy.

The new strategy comes amid China's push for high-quality development and the surging tide of new scientific revolution and industrial transformation, according to Liu Dongmei, Party chief of the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development.

"Scientific and technological innovation is the core of the new quality productive forces," she said, noting that through sci-tech innovation, especially in breakthrough and disruptive technologies, new growth impetus can be provided for economic development.

China's overall strength in science and technology innovation has steadily improved in recent years, with

the country's research and development (R&D) expenditure exceeding 3.3 trillion yuan (about 463.5 billion U.S. dollars) in 2023, an increase of 8.1 percent year on year.

Huang Hanquan, head of the Chinese Academy of Macroeconomic Research affiliated to the National Development and Reform Commission, said the development of the new quality productive forces covers both emerging industries and traditional industries, and that innovation involves technologies as well as institutions and management.

"Sci-tech and institutional innovations are like two wheels propelling the growth of China's total factor productivity," Huang said at the roundtable.

Qianhai in China's southern tech hub Shenzhen, a modern service industry demonstration zone, has set an example in developing new quality productive forces through technological and institutional innovations.

Wang Jinxia, deputy director of the Qianhai Authority, said local authorities focused on fostering an industrial cluster for artificial intelligence, intellectual property protection, strengthening financing support and building large platforms for industrial development.

Today, there are around 55,000 tech firms in Qianhai, of which 2,239 are national high-tech enterprises, and 14 are unicorn companies or startups valued at

more than 1 billion U.S. dollars, according to Wang.

### GUIDING FUTURE REFORMS

The new strategy has charted a clear path for high-quality development and relevant reforms as China strives to eliminate the bottlenecks that strain the development of new quality productive forces, according to the panelists.

Institutional reforms in the field of science and technology essentially involve forming new relations of production that are in line with the new quality productive forces, Liu said.

Liu added that one crucial aspect of these reforms lies in interdepartmental coordination in terms of formulating strategy, allocating resources, and distributing major facilities to maximize the efficiency of resource utilization.

Echoing Liu's views, Huang said institutional reforms ought to be multifaceted and comprehensive, thereby facilitating the smooth flow of high-quality factors like capital, data and talent toward high-quality productive forces.

Huang also underscored the need to reform the sci-tech system to encourage inputs into basic research for more original and disruptive achievements, and to reform services to expedite the application of technological advancements, transforming them into tangible productivity. In particular, both Huang and Liu high-

lighted the role of talent management in driving technological innovation.

Efforts need to be made to create a more enabling environment for innovation to attract more talents to work and live in China, reform the education system to nurture more future scientists, craftsmen and engineers, and improve evaluation systems to encourage long-term basic research, Liu said.

### GLOBAL BENEFITS

China's ongoing efforts to foster new quality productive forces will inject fresh momentum into global economic growth and provide massive opportunities for investors, according to the panelists and other industry insiders present at the roundtable.

"Alongside Chinese companies, global investors are seizing a new round of opportunities arising from the development of new quality productive forces," said Wang with Qianhai Authority.

China's development of new quality productive forces would generate opportunities for tapping into the country's expanding market, according to Wang.

Global investors will also be able to work with China in pushing for the explosion of the new technological revolution, and participate in the latest wave of globalization, he said, adding that foreign companies have already invested over 40 billion U.S. dollars in Qianhai.

The development of China's new quality productive forces may have significant impacts on the global economy, influencing innovation and competitiveness across various sectors and industries, said Ronnie Lins, director of the China-Brazil Center for Research and Business.

Driven by China's unwavering focus on innovation, foreign direct investment in the country's hi-tech manufacturing sectors reached 37.76 billion yuan (about 5.3 billion U.S. dollars) during the first quarter of this year, official data showed.

As China continues to cultivate new quality productive forces, the country is also sharing its intelligent, eco-friendly and inclusive technologies with other countries, said Liu with the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development.

The world is grappling with several pressing global challenges, encompassing food security, natural disasters and climate change. With its rich experience, China has much to offer in addressing these issues, she said.

"I am very optimistic that these new, high quality, high-tech, productive forces would be a huge step forward for humans, can make much better and lower-cost products. And we can do it in a much more environment-friendly way," said Erik Solheim, co-chair of the Europe-Asia Center and former under-secretary-general of the United Nations.



# SPORT



Nabil Hajlaoui, French Ambassador to Tanzania (3rd L, standing), Dr Michael Anthony Battle, USA Ambassador to Tanzania (6th R), along with 'Boxing Queen' members and stakeholders pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch of the project. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke.

## French Embassy launches 'Boxing Queens' project for female pugilists

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE French Embassy, in collaboration with the Alliance Française in Dar es Salaam, has launched an exhibition project dubbed 'Boxing Queens' aiming at bringing Tanzanian female boxers to the fore of one of the main thoroughfares of the city.

The two-year exhibition project led by Delphine Blast, was launched in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the French Embassy.

Giving remarks during the launch, Nabil Hajlaoui, French Ambassador to Tanzania, said in Tanzania, boxing is becoming increasingly popular and that most women are practising the sport with the hope of making a career out of it.

"Boxing Queen is a project focusing on the empowerment of these young Tanzanian women through sport. This work is inspired by the lives of a dozen boxers in their process towards professionalism," he said.

He also pointed out that the project launch was a favourable opportunity for female boxers because French will be hosting the Olympics in Paris a move that will give them a chance to share the values of sports.

He also underlined that President Samia Suluhu Hassan's visit to Paris, co-chairing the Global Clean Cooking Energy Summit, has also given an opportunity to men and women to foster development with sports inclusive.

According to him, beyond the ability to defend themselves, boxing enables these women to regain their self-confidence and make boxing a genuine means of social emancipation.

Delphine, an artist photographer of the 'Boxing Queen' project, has for a long time been following these athletes during their training sessions and competitions, as well as in their daily lives to understand their motivations and

obstacles they face in choosing boxing.

Delphine's interest in boxing turned to East Africa and Tanzania -Arusha in particular - from 2023 with now continuing in Dar es Salaam.

"More and more young Tanzanian women are taking up this sport and dreaming of making it their career. 'Boxing Queens' is an exhibition focused on the emancipation of young Tanzanian women through sport, which documents the lives of female boxers in the process of becoming professionals," said Delphine.

According to her, much as the practice is noble, it is those who sign and persist become models and agents of change in their community and are a true source of inspiration for many young sportswomen.

Lukelo Willilo, president of the Tanzania Boxing Federation, applauded efforts shown to Tanzanian boxers considering it as an initiative that will encourage them and feel part of the sport.

Leyla Yusuph, a 'Boxing Queen' member, said that joining the project has been a big opportunity that they will always appreciate.

"We never dreamt of having such a big event like this. It is a nice opportunity and we appreciate the support.

"Other girls should see the opportunity. We should see the opportunity and utilise it when people volunteer to support those in need," she stressed.

Promoting women's participation in sports is one of France's priorities. From the challenge of ensuring women's rights to participate in sports in all its dimensions, the policy of increasing the number of women in sports is evolving towards the challenge of real equality between women and men.

## Lina Tour golf tourney preparations gather pace

By Guardian Correspondent

PREPARATIONS for the third round of the Lina Tour golf tournament, slated for next month in Arusha, are in top gear.

Professional golfers Nuru Mollel, the winner of the tournament's first round which took place at TPC Moshi, and Hassan Kadio, who clinched victory in the second round in Morogoro, top the list of registered players for the third round of the series.

The showdown is organized by the Nkya family in collaboration with the Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) and Tanzania Professional Golfers Association (TPGA).

The tournament aims to honour the late Lina Said Nkya, a reputed senior national women's golf team player during her life.

It brings together top golfers nationwide and will see the forthcoming round feature golfers with handicap six and their fellows with higher handicaps.

Yasmin Challi, tournament director, emphasized the importance of early registration as the remaining slots are limited.

Arusha Gymkhana Club will host the showdown's third round following successful events at TPC and Morogoro.

The tournament will officially commence on July 11 and conclude on July 14, with 72 holes played over the four days - equating to 18 per day.

"All preparations are proceeding smoothly, and the golf course in Arusha is in excellent condition for this event," Yasmin pointed out.

Yasmin revealed there will moreover be subsidiary events for amateur golf players.

Lina Said Nkya, also known as 'Mother Golfer',

passed on in Moshi on January 19, 2021.

The late golfer, during her life, made the first batch of female golfers in Tanzania, taking part in a sport that was dominated by non-Tanzanian males.

She broke the stigma on the green and encouraged dozens of Tanzania's women and Africans to partake in golf as a recreational and professional sport.



Lugalo Golf Club's Angel Eaton is pictured training at the club's course in Dar es Salaam recently, shaping up for next month's Lina Tour golf tournament's third round slated to take place in Arusha.

## SPORTS

## Clatous Chama's succession plan now vital for Simba

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

CLATOUS Chama joined Simba Sports Club in 2018 from Lusaka Dynamos. While he was already an established star back home in Zambia, he wasn't particularly seen as a marquee signing.

He came as just another interesting foreign player at Simba. There was little media hype and online vibe about his arrival.

Even Simba is reportedly to have been cautious, it is actually said Chama came on a relatively small financial deal.

In hindsight, that sounds very modest considering the success the player has achieved with the club in the last six years.

No doubt, Chama has been one of Simba's best signings ever. The flashy attacking midfielder has been the main man for the Msimbazi Street-based side in his two spells with the club.

In his first stint with Simba, he won seven titles at the club; three Tanzania Premier League titles, three Community Shields, and two Federation Cups.

The 33-year-old was named the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the season in the 2019/20 Tanzania Premier League season.

He also guided Simba to CAF Champions League quarter-final appearances and will be forever remembered for scoring late crucial goals against Nkana and AS Vita that sent Simba to the group stage and quarter-final of the CAF Champions League in the 2018/19 season.

Add the other domestic trophies to the mix and the Zambian international stands head and shoulders above other Simba players. In fact, it could be argued convincingly that he has been the most important Simba player in the last six years.

When Simba signed the midfielder for a reported modest fee of \$30,000, much was expected of him. Yet, not many would have expected him to become the beast he has been for several years at the club now.

Playing alongside the likes of Emmanuel Okwi, Meddie Kagere and John Bocco, all of whom are club legends, Chama has featured prominently in the most successful era of the club. In fact, he has led it.

The potential to do big things was there for all to see with goals and assists for Zesco United in the 2016/17 CAF Champions League campaign. So it was clear Simba had a gem on their hands



Simba SC midfielder Clatous Chama. Agencies

when they splashed the cash for his signature.

However, every player's time comes to an end at some point. Like key players Okwi, Bocco, and Kagere before him, Chama's time at the Simba is coming to an end.

The onus is on the club to make the transition a smooth one. At 33 years old, Chama is nearing the end of his playing days. His current deal with Simba has expired.

Simba Media Manager Ahmed Ally has confirmed that Chama is yet to commit to a new contract at the club during an Instagram Live session last weekend.

"Chama has finished his contract with Simba and after the end of that deal, the next thing is to negotiate with the club management. Until now I have not received a new status if he has extended a contract or is leaving or if the negotiations have started.

"On Monday we will get the real status of Mwamba wa Lusaka. If he stays, it will be in the interests of the wider community of Simba and if he leaves it will also be in the wider interest of Simba," said Ally.

Young Africans are reportedly to have offered Chama US\$150,000 in sign-on

fees and a salary of US\$13,000 in a one-year deal with an option to extend.

Whether he stays one or two more seasons or decides to move to arch-rivals Young Africans and enjoy a final windfall in his career, Simba cannot be left unprepared to move on.

That doesn't mean Chama could be easily replaced. Even while far from his personal best he still showed quality with several big goals and assists in some key games last season.

Despite playing only two-thirds of league games, he still provided a decent tally of six assists and scored seven times in the 2023/24 campaign. It is why Young Africans are salivating for his signature.

Although Chama still came to prove just how important he remains, scoring and setting up goals to bail out Simba in crucial games, he is not the same player that Simba signed six years ago.

The general consensus is the club needs a new man for the future as far as the number 10 position is concerned. An upgrade has to be signed while Chama can play a supporting role in that regard if he stays, to take the team to another level.

## Yanga set to agree on contract extension with shot-stopper Diarra

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

MAINLAND Tanzania Premier League Champions Young Africans are expected to agree on a one-year deal extension with custodian Djigui Diarra as his current contract is set to run out after the 2024/2025 season.

The reassurance demonstrates the club's determination to retain their key players as the Jangwani Street-based side is currently under a transfer ban imposed by FIFA due to outstanding settlements owed to former striker Lazarous Kambole.

Diarra (pictured) joined Young Africans at the beginning of the 2021/2022 Premier League season, replacing Farouk Shikalo, the Kenyan goalie.

The Malian international penned a two-year contract and extended another two-year deal that will expire at the end of the 2024/25 season, and Young Africans are currently negotiating a new deal in order to reduce the risk of losing him on a free transfer after next season.

Since his arrival in the 2021/2022 season, Diarra won back-to-back Premier League Golden Gloves, contributed to three consecutive league titles, the same tally on Federation Cup titles, two Community Shields, as well as going all the way to the CAF Confederation Cup final in the 2022/2023 season.

His outstanding performances and leadership qualities have cemented his position as a vital asset for Young Africans.

Diarra's agent Djally Tchumbi has expressed the desire of Young Africans to extend the services for one more year while his client is also open to serving the club albeit with interest from other foreign clubs.

"Diarra has had outstanding seasons at Young Africans for three straight years. With multiple titles and individual



accolades, both my client and the club are confident to get this deal done and extend to one more year," the agent was quoted saying.

"We are yet to reach the final agreement but once we agree on the deal, Diarra will sign the papers once he returns from holiday. A one-year deal that will keep him until the 2025/2026 season. My client is happy at Young Africans although we have offers from other clubs," said Tchumbi.

Young Africans will be active in the market once their ban is lifted by FIFA after losing two backup goalies with the departure of Aboutwaleeb Mshery and Metacha Mnata on free transfers.

With Diarra's unwavering commitment to the team, Young Africans are confident that they are in safe hands for the upcoming season.

Before his arrival at Young Africans, Diarra had already made a name for

himself in his home country, Mali.

Hailing from domestic champions Stade Malien, Diarra showcased his talent and potential when he was nominated for the prestigious the 2015 CAF Most Promising Talent of the Year Awards.

As Mali's first-choice goalkeeper for several years, Diarra has earned over 50 caps, representing his nation in prestigious tournaments such as the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) and World Cup qualifiers.

With Diarra committing his future to Young Africans, the club can now focus on building a formidable team capable of achieving greater success.

Diarra's exceptional shot-stopping abilities, leadership on the field, and extensive experience make him an indispensable asset for Young Africans as they strive to maintain their dominance in Tanzanian football.



## Brazil held to 0-0 draw by Costa Rica in a stunner to open Copa America group play

INGLEWOOD, Calif.

BRAZIL was held to a 0-0 draw by Costa Rica on Monday night, with the international powerhouse inauspiciously failing to break through offensively in its Copa America opener.

Although Brazil controlled play and outshot Costa Rica 18-2, the Seleção was held scoreless by a defense led by goalkeeper Patrick Sequeira, who made three saves while recording his fourth consecutive clean sheet.

Brazil also had an apparent goal by Marquinhos disallowed in the first half after a lengthy VAR check. The team known for decades of sublime offensive play never got closer to a score – and never got a break on several questionable refereeing calls – in front of a lively crowd of 67,158 dominated by their yellow-clad fans at SoFi Stadium.

The result left Colombia on top of Group D after its 2-1 victory over Paraguay. Brazil has won the Copa America nine times, but its current transitional squad led by Real Madrid stars Vinícius Júnior and Rodrygo got off to a discouraging start.

The draw was a monumental achievement for Costa Rica, the undermanned CONCACAF team with the youngest roster in the tournament but a reputation for overachievement and sturdy defending. Los Ticos had lost nine straight meetings with Brazil.

Brazil controlled from the start with 75% possession in the first half.

Vinícius was taken down in the

box in the 22nd minute by a big hit from Haxzel Quirós, but got no whistle.

In the 30th minute, Rodrygo went low to head on Raphinha's free kick to Marquinhos, who banged it home at the far post. A 3 1/2-minute VAR review followed, and Mexican referee César Ramos eventually agreed with the assistant's decision to wave it off for offside by a minuscule margin.

In the 39th minute, a kick by Lucas Paquetá appeared to go off a hand of Juan Pablo Vargas in the penalty area but Ramos made no call.

Paquetá ripped a shot off the post in the 63rd minute. Costa Rica then survived when Haxzel Quirós nearly headed the ball into his own net before Sequeira smothered it.

Costa Rica survived a few more moments of chaos beginning in the 86th minute, with Rodrygo failing to capitalize on a pair of scoring chances and not getting a foul call against Jeyland Mitchell in the box.

Bruno Guimarães then had a clean look at the net in the first minute of injury time, but pushed it just wide.

Brazil's national team is in a transitional period – particularly without Neymar, who hasn't played since tearing a knee ligament in a match for Brazil last October. Neymar spoke to team Sunday before watching the match at SoFi Stadium, where he got massive cheers in the second half when his worried face appeared on the scoreboard.

AP

## Doku says Belgium teammate Lukaku is 'scared to celebrate' after 3 goals ruled out by VAR

FREIBERG AM NECKAR, Germany

BELGIUM striker Romelu Lukaku is "scared to celebrate" when he scores after having three goals ruled out after video review at the European Championship, teammate Jérémy Doku said on Monday.

Lukaku had two goals overturned by VAR in Belgium's shock 1-0 loss to Slovakia last week, one for offside and one for an earlier handball by Loïs Openda. VAR spotted another offside when Lukaku scored in the 2-0 win over Romania on Saturday that got Belgium's campaign on track.

Lukaku has yet to score a valid goal at Euro 2024 but Doku said his teammate remains upbeat.

"He would have liked to have the goals because, now when he scores, I think he's scared to celebrate," Doku said.

"He didn't have a lot of luck, but he's happy. He's happy because we won our last game. Of course, as a striker, he always wants to score and of course you think of your individual stats, it's normal. But he's happy with the impact that he's having on our team and the chances he's creating.

"If you watch the games you can see how important he is for us. He didn't score but he gave an assist and that's important as well."

Belgium takes on Ukraine in its last game on Wednesday in Group E, the most even of all at Euro 2024 will all four teams on three points each.

"The pressure is there, but we just want to win the game," Doku said. "We don't have to look at the other teams. Even if we had already six points we'd want to win the game. Now there's a little more tension of course, but that's what we like."

AP

## Spain has to wait days to learn its next Euro 2024 opponent then rush to research them

DUESSELDORF, Germany

SPAIN doesn't know who it plays next at Euro 2024. Croatia thinks it's out but doesn't know for sure.

The tournament format means days of waiting for some teams, rushed work for their analysts, and a headache for fans trying to grasp where their team will play next.

The issue is because the European Championship has six groups, but only four of the third-place teams with the best records qualify for the round of 16. That means if you're due to face a third-place team – like Spain is after winning Group B – you won't know who you have next until all of the groups have played.

"We might have to stay awake all night in order to study our rival when we find out who it is," Spain coach Luis de la Fuente said in translated comments after Albania was beaten 1-0 on Monday.

"We need to wait until Wednesday probably, a couple of days, until we know who we're playing with. In any case, we'll be mentally prepared to go all out and try to get to the next stage."

De la Fuente said his staff had prepared research on potential opponents, but there were many of them.

Depending on how the remaining eight group-stage games unfold, Spain's potential opponents range from an underperforming heavyweight like Belgium to Austria, Ukraine or newcomer Georgia. It could even potentially run into the Netherlands or France – hardly the reward a group winner might expect.

Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic indicated he thinks his team is out of the tournament. Still, it may not be official for two more days. Conceding a goal deep into added time in its 1-1 draw with Italy dropped Croatia from second to third in the group.

With just two points from three games and a poor goal difference, Croatia needs a series of other results in Groups C, D, and F to go its way just to stay in the competition. Also waiting is Hungary, which placed third in Group A thanks to its 1-0 win over Scotland on Sunday and is in line to qualify, but doesn't yet know for sure.

AP

## Italy advances at Euro 2024 after Zaccagni equalizer in injury time against Croatia

LEIPZIG, Germany

ITALY substitute Mattia Zaccagni scored in the last minute of stoppage time for Italy to advance to the knockout stage of the European Championship after drawing Croatia 1-1 on Monday.

Luka Modric's second-half strike looked like sending Croatia through as the Group B runner-up, but Zaccagni swept a brilliant shot inside the far post in the eighth minute of added time to cap a furious finale from the defending champions.

Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic was unhappy so much time was added after a battling performance from his side.

"You can't have eight minutes of added time after that game, it's nonsense," Dalic said. "There weren't so many breaks in play, or so many fouls to justify that. I don't want to cause a fuss but I think Croatia needs to be acknowledged and respected. We played for almost three hours."

Italy needed a point to progress, while Croatia realistically needed a win to stay in the tournament. The Croatians have two points from their three games and were at the mercy of other results to see if it's enough to scrape through as one of the best third-place finishers.

Dalic made no mention of waiting. He already believes his side is out.

Italy will face Switzerland in the round of 16 on Saturday in Berlin's Olympiastadion, where the final is on July 14.

"We were a bit soft at times in the game, we didn't produce our best football," Italy coach Luciano Spalletti said. "When you can afford to draw the game, that's how it goes, you know a draw is enough, you are a bit more timid."

But Spalletti bristled at a question asking if he was concerned about his team trailing going into stoppage time.

"Worries and concerns are part and parcel of this job," the Italy coach said. "We did what we needed to do." Modric scored 33 seconds after having a penalty saved by Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma to become the oldest goal-scorer ever at the tournament.

Modric, at 38 years, 289 days on



Italy's Mattia Zaccagni scores a 98th minute equaliser against Croatia. AP Photo

Monday, broke the record held by Ivica Vastic, who was 38 years, 257 days, when he scored for Austria against Poland at Euro 2008.

After Modric's penalty miss, Croatia immediately attacked again and Donnarumma had to save a shot by Ante Budimir. Modric pounced on the rebound in the 55th minute. The goal sent showers of beer into the sky as ecstatic Croatian fans jettisoned the cups they were holding in the celebrations.

Alessandro Bastoni headed just over in response as the Italians suddenly found themselves in need of a goal. Defeat could have seen the defending champion knocked out depending on results in other games.

Modric turned his skills to defense until he went off to standing ovations in the 80th.

"He wasn't tired," said Dalic, who added he wanted to give his star a rest. But Italy maintained its pressure and it finally paid off at the last possible moment with Zaccagni's curling shot.

Meanwhile, A standing ovation, a man-of-the-match award and a record. But Croatia star Luka Modric was in no mood to celebrate, regardless of the accolades, after what could have been his last appearance at a major tournament.

Modric scored against Italy on Monday to become the oldest goal-scorer ever at a European Championship.

Ultimately it wasn't enough to

ensure his team stays in the competition. Mattia Zaccagni scored in the eighth minute of stoppage time for Italy to draw 1-1 and advance to the knockout stage.

Croatia needs an improbable series of other results going its way to remain at Euro 2024.

Modric, who is 38 years and 289 days old, claimed the opening goal on a rebound in the 55th minute, within a minute of having a penalty saved by Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma. The previous record was held by Ivica Vastic, who was 38 years, 257 days old when he scored for Austria against Poland at Euro 2008. Modric received standing ovations from fans when he went off in the 80th, and he was applauded again when he showed up for the post-game news conference.

One Italian journalist started by telling Modric he was one of the most magnificent players he had ever seen. He said he had no question to ask, just a request for him never to retire from playing. Modric seemed genuinely moved by the kind words.

"I'd also like to keep playing forever but there probably will come a time when I'll have to hang up my boots," he replied. "I'll keep playing. I'll continue, so I'm not sure when, we'll see."

Modric earlier this month extended his contract by another year at Real Madrid, where he has amassed an impressive haul of trophies since joining from Tottenham in 2012, in-

cluding another Champions League and Spanish league title last season.

Modric has played 178 games for Croatia since making his debut at age 20 under Zlatko Kranjcar in 2006. The 2018 Ballon d'Or winner is playing in his fifth European Championship. His goal against Italy took his tally to four goals in 16 games at the tournament.

But Modric has enjoyed greater success with the national team at the World Cup, leading Croatia to the final in 2018, and third place in 2022.

The draw against Italy on Monday, and the manner in which it came with the last kick of the game, means Croatia is almost certain to be eliminated in the next days.

"It was very stressful. We kept fighting like lions right to the end. But football is cruel," Modric said. "That's part and parcel of football. Sometimes it brings a lot of happiness, but sometimes it makes you very sad as well."

"Losing like this is very difficult. It's hard to find words to describe how my teammates and probably the fans feel as well. Of course, we need to bounce back."

Modric, who is the team captain, took comfort from the performance.

"We gave everything for Croatia, and this is how Croatia presents itself, regardless of the cruelty of this result. We deserved more, but it's football," he said. "We can be proud of how we represented Croatia."

AP

## Much-changed Spain beats Albania 1-0 at Euro 2024 to finish perfect group stage

DUESSELDORF, Germany

SPAIN changed almost its entire lineup and still kept up its victorious start to the European Championship with a 1-0 win over Albania, which was eliminated on Monday.

With his team already assured of winning Group B, coach Luis de la Fuente changed 10 of his starters and Spain won all three group games at a Euros for the first time since 2008, when it went on to win the tournament.

A 13th-minute goal from Ferran Torres and goalkeeper David Raya's stoppage-time save from Armando Broja ensured Spain completed the group stage without conceding a goal.

"Every player is ready to play in this first II and that's key. Anyone can decide a game for you and players coming off the bench are very important as well," Torres, who made his first start of Euro 2024, said through a translator. "I will try to make things difficult for my coach so that he will have to play me."

Torres scored with a deflection off the post from Dani Olmo's pass, and put his fingers to his ears in his goal celebration. He said the gesture meant he was listening to the fans, not blocking anything out. "I don't have anything to prove out there," Torres added.

Italy was the second qualifier from Group B after drawing with Croatia 1-1.

Albania needed at least a draw to have any hope of qualifying for the knockout stages for the first time, even as one of the best third-place teams. The loss meant it placed last.

Albania's failure to beat Spain meant England, France and the Netherlands were all assured of qualifying for the knockout stages, regardless of what happens in their last group games.

All of those teams were on four points from two games and would qualify at least as one of the best third-placed teams.



Spain's Ferran Torres, right, scores his side's opening goal during a Group B match between Albania and Spain. AP Photo

Spain got the job done, but this 1-0 win was far less convincing than the victory by the same margin over Italy in its last game. Defender Aymeric Laporte was the only player to start both.

For much of the first half, Spain seemed on course for a big win, but Olmo and Mikel Merino in particular missed good chances. Albania didn't record a shot until the 45th minute.

Albania finally started to put pressure on Spain midway through the second half. Forward Broja came off

the bench and forced a good save from Raya.

De la Fuente responded by sending on forwards Alvaro Morata and Lamine Yamal off the bench as Spain started to waste time. Broja tested Raya again in stoppage time as Spain held on.

"We left it all on the pitch. I have no regrets for my players," Albania coach Sylvain Wittmann said.

Albania was without forward Mirlind Daku, who was suspended by UEFA on Sunday after joining

supporters' nationalist chants with a megaphone following the 2-2 draw with Croatia on Wednesday.

Albania's soccer federation was fined over incidents at both of its first two games. It looks set to face yet more charges after fans lit flares at the Spain game and a supporter ran onto the field.

Spain will play its last-16 game on Sunday in Cologne against a third-place team.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Italy advances at Euro 2024 after Zaccagni equalizer in injury time against Croatia

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Mohamad Jawad of Park Mobile Lions (R) is presented with the Ras Logistics Man of the Match award by Caravans Cricket Club's Chairman, T. G. Thulaseedas, when the cricketer's outfit confronted Flashnet Strikers in 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup tie in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

## Pre-season training: Azam FC to head for Morocco

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

MAINLAND Tanzania Premier League side Azam announced they will hold a pre-season training camp in Morocco ahead of the new season.

This is the third time they are heading to North Africa for pre-season.

Azam under Senegalese coach Youssouph Dabo Pedro Martins will kick off their preparations for the 2024/25 campaign on July 5 at their training camp in Chamazi before heading to Zanzibar for one week.

They will kick off their overseas preparations from July 16 with their training camp scheduled to conclude on July 31.

The club's players are currently on a break after finishing second in the league, 11 points behind champions Young Africans and level on points with Simba.

As a result, they have qualified for the CAF Champions League next season.

Azam reached the Federation Cup final after edging out Coastal Union in the semi-finals but lost to Young Africans via a penalty shootout to end up trophy-less for a fifth season in a row.

Overall, Azam played 46 games in all competitions in the 2023/24 campaign, winning 31 and losing eight.

They crashed out of the CAF Confederation Cup in the preliminary round.

According to the club's head of the Media and Communication department Thabit Zakaria, the players will begin reporting for pre-season from July 1.

They will undergo medical checkup on July 5 before travelling to Zanzibar two days later to begin training in line with the standard six weeks of pre-season preparations that teams require to be ready for the new campaign.

While in Morocco, they are expected to play several friendly games. They will return home at the end of July to finalise their preparations.

Continental football and Community Shield knock-out tournament will add even more games to an already-packed schedule, which has seemingly motivated the club to head to Morocco.

Azam will look for a bright start in the top flight which is scheduled to begin in mid-August and they will start as among the favourites. But their first major challenge would be the Community Shield scheduled from August 8.

Their next challenge will be the CAF Champions League qualifiers as they attempt to make it to the Group Stage for the first time in their history.

Earlier, Simba had also announced plans to travel to North Africa to prepare for the new season.

The Msimbazi Reds will tour Egypt and will be based in the city of Ismailia.

## Simba SC set to announce new head coach ahead of Egypt pre-season tour

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli.

SIMBA are on the verge of finalizing the appointment of a new head coach, a significant move anticipated before the team embarks on their pre-season tour in Egypt.

Ahmed Ally, the club's information and communication manager, confirmed that the leadership is in the final stages of completing this critical process.

The search for a new coach follows a tumultuous season for Simba, marked by instability and a series of disappointing results.

Last season, the club finished third in the Premier League, fell to Al Ahly in the CAF Champions League quarter-finals, and suffered an early exit in the Federation Cup at the hands of Mashujaa FC.

The team's struggles were exacerbated by the departure of head coach Abdelhak Benchika due to family reasons, which led to acting head coach Juma Mgunda stepping in to guide the team through the remainder of the season.

Ally emphasized the importance of the upcoming appointment, stating: "The position of the head coach will be finalized soon, and we will announce him. We will also be advertising all positions within the technical bench area, not just the head coach."

He addressed the concerns surrounding the current coaching staff, specifically Mgunda and his assistant Selemani Matola, saying: "I know there have been many questions about Juma Mgunda and Selemani Matola. As of now, they remain our coaches until further announcements are made."

"Mgunda has proven to be a top-class coach, and many are eager to see him officially assigned to the team. We will provide clarity on Mgunda and all other coaching matters in a few days."

Despite these assurances, credible sources indicate that Mgunda is set to join Coastal Union FC for the upcoming season. Mgunda, a former player and coach for Coastal Union, is expected to return to his former club as they prepare for the CAF Confederation Cup.

In addition to the coaching changes, Simba have undertaken a substantial roster overhaul. The club has parted ways with several notable players, including Shabani Chilunda, Luis Jose Miquessonne,



Simba's information and communication manager Ahmed Ally. Agencies

Kennedy Juma, Saido Ntibanzokiza, long-time captain John Bocco, and Henock Inonga. This move signals a clear intention to rejuvenate the squad and introduce fresh talent ahead of the new season.

One of the most significant acquisitions in this transition period is the signing of central defender Lameck Lawi from Coastal Union. The 18-year-old has agreed to a three-year contract with an option for an additional year.

Lawi emerged as a key player for Coastal Union last season, contributing significantly to their fourth-place finish in the Premier League. His addition is expected to bolster Simba's defense considerably.

Simba's management is optimistic about these changes and believes that the new head coach, along with the revamped roster, will position the team for success in the upcoming season. The pre-season camp in Egypt will be a crucial period for the new coach to integrate the new signings, establish strategies, and build team cohesion.

The anticipation surrounding the announcement of the new head coach con-

tinues to build among fans and stakeholders. Ally assured that the club is committed to transparency and will provide updates as soon as decisions are finalized.

"We understand the excitement and curiosity from our fans. Rest assured, we are working diligently to ensure that we bring in the best possible leadership and talent to lead Simba to new heights," he said.

As Simba prepare for the new season, the club's supporters remain hopeful that the forthcoming changes will translate into improved performance on the field. The introduction of a new head coach and the influx of young, dynamic players signal a new chapter for Simba, one that aims to restore the club's dominance in domestic and continental competitions.

The upcoming pre-season in Egypt will serve as a litmus test for the new arrangements, providing an early glimpse into the potential of the restructured team. Simba's journey towards rebuilding and reclaiming their status as top contenders in African football continues, with the promise of a fresh start under new leadership.

## Park Mobile Lions garner massive win over Flashnet Strikers in Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup

By Guardian Correspondent

PARK Mobile Lions' cricketers walloped Flashnet Strikers by 60 runs in the opening match of the second game-week of the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans Cup at Leaders Club in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Having won the toss, Park Mobile Lions decided to bat first. Middle-order batsman Mohamad Jawad's unbeaten 54 off just 31 deliveries - coupled with opener Kashif Ahmad's 39 (39) helped Park Mobile Lions register 150/6 in 20 overs.

Flashnet Strikers' captain Jatin Darji was the club's most impressive bowler, picking up four scalps and giving away 21 runs in four overs.

Fellow bowlers Abdulrazack Mohamed and Hassan Rahim ended with a wicket apiece in their respective four-over quotas.

In reply, the batting effort of Flashnet Strikers was, however, below par, having only scored 90 runs for the loss of nine wickets in the allotted 20 overs with most batsmen scoring single digits.

Opener Athumani Siwa and Darpan Jobanputra battled to make their presence felt having notched 14 runs apiece for Flashnet Strikers.

Flashnet Strikers batting unit's capitulation was caused by a disciplined bowling attack by Park Mobile Lions, which saw the bowlers take wickets at regular intervals.

Umar Shaikh, Jawad, and Augustine Mwamele garnered two wickets each for the clash's eventual winners.

For his unbeaten 54 runs and two wickets, Jawad was adjudged the Ras Logistics Man of the Match.

Young all-rounder Shaikh dismissing experienced cricketers - Issa Kikasi and Jatin Darji - in the same over was overwhelmingly declared as the Medinova Specialized Polyclinic Moment of the Match.

The tournament is an annual T20 cricket tournament organized by Caravans Cricket Club.

Petrofuel is the title sponsor of this tournament. Other sponsors of this tournament include Alliance Insurance, Ras Logistics, Medinova Healthcare, Automark, Pepsi, Ashton Media, MFI-Vertiv, Jiuzhou, SmarDTV, Intek-Korea, ASAS, Colourflex, and Delaware.

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**MJADALA**

**EATV TUESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Mpera Mpera  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
13:55 Dandoo Za Michezo  
14:00 5SPORTS (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zafe Kuntu  
16:55 Dandoo Za Michezo  
17:00 SSELERT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kali Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 MJADALA  
21:30 Zafe Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa  
23:05 EATV SAA 1

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

**eastafrica RADIO**

05:00 Supa Breakfast  
09:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
19:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

