



President Samia Suluhu Hassan receives a special message from President Azali Assoumani of the Comoros as delivered by that country's Agriculture, Fisheries, Environment, Tourism and Arts minister, Houmed M'Saidié Ahmed, at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House

Samia swears in RCs, RASSs, wags finger at district rivalry

By Henry Mwangonde

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday tasked newly appointed regional administrators with overseeing revenue collection at district level and control of funds, while showing dedication and trust in their work to return the trust bestowed on them by the appointing authority.

After swearing in newly appointed regional commissioners (RCs) and regional administrative secretaries (RASSs), the president cautioned the regional administrators to see to it that local governments organize the use of development funds from the central government, instead of infighting on project location and returning the money unused to the Treasury.

"Most of the time there is a tug of war between MPs, district commissioners and councilors on

making use of the funds," she alerted, saying this denies the people their right to get services timely.

She said the government allocates large sums of money to local governments which must use the funds to obtain revenues to reinvest in other development projects.

Scanning the various appointees, she said she does not appoint by looking at someone's color, tribe or background when appointing, but ability and record in the public service.

She arrogated to herself the quality of such appointments while underlining that they are conducted via advice from different agencies and sources of information, including those working with her office more closely.

She recounted the manner of making

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Oil, gas investors set for T 2022 energy congress

By Guardian Reporter

A Total of 1,000 participants and 100 exhibitors from 25 countries are expected to convene in Dar es Salaam tomorrow and Thursday for the fourth energy congress to explore investment opportunities in the energy sector.

Abdulsamad Abdulrahim, director of Ocean Business Partners (T) Ltd said in a

statement yesterday that the organisers "have been waiting patiently on the sidelines to establish and develop a national energy industry for the local economy, for local capacity building, and for the benefit of Tanzania."

The event will be featured by a wide ranging exhibition, to enable various firms to showcase industry innovation and

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Yara (T) to raise fertiliser output by 150000 tonnes

By Francis Kojubi

FERTILISER production is on the rise after Yara (T) Ltd invested in a \$30m (69.96bn/-) farm-input making plant in Dar es Salaam to ensure effective prices and reliable supply of the product.

Yara International ASA is a Norwegian chemicals firm producing nitrogen-based mineral fertilizers and related products.

Winstone Odhiambo, the managing director for Yara (T), cited this enhanced capacity over the weekend when visiting its production facility at the Kurasini suburb of Dar es Salaam.

With the investment the company is now

set to produce 500,000 tonnes of fertiliser per year, while earlier its capacity stood at 350,000 tonnes annually, he said.

The firm has invited 31 key agro-dealers to set targets for the new farming season taking off this month in various parts of the country, he said, pointing at the need to set out the kind of support they need from the fertilizer supplier. "We need to make sure that fertilizer reaches farmers on time and at affordable prices."

He lauded the government initiative for a fertilizer subsidy as it will facilitate access to fertilizers by smallholder farmers. The company has deployed farm officers to set out clearly how farmers need to use the firm's fertilizer "to reap big."

Demonstration farms have been set up across the country for farmers to learn new methods and technologies, he said, setting out the firm's overall thrust for growing knowledge to responsibly feed the world and protect the planet.

The firm intends to fulfill its vision of a collaborative society, a world without hunger and a largely protected planet. "We have taken the lead in developing digital

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By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Mbeya

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has urged the Ministry of Agriculture to allocate more funds into agro-sector research and development to help empower smallholder farmers to get out of poverty.

Opening the Nanenane exhibition at the John Mwakangale grounds in Mbeya yesterday, the VP instructed that the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) to take research results down to the farmers and ensure crop diversification for bigger impact.

He directed the Ministry of Agriculture to make sure that research gets the best

VP: Take yet more funds into agro-sector research

financial support which will facilitate creation of block plots to help small scale farmers get the experience on how to sustain themselves economically.

"Agriculture is about research, if it doesn't get adequate financial support to be able to address the challenges of smallholder farmers, it will fail," he stressed.

He said the agenda 2030 "Farming is Business" demands that research is given its required weight. The agenda focuses on improving productivity in the value chain for lucrative markets locally and abroad.

TARI must conduct research on agro-ecological zones where avocado and apple

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Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (L) pictured yesterday touring one of the pavilions at the Nane Nane (Farmers' Day) 2022 exhibitions now in progress at national level at Mbeya city's John Mwakangale grounds. It was shortly after he had graced their launch. Another photo on Page 3. Photo: VPO



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changes in the government since coming into office, saying at the start she consulted some close aides to appoint a few people to key positions.

"But over time we have brought other people on the basis of new reports therefore the people I appoint are those whom I believe match my visions and speed," she stated.

As if responding to social media comments and some critics, she said she had removed two soldiers from the position of RC as they have been recalled by their employer. There are nine RCs appointed where two were soldiers now recalled by their employer, she said.

Looking directly at the former prisons commissioner, Maj. Gen. Suleiman Mzee she emphasized that

he now has a civilian post which has a different code from the military or prisons.

"You need to work with those present there to bring development to the people," the president intoned, sending the same message to other newly appointed soldiers. They must stop wearing army uniforms in their civilian posts, she remarked.

Earlier, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa advised the newly appointed regional officials to dedicate the trust accorded to them by the president to serve the people.

Innocent Bashungwa, the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) minister said the new line up shall work to ensure the plans lined up by the government are realized.

Yara (T) to raise fertiliser output by 150000 tonnes

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farming tools for precision farming and work closely with partners throughout the whole food value chain to develop more climate-friendly crop nutrition solutions," he explained.

Insisting that the company is committed towards realizing sustainable mineral fertiliser production, he said the firm "fosters an open culture of diversity and inclusion that promotes the safety and integrity of our employees, contractors, business partners and society at large."

Louis Kasera, the manager for imports and exports at the Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA), said the government is working with stakeholders in the fertilizer sub-sector to ensure farmers are well supplied with the product.

"With the 150bn/- fertiliser subsidy by the government, TFRA is confident that during the farming season starting

this month farmers will be supplied with the product at more affordable prices," he said.

Registration of farmers in the digitally-based supply system to access subsidized fertiliser started with the southern highlands regions of Iringa, Songwe, Mbeya, Ruvuma and Rukwa, he said.

With the subsidy system, importers will be registered so that indicative prices are set, reducing operational costs with hiked fertiliser prices, the official stated, affirming that the government has partnered with CRDB Bank Plc and Vodacom (T) in developing the countrywide online registry.

Founded in 1905 to tackle an emerging famine in Europe, Yara International Corp. has operations in over 60 countries worldwide with around 17,000 employees, reporting a gross income of \$11.6bn in 2020.

PM directs ministries, institutions to come up with joint strategic plans to address challenges

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed ministries and institutions that deal with community welfare issues to come up with a joint strategic plan to address challenges facing youth in the country.

In his statement read on behalf by Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability), Prof Joyce Ndalichako during event to celebrate achievements recorded by the Feed the Future Tanzania Programme yesterday, the Prime Minister wanted the ministries and institutions to fulfill their duties well and ensure that new innovative ways are created to support youth development.

Implemented by United States Aid Agency (USAID) for five years, the five-year (2017-2022) project worth \$20 million has supported rural youth, aged 15-35 in Iringa, Mbeya regions and Zanzibar to engage in agribusiness and other rural value chains and increase their economic opportunities while promoting leadership and healthy lifestyles.

He commended the US government for implementing the project pledging that the government will continue investing in youth development.

"All responsible ministers and authorities should ensure that they come up with creative plans to support development of youth in the country which include supporting them with loans and capital to enable them initiate income generating projects," he said.

The Premier wants local government authorities to identify and register youth in their areas and support them with loans and capital.

"President's Office for Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG) to ensure that youth continue to be empowered and supported with essential tools to support their projects," the Premier

said.

He urged youth who benefited from the project to utilize the education and all the good things acquired by initiating innovative income generating projects for their development.

Earlier, USAID Mission Director Kate Somvongsiri said the programme has reached more than 43,000 young people and provided over 5.3bn/- (\$2.3 million) in grants to youth-led agribusinesses.

He said: "The Advancing Youth Activity has also helped youth gain life skills, and lead community development efforts. This work has shaped communities' perspectives of young people as change agents, capable of transforming the communities in which they live."

He noted that Tanzanian youth have the potential to play a key role in the economic development of their country, but for the 800,000 young people who enter the Tanzanian workforce each year, employment remains a challenge.

Dr Rashid Chuachua said the government has continued creating a conducive environment for youth as well as providing them various opportunities through projects implemented in the country.

Miami Tetera, one of the beneficiaries from Mbeya said the project has lifted her life a lot as through the capacity gained from it, she has been able to process and package well farm produce such as ginger and garlic.



He commended the US government for implementing the project pledging that the government will continue investing in youth development



Former President Jakaya Kikwete, head of the East African Community Observer Mission to Kenya's upcoming General Election, addresses to journalists in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, yesterday. Photo: EAC

Oil, gas investors set for T 2022 energy congress

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drive customer value, also enabling participants to gain direct access to primary stakeholders in energy related projects, to get early access to tenders and contracts, he stated.

Exhibiting companies will showcase innovations, products and services, bring to the market their latest products and services to potential buyers and create partnerships within the local energy industry and with other participants, he specified.

The congress is being held three years from 2019, in a changed situation where the world is facing energy challenges caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, adding to impacts of Covid-19 pandemic that slowing

global growth and disrupted supply chains.

Observers say the Tanzania energy congress is now firmly established as a key oil, gas, LNG and renewable energy convening platform regionally, enhancing global networks and private sector value chain.

Investors are expected to foster more intensive ties with policy, regulatory and operational stakeholders like the National Oil Company (NOC) with a view to taking a wider stake in the local energy industry.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been making efforts to create a conducive business environment in the subsector, with Energy minister January Makamba being overly optimistic about the government's

liquefied natural gas (LNG) projections. Negotiations have been renewed with Shell and Equinor for a host government agreement (HGA) to set up a \$30bn LNG plant, with ministerial experts expecting the talks to be concluded by the end of this year.

The energy congress will be held under the minister's patronage, who is expected to highlight the government's plans and priorities, including strategic steps in the hydrocarbons sector in particular.

In a briefing with the organisers, the minister sought to actively encourage firms involved in the energy sector and those seeking opportunities here to participate in this crucial industry event. "I look forward to personally welcome you to Dar es Salaam," he

affirmed.

Currently, the global energy crisis is among the most intractable issues with rising fuel prices, sharp cuts of energy supplies from Russia to European Union member states, alongside the issue of climate change.

Locally, high fuel costs push basic commodities inflation, with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) showing in a report that fuel and utilities inflation attained 12.9 percent in June, higher than price increases for most goods and services.

Petrol, diesel and kerosene prices rose between 20 and 30 percent over the past year to March 2022, touching off transport cost hikes. "The congress could not come at a more critical time for us," the minister added.



Redemptus Caesar (L), one of the facilitators of a Covid-19 vaccination mobilisation campaign dubbed 'Tanzania Iko Tayari' (literally, Tanzania is ready), speaks at the launch of the drive in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

VP: Take yet more funds into agro-sector research

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can grow well, for instance, the VP highlighted, meanwhile as the country is making efforts to identify wheat growing areas as the crop is in high local and global demand.

The VP inspected various technologies, innovation and displayed farming practices at the TARI pavilion, along with soil health, soil mapping and Soil management. He was sincerely satisfied with research and development of technologies.

He was curious as to how these technologies, innovation and farm practices get down to the smallholder farmers to increase production, productivity, transform their

livelihoods, incomes and food security.

Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe has recently pointed at weak linkage between research, extension services and the farmers, while in the new financial year the ministry has set aside 8bn/- for agro-sector research and capacity, for TARI and the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI).

Responding to the VP's instructions, TARI director general Dr. Geoffrey Mkamillo said this year TARI has adequate resources, undertaking to increase irrigation set ups for research and seed production.

Any scarcity of funds shall see TARI mobilizing resources from different donors to ensure that research and development works for the farmers, he

said.

Dr. Joseph Ndunguru, the TARI director of research and innovation, said TARI will explore more areas suitable for agriculture including marginal lands.

"These areas are highly degraded but through research, we are going to make an inventory of all proven climate smart agriculture technologies and employ them to improve production of different crops," he said.

The challenge of low productivity will be tackled by using various high yield crop varieties along with climate smart technologies which are drought tolerant or early maturing varieties, along with conservation agriculture technologies.

He appealed to the youth across the

country to visit different agricultural technology transfer hubs with a view to engaging in commercial farming successfully, as they are innovative and creative.

Dr Richard Kasuga, the TARI knowledge management and communication manager, said besides crop technologies and innovation, new value chain technologies are also being exhibited for strategic crops in particular.

TARI has come up with post harvest technology that enables the sugar juice to stay longer times, he said. "Under the technology transfer and partnership TARI is disseminating different technologies that enable the farmer to produce profitably," he added.



Insurance Commissioner Dr Baghayo Saqware (R, facing camera) makes remarks when he led a delegation comprising insurance sector officials during talks with Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi (R) at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Photo: Zanzibar State House

OACPS set to benefit horticultural and vegetable farmers in Tanzania

By Felister Peter

TANZANIAN farmers engaging in horticultural and vegetable cultivation are set to benefit with the regional and international markets as the country has officially been included in a list of nations that can export products abroad through the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS).

Under OACPS, countries including Tanzania will benefit from selling their products to European countries through the 'Fit for Market Plus' program which aims at enhancing the capacity of farmers in the vegetable and horticultural value chains.

This 5-year, €25 million 'Fit for Market Plus' program is financed by the European Union (EU) and the OACPS.

A statement released yesterday by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation stated that farmers will also be assisted to produce agricultural products that meet international standards as well as the market demand in Europe.

The program, according to the ministry is implemented by COLEACP—a non-profit inter-professional association, representing and defending the collective interests of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) producers, exporters and EU importers of fruits, vegetables, flowers and plants.

The support follows the EU's Farm to Fork Strategy which aims at controlling the quality of agricultural products entering the markets. Qualities are checked from farms to the last consumer.

The ministry called upon stakeholders engaging in vegetable and horticultural value chain to wisely grab the opportunity by sending their applications.

The stakeholders include companies and groups that produce vegetables and fruits, institutions dealing with provision of professional training, authorities and research institutions.

Availability of the opportunity is part of efforts by the government and the Tanzania Embassy in Belgium of strengthening economic diplomacy.

The Fit for Market Plus support is tailored to facilitate the transition of African, Caribbean and Pacific horticulture towards more sustainable food systems, addressing the priority areas identified in the Farm to Fork strategy of the European Green Deal.

The program is to ensure that stakeholders have the business skills and tools to pursue and improve their operations through enhanced capacity to manage change and facilitated access to finance.

It also aims at leveraging market opportunities resulting from Covid-19 disruptions, and monitoring conditions and requirements for market access and competitiveness as well as to enhance the capacity of ACP competent authorities to support the agri-food sector.

“The support follows the EU's—Farm to Fork Strategy which aims at controlling the quality of agricultural products entering the markets. Qualities are checked from farms to the last consumer”

Two injured in attack by hyena

By Guardian Correspondent, Longido

TWO people have been injured and admitted to Chalote hospital in Siha district, Kilimanjaro region after they were attacked by a hyena that invaded Ildonyo village, in Sinya ward, Endumitu division, Longido district in Arusha region.

The beast who was later killed by wildlife rangers, had also killed livestock including two donkeys and 12 goats.

This was revealed Sunday by one of the wounded persons, Baraka Mollel,

the village chairman as he briefed reporters after he was discharged from hospital.

He said the incident happened on the night of July 26 this year and that his condition was now better and added that another victim was referred to KCMC Hospital in Kilimanjaro Region.

“The incident happened at around 2:00 am, when one young man named Lazaro Sanders came to me for discussions after which he left but barely five minutes later we heard screams calling for help,” said Mollel.

He added: “when we went out and followed the direction of the scream we found the hyena attacking Lazaro but when the beast saw us it ran away. We took the Lazaro to nearby Siha Dispensary for treatment.”

Mollel said when they were returning they again heard scream from the direction of his home and upon arrival they found the hyena had invaded the livestock pen and killed 12 goats and two donkeys and was about breaking the door to the room where children were sleeping.

“I immediately attacked the beast

and in the struggle it wounded me on the hand and leg, but I was able to cover its face using a sweater and got an opportunity to run away,” he said and added that after the incident he was taken to the Dispensary for first aid treatment and later referred to Chalote Hospital.

Mollel also called on the village residents to take care especially during the night, they should avoid walking alone due to the presence of many wild animals lurking around the area.

Arusha Regional Police Commander Justine Masejo confirmed the incident about a hyena invading people's settlements wounding two people and killing several livestock.



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (C) pictured yesterday being shown around one of the pavilions at the Nane Nane (Farmers' Day) 2022 exhibitions in progress in Mbeya city. Photo: VPO

Dr Tulia: Multi-storey buildings will ease classroom congestion

By Guardian Reporter

THE Speaker of the National Assembly, Dr Tulia Ackson, has said the construction of storeyed buildings for schools will reduce students' congestion in classrooms and praised the Zanzibar government for building such schools.

Dr Tulia made the remarks during her visit to projects in the education sector in both Unga and Parliamentary Constituencies and identify challenges facing legislators in them.

She said education is a priority for both governments to see students make big development strides to face challenges including competition in the employment market.

Tulia said construction of storeyed buildings form schools will to great

extent reduce present students' congestion whereby many students sit in one classroom and with three periods for lessons in one day.

She also praised the Zanzibar government for using well Covid-19 funds in the education sector by constructing new classrooms.

She also called on Members of Parliament to using well constituency funds for implementing projects that closely touch their people, saying the aim of these funds is to speed up development as well as dealing with challenges raised by their constituents.

For his part, Unga South Regional Commissioner, Rashid Hadid Rashid said they have made big strides in confronting challenges in the education sector by building 10,120 classrooms that have

reduced congestion in classrooms.

He added that the construction pace of primary and secondary schools in Unga District as well as schools building projects by MPs and Members of the House of Representatives will for a large extent reduce students congestion as they pursue their education.

“She also praised the Z'bar govt for using well Covid-19 funds in the education sector by constructing new classrooms”

Govt urged to come up with policies, laws to make extractive industry use resources better

By Felister Peter

THE government has been challenged to come up with the right policies and laws governing the extractive industry to ensure sustainable use of the resources as well as inclusive development.

Stakeholders are concerned that proper management of the resources such oil and gas would enable the country to attain its desirable development.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday during a stakeholder's training organized by REPOA, Dalali Kafumu, a consultant in the extractive industry said that since oil, gas and minerals are perishable resources, there are need to ensure both the government and citizens benefit with the resources.

Kafumu underscored the need for continued review of the laws and policies to attract more investors in the sector. He said although a lot has been done to improve the sector which

includes review of the laws in 2010 and 2017, it is important to balance between citizens and investors so that they all benefit.

He also emphasized the need for the country to invest in critical minerals which are used in generating clean energy such as solar and wind turbines. He said most of the energy sources generate greenhouse gas emissions; hence the world is determined to shift to cleaner energy sources by 2050.

REPOA Executive Director, Dr Donald Mmari said the objective of the training is to improve the understanding of the basic principles of good governance of natural resources for sustainable and inclusive development.

Dr Mmari said they provide the training in the extractive industry because there are many things which have to be well understood by stakeholders including those in the private sector.

“We are trying to link the sector with the country's development as well as

citizen's participation. We also look at the supervision of the resources, basically the relationship between production of the resources and participation of Tanzanians in terms of local content,” he said.

He added: “The oil and gas sectors are still new and require heavy investments in terms of technology and funds. As the country we are yet to have such technologies hence the need for investors' involvement. It is also important to ensure equal sharing of benefits between citizens and investors.”

Dr Mmari highlighted the need for the country to construct processing industries so that minerals are not sold as raw materials. He said by adding value to mineral resources, the sector's contribution in the national income will also increase.

One of the participants, Saumu Mhinda from Hakimadini said they have been working with REPOA in providing education to miners on how

they can benefit with the minerals.

“We educate miners on a number of issues including the economic aspect to make sure they invest for their personal development. We want them to develop and make progress even if the resources will be perishable.

JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA MAHAKAMA YA TANZANIA
Katika mahakama ya mwanzo ya wilaya MOSHI
Kituo cha MWIKA mkoa KILIMANJARO
Usimamizi wa mirathi Na. 29/2022
KATIKA SHAURI LA MIRATHI YA
MAREHEMU KINYAU HOSEA ABEL WA
HWIKA/BERLINE UGERUJANI
KATIKA SHAURI LA MAMBO YA KUMTEUA
MSIMAMIZI VALIYOLETWA
NA EMIL ABEL MALLE

TANGAZO
(kanuni ya 9(2) ya kanuni za usimamizi wa mirathi mahakama za mwanzo)

Watu wote wanaodai kuwa na uhusiano wovote/maslahi yoyote na mirathi ya marehemu tajwa hapo juu, wanaalikwa kuja na kuhudhuria katika shauri hili andapo wakitaka kufanya hiyo mnamo tarehe 22 Mwezi 08 Mweka 2022 kabla hiyo mwombaji hajaituwa kuwa msimamizi wa Mirathi hiyo.

Imetolewa leo Tarehe 21 Mwezi 07 Mweka 2022

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF Bubble Curtain
ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-EF-0002-00.

BESIX Ballast Nedam Limited, the CONTRACTOR for the Engineering, procurement and Construction of the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites experienced specialist Companies to express their interest for:

Fabrication, Supply and Delivery of an optimized bubble curtain.
The Republic of Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), the United Republic of Tanzania and/or Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), as well as other international oil companies are partaking in the implementation of the EACOP Project.

As part of EACOP project, the Crude oil will be loaded on vessels via a facility located in the near shore environment of the Indian Ocean. The Facility will be located 2 km offshore from the Marine Storage Terminal site located on the Chongoleani peninsula in front of Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS / SERVICES:
Bubble curtain recommended characteristics are:
- Length = 230 m,
- Distance from sound source = 15 m,
- Pipe out/in diameter = 40 mm / 36 mm,
- Air compressor = flow rate of 23 m³/min (1380 m³/h) and a minimum pressure of >7 bars
- Diameter of the holes in the bubble curtain hose must be 2 mm,
- Spacing of the holes in the bubble curtain must be 10 cm.

Defined to optimise the efficiency of the bubble curtain. Deviations are acceptable if justified by technical constraints and do not hamper bubble curtain efficiency (subject to BBV approval)

Material wise, it can be summarized as:
- 1 winch system* of 20 ft.,
- 1 x 230 bubble curtain hose,
- 1 spare winch system* of 20 ft.,
- 1 x 230 m bubble curtain spare hose,
- 4 supply hoses of 40 m,
- 20 ft. container with spare parts,
- Compressors + 1 spare,
With spooling device

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:
- Possibility to deliver all requested materials before the end of the year '22 at Tanga port.
- An experience list with relevant history / track record showing minimum of five (5) years' experience in the fabrication of bubble curtains.
- Qualified workers and certified QA/QC;
- Company profile with prove of sufficient financial capabilities and sufficient and capable resources.
- CE marked.
- Company's Quality and HSE plans and certification: ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, OHSAS 18001 (ISO 45001:2018), EN ISO 14732, EN ISO 90606-1, ISO 11484, EN ISO 90609-1, EN ISO 10893-8, 10893-11, or equivalent certificates;
- Compliance with petroleum (local Content) regulation of 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania.
- Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is highly recommended.

Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to procurement@bbnjv.com; thomas.depaau@bbnjv.com (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before 8th of August 2022, 12 noon Tanzania Time.

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will be evaluated and if selected will be invited, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), to participate in the bidding process.

Note: Only pre-qualified companies will receive an invitation to submit their bid in furtherance of the Call for Tender process.

On-going drought in northern regions blamed for attacks by rogue beasts on human beings

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Manyara

THE on-going drought in northern Tanzania has forced wild animals to move from national parks to adjacent villages in search of pastures and water resulting in an increase in human-wildlife conflicts.

This was said recently by the Burunge Wildlife Management Area (BWMA) General Secretary, Benson Mawise during a visit by media personnel from the Journalists Environment Association of Tanzania (JET).

The drought caused by climate change has increased poaching activities, scarcity of water, decreased the grazing land for wildlife and cattle, thus affecting life of both humans and animals.

Mwaise said the move has caused animals to invade farms leading to conflicts with farmers and at the same time affecting tourism which is the main source of revenue for the regions.

Mwaise added that BWMA is about 283 square kilometres found in Babati District, Mbugwe Division in Manyara Region in three wards of Mwada, Magara and Nkaiiti.

Mwaise said the involvement of youth and women in conservation activities by giving them an opportunity to engage in small-scale enterprises (SMEs) and cultural tourism has greatly contributed to improve their welfare.

JET Executive Director, John Chikomo said a three-day journalist's field visit is conducted as part of the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project to ensure continuity, on-going networking, and sustained engagement with topical issues in wildlife corridors, marine,

forest and biodiversity conservation.

Chikomo mentioned other objectives of the field visit as to improve the quality of media reporting on the coverage of conservation connectivity and other biodiversity.

He said the media has a significant role to play in fostering national development by reporting objectively stories of public interest and by holding those with powers accountable.

"This crucial role, however, can only be attained effectively and sustained when quality reporting meets professional benchmarks," he added.

The BWMA is formed by ten (10) member villages of Mwada, Sangaiwe, Ngolley, Vilima Vitatu, Kakoi, Minjingu, Olasiti, Maweni, Magara and Manyara, and governed by the member villages through equal number of representatives who elected democratically at the village general assembly.

It forms part of an ecologically viable ecosystem of Kwakuchinja Wildlife Corridor between Lake Manyara National Park and Tarangire National Park.



This crucial role, however, can only be attained effectively and sustained when quality reporting meets professional benchmarks

KLI, Regent University launch business development centre

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Kingdom Leadership Institute (KLI) in partnership with Regent University, through its Center for Entrepreneurship, based in Virginia Beach USA has launched a business development centre in Dodoma.

Through the partnership, the two organisations will be able to provide the leaders a 20-weeks entrepreneurship training programme.

Speaking during the launch, KLNT founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Isaac Mpatwa said the training to be held from 20th August, 2022 aims at facilitating the community to undergo transformation through building successful entrepreneurs and traders who are empowered and equipped with entrepreneurial, ethical values-based economic and investment principles.

He said KLI is an interdisciplinary think tank and training institution established to develop and support value based ethical leadership in Tanzania and across Africa.

He added that it exists to prepare leaders to excel holistically through moral guidance, mentoring, coaching and effective leadership training.

The core mandate for KLI is to develop African leaders in business, government, and politics capable of transforming the national leadership and economies through innovation, entrepreneurship and investment to enable world class competition in the global marketplace.

"KLI, Regent University's Center for Entrepreneurship (RCE) vision seeks to empower communities, regions and nations towards being revitalized spiritually, socially, politically and economically by training

entrepreneurs, internationally and domestically, to operate with Kingdom Business principles through a variety of strategies," he said.

In his key note speech during the leadership and business summit that preceded the launch of the centre, RCE's Jason Benedict shared on how to approach the practice of business as a kingdom mission and consider God's plan for work and business.

He said Business Development Centre (BDC) Tanzania presents a uniquely designed entrepreneurship programme that is geared towards helping entrepreneurs succeed in starting or growing their business.

The programme also guides students' entrepreneurial vision to enable them steer their organisation with confidence, innovation and expertise.

"BDC includes executive short courses centering on performance management for leaders, customer care skills, customer care strategies for leaders, business model audit and key success factors (KSFs) diagnostics, generating high potential business idea, marketing strategy and business model development, and finance and operations," he said.



...it exists to prepare leaders to excel holistically through moral guidance, mentoring, coaching and effective leadership training

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

FORMER Prime Minister, Mizengo Pinda has called for greater integrity in investments and dealing with investors, saying the country need Godly and ethical-based leadership.

He said God fearing leaders who uphold ethical and morals values can steer every sector of development to higher and greater levels.

Pinda made the statement while officiating at the opening of the fifth Leadership and Business Summit held here over the weekend. The event organised by the Kingdom Leadership Network Tanzania (KLNT), with the

theme, "Nurturing Leadership as World Changers".

"Leadership is paramount in every sector in life and in business integrity is a big thing, thus the need to connect the two" he said, adding that in the current environment failure to talk about leadership in business is a big letdown.

The former PM noted that the purpose of the meeting was to bring together stakeholders in different sectors in the country to discuss, among others bottlenecks



Sahili Nyanzabara Geraruma, leader of this year's edition of the Uhuru Torch Race, unveils a plaque yesterday to launch a 350m/-worth water project at Ididi village at Nyamilangano ward in Ushetu council, Kahama District. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

'Nation's security challenges pose threats to development'

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has said having security challenges in a nation can have adverse effects on development to other nations.

President Mwinyi made the remarks yesterday at the 10th graduation ceremony of 2021/22 graduates of the National Defence College (NDC) that provides training in issues of security and strategies, the event held at the college in Dar es Salaam.

He said the war pitting Ukraine and Russia is a good example, it has affected the economy of virtually the

entire world by among other things, contributing to increase of prices of various commodities, food security, challenges on migration, international relations and political insecurity outside the two warring countries.

According to Dr Mwinyi, mitigation of these challenges facing the world will depend on how Tanzania has readied itself in its relations with other world countries and extolled the continued existence of peace and stability as the foundations for development of any nation.

He said it is evident that NDC that teaches important issues on defence and security is essential for the

development of Tanzania, especially at this time when the world is faced with various security threats including terrorism conflicts pitting nations, civil wars, online theft, trade in illicit drugs, environmental degradation and the effects of climate change.

Dr Mwinyi also noted that there are important issue on defence and security that need in-depth researching in order to deal with them, and stressed the need for stressing in making researches on various issues as well using the results thereof and distributing them for the interest of the nation.

He added in the past 10 years NDC

has conducted various programmes for high officials from the defence and security organs including other government institutions.

He said both union governments are pleased seeing there are now many officials in the defence and security organs as well as government institutions who received training at the college and later appointed to important and sensitive leadership positions.

He also said it is good news to hear that NDC continues to attract participants from EAC member states, SADC nations, Nigeria, Egypt and other countries within and outside the continent.

Meanwhile, NDC Head, Maj Gen Ibrahim Michael Mhona explained that this year the college had 43 graduates.

He also explained on various steps it continues to take to ensure collaboration with both Union governments.



Bishop Anthony Lagwen (L) of the Mbulu Catholic Church Diocese pictured at the weekend planting a tree after laying the foundation stone for a building to house a women's hall. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Pinda for greater integrity in dealing with investors

in the business sector and help find solutions.

Pinda, who is also the KLNT patron thanked the organisers for convening the event that is in line with the government's vision of improved industrial drive.

He said the government is implementing the second development plan that has three main visions of industrialisation, human development and implementation of the plan for desired success.

"KLNT bring leaders, including

religious leaders together to discuss value-based ethical and morals in business" he said, adding that it provides opportunity to tap into experience from others.

He acknowledged that the sixth phase government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan is determined to boost integrity and moral values in leadership positions, calling on the public to support the initiatives.

During the event, KLNT in collaboration with Regent University, USA launched a 20 weeks action-based

entrepreneurship training programme in Dodoma.

Speaking at the same meeting, the deputy minister for Industry and Trade, Exaud Kigahe, applauded the effort of KLNT and the Regent University to help improve way of doing business for Tanzanians, most of whom need great skills and knowledge in the sector.

He said the creativities applied by the two institutions will help stimulate success in business sector, leading to improved livelihoods and national

development.

The deputy minister said the government is ready to provide any kind of support towards the establishment of the business development centre. "The government is willing to provide any support to make the intended vision a success" he noted.

Dodoma City Mayor, Prof. Davis Mwanfupue thanked the organisers for the event and the decision to establish business centre in the country's political capital city.

TBS getting set to build labs in two more cities

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) will this year start constructing laboratories in the cities of Dodoma and Mwanza to bring services closer to the people.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, TBS Director General Dr Athuman Ngenya said the bureau has set aside 9.9bn/- for the projects which will increase efficiency and reduce the waiting time for clients due to the availability of a single standard laboratory located in Dar es Salaam.

Dr Ngenya said the company is in the process of getting a new standard inspector for imported vehicles from Britain, Dubai, Malaysia and Indonesia.

He said the bureau has also set aside 2.7bn/- for strengthening its zonal offices in Arusha, Mwanza, Mtwara, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Kigoma and Mbeya.

The amount will also help in strengthening offices in port cities of Tanga, Bagamoyo, Dar es Salaam and the office at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA).

"The aim is to intensify inspection of goods in the market to reduce the number of counterfeits to ensure citizens get standard goods," he said.

According to Dr Ngenya 1.6bn/- has been set aside for preparations of standards for 630 locally made products in various sectors.

"The bureau has also set aside 1.18bn/- for strengthening Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity (PVoC) to ensure the country was not a dumping site for counterfeits," he said.

On the verification of vehicles, Dr Ngenya said after complaints from clients, the bureau made it possible to ensure that 97 percent of vehicles from Japan are inspected before import.

"We are working on a tender to ensure that even vehicles from other countries such as Britain are also inspected and the tenders are at an advanced stage," he said.

On the seized cosmetics, the DG said the products have been entering the country in illegal routes including diesel tankers.

He called upon Tanzanians using fake cosmetics to stop to protect themselves from the health risks and harm that the product may bring to their skin.

He added that they are now working with other stakeholders to see how to control and regulate the quality of products ordered online.



The bureau has also set aside 1.18bn/- for strengthening Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity (PVoC) to ensure the country was not a dumping site for counterfeits



Tanzania Bureau of Standards director general Dr Athuman Ngenya addresses journalists in Dodoma city yesterday on the strategy of implementing the agency's activities in financial year 2022/2023. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

TUCTA: We will hold meetings to discuss fate of public servants' salary increments

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) has said it is in the process of organising a series of legitimate meetings so as to discuss and issue a statement on the fate of salary increment for public servants.

Recently, the government had had a discussion with TUCTA due to complaints on the increment of the minimum wage by 23.3 percent.

In the dialogue, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa issued the government's stance on the issue and claimed that the increase focused 75-78

percent of employees with low wages.

In an interview with this paper yesterday, TUCTA president Tumaini Nyamhokya said servants were complaining about the changes, something which needed to be discussed in constitutional meetings.

"Due to the complaints, TUCTA will organise meetings to discuss the matter in depth and later come up with a statement which we will be issued to respond to the recent salary changes done by the government," he said.

On Friday, the Prime Minister clarified that the 23.3 percent salary increment by the government intended

to improve the welfare of the majority of low income public servants.

Majaliwa told trade union leaders in Dodoma that the salary increment was the starting point for President Hassan's administration.

"The move aims to provide us experience of increasing salaries targeting low-income workers. This will help the private sector to align with the public sector over the minimum wage," he said.

He said the percentage was aimed at benefiting the lowest earners to enable them to pocket the amount that would reduce life hardship due to the present

economic environment.

The premier said high income public servants have received as low salary increment as 0.2 percent to 0.7 percent because there is a formula which is used in the calculations and wages stabilisation.

"Those who are saying they got an increment of 20,000/- are those receiving high salaries and here you will find ministers, Permanent Secretaries (PSS), Regional Commissioners and Administrative secretaries, heads of public firms and district executive directors (DEDs)," he explained.

He however assured public servants in the country that the government will continue improving their welfare, asking them to trust trade union leaders whose efforts have made several issues successful within a short period.

Zanzibar to proclaim Islamic New Year's Day a public holiday

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has said his government will soon issue a proclamation to make the first day of the Islamic new year a public holiday.

President Mwinyi revealed this yesterday at a forum for the celebration to mark the Islamic New Year 1444 held at Jamii Zinjibar Mosque at Maizizini in Unguja Urban West Region.

He said the Islamic New Year celebrations will be held in turn between Unguja and Pemba for all Muslims to participate.

Dr Mwinyi lauded the Office of Zanzibar Chief Mufti for organising the celebrations which is now a new arrangement to be held in the Isles and will provide an opportunity to Muslims to know their New Year according to their calendar.

"There is no one who doesn't know the day of the New year according to the Gregorian calendar, as when it arrives everyone knows, but unfortunately not many people recognise the Islamic New Year," he said.

Hence, he said the procedure to celebrate the Islamic New Year will be a reminder to Muslims to know their new year.

Dr Mwinyi also reminded the people to participate in the Population and Housing Census slated for August 23 this year due to its importance to the nation.

Earlier, Haroun Ali Suleiman, the Zanzibar Minister of State in the President's Office (Legal and Constitutional Affairs, Public Service and Good Governance) appealed to President Mwinyi to make the day of the Islamic New Year a public holiday to enable Muslims celebrate it as they do for other holidays.

Meanwhile, the forum's organiser Sheikh Khalid Ali Mfaume said the aim of the celebrations is to remind

Muslims of their responsibility in knowing their calendar.

He said Law No. 4 of the Office of the Zanzibar Chief Mufti enabled him to organise the forum as well as activities.

Participating in the debate on Islam and census, Sheikh Khamis Abdulhamid said that census is mentioned in the Quran and Islam does not prevent its followers to be enumerated because it plans development.

He said census means knowing the population of the country and their settlements in order for their economic development planning.

The forum was also attended by Zanzibar First Vice President, Othman Masoud Othman, second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdullah and government and various political parties' leaders.



There is no one who doesn't know the day of the New year according to the Gregorian calendar, as when it arrives everyone knows, but unfortunately not many people recognise the Islamic New Year



Manyara regional commissioner Makongoro Nyerere (in light-blue shirt) pictured at the weekend launching an integrated programme for the upbringing, development and early development of children. Photo: Correspondent Jalliwason Jasson

NEMC bans gold panning in people's settlements

By Guardian Reporter, Nzega

THE National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) has banned the construction of gold panning plants in people's settlements and gave 30 days for such plants to be removed from the said areas.

NEMC further said whoever will violate the directive will be subjected to a fine of between 10m/- and 10bn/-.

This directive has come after NEMC made environment inspection in Nzega District, Tabora Region and discovered the existence of gold panning plants among human settlements.

Speaking during the inspection at the weekend, NEMC Director General, Dr Samuel Gwamaka said they have discovered numerous such plants in human settlements despite their emission of hazardous toxins to human beings and ordered that by September 1 these should be

removed.

"Such plants are supposed to be in gold mining areas or other areas licensed for gold panning activities," he said.

Dr Gwamaka said areas found to have gold panning plants in people's settlements include Nzega, Geita, Chunya and Tarime.

He said during gold panning toxic chemicals are emitted that need infrastructure to prevent them

affecting the environment.

He added: basically when a person inhales these toxic chemicals, his lungs get affected, and that is why in mining areas people must put on protective gear for health safety.

"After September 1 we shall make inspection and if we find a panning plant in people's settlements the owner should prepare himself to pay a fine of between 10m/- to 10bn/-," Dr Gwamaka said.

Tanzania becomes 2023/26 council member of African Telecommunications Union

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA has been voted unanimously to the African Telecommunications Union's (ATU) Council for a four-year term from 2023 through 2026.

Nape Nnauye, Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology spearheaded the country's effort to secure the position at the sixth General Meeting of the Union, which was held in Algiers, Algeria last month.

Within the African Telecommunications Union's 49 member nations, Tanzania was one of the 25 nations to achieve that status.

Additionally, John Omo, a Kenyan, was elected to serve another four years as ATU's general secretary vying for the seat with Mauritanian Mohamed Ahmed Ould Abderrahmane who lost the seat.

Election to the council at this time is advantageous because Tanzania is also seeking election to the Executive Council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

Thirteen Council seats from ITU's Group "D," which includes African nations, are projected for Africa at the ITU meeting in September, which is anticipated to take place in Bucharest, Romania. Algeria, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tunisia, and Uganda are some of the current Group "D" members of Africa in the ITU Council from which Tanzania is seeking support to be included when ITU members will elect new councilors in the ITU-PP-22.

The General Meeting, which meets every four years in a regular session, is the ATU's principal body and is

composed of formally authorized representatives including sectoral Ministers of the Member States responsible for communications. In order to achieve the ATU's objectives, the general meeting establishes, among other things, broad policies that the Union or its members should adopt and implement.

In addition, the Executive Council elects the General Secretary and Executive Council members after examining and approving the strategic plan, activity programme, and budget for the following four years of operations.

The African Telecommunications Union (ATU-UAT) was founded in 1977 as one of the institutions of the Union of Independent African States (OAU), which is now the African Union (AU), and focuses on the communication industry within the African continent.

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) represents Tanzania in all ICT-based international organisations.

At this meeting, the TCRA was represented by Connie Francis, Director of ICTs, and John Daffa, Director of Licenses and Compliance.

Speaking on the side-lines of the meeting, Connie emphasized the significance of the gathering in achieving Tanzania's goal of being the regional leader in ICT management.

"This meeting, among other things, ensures that cooperation between public and private stakeholders is maintained in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector, and it is through it that Tanzania is assured of maintaining its position as a champion of effective regulation of the ICT sector in our region," she insisted.



One of the people expected to serve as clerks during late this month's national Population and Housing Census pictured during training at Galanos Secondary School in Tanga city yesterday demonstrating to his colleagues how to collect and compile the data that will be required. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

Digital rights campaigners urge govt to enact data protection act to curb hacking incidents

By Getrude Mbago

DIGITAL rights campaigners have called upon the government to enact a Personal Data Protection Act so as to fight against the increasing incidents of hacking information of people for illegal purposes.

Speaking at the digital rights training that brought together stakeholders from various organisations in Dar es Salaam late last week, executive director of Zaina Foundation, Zaituni Njovu said it is high time the country should have the law to further keep Tanzanians safe from hackers and protecting their privacy.

She noted that threats targeting mobile devices are rapidly growing something that put sensitive data at

risk.

"Majority of people have been receiving messages from strange people and keep on wondering where these people get their numbers from, this shows that personal data is still at risk and we need to act hard to protect our people," Njovu said.

He said the one-day training was aimed to equip activists and stakeholders on various issues especially internet shutdown and its cause; how to protect themselves from various digital malware and promoting proper use of digital platforms.

Herieth Mkaanga, Zaina Foundation board chair said the training was a good opportunity for the participants to learn new skills that will help them benefit well from digital tools but

also know how to protect themselves online.

"At the end of the day, participants will become good ambassadors of digital rights in the country helping others to utilize positive opportunities brought by digital technologies. Having laws that protect people's privacy is a matter of paramount importance," she said.

William Kahale, an independent lawyer, said that in the Electronic Postal Communications (Online Content) regulations (EPOCA), 2022, a lot of areas have been improved and gaps addressed, which shows good progress in promoting digital rights in the country.

Zaina Foundation is an organisation which promotes digital rights and

inclusion in Tanzania by empowering marginalised women in technology.

The foundation has implemented various projects and programmes which increase awareness of women participation and safety in technology. This includes provision of digital rights awareness to various groups of women journalists, lawyers, women in politics, People with Disabilities.

Further, the organisation has been at the forefront in advocating the end of Internet Shutdowns in Tanzania and Online Gender Based Violence (OGBV). This has been possible through provision of awareness to the community on the adverse impacts Network Interference and OGBV to the community and nation at large.

LITA-Mpwapwa embarks on project meant to bolster dairy industry productivity

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE Livestock Training Agency (LITA) in its Mpwapwa -based Campus in Dodoma Region is implementing a programme to upgrade performance of its dairy cattle and milk production project, targeting both, to improve income generating status as well as student's practical studies.

Up to June 2023, the famous livestock training campus aims to increase the number of productive dairy cows from 43 to 70 and each cow to have capacity to produce at least 15 liters in a day.

The vital development was unveiled yesterday by the Campus Acting Manager, Fredrick Karumuna during his remarks at the campus graduation ceremony which saw at least 215 students graduating at a level of Diploma in animal health and production.

"The project is among a number of entrepreneurship programmes that we run at the college with an eye to boost our income, but also, the on-going programmes are being used by the students as a vital platform to put their theoretical knowledge into practices," he unveiled.

He added, through the diverse economic projects manned by the students, during 2012 the campus fetched a total of 4m/- and currently the projects are realizing a total of 13m/-

And he detailed, among the on-going projects involving those based on milk and meat processing and packaging and pasture production, among others.

Dispensing with the theme of 'Jijiri, Ajiri, Ajiriwa' (JAA), Karumuna stated that the campus was specifically molding the students to employ themselves into relevant self-employment projects after graduating, rather than waiting to be employed.

On his side, Martino Somba, the Customer Service Manager at NMB Pls Mpwapwa branch, who graced the graduation ceremony, challenged the graduates to tap several opportunities offered by the financial institutions, especially those based on provision of capital loans.

He said the bank, through its well-established entrepreneurship oriented programme, dubbed Go na NMB, the graduate youth are provided with a special platform to share their viable entrepreneurship ideas to the bank, specifically to apply for access to get capital loans to enable them to put their ideas into reality.

"You have an ample and prestigious opportunity to use the special 'Go na NMB' portal programme to dispatch your innovative entrepreneurship ideas you wish to venture in, and if approved, you will stand a chance to receive handful capital loans to start up your self-employed projects," he challenged the graduate.

Among the programmes offered at the college is management of grazing, land and pasture production, general pathology, draught animal power, basic parasitology, entrepreneurship, introduction to livestock extension as well as introduction to animal breeding.

LITA-Mpwapwa was established by Germans in 1930 as part of the then Veterinary Research Station founded in 1905. In 1961, the institute was transferred to Tengeru (Arusha), where training in animal husbandry courses was conducted to the end of 1967 and it was reintroduced in Mpwapwa.



The project is among a number of entrepreneurship programmes that we run at the college with an eye to boost our income, but also, the on-going programmes are being used by the students as a vital platform to put their theoretical knowledge into practices



Rungwe district commissioner Dr Vincent Anney opens a pipe at Ikama last week to launch a TOL Gases Limited carbon dioxide plant at the village. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

New digital payment service provider launched in Tanzania

By Francis Kajubi

THE country's new payment service provider-Virtual Pay International has introduced its digital payment systems in Tanzania targeting to enable small and medium businesses owners to make quick and easy transactions.

Dubbed 'Virtual Pay' it is the newest global payment solutions provider to be licensed as a Payment Service Provider by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT). Speaking recently in Dar es Salaam about the payment system the company's Group CEO, David Morema, said "We at Virtual Pay strive to be one of the world's leading global payment technology companies. We have a best-in-class portfolio of payment solutions

and are positioned to continue in our pursuit of excellence in providing cutting-edge payments solutions."

According to him, the company is operating in a wide range of industries such as: Financial Services; Online Retail and Trading; Hospitality and Travel among others. The company's launch in Tanzania was attended by payments professionals in banks, card issuers, merchants, government and financial consultants.

Also speaking during the event, the guest speaker, Dr Nkundwe Mosses Mwasaga, the Director General of ICT Commission, Tanzania, affirmed Virtual Pay's promise to continue to drive growth for businesses by creating tomorrow's technology, solutions and

services to modernize payments.

And he added, Virtual Pay's commitment is to create new employment and business opportunities in the Tanzania market.

Miriam Nghwani, the Managing Director, Virtual Pay Tanzania affirmed the importance of synergies between the different players in the online payments processing space. The conversation into the future will be driven by all actors within the payments ecosystem; such as banks, card issuers, merchants and/or government.

She asserted that Virtual Pay represents a new breed of payment companies, built from the ground up with a laser-focus of innovating and seamlessly integrating tomorrow's

payment solutions.

One of the things that make Virtual Pay so unique is the fact that our solutions have been designed to encompass the entire payments value chain. Enjoy the benefit of working with a single, service-oriented provider for all your payment needs using our unique payment products across multiple channels.

"Virtual Pay lets you engage and transact with your customers wherever they are, on whatever device they may be using. Driven by our quest to be customer-centric, creative and unique, we provide a PCI-DSS and ISO 27001:2013 certified payment gateway that simplifies and secures online payments," she said.

Local political stakeholders express hope for improved political space, democracy

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

LOCAL political stakeholders have expressed optimism of improved political space and democracy in the country, saying the government has some interest towards that.

They have appealed for more consultative talks aimed at solving contentious issues, especially challenges that were realized in the last general election in 2020.

Speaking at a three-day election symposium here yesterday, that brought together politicians, religious leaders, activists and lawyers, among others, they underscored the need work together and lower heightened political temperatures.

The Election Symposium "Lessons from experiences in the region", convened by the Tanzania Episcopal Council (TEC) in support by the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA).

It brought together participants from within and outside the country, discussing the political space and sharing experiences.

Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM)'s Women Wing Chairperson, Gaudencia Kabaka noted that the existing challenges can be resolved amicably through constant meetings.

She said that while politicians complain of lack national electoral commission (NEC)'s independency, this is not a strange thing as it happens in other countries too.

Kabaka however, added that the Tanzanian situation is far much better than other countries around. "It is true our commission is not 100 perfect just like other countries but political party should hard towards forming a common agreement," she said.

She also expressed satisfaction with Presidents Samia Suluhu Hassan's interests in improving the situation, terming the formation of a taskforce to see how to solve the challenges a great milestone.

She also thanked TEC for convening the meeting aimed at discussing and sharing democratic space in the regional countries.

The Civic United Front (CUF)'s deputy chairperson in mainland Maftaha Nachuma while noting that the symposium helped them learn a lot from others said it important that

leaders meet regularly and discuss the contentious issues.

He thanked TEC and religious leaders for the tireless efforts to heal the country from the 2020 election wounds.

CUF leader hoped that through the meeting, the government will see the need to forget the past and come together with grieved parties in effort to find solutions.

"I'm glad that the president has demonstrated serious commitment for change, an initiative that should be supported by all," he said.

Chama cha Demokrasia (CHADEMA) Secretary General, John Mnyika while some studies show that Tanzania lags behind Kenya and Malawi in democratic and political space, it is mainly because the two countries have done a lot in terms of constitutional review and amendment of laws.

He said the constitutional review process that Tanzania had started could have brought new good developments had it been fully completed and adopted.

"The lesson we can take from the neighbouring countries is to prioritize constitutional change and review of the political parties' laws" said Mnyika, calling for the need for vigorous push for change.

On the other hand he expressed appreciation that the started efforts might yield peace in the future if consultations were maintained.

Veteran journalist Jenerali Ulimwengi on his part argued that decorates space was squeezed in the past 5-7 years, thanking TEC for the meeting that would help bring positive progress.

He appreciated participation by participants from other countries, adding that platform provided a conducive learning and sharing environment. "From the look of things we can move out of the situation we faced in the last few years and it is good that the president has peoples will at heart" he said.

TEC's Dr Charles Kitima underscored the need to bring people together and discuss contentious issues that might tear the country a part. "We saw that something did not go well in the past elections, just like in other countries, thus the need to convene the meeting in order to share experiences" he said.



Simanjiro legislator Christopher ole Sendeka (R) pictured in Mirerani, Simanjiro District, yesterday on plans to establish a tanzanite tourism centre in the township. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Venture into farming to create jobs, SUA lecturers counselled

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Mbeya

SOKOINE University of Agriculture (SUA) lecturers have been challenged to venture into agriculture to create jobs instead of building guest houses.

Vice President Dr Philip Mpango threw the challenge here yesterday when visiting SUA graduate Entrepreneurs Cooperative (SUGECO) pavilion at the ongoing Nanenane exhibitions being held at national level here at John Mwakangale grounds in

Mbeya region.

"It doesn't work, a real professor to invest in guest houses business instead of agriculture. Agriculture pays. I challenge them to venture in agriculture to help create employment," he said.

He congratulated Sokoine university graduate entrepreneurs for showing the way saying the university dons should emulate this good example instead of banking on guest houses.

"This SUGECO is a very good

example. Keep it up you are doing a very good work. I challenge these professors at SUA who have good knowledge on agriculture to change their ventures from opening guest houses and venture into agriculture because agriculture pays," he said amid laughter from visitors.

SUGECO assistant internship coordinator Vivian Josephat told Dr Mpango that SUGECO is recruiting the youth on hands-out-skills, promote their talents on agribusiness

development and innovation amongst Tanzanian youth entrepreneurs.

"We understand that there are many youth who are not employed, so, we are preparing them for self employment and for creating jobs for others," she said.

She said SUGECO launched Kizimba initiative to reach many young farmers on agribusiness and it works very well.

"Kizimba business model (KBM) is a real estate business approach in agriculture and agribusiness development that originates from local government authority's business infrastructure and facilities development. The facilities are developed with necessary infrastructure divided into units called KIZIMBA," she explained

Agri-institute at Uyole adopts competence-based curriculum

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

THE Ministry of Agricultural Training Institute (MATI) - Uyole has adopted a competence-based modular training curriculum, aimed to create a meaningful learning environment and opportunities for students enabling them to be more creative in coming up with solutions in the farming sector.

The entrepreneurship education initiative, among others, focuses to scale-up capacity of the Mbeya-based Institute to mold proactive human power to propel for the bright future of the country's agro sector.

Institute's principal, Dr Sebastian Mosha told this paper in an interview that through field practical programmes, students are attached to various agricultural business companies so that they can learn how entrepreneurship is practiced.

Dr Mosha said that through students, the institute was implementing the value addition programme on some of the agricultural produce, such as milk by producing yoghurt, cheese as well as production of bread and cake from the wheat produced at the institute.

"All these activities are done by students being part of their practical entrepreneurship skills. The institute also entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sokoine University Graduate Entrepreneurship Cooperative (SUGECO) to train students on entrepreneurship skills, especially in the horticulture sector," he expressed.

He further expressed that, through the collaboration with SUGECO, students are given horticultural plots to manage by applying good agricultural practices and then find markets for the products by themselves.

"After few years of implementing the new curricula, most of the graduates from MATI are now managing and running their own enterprises in the agribusiness sector such as potato production, agrochemical dealers,

chicken production, and avocado production," he stated.

Dr Mosha noted that despite the formal training programmes that are offered by the institute, MATI Uyole engages itself in the production activities in line with the agriculture sector such as production of maize, wheat, beans and soybeans.

"Other areas are bee keeping and livestock farming, especially dairy cattle production. The Institute also engages in pig, chicken and rabbit production as well as fish farming," he observed.

Dr Mosha detailed that parts of some farm produce are processed while some are sold raw, revealing that for example, some wheat is sold while some is processed into bread for students.

"Milk is sold fresh and some is processed into yoghurt and cultured milk, and farm production activities serve two major core purposes of training as well as income generation for the institute," he said, noting that the centre contributes to the national economy, especially through sales of its agricultural produce such as maize, beans, wheat, sunflower, milk and live animals (chicken, pigs, cows and calves).

He also stated that the institute plans to increase production of wheat by allocating more land and applying improved agricultural seeds varieties and practices to supplement government efforts towards reducing the current production gap of wheat in the country.

"MATI Uyole's contribution to the delivery of better extension services to the farmers cannot be overemphasized since the institute's primary objective and mission is to provide quality agricultural training for practicing farmers, future farmers and agricultural technical staff that serve both the public and private sector," he insisted.

The principal appreciated efforts



Central Valley Water Board chairman William Mabula (L) shows working tools presented to him yesterday by Water minister Jumaa Aweso (2nd-R) shortly after the minister inaugurated the board in Singida municipality. Photo: Correspondent Thobias Mwanakatwe

Minister: Census enables govt to build a sustainable economy

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, has called upon regional commissioners in the country to fully supervise the Population and Housing Census to enable the government obtain correct statistics to assist in the nation's development plans.

The minister gave the directives on Wednesday this week when closing the 21-day training seminar for instructors of the Population and Housing Census at regional and national level at Jakaya Kikwete Conference Hall here yesterday.

He said the government vows to

build a sustainable economy to reduce poverty among the people, hence the results of the census, slated for August 23 this year will be the guiding vision for those plans.

"The regional commissioner whose region will not participate in the exercise as appropriate should understand that development plans for his region will not go in tandem with its population, for example in regard to schools, water, health, power - these services will not be provided according to the actual population of his region," said Dr Nchemba.

He stressed that the census exercise is both national and international

exercise hence it is important to implement it successfully to comply with the United Nations (UN) requirements to which Tanzania is a member.

He also showered praise to seminar participants for being among 11,000 Tanzanians out of millions who would have been picked up to participate.

Meanwhile, the Population and Housing Census Commissar, Anne Makinda called upon the instructors who will provide training to census clerks to abide by their qualifications and should not hesitate to take appropriate measures to those unqualified.

The Government Chief Statistician

from the National Bureau of statistics (NBS), Dr Albina Chuwa stressed on the importance of the Census exercise saying that it is a statutory requirement and is a UN requirement that uses statistics obtained to gauge the country's implementation of its sustainable development plans.

The training, coordinated by NBS, aimed at injecting a wide and joint understanding to those concerned in better ways to collect countrywide statistics in accordance to UN regulations.

The census instructors are expected to provide training to over 205,000 census clerks and supervisors countrywide.

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Even with loopholes facilitating human trafficking, police have performed well

HUMAN trafficking, like business in illicit drugs, is a complicated phenomenon public authorities cannot tackle comprehensively and conclusively enough singlehanded.

For one thing, those who are inside - meaning having been trafficked already - in many cases long to find a way out.

Thousands badly wish to go out because there is always a handful of cases where migrants made it outside and enabled their families back home to get out of poverty by remittances.

That is how there is an impression of failure in controlling human trafficking, as in the first place it is never announced as such, and appears as just an implication of what appears to be an ordinary trip to some place.

One leaves Moshi (in Tanzania) for Voi on the other side of the border (in Kenya) ostensibly for routine trade activities, such that no one notices that there is anything odd. But once at Voi or elsewhere, such person may board a bus for Mombasa, then a boat to Malindi, and from then on there are special trips, etc.

Even without reaching border points, a trip with a tourist party to an island can be followed by a drift into the sea as if it is harmless sight-seeing, which can alter direction or go a bit further.

By the time it is far into the sea, someone may wrongly think it is a vessel carrying travellers from nearby islands like the Comoros or Seychelles.

There will unlikely be updated communication between watchers at a certain tower and immigration to know the whereabouts of each boat at sea. And then the vessel sails farther out unnoticed.

That is why it appears that anyone who wishes to leave can leave, and

activists are trying to find legal ways of explaining how people are duped with false promises, etc.

That is likely to be true as no one should expect to be told the truth in any situation in life; the rule says that each shall bear his or her own burden - that the wish to abscond without sufficient safeguards but mere word of mouth is an open-ended matter which often ends badly. But it isn't always a bad ending, and thus it is persisting.

Public authorities and voluntary civic agencies are working hard in and sensitising and educating impressionable youths on the pros and cons of seeking 'greener pastures' outside, in that those who take them into confidence are looking for cheap labour.

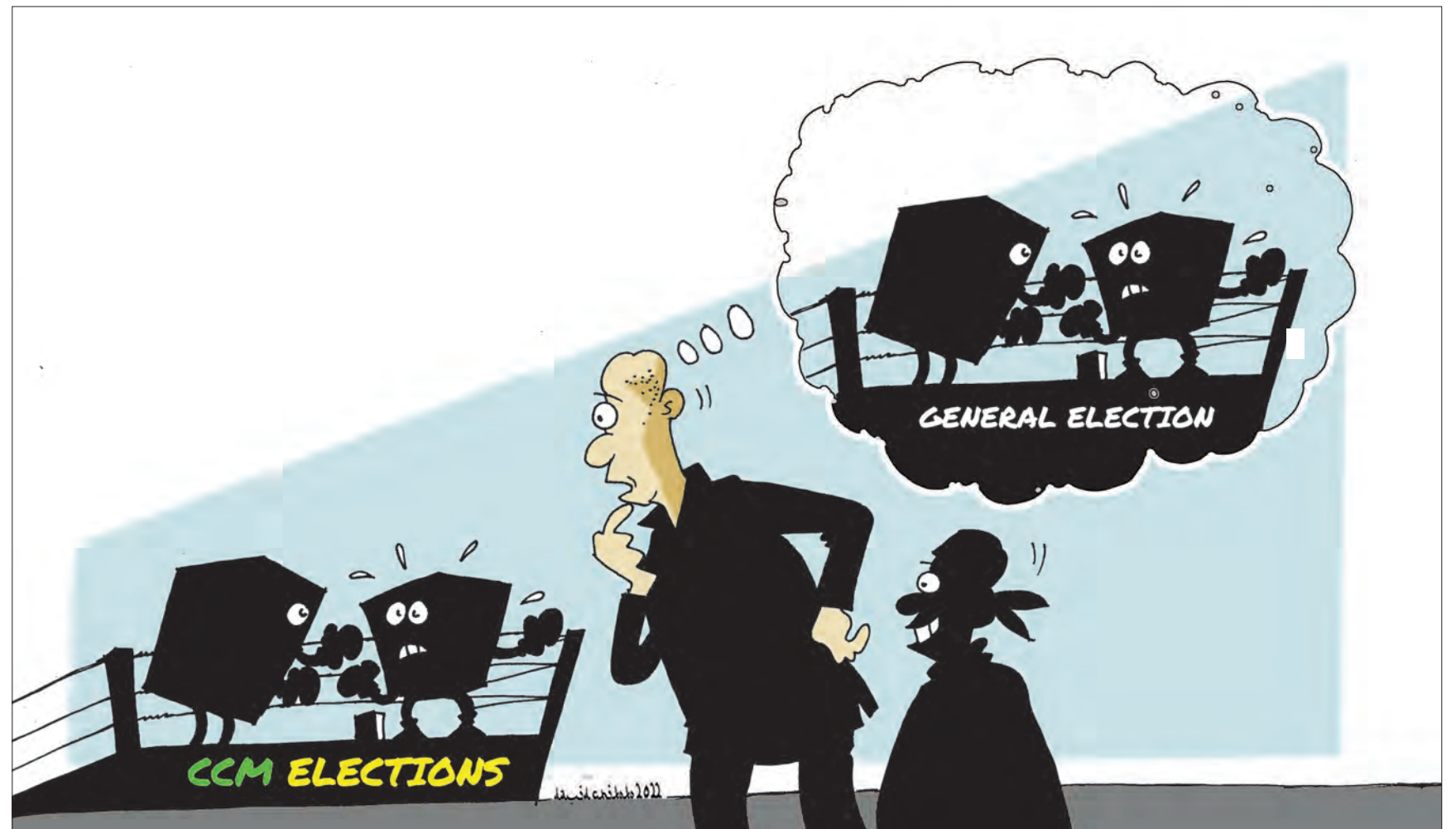
At times it is outright exploitation of gullible local girls, the worst results of trafficked persons often being those taken to households as maids but later frequently discovering too late that they have landed into untold pain and misery.

Even with these limitations, though, some agencies are doing good work on the menace of human trafficking.

At least this is according to a situation illustrated in a recent report by the United States Department of State and echoed by a number of NGOs at a convocation held late last week.

A human rights official with the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam applauded the role played by the government and NGOs in combating human trafficking and smuggling, alluding in particular to a July 19 report covering 180 countries.

Tanzania was listed among 21 countries that have shown vivid efforts in fighting human trafficking, proof that plenty can be done even with such loopholes. The efforts ought to continue.



Intercultural education gives fresh incentives to peaceful coexistence

By Correspondent Telesphor Magobe

THIS article is not concerned with education in general but, rather, with intercultural or multicultural education - which is an approach to teaching and learning that promotes the coexistence of cultural pluralism, interdependence, cross-cultural dialogue and responsible global citizenship.

Intercultural education focuses on two points. First, it is an approach to teaching and learning that respects and recognises human diversity. But it also promotes equality and human rights and challenges discrimination against other people on the basis of gender, race, age, religion, language, political opinion, disability, health status, custom, ethnic origin, rural or urban background, birth, socioeconomic status, being a refugee or any other status.

Alvino Fantini from the US-based School for International Training says, while commenting on a book entitled "From Principles to Practice in Education for Intercultural Citizenship", that intercultural education offers educators an approach to developing 'intercultural citizenship'.

He says that it is a kind of education that shows ways in which teachers and learners can cooperate towards developing openness and willingness to learn about others and to resolve conflicts peacefully.

"The world today desperately needs more citizens competent to do just this," notes Fantini.

We live in a world which challenges us to respect others and be open to them because of who they are and not because of our stereotypes against them. The holy books teach us that we were created in God's image and likeness - meaning that we are all equal in human dignity and each one of us counts in the eyes of our creator.

In his Encyclical Letter "Fratelli Tutti" (literally, all brothers) issued in 2020, world Catholic Church head Pope Francis speaks of human fraternity and social friendship. He says that, by acknowledging the dignity of each person, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity between all men and women.

The pope elaborates: "We need a

community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead. How important it is to dream together... Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all."

We are all aware of numerous xenophobic attitudes and their consequences. Some authors who have written on xenophobia suggest that xenophobes presumably do not have adequate information about the people they hate and, since they do not know how to deal with them, they see them as a threat.

Xenophobes resort to acts of violence against the people they perceive as foreigners or strangers, even when some of them may be their very own relatives, friends and colleagues. Each person is somehow 'xenophobic' in nature, but we only differ in the way we react when we feel threatened by the people we perceive as threats to us.

Hussein Solomon and Hitomi Kosaka in their article entitled "Xenophobia in South Africa: Reflections, Narratives and Recommendations" published in the journal Southern African Peace and Security Studies (Volume 2), suggest that xenophobia is embodied in discriminatory attitudes and behaviour, and often culminates in violence, abuse and hatred. They say that its manifestation undermines social cohesion, peaceful co-existence, and good governance, and constitutes a violation of human rights.

Xenophobia may emerge where people scramble for scarce resources and job opportunities since it is often in situations like this that people easily turn against each other as a survival mechanism.

Another observer, in an article entitled "Lives in migration: Rupture and continuity" published in 2011, argues that people may flee their home countries to foreign countries in search of greener pastures or because of other reasons, including running away from social unrest, political violence, persecution and so on.

Yet, while in foreign countries they are also subjected to heinous acts as migrants. The author further argues that natives often find it difficult to cope with foreigners, who migrate in

search of greener pastures, and willing to accept lower remuneration for their labour and services, thereby leading to job losses for the natives.

This often touches off frosty relationships between the natives and the immigrants, leading to xenophobic attacks as a medium of communicating the natives' discomfort and disapproval against foreigners.

The author says although borders between countries are increasingly becoming loosened and multiculturalism is taking the centre stage of global human interactions, ethnic and identity consciousness exacerbated by xenophobia still define the basis of such cross-border and global human interactions.

This shouldn't be the case. A feasible solution has to be sought to counter this social phenomenon for it tends to be self-defeating. But, through intercultural education, learners are exposed to cultural pluralism, engage in cross-cultural dialogue and are encouraged to become responsible global citizens.

A discussion paper on International Migration, Racism, Discrimination and Xenophobia published in 2011 suggests that addressing the reality of increased diversity means finding political, legal, social and economic mechanisms to ensure mutual respect and mediate relations across differences.

Where intercultural education is practised, children grow up seeing each other as different, but equal in dignity and interdependent and so they cannot easily turn against each other. To the contrary, where it is not practised, we are likely to expect acts of violence against foreigners as natives often regard them as a threat chiefly in that they are thought of readying to take up jobs, businesses and land meant for natives.

In trading markets which promote free movement of people, goods and services, it doesn't make sense to see others as a threat. Tanzania is party to the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), one of whose general objectives is to create a single market for goods, services, facilitated by movement of persons in order to deepen the economic integration of the African continent.

This is essentially in accordance with the Pan African Vision of "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa" enshrined in Agenda 2063. So,

the coexistence of cultural diversity is a practice that is becoming more and more relevant in the 21st century.

In an article entitled The Importance of Intercultural Education in Developmental Age published in a journal Procedia - Social and Behavioural Sciences in 2015, Serena Sani says that multicultural reality, which is not yet accepted by all or valued, needs to find those paths that can foster the development of an open mind that embraces "who is different from us and evolves in a real intercultural dimension".

UNESCO has formulated three principles of intercultural education, one laying emphasis on respect for the cultural identity of learners through the provision of a culturally appropriate and responsive quality education for all.

The second lays emphasis on respect for cultural knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to achieve active and full participation in society, while the third lays emphasis on respect for cultural knowledge, attitudes and skills that contribute to respect, understanding and solidarity among individuals, ethnic, social, cultural and religious groups and nations.

It is through intercultural education that we can be sure of maintaining social cohesion, coexistence of cultural pluralism and responsible global citizenship. This is the direction we must all take in the course of the 21st century.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 states in Article 26(2): "Education shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace."

Therefore, intercultural education can serve as a panacea for heinous acts against foreigners or strangers because a native in his or her own country is a stranger or foreigner in another country and so turning against each other is against humankind's shared vision of becoming global citizens and living in peaceful coexistence.

Tanzania can near-effortlessly embrace this approach to teaching and learning in that it is well known for cherishing, nurturing, safeguarding and promoting cooperation and friendship with other nations across the world.

Rat fever by any name suggests the environment is increasingly unsafe

A MEDICAL scare has just passed, as if it was a nightmare, with the Ministry of Health having formally announced the end of leptospirosis.

The Greek word can also be referred to as rat fever or urine fever, as not just rats can cause it.

What is painful to imagine is that the disease can break out at any place where animals and humans share water sources, or may step into water bearing such bacteria.

What is a bit scaring is that there are conditions for the disease to break out virtually anywhere in Tanzania and indeed elsewhere in Africa or around the tropics.

As in many such potential disease outbreaks, it is by sheer luck that such situations aren't being heard of each passing day.

Nor indeed did the menace spread in Lindi when it erupted: 20 people were infected and three died, and the matter ended there. It is unlikely that it is singularly for reasons of precautions that the disease did not spread, as those infected did routine things.

These medical good turns are pretty well around for most people to see, trouble being that we are comfortable with what we consider to be scientific explanations, though at times one figures out that an explanation is simply contrived.

Some World Health Organisation officials and global health analysts tried to explain the lack of a full-scale Covid-19 pandemic in Africa from 'experience with managing other pandemics, including malaria and HIV/AIDS.' A rather misleading explanation, that.

When the government said the eruption of the disease had been eradicated, was it a bit self-congratulatory as actually it stopped

spreading?

We need to notice the nuance involved as eradicating a disease is a hell of a problem, meanwhile as pandemics at many instances grind to a halt in the same way as they started.

Critics of Covid-19 tests, masks and vaccines were fond of talking about 'herd immunity' if some two-thirds of the population or slightly above had anti-bodies (suffered mildly from the outbreak and survived, building defences). It is yet to be demonstrated, thus far.

The way leptospirosis ended in Lindi is in a way similar to how Ebola has never shifted from its eastern DRC 'strongholds', despite incessant movement of people into the area from neighbouring countries.

And without a sufficiently cohesive mode of regulation of economic activities or immigration in the zone, the danger would be great still, but it hasn't happened. Epidemiology isn't an explanation.

That is why lessons from the rat fever scare (or any other equivalent) are at best mitigated, for the disease would - God forbid! - wipe out entire neighbourhoods if by some mechanism rats were to be infected, communicating the disease by drain water tunnels.

That is definitely not about to happen, but it is vital that there is greater modernisation and less interaction with wild animals, which demands changes in habitation and farming.

Resettling in urban areas, reactivating council renting and ten-year tenant purchase arrangements are feasible.

Living with rats and other wildlife in the bush and coming into contact at water points, regardless of the frequency, clearly poses dangers we need to do the most we can to avert.

BRI paves way for shared future via common development

BEIJING

FOR many years, commuters, merchants and tourists had to spend endless hours to travel by land from the Croatian mainland to the southern part of the eastern European country. A bridge recently inaugurated has made those exhausting experiences a thing of the past.

Opening for traffic earlier this week, the 2.4-km-long bridge finally connects two parts of the nation facing each other across the blue waves. Now it just takes a breezy three-minute drive for local residents and travelers to cross the strait for their trips to Dubrovnik, a medieval city known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic."

Connectivity matters, not only for tourism, but also for the movement of goods and access to services. A much smoother flow of trade is expected to create thousands of local jobs. Another piece of good news for people living in the southernmost part of Croatia is that they now can enjoy easier access to educational and health facilities on the country's mainland.

In the long run, this flagship project of Belt and Road cooperation, along with others of its kind, is expected to help revive growth in the region and spark new possibilities for common development in other parts of the world. This is precious against the backdrop of the lingering COVID-19 pandemic, a tottering global economy and mounting geopolitical uncertainties.

SHARED BENEFITS

Initiated by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) envisions trade and infrastructure networks connecting Asia with Europe and Africa along the ancient Silk Road routes.

Over the past 10 years or so, the BRI has followed the guiding principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits. It has made impressive headway in delivering tangible benefits to local residents through such connectivity projects as the Peljesac Bridge, the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway in Africa, and the new Haifa port in Israel, among others.

"We are seeing connectivity, we are seeing airports remodeling, and



Chinese and Kenyan drivers prepare to launch the train at Nairobi station of Mombasa-Nairobi standard gauge railway (SGR) in Nairobi Nov. 17, 2021. File photo

we are seeing ports remodeling," said Charles Onunaju, director of the Nigeria-based Center for China Studies, when speaking of China's infrastructure investment in Africa.

When describing the economic benefits of Belt and Road cooperation, Onunaju invoked Lekki Deep Sea Port, Nigeria's first deep seaport under construction by China Harbour Engineering Company in Lagos.

Official data show the project will create up to 170,000 jobs and bring revenues totaling 201 billion U.S. dollars to the state and federal government through taxes, royalties and duties.

"What is really happening is that this connectivity is aiding the future and long-term growth of Africa, so that Africa can begin to participate in global supply chains," said Beatrice Matri-

Maisori, a senior economics lecturer at Kenya's Riara University, who shares similar views with Onunaju on Africa's infrastructure development.

Besides high expectations for growth, connectivity brings certainty to a world of uncertainties.

Connectivity is at the heart of supply chain resilience, said Josephine Teo, Singapore's minister for communications and information and second minister for home affairs.

When logistic woes caused by the pandemic frustrated businesses worldwide, the China-Europe Railway Express managed to help sustain supply chains, and maintain trade transactions across the Eurasian landmass. In 2021, the total number of China-Europe freight train trips reached 15,183, and registered a yearly increase of 55 per-

cent on average from 2016 to last year.

The railway service has also yielded gains for all countries involved. In the last year alone, trade in goods with countries along the Belt and Road stood at 11.6 trillion yuan (about 1.84 trillion dollars).

HIGH-QUALITY DEVELOPMENT

At a symposium marking the fifth anniversary of the BRI back in 2018, Xi called for high-quality development of the initiative, and compared such an endeavor to a "meticulous painting," a traditional Chinese drawing technique that pays great attention to details.

He understood that after years of efforts to finish its general layout, the BRI should aim for high-standard, sustainable and people-centered progress.

The BRI's high-quality development

is branching out and bearing fruits. The construction of the Peljesac Bridge has illustrated the economic, social and environmental benefits the BRI can bring its partners.

"When building the bridge, Chinese engineers and workers applied the highest environmental standards," said Kreso Beljak, member of the Croatian Parliament and president of the Croatian Peasant Party.

Local oyster producers at the nearby Ston Bay once worried that the project might have a possible negative impact on the quality and the volume of their oyster production.

However, this didn't happen thanks to the highest environmental protection standards. On the contrary, the bridge has opened up new sales routes.

The Peljesac Bridge is a miniature of the Belt and Road construction in a new stage. Under the BRI framework, the building of a health Silk Road, a digital Silk Road and a green Silk Road have added new dimensions to the initiative.

To push for green and low-carbon development, China has promised last year not to build new coal-fired power projects abroad, and it has helped construct hydro, solar, and wind power stations in Pakistan, Laos and Argentina, among others.

In terms of innovation-driven programs, China is helping its BRI partners, many in Africa like Mozambique, to develop modern and smart agriculture with the help of the BeiDou Navigation Satellite System; it is also joining forces with others in boosting cooperation in e-commerce, outer-space and deep ocean. For example, China and Portugal have set up late last year the STAR-Lab under the BRI, which is a joint laboratory focusing on integrated scientific and technological cooperation in space and sea.

Highlighting openness and inclusiveness is also how China seeks to work with its partners worldwide for

high-quality achievements. The BRI family has some 180 members so far, and more are welcome to join.

PUBLIC GOOD FOR SHARED FUTURE

In his speech at the opening ceremony of Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2021, Xi said "the BRI is a public road open to all, not a private path owned by one single party. All interested countries are welcome aboard to take part in the cooperation and share in its benefits."

Having proposed the BRI, China is thinking how to facilitate global development for all mankind, and through these years, the BRI has brought people closer as well as boosted international trade, said Stephen Perry, chairman of Britain's 48 Group Club.

"It's transnational," he said. "It's not thinking of the single country of China. It's thinking of the whole area of the world, maybe more focused at the moment on Asia and Africa and Latin America, but it's a world project."

According to a World Bank report, BRI transport projects could, by 2030, help lift 7.6 million people out of extreme poverty and 32 million people out of moderate poverty globally. Trade will grow from between 2.8 and 9.7 percent for economies along economic corridors and between 1.7 and 6.2 percent for the world.

"The reason why the BRI can maintain such a vitality is because infrastructure construction and supply chain inter-connectivity feed the needs of economic globalization," said Huang Renwei, executive vice dean of the Fudan Institute of Belt and Road & Global Governance.

"The initiative is investing in the real economy," said Huang. "It is helping build infrastructure in world emerging economies and facilitate their industrial- and supply-chain participation."

More importantly, as protectionism and isolationism are rising, the BRI can also serve as an open platform of multilateralism for all participating countries to work together in slashing the deficits of peace, development, trust and governance.

In Huang's view, an urgent problem facing the global community's drive to reform global governance is a "recession of growth," saying that the BRI, which focuses on development in the developing world, and advocates for a fair and open world marketplace, will play a positive role in reforming the current structure of global economic governance.

"BRI is like a bridge. It connects what China can offer with what the rest of the world needs," he said.

Xinhua

Why Africa's game developers need their own app store

By Alexandria Williams

TEDDY Kossoko is a solutions architect from the Central African Republic and founder of Maseka Game Studio -- a game design company that develops video games aimed at promoting African culture.

A pain point in his effort to showcase African-made games on the world stage has been the traditional app store payment model.

When Kossoko launched Maseka Game Studio in 2018, he initially placed its suite of pan-African games in the Google Play store.

Maseka was able to gain around 10,000 users, but struggled to earn from its active user base. Their customers were primarily located in sub-Saharan Africa and did not have the credit or debit cards necessary to make mobile game purchases through Google Pay.

So the founder decided to develop his own solution, an app tailored to facilitate the payment infrastructure that African developers would need to earn money for their products. He called it the Gara store.

App stores do not suit payment methods in Africa

A mere 3% of people in sub-Saharan Africa use credit cards for payments. Debit card penetration is also scant at an estimated 18% of the population in the region.

Consumers in sub-Saharan Africa instead rely on cash and mobile money, near-instant payment services offered by mobile devices to make payments.

Kossoko initially wanted to work with Google to integrate cash and mobile money payments into the Google Play store's model.

"I went to Google and told them that I could build a system for people in Africa to make mobile game purchases," Kossoko said in an interview with DW.

But Google turned down the offer, said Kossoko. "Google told me that if I put this in the Google Play store, they



would remove it."

Developers are restricted from promoting third-party payment technology in games hosted on the Google Play store, according to the company's Developer Distribution Agreement (DDA).

Google removed popular mobile game Fortnite from the Google Play store in 2020 after its developer, Epic Games, tried to subvert the store's payment system.

Despite limited payment solutions offered by Google's proprietary app store, developing with Google comes with tailored support and full access to a suite of easy-to-use software development kits.

Creators that try to circumvent this model risk losing time and money, Kossoko told DW. But, he felt it was necessary for the future of his company to develop the Gara store anyway.

How Maseka games studio built an Android app store

Kossoko and his team also choose to develop an app for Android phones. Android is the dominant mobile operating system used by around 80% of people throughout Africa. The Android system is also easier to subvert than the Apple-run iOS system, according to Kossoko.

"We can't deploy our platform on Apple products because the system is locked," said Kossoko. "With Android you can do what you want, the limit is your imagination."

It took four years and more than \$1.02 million (€1 million) to develop the Gara store. People were initially doubtful of Kossoko's ability to build an independent Android app.

"They told me that most of the best developers who can do this kind of stuff are in the US or Asia," the found-

er said.

He took some of this advice and hired a technologist from the US, but he also made sure to onboard developers from Senegal, Ivory Coast, Benin, and Cameroon to help others learn about the technology his company was creating.

Help from Amazon Web Services Maseka Game Studio received additional support from Amazon Web Services (AWS) -- an Amazon-owned platform that provides cloud computing products to customers.

AWS never gave the studio money directly, but they offered the team resources necessary to grow their store. This included a business developer, access to investors, infrastructure to host their data, and two on-call technical support staff.

The final result was the pilot of a functional app store that could facilitate mobile money payments.

In its pilot stage, the Gara store involved 500 content creators who have created around 3,000 forms of gaming content. April 1 is the store's official launch date.

But even with a tailored solution to fit the African gaming market, Maseka will still have to fight to earn every share of revenue that the Gara store generates.

A half-billion-dollar industry Maseka Games also offers a revenue-sharing model for creators that develop apps and sell mobile applications within the Gara store.

The company gives 80% of earnings from game sales to content creators. The studio takes 20% and deducts around 5-10% from its own earnings for taxes and operating fees.

This means that Gara grosses a mere 10% of total game revenue.

Kossoko says that this amount is not enough, but he is willing to take the pay cut.

"We know that we need to give to content creators first to structure the gaming ecosystem," said Kossoko. "Once the ecosystem is solid, we'll make a lot of money."

Africa's mobile gaming market is profitable. Game revenue for mobile games from the top 5 countries in sub-Saharan Africa totaled around \$590 million in 2021.

But the lack of tailored solutions to fit the mobile gaming market combined with new entrants into the mobile space can hamper local earnings. Digital service tax burdens may also hinder the growing mobile game market.

Chinese phone makers and Africa's digital service taxes

Handsets made by Chinese phone makers have flooded the African market. Tecno, Huawei, Xiaomi, and Oppo maintain 34.2% of the mobile vendor market in Africa. Each company has its proprietary app store used to distribute applications.

While Kossoko believes that China's mobile phone vendors can add healthy competition to the gaming market, they can also outspend growing ventures like his.

"If Huawei came today and said we'll put in 100,000 times the money that we are to cover the market, we would be invisible," the founder told DW.

On top of the stronghold that China-made cell phones have on the African cellphone market, developers must also contend with digital service taxes levied by governments in 7 African countries.

Kossoko thinks that African governments should let developers generate money first and create jobs before extracting rents from creators.

"Otherwise, it's going to stop people that want to think about new kinds of business because they have to think about taxes before developing solutions," he said.

The future of the Gara store

Despite numerous hurdles, Kossoko is confident about the long-term sustainability of the Gara store and the potential that his company possesses to showcase African culture and history on the world stage.

In one Maseka games-created adventure called "The Legend of Mulu" the player goes on a quest through the lens of Mulu, a young girl on a mission to find stolen artifacts in Africa. During the journey, Mulu meets Maasai tribes in Kenya and goes on a marathon with Pygmy people in central Africa.

By Simon Counsell

Fortress conservation is heading for a crisis that can't come soon enough

GOVERNMENTS "protect" wildlife from the very people who have conserved it for centuries, while allocating mining concessions in the same areas.

Outside Africa, many people's first encounter with the continent is through images of wildlife in savannahs unfolding across their TV screens - the mortal dramas of lions chasing zebra while vast herds of wildebeest wheel and stamped with awe-inspiring force.

These documentaries have given generations an appreciation of nature's wonders, but they also contain an oddity: the total absence of Black people. As Kenyan conservation ecologist Mordecai Ogada has pointed out, in the European portrayal of Africa's wildlife, African people are "vanished" from the landscapes they have inhabited and managed since the dawn of humanity. A continent is presented as a vast wilderness, devoid of humans, who are only ever mentioned as being a threat to wildlife.

This fundamental myth reflects a deceit that dates to the early 20th century when President Roosevelt designated the first of the US' national parks. These protected zones were supposedly natural wildernesses but were in fact largely areas from which Indigenous nations had been violently expelled.

Efforts to expand national parks in Africa, especially by American conservationist organisations such as the Wildlife Conservation Society, have been explicitly modelled on Roosevelt's policies. Protecting Africa's charismatic megafauna such as elephants, lions and rhinos, was the impetus behind the creation of international conservation groups such as the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

Along with other private groups such as African Parks, these NGOs



Tourists in the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania (file photo).

are now responsible for managing vast areas of Africa.

The almost entirely internationally-driven expansion of Africa's Protected Areas accelerated in the 1990s and has continued apace since. A 2010 UN target to put 17% of land in Protected Areas worldwide was nearly achieved in sub-Saharan Africa by 2018. Some countries, such as Botswana and Tanzania, have more than double this proportion of land designated for wildlife protection.

Of course, this "protection" is directed mostly against Africans themselves. Whereas the establishment of a National Park in Europe would normally require much consultation and accommodation of local residents, this is almost never the case in Africa.

Summary evictions of inhabitants, including farmers and those with ancient grazing or hunting rights, have occurred across millions of square kilometres. And as the numbers of conservation refugees huddled around the outskirts of parks has grown, so has the intensity of enforcement.

Under the guise of anti-poaching efforts, the quasi-official "buffer zones" around many African parks are now characterised by running conflicts between increasingly heavily armed rangers with unlimited shoot-to-kill powers and increasingly angry and impoverished dispossessed locals.

Conservationists constantly claim that they're now much more respect-

ful of Indigenous and other local people's rights. But the recent violent eviction of thousands of Maasai from their homelands in Tanzania to create a game reserve has highlighted that fortress conservation is still the preferred approach.

This particular incident attracted international condemnation, but outside of the headlines, barely a month passes without new and shocking reports of serious human abuses perpetrated by the guards of one protected area or another.

Whether all this "conservation" has conserved Africa's wildlife is very unclear. Many large parks are located far from where the real threats to nature are, and there has been much duplication of efforts to protect the same limited number of tourist-attracting species.

As was eventually realised in the US, some supposed wildernesses start losing wildlife value when traditional land management practices (especially the controlled use of fire) are stopped.

While local communities have been brutalised by Pro-

tected Areas' authorities, governments have often allocated highly destructive oil, mining, agro-industry, and logging concessions in and around the very same parks. And many areas of abundant wildlife devoid of their traditional human custodians have attracted large-scale commercial poachers; not infrequently, their deadly activities are aided by the very guards supposed to be protecting animals.

Wildlife protection in Africa is fast heading for a crisis. International donors - such as the European Commission, Germany, and the US, which have heavily funded fortress conservation over the last six or seven decades - are facing ever-greater scrutiny of their human rights consequences.

They are realising that the powerful and often poorly managed conservation militias they have helped create are a danger in and of themselves. The effectiveness and sustainability of the whole approach is increasingly coming into question.

Rather than business as usual therefore, a proposal to increase the Protected Areas target to 30% of the planet by 2030 - as has been discussed under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity for the last two years - should be the catalyst for a serious pause. It should be a moment to reconsider what exactly international conservation is trying to achieve, and the best ways of doing so. The scientific evidence that more Protected Areas will help save biodiversity is, at best, flimsy.

The consequences of 30x30 could be calamitous for millions of Africans. The mostly rich countries still backing the plan are still ignoring this fact, but there is fortunately a trend towards action elsewhere.

The victims of conservation are becoming increasingly connected, organised, and vocal. Calls for justice, and for recognition of Indigenous and local peoples' rights to custodianship of their own land - a proven way of conserving wildlife - are growing ever louder.

Younger people in rich countries, rightly concerned about the fate of the planet, are starting to reject the colonial and sometimes implicitly racist undertones of a conservation narrative that places a higher value on a zebra's life than it does an African person's.

Government negotiators need to listen to these voices, realise the era of colonial conservation should be brought to an end, and abandon the 30% target.

Simon Counsell is an advisor to Survival International and the former director of Rainforest Foundation UK.

Ethiopia drastically needs an effective transitional justice policy

By Tadesse Simie Metekia

EARLIER this year, Ethiopia's government granted amnesty to political figures and influential activists detained since 2020. In justifying the decision, authorities said victims' wounds would heal through transitional justice. The attorney-general said Ethiopia had been overwhelmed with gross human rights violations that only transitional justice - and not ordinary criminal justice - could address.

But transitional justice measures aren't new for Ethiopia - and to date, they haven't lived up to expectations. For them to work, the country needs a policy tailored to the Ethiopian context that sets clear directions concerning the process.

Transitional justice entails a series of judicial and non-judicial measures to come to terms with dictatorial regimes and large-scale past abuses. Ethiopia's 2018 change of government, stemming

from widespread popular unrest, brought transitional justice into the spotlight. This regime change didn't deliver a provisional government (as it did in 1974) or a transitional government (as in 1991). Nor did authorities resort to extrajudicial measures such as the summary execution of former officials, like in 1974.

Instead, immediately after assuming office in April 2018, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali introduced transitional justice measures. He granted amnesty to thousands of political prisoners and removed opposition groups from the terrorist list. Abiy also focused on vetting political appointees and reforming institutions. He acknowledged state-sanctioned violence and promised to bring perpetrators to justice.

Local and international communities celebrated these early transitional justice measures and promises, including the African Union. Coupled with Ethiopia's steps to establish peace in the Horn and end a two-decade-long military stalemate with Eritrea,



Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali

the transitional justice measures earned Abiy the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize.

By 2019, transitional justice was already gaining ground in the country. The government established the Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission (ERC) to forge a lasting peace. It also founded the Administrative Boundaries and Identities Issues Commission (ABIIC) to address territorial dis-

putes among regions and ethnic groups.

However, prosecutions didn't materialise to the extent promised. The ERC - overly ambitious and ill-designed for complex and broad mandates - was dissolved prematurely. A similar fate followed the ABIIC.

Ethiopia's transitional justice process has been ineffective for two significant reasons. First, the country adopted incomplete, disjointed and contradictory measures instead of a holistic and complementary approach.

The process was incomplete due to the absence of meaningful victim or public participation. With regard to contradictions, Abiy told parliament in July 2018 that Ethiopians had forgiven the government for crimes it committed since 1991. The statement contradicted promises of accountability for past abuses. Later, the attorney-general abruptly started selective prosecution of human rights violations, the scale and nature of which the ERC was mandated to investigate.

Second, the country couldn't implement transitional justice measures due to state fragility created by protracted unrest, inter-ethnic clashes and devastating wars. Armed conflicts with groups in Tigray and Oromia have not only dimmed the prospects of carrying out transitional justice but resulted in further atrocities.

To address these challenges, Ethiopia needs a policy process that acknowledges the complex and arduous nature of coming to terms with the past. Adopting a policy may mend broken promises for transitional justice, as it will show genuine political commitment on the government's part. It could encourage the participation of opposition groups and other stakeholders who would use the policy to discuss choices of measures.

The AU's Transitional Justice Policy could be a good reference for Ethiopia. Drawing on past experiences, it acknowledges context specificity as much as it advocates for African shared values and ownership of the process by

the affected country. It also clarifies the overarching purposes and guiding principles.

A policy provides a general approach to choosing which transitional justice measures to pursue, such as prosecution, reconciliation (including establishing the whole truth), memorialisation and reparations. Adopting one or more of these measures may depend on the policy's main goals - guaranteeing non-repetition of violence and promoting social healing.

A comprehensive policy is also vital in sequencing and balancing choices. It will help ensure synergy and complementarity by avoiding the introduction of conflicting measures, as is currently the case.

Also, a homegrown policy could emphasise inclusiveness. Unlike what appears to be dominating the transitional justice discussions in Ethiopia, inclusiveness should look beyond warring and non-warring dissident groups. It must involve marginalised groups, like the youth,

women, minorities and internally displaced.

The Ethiopian National Dialogue Commission, established in December 2021 to start a conversation on the country's fundamental differences and disputes, could benefit from a transitional justice policy. A policy could guide the dialogue process and recommendations concerning past atrocities. It could help the commission reject pro-amnesty proposals that overlook victims' interests. In that respect, the AU's Transitional Justice Policy highlights the significance of criminal accountability as envisaged in international law.

A transitional justice policy could also be relevant in post-war peace talks. It offers guidance when negotiations involve - as they almost always do - questions of gross human rights violations during conflicts. Peace and justice processes should never overlook victims' perspectives or promise impunity to bring parties to the table. A policy would highlight this.

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

WWF: Partners in initiative to promote FBOs' link to drive practical climate change action

By Guardian Correspondent

THE World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) in collaboration with other partners has developed a programme dubbed "Faith Plans for People and Planet" so as to promote engagement of faith-based organizations (FBOs) to drive practical action on climate change, biodiversity and sustainable development. The Roman Catholic Church is a partner in the programme through the Laudato Si Movement.

This was revealed during the 20th Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa (AMECEA) Plenary Assembly which was held in Dar es Salaam, from July 10 to 17, this year where WWF was invited to speak on the Bonn Challenge and restoration.

According to WWF, the program leverages existing efforts, for the Catholic Church in particular, in the delivery of the 'Laudato Si'. Through this programme the world's faiths are responding to the 'cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor' by developing Faith Plans for People and Planet - long-term faith commitments to use their buildings, lands, investments and influence to drive practical action to create a better world - for the benefit of people and planet, and for today's and future generations.

WWF being a technical partner and a member of the AFRI00 management team, is committed to working with the FBOs to mobilize landscape level action on restoration in Africa through the Faith Plans programme to protect and restore nature for the benefit of people and the planet.

Themed: 'Environmental Impact on Integral Human Development', the assembly brought on board 400 environmental conservation practitioners and participants shared general understanding of restoration for multiple benefits, including successes and opportunities.

WWF is an international conservation organization operating in about 10 countries in Africa. Since 2021, building on more than 20 years experience in the field of restoration, WWF developed a Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) in Africa programme.

The WWF FLR in Africa programme covers 9 countries - Cameroon, DRC, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The programme contributes to the achievement of the commitments of the governments of the 9 countries to the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFRI00). The initiative is part of the global commitment and is one of the mechanisms to implement the Bonn Challenge.

The Bonn Challenge is a global effort to bring 150 million hectares of the world's deforested and degraded land into



restoration by 2020, and 350 million hectares by 2030. It was launched in 2011 by the Government of Germany and IUCN, and later endorsed and extended by the New York Declaration on Forests at the 2014 UN Climate Summit. Underlying the Bonn Challenge is the forest landscape restoration (FLR) approach, which aims to restore eco-

logical integrity at the same time as improving human well-being through multifunctional landscapes.

The Bonn Challenge is implemented through a number of regional mechanisms around the globe. It responds to the urgent issue of land degradation affecting over 3 billion people and over 30 percent of Earth's arable land.

It does so by working with countries, organizations and private entities to pledge and achieve ambitious targets to restore degraded and deforested lands. Its work is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) goal, and the Paris Climate Change Agreement -

all together providing a roadmap for a sustainable planet.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) coined the term forest landscape restoration in 2000 as a framework for managing landscapes, complementing both forest conservation and sustainable management.

Since then, FLR has evolved into a powerful nature-based solution, transforming landscapes and the lives of people worldwide.

'Regional TVET qualifications framework will facilitate mobility of students and staff'

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Institute of Transport (NIT), Kenya Aeronautical College, Kenya Railway Training Institute, Kenya Coast National Polytechnic (KCNP) and Ethiopia's Dire Dawa Polytechnic College have started sharing academic staff towards regional cooperation in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

"Two of our academic staff have gone for attachments in Kenya Coast National Polytechnic (KCNP), two others went to Kenya Aeronautical College, Dire Dawa Polytechnic College received three lecturers from NIT while four staff will be attached at Kenya Railway Training Institute," NIT Rector Prof Zacharia Mganilwa said recently.

Prof Mganilwa said: "Apart from our academic staff going to Ethiopia and Kenya, we have also received three staff from Kenya Coast National Polytechnic."

The NIT Rector recently attended the meeting in Addis Ababa that gathered education leaders from the three countries namely Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia

where they signed a communiqué to adopt the regional TVET qualifications framework.

Prof Mganilwa said the adoption of the Regional TVET Qualifications Framework will facilitate mobility of students, staff, and skilled labour initially across the countries and eventually the entire region.

"In the 2022/23 academic year, our institute will receive students from Kenya and Ethiopia, and vice versa. Students from Tanzania will go to study in Ethiopia and Kenya through a scholarship programme under East African Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP)," he said.

He added: "The adoption of regional qualifications framework at a high level helps create legitimacy for skills mobility and removes technical bottlenecks in program articulation for the respective regulatory bodies."

TVET programs often aim for local and national markets including informal ones and can be difficult to scale up.

However, NIT lecturers who attended the exchange



programme at Ethiopia's Dire Dawa Polytechnic College applauded the programme, saying it has broadened their outlook and experience and kept them up with the latest development in technology.

Eng Masunya Nashon said their visit to the Ethiopian college was a big exposure since it sharpened their knowledge and skills.

"We have exchanged the skills, knowledge and experience with co-lecturers as well as giving our knowledge to Ethiopian students," he said.

Eng Nashon who is NIT's Monitoring and Evaluation Officer - for The Centre of Excellence in Aviation and Transport Operations (CoEATO) applauded the EASTRIP project for supporting the staff exchange pro-

gramme. "The staff exchange in Ethiopia has helped us to gather knowledge and up-to-date skills which can be shared with our colleagues and students in order to benefit and enrich learning experiences," Eng Nashon said.

NIT Chief Internal Auditor who visited the institute academic staff in Ethiopia said: "All of the academic staff who attended the programme in Ethiopia have realized that there are new skills and technologies which must be imparted to students and a benefit to the Institute as well."

He further said: "By undergoing 34 days' of their programme with the Ethio-

pian college, our academic staff have got the opportunity to experience the real-life working environment."

The exchange programme helped to boost the lecturers' competency in their area of specialization in both pedagogical and technical aspects.

The EASTRIP project is a five-year project implemented by the Governments of Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania through World Bank funding, to increase access and improve quality of select TVET programs in three countries and to promote regional integration.

The Regional Flagship TVET Institute (RFTI) model has been adopted as the core strategy of the EASTRIP Project to

achieve sustainable TVET development as well as regional integration. Currently, EASTRIP is supporting 16 competitively selected RFTIs: 7 in Ethiopia, 5 in Kenya and 4 in Tanzania.

Under the EASTRIP Project, each RFTI specializes in specific sectors and occupations with corresponding TVET certificates, diplomas and degrees, recognized by national TVET regulatory authorities and often by industries and employers.

The Project's key priority sectors, proposed by the governments and validated by experts, include manufacturing and agro-processing, transport and infrastructure, power and energy, information, and Communication Technology (ICT).

UN force admits deadly shooting at The DR Congo border post

By Moses Sawasawa

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said he was "outraged" by the deaths Sunday of two people when peacekeepers opened fire at a border post with Uganda in the troubled eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

Guterres "stresses in the strongest terms the need to establish accountability for these events" and endorses "the detention of military personnel involved in this incident and the immediate investigation," a statement from the secretary-general's deputy spokesman, Farhan Haq, said.

In a video of the incident shared on social networks, men, at least one dressed as a police officer and another as a Congolese soldier, are seen advancing toward the convoy stopped on the other side of the closed fence in Kasindi, in the territory of Beni, on the border with Uganda.

After a verbal exchange, the alleged peacekeepers are seen firing shots before opening the gate and crossing the post.

"Soldiers from the Intervention Brigade of the Monusco force returning from leave opened fire at the border post for unexplained reasons and forced their way through. This serious

incident caused loss of life and serious injuries," the UN mission said in a statement.

"The toll is two dead," Joel Kikuta, a civil society leader in Kasindi, told AFP, adding that 14 people were injured.

Earlier, Barthélemy Kambale Siva, the North Kivu governor's delegate in Kasindi, had given a toll of eight seriously injured, including two policemen from the border post.

The head of Monusco, Bintou Keita, said she was "deeply shocked and dismayed by this serious incident," according to the mission's statement.

"Faced with this unspeakable

and irresponsible behavior, the perpetrators of the shooting have been identified and arrested pending the conclusions of the investigation which has already begun in collaboration with the Congolese authorities," said Monusco.

"Contacts have also been established with the country of origin of these soldiers so that a judicial procedure can be initiated urgently with the participation of the victims and witnesses, so that exemplary sanctions can be taken as soon as possible," the UN mission added, without mentioning the nationality of these peacekeepers.

The DRC government "condemns and strongly deplors this

unfortunate incident, the provisional toll of which is two compatriots dead and 15 others injured," its spokesman Patrick Muyaya said in the evening.

In conjunction with Monusco, the authorities have "initiated an investigation to establish responsibility, to find out the motives for such a crime and to obtain severe sanctions against the peacekeepers behind this tragedy," he confirmed.

'Leave the place'

Kinshasa, which has called on the Congolese population "to remain calm", warns that "the peacekeepers concerned will no longer

be able to be part of the Monusco contingents, pending the outcome of the plan to withdraw this UN force from the DRC".

Last week, deadly demonstrations accompanied by destruction and looting took place in several towns in eastern DRC to demand the departure of the United Nations.

In Goma, Butembo, Beni and other towns, protesters stormed Monusco facilities. Nineteen people, including three peacekeepers, were killed in the violent protests.

The protesters accused the peacekeepers of ineffectiveness in fighting the 100 or so armed groups responsible for the chaos

that has plagued the eastern provinces for nearly 30 years.

One of the largest and most expensive UN missions in the world, Monusco has been in the DRC since 1999. It currently has more than 14,000 peacekeepers, with an annual budget of one billion dollars.

On a visit to the DRC, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, head of the UN peace department, said Saturday that he had come to "talk with the Congolese authorities, to examine the means by which we can both avoid the recurrence of these tragic incidents and, above all, work better together to achieve our objectives."

LONDON

Climate change is putting women and girls in Malawi at greater risk of sexual violence

It is often those least responsible for causing climate change that suffer the most from the impacts. And such is the case with women and girls in Malawi - one of the world's poorest and lowest carbon-emitting countries but ranked fifth in the Global Climate Index 2021 list of nations worst affected by climate-related extreme weather.

Climate change exacerbates sexual and gender-based violence in numerous ways, pushing people further into poverty, enflaming conflict over depleting natural resources, forcing migration, and compounding pre-existing gender discrimination. All these and many other forces conspire to put vulnerable women and girls in greater danger of sexual abuse and exploitation.

A recent study by Cambridge University analyzing scientific literature on extreme weather events found that gender-based violence - such as sexual assault, intimate partner violence, or trafficking, both during and after disasters - are recurring issues in studies worldwide.

In Malawi, the climate crisis is already triggering more erratic and extreme weather, resulting in chronic water, food, and financial insecurity for millions. Over the past twenty years, droughts and floods have increased in intensity, frequency, and scale, causing devastating environmental, social, and



economic damage.

Around 9 out of 10 people in Malawi depend on rain-fed agriculture, and over half the population is food insecure. Rising temperatures, unreliable rains, and extreme weather events like

cyclones influence food production and costs.

The economic downturn triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's war against Ukraine, which has disrupted global supplies of cereals

and fertilizers, have pushed prices up further.

According to World Bank data, 82% of Malawi's population live in rural areas, and women account for 65% of smallholder farmers, making them

heightens their exposure to rape and sexual assault. And in some instances, women and girls must contend with sexual exploitation and abuse by those who control access to limited natural resources, such as at water collection points.

The system is failing victims of sexual and gender-based violence

For the vast majority of victims of trafficking, sexual violence, and exploitation, justice goes unserved. Caleb Ng'ombo runs People Serving Girls at Risk (PSGR), a frontline organization in Malawi that works to end human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, prostitution, and child marriages.

Caleb explains, "Victims are being failed by Malawi's criminal justice system. Few cases make it to court. Those that do are plagued by multiple delays, and perpetrators are rarely punished."

"Child marriage, sexual exploitation, and trafficking have blighted the lives of thousands of women and girls across Malawi, and the worsening climate crisis is putting more at greater risk. The government should not turn a blind eye to gender-based human rights violations. Addressing these problems must be central to climate response, including disaster and adaptation planning."

Malawi is a source, transit, and destination country for sex trafficking, and climate crisis is fueling it. PSGR and international women's rights organization Equality Now have submitted a joint complaint to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) highlighting the poor implementation of anti-trafficking legislation by the Government of Malawi is leaving girls unprotected against sex trafficking.

Malawi's criminal justice system needs to respond better to the realities and needs of survivors, including safeguarding them against further exploitation and ensuring support services are readily available.

Effectively addressing this crisis requires a gender-responsive, human rights-based approach from the state, one that targets the root causes of gender discrimination. Climate change also demands action from wealthy industrialized nations that bare the largest responsibility for global warming due to their high emissions, both historical and current.

Around the world, a growing climate justice movement is calling for Global North governments to provide countries like Malawi with international finance for climate adaptation, restitution for damages already caused, and national debt cancellation so money can be redirected towards supporting those in need, in particular women and girls and other marginalized groups.

With global temperatures continuing to rise, it is vital that laws, policies, and funding deliver on the distinct vulnerabilities and requirements of women and girls so they are protected against gender-based violence and better able to cope with future climate shocks.

Tsitsi Matekaire is the Global Lead on End Sexual Exploitation at Equality Now and Tara Carey Head of Media.

IPS

particularly exposed to food insecurity. Women are often dependent on natural resources, and many earn a living in the informal sector, leaving them less able to withstand economic and environmental shocks.

Climate change is a threat multiplier

Climate change is not just an environmental problem - it acts as a "threat multiplier" interacting with social systems to exacerbate systemic inequalities. So, although everyone is affected by the ravages of the climate crisis, the vulnerability of individuals varies depending on their gender, geography, class, ethnicity, and age.

Global warming and environmental damage are gendered because the ability of women to adapt is hampered by their social status and limited income, education, and resources. Women are more likely to live in poverty than men and commonly have less schooling, decision-making power, and access to finance.

When yields from harvests are reduced, this leaves subsistence farmers with little or no surplus produce to sell to earn money for purchasing basics like medicine, clothes, sanitary products, schooling, and agricultural inputs for bolstering farming production.

Being unable to produce enough food to feed their families or pay for other essentials puts women under intense pressure to find alternative sources of income. This renders them more susceptible to sexual exploitation, which can take various forms such as transactional sex in exchange for goods, and being trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation.

Family financial hardship also disproportionately affects girls, who are frequently pressured to drop out of school to do domestic work and find paid employment. This, in turn, increases their susceptibility to exploitation, including false promises made by traffickers about jobs and education further afield.

In addition, girls experience higher rates of child and forced marriage, as parents may view marriage as a coping strategy to elevate monetary difficulties and shield daughters from sexual violence. It is estimated that around 1.5 million girls in Malawi are at risk of becoming child brides as a direct result of climate change.

There are other ways that existing gender roles interplay with climate change and sexual violence. In Malawi and across sub-Saharan Africa, gathering water and firewood is widely deemed the responsibility of women and girls. A lack of clean water and depletion of natural resources caused by environmental degradation means they often have to travel further to acquire scarce resources.

Not only does this use up precious unpaid time that could be spent on beneficial activities such as income generation or schooling, but it also

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 334 00--

WORD-FIT

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: CRY, ICE, ORE
 4 LETTERS: LOAD, SOME, ODDS, RACE, AIDE, GOLD, MALL
 5 LETTERS: ADAPT, DODGE, SEMEN, ACRES, CHEER
 6 LETTERS: EMPIRE, MAIDEN, AGENDA, ASSIST, ENDURE
 7 LETTERS: MANDELA
 8 LETTERS: CLIMATES
 10 LETTERS: SUGARCANES

CROSSWORD

1 2 3 4
 5 6 7
 8 9 10
 11 12
 13 14 15 16
 17 18
 19 20

CLUES: Across

1 New country in Africa
 5 laid by female birds
 7 a church decree
 8 a tripod frame used to support an artist's canvas
 10 deploy as a means of achieving something
 11 to choose
 13 a chemical substance soluble in water, sour in taste
 15 a piece of writing on a topic
 17 officials who watch matches to ensure that rules are adhered to
 19 a thought
 20 something forming an edge or border

Down:

1 stalk of a plant
 2 to try to make someone to do something
 3 a kind of freehold tenure based on interrupted possession
 4 to awaken
 6 the exchange of goods for money
 7 part in the middle
 9 responded to something
 12 Lake Victoria in Kenya
 14 fear, horror
 16 a soft lustre on a surface
 17 one of many narrow bones
 18 surrounding the chest

SOLUTIONS

WORD-FIT: JOURNALIST, URSULA, NEEDLE, EMBROIDER, MANDALA, WAGTAIL, RAVEN, MINERAL, RAIN, SHIRT, URSULA, NEEDLE, EMBROIDER, MANDALA, WAGTAIL, RAVEN, MINERAL, RAIN, SHIRT.

CROSSWORD: 1. ETHIOPIA, 2. STALK, 3. TENURE, 4. AWAKEN, 5. NEST, 6. TRADE, 7. DECREE, 8. TRIPOD, 9. RESPOND, 10. DEPLOY, 11. CHOOSE, 12. VICTORIA, 13. ACID, 14. HORROR, 15. ESSAY, 16. LUSTRE, 17. RIB, 18. CHEST, 19. THOUGHT, 20. BORDER.

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIWI 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	



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Indian firm crusades for use of agro-waste biomass in manufacturing

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

MUMBAI-based company Hi-Tech Consultants and Services has embarked on a campaign to reduce industrial carbon emissions in Tanzania by creating more awareness to manufacturing industries about the use of biomass instead of furnace oils.

The company's founding Director, Harish Ingavale, who was accompanied with director Sameer Ingavale said this last week at the Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania during an interview with The Guardian.

"We have been in Tanzania for the last month and we are here for industrial machinery installation and commissioning projects, as well to meet with manufacturers to discuss the advantages of replacing furnace oil with agricultural biomass waste," said Ingavale (pictured).

He said the company has embarked on the campaign after discovering that the average potential of agricultural biomass waste to decrease carbon emissions in industries ranges between 15 to 30 percent.

According to him, the basic difference between biomass and furnace oil when it comes to the carbon emissions is—when biomass is burned, the CO2 absorbed by a plant is recycled back into the atmosphere and gets reabsorbed by other plants for their growth, while burning furnace oil adds CO2 to the atmosphere, increasing the green-

house effect and worsening the human-caused climate change.

"Besides conserving the environment, the country has substantially more to gain from the biomass industry such as cutting industrial steam generation cost by half, reducing dependence on import of oil, and generating local employment in the new biomass processing industry," he said.

Highlighting on agricultural biomass, he said are waste material left over from agricultural and forestry processes such as coffee husk, sawdust, rice husk, wood shavings and cashew shells.

"They are normally left to decompose or burned in the open, but are in practice a potential valuable supply of fuel," he said.

More than 80 percent of Tanzanians depend on biomass as a source of energy by burning firewood, dung, and other traditional fuels.

However, the industrial application of biomass hasn't had equivalent attention because of relatively affordable fossil fuels and lack of information on potential advantages of switching to agro-waste biomass and ways of achieving the benefits consistently and reliably.

The industrial sectors in Tanzania are developing rapidly and industrial production is projected to increase by a factor of 4 between now and 2050.

They need to be encouraged to leapfrog to climate friendly technologies if they are to avoid locking themselves into long-term, inefficient, and polluting technologies for decades to come."



he said.

In a bid to encourage private companies to improve their environmental footprint and turn carbon-neutral, the government needs to play an active role in making the stakeholders fully aware of the economic and environmental advantages of biomass utilization and come up with new policies that favor and incentivize companies to

switch to more climate friendly fuels.

"With highly volatile and surging oil prices along with increasingly stringent environmental regulations, the economic and business incentive to switch over to more sustainable sources of fuel such as biomass has never been higher," he said.

While the government can help create a conducive environment for growth, the private sector needs to take lead in the development of the biomass industry in Tanzania.

Biomass resources are available abundantly but are scattered in pockets around local agricultural hubs. In order to reduce the cost of transportation, private players must establish biomass projects close to the source, leading to consolidation and centralization of biomass availability.

During his last visit to Tanzania in January this year, Harish Ingavale met with the Executive Secretary of Tanzania Renewable Energy Association (TAREA) Dr. Matthew Matimbwi to conduct a preliminary survey on the availability of agro-waste biomass in Tanzania.

Currently, there are massive heaps of sawdust in Tanzania and agro-waste such as rice husk being disposed of through burning which can fulfill the steam generation requirements of the entire industries belt nearby" he said.

Hi-Tech is 15 year old engineering con-

sultancy and service firm, providing a comprehensive range of services like turn-key installation of equipment and commissioning, consultancy services for greenfield and brownfield brewery and spirits projects, quality improvement, and cost-saving initiatives, energy audits, supply of engineering spare parts, as well as undertaking routine maintenance services at companies such as Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL), SBC Pepsi, and Nile Perch Fisheries among others.

"Last year, we registered our company in Tanzania with the intention of expanding our overseas business, contributing to the local economy and catering to the growing Tanzanian market" he said.

Sameer Ingavale explained what sets them apart in the biomass space is that "We have been actively involved in the growth of this industry right from its inception in early 2010s. Hi-Tech commissioned the biomass boiler at Nyanza Bottling Company Limited (NBCL) Coca-Cola, Mwanza in 2011 and SBC Pepsi, Mbeya in 2012."

"We are offering companies a full value chain turn-key solution, right from technical evaluation and installation of biomass boilers to after sales support and services such as fuel supply and boiler operations, and bear a decade-long history of executing biomass projects in India and Tanzania." he said.

Mkombozi Commercial Bank repositions its digital interventions

By Guardian Reporter

MKOMBOZI Commercial Bank PLC has said it is planning to reposition its digitalization interventions including agency banking, mobile banking application, internet banking, and cash management solutions.

Speaking during the bank's 13th Annual General Meeting (AGM), the board chairman Gasper Njuu said the bank will focus on innovation and investment in technology in order to deliver quality service and improve customer experience.

He said the bank has successfully completed integration with key partners in the provision of digital services especially Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) and other digital solution integrators.

"We also plan to expand the Bank's physical outreach through agency banking and mini branch/service center outlets (successfully recruited 140 agents out of 250 planned for 2022, rolled out Sadaka Digital solutions for church collection, and recruited 40 Parishes in Dar es Salaam out of 250 Parishes in Tanzania in 2022)," he said.

Njuu said: "We'll also intensify cost optimization initiatives with a strategic focus to achieve a cost/income ratio of 55 percent in a medium-term (1-3 years).

During the year, the bank registered a profit after tax of 3bn/- for the period ended 31st December 2021, which was attributed to business operations efficiency and the outcome of the turnaround initiatives.

The bank chairman also commended the financial outcomes on key balance sheet and profitability parameters.

He said that the bank posted impressive profit and improvement in the Capital formation that was attributed to business operations efficiency and the outcome of the turnaround initiatives.

"We focused on growth opportunities while taking positive strides to address challenges in our operating environ-



Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc managing director Respige Kimati (R) presents agenda book on the bank's 13th Annual General Meeting to the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Dodoma Beatus Kinyaiya (L). Looking on centre is the bank's board Chairman, Gasper Njuu. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

ment," he noted.

Njuu added that despite a number of challenges in the year 2021, the bank continues to focus on strategic initiatives of expanding the Banks physical outreach through

agency banking (Mkombozi Wakala) and Mini Branches/Service Centre Outlets.

Bank's managing director Respige Kimati said 2021 placed them relatively better than the previous financial

year 2020 on fundamental balance sheet metrics, especially capital element and delivery of the strategic initiatives.

Addressing about 500 shareholders attended the AGM, Kimati said: "Our business transformation and growth ambitions calls for sustainable capitalization especially through fresh capital injection to support necessary investment in key infrastructure and balance sheet growth. It is our call to the shareholders to continue supporting the bank's investment plans in this endeavour in order to deliver profitable, consistent and sustainable results for the bank."

Having navigated through the three-year phase of business turnaround and repositioning, the management and board are working on a medium-term strategic plan which shall be presented to the shareholders at a later stage for consideration and necessary support, he said.

Kimati announced that on the funding side, the bank increased shareholders' funds by 26percent to 25.82bn/- up from 20.57bn/- the previous year, driven by fresh capital injection (Rights Issue) of 2.2bn/- and profit retention during the year under review.

He further noted that the Core Capital and Total Capital Ratio were at 19,589m/-, 14.63 percent, and 14.63 percent respectively (2020: 16,423m/-, 11.08 percent, and 11.08 percent). "This compares favourably with the minimum regulatory requirement of 15,000m/-, 12.5 percent and 14.5 percent respectively in Core Capital, Core, and Total Capital Ratio respectively."

Archbishop Bishop Beatus Kinyaiya, the bank's board member commended the excellent performance of managing director who took over the position in 2019, when the bank was undercapitalized with a capital of 8bn/- below the regulators limit and managed to raise it to 19.9bn/- in 2021.

"This was a huge turnaround time for the bank, as the regulatory minimum capital limit for commercial banks is 15bn/- and within two years, Kimati struggled and brought it above the limit. This is quite commendable and this is what shareholders want to hear," he said.

European shares rise as banks, HSBC offset weak data

LONDON

EUROPEAN shares edged up on Monday as a jump in banking stocks after HSBC's strong results offset fears of a global economic slowdown fanned by disappointing Chinese economic data and figures showing contraction in euro zone manufacturing activity.

The biggest boost to the index came from London-listed HSBC that jumped 5.7% on posting a profit that beat expectations. The company also pushed back on a proposal by top shareholder Ping An Insurance Group Co of China to split the lender, arguing the move would be costly.

The banking index climbed 1.9%. "We've had a bit of a positive

boost to the banking sector from the initial rising interest rates ... the problem for the sector is further down the road as we get the economic slowdown everybody is anticipating," said Stuart Cole, head macro economist at Equiti Capital.

European stocks posted their best monthly performance on Friday since November 2020 helped by strong earnings from corporate Europe, even as broader sentiment remained fragile on fears of an economic slowdown.

Adding to concerns the bloc could fall into a recession, data on Monday showed manufacturing activity across the euro zone contracted last month with factories forced to stockpile unsold goods due to weak demand.



"The picture being painted is looking increasingly bleak for the EU, and a drill down of the numbers shows lower sales, declining rates of new orders and exports, and large rises in stocks," said Cole.

"The expectation has to be that manufacturers will be cutting output further going forward."

In Germany, the powerhouse of the European economy, data showed retailers ended the first half of 2022 with the sharpest year-on-year sales drop in nearly three decades, as inflation, the Ukraine conflict and the pandemic take their toll.

Heineken NV slipped 0.9% as the world's second-largest brewer shelved its margin target for 2023 as costs spiked.

Zaburi Isack: Rural electrical technician targeting to create jobs among youths

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

It wasn't an easy start from the scratch for 23-year old Zaburi Isack, a form four graduate from Dimtrios Secondary School, resident of Magereza Street in Iringa Municipal Council, a job seeker who turned a job creator.

After completion of secondary education in 2017 at Dimitrios Secondary School in Nzihi ward Iringa rural, Isack scored division IV.

Given such exam results, he could not be selected to join high secondary school (A-Level), so, he opted for further training at a Technical Vocational and Education Training (TVET) institution to carry out his desire electrical studies.

"I had a list of two colleges, Don Bosco Youth Training Centre (DBYTC) and VETA, but finally I decided to join Don Bosco Youth Training Centre in Iringa Region," Isack noted.

At DBYTC, Isack chose to study Electrical Installations, his desired field of study.

"I was highly convinced to take this course after my Brother, Mr. Juma Mbagi told me about the opportunities available to this sector, given the recent economic transformation."

The journey started in 2019 when Isack joined Don Bosco where he acquired a number of skills- domestic electrical wiring installation, electrical installation and Solar PV systems, industrial wiring installation, solar PV wiring installation systems and maintenance.

In the second year 2020, he said, the Solar PV course was added to their course and became Electrical Installation and Solar PV.

Through the knowledge and skills gained from DBYTC, Isack's has become a solar technician and has been able to establish an enterprises namely Sun Golden Ray Enterprises since January 2022 dealing with domestic electrical wiring installation, industrial wiring, solar PV wiring installation system, maintenance services and provides advisory services in accordance with customers' needs.

Also has been able to make domestic electrical wiring in nine houses for the distribution of electricity and houses



Zaburi (left) with one of his clients

located at Nyabula and Tosa villages in Iringa rural, including one mosque in Mbalali District, which is connected to solar power.

"The money I get from my business I will use it to establish electrical equipment shop to sell solar energy products and TANESCO's electrical installation products," he said.

To start with, he has been able to secure a total of 500,000/-and deposit it in a bank account as capital.

Apart from that, he has been connected to other famous local technicians in their localities and they are all together securing a number of tenders in electrical and solar PV installations and maintenance.

"It's my hope that my ambition of registering an electrical and solar company will materialize in a near future," he said.

Also, Isack's received its first electrical and solar working tool kits award worth 1.5m/- as a seed grant from the US based Charles Stewart Mott Foundation to create a solar energy enterprise serving the poor especially rural communities.

Currently, he holds a Certificate in Electrical Installation and Solar PV (Level III

He lauded Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and Don Bosco for introducing the programme and provides financial support that he says has helped him to become an electrical technician, improve his wellbeing, acquire different tenders from different people, government's offices including neighbouring villages and earn cash.

Elaborating on his project, he said "I started to pass house by house asking people if they need the services I am offering. It was very hard work, and sometimes people refused to give me their phone numbers for making follow-ups," he said.

Later on, he came to discover that, he was doing marketing in the wrong place as most of the houses have connected to the national grid and they are located in Iringa town where there are not many problems of being off power very often.

He decided to change the location and marketing approach.

"I decided to go to the villages near Iringa town where there is no electricity and I printed fliers with all details concerning my business and the services I am offering," he said.

Digital Marketing; Brand Safety: Part 3

By Alley Mtatya

A PREDOMINANT portion of today's marketers are qualitative; they're into design, they're into statistics, they're into psychology, they're into understanding the strategic aspect of behavioral economics and so forth, but the world is shifting to a tech or data driven arena in a significant way. Any marketer knows that the secret duty of any marketer is to build, nature and protect the brand, "that is sacra sic".

It is very important to get clarity on the goals of your brand, nowadays marketers now have clarity on brand safety and suitability as strategic goals of their company. There should be a clear definition, clear on the importance of protecting their brand equity and their brand reputation as well as being clear on what their true north is as marketers. I remember years back when all we marketers wanted was data, like give me all the data, I want all the data then after collecting I would go and figure out a marketing strategy.

Which leads us back to square one; Marketers must know what the true north of their brand is? What are the governing principles and the code of conduct for their brand, that point you to the statement mentioned above around brand reputation and brand equity. Knowing that the world that we will live in 2 or 3 years from now will be very different from the world that we are living in today.

Having a true north as a guiding compass is great and which is also the right thing to have but how do you bring the true north to life, is something else, and were most marketers fall short. This subject requires extensive training, extensive research and reading because this is by far the main responsibility of a marketer by protecting, nurturing and building their brand.

How Expensive Is It?

How expensive is it to enforce brand safety? Large brands can spend billions and billions, but what if I am a small player in the industry; a start-



sites that can damage your brand reputation, you're eroding the trust and your brands reputational risk.

This leads me to ask ad agencies or marketers or businesses for example, do they have the ability to post factor by looking at the type of content despite of all the controls in place, pre-bid or post-bid but then post factor after the ads have appeared to track and say look, x number of ads have gone through the filters and have gone to the wrong sites and therefore two things arise from that: 1. You need to know, how much did it cost the company? 2. What is the extent of the damage? And 3. How do you recover that money?

As you need to compensate the brand for lack of proper safety controls, it is also about accountability. If I give the agency or marketer or social media company money and I have also given you the specs of what I want as a business in terms of advertising my brand but then my brand appears in some other place (say an adult entertainment site), which is contrary to my brand's values). Where does the accountability reside and why is it that my brand should pay for it in terms of the reputational damage.

Businesses are investing more and more on digital marketing and shifting their brand presence more towards new social media platforms that are trending, engagement is KING!

Marketing in the near future is also shifting to live feeds, so how will this be controlled as it gets more and more difficult to regulate live speeches that could go wrong (hate speech, racial slur, promotion of violence etc.)

Let me leave this for thought and challenge those in the marketing industry on brand safety, accountability and brand trust in the near future.

Alley Mtatya (pictured) is Marketing Coordinator - Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania)

EAC Heads of State need to walk the talk to deliver a full common market

EAST African Community (EAC) Heads of State met in Arusha, Tanzania a week ago and reaffirmed their commitment to implementing the EAC Common Market Protocol.

The Protocol which follows the Customs Union is the second pillar of the bloc's integration agenda entered into force in July 2010, but since then, many of the patient issues accelerate economic growth and development that include maintaining a liberal stance towards the four freedoms that include free movement of goods, free movement of persons, free movement of labour and free movement of capital.

These freedoms have not yet fully been addressed that puts economic growth and development of the bloc at stake since member states have been skeptical.

Underlying the EAC Common Market are operational principles of the community that include non-discrimination of nationals of other partner states on grounds of nationality, equal treatment to nationals of other partner states, ensuring transparency in matters concerning the other partner states and share information for the smooth implementation of the protocol.

With the entry of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) into the EAC, the bloc now has an estimated population of 300 million people and a combined Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of \$250 billion.

Despite belonging to a bloc that is now, arguably, Africa's most integrated regional economic community, partner states failed to fully maintain a liberal stance towards the four freedoms of movement for all factors of production and two rights between themselves. The freedoms and rights include: free movement of persons; right of establishment; and right of residence.

The bloc can however make strides with removal of trade restrictions among member states, lower tariffs and free movement of goods and services that will ultimately lead to improved economies of scale.

The block now the chairmanship to Burundi's President, Evariste Ndayishimiye has a task ahead of deliberating at length on the vast opportunities available to the region under the protocol and how to exploit them for the benefit of all Partner States.

This no doubt will significantly reduce the EAC's economic dependence on the developed world but to achieve this EAC states have no option but to prioritise the implementation of regional commitments in line with the EAC Common Market Protocol.

In his remarks, President Uhuru the outgoing EAC Chairman said that infrastructure development was critical in attaining the region's objective of being one big market stretching



from the Indian Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean.

He said East Africa would only attain the Common Market if its citizens were able to communicate easily, and to move and ferry goods freely across the region.

He added that if the region is not interlinked through infrastructure, it would remain a market for other nations and blocs, not a producer of commodities for sale.

President Kenyatta said that EAC had a vast opportunity to grow with its ever-expanding market and therefore reduced economic dependence on the developed world.

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni during the Heads of State retreat in Arusha said that there is no way a country or region could achieve prosperity if it doesn't solve the issue of market size.

Suffice to note however is that there is no levelled ground in terms of trade amongst EAC partner states that has not only created trade disputes but has also undermined full integration of the EAC block.

Just a few days back, there were media reports that Kenya had frozen plans by Tanzanian billionaire Rostam Aziz to set up a gas plant and storage facilities at the Mombasa port.

Reports alleged that Kenya's Energy regulator had declined to clear the application by Taifa Gas, which is owned by tycoon Rostam Aziz, citing risks to the environment posed by the 30,000-ton gas handling facility but analysts claimed that the move was to protect the Kenyan local market.

This is just a tip in the iceberg as on several occasions there has been several EAC trade wars reported from the media ranging from milk, to maize, to poultry bans but these have always been solved amicably through dialogue.

For the spirit of the EAC Common Market, EAC Heads of state have no option but to be pro-active and ensure that member states adhere to the common market operating principles so as to create a win-win situation.

The author of this article is a communications consultant and strategist based in Dar es Salaam. For feedback, please, contact him via email: geoffnangai@gmail.com / +255758897538

Bain Capital seeks \$5 billion in Asia fund

BOSTON

BAIN Capital LP has begun raising a \$5 billion fund for Asia-Pacific, smaller than the amount sought by global buyout peers in the recent past, people familiar with the matter said.

The Boston-based buyout firm started marketing its fifth Asia fund in July, targeting a first close in December and final completion in the first quarter, one of the people said, asking not to be identified because they're not allowed to discuss fundraising. The fund has the remit to grow to \$6 billion, excluding senior management contributions.

The smaller fund reflects Bain Capital trying to strike a balance between management fees and finding investments it can then exit later to reap better returns, the people said. Its previous four funds have clocked net returns of 20% to 25%, the people said, after investing in healthcare and drug companies, digital infrastructure as well as software and restaurant firms.

The targeted pool is 25% bigger than its previous \$4 billion fund, but about half the size of funds in the region by rivals KKR & Co. and Blackstone Inc. Publicly listed investment managers are valued on assets under management and Bain Capital is one of the few global private-equity firms that remains unlisted.

Bain Capital generally contributes 10% to 15% of its own capital in each of its funds, more than most of its rivals, one of the person said. It recently completed raising its second special situations fund at \$2 billion for Asia. A Beijing-based spokeswoman declined to comment for the story.

Past notable deals from Asia included taking over the collapsed airline Virgin Australia Holdings Ltd. in 2020 and the firm is slated to start due diligence on Japanese conglomerate Toshiba Corp., the people said.

Investment managers in Asia are facing headwinds in new fund raising this year amid slowing economic growth and geopolitical tensions. KKR last year raised \$15 billion for its biggest buyout fund ever in the region. Blackstone Inc. amassed \$11 billion when closing its second private-equity fund in January and Carlyle Group Inc. is currently seeking \$8.5 billion.

Asia Pacific-focused private capital has already expanded almost sixfold over the past decade, and is on course to reach \$6 trillion by 2025, according to Preqin.

Equities market rally in focus after best month since 2020

LOS ANGELES

AUGUST begins with investors looking to build on gains following the best month for US equity markets since late 2020.

In the week ahead, the July jobs report and a continued flood of corporate results will remain top of mind for investors.

Friday's employment data is expected to show nonfarm payrolls grew by 250,000 in July, while another 150 companies in the S&P 500 are set to report quarterly results in the coming week. Roughly 56 pct of names in the index have unveiled figures so far.

U.S. stocks finished off their best month since November 2020 on Friday, as markets rallied in each of the week's final three trading sessions.

For the month of July, the S&P 500 gained 9.1%, fighting back from its worst start to a year since 1962 after the benchmark index plunged 20.6% in the first six months of 2020. The Nasdaq Composite rallied 12.3% to notch one of its best months on record, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 6.7% for the month.

A sharp rebound for equities in recent weeks comes amid expectations that slowing economic growth may prompt the Federal Reserve to scale back its interest rate hiking cycle in the fall.

Last week, the advance estimate for second quarter GDP showed the economy contracted at an annualized rate of 0.9% - marking the second consecutive quarterly decline for the measure and meeting the unofficial definition of a recession.

"Even if we're in a technical recession already, it may be wishful thinking that inflation will come down quickly enough to allow the Fed to



cut rates without having a detrimental effect on the labor market and broader economy in the process," DWS Group Head of Trading and COO George Catrambone said in a note.

"The market may want to be looking ahead to these cuts, but many companies will not be able to escape demand destruction, margin pressure, reduction in hiring and job cuts, and foreign exchange headwinds that restrictive monetary policy and an increasingly gloomy global environment will bring."

Some better-than-expected earnings reports, particularly from heavyweights Apple (AAPL) and Amazon (AMZN), have so far kept sentiment afloat, but second quarter figures are lackluster. Among S&P 500 companies that have reported results so far for Q2, companies are reporting earnings that are only 3.1% above estimates, below the five-year average of 8.8%, according to data from FactSet Research.

Washington has been quick to point out that despite two consecutive quarters of negative GDP, the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) has official say over whether the U.S. economy is in a recession or not. The organization defines a recession as "a significant decline in economic activity that is spread

across the economy and that lasts more than a few months."

White House Council of Economic Advisers Member Jared Bernstein emphasized on Yahoo Finance Live last week that the labor market continues to be an "important buffer" to recession.

But that buffer appears to be showing signs of weakening. Initial jobless claims held near an eight-month high at 256,000 in the week ended July 23 after the prior week's reading was revised up by 10,000 to the highest level for first-time unemployment insurance filings since November.

And economists expect the broader employment report this week to show 250,000 new jobs were created in July, which would mark a noted decrease from the 372,000 jobs added in June.

"There are growing signs that labor market momentum is cooling from a pretty elevated level," economists at Bank of America led by Michael Gapen said in a recent note, citing an increase in initial jobless claims and news of company layoffs.

BofA said that although data on job openings from Indeed suggest the latest data to show

Ethiopia embarks on e-mobility transition amid rising fuel prices

ADDIS ABABA

A striking phrase written in Amharic, Ethiopia's working language, is visible on each side of cars displayed inside a showroom located on the outskirts of Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. The phrase reads "An Electric Vehicle" - a rare sight in a country where electric mobility is in its infancy.

The showroom, which exclusively displays a wide range of electric vehicles for potential Ethiopian buyers, belongs to Green Tech Africa, an East African-based renewable energy company that works in partnership with major Chinese electric vehicle manufacturers as part of its aspirations to promote electric mobility in Ethiopia and beyond across the African continent.

As the Ethiopian government recently engaged in an ambitious effort to fast-track the transition into electric mobility in the face of the global fuel uncertainties, the company has recently partnered with the Ethiopian Ministry of Transport in a series of events that envisaged creating public awareness of e-mobility.

One such initiative is a one-month-long free electric vehicle transportation campaign for Addis Ababa residents.

The phenomenon has caught the attention of many on the streets of Addis Ababa, most of whom are experiencing their first-ever battery electric vehicle excursion.

Kidem Tesfaye, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Green Tech Africa, said that a growing number of Ethiopians are lately interested in electric cars.

The Ethiopian government, preoccupied with the mammoth cost of fuel that was further exacerbated by the current global fuel price hikes, is recently promoting electric vehicles as a viable solution.

The East African country spends an estimated annual average of 4 billion U.S. dollars for the purchase of fuel, according to government figures. For comparison, Ethiopia's overall



Electric vehicles imported by Green Tech Africa in Addis Ababa. PHOTO/XINHUA

export revenue during the Ethiopian 2021/2022 fiscal year that ended earlier this month was 4.12 billion U.S. dollars.

Experts argued that Ethiopia, which spends a major part of its forex earnings on fossil fuels, should tap into the global climate change agenda as its priority to reduce emissions.

"As a water tower of Northeast Africa, Ethiopia is potentially endowed with plenty of hydroelectric potential. Hence, it makes sense that we look to electric cars as a future machine of mobility," Costantinos Bt. Costantinos, professor of public policy at the Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, told Xinhua in a recent interview.

"Carmakers are looking at alternative fuel sources, with the aim to reduce harmful exhaust emissions while still delivering the kind of all-round performance and range capabilities," Costantinos said, as he advised Ethiopia to follow suit.

The Ethiopian government, as part of its 10-Years Perspective Development Plan that runs from 2021 to 2030, plans to import 4,800 electric buses and 148,000 electric automobiles.

Tesfaye argued that cognizant of the current

global shift toward electric vehicles, the East African country should aspire even higher.

Many argue that Ethiopia's transportation system has been a key source of carbon dioxide emissions with the influx of cheap used cars that are imported into the country, where brand new cars are a rare sight and electric vehicles are nearly unheard of until very recently.

Tesfaye emphasized that Green Tech Africa, working in collaboration with its Chinese partners, envisaged changing the situation by introducing Chinese-made electric vehicles that are convenient to the local demand.

The company currently is importing the cars from Chinese car manufacturer Dongfeng Motor Corporation and has plans to establish a car assembly factory in the near future toward realizing its ultimate goal of becoming the manufacturing hub of electrical vehicles in Africa.

"Within the next ten years, we see Green Tech Africa (becoming) the manufacturing hub of electrical vehicles and having at least 60 percent of the electric vehicle components manufactured locally," Tesfaye said.



UK crypto investors ought to limit holdings, Regulator says

LONDON

INVESTMENT in crypto assets should be capped, with consumers warned that they could lose all their money, the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority said in a policy document published Monday.

There will be a ban on offering bonuses to clients who refer friends, the financial-services regulator said as it prepares for new laws that will extend its powers to cover digital assets including cryptocurrencies.

In April, then finance minister Rishi Sunak said he wanted to make the country a crypto asset hub. But the recent market crash, which saw a fall in the price of bitcoin and the collapse of assets such as the terraUSD (UST) stablecoin and Three Arrows Capital fund, has made the regulator only more determined to act against what it sees as unduly risky behavior.

"We want people to be able to invest with confidence, understand the risks involved, and get the investments that are right for them which reflect their appetite for risk," Sarah Pritchard, the FCA's executive director of markets, said in a statement.

"Where we see products being marketed that don't contain the right risk warnings or are unclear, unfair or misleading, we will act," she said, following

a consultation published in January.

The FCA said "we still consider cryptoassets, when used as a speculative investment, to be high-risk," in spite of its lack of current powers to directly regulate the market.

Under the plans, potential crypto buyers must be given a "clearer and more prominent" warning that they could lose all their money and won't be protected if something goes wrong. While the new rules in principle apply only to risky non-crypto products, the FCA is waiting for lawmakers to pass innovative digital assets.

The regulator has tentatively said crypto would fall under an intermediate category of "restricted mass-market investments." Marketing to retail investors wouldn't be banned, but there are more limits than would apply to assets deemed safer, such as listed stocks.

Qualifying crypto assets "are only likely to be appropriate for consumers as a small part of a diversified portfolio," and "should only be accessed when consumers understand the risks involved," the document said, adding that exposure should be limited to 10% of net assets.

Sunak resigned in July, and is now vying with Foreign Secretary Liz Truss to succeed Boris Johnson as prime minister.

Uganda seeks to balance exports with consumption in free processing zones

KAMPALA

GOVERNMENT wants to amend the Free Zones Act 2014 to introduce a 50/50 balance between production for export and local consumption.

Government is in the process of amending the Free Zones Act 2014 to introduce a 50/50 balance between production for export and local consumption.

The Act, established under the Uganda Investment Code Act, currently demands that 80 percent of what is produced in free economic zones is exported while 20 percent can be locally consumed.

However, speaking in Kampala at the weekend, Mr Alinda Kimoomi, the Uganda Free Zones Authority executive director, said, there should be a balance to attract investment in producing for the local economy.

The plan, he also noted, includes changing the current status of some of the zones into special economic zones.

The current law, he said, demands that 80 percent of what is produced is exported but this should be changed to strike a balance between exports local consumption.

"The amendments will at least strike a balance to have 50 percent produced for export and 50 percent for local consumption," he said, noting that so far, with about 31 free zones dealing in single factories, the Uganda Free Zones Authority, will seek to set up another six centres to widen the scope beyond dairy, cocoa, coffee and leather.

"There are certain challenges we have met and one of those is the limited scope of the scheme. The scheme provides for export processing zones and free ports but we have realised that we actually need an element for special economic zones," he said.

The export processing zones, he noted, have stringent measures which requires that one must be able to export a certain percentage, which in the case of Uganda must be 80 percent or more of what is produced.

However, he said, the special economic zones have a bit of latitude to allow processors and manufacturers to tap into local markets.

During the 2020/21 financial year, goods exported through free zones, according to Mr Kimoomi, contributed 23 percent of Uganda's exports valued at about \$1.25b.

"We believe that if we can double or triple then the whole country will be benefiting," he said, noting that there will be special focus on facilitating companies that process goods from locally available raw materials so that there can be backward demand linkage to benefit farmers.

The free zones are part of policy incentive that seeks to exploit Uganda's export potential to tap into growing regional markets as well as create employment for the youth, increase local value proposition and foreign exchange.



The amendments will at least strike a balance to have 50 percent produced for export and 50 percent for local consumption," he said, noting that so far, with about 31 free zones dealing in single factories, the Uganda Free Zones Authority, will seek to set up

VIEW FROM THE TOP

WORLD

Europe scrambles to deal with gas crisis

LONDON

JUST one of five turbines is now whirling within the Nord Stream 1 pipeline, the chief artery that pumps gas from Russia to Europe. Previously reduced capacity was once again reduced to 20 percent on Wednesday by the Russian energy company Gazprom, raising fears of a total shut off.

Russia said it is impossible to run the pipeline effectively, since foreign sanctions have delayed the repair and return of turbines, which are made and serviced abroad.

As the dispute rumbles on, European leaders are preparing for a worst-case scenario involving an unprecedented prolonged cut-off of all Russian gas, which made up 47 percent of European Union imports last year.

"Whether it is a partial or a major cut-off of Russian gas, or a total cut-off of Russian gas, Europe needs to be ready," European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said recently.

The bloc's current strategy involves three key measures: increased supply from non-Russian sources; reducing overall demand, with member states agreeing to a voluntary 15 percent cut from August to March; and setting up a joint gas storage mechanism, which is now around two-thirds full. Stores would need to reach 90 percent to get Europe through the winter, said the International Energy Agency, or IEA.

"And even then, it could still face supply disruptions in the latter part of the heating season," IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol said.

If supply remains low or is totally shut



Gasoline and diesel prices are displayed near a gas station in Rome, Italy, XINHUA

off, the geopolitical and economic ramifications will be significant.

European countries that import comparatively little Russian gas, such as Spain and the United Kingdom, will still contend with rising costs, according to a new working paper from the International Monetary Fund, and more exposed countries in central and eastern Europe could face outright gas shortages and see GDP losses of as much as 6 percent.

Meanwhile, gas exporters have benefited from the situation. The United States became the world's largest exporter of liquefied natural gas in the first half of this year, with two-thirds of exports going to Europe. "A new LNG trade, built on long-term contracts, will develop between the US and EU," said David Evans, a senior counsel at the international law firm Clifford Chance.

Nord Stream 1 generally supplies about 40 percent of Gazprom's

gas delivery to Europe via a pipeline that runs beneath the Nordic Seas.

At the beginning of June, five turbines ran at full capacity, but a series of pay disputes and turbine issues sent capacity fluctuating, from 85 percent in mid-June to 40 percent at the beginning of last week, with a brief maintenance period in between, when no gas ran through the pipeline.

On navy day, Putin says US main threat to Russia

ST PETERSBURG

PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin on Sunday signed a new naval doctrine which cast the United States as Russia's main rival and set out Russia's global maritime interests for crucial areas such as the Arctic and in the Black Sea.

Speaking on Russia's Navy Day in the former imperial capital of St Petersburg founded by Tsar Peter the Great, Putin praised Peter for making Russia a great sea power and increasing the global standing of the Russian state.

After inspecting the navy, Putin made a short speech, cautioning that Russia had the military clout to defeat any potential aggressors.

Shortly before the speech, he signed a new 55-page naval doctrine, which sets out the broad strategic aims of Russia's navy, including its goal as a "great maritime power".

The main threat to Russia, the doctrine says, is "the strategic policy of the USA to dominate the world's oceans" and the movement of the NATO military alliance closer towards Russia's borders.

Russia may use its military force appropriately to the situation in the world's oceans should its soft powers, such as diplomatic and economic tools, be exhausted, according to the doctrine.

Russia's priority was to develop strategic and naval cooperation with India as well as wider cooperation with Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and other states in the region, according to the doctrine.

"Guided by this doctrine, the Russian Federation will firmly and resolutely defend its national interests in the world's oceans, and having sufficient maritime power will guarantee their security and protection," the document reads.

Putin did not mention the Ukraine crisis during his speech but the military doctrine envisages a "comprehensive strengthening of Russia's geopolitical position" in the Black and Azov seas.

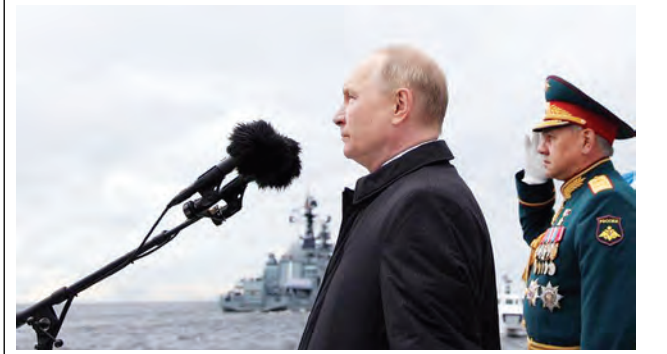
It also set out the Arctic Ocean, which the United States has repeatedly said Russia is trying to militarize, as an area of particular importance for Russia.

Russia's vast 37,650 km (23,400 mile) coastline, which stretches from the Sea of Japan to the White Sea, also includes the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea.

Putin said the delivery of Zircon hypersonic cruise missiles to the Admiral Gorchkov frigate would begin within months. The location of their deployment would depend on Russian interests, he said.

"The key thing here is the capability of the Russian navy... It is able to respond with lightning speed to all who decides to infringe on our sovereignty and freedom."

Hypersonic weapons can travel at nine times the speed of sound, and Russia has conducted previous test-launches of the Zircon from warships and submarines over the past year.



Russia's President Vladimir Putin stands next to Russia's Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu (right) as he takes part in the main naval parade marking the Russian Navy Day, in St. Petersburg on Sunday AFP

Envoys: China determined to safeguard sovereignty

BEIJING

THEY stress that nation never allows any room for 'Taiwan independence' forces

China is resolute in safeguarding its national sovereignty and will never allow any room for "Taiwan independence" forces in whatever form, senior envoys said.

"At present, the biggest threat to peace and stability in the Taiwan Straits comes from the obdurate secessionist activities of the 'Taiwan independence' forces and the connivance and support of external forces," Zheng said in a video message celebrating the 95th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army.

"We will never allow any room for 'Taiwan independence' forces in whatever form. No one should underestimate the great resolve, firm will and strong capability of the Chinese people in defending national sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said.

China is always a defender of world peace and a contributor

to global development, and it upholds the international order. The PLA is a staunch force firmly committed to maintaining regional stability and promoting world peace, he added.

Geng Shuang, China's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, also reiterated on Friday China's resolve in safeguarding its national sovereignty.

"No one should underestimate the determination and ability of more than 1.4 billion Chinese people to defend its national sovereignty and territorial integrity. I hope the country concerned will see this clearly and not play with fire," he said during a UN Security Council briefing on Ukraine.

The envoys' remarks came as tensions between China and the United States have risen recently amid reports that US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi was considering a visit to Taiwan. China says the visit would be a violation of the US' commitment to not developing official exchanges with the island, which is an integral part of China.



Zheng Zeguang, Chinese ambassador to the UK

China firmly opposes separatist moves toward "Taiwan independence" and interference by external forces, and never allows any room for "Taiwan independence" forces in whatever form, President Xi Jinping told US President Joe Biden during their phone conversation on Thursday.

During the briefing, Geng said the Ukraine crisis shows the importance of upholding the UN Charter, "with words matching deeds, instead of saying one thing

while doing another, not to mention double standards or selective application".

"While some country has repeatedly emphasized the principle of sovereignty over the issue of Ukraine, it has incessantly challenged the sovereignty of China over Taiwan and even deliberately created tensions in the Taiwan Straits," Geng said. "This disregards and is an infringement of the purposes and principles of the UN Charter."

The envoy emphasized that "only by attaching importance to the security of others and safeguarding the security of everyone, can our own security be truly realized".

"All countries should uphold a common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security concept, attach importance to each other's legitimate security concerns, build a balanced, effective and sustainable global and regional security architecture, and jointly safeguard world peace," he said.

Geng said that at a time when the international community is in dire need of unity and cooperation to overcome difficulties together, "it is extremely irresponsible and dangerous to cling to the Cold War mentality and bloc politics".

"We must not let the crisis of Ukraine kick off a new Cold War. We must not repeat the mistakes of history. We must not let humanitarian experience once again the unbearable scourge of war," he said. Xinhua

COVID-19: Biden remains positive, 'continues to feel well'

WASHINGTON/ZURICH

US President Joe Biden remained positive for COVID-19 on Sunday but "continues to feel well," his physician said.

White House physician Kevin O'Connor wrote in a memo that "this morning, unsurprisingly, his SARS-CoV-2 antigen testing remained positive."

"The President will continue his strict isolation measures as previously described," O'Connor's memo read.

Biden tested positive for COVID-19 on Saturday in a "rebound" case, days after ending isolation and treatment.

"I've got no symptoms but I am going to isolate for the safety of everyone around me," he tweeted. "I'm still at work, and will be back on the road soon."

Biden, 79, first tested positive for the coronavirus on July 21 before receiving negative testing results several days later.

Fully vaccinated and twice boosted,

Biden took Paxlovid, an antiviral therapy produced by Pfizer and given to patients with COVID-19.

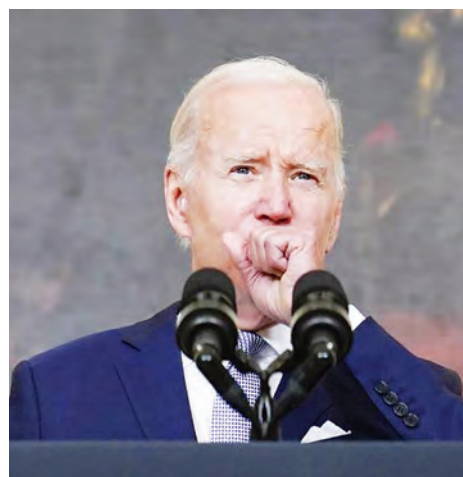
There is potential for so-called "rebound" COVID positivity observed in a small percentage of patients treated with Paxlovid, according to O'Connor.

Austria

Austrian leaders appealed for national unity after a doctor who faced death threats from anti-vaccination activists and coronavirus pandemic conspiracy theorists took her own life.

"Let's put an end to this intimidation and fear mongering. Hate and intolerance have no place in our Austria," President Alexander Van der Bellen said, hailing Lisa-Maria Kellermayr as a doctor who stood for healing people, protecting them from disease and taking a cautious approach to the pandemic.

"But some people have been enraged by



this. And these people scared her, threatened her, first on the internet and then also in person, directly in her practice."

The body of the doctor - who had often given media interviews about fighting the coronavirus pandemic and promoting vaccinations - was found in her office in Upper

Austria on Friday.

Media cited prosecutors as saying they had found a suicide note and were not planning an autopsy.

Austria last month dropped plans to introduce compulsory COVID-19 vaccination for adults, saying it was unlikely that the measure would raise one of western Europe's lowest vaccination rates.

Tens of thousands of people had marched in regular protests against lockdowns last year and plans to make vaccinations mandatory, highlighting a social divide over public health measures that many countries have experienced.

But the doctor's death - which the Austrian physicians' association said reflected a broader trend of threats against medical staff - shocked the country.

"Hatred against people is inexcusable. This hatred must finally stop," Health Minister Johannes Rauch said.

Agencies

A cargo train, fully loaded with electronic products, mechanical parts and daily necessities, which departed from southwest China's Chongqing municipality on June 23, and arrived in Germany's Duisburg on July 11.

This marked the 10,000th trip made by China-Europe freight trains operated by the China-Europe Railway Express (Chongqing), the first of its kind in China.

China-Europe freight trains have bucked the trend and witnessed rapid growth this year. They offer a strong support for the global industrial and supply chains with stable, reliable and efficient logistics services despite impeding global circulation and insufficient transport capacity, making positive contributions to stabilizing global trade and promoting global economic recovery.

First China-Europe freight train makes 10,000 trips

On July 7, a China-Europe freight train loaded with steels and other cargos departed from Huangshi, central China's Hubei province for Duisburg. As the first cargo route linking the two cities, the Huangshi-Duisburg cargo line has opened a new land channel for economic and trade exchanges between them and is able to transport nearly 200,000 tons of cargos on an annual basis.

"We shipped 500 tons of special steels via the train. Compared with maritime transport, it saved us nearly a month. Our delivery has become much more efficient," said Li Jie, head of the foreign trade department of a special steel manufacturer.

According to Li, the route reduces not only the time of transport, but also transshipment, which lowers both logistics cost and the risk of cargo damage, and at the same time increases enterprises' competitiveness.

After years of development, China-Europe freight trains have maintained a sound momentum for regular and large-scale operation.

Statistics indicate that China-Europe freight trains made 15,183 trips in 2021, up from 1,702 in 2016, with an annual average growth of 55 percent. The value of goods transported by the cargo service skyrocketed from \$8 billion in to \$74.9 billion during the same period.

In the first half of this year, 7,473 trips were made by the cargo service, carrying 720,000 twenty-foot equivalent units. In each of the past 26 months, over 1,000 trips were made by China-Europe freight trains.

At present, the cargo service extends to more than 180 cities in some 20 European countries, forming an extensive Eurasian logistics network.

The development of China-Europe freight trains is mirrored by not only the growing cargo volume, but also a boom in the quality of the logistics services they provide.

There has been a prominent increase in the number of loaded containers car-

ried by China-Europe freight trains, and the numbers of departing and returning trips are getting more balanced.

According to statistics, the overall proportion of fully loaded containers carried by China-Europe freight trains increased from 77.2 percent in 2016 to 98.1 percent in 2021, and the figure has been maintained at around 98 percent for both departing and returning trips since this year.

Mobile phones, laptops and other electronics products made up the majority of cargos carried by China-Europe freight trains when the cargo service was just launched. Today, the service transports over 50,000 types of products, including auto parts, automobiles, chemicals, elec-

tromechanical equipment, food, alcohol and wood.

Last year, the ratio of returning trains to departing trains increased 3.8 percentage points to 81.5 percent, which was more than 30 percentage points higher than that in 2016. The numbers of returning and departing trips between major hubs have been basically equal this year.

Despite COVID-19 resurgences, China-Europe freight trains maintained safe and stable operation, sending Chinese anti-pandemic materials to the European countries and building a "bridge of life." Last year, the cargo service carried 4.23 million anti-pandemic items weighing 29,000 tons. The two figures had hit 14.1 million and 108,000, respectively, as of the end of April this year.

People's Daily

China's Foreign Ministry threatens US with effective measures if Pelosi visits Taiwan

BEIJING

CHINESE authorities will take effective power measures if Speaker of the US House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi visits Taiwan, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Zhao Lijian said yesterday.



"If Pelosi visits Taiwan, this will be a gross interference in China's domestic policy and will lead to very serious consequences," he stressed at a briefing. "The Chinese People's Liberation Army won't sit back and do nothing," he added.

According to the diplomat, Pelosi's visit to Taiwan would destabilize the situation in the Taiwan Strait and deal a blow to China-US relations. "China will definitely take resolute and effective countermeasures," he specified.

Earlier, media outlets reported that Pelosi, the third highest official in the US state hierarchy, was planning to visit Taiwan in August. This was reported by The Financial Times and Politico.

According to the reports, she planned to do so earlier in April, but allegedly did not go due to COVID-19. This trip would have become the first visit of a Speaker of the US House of Representatives to Taiwan in the last 25 years.

On Sunday, a delegation led by Pelosi left for Asia in order to visit Singapore, Malaysia, South Korea and Japan. The politician refused to specify whether she intended to visit Taipei during her Asia-Pacific tour.

Taiwan has been governed by its local administration since 1949 when the remaining Kuomintang forces led by Chiang Kai-shek (1887-1975) fled to the island after suffering a defeat in China's civil war.

Since then, Taiwan has preserved the flag and some other symbols of the Republic of China that had existed in mainland China before the Communists came to power.

Beijing regards the island as one of its provinces and this position is supported by most countries, including Russia.

Agencies

Russia calls on Pristina to stop provocations and observe Serbs' rights, says diplomat

MOSCOW

RUSSIA calls on Pristina and the United States and the European Union who are backing it to stop provocations and observe the rights of Serbs in Kosovo, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said on Sunday.



"We call on Pristina and the United States and the European Union backing it to stop provocation and observe the Serbs' rights in Kosovo," she said.

According to Zakharova (pictured), Pristina's decision "to begin the use of ungrounded discriminatory 'rules' on mandatory change of identification documents and car plates of the local Serbs from August 1 is another step to oust the Serbian population from Kosovo, to squeeze out institutions of the Kosovo Serbs, which defend the rights of ethnic Serbs from the arbitrariness of the Pristina radicals led by 'Prime Minister' Albin Kurti."

"The Kosovo leaders know that the Serbs will not stay indifferent when it comes to a direct attack on their freedom and are deliberately seeking to aggravate the situation to trigger a force scenario.

Naturally, Belgrade is at the forefront of the attack, since the West is seeking to 'neutralize' it by means of the Kosovo Albanians," she said.

She stressed that such development of the situation is another evidence that the European Union's mediatory mission has failed.

"It is also an example of what the European Union thinks about the role of Belgrade, which, as a matter of fact, is supposed to put up with the deprivation of rights of its compatriots," she added.

Agencies

Two killed during deadly incident between UN peacekeepers, residents in NE DR Congo

KINSHASA

AT least two people were killed and 15 others injured in a deadly incident on Sunday morning between UN peacekeepers and local residents in northeastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), said the Congolese government.

"The government strongly condemns and deplors this unfortunate incident, the provisional toll stands at two compatriots dead and 15 others injured as a result of shots fired by blue helmets from a contingent of the MONUSCO (UN Stabilization Mission in the DRC) Intervention Brigade," read a press release signed by Patrick Muyaya, the government spokesman.

While presenting its condolences to the bereaved families and the injured during the incident in Kasindi, a border town between the DRC and Uganda, the DRC government said arrangements are underway to ensure material and legal support.

The DRC authorities, jointly with MONUSCO, have initiated an investigation. "The government of the DRC calls for calm on the Congolese population in general, and particularly that of Kasindi and the entire North Kivu province," said Muyaya.

On Sunday, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in the DRC Bintou Keita lamented the loss of life and injuries caused by the incident, noting that it was unclear why the peacekeepers opened fire. The UN envoy did not mention specific casualties nor the peacekeepers' nationalities.

Xinhua

US, empire of mass surveillance

BEIJING

FOR decades, the United States has conducted indiscriminate mass surveillance of its citizens, as well as of foreign governments, companies and individuals.

Various surveillance projects implemented by Washington have been unveiled one after another in recent years, exposing more evidence of America's pervasive and ubiquitous surveillance of the world.

According to a recent report by Georgetown University Law Center's Center on Privacy and Technology, the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has expanded far beyond its role as an immigration agency to become a "domestic surveillance agency."

The ICE has developed a dragnet surveillance system that allows it to collect detailed dossiers on nearly every person in America at any time, without any judicial, legislative, or public oversight, said the report titled "American Dragnet: Data-driven Deportation in the 21st Century."

From 2008 to 2021, the ICE has spent approximately 2.8 billion U.S. dollars on surveillance, data collection and data-sharing initiatives, the report said, noting the agency has been able to access utility record information of over 218 million customers across all 50 states.

The ICE is not the only agency in the United States that has overreached its authority and abused citizens' private personal data.

In fact, mass surveillance in the United States has become institutionalized. Following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the United States enacted numerous laws to expand the government's surveillance powers for national



A man wearing a face mask makes a phone call in New York, the United States, on Oct. 16, 2020. File photo

security reasons.

The U.S. Congress greenlighted the Patriot Act in 2001, which covers Section 215, one of the most controversial programs for domestic and international surveillance.

In 2008, Congress approved Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which allows the government to collect communications concerning foreign intelligence targets without a warrant. Following the disclosure by former National Security Agency (NSA) contractor Edward Snowden and Wikileaks of the U.S. government's abuse of power to collect millions of Americans' private data, the ensuing public outcry prompted Congress to prohibit the notorious bugging project PRISM.

However, the government actually never stops abusing its power to carry out indiscriminate surveillance on its citizens.

In 2021 alone, the FBI has conducted up to 3.4 million warrantless searches of Americans' phone calls, emails and text messages, the Hill reported, citing the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

The U.S. surveillance network has spread beyond its borders, targeting not only adversaries but also allies. In May 2021,

Denmark's national broadcaster DR News reported that the Danish Defense Intelligence Service had given the NSA open Internet access to spy on senior politicians of neighboring countries, including then German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

The NSA purposefully obtained data and thus was able to spy on targeted heads of state, as well as neighboring Scandinavian leaders, top politicians, and high-ranking officials in Germany, Sweden, Norway, and France, the report said, which caused global shock and fury.

French President Emmanuel Macron said in May 2021 that this "is unacceptable between allies, even less between allies and European partners," and Merkel said she "could only agree" with Macron's comments.

But that was not unfamiliar to European leaders. In 2013, Snowden revealed that Washington had been spying on the email and cell phone communications of as many as 35 world leaders. Journalist Glenn Gre-

enwald exposed in his book No Place to Hide that a single unit of the NSA had collected more than 97 billion emails and 124 billion phone calls from around the world in just 30 days in 2013.

The powerful mass surveillance system has helped the United States make profits.

For example, in 2013, reports of the U.S. magazine WIRED surfaced that Brazil's state oil and gas giant Petrobras was a prime target of U.S. government spying activity.

"Washington is losing its moral ground," the German magazine Focus quoted an expert on foreign policy as saying. With its global surveillance network, "the United States itself is the true eavesdropper," Focus said, though the country prefers to frame itself as a victim of spying.

Shenzhou-14 astronauts enter Wentian lab module

AT 10:03 a.m. on July 25 (Beijing Time), the Shenzhou-14 astronauts opened the hatch door of Wentian, the first lab module of China's space station, and entered the module. It was the first time the Chinese astronauts had entered the lab module in orbit.

The Wentian module was launched on July 24. As the first lab module of China's space station and an important part of China's national space laboratory, it provides bigger work and living space for astronauts in orbit, as well as a larger platform for space science studies.

The Wentian module is 17.9 meters long, has a maximum diameter of 4.2 meters, and a takeoff mass of 23 tons. It is taller, bigger and heavier than the core module Tianhe, making it the world's heaviest self-propelled spaceship in service.

The Wentian module consists of a work cabin, an airlock cabin and a resource cabin. It is equipped with the same astronaut living facilities as the Tianhe core module, including three sleeping areas, a toilet and a kitchen. Together, Wentian and Tianhe can accommodate six astronauts during the rotations of two spacecraft crews. In the future, live classes from China's space station will be given in the Wentian module.

Besides, the Wentian module is equipped with parts of the living facilities and work supplies needed by astronauts, including a whole set of kitchen equipment. It means that together with the one in the core module Tianhe, there are now two kitchens in the space station, which has largely facilitated the lives of the astronauts in space.

The Wentian module comes with the same charging equipment as the Tianhe core module, so that astronauts can use mobile phones, tablets and other portable electronic devices in space. The charging equipment, similar to the power adapters used on the ground, has significantly enhanced the space station's charging capability for portable electronic devices.

The airlock cabin can be used for the storage and inspection of extravehicular spacesuits, as well as astronaut training. The spacious cabin will allow astronauts to put on and take off their extravehicular spacesuits and operate the equipment more easily.



A Long March-5B Y3 carrier rocket, carrying Wentian lab module, blasts off from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in south China's Hainan province, July 24, 2022. About 495 seconds later, Wentian separated from the rocket and entered the planned orbit. File photo

Upon receiving the Wentian module at the space station, the Shenzhou-14 crew has activated the life-support system in the module and completed the installation of scientific equipment to carry out experiments in orbit.

The construction of China's national space laboratory will be completed after the third module Mengtian is sent to space. The laboratory will be used for long-term, multi-area and large-scale space science studies.

Lyu Congmin, a research fellow at the Chinese Academy of Sciences and deputy chief designer of the space utilization system of China Manned Space, introduced that the Wentian lab mainly focuses on the study of life sciences and biotechnology, and researchers have planned and deployed research topics for Wentian in the four fields of space life science and biotechnology, microgravity fluid physics, space material science, and new space application technologies.

The experiments will provide a theoretical basis for human health and reproductive development, and explore a series of scientific issues concerning human beings' long-term survival in space.

Researchers have installed in Wentian a life ecology experiment cabinet, a biotechnology experiment cabinet, a science glovebox, a cryogenic storage cabinet, a vari-

able gravity experiment cabinet, as well as common support equipment for application tasks both inside and outside the spacecraft.

Scientific experiments will be carried out in the life ecology experiment cabinet and biotechnology experiment cabinet, while the science glovebox and cryogenic storage cabinet will provide clean and confined space for astronauts to conduct experiments on the samples safely and efficiently. The cryogenic storage device offers storage areas.

The life ecology experiment cabinet will take biological samples from a variety of species, and carry out space growth experiments on plants and animals like Arabidopsis, nematodes, fruit flies and zebrafish. Lyu introduced that the experiments will help reveal the effects of the microgravity on the growth, development and metabolism of plants and animals, and will also help develop human understanding of the essence of life.

An energy particle detector and a plasma in-situ imaging detector are deployed outside the Wentian module to collect environment data in space, which will support both the health of the astronauts and the safe operation of the space station, as well as for the basic research in space environment.

People's Daily

Senegal's ruling coalition claims majority after legislative vote

DAKAR

SENEGAL President Macky Sall's ruling coalition said yesterday it has won 30 of the country's 46 administrative departments, giving it a slim majority parliament following Sunday's legislative election.

Former prime minister Aminata Toure, who led the ruling coalition's list in the legislative election announced the partial results on national television from the party's headquarters early yesterday after Sunday's vote.

"This gives us an unquestionable majority," Toure said to the cheers of supporters. She did not say how many of the 165 parliamentary seats the party won.

Under Senegal's hybrid electoral system 97 candidates who win a majority of votes in administrative departments are elected, while 53 from national lists are elected using proportional representation, and 15 are elected by Senegalese living outside the country.

Barthelemy Dias, mayor of the capital Dakar, and a leader of the main opposition coalition which has been energized by economic hardship and fears of Sall's third term ambition, immediately disputed the results announced by Toure, warning that it was not her place to announce results of the election.

"The people will respond, and the people will come out into the streets tomorrow, and you will tell us where you got your majority," Dias said.

The political backdrop in the country of 17.5 million, considered among West Africa's most stable democracies, has become increasingly acrimonious, fuelled in part by Sall's refusal to rule out breaching term limits.

Violent protests erupted last year after Sall's main opponent, Ousmane Sonko, was arrested on rape charges. Sonko, who came third in the last presidential election in 2019, denies the allegations and says they are politically motivated.

Violent protests broke out again last month after the main opposition coalition's primary list of parliamentary candidates, which included Sonko, was disqualified on technical grounds.



As a result, the coalition's backup list - consisting mostly of relative unknowns - will be on the ballot.

The coalition, which formed an alliance with another led by 96-year-old former President Abdoulaye Wade, is hoping to build on gains the opposition made during the January municipal election when they won control of Senegal's major cities.

Third term ambition?

Sall's ruling Benno Bokk Yakaar coalition is trying to conserve its majority of more than three-quarters of the parliament's 165 seats.

"I'm confident that like in the past, voters will decide in all transparency," Sall said after voting.

Sixty-year-old Sall swept to power in 2012 removing Wade, and was elected again in 2019. He has campaigned on big-ticket construction projects such as a high-speed train line and a conference center, as well as oil and gas production.

His opponents have seized on growing frustrations with economic hardship caused by the coronavirus pandemic and rising fuel and food prices.

Sall's refusal to publicly rule out a candidacy in 2024 has stoked fears he will follow in the footsteps of Ivory Coast President Alassane Ouattara and former Guinea President Alpha Conde. Both men stood for - and won - third terms in 2020 by arguing that new constitutions had reset their two-term limits.

Senegal adopted constitutional revisions, which among other things reduced presidential terms from seven to five years, in 2016. Sall has declined to comment on his intentions for 2024.

Agencies

SPORT



Baseball instructor, Shinya Tomonari, holds a coaching seminar that took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA BASEBALL & SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

TaBSA to introduce baseball philosophy to African countries

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Baseball and Softball Association (TaBSA) says it is geared towards ensuring the local philosophy of baseball is adapted and practiced in all African countries.

Japan-Africa Baseball and Softball Association (J-ABS) president Shinya Tomonari said so at a seminar for local baseball coaches that took place in Dar es Salaam on Saturday.

Tomonari said Tanzania's baseball philosophy which is to be adapted by African countries encompasses the values of the game, namely discipline, respect, and justice.

The philosophy is under the project known as Africa 55 Koshien which is aimed at reaching all African countries.

He said currently Nigeria, Ghana, South Sudan, Kenya, and Tanzania are using the philosophy which is based on fostering democracy, human resources, development, and peace.

The instructor said he developed the philosophy from the teachings of Father of the Nation, former President Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, which were centered on humanity.

"Baseball, softball, Baseball 5, and baseball for the blind are now played in many African countries, we aim to see that all African countries are adapting Tanzania's baseball philosophy that aims at cherishing discipline, respect, and justice, we want to use the sport to change the mindset of people," he said.

TaBSA Secretary-General Alpherio

Nchimbi hailed J-ABS for conducting the seminar which was held at Azania Secondary School, saying it will help in the understanding of the game in the country.

He said the sport started with two clubs in Dar es Salaam but now it is played in 11 regions of the country.

The TaBSA leader revealed: "We started humbly with so far two clubs in Dar es Salaam but now 11 regions are taking part in the sport."

"We have more than 50 qualified coaches, we believe that we will reach all parts of the country soon," he said.

Mgurani Primary School emerged the winner of this year's edition of the Fukuoka Baseball U-12 Championship which was held at Koshien Baseball Field in Dar es Salaam.

Recently the association organized the school championship, which had Mgurani Primary School defeating Bonyokwa Primary School 6-5 in the final, and the winner was presented with a trophy and baseball equipment.

The two-day championship brought together 11 teams which were divided into three groups.

Group A consisted of Chanika Primary School, Kibwegere Primary School, Pugu Kajiungeni Primary School, and Bokorani Primary School.

Group B consisted of Champion Primary School, Bonyokwa Primary School, and Segerea Primary School.

Diamond Primary School, Mgurani Primary School, and Kinyongo Primary School made Group C.



Tanzania's football fanatics cheer as national team, Taifa Stars, faced Somalia in 2023 African Nations Championship qualification tournament's match in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Taifa Stars commanded 2-1 victory. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

SPORTS

AT hails government for facilitating Simbu's achievement

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) has attributed the success of the country's marathoners in the 2022 Commonwealth Games to the government's support.

The government had sponsored camping for all athletes who are representing the country in the Commonwealth Games. The performers are taking part in athletics, boxing, judo, swimming, and Para sports.

On Saturday, marathoner Alponce Simbu clocked 2.12.29 to take second place in the men's marathon while compatriot Hamis Athuman ended eighth having clocked 2.15.59.

Local marathoners representing the country in the women's marathon in Commonwealth Games were set to be in action on Sunday, having earlier promised to perform well.

Jackson Ndaweka, AT secretary-general, and the association president Silas Isangi said the camp which was sponsored by the government has helped the country's athletes perform well. Ndaweka noted: "Taking second place in the Commonwealth Games is no mean achievement, this came about because of the government support, AT efforts, and the management of the athlete."



Alponce Simbu

"We thank the government for its support, the camp has helped us, you can see our two athletes were in the top 10 list," he said.

In the previous interview, athletes' head coach Suleiman Nyambui said he is confident that his charges will do the country proud by winning medals in Commonwealth Games.

The coach disclosed: "We arrived in England safely and all athletes are in good shape, they have promised nothing but good performance."

The tactician revealed: "On Saturday there will be men's race while on Sunday, Failuna and Jackline are expected to be in action. The Commonwealth Games

will come to a close on August 8.

Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Mohamed Mchengerwa recently challenged the athletes to perform well in the Commonwealth Games, saying the country wants medals. He promised to hand over cash prizes to athletes who will bring home gold, silver, and bronze medals.

"The government has spent a lot of money to see our athletes prepare well for the commonwealth games," the minister pointed out.

"There are also cash prizes which will be handed over to those who will bring home gold, silver, and bronze medals, go there and do your country proud," he said.

Other athletes representing the country in Commonwealth Games are runners Winfrida Makenji, Andrew Rhobi, Joseph Gisemo, Faraja Damas, and Joseph Panga, accompanied by assistant coach Luiza John.

Judo players representing the country in the Games are Thomas Mwenda and Abdulrabi Alawi, coached by Zaidi Hamisi, Collins Saiboko is the country's sole representative in swimming.

The boxers are Alex Isendi (Lightweight) who has bowed out of the showdown, Kassim Mbutwike (Light Middleweight), and Yusuf Chagalawe (Light Heavyweight) that will be set to be in action yesterday.

Timothy Kingu is the boxers' coach, Para-athlete lined up for Commonwealth Games is Yohana Mwila coached by Nemes Chivalala.

SuperSport garners broadcast rights for major football tournaments

By Guardian Correspondent

SUPERSPORT International Limited has secured television broadcast rights for various major soccer leagues including the coveted UEFA Champions League.

A statement issued by MultiChoice Tanzania to the general public, cable operators, individuals, companies, and broadcasting companies yesterday disclosed that SuperSport International Limited has been granted exclusive pay television broadcast rights over the sports content covering the major soccer tournaments across the world.

The showpieces include English

Premier League, UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa League, UEFA Europa Conference League, UEFA Super Cup, and Community Shield.

SuperSport International Limited moreover has secured broadcast rights for Serie A, La Liga, 2022 FIFA World Cup, UEFA Youth League, and the FA Cup. The statement noted that the sports content listed may only be transmitted via SuperSport channels and digital platforms.

Such platforms are made available on the DStv service operated by MultiChoice Group throughout Sub-Saharan Africa and adjacent islands, including Tanzania.

The company added: "Therefore

transmission, distribution, online streaming and broadcasting of the acquired rights in the above territories by any other person and/or entity without authorization from MultiChoice Group is unlawful and amounts to a breach of the existing broadcast rights agreements and the Copyright and Neighbouring Rights Act, No. 7 of 1999."

It said: "This is to inform the public that, MultiChoice Group and its affiliates shall, with immediate effect, undertake stern measures against all persons, entities, organizations and cable operators for breaching broadcast rights and infringing copyrights, including but not limited

to the institution of criminal and civil proceedings in competent courts of law."

SuperSport International Limited is a company and subsidiary within the Multichoice Group of Companies.

The firm is represented by its subsidiary MultiChoice Tanzania Limited, which provides inter alia, subscriber management services, and logistical and management operations.

SuperSport International Limited also offers anti-piracy monitoring and litigation support on behalf of MultiChoice Group within the territory of Tanzania.



Players making Tanzania's national soccer team, Taifa Stars, congratulate teammate Dickson Job that scored the squad's second goal in the 2023 African Nations Championship qualification tournament clash against held in Dar es Salaam on 30. Taifa Stars won 2-1. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Government counsels marathon organizers

By Correspondent James Kandoya

DEPUTY Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Pauline Gekul has called upon organizers of marathons in Tanzania to set up good coordination to realize the targets.

Pauline made the call in Bagamoyo District, Coast Region last Sunday after participating in and handing over awards to winners of the Bagamoyo Historical Sites Marathon that attracted over 2000 athletes.

She said without good coordination, the marathons will not contribute to the government's target of creating employment and promoting the country internationally.

"There are a lot of marathons organized in every corner of the country, we need to have good coordination to realize the target and avoid unnecessary disturbances," she said.

She also advised the public to adhere to regular physical exercise to avoid non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and hypertension.

According to her, non-communicable diseases are among the emerging disease-causing deaths

and treatment burdens, especially the youths in the families and the country in general.

Deputy Minister also urged private school owners to ensure their students participate in sports and Inter-Secondary Schools Games (Umisseta) because participation in the showdown is government directives.

She said Umisseta Games were not solely established for public schools but all schools including the private-owned, adding that participating in sports is the students' right.

Pauline also directed the District Administrative Secretaries and sports officers to organize special days which will have residents get a chance and participate in exercises.

Deogratias Soka, the Director of 4 Better Life (4Beli), the organizer of the event said the marathon has resumed after it was suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He however admitted that the number of participants was not much, expressing hope more people will participate in the next marathon.

Soka noted: "Our plan is to turn the image

of the Bagamoyo Historical Sites Marathon to an international level, we want to extend it by increasing the number of participants."

Soka said currently, there are over 80 marathons coordinated in every corner of the country, insisting on the need for better coordination among the events' coordinators.

During the ceremony, Pauline handed over cash prize winners of 5km, 10km, and 21km races.

On July 22, this year, the Bagamoyo Historical Sites Marathon coordinator Dominick Masha said 2300 athletes had confirmed to participate in the marathon.

He said the marathon aimed at promoting tourism in Bagamoyo town, as well as supporting efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to increase the number of tourists in the country through the Royal Tour documentary.

"Bagamoyo is one of the historical towns with attractive culture, it is moreover near to Saadani National Park located about 44km North of Bagamoyo town and, through the marathon, the athletes will visit sites and build their health," he said.

Mourinho reignites Roma fans' belief with his energy and emotion

By Gab Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

ECONOMISTS use something called a consumer sentiment index to gauge how folks feel about themselves and their prospects. If there was a football equivalent, Roma's would be through the roof. After all, on a random Tuesday night deep in the summer doldrums of sun-baked Rome, some 10,000 showed up to welcome Paulo Dybala to the Eternal City.

Maybe there's a lesson in there somewhere. Maybe whether you're happy as a fan and feel good about your club isn't strictly tied to results, but rather to the emotions it fosters.

If you commit, you get transported away and have a rip-roaring time, especially when the man in charge is Jose Mourinho who proved, not for the first time, that he can whip up enthusiasm and generate buy-in from players, supporters and local media like nobody else.

Let's remind ourselves: This was essentially 10,000 people in a city largely empty apart from tourists in the middle of a heat wave coming together to watch Dybala walk out of a building and wave after signing on a free transfer. Dybala: a gifted player, sure, but not prime Lionel Messi or Cristiano Ronaldo. Rather, a guy who Juventus let walk as a free agent rather than matching his contract demands.

This is where reason and gut sentiment go their separate ways, just as they did for most of last season. For many Roma fans right now, Mourinho walks on water, just as many beancounters turn up their nose.

The latter would tell you that, sure, Mourinho's Roma improved year on year in his first season, but it was by a single place in the table (from seventh to sixth) and by a single point (from 62 to 63). And this was after spending more, in net terms, than all but two teams in Europe (Arsenal and Manchester City).

Sure, they won a European trophy for the first time in sixty-plus years, but, on the other hand, it was the Europa Conference League and they lost to Norwegian side Bodo Glimt (twice) along the way.

They'd go further and tell you that, after starting the season more proactively, Mourinho's football went back to what it was: generally safety-first and somewhat out-of-step with the high press/possession style favoured by most of Europe's top sides.

They'd question whether the slight progress in results justifies the massive financial outlay (not just the summer spending, but the fact that Roma had the fourth highest wage bill in Serie A and Mourinho is the second highest paid coach in the league, meaning you expect the bar to be higher).

They might wonder why folks are so excited by the newcomers: the oft-injured and inconsistent Dybala (who turns 29 in November), the equally inju-

ry-prone and lately lacklustre Nemanja Matic (who is 34 on Monday) and Turkish defender Zeki Celik (decent player, but, at 25, we've already seen he's not the next Cafu). And they would probably be right. But, sometimes, more than one thing can be true. Equally true is the fact that, right now, Mourinho has the city in the palm of his hands. And they're absolutely loving it.

It's not easy to put your finger on it. Yes, the Europa Conference League victory helped -- it's nice to win a trophy -- but Mourinho had cemented his grip on the team well before that.

Besides, the year before, 2020-21, they also went on a European run, reaching the Europa League semifinal (beating Ajax and Shakhtar along the way) and nobody was lionising his predecessor, Paulo Fonseca (despite the fact that he had far less to work with).

There's more to it than that. More than Mourinho whipping up crowds on the sidelines and delivering chest-thumping soundbites post-game. More than Tammy Abraham's 27 goals, Lorenzo Pellegrini's driving runs, more than the glimpses of Nicolo Zaniolo's unique skill set.

We witnessed Mourinho do what he does to huge effect in his first stint at Chelsea, throughout his time at Inter and, for part of his time at Real Madrid, Manchester United, and Tottenham. We saw him connect with the fans and the team in a way very few managers -- even successful ones -- do and that in itself can become a self-fulfilling prophecy, as a kind of multiplier effect on the club. Not just in terms of results -- again, in the cold, hard, light of day, Roma haven't turned into a super club in a single season -- but in terms of what fans believe is possible.

And, when you think about it, that's the crux of fandom. What you believe is possible. It's a sales job, sure, but ask any leader -- whether in the military, the business world or politics -- and they'll tell you half the job is getting folks to believe in what you're telling them to do.

Will it last? Again, rationally, we in the media will point to how it ended at Chelsea (both times), at United, at Spurs, at Real Madrid (basically everywhere bar Porto and Inter, clubs he left on the back of winning the Champions League) and suggest it will end badly, though they might win something along the way.

But, guess what? Roma believe and so do Romanists. That's what matters. The past may be prologue, but the future is unwritten. And most Roma fans right now, thanks to Mourinho, see it as so bright that they wear shades.

The broader lesson? There's value in that belief. The feel-good factor is a thing. Fans at clubs that, on paper (and in reality) are considerably better than Roma (from Manchester United to Atletico Madrid, from Juventus to Chelsea) are dealing with far more doubt and insecurity than Mourinho's flock is.

England triumphant, but women's soccer was Euro 2022's big victory

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

THE full-time whistle on England's 2-1 Women's Euro 2022 final win against Germany was still being blown Sunday when "Three Lions" -- aka "Football's Coming Home" -- began to ring out from Wembley Stadium's sound system. The song has been something of a curse for English football since being released in the buildup to Euro '96, but finally, after so many heartbreaking near misses for the nation's men and women, England has a team of winners to celebrate in Sarina Wiegman's Lionesses.

Captain Leah Williamson, tournament Golden Boot winner Beth Mead and other star performers -- including Ella Toone, Chloe Kelly and Alessia Russo -- have, with their performances over the past month, taken the women's game to a whole new level, and their success will ensure a future without limits in England.

For the men, the wait to add to their solitary World Cup win in 1966 goes on -- Gareth Southgate's team might just do that at Qatar 2022 later this year -- but the women have ended their own lengthy years of hurt. Two losing semifinals in the World Cup, in 2015 and 2019, and losses in the European Championship finals of 1984 and 2009 had been England women's tale of woe in major tournaments, but goals from substitutes Toone and Kelly, either side of Lina Magull's 79th-minute equaliser for Germany, sealed this team's place in English football history.

The collective success of the team is one thing, and its importance cannot be overstated for a country as powerful, but traditionally underperforming, as England. Yet the Lionesses have done more than simply end the country's lengthy wait for glory. They haven't just brought football home; they have enabled the game to rediscover its soul, on and off the pitch.

It is perhaps unfair to draw too many comparisons between the men and women's game, but with both reaching a Euro final Wembley within 12 months, it is inevitable that both occasions will be measured against each other.

A year ago, the men's final was marred by disgraceful scenes of fan violence outside the stadium, with ticketless supporters rushing the turnstiles and physically intimidating children in and illegally enter the ground. An inquiry has since confirmed excessive alcohol and drug consumption during a



England's Leah Williamson, center left, and Millie Bright lift the trophy after winning the Women's Euro 2022 final soccer match between England and Germany at Wembley stadium in London, Sunday, July 31, 2022. England won 2-1. (AP Photo)

day of carnage before and after England's biggest game since 1966.

But for the women's final, the atmosphere was completely different. It was welcoming and inclusive, as young families were able to mingle without fear of being attacked or verbally abused.

There were no abusive chants, and no booing of national anthems from a crowd of 87,192 -- a record for both the men's and women's European championships, surpassing the men's 1964 final, in which 79,115 watched Spain play the Soviet Union in Madrid. (Also, the overall tournament attendance finished with 574,875 across the past three weeks, more than double the previous record of 240,055 in 2017.) It was a day when football showed that it can still take place in an atmosphere of civility.

The louts that attach themselves to the men's game have shown no interest in Euro 2022, for which we can be eternally grateful. As Emma Hayes, the Chelsea women's coach, said on ESPN, "The fans have been immense. It's not been hostile."

Of course, there are many fixtures in the men's game that pass without incident and many clubs are a welcoming environment for families, but that has not been the case with the England national team for too long.

The English FA must now find a way to make the men's game as welcoming and as friendly as the women's for what is clearly a huge audience wanting to build on their experience of Euro 2022.

This tournament, and the final, gave us all a reminder as to why we fell in love with football in the first place. There was no nonsense or aggravation off the pitch. While on it, the game was played without the anger and ego that has become a regular sideshow in the men's game.

That is not to say that the final wasn't fiercely contested. Both sets of players threw themselves into challenges, forcing Ukrainian referee Kateryna Monzul to issue five yellow cards for over-physical tackles and fouls. But there was a refreshing honesty to it all, as well as an acceptance that the officials were in charge and had the last word, rather than a succession of players waiting to argue with or berate them.

None of the above would really matter, though, if the spectacle on the pitch failed to measure up. There has to be top-level quality and determination to excel and win, but both England and Germany displayed world-class technical ability during 120 minutes, as did Sweden, France, Spain and the Netherlands in the earlier rounds.

In all, Euro 2022 has shown that

there is a depth to the women's game that deserves the biggest possible stage. Who will forget Russo's stunning back-heel goal in the semifinal against Sweden, or Georgia Stanway's long-range winner against Spain? How about Alex Popp's double strike in Germany's 2-1 semifinal win against France?

The muscular strain -- suffered during the warm-up -- that forced Popp to pull out of the final possibly cost Germany their chance of winning a record ninth Euro title. But this has been England's tournament, and the manner of their victory will inspire a new generation.

Toone's stunning opener -- a cool lob over Merle Frohms from Keira Walsh's pinpoint long pass -- was a magical moment, but the honour of scoring the winner fell to Kelly, who turned the ball in from close range in the 110th minute before racing away with a Brandi Chastain-style celebration, taking off her top and waving it above her head.

(The USWNT legend certainly noticed, tweeting, "I see you Chloe, well done!") It earned her a yellow card, the sixth of the game, but she had also just sealed England's Euro 2022 final victory, so it was probably worth it.

The next challenge is the World Cup in Australia and New Zealand in 2023. Who knows whether the men's team will beat them to becoming world champions later this year.

Regardless of whether or not Harry Kane & Co. do it, it's the women who have shown them how to win.

Germany boss baffled by penalty call in Euro 2022 final defeat

LONDON

GERMANY manager Martina Voss-Tecklenburg said she was troubled by the decision not to award a penalty to her side in the first half of Sunday's Euro 2022 final defeat to England.

Lionesses captain Leah Williamson escaped after the ball hit her hand in a goal-mouth scramble with the score still at 0-0.

England went onto win a first ever major tournament in extra-time through Chloe Kelly's winner after Lina Magull cancelled out Ella Toone's opener for the hosts in the 90 minutes.

After a VAR check, Ukrainian referee Kateryna Monzul was not told to review her initial decision not to give a penalty.

"On this level at final of the European Championships this shouldn't happen," said Voss-Tecklenburg.

"I'd like to have a discussion why did no one look at it? This is something I would really like to ask. It happened to us today, but if it had happened to them I would feel the same. It really bothers me."

Germany suffered a major blow even before kick-off when captain and top goalscorer Alexandra Popp was forced to pull out in the warm-up due to a muscle injury.

Voss-Tecklenburg said the Wolfsburg striker, who had scored six goals in five games in the tournament, had suffered the injury in training on Saturday.

"We tried everything. Yesterday at end of final training there were some problems, which we didn't expect," she added.



Germany manager Martina Voss-Tecklenburg. (Agencies)

"This morning it looked a bit better but it was clear the decision had to be hers. I trusted her 1000 percent and today she said she couldn't run or shoot properly.

"I have even higher respect to her to say that after such a special tournament, she won't play a final. She is a great personality."

German newspaper Bild called the final "another Wembley fraud".

England's only previous major tournament win in either the men's or women's game came in the 1966 World Cup with a 4-2 win over West Germany that is still remembered for the Three Lions' controversial third goal that may not have crossed the line.

Meanwhile, England women's manager Sarina Wiegman hailed the impact her players have made in changing perceptions beyond the pitch after the Lionesses won a major tournament for the first time at Euro 2022.

In front of a record crowd of 87,000 at Wembley for a European Championship match, the hosts were roared over the line to beat Germany 2-1 after extra-time.

"Winning is what we are here for, we try to win and do our job as good as possible," said Wiegman. "But through football you can make little changes in society and that is what we hope for."

Queen Elizabeth II was among those to pay tribute to the England squad for providing "inspiration for girls and women today, and for future generations."

Chloe Kelly and Ella Toone became national heroes by coming off the bench to score the goals as not for the first time in the tournament, Wiegman's substitutions changed the course of the game.

Five years on from leading her native Netherlands to their breakthrough on the international stage in the women's game at Euro 2017, Wiegman repeated the trick to inspire another home nation.

In between times, the former PE teacher also led the Dutch to the 2019 World Cup final.

Her commitments to taking the Netherlands to last year's Tokyo Olympics meant England had to wait over a year between her appointment in August 2020 and her first match in charge in September last year. Twenty games into her reign, England are yet to taste defeat.

"When I took the job you hope one thing, we knew there was quality and such big potential in this country," she added. "My challenge was to bring people together from another country

and it worked out. It's something you dream of and hope for."

- Powerful message -

Wiegman's ability to foster a team spirit capable of capturing the heart of a nation was even more remarkable as she revealed her sister died leading up to the tournament.

"I'm kissing this little armband that was my sister's and my sister passed away during our prep camps," she said. "That's a really big miss because she's my mate, but I think she was here, I think she was on the crossbar."

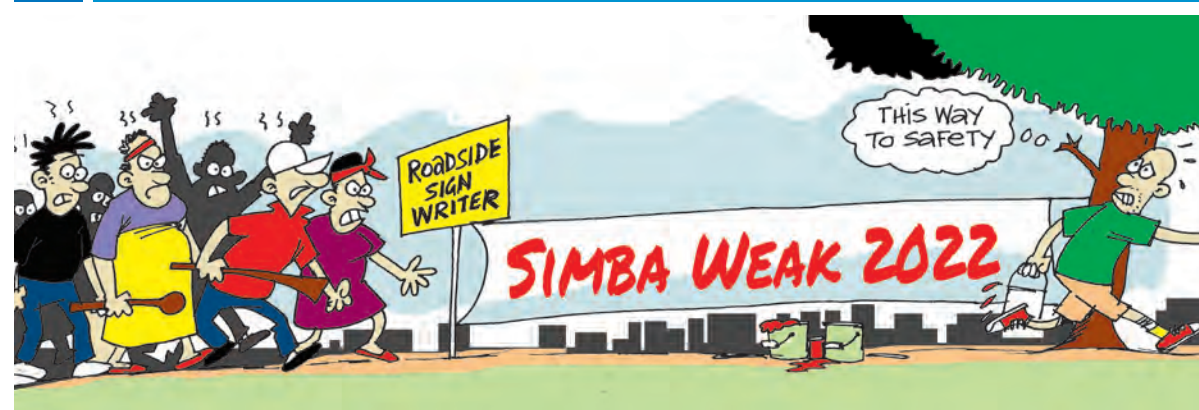
"She would have been here. She went to every game so she would have been really proud of me and I was really proud of her too."

England's female footballers are now the pride of the nation and have a powerful message to share on changing perceptions.

"For every change of judgement or perception or opening the eyes of somebody who views women as somebody with the potential to be equal to her male counterpart, I think that makes change in society," said England captain Leah Williamson.

"The strides that we take forward can impact everybody on that wider scale."

Gwiji by David Chikoko



The Guardian

www.gppmedia.com

SPORT

England triumphant, but women's soccer was Euro 2022's big victory

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



CRDB Bank Plc Managing Director Abdulmajid Nsekela (3rd L) joins other CRDB Bank Marathon partnering institutions' directors to introduce medals, T-shirts, caps, backpacks, and bibs for this year's marathon slated for August 14 in Dar es Salaam. Others are Executive Director of Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute Mohammed Janabi (L), Executive Director of CCBRT Hospital Brenda Msangi (2nd L), Sanlam Tanzania Managing Director Julius Magabe (4th L) Coca-Cola Kwanza Managing Director Unguu Sulay (5th L), Johari Rotana Hotels Commercial and Marketing Director Brigitte Alfred (3rd R), and Head of Finance at Alliance, Ahmad Luoga. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CRDB BANK

Simba SC unveils sponsorship deal with betting firm

By Guardian Correspondent

SPORTS betting company, M-BET Tanzania, has sealed a five-year contract with Simba SC in which the firm will be sponsoring the latter with the agreement being worth 261bn/-.

The contract is a historic feat reached by Simba SC in Tanzania's soccer.

M-BET Tanzania Marketing Director, Allen Mushi, said in Dar es Salaam yesterday Simba SC will pocket 4, 670, 000, 000/- in the first year while the amount will increase in the second season whereby 4, 925, 000, 000/- would be presented to the club and 5, 205, 500, 000/- would be handed over to Simba SC in the third year.

Mushi said that their firm will present 5, 514, 060, 000/- to Simba SC in the fourth year and later 5, 853, 455, 000/- would be presented to the outfit in the fifth year.

Mushi said that they have been influenced by the performances of the Msimbazi Street outfit in Mainland Tanzania Premier League as well as in the CAF's inter-club competitions such as the CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup.

According to the M-Bet Tanzania leader, the firm is the leading sports stakeholder in the country and they are proud to put their weight behind the development of sports in the country.

"We are the biggest company in the country and that's why we have decided to deal with the biggest club in Tanzania as well as in Africa," Mushi revealed.

"This is a historical deal and we hope to continue with the deal after five years come to an end," the official noted.

Simba SC's Chief Executive Officer Barbara Gonzalez thanked M-BET Tanzania for agreed their contract terms while assuring the firm to follow all contractual obligations.

Barbara revealed: "We started negotiations with M-BET Tanzania a few months ago and finally got what we wanted. It is a real milestone for the club, we will show our commitment to our sponsors seeking to make the deal stronger."

M-BET firm's Country Director Fernando Perez said the deal demonstrates M-BET Tanzania's commitment to sports development.

"It is a very special day for M-BET Tanzania and me as head of the company in Tanzania. I am really happy to be able to communicate that we are the main sponsor of Simba SC," Perez revealed.

"It is a club with a rich history of successes and great values to follow," the official added.

Azam FC players' shirt numbers for 2022/2023 season revealed



Azam FC players listen to their coaches' instructions when they attended drills at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam on July 19 ahead of the 2022/23 season. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AS the 2022/23 season is upon Tanzania's football enthusiasts, one of the changes that the sport's followers will see is the change of jersey numbers in every club.

Azam FC has had its initial squad numbers for the 2022/23 season revealed due to several departures and a couple of incomings, some numbers have been added to the list.

There are nine new arrivals and more than 10 exits at Azam FC so far.

The revealed squad consists of 32 players, including the nine new signings acquired in the ongoing transfer window.

There is no place for long-term club servant Mudathir Yahya, a situation that could signal the end of his career at the Chamazi-based outfit.

New signing Abdulhamis Suleiman 'Sopu' who joined from Coastal Union has taken the number nine shirt.

The number nine shirt became vacant after Zambian winger Charles Zulu, who used it last season, was released following a frustrating one-season spell.

Kipre Junior who was signed from Ivory Coast takes over the number 19. Zambian

Paul Katema, who has been released, was the most recent occupant of the shirt.

The No.19 shirt was famously worn by Azam FC's record goal scorer John Bocco, who bagged 88 league goals to help the club win the Mainland Premier League title, CECAFA Kagame Cup, and Community Shield.

Right full-back Nathaniel Chilambo signed from Ruwu Shooting has now been handed shirt number 2 which was previously worn by Abdul Omar who left the club last season.

Comoros' goalie Ali Ahmada will wear the number 30 shirt, while fellow recruits Pape Malick Ndoye, Cleophae Mkandala, and Issah Ndala will wear numbers 27, 14, and 15 respectively.

Retained players have all mostly kept their squad numbers used in the 2021/22 campaign but there have been some changes to the number lineup. The biggest change is fullback Edward Manyama's number change from no.15 to no.18, taking midfielder Frank Domayo's shirt.

Domayo left the club after turning out for it for eight years, having joined the outfit from domestic football giant, Young Africans, alias Yanga.

Promising left fullback Pascal Msindo is another player to take up a new number, moving to number 12 previously owned by the Zimbabwean midfielder Never Tigere who has joined newly promoted side Ifeju SC.

Msindo used jersey number 50 during the last season's campaign.

Back-up goalkeepers Wilbol Maseke and Zubeir Foba are expected to play minor roles next term and have thus been handed the no.33 and no.32 respectively.

As long as it is unique within their squad, Mainland Tanzania Premier League players can wear any number between one and 60, although tradition dictates that a person will usually see first-teamers don shirt number one to about number 30, barring a few exceptions.

Cash prizes await 2022 CRDB Bank Marathon winners

By Guardian Reporter

WINNERS of this year's CRDB Bank Marathon are expected to rake in hefty cash prizes, the race's organizer has stated.

The CRDB Bank disclosed that it has set aside cash prizes amounting to 100m/- for the winners of the third edition of the CRDB Bank Marathon slated for August 14 in Dar es Salaam, attracting more than 6,000 runners.

The bank's Managing Director Abdulmajid Nsekela announced the prize in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a meeting with marathon stakeholders.

Speaking during the event, Nsekela said there has been an improvement in this year's event, especially the prizes, to increase competition among runners as well as meet the international recognition attained last year.

"For 42.2km, the overall winners in women's and men's categories will walk away with 10mn/-, a night accommodation at Johari Rohana Hotels, and a shopping voucher at Justfit shop," he said.

Nsekela said so far 4,200 people have been registered for the marathon, of which 801 are foreign runners, and he called on more Tanzanians to register for the race through the CRDB Bank Marathon website.

According to him, the registration fee for an individual participant is 40,000/- and registration through a group is 30,000/- for each registering person.

"Few days have left, so I would like to call on more Tanzanians to register for this marathon to ensure that the prizes are remaining home," he added.

Revealing other prizes for winners, the bank's Communication Director Tully Mwambapa said the first six winners for 21.1 kilometers, 10 kilometers, 5 kilometers showdowns, and a 65km cycling race will as well be presented with cash prizes.

She said there will also be special prizes for special groups including the old, children, and runners wearing exceptional costumes out of the allocated 100m/-.

During the event, the bank also introduced medals, T-shirts, caps, backpacks and bibs which will be used by competitors in this year's marathon.

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For 42.2km, the overall winners in women's and men's categories will walk away with 10mn/-, a night accommodation at Johari Rohana Hotels, and a shopping voucher at Justfit shop,

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 EATV TUESDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
11:55 MPYA
12:00 Mperampera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 SSPORTS (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mperampera
16:00 Zote kuntu
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hits
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shaping process.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM