



National Pg 3
Construction of ward secondary schools



National Pg 4
Reaping benefits of agronomical practices



Opinion Pg 9
Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



Floods kill one, injure two, pull down houses



Heavy rains that pounded parts of Mlimba Division in Kilombero District, Morogoro Region, at the weekend damaged this Kalengakelu Primary School building (L) and several residential houses. Photo: Correspondent Idda Mushi

By Guardian Correspondents, Mlimba, Handeni

FLOODS on Saturday night caused the death of a girl, Zakia Salum who was

expected to join secondary school later this month, Handeni district administrative secretary Mashaka Mgeta has confirmed. The Father of the deceased Salum Mayoga

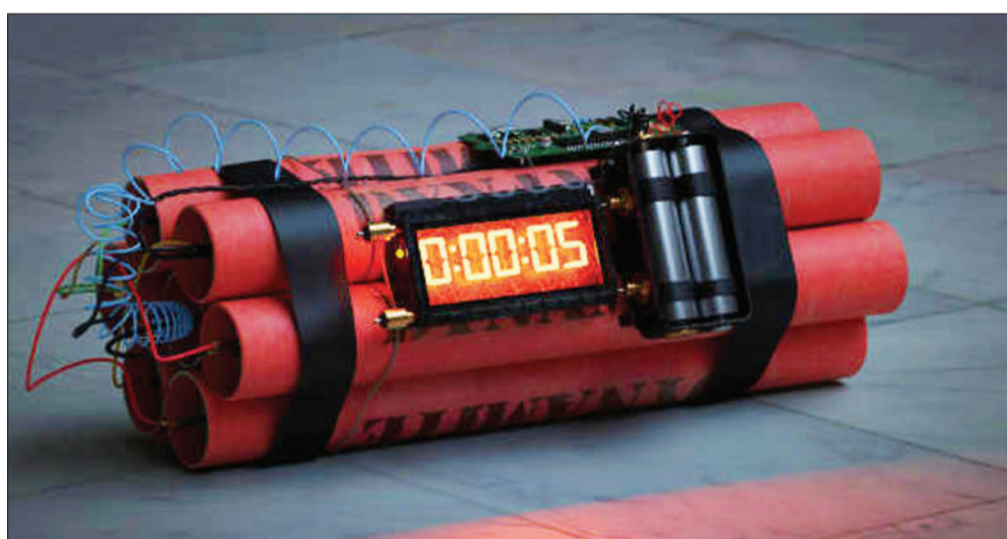
said the girl was coming home from their farm and fell into a fast flowing flooded stream and drowned. The DAS, who visited victims of the

torrential rains, said the government is assessing the loss caused by the rains to provide relief supplies to those in dire need, while district authorities look into restoring

the damaged infrastructure in the Tanga Region.

He appealed to the flood victims to remain

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Bomb trap injures three Tanzanian peacekeepers

By Special Correspondent

THREE Tanzanian peacekeepers serving on the United Nations mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) were injured on Thursday when their vehicle struck an

unidentified explosive device.

One of the soldiers was seriously hurt, evacuated to Bouar for treatment and then on to the capital, Bangui, the MINUSCA administrators said.

The 'blue helmets' were in the village of Batouri Bole, in Mambéré-Kadéï, in the southwest of the country, when the incident happened.

It took place around 11:00 a.m., local time, as their convoy left the town of Berbérati for the temporary military outposts in Gbambia and Amada-Gaza, located around 100 kilometers northeast of Berbérati.

MINUSCA has strongly condemned the use of explosive devices by armed groups in

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TRC: 14.7trn/- so far used on SGR project

By Guardian Reporter, Bariadi

TANZANIA Railways Corporation (TRC) Director General, Masanja Kadogosa has said that so far 14.7trn/- has been spent on the Standard Gauge Railways (SGR) project, underlining that not many African countries had constructed standard gauge railways so far.

He made the remarks at a prayer event for the nation and specifically for President Samia Suluhu Hassan at Mwakibuga village



We cannot use levies to carry out huge projects like SGR; it will take time so we will borrow

in Bariadi District, remarking that the modern railway will last for a long time to benefit current and coming generations.

Ethiopia, South Africa, Kenya and Morocco among African countries that have built modern railways, while analysts say that the Chinese-built SGR project in Kenya cost nearly twice in dollars per kilometer as compared to Tanzania.

The government recently signed a new tender agreement with a Turkish

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Do not punish farmers for mixing crops - govt

By Guardian Correspondent, Bariadi

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries minister Mashimba Ndaki (pictured) has warned wards executive officers in Maswa District, Simiyu Region to stop at once the habit of arresting and detaining cotton farmers who mix the crop with maize in one field.



Speaking at different times at public meetings last Saturday in Gumali and Masala villages, he said the practice has created discomfort and apprehension in the district.

The minister, who is also MP for Maswa West, said the Simiyu regional authorities starting with RC David Kafullila have stated

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Green gas: Energy as a by-product of sugarcane in Brazil

By Mario Osava

FIRST came sugar. For four centuries, it was the main sugarcane product in Brazil. But since the 1970s sugarcane has grown and diversified as a source of energy: ethanol, electricity and biogas.

"Sugarcane is the green oil," said André Alves da Silva, commercial and new products director of Cocal, as the company Comércio Indústria Cana Açúcar e Álcool Ltda. is better known, which started large-scale production of biomethane, i.e. refined biogas, a renewable and clean equivalent of natural gas.

"We have a biofactory here," he told IPS in an interview in the Cocal plant in Narandiba, a municipality located in the west of the southern state of São Paulo.

Referring to the plant whose scientific name is *Saccharum officinarum* as "sugarcane" has become obsolete in this region.

In addition to sugar and ethanol, electricity is generated from sugarcane bagasse, and biogas and other by-products are also created, such as biofertilizers, carbon dioxide gas and dried yeast, leftovers from alcohol fermentation, which, when processed, serve as protein-rich animal feed.

Biomethane in place of gas

The big novelty is biomethane, produced since June, as the starting point of a project that will bring gas to three closely grouped cities: Narandiba, Pirapozinho and Presidente Prudente, with a combined population of 264,000 people.

GasBrasiliano, a company of the state-owned oil conglomerate Petrobras, will be in charge of distribution and is building a 65-kilometer gas pipeline, which is scheduled to be inaugurated in June 2022.

"It is our first biomethane project, the first among many," Alex Gasparetto, director-president of the distributor that holds the concession for piped gas in the west and north of São Paulo state, an area encompassing 375 municipalities and 9.2 million inhabitants, told IPS.

São Paulo, the richest and most populated state in Brazil, home to 46 million of the 214 million inhabitants of this enormous country, accounts for more than half of the national sugarcane production, in more than 150 agroindustrial sugar or ethanol plants next to sugarcane plantations, most of them in the GasBrasiliano concession area.

"The potential is huge, sugarcane biomethane can replace all the diesel and liquefied petroleum gas (for cooking) consumed in the state, a privileged situation," said Alessandro Gardemann, president of the Brazilian Biogas Association (ABiogás).

"Cocal is a demonstration project, which goes from sugarcane



A sea of sugarcane plantations flood Narandiba and its neighboring municipalities in the southern state of São Paulo, where the agroindustrial company Cocal grows it as the raw material for its biofactory for energy, fuels and agricultural inputs. Photo/ Mario Osava

cultivation to the final consumer with the supply of biomethane for the entire year," he told IPS by telephone from Londrina, a city in the southern state of Paraná where his technology services company, Geo Biogas & Tech, which promoted biogas in the sugar-energy sector, is headquartered.

Solution for seasonal limitations

Geo's technological contribution was decisive for the Cocalbiomethane project to take off. It has long been known how to make biogas from vinasse, but this liquid residue from the ethanol (or alcohol) distillery can only be used during harvest season, generally from April to November.

The vinasse is bulky and smelly, impossible to store for many days in the ponds built to collect it before it is put into the horizontal biodigesters where the organic material is broken down in an anaerobic process that produces biogas.

To ensure a year-round supply, Geo adapted a German technology to incorporate into biodigestion another waste product, cachaça or filter cake, a dark sludge resulting from the processing of sugarcane juice to make sugar. Cachaça, for Brazilians, is the name for sugarcane brandy.

A treatment process that removes impurities and part of the moisture converts this waste, which used to be discarded, into raw material for biogas. It has "10 times more organic matter than vinasse," which is why it is more productive, Eduardo Baptista, supervisor of in-

dustrial production at the Cocal biogas plant, told IPS.

This innovation made it possible to overcome seasonality, as it is stored in four open-air tanks next to the two vertical biodigesters, specifically for the cachaça. "During the harvest, we use the vinasse and between harvests, the cachaça," avoiding interruptions in the production of biomethane, explained Alves, the company's commercial director.

The second factor in favor of the project, he said, was that there is a local demand for gas that could not be met by the GasBrasiliano pipeline, whose nearest point is more than 100 km from Presidente Prudente, the main city in the region, with a population of 230,000.

Extending the existing network to this limited market would not be economically viable, but a 65-kilometer gas pipeline from Cocal is, said Gasparetto, GasBrasiliano's director-president.

The third factor is environmental. With biomethane, Cocal seeks to reduce the greenhouse gases emitted in its ethanol production. Replacing diesel with green gas decarbonizes the activity by 95 percent. Additional reductions can be obtained with the new fuel in trucks and agricultural equipment, an alternative that is currently being tested.

In addition, the waste from which the biogas is extracted is converted into clean biofertilizers, which emit 75 percent less carbon than chemical fertilizers, said Cocal's commercial director.

Lastly, the decision was also based on the dual use of biogas: electricity or bi-

omethane.

"Having two options reduces the risks," the proportions can be modified according to demand and prices, Alves said. Currently, 53 percent of the biogas is refined into biomethane and 47 percent is used for electricity generation.

Cocal has also been generating energy by burning bagasse since 2002. Today it can supply electricity to a city of 730,000 inhabitants, the company reports.

Social contributions

For all this energy production, Cocal has two industrial units, each with its own sugarcane fields around it. The first was installed in 1980 in Paraguaçu Paulista, 135 kilometers from Narandiba.

It employs a total of 5,500 workers in 22 municipalities and has 125,000 hectares planted to sugarcane, mostly on land leased under 20-year contracts, according to Alves. The harvest reached 8.7 million tons of cane last year.

Narandiba currently has about 6500 inhabitants, after 2000 arrived, attracted by the local operation of Cocal, inaugurated in 2008, said the town's mayor, Itamar dos Santos Silva, who estimated at 600 the direct and indirect employees of the sugar and alcohol plant a year ago - almost 10 percent of the population.

The municipality, which had stagnated when cattle ranching dominated its economy in the last decades of the last century, has prospered again. "Sugarcane totally changed the social and economic situation in the region," the

mayor said in a meeting with IPS in his office.

In addition to offering more jobs, Cocal pays even the lowest-earning employees to double what a ranch worker used to earn, he said. With the rise in purchasing power, "every day a new house is built in Narandiba" and commerce and the demand for schools, health services and recreation has grown, Dos Santos Silva said.

Tax revenue also increased, but it lagged behind the immediate demands created by the influx of new residents, lamented the mayor, whose plans include attracting industry and stepping up the training of young people for the new supply of technical jobs in the sugarcane agro-industry.

Environmental sustainability was the main motive for Liane, a company that makes food products such as biscuits and pasta, to sign the first contract for the purchase of biomethane distributed by GasBrasiliano in Presidente Prudente.

Biomethane does not pollute like fossil fuels and probably has lower costs than "the natural gas that comes to us by truck from far away," Mauricio Calvo, Liane's industrial director, told IPS by telephone from the company's headquarters.

Initially, biomethane will go to companies, fuel stations, shopping malls, hotels and large restaurants, i.e. large consumers.

The supply of piped gas to households remains a long-term goal, Gasparetto told IPS by telephone from GasBrasiliano's headquarters in Araraquara, a town 280 kilometers from São Paulo.

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 UMJUAYVO 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

Nutrition awareness campaign starts today

By Guardian Reporter

CHILD Help Tanzania, a local NGO whose main vision is to promote rights and special needs of persons with Spina bifida and Hydrocephalus is on the upmost stages to launching a national campaign for folic acid vitamins in order to awake the public on the importance that the vitamin has in preventing Neural Tube Defects (NTDs).

Speaking to the Media during a briefing for the upcoming World Folic Acid awareness Week, the NGO's Communication and Information Officer, Milton Byemerwa revealed that children born with spina bifida impairments are to a great extent associated to their mother lacking that essential vitamin before conceiving and during pregnancy.

According to him, the NGO is about to launch a massive campaign that will focus mainly on folic acid. We want to sensitise the public to improve their dietary habits, consume fortified foods and increase consumption of folic acid/folate supplement, especially expecting mothers and girls of reproductive age.

"We shall start with Dar es Salaam Region though the plan is to spread all over Tanzania if at all we obtain sound support from nutrition stakeholders. So far we are in discussion with key player and plans to meet Gov-



A section of Zanzibar residents who attended one of the nutrition and spina bifida workshops held in the isles recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ernment ministries responsible for Local Government and Health are underway so we jointly make this agenda a success for the reduction of cases of spina bifida, hydrocephalus and other Neural tube defects."

We are all aware that despite the good progress made in addressing malnutrition in Tanzania, undernutrition continues to affect the most vulnerable population especially chil-

dren under five, pregnant and lactating women and adolescents.

"We proud the government for its efforts as it has all the time insisted on promoting nutrition scales as the current levels of chronic malnutrition in children under the age of five are unacceptably high. The situation is critical on hidden hunger that many people are not aware of its detrimental repercussions."

"Our thrust is also based on SDG Goal number 2 on "Zero Hunger" that aims at ending all forms of malnutrition by 2030, insisted Byemerwa

Child Help Tanzania is a local NGO registered in Tanzania on 2019 under the Non-Governmental Organization Act, No. 24 of 2002. The NGO's main vision is to promote rights and special needs of persons with Spina bifida

and Hydrocephalus also harmonizing timely access to qualitative treatment and care for children and adults with Spina bifida and Hydrocephalus."

The NGO also engages in primary prevention of SBH by raising public awareness on nutritional food consumption mainly those with plenty of Folic Acid Vitamins as a preventive measure.

In his recent remarks during the launch of a five year National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan II (2012-2026 MNAP II), the Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa recalled that the 2018 Food and Nutrition report in Tanzania noted high food producing regions were also facing high prevalence of malnutrition and stunted growth so called for researchers in the country to conduct a study that will help the country's efforts to fight malnutrition.

On the occasion of Folic Acid Awareness Week, Child Help Tanzania aims to keeping the public aware about some other significance of folic acid. In this week, we urge everyone to pay strict attention to folic acid as a preventative measure.

Folic acid can also be obtained from foods like cabbage, soya, avocados, mushrooms, pumpkin leaves, fresh vegetables, liver, boiled eggs, ground nuts, beans, fresh bananas, spinach, oranges, fresh mangoes, fish, meat, milk.

National Folic Acid Awareness Week, observed during the first full week of January every year (January 3 - 10 this year), brings much-needed attention to this crucial vitamin that is especially important to women who are either pregnant or may become pregnant. This is because folic acid in one's diet is a key weapon in the fight against folate deficiency anemia in infants. In fact, if taken before conception and during early pregnancy, folic acid can also prevent up to 70% of some neural tube defects (serious birth defects of the brain and spine).

Forests and sixty years of Tanganyika's independence

By Felician Kilahama

ON the outset let me thank the Almighty God for enabling us to survive and witness Tanzania commemorating sixty years of Tanganyika's independence (December 9, 1961 to December 9, 2021).

Again, April 24, 2022 the nation will attain 58 years since formation of the United Republic of Tanzania (April 26, 1964). It was at that date when Tanganyika and Zanzibar merged and formed Tanzania that replaced Tanganyika on the world map. In principle, this is a long period through which, the country has witnessed a number of challenges be socially, politically, environmentally, economically yet with strong stability while struggling for sustainable socio-economic development. Forests have not been an exception but faced with dwindling challenges as the country struggled to eradicate widespread poverty amongst her citizens.

When Tanganyika attained independence from the British rulers who were mandated by the League of Nations, to take-care of Tanganyika as a protectorate (not a colony) after the first World War (1914). At that time Tanganyika had most of her land covered with forests and Miombo woodlands resources. After the second World War (1939 to 1945) the League of Nations was replaced by the United Nations. Nevertheless, the British continued to rule Tanganyika as a Territory instead of a protectorate. Until then, it was not clear how forests were managed but in 1953 the British Forest Policy was adopted; followed by the 1955 Forest Ordinance including the Regulations. These became the legal tools used by the Forest Department (mainly manned by British Foresters) who managed forest resources of the Tanganyika Territory.

When the country attained her independence December 9, 1961 there was no clear indication about the distribution of forest resources throughout the country. However, it was established that during the 1950s the British established a number of territorial Forest Reserves for instance Pugu and Kazimzumbwi, adjacent to Dar-es-Salaam Region but located in Kisarawe District, Coast Region. In 1963, the Govern-



ment appointed the first Native Forester as Assistant Conservator of forests. Again, some efforts were undertaken to establish how much forests existed in Tanganyika and noted that 33.5 million hectares of forest/woodlands were distributed throughout the country (about 36% of total land area). Furthermore, it was established that about 16.7 million hectares of forests were gazetted during the colonial rule and after independence another 12,000 hectares were added making a total Forest Reserves of 16.712 million hectares (about 50% of land covered by forests).

The British Rulers in 1937 established the Forestry Training Institute at Olmotonyi, Arusha which offered Certificate and Diploma training for two years thereafter those qualified for certificate or diploma were absorbed in the Forestry Department to manage forests especially those under lease protection. Additionally, in the 1970s training of professionals at the degree level; was started at the Faculty of Agriculture, University

of Dar-Es-Salaam. The Faculty was located in the Morogoro Municipal Town (early 1980s transformed into the Sokoine University of Agriculture). Furthermore, the government established the Forest Rangers' cadre who were dedicated to the protection of natural forests particularly Territorial Forest Reserves; making sure that reserves' boundaries are clear and respected by adjacent local communities and other stakeholders. This was meant to minimize illegal human activities within the protected forest areas.

Again, at independence (1961) the population was about 10 million people with reasonable number of livestock. However, over time, the population continued to increase with accompanied increasing pressure on natural forests. By the 1970s adverse effects to the environment were noticed especially within the Kondoa-Irangi area and other parts of Dodoma Region as well the Lake Zone areas. Thus, the government was forced to start rehabilitation of badly eroded and formation of gul-

lies in Kondoa and rest of Dodoma through the Hifadhi Ardhi Dodoma (HADO) project. Additionally, in the 1980s the Hifadhi Ardhi Shinyanga (HASHI) was also started based on the worsening environmental conditions within the Lake Zone; due to increase human and livestock populations but also wide spreads of clearing forests to pave way for increasing needs for cotton farming including eradication of tsetse flies that cause diseases to livestock and people.

For more than three decades' after independence, forests were managed using the colonial policy and legal tools. During that period efforts to plant more trees were undertaken and the village afforestation programme adopted in the 1970s where the villagers were encouraged to plant trees as alternatives sources for firewood and poles. Again, demand for wood energy was high where use of charcoal and firewood for cooking by households represented over 90% of total national energy uses. Furthermore, in a very unexpected move, the government decided to

delete the Forest Rangers' Cadre from the pay role. This together with inadequate capacity within the Forestry Division left most of the territorial and Local Government protected forests without any reliable protection/management. In 1998 the colonial forest policy was replaced with the National Forests Policy followed by the Forest Act (Cap 323: RE 2002) through which, participation of forest adjacent local communities was emphasized under the Participatory Forest Management as legitimate national strategy to encourage forest protection and sustainable utilization of natural forest resources hinging on Community-based Forest Management (CBFM) and Joint Forest Management (JFM) initiatives.

Notwithstanding of efforts made to protect the forests their health conditions continued to deteriorate through unsustainable human activities mainly shifting cultivation, overgrazing, settlements, illegal logging, uncontrolled mining, honey hunting and wild fires. Through the forest resour-

ces assessment and monitoring it was established that the nations loses about 372,000 to 500,000 hectares annually. Net effects include: serious loss of natural land cover leading to loss of fertile soils through erosion; siltation of water bodies; increased incidences of drought, declining rainfall; climate changes; food insecurity; dwindling health and socio-economic situations with consequences to persistent and widespread poverty conditions leading to miserable lives. While the nation commemorates 60 years of independence, the state of natural forests should attract national focus and appropriate policies and decisions be made to reverse trends leading to devastating natural forest environmental conditions. Next articles will dwell on linkages of forests and human lives and what should be done to improve lives through well manages forests and woodland resources.

Dr Felician Kilahama, Former Director of Forestry and Bee-keeping

Experts call for improved protection of African fisheries

By Ignatius Banda

WITH subsidies of global fisheries back on the World Trade Organisation's agenda, experts are calling for African governments to upscale the protection of the sector long plagued by activities that threaten the continent's blue economy.

The chair of the negotiations, Ambassador Santiago Wills of Colombia, earlier in November 2021 presented a revised draft text on fisheries subsidies. This will be used for discussions aimed at resolving remaining differences ahead of the 12th Ministerial Conference from November 20 to December 3.

The Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala called the subsidies "harmful" when the ministers met on July 15, 2021.

She said she was cautiously optimistic that there could be an agreement on how to cap subsidies that contribute to overfishing.

Now she is more emphatic and has been engaging political leaders at the highest level to get their support for a successful conclusion to the highest levels, to get their support for a successful conclusion to the 21-year-long negotiations.

"The eyes of the world are really on us," she said. "Time is short and I believe that this text reflects a very important step toward a final outcome. I really see a significant re-balancing of the provisions, including those pertaining to special and differential treatment, while, at the same time, maintaining the level of ambition."

Meanwhile, independent researchers say harmful practices ranging from overfishing and too much reliance on fisheries for livelihoods have to be addressed by African governments.

Researchers at the Africa Centre for Strategic Studies say unfair subsidies go towards inputs such as fuel and larger fishing vessels which often go beyond regulated permits while also pushing out smaller players.

Amid those challenges, African countries still have to compete in global fish markets with rich countries which heavily subsidise the sector. This creates sustainable development gaps that will slow the realisation of the UN's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, which seeks the sustainable use of marine resources.

Guided by the SDGs, the WTO gave



WTO is hoping for an end to fishing subsidy negotiations which have been ongoing for more than 20 years. Fishmonger in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, displays his catch for sale. Photo/Ignatius Banda

the trade ministers ahead of the July 15 meeting the "task of securing an agreement on disciplines to eliminate subsidies for illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies and contribute to overcapacity and overfishing."

According to FAO, Africa is home to thriving artisanal fishing communities, employing more than 12 million people, with global demand projected to increase 30 percent by 2030.

Developing and least developed countries will take centre stage of

these negotiations to ensure they get a fair deal, with the meeting at the end of November, according to remarks by Okonjo-Iweala.

There are concerns that low-income coastal fishing communities face the harshest challenges of depleting stocks as they compete with more sophisticated illegal fishing syndicates.

Experts warn that African countries need to develop strategies that will ensure less reliance on fisheries, ensuring the sector's

long-term sustainability.

Rashid Sumaila of the Fisheries Economics Research Unit at the University of British Columbia, Canada, says African governments have to do more to see fewer nets cast in the continental waters.

"Governments must remove the incentive to overfish," Sumaila told IPS.

"They must also improve national fisheries management and push for regional cooperative management of the sector and make illegal fishing unprofitable," he said.

How African governments achieve that on a continent plagued by low incomes and a thriving informal sector could prove difficult, researchers from the Africa Centre for Strategic Studies contend.

By WTO estimates, global fisheries subsidies stand at around USD35 billion per year.

Citing data from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the WTO says fish stocks are at risk of collapsing in many parts of the world due to overexploitation. It estimates that 34 percent of global stocks are overfished, "meaning they are being exploited at a pace where the fish population cannot replenish itself."

While the WTO has cited what it calls "lack of political impetus" in the past two decades to resolve the contentious fisheries subsidies and protect smaller global players, Alice Tipping, a researcher at the International Institute for Sustainable Development's Sustainable Trade and Fisheries, says despite the challenges of the past 20 years, collective action among both high- and low-income countries is the only way forward.

"The WTO negotiations are both technically and legally challenging because they require collective action from governments, but there is a clear benefit in having rules applied at the multilateral level so that everyone has to contribute to the solution," Tipping told IPS.

Experts say the two-decade deadlock highlights the weak ne-

gotiating clout of African and other low-income countries, with some rich countries insisting on an exemption from the harmful subsidies ban while simultaneously allowing their fishing fleets to operate illegally on African shores.

As DG Okonjo-Iweala put it, "the fisheries subsidies negotiations are a test both of the WTO's credibility as a multinational negotiating forum."

"If we wait another 20 years, there may be no marine fisheries left to subsidise - or artisanal fishing communities to support," Okonjo-Iweala warned.

The African continent finds itself in a bind as the African Union's Agenda 2063 describes the fisheries as "Africa's Future," recognising the sector's key role as a "catalyst for socio-economic transformation."

This, however, highlights the continent's reliance on fisheries when researchers are pushing for the decongestion and up-scaled regulation of artisanal fishers.

"A lot of artisanal fisheries is unreported and unregulated mainly because authorities do not affect enough means to document and manage those fisheries," said Beatrice Gomez, Coordinator of the Coalition for Fair Fisheries Agreements (CFFA).

The CFFA is a platform of European and African groups raising awareness on the impact of EU-Africa agreements on African artisanal fishing communities.

"It would be better to have the activities of artisanal fishers documented properly to show their real importance for jobs and food security to ensure sustainability and long-term future," Gomez told IPS by email.

"Ideally, for this work, artisanal fisheries have to be co-managed in collaboration with fishing communities, but it takes money, time and human resources which (African) governments do not have or do not want to devote to this."

The World Bank says fisheries contribute USD24 billion to the African economy, making it a huge attraction for the poor.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 195 00--

In this Puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

3 LETTERS: SEE, LIT, GET
 4 LETTERS: BACK, UEFA, CAFE, RAGE, EBON SOON, IDEM
 5 LETTERS: ABODE, AGAIN, LASSO, ELECT, NDAMA,
 6 LETTERS: ELITES, ADHERE, STAGER, PLUNGE TABOOS
 7 LETTERS: ALLOWED
 8 LETTERS: LEGALESE
 10 LETTERS: BOUNDARIES

CLUES: Across

- a native of the south
- a large perching bird with mostly black plumage
- bear native to bamboo forests in China
- Kathmandu is the Capital city of the ship built by Noah
- Latin from Greek Khoreia
- break with a sharp cracking sound
- accept
- movements of hands when you talk
- a person who uses something
- feel doubt

Down:

- ill
- formal term for on
- not imagined or supposed
- tolerate
- put on clothes
- canal connects the pacific ocean and Atlantic ocean
- medium for communications
- stoat
- stone in Greek
- a diving waterbird with a long neck
- a weapon with bullets
- join fasten

WORD-FIT

CROSSWORD

SOLUTIONS

1. SOUTH AFRICAN
 2. STERNA
 3. BEARCAT
 4. ARK
 5. KHOROS
 6. CRACKLE
 7. ACCEPT
 8. HANDS
 9. USER
 10. DUBIOUS
 11. TELEPHONE
 12. STOAT
 13. PEGASUS
 14. STYLON
 15. ACCEPT
 16. STERNA
 17. GUN
 18. ZIPPER

By Magezi: 0755429240 felixmagezi@gmail.com

BUSINESS



Trucks queue at Bwema on the Bungoma-Malaba highway.

PROTECTIONISM

DRC trucks stuck at Malaba border in row over taxation

NAIROBI

Congolese business community has asked Kenya and Uganda to intervene to help them move their trucks that are stuck at the Malaba border. The traders said tens of trucks carrying cargo among them fish and other perishable goods are stuck as a result of impasse over what the traders have termed double taxation.

Kenyan Congolese business community spokesperson Mukokoma Kambale said goods worth millions of shillings cannot be transported to Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) due to a misunderstanding between authorities and the traders over taxes.

Mr Kambale said traders are being subjected to double taxation in Mombasa and at the Malaba border for their goods to be transported to their various destinations. "We cannot pay \$300 in Mombasa and pay the same amount again at Malaba border. It is unacceptable, we are stakeholders and need respect as we respect our partners," he said.

Mr Kambale is blaming freight firm, Office Congolese de Gestion du Fret Maritime (Ogefrem) for imposing double taxation, which has led to detainment of trucks at the Malaba border. He said Invesco Ogefrem wants the traders to pay for the same amount that was paid for in Mombasa Ogefrem before the goods are allowed to pass through the border.

The importers said they are surprised by the establishment of Invesco Ogefrem, which is carrying out similar missions and delivering the same documents as Ogefrem Mombasa. Instead of ensuring smooth movement of goods, the importers said the new office in Malaba has become a stumbling block to their business and has led to losses due to double taxation.

The traders have written a protest letter to the Ministry of Transport and Trade for both Uganda and Kenya seeking assistance to have the double taxation abolished. The business community also wants the two governments to specify which institution between

Invesco Ogefrem Malaba and Ogefrem Mombasa Port, has mandate from the Congolese government to perform this service on its behalf.

"While recalling the significant role that Congolese importers play in the economy of these two transit countries (Kenya and Uganda), we ask urgently the release of all the vehicles detained in Malaba, which is halting business and causing a lot of losses," said Mr Kambale.

The traders also want an explanation as to who will bear the costs caused by the delay accumulated by the transporting companies, the delay relating to the shipping line and the damage caused to some goods. "We believe that this Ogefrem service is supposed to be positioned at our borders in order to allow a smooth flow of operations and activities," he said.

The importers have also pleaded with DRC's President Felix-Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo to intervene, terming the existence of these two institutions as a scam to frustrate their business. They have termed the double taxation as an economic crime against their business.

"Being himself the first defender in the fight against corruption and any other form of injustice, we hope that President Tshisekedi will listen to our complaints. Especially since the existence of these two institutions for the same function seems to fall within the exact definition of a scam, and it is not far from economic crime," read part of the letter to DRC president.

Mr Kambale expressed optimism that the government of Uganda that is helping DRC to find peace is also going to help the importers to find the solution to this matter which is causing them economic crime.

"We hope that the government of Uganda is going to find a solution to this because our trucks have delayed in Uganda. Some containers are carrying fish and other perishable goods. We need the help of the Ugandan and Kenyan governments so that this issue can be resolved once and for all," said Mr Kambale.

INVESTMENT

Nyamongo villagers say relations with Barrick improved with Acacia's demise



Barrick North Mara Gold Mine's process plant manager, Christopher Mwinuka (R) explains to journalists on how the new waste water treatment plant works at the mining site in Tarime mid earlier this week. Looking on (L) is the mine's general manager, Apolinary Lyambiko. Photo: John Badi.

By Guardian Reporter

VILLAGERS from Nyamongo area which hosts North Mara Gold Mine have said relations with the mining company have significantly improved since Barrick Gold Corporation and the government formed Twiga Minerals Corporation in 2019.

Speaking at a news conference held at North Mara Gold Mine in Tarime district, Village Chairmen from Matombo and Komarera said sour relations which existed during Acacia Mining Plc's days have improved because the new management is adhering to fairness in dealing with environmental issues.

"They have addressed a major problem of disposing waste water which contaminated our land but also often sit and talk to us whenever there is some misunderstanding," said Matombo Village Chairman, Daudi Itembe.

Itembe said investment made by Barrick in a modern waste water treatment plant has drained tailings storage facilities which had millions of litres of waste water with deadly chemicals which harmed both people and the environment.

"They are now our good neighbours offering jobs to our people and also buying things from our villages which was not the case before," he stated saying communities in the area are now enjoying the benefit of hosting a gold mine.

Itembe's observation was backed by his Komarera peer, Nyamaganya Marwa who said those spreading false information about pollution at the mine are not informed of the changes that have been made so far.

"If this mine is closed down friends and relatives from our villages will suffer because they

will lose jobs but also businesses people who sell things to workers of this mine," said Marwa who insisted that North Mara Mine's management is doing a good job.

He said the mine has also been supporting communities in improving social services as part of its corporate social responsibility. "We have already asked the mine to supply our villages with the treated water which is good for domestic use and they have accepted," he revealed.

Acacia Mining was abolished in 2019 when the government struck a deal with Barrick Gold to establish Twiga Minerals with Treasury owning 16 percent which the Canadian miner retains the majority.

"We are in the process of putting in place infrastructure to supply surrounding villages with water which is treated by the new plant that we have invested

in," said North Mara Gold Mine's General Manager, Apolinary Lyambiko.

He said Barrick has invested US\$65 million (over 149.7bn/-) to end contamination of water sources in Nyamongo after National Environmental Management Council closed the mine in 2019 because of the leaking tailings storage facilities.

He said that the new plant has capacity to process 40 million cubic metres of waste water from gold processing at the factory per day compared to 2.5 million cubic metres which the old plant was doing.

"As a result, we have successfully processed waste water from our tailing storage facility which had over seven million litres when Nemc closed the mine in September 2019 to about 700,000 litres currently," Lyambiko noted.

FORTUNE

NMB marks end of promo with 100m/- worth of prizes to the 32 customers

By Guardian Reporter

THIRTY two NMB Bank Plc customers were lucky to share cash and materials prizes worth 100m/- as the bank's 'Bonge la Mpango' promotion came to an end over the weekend.

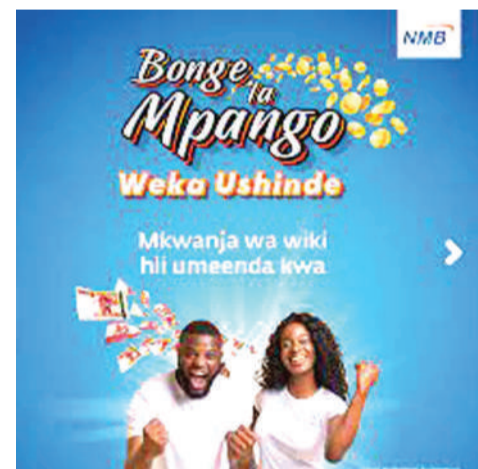
The second phase of the promotion was aimed at encouraging customers to deposit money in their account.

The lucky winners in the final draw of the over 246m/- witnessed 22 customers of the lender win Skymark rickshaws valued at 4.5m/- each while 10 lucky winners pocketed 100,000/- each at a ceremony held at NMB Bagamoyo branch in Coast region.

Speaking at the event, NMB's Relationship Manager for Consumer Liabilities, Monica Job said the three-month campaign was aimed at rewarding loyal customers and motivate them to save. Job said the campaign was a great success as over 170 customers won various prizes.

She called on members of the public to capitalise on the fiscal opportunities offered by the promotion to improve their financial wellbeing and use innovative NMB banking services to better their living standards.

"This has been a very successful campaign that has benefitted many of our customers. The promotion has not only been for cultivating a savings culture amongst our customers



NMB's 'Bonge la mpango' poster.

but also as part of NMB tradition to share its profits with them and giving back to the community," Job said.

The three-wheeler winners picked in the final draw on Thursday included 17 for conclusion of the promotion, three for being winners of the month of December and two for the weekly draws. 'Bonge la mpango II' lasted for 12 weeks. Its predecessor, which was also held for three months, started in early March 2021

with prizes worth over 550m/-.

Apart from the grand rewards, the fabulous prizes of the two campaigns were given out on weekly and monthly basis and its winners came from all over the country. During the second phase of 'Bonge la mpango,' 10 customers won cash every week and two the three-wheelers while three of the auto rickshaws were won at the end of the month.

In the final draw, three-wheeler winners for December were Emmanuel Kavishe of Zanzibar, Mbila Salum of Mafinga and NMB Mkwawa branch customer Albert Mhehe. The 17 Skymarks won to conclude the campaign went to the following NMB customers with names of their branches in brackets: Frank Mgeni (Ngaramtoni), Bundala Gwanona (Geita), Mary Martine (Kenyatta Road), Misoji Joseph (Kenyatta Road), Martha Makorera (Tarime), Ambakisyey Kyomo (Kaitaba), Paschal Kaloli (Geita) and Herieth Alphonse (Babati).

The others were Elineema Ezekiel (Babati), Khamis Abbas (Sikonge), Hamalos Kahindi (Nzega), Mathias Lusendamila (Manonga), Clement William (Wami), Michael Kabume (Mvomero), Glory Mwalongo (Mvomero), Marc Constantine (Wami) and Aziza Nzoto (Mvomero).

SUCCESS

US investors revisit Africa, helping startups cap record year

LAGOS

Africa's technology startups raised a record \$5 billion this year as US investors piled into companies that are helping the continent's tech-savvy and young population conduct financial transactions.

Nearly two-thirds of the top 20 largest disclosed deals involved investors from the U.S. Companies including Endeavor Catalyst and Ribbit Capital took part in at least three deals each, while Bezos Expeditions made its maiden investment in the continent, according to Briter Bridges Intelligence, which

tracks investments into African startups.

There were more than 500 early-stage deals – most of them valued at less than \$5 million each, according to Briter. That sets the stage for a rush of additional capital into Africa. Investors are betting companies such as Chipper Cash, TeamApt and Flutterwave will benefit from a surge in demand for banking services in a continent that lacks financial infrastructure.

"The interest in harnessing the business potential in Africa shows no slowing down," said Dario Giuliani, a director at Briter Bridges

Intelligence. It was "a year of awakening, where homegrown success stories and the increase in international investors shifting mandates to include Africa have taken a promising leap."

About 40 startups raised more than \$50 million and some may achieve unicorn status – companies valued at more than \$1 billion – in the next 12 to 24 months, Giuliani said. Deals in 2021 were a record breaking close to \$5 billion in disclosed investments, picking up from a pandemic-induced slowdown in 2020. The year also saw the launch of multiple Africa-

focused funds, including Nigeria's Ventures Platform that raised \$40 million.

Most of the funding was concentrated in the three traditional startup hubs on the continent – Nigeria, South Africa and Kenya. Egypt came in fourth, attracting about \$438 million of investment in 2021, a six-fold increase from 2018. Fintechs attracted the majority of the funding – 62% of investment in 2021. Health and logistic companies were the other sectors to draw investment, according to data from Briter.

OUTSTANDING

Brewer's contribution to economic development last year defied COVID-19 pandemic impacts

By Guardian Reporter

AS the year 2022 starts, Serengeti Breweries Limited played a key role in contributing to the country's social and economic development in several ways last year.

Defying the coronavirus outbreak which disrupted many businesses, SBL contributed through its commercial operations in terms of paying taxes and creating jobs for thousands of Tanzanians both directly and indirectly.

The brewer which has factories in Dar es Salaam, Moshi and Mwanza also contributed to the nation's development through its corporate social responsibility investments in education, water supply and agriculture.

In general, SBL has continued to contribute towards the steady growth of the economy despite the global challenges in the wake of the Covid-19 which first struck China in 2019 and arrived in the country last year.

Tanzania's economy grew by 4.3 percent last year, up by 0.4 percent posted in 2020, according to African Development Bank's (AFDB) latest economic outlook report. The AFDB has also projected growth of 4.9 percent this year. Such steady growth has been possible because of the government's resilience to improve the livelihood of each citizen in key sectors such as agriculture, energy, finance, sports and health.

To continue the steady growth projection, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has called on the private sector to work in partnership with her government to enable the country become a fully-fledged middle-income economy. SBL has heeded the president's call by investing heavily in its expansion and modernization of its factories in 2021.

Commercially last year, SBL invested billions of shillings into the economy hence created employment for hundreds of people across its value chain. The investment also contributed much to treasury in terms of taxes. SBL played a vital role in ensuring its business environment and supply chain in alcoholic beverages continues to thrive to sustain its contribution to the economy.

In September, the brewer hosted Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa at its refurbished Moshi expanded and modernised factory which included a new spirits manufacturing facility. The 16bn/- modern factory which PM Majaliwa



West Kilimanjaro farmers who are beneficiaries of SBL's agri-business program inspecting their barley after harvesting.

commissioned currently manufactures Bongo Don spirit which is quickly becoming popular in the market.

Through its corporate social responsibility, the brewer invested billions of shillings in improving clean water supply especially in rural areas, support to pubs, bars and restaurants through an initiative called 'Raise the bar program,' backed by a 2.3bn/- budget. The program provided several selected retail outlets such as bars with hygiene equipment, tents, tables and chairs but also trained maids and managers on preventing the spreading of communicable diseases including Covid 19.

During the past year, the Dar es Salaam based alcoholic beverages maker invested over 200m/- in drilling a borehole complete with a reservoir at Machochwe village in Serengeti district of Mara region which was commissioned in June. The

borehole supplies over 12,000 people in the village through an initiative called 'Water of Life.' Since 2010, the programme has implemented 21 water projects in various parts of the country, sustainably providing clean and safe water to over two million people.

Another significant investment made by SBL has been in agriculture where students from economically struggling communities get financed to train as extension officers through a 'Kilimo-Viwanda' Scholarship Programme since 2019.

Currently, more than 70 students have been sponsored since inception and in 2021, SBL increased the number to 100 students. SBL is partnering with four agriculture training colleges, namely: Kilacha in Moshi, Igabiro in Iringa, Kaole in Bagamoyo and Saint Maria Goretti Kagera.

SBL has also contracted 400 small-

holder farmers in Arusha, Dodoma, Kilimanjaro, Manyara, Mara, Mwanza, Singida and Shinyanga who cultivate cereals used as raw material to make alcoholic drinks. According to SBL Corporate Relations Director, John Wanyancha the farmers are given both technical and financial support to produce quality maize, barley and sorghum.

"SBL provides agricultural inputs such as free quality seeds, fertilizer, technical advice and other farm inputs to farmers through the programme. SBL also links them to financial institutions to access credit facilities- and in return, it purchases cereals used for beer production," Wanyancha said. By the end of this year, the brewer targets to increase its investments in the country to 200bn/- after expansion and renovation of its three factories in Dar es Salaam, Moshi and Mwanza.

INTEGRATION

Eskom now says Kusile Unit 4 synced to the grid

JOHANNESBURG

Eskom has announced that Unit 4 at the Kusile power station has been synchronised to the national grid for the first time, which should help to alleviate pressure on the system into 2022. The unit was connected to the grid for the first time two days before Christmas, the state-owned power utility said on a statement on Thursday.

"This synchronisation milestone means four generating units of the power station are now connected to the grid, and will contribute an additional 800MW to the country's power system once the unit is fully optimised, following a series of tests and other commissioning activities," it said.

The Kusile power station is years behind schedule and billions of rand over budget. Corruption allegations have also long hung over the project like a stench. Eskom said it is pushing hard to finish the facility without any further delays.

"Unit 4 will supply electricity intermittently during the testing and optimisation phase over the next six months, before being handed over to the generation division to officially be part of the commercial fleet." Construction and commissioning activities on the remaining Kusile units, 5 and 6, "continue to progress according to plan", Eskom said.

"At completion, the station will consist of six units, and will produce a maximum 4.8GW. Situated near eMalaheni (Witbank) in Mpumalanga, Kusile is South Africa's largest construction project and will be the world's fourth largest coal plant once completed." Kusile is the first power station in Africa to use wet flue gas desulphurisation technology. This removes oxides of sulphur in the emissions of power plants that burn coal or oil, Eskom said.

BAILOUT

Mozambique receives Covid-19 debt service relief from the IMF

MAPUTO

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has provided debt service relief for Mozambique to help it cope with the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, covering repayments of 55 million US dollars.

The relief came in four tranches: the first between April and October 2020 was for just under 15.25 million US dollars, followed by three equal amounts of 13.23 million US dollars. The funding is part of the IMF's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, under which debt service relief has been given to 31 countries through the Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust (CCRT), with a cumulative relief of 964 million US dollars.

According to a statement from the IMF on 20 December, this "helps free up scarce financial resources for vital health, social, and economic support to mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic."

It adds that the IMF's Directors "appreciated the generous support" from those that funded the relief: the European Union, United Kingdom, Japan, Germany, France, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Norway, Singapore, Greece, China, Mexico, Philippines, Sweden, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Malta, and Indonesia.

PROMOTION

Vodacom presents new car to 'TusuaMapene' winner

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

A resident of Moshi municipality in Kilimanjaro region, Shemmy Chisumo ushered in the year 2022 in style after being declared winner of a brand new Suzuki Presso by Vodacom Tanzania Plc through its 'TusuaMapene' lottery.

The 'TusuaMapene' promotion which is in its fourth season is expected to give prizes worth 2.4bn/- to more than 300,000 winners throughout its duration. The promotion has already awarded Vodacom's clients with over 4.8bn/- in cash and material including the first brand new car Suzuki Presso.

Vodacom Tanzania's Executive Head of Department for North



Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner, Stephen Kigaigai.

Region, George Venanty said the lucky winner invested in 'TusuaMapene' promotion. "We felt that it would be good to give away this prize during the ongoing festive season as we continue with our 'Show love, Tule shangwe' campaign," Venanty said.

He said the campaign aims to offer the telco's customers with a chance to win different prizes such as TV sets, smart phones and cash. At the handing over ceremony, six smart TVs and 10 smart-phones were also given to lucky winners.

Chief guest at the prize giving ceremony was Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner, Stephen Kigaigai who commended Vodacom

for giving back to the community part of its profits. In a speech read on his behalf by Moshi Urban District Commissioner, Abbass Kayanda, Kigaigai said, "As the winner receives his new car, I urge him to make full use of this unique opportunity to make real gains in life. This car should encourage you to continue working hard in order to improve your life," Kigaigai said.

Vodacom Tanzania is the country's largest telecommunications company with over 15 million customers. The telco is a subsidiary of Vodacom Group which is registered in South Africa and which belongs to Vodacom Group Plc of the United Kingdom. It is listed on Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange.

PENALTY

US cuts off Ethiopia, Mali and Guinea from Africa duty-free trade programme

WASHINGTON

The United States on Saturday cut Ethiopia, Mali and Guinea from access to a duty-free trade programme, following through on President Joe Biden's threat to do so over alleged human rights

violations and recent coups.

"The United States today terminated Ethiopia, Mali and Guinea from the AGOA trade preference programme due to actions taken by each of their governments in violation of the AGOA Statute," the

U.S. Trade Representative's office said in a statement.

Biden said in November that Ethiopia would be cut off from the duty-free trading regime provided under the U.S. African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) due to

alleged human rights violations in the Tigray region, while Mali and Guinea were targeted due to recent coups.

The suspension of benefits threatens Ethiopia's textile industry, which supplies global fashion brands, and the country's nas-

cent hopes of becoming a light manufacturing hub. It also piles more pressure on an economy reeling from the conflict, the coronavirus pandemic, and high inflation.

"The Biden-Harris Administration is deeply concerned by the un-

constitutional change in governments in both Guinea and Mali, and by the gross violations of internationally recognized human rights being perpetrated by the Government of Ethiopia and other parties amid the widening conflict in northern

Ethiopia," the USTR statement said.

The AGOA trade legislation provides sub-Saharan African nations with duty-free access to the United States if they meet certain eligibility requirements, such as eliminating barriers to U.S. trade and investment and making progress toward political pluralism. "Each country has clear benchmarks for a pathway toward reinstatement and the Administration will work

with their governments to achieve that objective," it added.

The Washington embassies of the three African countries did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Ethiopia's Trade Ministry said it November it was "extremely disappointed" by Washington's announcement, saying the move would reverse economic gains and unfairly impact and harm women and children.

COMPETITION

India overthrows China as Beijing counts the cost of zero Covid

BEIJING
China will be overthrown as the world's fastest-growing major economy in 2022, according to new forecasts, as the Communist regime's commitment to zero Covid compounds a property market bust and democracies gain ground with more liberal policies.
The United States is now expected by economists to out-grow China in 2022, reversing the pecking order in the G20 for much of the past two decades. The investment bank Nomura predicts China will grow by just 4.3pc in 2022, compared to 4.6pc for the US and 8.5pc for the emerging titan India. The UK is on track for 4.2pc growth, it said. India also outgrew China in 2021 as the pandemic rolled on, but economists believe 2022 could set a new long-term pattern.
The outlook is dire by Beijing's standards of the almost 30 years between 1991 and 2018, in which China never grew by less than 6pc. Ting Lu, chief China economist at

Nomura, said: "China has been very successful in containing Covid, but its strategy is also costly."
He pointed to China's "Golden Week" holiday in October, when revenues from tourism were down 40pc compared with 2019. Mr Lu added: "The zero-Covid strategy has quite a big impact on in-person services. As we extend the zero-Covid strategy, the cost is likely to increase."
"For households in those sectors - airlines, restaurants, tourism - at the beginning of their unemployment or under-employment, they had savings to tap. But if they are in such a difficult situation for more than a year and have used up some savings, they have to be very cautious, so they will have to cut their consumption demand."
China recovered rapidly from the pandemic, but has been unable to turn this into sustained momentum. Senior figures in international finance have been warning that China's

commitment to zero Covid is a threat to the global economy, in part because of the resulting disruption to global supply chains, which has fuelled rising inflation in the West.
In November the former Governor of the Bank of England Mark Carney said Beijing will need to "evolve or pivot" to a liberal management of the disease with vaccinations. However Chinese officials have restated their preference for strict rules, even in the face of the omicron variant. Craig Botham at Pantheon Macroeconomics expects China to grow at 4.7pc, behind India's 9.2pc but just ahead of the US's 4.5pc.
He said zero Covid policies could make China appear a less reliable supplier of goods. "There has to be a concern on the export side that if you are looking where to source things from, will you go to China where ports and factories might be shut down at a moment's notice very unpredictably, or will you go to another part of Asia where they have pivoted to living with the virus, and you have got the same access to the rest of the world?" "It is not something that results in everything closing overnight and moving to Vietnam, but it creates a longer-term



Ting Lu, chief China economist at Nomura.

headwind."
Gilles Moec, group chief economist at AXA Investment Managers, said the rapid spread of omicron means heavy-handed lockdowns to counter any outbreaks "could have a very significant impact on China's productive capacity. This would be difficult to manage for foreign countries, in particular the EU and the US, which have become even more dependent on it since the start of the pandemic." Mr Botham said the property bust, embodied by troubled development group Evergrande, is also holding back crucial economic activity.
China has endured years of scepticism that its long boom could continue, but analysts at Citi warned "there are good reasons for thinking 'this time is different' in China, with the risk of a deeper and longer slowdown there as policymakers in Beijing stick with their intention to wean the Chinese economy off its dependence on real-estate investment, and embark on a more import-substituting, 'fortress-like' economic strategy." The result could be "a China-related negative shock to global activity", they added.

COMPARISON

Base metals shine in wild 2021 as gold falters, iron ore sinks

LONDON
Metals are heading for more drama after a tumultuous 2021 dominated by supply squeezes, China's property-led economic slowdown and a global energy crisis that hints at more disruptions to come.
This year saw copper hitting a record as the pandemic roiled supply and demand, but tin was the star performer as base metals marched higher. Gold bulls were ultimately left disappointed even as inflation raged. And iron ore suffered a boom-to-bust collapse from above \$200 a ton to below \$100 on China's waning appetite.
The contours of 2022's other major drivers are already visible. Dangerously low inventories was a theme across metals that will carry into next year - especially if the global economy continues to improve. Beijing's stimulus measures might put a floor under China's steel woes, while Fed tightening and stubborn inflation is a headwind elsewhere. Watch energy and the climate agenda, which should dominate aluminium in particular.
"Base metals performed outstandingly well this year, which is not surprising as they effectively made up ground that was lost during 2020," Gavin Wendt, founding director at Mine Life Pty. "Next year should see a continuation of overall positive demand, but with greater price volatility as the supply side recovers."
Tin doesn't normally get much attention, but it was the big winner and perhaps a poster-child for metals in 2021. Prices have nearly doubled from a year ago, with an

electronics boom fuelling demand and Covid-19 disruptions crimping supply. The LME index of six London-traded metals is heading for a seventh quarterly gain.
Iron ore was among the big losers of 2021, with the apparent end to China's era of frenzied construction dragging on prices. But authorities are expected to implement fiscal stimulus and monetary policies to counter this year's sharp slowdown. The latest manufacturing data for December already showed upward momentum intact.
Gold finishes the year a little below where it started, after a meandering 2021 as investors turned to riskier assets including energy and industrial commodities. Fed tightening threatens more headwinds. Investors largely expect the Fed to raise interest rates three times in 2022, with some market participants expecting a hike as early March.
For now, soaring energy costs in Europe also continue to dominate the supply-side for base-metals. In its latest impact on production, Alcoa Corp. said this week that it will halt a Spanish plant for two years on high energy costs. Aluminium has risen more than 40% this year, and banks forecast a deeper deficit next year as the world's decarbonisation push starts to tighten output worldwide.
On the last day of 2021, base metals were mostly lower, with copper edging down 0.4% in London for a 24% advance this year. Iron ore gyrated around \$120 a ton and headed for a 25% decline this year. Gold was little changed Friday and down 4% in 2021.



The LME index of London Stock Exchange.



MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM



ITV

SATURDAY 1 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 9:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:00 Shika Bamba 5
- 10:30 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
- 11:10 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo
- 12:50 Korean: Jumong
- 13:30 Soap: Love to Death rpt
- 15:45 Igizo: Mizengwe
- 16:15 Igizo: Rebecca
- 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show
- 19:00 Jungu Kuu
- 19:30 Shika Bamba
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Igizo: Rebecca
- 21:30 Art and lifestyle
- 22:00 ITV TOP 10
- 22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo
- 23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt
- 01:15 DWTW

SUNDAY 2 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 Watoto Wetu
- 10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt
- 11:35 Bongo Movie rpt
- 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
- 15:30 Mwangaza
- 16:30 ITV Top 10
- 17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Matukio ya wiki
- 19:30 Igizo: Rebecca
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
- 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
- 21:10 Mizengwe
- 21:30 Mjuzi Zaidi
- 22:15 Bongo Movie:
- 00:00 Soap: Love to Death rpt
- 02:05 Al Jazeera

MONDAY 3 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habai za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 ITV Top Ten
- 11:55 Habari za saa

- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show rpt
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi
- 13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt
- 14:15 Soap: Love to Death
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza Huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:10 Abu yako rpt
- 18:15 DWTW: Kesho leo
- 18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo
- 19:00 Afya ya Jamii
- 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:05 Dakika 45
- 22:00 Kipindi Maalum: Bundesliga na DW
- 22:15 Soap: Love to Death
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 Al Jazeera
- 02:00 DWTW

TUESDAY 4 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habai za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:25 Jagina rpt
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The Base rpt
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Afya ya jamii
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Ripoti Maalum rpt
- 13:30 Shika Bamba rpt
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Soap: Love to Death
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza Huru
- 16:30 Watoto wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:10 Yu wapi
- 18:15 Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo rpt
- 18:30 Uchumi na biashara
- 19:00 Jarida la wanawake
- 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
- 21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba
- 21:45 Chetu ni chetu
- 22:20 Soap: Love to Death
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 Al Jazeera
- 02:00 DWTW

WEDNESDAY 5 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habai za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:25 Shamba lulu
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The Base
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Ijue sheria rpt
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Shamsam za pwani
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Soap: Love to Death
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo rpt
- 18:30 Jagina
- 19:00 Usafiri wako
- 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja

THURSDAY 6 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habai za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:25 Shamba lulu
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The Base
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Ijue sheria rpt
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Shamsam za pwani
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Soap: Love to Death
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo rpt
- 18:30 Jagina
- 19:00 Usafiri wako
- 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja

- 23:00 Habari
 - 23:30 The Base
 - 00:30 Al Jazeera
 - 02:00 DWTW
- FRIDAY 7 Jan**
- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
 - 6:00 HABARI
 - 6:40 Kumekucha
 - 7:30 HABARI
 - 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
 - 8:55 Habai za saa
 - 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
 - 9:55 Habari za saa
 - 10:00 Watoto wetu
 - 10:30 Mjuzi Zaidi
 - 11:00 The Base rpt
 - 11:55 Habari za saa
 - 12:00 Al Jazeera
 - 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
 - 12:55 Habari za saa
 - 13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt
 - 13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt
 - 13:55 Habari za saa
 - 14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt
 - 14:15 Igizo: Rebecca rpt
 - 15:00 Meza Huru
 - 16:30 Watoto Wetu
 - 17:00 The Base (DJ Show)
 - 17:30 Kiislam
 - 18:00 Jiji Letu
 - 18:15 Korean: Jumong
 - 19:00 Shamba lulu
 - 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
 - 20:00 Habari
 - 21:05 Kipima Joto
 - 23:00 Habari
 - 23:30 The Base
 - 00:30 Al Jazeera
 - 02:00 DWTW

SATURDAY 8 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 9:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:00 Shika Bamba 5
- 10:30 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
- 11:10 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo
- 12:50 Korean: Jumong
- 13:30 Soap: Love to Death rpt
- 15:45 Igizo: Mizengwe
- 16:15 Igizo: Rebecca
- 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show
- 19:00 Jungu Kuu
- 19:30 Shika Bamba
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Igizo: Rebecca
- 21:30 Art and lifestyle
- 22:00 ITV TOP 10
- 22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo
- 23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt
- 01:15 DWTW

SUNDAY 9 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 Watoto Wetu
- 10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt
- 11:35 Bongo Movie rpt
- 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
- 15:30 Mwangaza
- 16:30 ITV Top 10
- 17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Matukio ya wiki
- 19:30 Igizo: Rebecca
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
- 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
- 21:10 Mizengwe
- 21:30 Mjuzi Zaidi
- 22:15 Bongo Movie:
- 00:00 Soap: Love to Death rpt
- 02:05 Al Jazeera

CAPITAL

Sat 01 Jan

- 08:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 Rev rpt
- 09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt
- 10:00 Culinary delight rpt
- 10:30 Innovation rpt
- 11:00 Out n'about rpt
- 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt
- 12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt
- 12:30 Our Earth rpt
- 13:00B usiness edition rpt
- 13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor Of The Sea
- 14:30 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death
- 17:45 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 17:45 Bundesliga kick off
- 18:15 Capchat rpt
- 19:15 Mizengwe
- 19:30 The Decor
- 20:00 Korean Drama: Emperor of the Sea
- 21:00 Out n' About
- 21:30 Movie : Hummer Lock (lape no:5691)
- 23:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
- 01:00 Al Jazeera

Sun 02 Jan

- 08:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 In good shape
- 10:00 Capchat rpt
- 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
- 11:30 Korean Drama rpt: The slave hunter
- 12:00 Jagina rpt
- 12:30 Bundesligas Kick Off rpt
- 13:00 In good shape rpt
- 13:30 Series rpt: Beats of Love
- 15:15 Abu yako
- 15:30 Rev rpt
- 16:00 Dakika 45 rpt
- 16:45 Mizengwe rpt

WORLD

US cuts off Ethiopia, Guinea, Mali from Africa trade programme

WASHINGTON

THE United States on Saturday cut Ethiopia, Mali and Guinea from access to a duty-free trade program, following through on President Joe Biden's threat to do so over alleged human rights violations and recent coups.

"The United States today terminated Ethiopia, Mali and Guinea from the AGOA trade preference program due to actions taken by each of their governments in violation of the AGOA Statute," the US Trade Representative's office said in a statement.

Biden said in November that Ethiopia would be cut off from the duty-free trad-

ing regime provided under the US African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) due to alleged human rights violations in the Tigray region, while Mali and Guinea were targeted due to recent coups.

The suspension of benefits threatens Ethiopia's textile industry, which supplies global fashion brands, and the country's nascent hopes of becoming a light manufacturing hub. It also piles more pressure on an economy reeling from the conflict, the coronavirus pandemic, and high inflation.

"The Biden-Harris Administration is deeply concerned by the unconstitutional change in governments in both Guinea and Mali, and by the gross vio-



People walk past a destroyed heavy artillery equipment in Hayk, Ethiopia, on Dec 13, 2021. AFP

lations of internationally recognized human rights being perpetrated by the Government of Ethiopia and other parties amid the widening conflict in northern Ethiopia," the USTR statement said.

The AGOA trade legislation provides sub-Saharan African nations with duty-free access to the United States if they meet certain eligibility requirements, such as eliminating barriers to US trade and investment and making progress toward political pluralism.

"Each country has clear benchmarks for a pathway toward rein-

statement and the Administration will work with their governments to achieve that objective," it added.

The Washington embassies of the three African countries did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Ethiopia's Trade Ministry said it November it was "extremely disappointed" by Washington's announcement, saying the move would reverse economic gains and unfairly impact and harm women and children.

Defending red lines: What challenges Russia and Putin faced in 2021

MOSCOW

PREDICTABILITY and stability are the most crucial factors in world affairs, and Russian President Vladimir Putin has reiterated this several times. However, the world obviously lacked both in 2021.

The United States kept threatening Russia with sanctions. An energy crisis engulfed Europe and Asia. The Taliban, outlawed in Russia, seized power in Afghanistan, while the situation in and around Ukraine went from bad to worse.

The Southern Caucasus and other hot spots across the globe saw hostilities flare up now and then. And the already well familiar backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic completed the landscape.

On the global political scene, two political heavyweights stepped down to give way to their successors. In the United States, Joe Biden moved into the White House to replace Donald Trump, and in Germany, Angela Merkel vacated the post of federal chancellor as Olaf Scholz took office.

In this brief digest, TASS examines some of the major foreign challenges that Russian President Vladimir Putin had to contend with in 2021.

New counterpart in the US

"Let's sit down and talk about compromise solutions," the Russian head of state said in an interview ahead of the June summit with Biden in Geneva. "That's the way of achieving stability."

Before that, the US leader, shortly after his inauguration in January, took the liberty of using rather strong words regarding the Russian president. For one, he answered in the affirmative to a TV interviewer's question if he regarded Putin as a "killer."

The Russian president, speaking on television, responded to Biden's accusation with a Russian children's playground chant "He who said it, did it." Later, Putin said he had received his US counterpart's explanations.

Apart from the face-to-face summit in Geneva, Putin and Biden held several telephone conversations and negotiations on a video call in December 2021. They are not friends, but the tone of their conversation was constructive, very business-like and keynoted by mutual respect, the Kremlin said afterwards.

Biden mentioned Washington's readiness to introduce more sanctions against Moscow, if Russian troops invaded Ukraine. Putin replied that Moscow's policy was a policy of peace, while the US sanctions were a shot fired wide and even had a backlash effect.

Security guarantees

Putin declared that Russia needed firm guarantees to be sure NATO would not proceed with its eastward expansion. He made unequivocal statements on this effect on many occasions. The West, he recalled, had made such verbal promises to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev only to go back on them.

At the end of 2021, Russia drew its "red lines" in public by inviting the United States and NATO to ink European security pacts. Negotiations on these drafts, which the media was quick to dub "The Putin Doctrine", may commence as early as January.

"There have been some hints that the partners may be prepared to work on them. But likewise, we see the risk of attempts to drown out all our proposals in rhetoric," Putin said.

The outlook for a new face-to-face Putin-Biden meeting depends entirely on how the United States and its partners react to Russia's latest initiatives, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov has said. For his part, Biden said that he counted on further contacts with Putin.

Ukraine

"Sooner or later - the sooner, the better - we will restore full-scale relations with Ukraine," Putin said in September.

For now, this remains a remote possibility, though. As Putin remarked, Ukraine continues to be governed by a belligerent nationalist minority, which leaves no chance for people to form bodies of power that would reflect their interests. Alongside this, the process of what the Kremlin has described as NATO's "creeping invasion" of Ukraine is afoot.

"This is happening on our doorstep," Putin said. "They should realize that we have nowhere further to retreat."

In July, Putin's article on Ukrainian affairs was uploaded to the Russian presidential website. The Russian leader warned that the West was trying to turn Ukraine into Russia's antagonist, but Moscow would never reconcile itself with this. In 2021, Putin stressed several times that he regarded the current Ukrainian leadership as unfriendly, and not the Ukrainian people.

"I believe that Ukrainians and Russians are one people," he said during the Direct Line Q&A program in June, reiterating this notion on numerous previous occasions.

S. Africa's anti-apartheid hero Tutu laid to rest in state funeral

CAPE TOWN

PRESIDENT Cyril Ramaphosa lauded the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu as "our moral compass and national conscience" as South Africa bade farewell at a state funeral on Saturday to a hero of the struggle against apartheid.

"Our departed father was a crusader in the struggle for freedom, for justice, for equality and for peace, not just in South Africa, the country of his birth, but around the world," Ramaphosa said, delivering the main eulogy at the service in St George's Cathedral, Cape Town, where for years Tutu preached against racial injustice.

The president then handed over the national flag to Tutu's widow, Nomalizo Leah, known as "Mama Leah". Tutu, who was awarded the Nobel Peace prize in 1984 for his non-violent opposition to white minority rule, died last Sunday aged 90.

His widow sat in a wheelchair in the front row of the congregation, draped in a

purple scarf, the colour of her husband's clerical robes. Ramaphosa wore a matching necktie.

Cape Town, the city where Tutu lived for most of his later life, was unseasonably rainy early on Saturday as mourners gathered to bid farewell to the man fondly known as "The Arch".

The sun shone brightly after the requiem Mass as six white-robed clergy acting as pall bearers wheeled the coffin out of the cathedral to a hearse.

Tutu's body will be cremated and then his ashes interred behind the cathedral's pulpit in a private ceremony.

"Small in physical stature, he was a giant among us morally and spiritually," said retired Bishop Michael Nuttall, who served as Tutu's deputy for many years.

Life-size posters of Tutu, with his hands clasped, were placed outside the cathedral, where the number of congregants was restricted in line with COVID-19 measures.

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, who leads the



Pallbearers carry the coffin of South African anti-apartheid icon Archbishop Desmond Tutu as they leave the requiem mass of Tutu at St. George's Cathedral in Cape Town on Saturday.

global Anglican Communion, said in a recorded message: "People have said 'when we were in the dark, he brought light' and that... has lit up countries globally that are struggling with fear, conflicts, persecution, oppression."

Tutu's family members were visibly emotional.

His daughter, Reverend Nontombi Naomi Tutu, thanked well-wishers for their support as the Mass began, her voice briefly quivering with emotion.

'Rainbow Nation'

Widely revered across South Africa's racial and cultural divides for his moral integrity, Tutu never stopped fighting for his vision of a "Rainbow Nation" in which all races in post-apartheid South Africa could live in harmony.

Hundreds of well-wishers queued on Thursday and Friday to pay their last respects as his body lay in state at the cathedral.

As Anglican archbishop of

doms. "We will go through the current challenge by fol-

lowing the same principles as on the first day (of the pandemic)", he said.



Macron: 'Difficult' weeks ahead as France logs over 230,000 cases

PARIS

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron on Friday said the next few weeks would be difficult as the country headed into subdued New Year celebrations after registering 232,200 new COVID-19 cases over the last 24 hours, its highest-ever recorded total.

"The weeks to come will be difficult, we all know that", Macron said in a broadcast New Year's Eve address.

New infections over the last 24 hours were above 200,000 for the third day running, making France

one of the epicenters as a wave of infections linked to the Omicron variant sweeps across Europe.

Infections in France, one of the countries carrying out widespread testing, stood well above the tally recorded in Italy and Britain, which also reported new records on Friday, with 144,243 and 106,122 cases respectively.

In Paris, the traditional New Year's Eve fireworks display centred on the Arc de Triomphe and the Champs d'Elysees has been canceled because city authorities said they feared it would lead to large crowds

of people unable to observe social distancing. Dancing at hospitality venues and nightclubs has been forbidden.

President Macron on Friday reiterated his call for mass vaccination, calling the jabs France's "sure shot" solution for a way out of the pandemic which he said he believed was possible in 2022.

In his address, Macron did not mention a need for more restrictive health measures than those already announced, adding that the government should refrain from further limiting people's individual free-

Xinjiang promotes high-quality development of winter economy

CHINA'S Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region has launched a series of measures to promote the high-quality development of the winter economy over the recent years, making itself a desired destination for more tourists in the winter.

The opener of a ski orienting tournament was held earlier this month at the Silk Road International Ski Resort, Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang. The game just made the prospering winter sports even more attractive.

"We're seeing more skiers this year," said Xue Wenjun, vice general manager of the resort. According to him, the resort has been visited by around 1,000 people on a daily

basis since this winter, and the number would double on weekends.

Xinjiang has continuously accelerated the construction of tourism infrastructure. On Nov. 24, an international ski resort officially opened in Burqin county in northern Xinjiang. Built in a top-rated scenic area, the resort has perfectly fused the splendid scenery and skiing, and is favored by many ski enthusiasts.

"The resort will be able to accept 30,000 tourists on a daily basis when it is fully completed," said Wang Lancheng, board director of the company that developed the resort.

So far, Xinjiang has built a total of 66 ski resorts that cover almost all of its prefectures and cities. Some of them have become training bases for national teams of winter sports.

Xinjiang's Changji Hui autonomous prefecture built 37 standard ice rinks in parks and on lakes, enabling citizens to feel the charm of the sport at their doorsteps.

The booming winter sports sector is also driving the autonomous region's winter sports equipment manufacturing. The cable cars produced in Xinjiang have been sold to and employed in a number of scenic areas and ski resorts across the country.

"We just sold 1,000 ski suits to

a client in Beijing, and the client placed a new order for another 1,000 out of the satisfaction with our products," said Li Yumei, chairman of board of the Xinjiang Habah Yaju Beddings and Garments Co., Ltd. Ski suits, ski hats and ski gloves are the major products of the company, whose sales revenue exceeded 20 million yuan (\$3.14 million) last year.

Skiing is just a small part of Xinjiang's sparkling winter tourism. In recent years, the autonomous region has nurtured a batch of distinctive winter tourism destinations and routes that feature local customs and culture.

For instance, Zhaosu county,

known as the hometown of one of the best horse breeds in China, has turned itself into an equine tourism area with breathtaking winter views of galloping horses and equestrian performances. Fuhai county is also launching winter fishing activities on its Ulungur Lake every winter to attract tourists.

So far, Xinjiang has held 15 winter tourism trade fairs and 19 Urumqi Silk Road Ice & Snow Festivals. Relevant cultural activities are boosting the development of Xinjiang's winter tourism. In the first 10 months this year, Xinjiang received 170 million tourists, making tourism revenue of 129.44 billion yuan, up 16.83 percent year on year.

Thanks to the development of winter sports, the people in Xinjiang are seeing their income increasing.

In Keketuohai township, Fuyun county, many villagers have opened agritainment facilities, so the winter has become a busy season for them. Kazakh villager Kulparan Habuliqiz has been running a B&B for four years, and the business is bringing her around 200,000 yuan each year.

Her daughter works in a nearby ski resort, earning 4,000 yuan on a monthly basis. "Our days are just getting better, and the winter is even more thriving," she said.

People's Daily



Azam FC attacker, Ismail Aziz (L), dribbles past Simba SC defender, Mohamed Hussein, when the sides met in this season's NBC Premier League match played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. Simba SC won 2-1. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Golden State Warriors rally in the 4th quarter for 123-116 win over Jazz

SALT LAKE CITY

EARNING road victories against other top NBA teams is quickly becoming a habit for Golden State.

Stephen Curry scored 28 points and had nine assists on Saturday night to help the Western Conference-leading Warriors to a 123-116 win over the Utah Jazz, who are third in the conference.

The Warriors notched their second major road victory over an elite Western Conference foe in eight days, after beating second-place Phoenix on Christmas Day.

"It's a good confidence builder to be in these types of settings on the road and get wins like this and show who we are," Curry said.

"Our DNA is built on chasing championships and you got to win games like we have to get it done."

Andrew Wiggins had 25 points for the Warriors, and Otto Porter Jr. had 20 points, eight assists, and seven rebounds.

Andre Iguodala added 12 points, eight assists, and seven rebounds off the bench — including a late 3-pointer to seal the win.

Donovan Mitchell, Bojan Bogdanovic, and Jordan Clarkson all scored 20 points, and Rudy Gobert had 20 points and 19 rebounds in Utah's seventh home loss.

Mitchell shot just 4 of 19 from the field for a season-low 21%. It came a day after scoring a season-high 39 points against Minnesota.

"I liked a lot of the looks," Mitchell said. "It's the same shots I hit not even 24 hours ago. ... I can't count many times the ball rolled in and out. Those nights are going to happen. It can't go in every night."

Golden State shot 53% from the field before halftime and had a 14-point lead at the half, which Utah erased and then some (16-point deficit) in the third quarter with a 19-5 run.

Bogdanovic and O'Neale hit back-to-back 3-pointers to punctuate the run, which put the Jazz up 79-74.

Utah scored 41 points in the third quarter — the most Golden State has given up during a single quarter this season.

But the Warriors came back in the fourth quarter, scoring on seven consecutive possessions for a 111-106 lead.

Wiggins led the charge with three straight baskets that finally put Golden State back in front.

"They did a great job of moving the ball, of getting up into us defensively and making us uncomfortable and controlled that third quarter," Golden State coach Steve Kerr said.

"But that requires a lot of energy too. That lead we had at halftime forced them to get after it in that third quarter and they did. But I thought we had more energy in the fourth as a result."

Utah tied it at 111-111 on a 3-pointer from Bogdanovic. Curry answered with back-to-back baskets and Iguodala added a 3-pointer to give the Warriors a 119-112 lead with 40 seconds left.

"I thought we ran out of gas a little bit," Jazz coach Quin Snyder said. "When they're scoring, it's much harder to run. That's something that we know we need to do throughout a game. I didn't think we were committed to that on a possession-to-possession basis."

The Warriors shot 53.5% overall for the game, made 17 3-pointers, and improved to 5-16 all-time in New Year's Day games.

AP

Why FIFA rules on Premier League clubs are not changing local statutes

BY CORRESPONDENT ANI JOZENI

PUNDITS were at the end of the year trying to figure out if in the coming year the participation of Tanzanian clubs in continental tournaments will be an improvement from the past year, where Biashara United FC scaled the first stage and failed to travel for a return match in Libya.

The chances of four clubs making it to continental tournaments are not that high with local champions, Simba SC, in the CAF Confederation Cup run, where its final position is not as prestigious as in the CAF Champions League. But it has good chances.

What was noticeable in the discussion was that rules of participating in major continental tournaments would not need to pose problems if local clubs observed — or perhaps obeyed — basic rules of being recognized as Premier League sides by the world federation, FIFA.

They are in sum known as rules of club licensing, where two or three aspects are supposed to be there, one that the club has a pitch for regular matches, a related aspect being the provision of a training ground.

Finally, the clubs are supposed to have working commercial structures where the periodic remuneration of players (salaries) is not sporadic or hypothetical.

If such rules were being ob-

served, that structure would have ensured that a viable organizational structure at Biashara United FC would have been sorted out well before the club qualified, its logistical arrangements at that point.

This appeared to be an anomaly even from a local viewpoint where for months the club knew they were in continental competition, and had to do preliminary work for each of its likely stages, or rather for the stages as such.

The structures they used weren't responsive to the situation and failed the country too.

On the contrary, when Namungo FC finished as the 2020/21 Azam Sports Federation Cup's runner-up and thus qualified for the CAF Confederation Cup tournament, their arrangements were an improvement on the next side to try their luck the following year.

It means participation goes by guesswork and that is unacceptable in FIFA statutes, and this kind of situation in the past cost Zanzibar membership in the continental body, after being admitted and its champion club failed to travel to a return match, in South Africa.

Since the destination is accessible even by bus, it was implicit it did not travel as they stood no chance of winning, a big error.

The Biashara United FC disruption of competition rules did not put Tanzania as such in difficulty

as we aren't newcomers, but it might compromise our chances of being accorded more than two teams, as they can map out that two teams have a realistic chance of fruitful participation.

Even a third and a fourth team may equally have substantive chances of seeing their playing engagement to its conclusion, but one or other director could point out that the risk hasn't been dissipated. They would then alter the consideration.

That is why the Biashara United FC failure to travel to Libya wasn't a laughing matter in the first place, and it also beckons additional requirements to rectify sports organization and especially the ownership of stadia.

There is an outdated model of stadium ownership where the ruling party mobilized people around 45 years ago or earlier to build stadia for national commemorative events, ending well before 1985.

This has given ruling party bigwigs in all regions the titles to the stadiums — in that they were built by the party — a view later disputed as the country shifted to a multiparty system, that the stadia belong to communities.

Were this position to be formally acknowledged, the stadia would revert to municipal councils who would then outsource occupancy and development of facilities to FIFA standards. Sports developers likely to seek

such contract or outsourcing eligibility are mostly those who now work to sponsor leading regional clubs, and presumably, Namungo FC, Biashara United FC would soon join Azam FC in having a competition pitch, while archrivals, Simba SC and Yanga, expect to build own stadia.

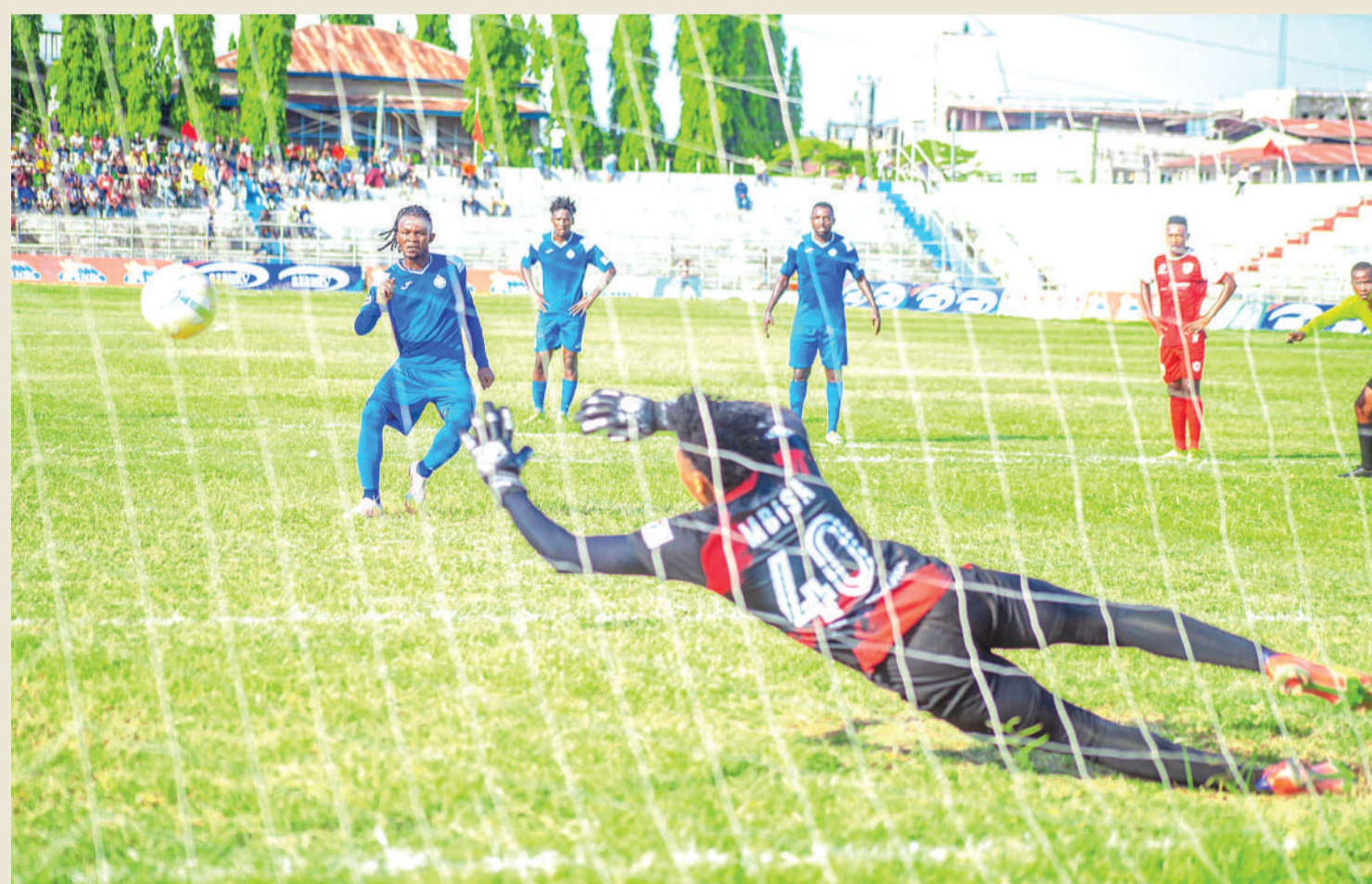
All over the country competition grounds are modernized and maintained — while even at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, the toilets are a scandal.

This way of doing things is altogether obvious based on FIFA rules as they stand but they aren't being observed as playing positions are organized by the continental federation, whose principal outlook is to 'think African' wherever it is possible to break FIFA rules.

They have refused to reconcile their African Nations Cup calendar with that of the UEFA circuit despite a large number of national team players of the best African sides being based in Europe.

They went as far as demanding CAF coaching certificates instead of those of UEFA, introducing a laughable situation in Dar es Salaam where Didier Gomes da Rosa wasn't recognized for the CAF Champions League official register as a match official.

Hence insisting on clubs operating stadia or questioning the habit in Tanzania which stymies soccer is scarcely a CAF priority.



Mtbwa Sugar's midfielder, Salum Kihimbwa (L), scores a penalty against Coastal Union when the clubs faced off in this season's NBC Premier League game that took place at Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga on December 28 last year. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MTBWA SUGAR

Yanga head coach praises midfielder



Yanga's new midfielder, Salum Abubakar. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

BY CORRESPONDENT NASSIR NCHIMBI

YANGA's newly recruited midfielder, Salum Abubakar, has continued training with teammates at the club, with the squad's head coach, expressing delight in the midfielder's presence in the squad.

Nabi has revealed that following Abubakar's signing, his squad has got a midfielder with qualities that could be likened to the side's other midfielder, Khalid Aucho.

The Tunisian tactician pointed out Abubakar is a native midfielder who has the same quality as Aucho's in performing the midfield role and now his squad has players who can excel in the position.

"I am very happy with this registration. I have looked at his quality in practice and he has shown me that he is one of the best players here in Tanzania who will help us a lot," Nabi noted.

The coach revealed: "Right now when we miss Aucho we will not be under pressure because we have another player with similar qualities, I think we are in good shape in the midfield, we are not as worried as we used to be."

The coach clarified that Abou-

bakar can not only efficiently execute both short and long passes but also manage to move from one position to another in the midfield.

"I see he can play all over the midfield even if we decide to move him a little closer to number 10."

"There was a time when football could be played with many midfielders and yet the team got better and good results."

The former Azam FC midfielder will increase the competition for a place in the starting lineup at his new side and every player will now seek to improve performance so he can get a chance.

Abubakar said despite Yanga having many talented midfielders, he is not afraid of competition and believes he will have a place in the club's starting lineup.

He said he plans to showcase impressive performance in practice and then Nabi will decide if the midfielder's tactician will use in games.

He said that when he started playing at Azam FC in 2007 he met the best players in the likes of Ramadhan Chombo 'Redondo', Kipre Tcheche, Kipre Balou,

Mrsho Ngassa, Humphrey Mieno, and Jabir Aziz 'Stima' but he made his way into the first team.

The midfielder disclosed: "I believe that if I train well and follow the coach's instructions then I will be allowed to play regularly in the first team."

"I respect the quality of every player and they deserve to be here, but I have come to add quality to achieve success this season," he said.

"Yanga is a great team, they can't sign a player if such a player does not have quality, so, just as they believed me and saw something in me, I will fight for this club to achieve what everyone wants to see from me."

"I think what I am talking about at the moment will be exhibited in matches ahead of us."

Nabi pointed out after the league game against Biashara United that Yanga will rope in a new young player during the mini transfer window.

Yanga has managed to do so after recruiting Biashara United's winger, Denis Nkane, who has been introduced on Saturday.

Diouf tells Senegal: 'Believe and you will conquer Africa'

DAKAR

FORMER Senegal star El Hadji Diouf has told the current national squad they will win the Africa Cup of Nations for the first time if they believe in themselves.

"You possess talent, you are preparing impressively, now believe and you will conquer Africa," was his message ahead of the January 9 tournament kick-off in Cameroon.

Two-time African Footballer of the Year Diouf missed a shootout penalty when Senegal lost the 2002 final to Cameroon and the Teranga Lions reached the title decider again in 2019 only to fail against Algeria.

Here, AFP Sport puts the spotlight on the four Group B contenders with the winners and runners-up assured of last-16 places while the best four third-placed teams from six groups also qualify.

"Senegal have topped the African rankings for three years, but the star-stacked side have no trophies or medals to show off.

There is a belief that it is now or never for a team boasting a 'spine' of Chelsea goalkeeper Edouard Mendy, Napoli centre-back Kalidou Koulibaly, Paris Saint-Germain midfielder Idrissa Gueye and Liverpool forward Sadio Mane.

Captain Koulibaly and Watford forward Ismaila Sarr were chosen by coach and former star Aliou Cisse despite still recovering from injuries and could miss some group matches.

The Lions are in arguably the weakest of the six groups and with a last-16 match against a third-place finisher likely to follow, the first serious challenge they face could be in the quarter-finals.

*Guinea As if rookie national coach Kaba Diawara did not have enough problems trying to fix a dysfunctional squad, junta leader Mamady Doumbouya has thrown a spanner in the works.

Addressing the Syli Nationale (national elephants), he told the squad they must repay state-funded preparation costs if they do not return to Conakry with the Cup of Nations trophy.

That is highly unlikely as Guin-

ea fared dismally in recent 2022 World Cup qualifying, failing to win in six matches against Morocco, Guinea-Bissau and Sudan.

Midfielder Naby Keita can trigger the dramatic improvement necessary to make any impact.

*Malawi Malawi were another team to perform woefully in the recently completed group phase of World Cup qualifying, losing five matches and finishing last of four nations.

Like Guinea, they reacted by changing coaches, demoting local Meck Mwase and hiring Mario Marinica, a 56-year-old Romanian who holds a UEFA pro diploma, the highest coaching qualification in Europe.

As the country prepares for a third Cup of Nations appearance, his message to the underperforming Flames emphasised speed: "Think fast, act fast, move fast."

While many teams heading to Cameroon are packed with Europe-based professionals, Malawi have only two, midfielder Charles Petro plays in Moldova and forward Francisco Madinga in Georgia.

*Zimbabwe Zimbabwe could be barred on Monday from competing at the Cup of Nations unless a state umbrella sports body reinstates the board of the national football association.

The Sports and Recreation Commission sacked the officials in November, alleging mismanagement, lack of financial accountability and the sexual harassment of female referees.

FIFA says a ban may have to be imposed on Zimbabwe unless the board regains control of the sport by January 3.

Add the absence of three key players -- injured Marvelous Nakamba and Marshall Munetsi and retired Khama Billiat -- and the outlook for the Knowledge Musona-captained team is bleak, if they get to play.

AFP predicts: 1. Senegal, 2. Guinea, 3. Malawi, 4. Zimbabwe

AFP

Star strikers should enable hosts Cameroon to top Group A

YAOUNDE

EXPERIENCED forwards Vincent Aouabakar, Karl Toko Ekambi and Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting should ensure hosts Cameroon finish first in Group A at the Africa Cup of Nations, which kicks off next Sunday.

Saudi Arabia-based Aouabakar scored the late winner when the Indomitable Lions came from behind to defeat Egypt in the 2017 final and win the flagship African competition a fifth time.

Ekambi plays for Lyon and Choupo-Moting for Bayern Munich and they are part of a 27-man squad composed of stars based in Europe and the United States, with no local making the cut.

Here, AFP Sport puts the spotlight on the four Group A hopefuls with the winners and runners-up assured of last-16 places while the best four third-placed teams from six groups also qualify.

*Cameroon In the early editions of the Cup of Nations, hosts performed successfully, winning three of the first four. But times have changed.

Only two of the last 12 tournaments were won by the host nation with Tunisia triumphant in 2004 and Egypt two years later.

Cameroon are staging the Cup of Nations a second time after finishing third behind Congo Brazzaville and Mali in 1972 when only eight countries competed.

"They can win it," says Cameroon legend Samuel Eto'o of the Aouabakar-captained class of 2022, whose immediate goal will be to top Group A and meet one of the third-placed qualifiers in the second round.

*Burkina Faso The Stallions enter the Cup of Nations in a confident mood after twice drawing with 2019 Cup of Nations winners Algeria in recent World Cup qualifying.

Blida, 45 kilometres (28 miles) southwest of Algiers, is known as the "slaughterhouse" and Djibouti and Niger will



Cameroon captain Vincent Aouabakar (R) in possession during a 2022 World Cup qualifier against the Ivory Coast in Yaounde. (AFP)A

attest to that moniker having conceded eight and six goals there in World Cup thrashings.

While the Burkina failed to secure the win in Blida that would have taken them to final round, a depleted side clawed back twice to draw 2-2 with captain Issoufou Dayo converting a late penalty.

Major boosts are the returns from injury of Aston Villa forward Bertrand Traore and Abdoul Fessal Tapsoba, a Standard Liege attacker who starred in the World Cup campaign.

*Cape Verde A win and draw against Cameroon in 2021 Cup of Nations qualifying and a draw away to Nigeria in 2022 World Cup qualifying suggest that the Blue Sharks will not be pushovers.

They represent a Portuguese-speaking nation off the west coast of Africa with a population of less than 600,000, whose football team is on the rise again.

Cape Verde reached the quarter-finals in their 2013 Cup of Nations debut and goal difference prevented them repeating the feat two years later.

They missed the last two editions, but have bounced back under coach Pedro 'Bubista' Brito and captain and forward Ryan Mendes, who was involved in the previous two finals appearances.

*Ethiopia Only two of the 25 players chosen by coach Wubetu Abate play abroad -- midfielder Shemeles Bekele with El Gouna in Egypt and forward Mujib Kasim with JS Kabylie in Algeria.

Ethiopia, one of four founder mem-

bers of the Confederation of African Football (CAF) in 1956, featured in the first seven Cup of Nations up to 1970, but this will be only the fourth appearance since.

Abate has developed a team captained by veteran forward Getaneh Kebede that favours one-touch football and single-goal losses away to Ghana and South Africa in World Cup qualifying offered encouragement.

The second lowest ranked team in the tournament were the first to arrive in Cameroon and will probably be among the first to depart.

AFP predicts: 1. Cameroon, 2. Burkina Faso, 3. Cape Verde, 4. Ethiopia

AFP

Southgate chases England's 'missing piece' in World Cup year

LONDON

ENGLAND manager Gareth Southgate has set his sights on the nation's "missing piece" as he targets World Cup glory in 2022.

England were denied a first major trophy since 1966 when they lost the Euro 2020 final on penalties to Italy in July.

That heartbreaking defeat at Wembley came three years after England lost to Croatia in the 2018 World Cup semi-finals.

But Southgate's men are back in the hunt for silverware after qualifying for the 2022 World Cup with ease.

England will head to Qatar as one of the favourites and Southgate knows winning a trophy would cap his impressive reign.

"We went to Russia in 2018 having not won a knockout game for 10 years, and that was our first objective," Southgate told Sky News.

"Now we're in a position where we've been to a final, we've turned over a lot of historic records and created moments of our own history, so the missing piece for us is a trophy and that's incredibly difficult but we've got that belief that we can do that.

"We know there are other teams, there are two teams (Italy and Portugal) that have got to a play-off that could win that trophy, frankly, so the level is really high and is quite even among the top teams.

"Although we feel that we've got

good players, we know other teams have got good players as well... we know the level is high but we feel we're in that group of teams."

Although Southgate was criticised for his cautious tactics and substitutions during the Euro 2020 final, he is largely admired for transforming England after decades of underachievement.

At the time, he described the final defeat as like having his stomach ripped out, but now he looks back on the Euro run more fondly.

"I think it has been a remarkable year," he said. "As part of this year that's always going to be in our head, being in a final and not getting over the line, but if I look logically as a coach at progress as a team the last two qualification campaigns we've been the top-scorers in Europe.

"I think we've got the best defensive record in the world over the past 12 months or so as well. We were behind across those 19 matches in this calendar year for I think 22 minutes, so incredible performance by the players.

"They dealt with the pressure of being at home in a big tournament, they've managed to qualify for a World Cup which as we've seen from other high-profile nations is not a given.

"A lot of young players have come through much stronger, much more experienced, it's just that missing piece of winning the final."

AP

LONDON

THE good news for Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta is that a game many felt would be a landslide, a home clash against Premier League champions Manchester City, was in fact effectively decided in two minutes. The bad news is it was an error-strewn spell which underlines that for all the collective progress being made, individual errors remain an unwanted characteristic of his side.

In fairness, some of the mistakes in Saturday's 2-1 defeat to City were not even theirs. This was a game that will stoke the debate over precisely how VAR (video assistant referee) is used, specifically why referee Stuart Attwell was asked to look at Granit Xhaka's second-half challenge on Bernardo Silva at the touchline monitor and not Ederson's earlier tackle on Martin Odegaard. Neither were given live by Attwell, but he was asked to reexamine only the second. Both were penalties.

Arsenal were excellent until the 57th minute. Bukayo Saka gave them a deserved lead just after the half-hour mark by finishing a sweeping move that involved Thomas Partey, Xhaka and Odegaard before Kieran Tierney crossed for the England international to side-foot home left-footed from 14 yards.

City looked jaded, bereft of their usual zip in possession as Arsenal imposed themselves impressively. The gap between these two sides has rarely looked smaller. Still, Pep Guardiola's side have now won 10 consecutive Premier League games against Arsenal by a combined score of 26-3.

So often, the Gunners have appeared resigned to their fate, acquiescing to defeat before kick-off in a manner suggesting an inferiority complex permeates the group. Arteta, currently self-isolating at home after testing positive for COVID-19, is making significant strides in this area, and in that context, the opening hour or so was arguably

the most encouraging of his two-year tenure.

But then there were those two minutes. There is little doubt that Bernardo made the most of contact with Xhaka, but the midfielder had no need to pull his shirt after clashing knees. Similarly, Gabriel picked up a needless yellow card for continuing his protest to Attwell after Riyad Mahrez had scored from the penalty spot, which the Arsenal defender had scuffed up moments before.

Arsenal, to their credit, were unchecked in their intent and endeavour, but almost immediately from kick-off, Nathan Ake cleared fellow City defender Aymeric Laporte's header off the line straight to Gabriel Martinelli. Eight yards out and with Ederson stranded, Martinelli hit the post. Replays showed Attwell briefly obstructed his view but not enough to explain an awful miss.

From the resulting goal kick, Gabriel took out Gabriel Jesus with the sort of excessive force no defender should apply when on a yellow card, and the Brazilian was duly sent off. So, in the space of 123 seconds, Arsenal had made four individual errors that further swung

the game in City's favour.

"[Gabriel] mentioned to me that [the comment was] about the first penalty moment, about Odegaard and what happened there, no dirty language was used just a comment," said assistant coach Albert Stuivenberg, in charge for the day with Arteta in touch remotely via a special video feed and separate WhatsApp group call. "It is a moment where young players still have to learn and we have a lot of young players, that is part of the process."

Nevertheless, City were hardly irresistible with the numerical advantage and relied on a scrappy stoppage-time goal from Rodri to secure their 11th consecutive league win and move 11 points clear at the top of the table. Guardiola cited the extra time Arsenal had to prepare following the postponement of their game against Wolves on Dec. 28.

"They had six or seven days from Norwich; we had two and a half from Brentford going back to Manchester and coming back," he told BT Sport. "And we didn't have energy. That is why we tried to put one more player in mid-field, for control.

"We tried in the second half to

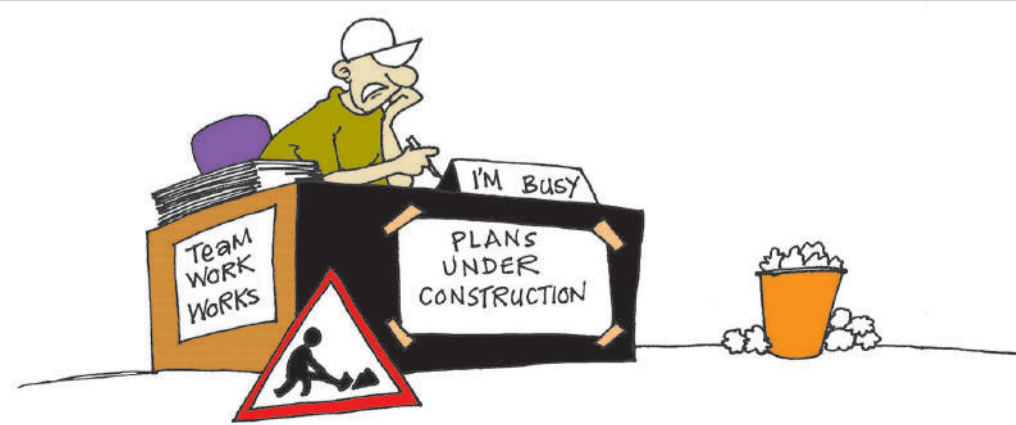
change it. Football we try to analyse many things -- sometimes it is the coin, sometimes it comes down on your side, sometimes the other side. That is the reality. We know what it means to win at the Emirates against Arsenal in the moment they are."

City appeared to be running on fumes, but there were still plenty of positives for Arsenal here, not least the marked contrast from August's 5-0 defeat at the Etihad Stadium when the team, admittedly depleted, looked in utter disarray.

"If you compare it to the start of the season, where we come from and where we are now, competing against one of the best teams in the world, we had a lot of chances, prevented them from getting chances, that is something we can build on," added Stuivenberg.

Arteta is getting plenty right, and he could be back in the dugout for Thursday's Carabao Cup semifinal first leg against Liverpool. Exiled captain Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang was not missed. But to finish where they currently sit, in the top four, two-minute aberrations like the one against City must be eradicated. **ESPN**

Gwiji by David Chikoko





Charles Koti (L), a livestock officer with Migoli ward in Iringa District, attends to a sick donkey at Mbweleli village during a government-run animal treatment clinic held at the weekend in collaboration with Inades Formation Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

Floods kill one, injure two, pull down houses

FROM PAGE 1

calm as the government embarks on measures to enable the area to return to normal and people to continue with their economic activities.

Meanwhile, heavy rain with strong winds in Kalengakelu ward of Mlimba-Kilombero District in Morogoro Region blew away the roofs of 41 houses, including at three classrooms of Kalengakelu Primary School, leaving many residents without shelter.

Mlimba acting divisional officer Aley Mhenga confirmed the spate of destruction on the eve of the New Year, noting that two people were injured in their house as a wall collapsed, appealing to the district's disaster relief committee to find ways to assist the victims.

Ward councillor Martha Mkula thanked the district authorities for urgent assistance following the disaster, asking for more action towards assisting the victims, and repairing the classrooms.

In Handeni District more than 100 people were without shelter as heavy rain with strong winds destroyed 20 houses and waylaid

electricity power lines, with DAS Mgeta visiting the victims at Kwamatuku village, viewing the extent of the destruction.

Early last month, a heavy downpour accompanied by strong winds injured eight people and destroyed 133 houses in Namtumbo District, Ruvuma region.

District Commissioner Julius Ningu said the rains and strong winds that lasted for 45 minutes in Likuyu-Sekamaganga village also swept roofs of three classrooms at a primary school.

"Several old trees were also brought down by the strong winds," the DC affirmed, noting that six of the injured villagers were treated at a health center and discharged while two were referred to Namtumbo district hospital for intensive treatment.

Villagers without shelter are being accommodated by relatives while others stay in secondary housing they possess, he stated.

The DC who inspected the affected village said quantity surveyors and civil engineers were evaluating the scene to establish the extent of the damage and what it costs to remove its effects.

TRC: 14.7trn/- so far used on SGR project

FROM PAGE 1

firm for contracts to build the 294-kilometer section of the railway from Makutupora to Tabora, the third portion of the Dar es Salaam-Mwanza line.

The Dar es Salaam-Morogoro portion was now 95-percent complete, the Morogoro-Makutupora portion reaching 75-percent completion and work is to start on the newly signed Makutupora-Tabora part, after which the Tabora-Mwanza portion will follow, whose contractual

papers are now being processed, he said.

The government will next month sign contracts for starting work on the Tabora-Mwanza section, as the tendering process arrives at a conclusion, he remarked.

Earlier, in his sermon at the prayer session, Padre Izengo Albert of Old Maswa Church said the railway will spur development for the nation as well as open up investment opportunities.

"It is our hope that the modern railway, once completed will open up economic boundaries and our

people will immensely benefit from it. Hence we should pray for the completion of the project entrusted to TRC," he said.

Simiyu Regional Commissioner David Kafulila said electric trains have been a dream for the past half-century, "so the SGR is something to be proud of, and the government must be praised for it," urging Tanzanians to continue economic uplift initiatives and support President Samia's efforts.

Speaking at the signing of the SGR Phase III contracts, the president defended the government's

borrowing trend saying it was the only way to fast track development.

She said she will seek more concessional loans for infrastructure projects, use every means including borrowing to ensure strategic projects started by her predecessor are completed on time.

"I have noticed there are efforts to discourage us from seeking loans. Even developed countries borrowed and managed to do what they have done. We cannot use levies to carry out huge projects like SGR; it will take time so we will borrow," she added.

Helping farmers in Kenya adapt to the climate crisis

By Leo Wilson

The harsh midday sun beats down on the withering papaw plants in Maureen Adhiambo's patch of land.

The villagers in Kamenya have not seen rain for months, and when it does come, the soil is too dry and loose to retain any of the moisture or nutrients. Last year Adhiambo saw her maize dry up long before it could mature. Like many farmers in the Homa Bay region, on the south bank of Kenya's Lake Victoria, she is staring at yet another cycle of crop failure.

"Farming has been frustrating for us," says Adhiambo, in the shade of a thirsty-looking banana plant. "Look at my neighbours' farms. They too will harvest very little, if any. Changing weather patterns and poor soils have made it difficult to make a decent living out of farming."

To support her family, the mother of three had moved to the neighbouring county of Migori in 2016 for a job selling life insurance. But that did not fare well and she went home a year later to take another shot at farming.

She planted beans, onions and other vegetables in the hope that the rains due from March to May would arrive on time, but they did not. She tried again in October but the short rainy season failed too. She also lost her 13,000 Kenyan shillings (£84) investment. Frustrated, she decided to try her hand at poultry keeping.

About 10km from Adhiambo's home, in Seka village, 35-year-old Dominic Owuor tends a healthy crop of kale while on a nearby piece of land, tomato plants are thriving. His seven acres, leased from his neighbours, contrast sharply with Adhiambo's. Here, the soils have a heavier water and nutrient retention

ratio, thanks to water that Owuor pumps from Lake Victoria. However, he hasn't had an easy time switching from paid employment to farming either.

After graduating, Owuor took up teaching but he left in 2013 to work in the financial sector before going into full-time farming in 2018.

"I tried my hand at farming while still employed, hoping to contribute to food security and provide employment to young people. But I knew little about agribusiness and the kind of plants that can withstand deteriorating weather patterns. I also employed casual labourers who weren't well versed in farming either. Out of my initial investment of 100,000 Kenyan shillings, I barely managed half of that in returns," he says.

Farming around Lake Victoria is a hit and miss affair. They have seen the impact of a changing climate as the lake's water level has risen and swallowed hundreds of acres of land. For those on higher ground, prolonged droughts have killed off young crops. The erratic climate and poor knowledge of viable agricultural practices have devastated food security and economic prospects for people who relied on fishing.

According to the World Bank Group climate change action plan 2016-2020, the world will need to produce 50% more food by 2050 but estimates that with current practices, there will be a 40% water shortfall between demand and available supply.

"Climate-smart land use, applied across the agricultural, forestry, fisheries, and conservation sectors, can increase food production and farmers' income while offering large opportunities for climate resilience," says its report.



Zanzibar Education and Vocational Training minister Simai Mohammed Said (2nd-R) draws the curtain at the weekend to launch Kasu Industrial Co. Ltd at Maruhubi as part of the run-up to the 58th anniversary of the January 12 Zanzibar Revolution. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

Bomb trap injures three Tanzanian peacekeepers

FROM PAGE 1

contested areas of CAR, which have already caused dozens of deaths and injuries among the civilian population.

Mankeur Ndiaye, a special representative of the UN Secretary-General and head of MINUSCA, wished for a speedy recovery of the wounded peacekeepers.

"Despite the difficult conditions our peacekeepers face on the

ground, aggravated by the appearance of improvised explosive devices, MINUSCA remains resolutely determined to carry out its mandate for peace and stability," he said.

This incident was the third time that MINUSCA peacekeepers have fallen victim to explosive devices detonating beneath UN vehicles, the UN administrator noted.

Back in November, a rogue attack

by elements of the presidential guard against a vehicle from the mission left ten unarmed Egyptian blue helmets injured in Bangui.

At the time, Secretary General António Guterres urged CAR authorities to spare no effort in investigating that "unacceptable attack" on unarmed peacekeepers.

More than 14,000 uniformed personnel serving with MINUSCA, which has been in the country

since 2014, following an eruption the previous year of deadly inter-communal violence between mainly Christian and mainly Muslim militias, which destabilized his country. The government declared a unilateral ceasefire in October, and although much of the country remains in the grip of armed groups, positive steps have been made this year to strengthen democracy and the rule of law, observers noted.

SPORT

Claxton oops over James late,
Nets hold off Lakers 122-115

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

BCCI clears players' longstanding match fees for 2020-21 domestic season

MUMBAI

In a move best described by a domestic player as a "Christmas gift", the BCCI has disbursed match fees it owes hundreds of domestic cricketers - male and female - in the country for tournaments that had to be shelved due to Covid-19 in the 2020-21 season.

ESPNcricinfo understands that players from those associations who have duly sent in the filled in invoices have been compensated 50% of their regular earnings.

The Ranji Trophy was cancelled for the first time in its 85-year history in 2020-21 for the senior men.

In the women's category, the T20 tournament was shelved due to the severity of the second wave of the pandemic in the country.

The compensation payments are in line with the formula worked out by the Mohammad Azharuddin-led seven-member working group, which was tasked with formulating compensation for the Covid-19-affected season by the BCCI.

A player who featured in eight games in the 2019-20 Ranji Trophy, for example, received INR 11.20 lakh (USD 15,000 approx.), the match fee per day for the four-day tournament being INR 35,000 (USD 470 approx.). For 2020-21, under the compensation structures drawn up, the same player will receive INR 5.10 lakh (USD 6,800 approx.).

Players who didn't make the XI for certain games in 2019-20 were compensated for 2020-21 on a pro-rata basis.

For example, if a player was part of a team's XI for four games and on the bench for four games in the 2019-20 season, for 2020-21 he was compensated with 50% of the match fees for four games and 50% of the corresponding fees for players outside the starting XI for the remainder of the games.

The clearing of payments coincides with the start of the new Ranji Trophy season from January 13 to March 17 across seven venues, even as confusion reigns among certain players over further tweaks to the scheduling owing to the rise in Covid-19 cases across the country, accelerated by the Omicron variant.

Earlier in the week, the BCCI was forced to postpone the Under-16 tournament, the Vijay Merchant Trophy, because "participants are still not vaccinated and as such, are vulnerable" as per BCCI secretary Jay Shah.

Those below 18 years of age are still not eligible to take the vaccine in the country; eligible recipients in the age group of 15-18 years will only be administered Covid-19 vaccines starting from January 3.

Regarding payments for 2021-22, the board had earlier announced a significant increase in match fees for domestic players.

The new pay slabs, which will be in place from this season, will have the senior men earning between INR 40,000 and 60,000 (USD 540 to 810 approx.) per day of cricket while senior women will earn up to INR 20,000 (USD 270 approx.) per day.

That hike is a small one for the players in the first category (under 20 matches) but an almost 100% hike for more experienced hands (40-plus games), while those who have played between 21 and 40 matches will earn INR 50,000 (USD 680 approx.).

Earlier, senior men's cricketers earned INR 35,000 (USD 470 approx.) per day for first-class and one-day games regardless of how many caps they had, and INR 17,500 (USD 240 approx.) per game for T20s.

For the senior women players, who earlier earned INR 12,500 (USD 170 approx.) per one-day match and INR 6,250 (USD 85 approx.) per T20 match, the pay has been raised to INR 20,000 for playing XI members and INR 10,000 (USD 135 approx.) for those on the bench in both limited-overs formats. There currently isn't a first-class competition for women in India, the last multi-day women's tournament in the country - the 2017-2018 Senior Women's Inter-Zonal Three-Day Game - having been held in March-April 2018.

While the hikes have been welcomed by the playing fraternity, there's disgruntlement at a significant reduction in the number of matches.

In 2019-20, for example, each side played eight group matches in the Ranji Trophy followed by three knockout games (if they made the final). This time around, teams will play just five group matches, which significantly reduce the net increase in pay.

Players across the country are hoping to address this issue at the conclusion of the current season, when the BCCI organises their annual captains and coaches conclave.

AGENCIES

Yanga yet to offer midfielder new contract

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA's Congolese midfielder, Mukoko Tonombe, has confirmed the outfit has yet to offer him a new contract.

The midfielder's statement comes after rumors had it that he refused to put pen to paper and keep on playing for the club, with some of the side's members seeing him as a traitor.

The DR Congo midfielder opened up that the matter is clear and he has never opted out of signing a new contract.

Tonombe said he has not rejected the new contract offered by the club but has not yet been approached by Yanga's management to discuss the contract extension so that he can remain at the club.

"I have not refused to extend a contract, but the truth is that so far I have not been offered the extension, people should know that I am still a Yanga player as I have six months remaining on my contract," Mukoko noted.

The former AS Vita Club player said contract extension at Yanga would be a priority for him because that is the most important move he hopes to make to have a call-up to his country's national team.

The midfielder moreover quashed rumours linking him to move to either Simba SC or Morocco's RS Berkane.

The footballer noted: "No. I am still a Yanga player, that is just a rumour."

This season has seen Tonombe struggle for a place in his outfit's starting lineup.

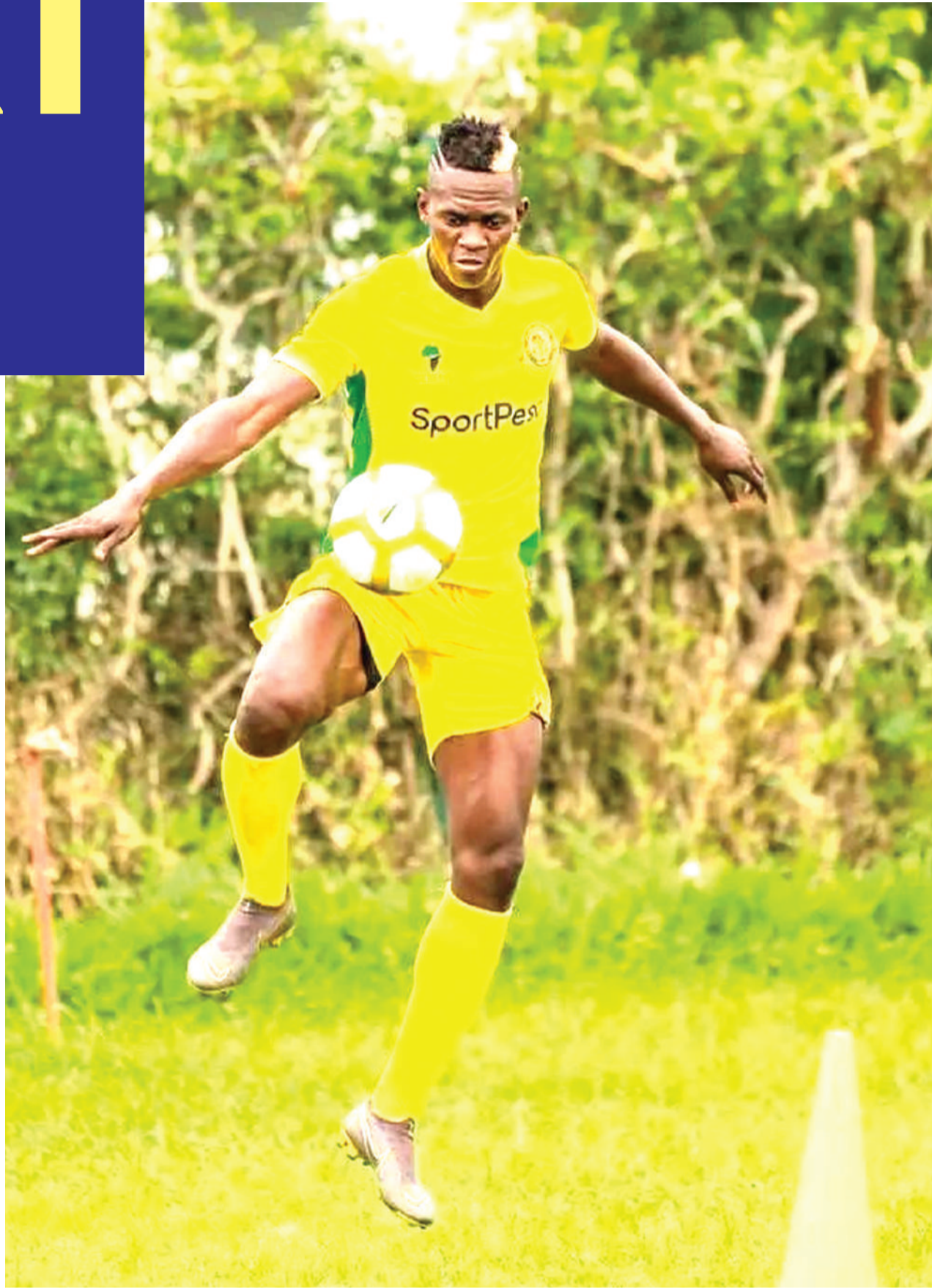
Midfielders, Yannick Bangala, Zawadi Mauya, and Khalid Aucho have been regular starters for Yanga, with Tonombe serving as a substitute.

Tonombe was a key player at Yanga last season, securing a nomination for the Premier League's best player of the year prize as well as being selected for the top-flight's team of the season team.

Last season the midfielder played alongside Feisal Salum, who is currently playing as the second striker.

Tonombe's form may have started to decline in the second round of the past season's Mainland Premier League.

Midfielder Salum Abubakar's presence at Yanga is increasingly giving Tonombe a difficult time having a place in Yanga's starting lineup.



Mukoko Tonombe.

Premier League Board slaps fines on Simba SC, Yanga

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA has been fined 1m/- for entering Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam via an entrance that was not approved by Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) when the outfit faced age-old rival, Simba SC, in an NBC Premier League match which took place at the venue on December 11 last year.

The punishment has been issued to the side after the TPLB steering and management committee reviewed various Premier League events at its meeting that took place on December 30.

Simba SC's Chief Executive Officer, Barbara Gonzales, has been fined 500,000/- for allegedly using her social media pages to condemn a decision by TPLB officials to prevent her and her family from entering the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium to watch the Simba SC versus Yanga game.

A statement from the TPLB committee stated that Barbara did not agree with the instructions of the game officials regarding the VVIP and decided to violate the rules.

According to the committee, she has been punished following Premier League rule 46 (10) on control of leaders.

Simba SC's Chairman, Murtaza Mangungu, has also been fined 500,000/- for making controversial statements through the media about the TPLB and the Tanzania Football Federation



Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) Chairman, Steven Mguto.

(TFF).

Mangungu allegedly stated that the two bodies are planning to see to it Yanga lifts the Premier League title at the end of the season.

The punishment for Mangungu is following rule 46 (10) regarding control of officials.

Simba SC head coach, Pablo Franco, has been warned by the TFF to restrain his emotions after he angrily threw a water bottle and prevented his outfit's center back, Serge Pascal Wawa, from entering the pitch in the league match against KMC FC in Tabora.

The committee also asked all clubs to continue to implement all terms of the sponsorship agreements following the rules.

The body stressed that it is important for outfits to follow the directive because it is the basis

for the continued existence of sponsors as well as attracting other sponsors.

It also reminded the clubs to focus on and prioritize press conferences which, apart from helping to promote the league's sponsors, have had many benefits including strengthening good relations with the media.

The committee stated press conferences help to promote the league and assist the TPLB in connecting clubs with fans.

The committee noted it has decided to punish any club whose coach and captain will fail to attend a press conference from January this year.

The maximum penalty for the first offense following regulation 17 (56 & 60) of the Premier League is a fine of 1m/- and outfits are to face a 5m/- fine for repeated offenses.

Flexibles by David Chikoko





Dodoma regional reconciliation community chairman Bishop Dr Evance Chande (L) leads national prayer for peace in Dodoma city at the weekend to welcome the New Year. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

ARIMO set to start work on Mbalizi land formalisation

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

ARDHI Institute-Morogoro (ARIMO) expects to start formalizing unplanned settlements in Mbalizi town, Mbeya region.

The task is part of the planning, surveying and formalisation implementation programme of land in which the government provided the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development over 50bn/- for loan to 55 local councils countrywide.

Speaking here at the weekend, ARIMO Principal, Huruma Lugalla said 1.2bn/- will be used for the Mbalizi land project and the Institute's target is to finish the work mid-April this year.

"By that time we hope to finish planning and surveying all 35,000 land plots, with half of them to be in the process of formalisation ready for issuance of title deeds," Lugalla said.

He said if the work is completed in time, they will have helped the government and Mbalizi residents to have areas that have been planned and surveyed ready for title deeds issuance.

He added that ARIMO's strategies is to finish all its land formalisation projects in time as well as assistant

owners thereof get title deeds to assist them in their development activities, with the government getting its revenue through land rent.

"Apart from the Mbalizi project, we have also done similar work in Muriet ward in Arusha City where we surveyed 20,222 land plots, as well as in Kivule ward in Dar es Salaam where we planned and surveyed 30,140 plots with the exercise continuing," he said.

For his part, the Mbalizi Project's Coordinator, Manyama Majogolo said already a team of experts has arrived in Mbalizi for initial preparations before the main work begins, and added that after that they will start actual work January 10.

Majogolo further said they have started mobilising residents to participate in the project, including the participation of local government officials including those from the wards in providing education on the entire project.

"By that time we hope to finish planning and surveying all 35,000 land plots, with half of them to be in the process of formalisation ready for issuance of title deeds."

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

FARMERS in Lake Zone Regions have been drilled on the proper use of pesticides to enable them to be able to destroy pests in their farms of maize, rice and cotton and thus get high yields.

The beneficiary regions included Shinyanga, Geita, Simiyu and Mwanza.

Senior researcher from the Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticides Authority (TPHPA), Ramadhani Kilewa said yesterday that more than 80 farmers have benefited from the

Lake Zone farmers trained on proper use of pesticides

training while also enabling them to be good ambassadors to their peers to promote the agricultural sector.

Kilewa said there had been a number of complaints from farmers that modern pesticides are not strong enough to kill pests, but the

truth is that many of the farmers had little knowledge on the proper use of the pesticides.

"We know that chemicals such as pesticides, if not properly used, can cause harm to humans and animals. We are therefore working

to promote the correct application of these chemicals and reduce the risks to human health and the environment," he said.

Zuwena Omary, Shinyanga regional administrative secretary (RAS) urged the farmers to make

good use of the gained skills and ensure that they adopt smart farming practices by adhering to experts' advice for them to benefit from the sector.

She also warned traders who have been distributing or selling

agricultural inputs, to avoid selling fake pesticides to farmers saying that the government will monitor this closely and take stern legal actions.

Boniface Mbasa, one of the farmers, expressed gratitude to the organizers of the training and admitted that they were indeed misusing the pesticides.

He called on the government to control the importation of counterfeit pesticides in the country as they were causing massive loss to farmers and affecting people's health.

District council and residents join efforts on sec school construction

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA District Council, in collaboration with residents of Lusungu and Malowe villagers have completed the construction of the new Malowe secondary school that will eradicate the inconvenience faced by students having to walk long distances to schools.

Speaking to this paper at the weekend, Songwe valley ward councillor, Michael Ngailo thanked the residents for their contribution towards the school's construction.

Ngailo said through various Councilors meetings, he had

appealed to the government to look into the plight of the two villages due to their unfriendly geography location with the view of building a secondary school to eliminate the inconvenience faced by students having to walk long distances to schools.

He added that the government listened to their plight and began mobilising residents to contribute towards the school's construction while the government was sourcing for construction funds.

"I congratulate my fellow residents for completing the construction of the secondary school and I believe our children

will study in peace and realize their life dreams," he said.

Justa Elikaga, one of the villagers said sometimes they had to rent rooms near schools' areas rather than having to walk more than 12 kms.

She said due to the great urge they had, they decided to build three classrooms and the government supported them by completing the building and other needed structures.

For his part, Mbeya Rural Member of Parliament Oran Njeza pledged to contribute funds for completion of pit latrines to be ready when the school opens.



Neema Kazoviyo (C), an NMB Bank Plc customer service officer, in a phone conversation at the weekend with one of 22 customers who emerged winners of the tricycles during the final draw of 'Bonge la Mpango 2merudi Tena' promotion held in Bagamoyo. She is with NMB Bagamoyo Branch manager Bertha Mungure (R) and Gaming Board of Tanzania official Pendo Mfuru. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

UNHCR REPRESENTATION OFFICE DAR ES SALAAM

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL VACANCY NOTICE

Job Opening No.32298

UNHCR Representation Office Dar es Salaam invites qualified internal and external candidates to apply for the following position:-

Vacancy Notice No: O/32298
Position Title: Associate Programme Officer
Position Number: 1007997
Category: National Officer
Type of Appointment: Fixed-Term Appointment
Remuneration: Attractive salary (National Professional Officer - NOB), Entitlements according to UN Staff Rules and Regulations
Duty Station: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Duration: 1 year with possibility of extension
Start Date: 01 March 2022
Issue Date: 03 January 2022
Closing Date: 16 January 2022

Organizational Setting and Work Relationships

The Associate Programme Officer may be based in HQ, field/regional bureau, typically reporting to and be guided by the Program Officer and may supervise a small team of local staff. He/she may refer to UNHCR's Programme Manual (Chapter IV), UNHCR's corporate and regional strategic priorities, operation plans and other relevant institutional rules and regulations for further guidance.

The Associate Programme Officer will provide programmatic guidance and support with regard to the implementation of protection and solutions strategies within available resources. S/he will coordinate with the other sections/units to ensure harmonized programmatic approaches at all levels and throughout the UNHCR Operations Management Cycle. The incumbent will work in line with the overall UNHCR directions which crucially require working with partners, including with persons of concern, governmental institutions and the private sector, ensuring that programme management is approached as per UNHCR's Strategic Directions, Global Strategic Priorities (GSPs), Global Compact for Refugees (GCR), and corporate positions on SDGs.

The incumbent is expected to work in line with the multi-functional team (MFT) approach as defined within the Program Manual, ensuring the participation of relevant stakeholders in all phases of the Program Management Cycle.
All UNHCR staff members are accountable to perform their duties as reflected in their job description. They do so within their delegated authorities in line with the regulatory framework of UNHCR which includes the UN Charter, UN Staff Regulations and Rules, UNHCR Policies and Administrative Instructions as well as relevant accountability frameworks. In addition, staff members are required to discharge their responsibilities in a manner consistent with the core, functional, cross-functional and managerial competencies and UNHCR's core values of professionalism, integrity and respect for diversity.

Operational Context

Current Situation:
Tanzania hosts more than 246,745 refugees mainly from Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in the refugee camps in Kigoma region, Dar es Salaam urban, in Chago, Kigoma villages and old settlements. As of 10th December 2021, there are two refugee camps (Nduta and Nyarungu) in Kigoma region housing Congolese and Burundian refugees. Refugees in the camps rely on humanitarian assistance provided by the government of Tanzania, UNHCR, UNHCR partners and other national and international NGOs. In 2022 and beyond, UNHCR Tanzania will continue to work with the Government of Tanzania and humanitarian partners for the provision of protection and basic services to refugees and persons of concerns, delivered in accordance with minimum protection and assistance standards (including admission, non-refoulement, registration and documentation, assurance of basic security and other human rights standards). It will further continue to strive towards achieving international standards in the provision of basic needs and essential services such as shelter, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene for refugees in the camps.

Profile Statement for matching purposes

Under the direct supervision of the UNHCR Senior Programme Officer, the incumbent will need to demonstrate the capacity, skill set and competencies necessary to work in a challenging position with demonstrated leadership skills sufficient to lead discussions with government and NGO partners in planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of project activities in the refugee camps and urban areas. The operation gets funding from different donors for implementation of various programmes. This requires a lot of programme support and resource mobilization skills including skills in managing partnerships. A solid understanding of protection principles is key to understanding the programming needs of this particular operational context, given the complexities of the operation. Experience working in refugee operations, in coordination structures and in emergency planning will also stand the incumbent in good stead.

The candidate should possess excellent technical knowledge including UN Financial rules and regulations, experience in managing large-scale programmes with multiple Donor earmarking, experience in the emergency operations, experience in programme management/monitoring of complex operations, excellent reporting skills, knowledge of various Donor reporting requirements (including but not limited to EU, ECHO, FRM, etc.), in the context of Tanzania's operation, official language of communication is English. It is very valuable that the incumbent will be able not only to communicate but to comprehend documents, contracts and official government communications and understand the content of such correspondences.

Additional Factors

Experience working with UNHCR or any UN agency will be an added advantage

Duties

- Support in assessing and analysing the needs of persons of concern in a participatory manner, using an Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) perspective as basis for planning.
- Provide support on programmatic aspects of developing multi-year protection and solutions strategies and annual plans with corresponding priorities taking into account corporate priorities.
- Support Results Based Management and programme capacity in light of evolving requirements, programming approaches and gaps.

- Assist the planning process in compliance with planning parameters outlined in the Programme Manual and the planning instructions.
- Support the revision and analysis of plans, mid-year and year-end reports of UNHCR office(s) in the Area of Responsibility (AoR), ensure quality assurance and compliance with established policies, guidelines, procedures and standards.
- Assist in the provision of overall direction to broaden partnerships with key stakeholders in order to maximize the protection and solution response for persons of concern.
- Provide support to ensure a consistent application of the framework for implementing with partners, including the effective implementation of the policy on selection and retention of partners, management of partnership agreements, risk-based project performance monitoring, and risk-based project audits, among others.
- Contribute to ensure consistent and coherent monitoring approaches, tools and systems across the region, in line with global standards and policies.
- Actively contribute to UNHCR's programming of community of practice and continuously contribute to improvements of programming tools and processes.
- Oversee a timely and effective follow-up of internal and external audits observations and recommendations that relate to programmatic issues.
- Perform other related duties as required

Minimum Qualifications

Education & Professional Work Experience

Years of Experience / Degree Level
3 years relevant experience with Undergraduate degree; or 2 years relevant experience with Graduate degree; or 1-year relevant experience with Doctorate degree

Field(s) of Education

Economics, Business Administration, Social Sciences, or other relevant field.

Certificates and/or Licenses

Programme Management
Certification Programme in Programme Management (CP-PM)

Relevant Job Experience

Essential

Demonstrated experience in Programme Management including familiarization with the OMC and sound knowledge of Results Based-Management. Demonstrated experience in field operations, sound knowledge on the centrality of protection in programming, Joint Needs Assessments and the principles of targeting.

Desirable

Demonstrated experience in coordination within an inter-agency context and other actors, in a refugee or humanitarian context. Sound experience in program management training and capacity building activities.

Functional Skills

- MG-Project Management
- PG-Results-Based Management
- PG-UNHCR's Programmes
- PG-Stakeholder management and coordination with Implementing Partners (Gov/NGO/Corporate)

Language Requirements

For National Professional jobs: Knowledge of English and UN working language of the duty station if not English and local language. Knowledge of the local language (Kiswahili) mandatory

Competency Requirements

Core Competencies:
Accountability
Communication
Organizational Awareness
Teamwork & Collaboration
Commitment to Continuous Learning
Client & Result Orientation

Managerial Competencies:

Judgement and Decision Making
Cross-Functional Competencies:
Analytical Thinking
Planning and Organizing
Stakeholder Management

How to Apply:

Interested applicants should express their interest by completing the online application form by following the paths below:

For internal applicants: MSRP - Main Menu - Self-service - Career - Country (Tanzania)-Associate Programme Officer

For external applicants: www.unhcr.org/careers.html Vacancies- Country (Tanzania)- Associate Programme Officer (use Internet Explorer)

Please note that UNHCR does not charge a fee at any stage of its recruitment process (application, interview, meeting, travelling, processing, training or any other fees).

Shortlisted Candidates will be required to sit for a test.

In case of difficulties with application process please contact email: tanda@unhcr.org

Due to the volume of applications only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Qualified female and candidates with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Kongwa residents drilled on better agro practices

By Guardian Correspondent, Kongwa

RESIDENTS of Kongwa district, Dodoma region over the weekend convened in a three-day special farmer's field day event tailored to impart them with the best agroecological practices, thanks to Biovision Foundation for Ecological Development of Switzerland.

The gathering attracted a wide range of stakeholders, notably, technocrats, students from primary and secondary schools, higher learning institutions, policy makers as well as farmers for learning and sharing experiences on how best to scale out the validated agroecological technologies with an appreciable pace.

The timely initiative was organised by at least three like-minded agro institutions who are jointly implementing a robust project in the district, christened 'Enabling a resilient and prosperous community through participatory agroecological practices in the Semi-Arid Region of Central Tanzania'.

The Institutes in question include the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI Makutupora), the International Crops Research Institute of the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and LEAD Foundation.

Among others, the event served as a key platform to accelerate capacity building effort and showcase best agroecological practices with an eye to help reverse rampant land degradation in the district.

Speaking during the event, Kongwa District Commissioner (DC), Remedius Emmanuel urged the farmers in the district to use the project wisely in order to improve their livelihood.

"Chamwino district is faced with diverse environmental challenges which have for years impeding the farmers to realize to enough yields, and thus, implementation of this project in our district is very important to help us contain the existing challenges, especially land degradation," he expressed.

He challenged the participation of the event to be good ambassadors for the roll out of technologies to other farmers within the district.

He observed that for years, the farmers within the vast district have been battling with severe effects of soil erosion, the environmental challenges which triggered to soil

infertility, loss of soil moisture as well as seed wastage, among others.

On his side, Elirehema Swai, the coordinator for research and innovation at TARI Makutupora detailed that the project was benefiting at least eight villages including Laikala A and B, Sagara, A and B, Mlali-Iyegu, Nghumbi, Lengaji and Moleti.

He said throughout the project, the farmers will be imparted with the best agroecological practices aiming at reversing rampant land degradation in project areas.

"Basically, we'll train them on how professional to create the Fanya Juu and Fanya Chini terraces in their farms,"

"The Fanya Juu and Fanya Chini agro-technique is the use of terraces on farm/land so as to improve water availability for plants and prevent soil erosion," he detailed.

Swai insisted that rain water harvesting was crucial for the farmers because the district was receiving low rain averages, from 400 and 500mm.

Giving more clarification, he said Fanya Juu means put soil on the upper side of the slope, added: "This prevent rainwater from outside the farm to flow into the farm hence preventing soil erosion by protecting the fertile soil in the farm from flowing away."

The other agro-technologies to the farmers, he said is 'Farmer Manage Natural Regeneration' (Kisiki Hai), and making of tied ridges.

"After starting to use the Kisiki Hai technique the farmers will later be trained on how to use the Fanya Juu, Fanya Chini technique," he informed.

He said the tied ridges are good at conserving soil moisture during short term droughts, ranging between one and three weeks.

Integration of in-situ rain water harvesting and fertilizer micro dosing is an alternative that helps increase the food security of pro-poor farmers in sub-mudded and Semi-arid areas.

"Basically, the initiative targets to combat hunger and poverty, and is committed to the dissemination and application of ecological methods that sustainably improve livelihoods among the farmers through improved yield while on the other side conserving the environment," he stated.



A land surveyor (2nd-L) explains to Huruma Lugalla (L), Principal of Morogoro-based Ardhi Institute Morogoro, during preparations for the formalisation of unplanned settlements at Mbalizi town in Mbeya Region at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

By Guardian Correspondent, Kagera

KAGERA Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) Prof Faustine Kamuzora has said the region, in collaboration with Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), is looking for a technology to assist Kagera residents the best way to store the banana crop.

Speaking to this paper recently, Prof Kamuzora said the region has been producing great quantities of bananas and in some cases, when other crops are also in abundance, the bananas get destroyed in farms, hence they were looking for a way to store the crop starting from the farms.

Kagera region looking for banana technology

"TARI can find for us the right technology for that and currently, TARI experts are scattered in the region's districts to assist us in that," he added.

Meanwhile, Prof Kamuzora said weather forecast reports has greatly helped the region in farming preparations and against disasters associated with rains.

He said they had taken all the

preparations for the current rain season, including advising region's residents to cultivate crops that reap within a short time.

"In Kagera Region we have been closely following up weather reports provided by Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA), they have been greatly assisting us for our protection and mobilised ourselves against all disasters from

rains whenever they are heavy or little.... In this season we were told there would be little rain, hence we mobilize ourselves accordingly for positive results," he said.

Prof Kamuzora said in the current season the rain situation is not that bad and have rained on average and farmers have reaped a lot of crops including potatoes and others.

Kyela community group offers 10m/- towards hospital expansion project

By Guardian Correspondent, Kyela

FUNDS, totaling 10m/- contributed by a group of people of Kyela District origin - Ibhaha group who live in various areas within and outside the country has assisted in the construction of a maternity ward at Kyela district hospital, Mbeya Region.

Ibhaha group was established with the aim of assisting the home district in health, education sectors and in economic development through visiting the district's attractions at the end of every year.

The group's Chairman, Eddo Mwamalala, speaking here at the weekend when handing over health insurance cards from the improved Community Health Insurance Funds (CHIF) to 10p households living in difficult environment including people with disabilities in Kyela District, said the money has been contributed by Group's members.

Mwamalala said the money has been provided to improve maternity services at Kyela District Hospital following the fire disaster to some of its buildings thereby causing congestion of patients at the hospital.

"Since we are part of the Kyela community, we decided to establish the procedure of returning home at the end of every year, in December

to assist our district in the education and health sectors, but also to support various entrepreneurs to develop their businesses, and we have been doing this for three years now, since 2019," he said.

Speaking to Ibhaha Group members, Kyela District Hospital Chief Medical Officer, Dr Mariam Ngwere said 10m/- contributed by the group has assisted in the construction of the hospital's maternity ward.

He said so far, the Government has provided 1bn/- and after completion the maternity ward will cost 3.8bn/-.

"We like to have such kind of patriots who offer themselves to help their community, their contribution has assisted in the one-storey building's construction, and we appeal to other stakeholders to come forward to support us with building materials including cement, round bars, aggregate, nails or cash," said Dr Ngwere.

She added that when completed the complex will have 105 beds, and it will serve many pregnant women at a time than is the case now.

For her part, Acting Kyela District Executive Director, Regina Kamala than ked Ibhaha Group members for offering themselves to assist the community and promised to provide them with great cooperation in the service of the people of Kyela.



Child Help International president Pierre Mertens (2nd-R, gesturing) makes remarks at a nutrition and spina bifida workshop held in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

South African parliament building fire partly contained

CAPETOWN

SOUTH Africa's parliament in the legislative capital Cape Town yesterday confirmed a fire on its precinct and said it has been partly contained.

The fire, which the city initially said was reported to the Fire and Rescue Services on 5:03 a.m. but later corrected the time to 6:12 a.m., has affected both the Old Assembly Wing and the National Assembly Wing of the buildings of the

parliament, which house the lower chamber of National Assembly and the upper chamber of National Council of Provinces, the parliament said in a statement.

The fire has been contained in the old wing and firefighters are currently trying to control the fire in the new wing, where the fire has affected the National Assembly chamber, it said, adding that no person has been injured.

The cause of the fire has not been established and investigations

are underway by the relevant authorities, it said.

The National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure led by Minister Patricia De Lille, the Deputy Minister of State Security Zizi Kodwa, the South African Police Services and security personnel of Parliament are in the parliamentary precinct to assess the situation.

Jean-Pierre (JP) Smith, Cape Town's Mayoral Committee Member for Safety and Security, had said the city's Fire and Rescue Services first

received a call of a building alight in Parliament Street, which is within the precinct of the parliament, and arrived at the scene about minutes later.

Initial reports indicated the fire started in an office space, he said. About 36 firefighters from different firefighting crews are on the scene and they requested more resources to contain the fire, according to him.

The parliament complex has century-old buildings.

By Special Correspondent

Jambojet eyes DRC business travellers

DEMOCRATIC Republic of Congo (DRC) is an emerging travel and business destination following the signing of key bilateral agreements by President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Congolese counterpart Felix Tshisekedi in April 2021.

Travel agents report increased interest for both business and leisure packages as the former Belgium colony opens up its economy to African.

The business value proposition is made more compelling by the fact that DRC is a step closer to being admitted as the newest member of the East Africa Community after the bloc's ministers in late November gave the nod to a report recommending its membership.

Eager to align its operations to tap into the emerging opportunities, Jambojet has been on a robust regional expansion. In September 2021 the airline launched two weekly flights from Nairobi to Goma, the

capital of North Kivu province of the DRC and added a third frequency in November.

"As passenger numbers grew to over 40 percent we increased our weekly services and soon we will add a fourth frequency," said Karanja Ndegwa CEO and Managing Director of Jambojet "What Jambojet is doing is to follow the business opportunities in DRC and to open up Goma."

And to ensure that the airline does not miss out on those opportunities, Ndegwa was part of a 14-day Kenya DRC Trade Mission that toured four cities early this month.

Ndegwa said the budget airline has stepped in to ease travel between the two nations.

"Trade between the eastern part of DRC and Kenya is big and uses the

port of Mombasa. We can connect people and industries which makes running and monitoring their businesses cheaper."

Equity Bank, the United Nations and other international NGOs are among several entities operating Goma with personnel commuting regularly between the two countries.

Prior to the carrier's entry, travel to Goma was via Addis Ababa or Kigali, a journey of up to 19 hours with average fares of \$600.

"Trade between the eastern part of DRC and Kenya is big and uses the port of Mombasa. We can connect people and industries which makes running and monitoring their businesses cheaper."



RTI (www.rti.org) is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to conducting innovative, multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. With a worldwide staff of more than 4,000 people, RTI offers innovative research and development and multidisciplinary services.

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

Competitive Solicitation under USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili's Grants Program

The goal of the recently awarded USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project is to address dynamics that hinder habitat connectivity and the long-term persistence of biodiversity in Tanzania. This project will incorporate a series of interventions that support and strengthen government and civil society capacity for biodiversity conservation in a manner that: i) increases private sector engagement in conservation and natural resource management (NRM); ii) builds the capacity of the public sector and civil society; and iii) strengthens the policy and regulatory framework for conservation and NRM. These interventions together will reduce threats to biodiversity in Tanzania while moving Tanzanian institutions further on their journey to self-reliance. To achieve the above goals USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project wishes to cultivate partnership with various civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have footprints in the targeted corridors.

The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project is designed to address some of the key drivers and associated threats to improve conservation in Tanzania, particularly in six corridors: Amani-Nilo, Kwakuchinja, Nyerere Selous- Udzungwa, Kigosi Moyowosi-Uvinza, Tarangire-Simanjoro Plains, and Pemba Channel Conservation Area (PECCA). This first RFA seeks applications to advance conservation interventions only for Kwakuchinja, Amani-Nilo, and Kigosi Moyowosi -Uvinza corridors.

Grants Anticipated Funding

Pending the availability of funding provided for this purpose by USAID, Tuhifadhi Maliasili anticipates awarding up to \$1,000,000 in grants to fund appropriate and eligible applications submitted in response to this announcement:

Minimum of eight (8) to ten (10) grants with budgets not exceeding \$250,000, to non-governmental, regional or local organizations and to US organizations with budgets not exceeding \$100,000, to promote connectivity activities that fall in one or more of the three thematic areas detailed below.

A) Build institutional capacities of both public and private stakeholders

Tanzania requires strong, able government, non-government institutions, civil society institutions, and organizations to effectively manage the country's natural resources. There should be a purposeful capacity building for all organizations to develop plans, monitor, and measure human and institutional capacity development as well as measure performance. Through this RFA the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project will support prospective applicants that work in the following areas:

1. Youth internship
2. Women's empowerment in biodiversity conservation

B) Increase private sector engagement in biodiversity conservation and NRM

Private sector engagement in conservation is critical to leverage resources and skills for biodiversity conservation. Under this theme, the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project will provide technical assistance, catalyze investment, and build the capacity of businesses to align their operations with wildlife corridor, local economic priorities, and land use priorities for conservation and local government authorities' (LGAs) objectives. This will address the market linkages for viable conservation enterprise value chains and then link community groups with private sector actors to leverage resources, for biodiversity conservation in Tanzania. USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili will provide grants to local CSOs to support the following activities:

1. Community Conservation Enterprises (CCEs) in areas of connectivity
2. Scale-up of existing and functioning funding models in areas of connectivity
3. Awareness creation to different private sector entities on natural resources-related crimes with a focus on areas of connectivity

C) Improve the policy, regulatory, and enabling environment for biodiversity conservation and NRM

To support the long-term viability of Tanzania's wildlife and natural resources, the development and application of key policies and legislation are needed to provide the legal basis for promoting decision making and conservation of biodiversity. In this theme USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili will partner with local organizations to support the improvement of the policy framework and the use of data for informed decisions through the following areas:

1. Establishment and operationalization of the Corridor Working Groups
2. Facilitate Land Use Planning in the Prioritized Corridors
3. Awareness raising on corridor importance among communities
4. Conservation education/training in secondary schools
5. Monitoring of animal movement in key wildlife corridors

Organizations, Individuals, Activities and Costs that will NOT be Funded

Ineligible organizations and individuals include:

- Government entities and employees;
- Political parties, groupings, or institutions or their subsidiaries and affiliates;
- Organizations and individuals that advocate, espouse, or promote anti-democratic policies or illegal activities;
- Faith-based organizations whose objectives are for discriminatory and religious purposes, and whose main objective of the grant is of a religious nature;
- Any entity and individual whose name appear on the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-procurement Programs.

Ineligible activities and purchases include:

- Any purchases that are not necessary to execute the grant activity, including any grantee headquarter expenses (for organizations) or living expenses (for individuals) that are not directly linked to the implementation of the proposed project;
- Profit or fee;
- Indirect costs; (NB: Allowed only on Standard Grants)
- Fines, penalties, previous obligations or bad debt;
- Activities that contribute to the destruction, deterioration, or the degradation of natural resources and/or environment;
- Illegal activities as defined by the host country and/or USAID;
- Subsidies to organizations that are not legally recognized;
- Ceremonies, celebrations, parties, gifts or gratuities;
- Purchases of goods or services restricted or prohibited under U.S. Government source/origin regulations; and
- Military equipment, police equipment, surveillance equipment, abortion equipment and services, gambling equipment, or climate modifier equipment.

Applications will be accepted through February 2, 2022 for grants. The anticipated award month is April 2022. Activities should be planned for twelve months starting from the award date.

Further Information

- A copy of the full Request for Applications (RFA) can be downloaded from: <https://www.rti.org/current-opportunities>
- An online informational meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2022 at 2:00 pm (EAT). The information to access the meeting will be provided upon request to the email address below
- The request for application and the budget forms as well as any questions concerning this opportunity should be submitted to the Tuhifadhi Maliasili Grants Unit at: grants@maliasili.rti.org.

Only selected applicants will be contacted.

GLOBAL PROGRAMS

Affiliate of the University of California, San Francisco

Plot 385 Mtitu Street, #7
PO Box 38665
Dar es Salaam
Tanzania

info.tanzania@ucglobalprograms.org

Job Opportunity – Senior Health Information Systems Developer

Location: Dar es Salaam
Application deadline: January 15, 2022
Start date: March 1, 2022

Background:

The University of California San Francisco (UCSF) is engaged in a five-year Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Tanzania (CDC-Tanzania) to provide strategic information and health information systems (HIS) technical assistance to the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MOHCDGEC) as well as the United States' President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and their implementing partners (IPs). We are recruiting an individual through our affiliated international NGO 'Global Programs' to serve as a Senior Health Information Systems Developer.

This is a full-time position with an initial contract through September 2022 and the possibility of extension subject to continued funding. The position is expected to start on March 1, 2022.

Main duties and responsibilities:

Under the supervision of the Health Information Systems Director, the Senior HIS Developer shall be responsible for designing, developing, implementing, testing, maintaining, auditing, and improving new and existing health information systems and project software. The developer will also bring expertise to activities related to developing EMR (electronic medical records), Lab, and other health information systems. The developer shall also ensure that all software developed conforms to set software development standards by conducting rigorous diagnosis, tests, code debugging, and technical documentation through reference manuals.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Work with the HIS team to design software solutions by studying information needs, systems flow, data usage, and work processes while adhering to the software development lifecycle.
- Evaluate, maintain, and evolve existing health information systems such as CTC2, CTC3, CTC Analytics, and Monthly Portal.
- Manage and mentor junior HIS developers.
- Assist the HIS team in designing and implementing interoperability between existing health information systems such as CTC2, CTC3, CTC Analytics, Monthly Portal, Lab Visual Tool, IQSMS, PTCQI, etc.
- Support the piloting, rollout, training, and maintenance of HIS systems to Implementing Partners.
- Investigate, analyze, and make recommendations to management regarding technology improvements, upgrades, and modifications.
- Analyze user needs and software requirements to determine feasibility of design within time and cost constraints.
- Develop and coordinate software system testing and validation procedures, programming, and documentation.
- Prepare reference materials for users by writing operating instructions, flowcharts, layouts, diagrams, charts, code comments, and clear code.
- Undertake other tasks within the scope of the role as directed by management from time to time.

Experience, skills, and minimum required qualifications:

- A Bachelor's Degree or equivalent qualification in computer science, software engineering, or information systems required. A Master's degree in computer science, software engineering, Health Informatics, Information Systems Management is an added advantage
- Experience working with health information systems required.
- Advanced knowledge in Java, Python and other common programming languages is required
- A minimum of 6 years of experience as a software developer or engineer; demonstrable experience in developing a variety of software systems while taking on increasing responsibility for analysis, design, implementation, and development tasks [reference required].
- Advanced experience developing data-driven applications utilizing significant relational database engines as part of the overall application architecture (experience with at least two of the following is highly desirable: MS SQL Server, PostgreSQL, MySQL, MS Access).
- Working experience using jQuery, Git, Restful web services, Agile methodology, and android SDK.
- Proficiency in developing and troubleshooting complex software systems that run in mixed environments including Windows on desktop, server, tablet, and mobile systems.
- Demonstrable skills in enterprise application integration.
- Ability to work successfully in a team.
- Fluent in written and spoken English and Swahili.

Other desired skills/qualities:

- Excellent skills in critical thinking and analysis
- Excellent organizational and oral/written communication skills
- Ability to work independently and manage various tasks under tight deadlines

To Apply:

All applicants must address each selection criterion detailed in the minimum requirements above with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item.

All applications must include the following:

- A current CV with names and telephone numbers for at least 2 referees
- Copies of academic and professional certificates

Applications and supporting documents should be sent via e-mail to info.tanzania@ucglobalprograms.org and must be received by January 15, 2022.

NOTE: Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Stakeholders in Iringa praise govt for closing donkey trade

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

LIVESTOCK stakeholders in Iringa Region have praised the government for closing the donkey trade and abattoir.

The abattoir was run by Chinese investors who opened donkey's slaughterhouses that relied on animals from various parts of the country.

In separate interviews, they said the existence of donkey slaughterhouses had led to an increase in donkey theft in various parts of the country and endangered the safety of the animals.

They said that the presence of these donkey skin processing factories in the country is believed to contribute to donkey theft and added that the theft is hampering donkey-dependent families in transportation, agricultural, household activities, and daily income through self-employed monkeys.

A resident of Migoli village in Iringa District Rodha Mwangosi commended the government for closing all the donkey slaughterhouses in the country as they incited the theft of donkeys in their village.

She added that she had been one of the victims of the trade, as two of the four donkeys she had previously owned had been stolen from her, leading to a decrease in her income and an increase in workload.

Mwangosi said the closure of the factories would help increase the number of donkeys in their areas, as the trade would lead to the disappearance of the draught animals, who support various social activities such as fetching water, firewood, begging for various loads including construction materials.

Redenta Mngungile, a resident of Mtera village in Migoli ward, said that the government has heard their cries and closed the donkey abattoirs and now the animals are safe and after the cessation of the donkey trade, the donkeys will eventually breed in large numbers considering their offspring born after three years.

Mngungile added that the existence of these factories added to the burden of protecting donkeys as they were forced to pay workers between 30,000/- and 40,000/-.

The Project Officer from Inades Formation Tanzania, Fortunata Tarimo said that donkeys have made a significant contribution to the well-being of donkey keepers' families and smallholder farmers, as donkeys are used for various social activities and women are the main beneficiaries of animal donkeys.

She said that when donkeys are not present in the household, children and women are the main victims as the responsibilities are done by them (donkeys).

She added that in many rural areas, the various grain mills are far away, so they have to use donkeys to go and grind the cereals.

Donkeys help carry firewood, building materials in various construction sites including school construction, dispensaries so forth.

Tarimo also said that the presence of donkeys in these communities will help to put down a water bucket on the women's heads as women who often work to fetch water from a long distance.

She said there had been complaints from various communities about the existence of donkey processing plants and violations of contract terms as well as animal welfare regulations.

"Donkey theft is a huge waste of resources which is currently difficult to obtain easily for a low-income person after the cost of donkeys increases and reaches an average of 250,000/- for one donkey. "As we know a donkey takes a long time to reproduce due to beatings and overwork, many pregnant donkeys experience challenges and failures," said Tarimo.

Michael Koturo, the chairperson of Mbweleli village in Migoli Ward, said he would like to advise the government to continue with the position of closing down donkeys' skin processing factories as closing down such factories has reduced donkey theft.

Eunice Malibito a resident of Mbweleli thanked the government

for hearing their long-standing cry for the closure of donkey slaughterhouses which led to an increase in donkey theft.

She said due to the donkey trade, the donkeys have been greatly reduced in their village due to these factories as donkeys were heavily hunted for their skins and meat.

Christina Matayo, the Mbweleli Village Executive Officer, thanked the Inades for providing education to the locals on how to take care of donkeys and people are encouraged that donkeys are well cared for, with proper care through experts from Inades who are collaborating closely with the government.

In terms of suspending Chinese industries, Matayo thanked the government for hearing the public's call to close the donkey factories and added that the government should maintain that position even if they meet the government's criteria and conditions.

Isdory Karia is a Livestock Officer in Iringa District Council and a project coordinator on behalf of the Council said that a donkey is worth more than a sale, saying they were happy that the donkeys would continue to exist and their generation would not disappear.

He added that the continued presence of the donkeys would provide future benefits for children and future generations would not end up seeing donkeys in the picture again of livestock and fisheries as well as the government to oppose donkey markets and to defend donkey rights.

For example, before Inades Formation Tanzania started implementing the project in 2019, the donkeys' livelihood was very low, donkeys were found to have sores, overloaded and owners not following the five donkeys right. "But now the public has been educated through the organization (Inades Formation Tanzania) you could see between five and ten donkeys only one or two have sores, whereas previously all donkeys grew sores."

Inades Formation Tanzania director, Specioza Kifutu lauds the government through the Livestock Act of 2008, saying, the end of such slaughtering activities would lead to an increase in the number of donkeys in the country where so far it is estimated that Tanzania has an average of 637,000 donkeys.

She said the decision was based on the slower breeding of donkeys compared to the high rate of slaughter that existed earlier.

Kifutu added that donkeys serve in various activities such as fetching water, carrying firewood, carrying produce from the field to the house, or from the field to the market.

So looking at the profits made from the work that donkeys at home for more than two hundred thousand shillings, we are working with the government to educate the community to understand how they are losing big profits by selling donkeys for a small amount. "Only a small percentage of farmers are able to get rid of the hand hoe and move to modern agricultural technology directly. The use of animals such as donkeys is an important step from moving from hand hoe."



Donkey theft is a huge waste of resources which is currently difficult to obtain easily for a low-income person after the cost of donkeys increases and reaches an average of 250,000/- for one donkey



Moshi Urban district commissioner Abbas Kayanda (3rd-L) presents the prize car (pictured) model to Shemmy Chisumo, first winner of a Vodacom Tanzania 'Tusua Mapene' promotion in Moshi municipality at the weekend. Six other Vodacom Tanzania customers won TVs and smartphones through the firm's 'Show Love, Tule Shangwe' raffle. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Plea to govt to 'pass' new measures for community-owned secondary schools

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast,

Bukoba

THE government has been requested to approve new measures of the community-owned secondary schools which aim at facilitating the smooth operation of the schools as well as to enable them to survive and continue providing quality education to Tanzanians.

The appeal was made late last week in Missenyi district, Kagera Region during the general meeting of Kanyigo Development Association (KADEA), an association that owns a secondary and high school.

Twahiru Amran and Mwemezi Ngemera, KADEA members called on the government to lift a ban on extra classes and holiday studies to community-owned secondary

schools so as to enable them to survive.

According to them, the government should help community-based private schools continue with their school routines including extra time lessons after school hours and lessons during school holidays, so as to stimulate learning and perform well in national exams.

They said good examination results are the main key to schools' survival, as this attracts more parents to bring in their children.

They were responding to the chairman's report, Enock Kamuzora who expressed concerns that the student's enrollment in the future may go down, as many parents have been bringing their children to pre-form one course during December holidays, pupils who most of them

join the school for the following year.

"As the government has banned extra time and holiday studies, it will shake the enrollment considering that the schools are not a money making profit but just rendering services," he said.

The chairman was however proud of his school performance for many years since it was established in 1984. "This year, we haven't been stable financially due to Covid-19 pandemic effects, but we have managed to build two modern laboratories, and next year we will build a modern library sponsored by the Chinese embassy," he said.

Peter Kahesi, one of the members, urged KADEA to also invest in vanilla farming so as to improve its economy.

"An individual farmer in Kanyigo

and Kashenye wards should have at least ten plants as the consensus reached in village meetings so that the communities will be sure of income generation to meet household needs and afford children's education payments."

However, KADEA has shown a great concern that it plans to have its own vanilla processing plant.

Apart from running a school, KADEA also empowers Kigarama and Kashenye government secondary schools, and Kanyigo Muslim Seminary secondary schools, with stationaries and exchanging of academic knowledge.

The general meeting approved the 2022 budget, where the estimated income is 983,840,000/- and expenditure is estimated to be 1,045,510,000/- compared to 2021 income of 1,193,083,900/-.



Engineering students attend a boot camp at Kisosora science training centre in Tanga Region at the weekend, the focus being on drone-aided collection of data on public health for use in the Geographic Information System. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa,

Morogoro

GAIRO MP Ahamed Shabiby has called on Morogoro traders to be more creative and work hard so as to expand their capital and incomes and thus contribute well to the country's development.

Shabiby made the call yesterday when addressing residents at Kola cemetery, shortly after the burial ceremony of a popular businessman—Omary Awadh who died over the weekend in South Africa.

The MP said creativity and hard work was the only secret

Shabiby calls on Morogoro traders to be more innovative and diligent

to his success." I have managed to own a stable company, trucks and employed not only Morogoro residents but others from outside the region because I was determined and stood firm to achieve my dreams," he said.

Shabiby cited the late tycoon Omary as one of the people who worked hard to achieve goals working both on the farm and his businesses.

Hamady Islam, the Young African

soccer club team's spokesman in Morogoro region, insisted on a unit among young people saying that the late Omary succeeded to unite people regardless of their economic status.

"I call upon Morogoro fans to have a culture of visiting soccer veterans who those days played in big teams as a red star, Mseto, Shujaa sports clubs that teams produced famous strikers who nowadays are technical team bench officials, young African

team management here in Morogoro region have scheduled that culture of visiting veterans as to share experience and even supporting them because some of them are seriously sick," he said.

Mbaraka Abdallah, one of the family members promised Morogoro residents that they will maintain the love and hardworking spirit of their late father which include the spirit of sharing and uniting people.

Nigeria emerges as hub for illicit pangolin trade

By Special Correspondent

THE butcher grabbed a sack from behind a table piled with bloodied carcasses – copper-colored duiker, gray-black cane rats, a five-foot crocodile with bulging eyes – at the entrance to the biggest fish market in Lagos state and pulled out a brown ball the size of a grapefruit. “Pangolin...they pay good money,” he said of the Nigerian dealers and Asian buyers offering the equivalent of \$30 apiece – more than a third of the local monthly minimum wage – for a critically endangered animal whose scales are prized in some traditional medicines.

The butcher, who did not wish to be named, is a small player in global trade in pangolins estimated to be worth hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Experts warn that the illicit industry is increasingly centered on Nigeria, which in recent years has grown to become the most important wildlife smuggling hub in Africa.

“Because of the level of corruption, because our borders are so porous because our law enforcement is not strong enough and because we’re deep in poverty and people want something that will put food on the table, Nigeria has become this transit hub,” said Prof Olajumoke Morenikeji, head of the Pangolin Conservation Guild at the country’s University of Ibadan.

A slew of high-profile seizures this year has made clear Nigeria’s key role in the trade. In July, authorities seized 7 tonnes of pangolin scales as well as more than 46kg of elephant ivory worth \$54m from a house in Lagos. In September, authorities seized another tonne of scales in the city.

The Wildlife Justice Commission, whose intelligence work led to the raids, said the hauls were both connected to a global network active in Nigeria and central Africa that is responsible for over half of all pangolin and ivory seizures

worldwide.

The pangolin, a small gentle creature that resembles an armored anteater, is estimated by anti-smuggling groups to be the most trafficked mammal in the world, above African rhinos and elephants, tigers and abalone.

Following crackdowns and increased enforcement in eastern and southern Africa over the last half-decade or so, the criminal syndicates that move huge quantities of pangolin scales to China have turned to Nigeria.

“There’s no real investigative capacity that has been directed towards this,” said Julian Rademeyer, of the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime.

While trade in pangolins is illegal under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora – signed by 183 countries, including Nigeria and China – the World Wildlife Foundation estimates that almost 200,000 were poached in 2019 alone. UK-based organisation Traffic, the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network, calculates that about 20m tonnes of pangolins and their parts are trafficked each year.

The eight species of pangolin found in Africa and Asia are all protected, with two listed as critically endangered. The relatively high prices they command make them an almost irresistible target for hunters in countries with few job opportunities.

“What we need is to provide some kind of alternative source of livelihood for these people so that they can feed their families, so they can be OK without killing endangered species,” said Morenikeji. “African governments will have to do something about the poverty we have here.”

In the wake of the Covid-19 outbreak, Chinese authorities last year moved its own pangolin to the highest protection level and outlawed their use in traditional medicine.



Moshi Urban legislator Priscus Tarimo (in black) has a word with residents of Pasua ward leaders during an inspection tour of Mkoi water spring at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

Hong Kong ban on ivory sales comes into force

HONG KONG, China

A ban on selling most ivory products in Hong Kong came into effect Friday, the culmination of a three-year process to eliminate the once rampant trade in the city.

Hong Kong lawmakers in 2018 backed a bill opting for a gradual phasing out of the trade – a move some conservationists at the time criticised as a loophole that could be exploited.

The city has been accused of playing an oversized role in the industry, with one 2019 report by

a local conservation group saying it accounted for around a fifth of all global ivory seizures in the last decade.

On the eve of the ban, small queues of shoppers were spotted outside some stores selling the product in the city’s Sheung Wan district, according to local media reports.

Friday’s new rules ban the “import, re-export, and commercial possession of elephant ivory”, but make an exception for antique pieces dating from before 1925.

Offenders could face a maximum

fine of HK\$10 million (\$1.3 million) and 10 years’ imprisonment.

With its busy port and other transport links, Hong Kong had thrived as a major transit point for illegal trade in parts of endangered animals like elephants, rhinos and pangolins – most of it headed for consumers in mainland China.

Hong Kong authorities in 2017 made their biggest ivory bust in three decades, with the haul of 7.2 tonnes of tusks valued at around \$9 million.

Authorities seized another 2.1 tonnes in 2019 – after the phasing-

out process had begun.

African ivory was a sought-after status symbol in China and used to fetch as much as \$1,100 a kilogram (\$500 a pound).

China’s own ban on the ivory trade has been in force since 2018.

A spokesman for Hong Kong’s Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department said the government was “committed to the protection of endangered species, including elephants”.

In August, Hong Kong passed a law that classified wildlife trafficking as an organised crime issue.



Health officer Maimuna Mwaya administers Covid-19 vaccines to local residents at Swala grounds in Kigamboni District at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

US takes Ethiopia, Mali, Guinea off Africa duty-free trade programme

WASHINGTON

THE United States has cut Ethiopia, Mali and Guinea from access to a duty-free trade programme, following through on President Joe Biden’s threat to do so over accusations of human rights violations and recent coups.

“The United States today terminated Ethiopia, Mali and Guinea from the AGOA trade preference program due to actions taken by each of their governments in violation of the AGOA Statute,” the U.S. Trade Representative’s office said in a statement.

Biden said in November that

“The Biden-Harris administration is deeply concerned by the unconstitutional change in governments in both Guinea and Mali, and by the gross violations of internationally recognized human rights being perpetrated by the government of Ethiopia and other parties amid the widening conflict in northern Ethiopia,” the trade office statement said.

The AGOA trade legislation provides sub-Saharan African nations with duty-free access to the United States if they meet certain eligibility requirements, such as eliminating barriers to U.S. trade and investment and making progress

toward political pluralism.

“Each country has clear benchmarks for a pathway toward reinstatement and the administration will work with their governments to achieve that objective,” it added.

The Washington embassies of the three African countries did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Ethiopia’s Trade Ministry said in November it was “extremely disappointed” by Washington’s announcement, saying the move would reverse economic gains and unfairly impact and harm women and children.

Zambian women trained in local seed production, preservation

By Maimbolwa Mulikelela

AFRICAN Women’s Collaborative for Healthy Food Systems highlights the importance of local, agroecological and equitable food systems and raises awareness of the invaluable contribution made by peasant and indigenous women to food sovereignty and food justice, particularly during the COVID-19 crisis.

For decades, women have been credited as the custodians of local seeds necessary for sustainable agriculture in Zambia.

Rural women have been working on local seed production, multiplication, selection, preservation, saving, selling and exchange over the years, individually or under Smallholder Farmer Organisations (SFOs).

However, limited access to local seeds, poor preservation techniques due to unreliable storage facilities, and lack of standard seed banks threaten food security in the local communities.

Lufwanyama District in the Copper belt Province of Zambia, a home of too many remote communities that completely depend on smallholder agriculture for food and income, is on a mission to collect native seeds to build a seed bank.

Peasant farmers in Chapula of Lufwanyama district believe that not only should they plant the seeds that are needed during the 2021/22 agriculture season, but the right seeds – the ones that thrive in the challenging agro-ecological conditions and meet desired preferences, for example, as ingredients in traditional meals.

But this is no simple task because the indigenous seeds are not easily accessible for many subsistence farmers. Hence the importance of the ongoing Women’s Seeds Project by the African Women’s Collaborative Healthy Food Systems, which aims to promote the use of local seeds and meet nutritional values among rural households.

The project supports the health and nutrition of rural and urban communities that face marginalization and discrimination by using local seeds that are cultivated and conserved by peasant women.

Zambia Centre for Horticultural Training Principal Gloria Chitalu shares the vision of safeguarding native seeds and rebuilding the local seed banks for the betterment of the agriculture sector.

Ms. Chitalu says her institution will provide training to smallholder women farmers on Agroecological farming practices and most importantly on how to preserve local seeds for onward reproduction for the next season.

“We are establishing the demon plots. Once it is there, then we can organize training with the women and provide knowledge about the traditional crop varieties we grow and we can extend this programme to rural areas,” she said.

Ms. Chitalu explains that the center specializes in horticulture production with an emphasis on sustainable organic agriculture.

Agriculture experts believe that having a seed recovery, programme will help address current needs, through empowering farmers in the area to rescue and safeguard rare native seeds, and efforts to rebuild local systems in the 10 provinces of Zambia.

For example, a farmer from the Luano area, Anne Mutale, aged 65, started farming 32 years ago in a village called Luwingu.

Ms. Mutale grows a variety of both organic and hybrid crops such as maize, cowpeas, groundnuts, beans, sweet potatoes and cassava for food and income.

She chooses to grow these crops because of their nutritional values and ingredients in traditional meals. She explained her efforts and contribution to safeguarding local seeds despite a lack of standard storage facilities.

Living with Omicron is a global 2022 challenge

THE New Year has started with a bang as European countries roll back some of their newly rediscovered freedom after nearly two years of lockdown, with activities picking up at mid year, and towards the end of the year, the travel industry was at top notch speed as regular commerce was taking its place. Then on November 26 the world was told of Omicron variant discovered in travellers from South Africa, which traced the virus to Botswana, imposing travel restrictions with southern Africa as a whole. A month later they were rolled back, with Omicron in 100 countries.

The new variant poses old and new problems, and makes some of the usual solutions relatively unviable, while it also lightens the Covid-19 burden somewhat, as it involves fewer acute cases of hospitalisation even among the non-vaccinated. With the Delta variant those refusing vaccination faced near certainty of intensive care need, this isn't the case with Omicron, but as it largely overcomes initial vaccination, it spells trouble on a different scale. It is as if there is a new round of the pandemic without regard for vaccination but also without the piles of dead people as earlier.

So there is a raging pandemic all over the world but it lacks apocalyptic features of countries burying thousands of people in one day, or early this year a 'hamlet' in Mwangi District of Kilimanjaro Region buried 21 people in one day, a calamitous episode that has not recurred.

While conditions here have

changed for the better, and indeed never seriously out the healthcare system on balance as it occurred in other countries, all is not rosy. Travel restrictions are in particular coming back even without systematic lockdowns; at any rate fear is widespread, discouragingly.

What is as yet unknown is how far the Omicron variant, which has shown it defies vaccination though causing milder damage, will respond to newer treatments coming up, with booster shots being more systematically applied in the West. For countries that depend on tourism the outlook for 2022 isn't altogether positive as Omicron creates new uncertainties, while for other investment areas the outlook is brighter, especially with ongoing reforms intimated and directed by the sixth phase government. Widening membership prospects in EAC are also a boon for Tanzania as one wishing to produce for the DRC market has a variety of choices of location, but Tanzania is best.

Looking at prospects arising from EAC widening, Tanzania's strategic infrastructure projects can be seen in a new light, as precisely the sort of facilitation that the region would seek for to push integration rapidly. Even if Tanzania merely repaired its old railway lines and locomotives, a more forthright regional consideration would have made a Standard Gauge Railway project opportune, but fortunately the project took off for local modernisation visions in the first place. But adding DRC and making other countries look to DRC in investments and trade definitely uplifts SGR business prospects, substantially.

Let's have technology to convert plastics for use in construction

THOSE who follow new products on television and elsewhere may have noticed a new path-breaking innovation in managing plastic waste, hitherto one of the biggest environmental challenges the world over, but now almost resolved. There is an innovation where had plastic waste, especially the container kind where all sorts of oils are sold, are put into the convertor and out of it comes a sort of hard plastic that is used as a wood substitute. That is good news for conservation as we need to keep all the wood or trees we can still manage to save, find ways of profitable use of plastic waste, one among the worst types.

There are worse forms of waste, for instance electronic waste and nuclear waste, the ultimate unusable sort of waste that troubled earlier environmentalists, and lately there was a threat of a ship laden with nuclear waste arriving on our shores. Electronic waste is being touted to add to preparations of concrete after it is crushed, or where it can be recycled as metal though much of it is hard plastics as well, in which case that aspect of waste control may not remain troublesome for long. It's nuclear waste that has few real answers for it can't be 'recycled' into anything unless there was a 'black hole' that could suck it up.

Nothing can right away be said if converted plastic waste makes quality and relatively cheap wood, but experience shows that plastics started replacing wood a long time ago for many items of domestic and office furniture, along with replacing

iron, etc.

The costing can be compared even more favourably as in wood furnishing there are logs that must be cut up, and little recycling as wood isn't amenable to such processing easily. And environmentalists don't seek wood recycling as earth elements including cellulose chewing insects provide natural recycling facilities, and decomposition finishes what remains of woods.

While these processes are fairly well known in the country, it is unclear what commercial scale of their being put to use, profitably exists on the ground. People collecting waste products in streets target plastic bottles while glass or aluminium types are thrown into larger wastes, requiring machine separators to sort them out, or some of such materials survive incinerator fire, etc. The recycling industry shows signs of being rather rudimentary as yet.

Analysts ought to be in a position to set out specific initiatives with policy makers where investors are found who can make use of a wider range of hard plastics (even car bodies are anywhere between tin and plastics). Where there are buyers the material would not be piled up with domestic waste and be recovered from incinerators if possible, but collected right away as with plastic bottles at present. This is something that can be done considering the market for something that is cheaper than sawn wood and whose raw materials are everywhere, from homes, dumps to sea inlets, etc.

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2021: The signs and signals of a new dark age

By Richard Poplak

IF we are on the outside, we assume a conspiracy is the perfect working of a scheme.

Silent nameless men with unadorned hearts. A conspiracy is everything that ordinary life is not. It's the inside game, cold, sure, undistracted, forever closed off to us. We are the flawed ones, the innocents, trying to make some rough sense of the daily jostle. Conspirators have logic and a daring beyond our reach. All conspiracies are the same taut story of men who find coherence in some criminal act. But maybe not.' - Don DeLillo, 'Libra'

Somewhere within these literary parentheses, we can begin to make sense of 2021, during which two of the planet's most celebrated democracies suffered Cirque du Soleil-style insurrections, one of which was led by a man in a bear suit. Now, Helen Zille didn't cause either the American or South African coup attempts. But her intellectual lodestar - the now-mainstream antiwoke American right-wing shout-osphere - was at the centre of Donald Trump's attempt to subvert a free and fair election, in which he won a mind-bending 74 million votes but still got piped by doddering old Joe Biden.

Zuma, however, did cause an insurrection - the four-day South African boondoggle that followed his incarceration for contempt of court in July. Or, rather, his jailing was used as an excuse by an opposition faction within the ANC, and also by a vast gangster network in both KZN and Gauteng, to try to bring South Africa to a smouldering standstill, oust Cyril Ramaphosa from the presidency, and grab the levers of political and economic power.

Both insurrections failed, which is to say that they didn't meet their immediate objectives. But in the United States, the Big Steal narrative is now accepted by nearly half the population, and it is the guise under which election "reform" has brought the swing states like Georgia, Pennsylvania, Michigan and elsewhere under the direct sway of the Republican Party, which has no intention of pursuing traditional democratic pursuits in the future. Donald Trump holds the GOP in his idiot grip, and he's not letting go: the 2022 midterms will return to him the House and possibly the Senate, and - given the pandemic economic fallout - it's difficult to conceive of a Republican candidate losing in 2024. American liberalism, which failed to deliver on its manifold promises, is entering a period of darkness. Its durability is not assured.

Meanwhile, the recent trouble in SA is a textbook case of how failing post-liberation societies come apart at the seams. One thing is

certain: the violence was sparked intentionally. It formed the latest salvo in a battle between ruling ANC "elites", which on the one hand constitute the establishment aligned with mainstream media and the formal economic sector; and on the other hand the illiberal outcasts, aligned with the fringe media and the economic underworld. After Zuma's incarceration, the latter faction employed the techniques of 21st-century civil warfare, in which individuals are weaponised on social media along ethnic and racial lines. The strategic objective was the shutdown of the country's two most important provinces, in an attempt to subject the logistics, transport and food industries to rapid capture by shadowy players. This in turn sparked a species of popular uprising - a scream of anguish from the poverty-stricken streets.

As far as enforcement is concerned, such an attack can only be countered by solid intelligence work, backed up by responsive policing. But over the course of his two terms in office, Zuma brilliantly co-opted the security cluster, using it as a sort of Republican Guard in order to protect his rule and choke out meaningful opposition to his State Capture project. Many of the stronger operatives have remained loyal to that ongoing operation.

The new guys, having failed to re-purpose the repurposed State Security Agency, have used the intelligence services to keep a lazy eye on their opponents within the ANC - the usual way in which most former liberation movements consider "intelligence". Worse, in the long run, the security cluster has no operational intelligence for the trouble brewing over South Africa's numerous borders. The country is now left without sovereignty in the strict sense of the term.

This insurrection, insists President Ramaphosa and his cheerleaders, has failed. But again - has it? Parts of KZN have been destroyed, much of it forever - a pure example of reverse development. Relations between Africans and those of South Asian descent fester like an open wound, promising more violence. Massive army presence in poorer communities is now a normal South African occurrence.

The taxi cartels - Mafiosi dressed up as minivan drivers - have in some cases taken over community governance, often in consultation with the governing party. There is a creeping fetishisation in the press and in government for vigilante groups, assuming their leaders are articulate and black; less so if they are inarticulate and white - nevertheless, these groups exist, and they successfully protect their own small laagers. Ramaphosa himself, in a portion of his speech after the violence, urged a sort of

moderated vigilantism when he called for "community policing forums", presumably some sort of hybrid public-private structures in which the monopoly of violence is extended to include the average armed citizen.

More critically, much like the universe, the Executive expands by the day, as Ramaphosa is forced to bundle more and more governance under the care of the presidency. Of the truly big questions - what caused the Big Bang? Is God dead? How many superhero films are too many? - None is bigger than the following: How did South Africans get saddled with a Cabinet stuffed with such mind-bending mouth breathers?

Probable answer: Ramaphosa and his predecessors have bought loyalty with Cabinet positions, and must then try to govern by fiat. When the next guy comes along, likely to be less of a mensch than the current guy, he will find that he has the monarchical power of King Mswati of Eswatini. The temptation, as always, is to abuse it.

While the community response to the recent troubles has been admirable in many cases, it's not nearly enough to paper over what has allowed the illiberal forces to weaponise average human beings in the first place: systemic, brutal economic inequities.

The fallout has been severe: Ramaphosa's ANC was battered at the polls during the municipal elections in November - it was wiped out as a force in major urban centres, and its rural hold was also scraped away. This leaves Ramaphosa extremely vulnerable - there are no longer any guarantees that he will hold the leadership in the looming 2022 ANC elective conference. The men waiting in the wings are not kind, but it isn't like Ramaphosa hasn't been a complete failure - even his apologists no longer pretend that corruption has been "tackled", and that sustainable economic growth is just one coal-fired power station away.

The twin insurrections in two different but linked democracies point to a series of ruptures that have occurred over the course of this century. The first is driven by social media and the information overload that has caved in any sense of consensus truth. Populations are split not on points on ideology, but on which set of facts they believe. Mistrust of political elites has become so extreme that nuts groups like QAnon earn legitimate political footing, while here in South Africa social media groups drove the narrative that Zuma was "jailed without a trial", a victim of a political attack that saw him locked up without due process.

In America, the loss of truth is linked to the loss of status: namely

of the white under- and over-classes for which America's bounty was a birthright. They have now forged an unlikely cross-class alliance, and have managed to create a coherent revanchist campaign to roll back rights and entitlements won by women and minorities since the 1960s. It is a war to the death, and only one side seems to know it. The landmark Supreme Court abortion ruling, Roe v Wade, looks set to be undone, while - as we've already mentioned - it will be much harder to cast a vote in America come the midterms. One half of the population is about the Big Lie. The other is about the Big Steal. They are tribes that no longer share the same universe. Their only recourse is rupture.

In South Africa, social democracy has produced only a small number of winners. We need not relitigate how the country's inequities remained entrenched since apartheid, but the status quo that has held since 1994 is no longer viable - a new supremacist cabal hopes to grab the initiative from the sclerotic ANC elite, while destroying the formal - in this case, the white - economic base. Again, this faction runs on its own set of facts, its own prescribed narratives, its own alignments with anti-vaxxers and evangelical doomsayers. Their bespoke multiverse exists because it fills the hole that the South African establishment dug for itself when it refused to be munificent or efficient - alternative truths exist in the yawning gap between promise and possibility.

Can any of this be reversed? At the moment, that seems unlikely. The liberal elites don't seem to grasp the urgency. Entire swathes of America remain unknown to Democrats; entire provinces of South Africa are mysteries to the ruling ANC elite. In the fog of their ignorance, entire institutions crumble without their noticing - the press; the police; the courts; the public square. It's dire. The technocratic state moves slowly, but the lies and disinformation are swift - and now runaway global inflation is tearing a new imaginarium into global politics.

And hanging over us all is the spectre of climate change, the knowledge in our bones that the planet is desperately sick, but there is no will to heal it. And perhaps that is the lesson that 2021 has inflicted upon us: without will, there will be steady, irreversible backsliding. As a new Dark Age looms directly ahead of us, perhaps it's time to take the signs and portents seriously. If both right-wing Zille and "radical" Zuma are producing literary efforts, maybe it's time to reject these ridiculous dichotomies. The right is dead. The left is dead. At its best, under all the face masks and hand sanitizer, 2021 has delivered a call for a new politics. The question is: Will we answer?

Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey

Bad old news...and recent good reports from magical Zanzibar

Jambo...and a big hello for the start of a new year, which can herald good or bad beginnings...or perhaps a mixture of both...and perhaps...Zanzibar can be described either way.

Briefing journalists recently, the Executive Director of the Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority Sharif Ali Sharif said that "...we have rented 10 islands to eight potential investors who will hopefully manage to operate them, and help stimulate economic development in the Indian Ocean archipelago."

Well, I've watched this magical group of islands for decades, having stayed there as often as possible, since the days when there was only two government-owned hotels. Being there made me feel safe in the knowledge thatI WAS safe. And where else could you walk around like Stone Town alone at night, sharing greetings with the locals? Where else could you lose your bag, and have it returned almost immediatelyagain by the locals? Where else could I attempt to buy gifts etc. and have my money returned with the comforting words of "no, no.....wewe mgeni?" (you're a visitor.....just take it!)

.....but slowly, various policies were being geared to assist tourists....of which there was hardly any...but today, many years on....the locals are being swamped. So, will the "wageni" now take precedence over them?

Prime defaulters in the guardianship of their heritage, it's unlikely that the Isles government will ever want to define limits or slow down tourist sector growth; a cash cow that can be milked indefinitely for the mighty dollar.

.....to this end, public buildings can be commandeered for use as hotels; beaches can be 'developed' and some coastal areas concreted over to allow for even further 'development.'

.....and no doubt the Isles government will think likewise and applaud!

On those first visits I made to Zanzibar years ago, I thought it was the definitive tropical paradise, with the cultural integrity of its courteous and friendly people untouched by the negative aspects of westernisation and global tourism.

In its infancy, the tourist sector was being described as potentially dynamic but catastrophic. This could have been more accurate. And while past mismanagement almost bordered on economic sabotage, those responsible for the unsound policies etc. were often promoted.

Post September 11th, tourism became fickle and fragile saviour and it still remains so. But observers have long said that the isles were an easy target for international conmen masquerading as investors promising facile solutions to its economic



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi recently said that restoration of properties within Stone Town will begin soon, not as a matter of choice but out of necessity.

hardships whilst creating even bigger ones...much of which are home-grown.

I've quoted this many times, but an official once told me that "we must market our island in a way that brings in the most dollars". They certainly did that; leasing or selling off public spaces and buildings to foreign companies under dubious contracts which allowed beaches to be privatised.

The famous Changu Island once freely enjoyed by generations of locals, was one of many such shocking examples. But who was keeping count?

The UNESCO World Heritage status of the Stone Town has puzzled some visitors given the inap-

propriate structures built within it, and the abuses have been so striking. Perhaps local watchdogs have given up over the years, taken the "chai"..... and turned a blind eye

Meanwhile, unusual things are happening as Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Mwinyi recently said that restoration of properties within the Stone Town will begin soon, not as a matter of choice...but a necessity....though why did they wait so long?

He said that the process was done in accordance with the Zanzibar Lands Act of 1992, and that the government does not intend to establish private

islands.....Excellent news...and this is a big move forward for the local people who've usually been side-tracked when their interests were involved.

So even better, that job priorities will be given to islanders surrounding their project area.

.... time to close this boring piece, but do I feel any optimism for the wondrous Spice Isles ...well I attended a Zanzibar Tourist Show. So, let's hope the organisers honour their theme of 'Responsible tourism for a better and greener tomorrow'.... and I'll start a media environmental watchdog todayhalleluaha!

COVID-19: Future of an entire generation hangs in the balance

Zimbabwe conflicts, forced displacement, famines, and climate-change-induced floods, fires, and extreme heat, together with COVID-19 have combined to form a fatal cocktail that is robbing children of their education.

Last week on a visit to Cameroon, Education Cannot Wait met some of the 700,000 children there who are impacted by school closures due to violence. If this alone were not bad enough, just a few days before the visit, four students and a teacher were killed in a targeted attack, and, in a separate heinous incident, a young girl had her fingers viciously chopped off just for trying to go to school.

Education is a priority for communities caught up in crises

The bravery and determination of the children of Cameroon is a testament to the priority that crisis-affected communities all across the world place on education. They know that education transforms lives, paving the way to better work, health, and livelihoods. They know that continuing education in a safe place provides a sense of normality, safety, and routine for children and young people whilst building the foundations for peace, recovery, and long-term development among future generations.

They tell us their education cannot wait. But delivering that quality education to these children remains a persistent challenge.

By Yasmine Sherif and Joseph Nhan-O'Reilly

COVID-19 has upended our world, threatening our health, destroying economies and livelihoods, and deepening poverty and inequalities. It also created the single largest disruption to education systems that the world has ever seen.

Schools also play a critical role in ensuring the delivery of essential health services and nutritious meals, protection, and psycho-social support, which means that their closure has imperiled children's overall wellbeing and development, not just their learning. At the same time, conflicts continue to rage and the disastrous effects of a changing climate threaten our very existence and are driving record levels of displacement.



Crisis upon crisis
128 million children and youth people whose education was already disrupted by

conflict and crises have been doubly hit by COVID-19, with the pandemic creating a 'crisis upon a crisis'. The length and

extent of disruption to education systems around the world due to the pandemic has tested the very concept of educa-

tion in the context of humanitarian crises.

What does it mean to be dedicated to 'education in

emergencies' in a world in which 90% of schools were shut due to a global pandemic?

How do we support children get an education in countries affected by conflict and fragility when in peaceful and stable countries millions of children are at risk of never returning to school?

Will the push to deliver remedial education for the millions of children who have lost learning over the last two years stretch to helping the three million refugee children who were out of school before the pandemic?

Breakthrough or breakdown?

These questions underscore a stark and urgent choice. Do we push for an ambitious and inclusive breakthrough or accept that the pandemic has led to an irreversible breakdown in educational progress and will permanently deny millions of children the opportunity to go to school?

From Afghanistan to