



AGRIBUSINESS



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Uganda receives 1,200 doses of Ebola vaccines for trials

KAMPALA

A shipment of Ebola vaccines set to be used in a clinical trial has arrived in Uganda, where an outbreak has infected 142 people and killed at least 56, health authorities have said.

Last week Uganda said it had discharged its last Ebola patient from the hospital, raising hopes for the end of an outbreak of the deadly haemorrhagic fever declared on September 20.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) had said it would send three vaccine candidates to Uganda to be used in a trial, one by the University of Oxford and Serum Institute of India, another by the Sabin Vaccine Institute and a third by Merck & Co Inc. (MRK.N).

At a ceremony to receive the vaccines in Entebbe, about 45 km (28 miles) south of the capital Kampala, Health Minister Jane Ruth Aceng said the 1,200 doses that had arrived were from the Sabin Vaccine Institute.

"Today we are happy that we have the first batch. We shall be receiving other doses from Merck and from Oxford," she said.

There are currently no licensed vaccines for the Sudan strain of the virus that caused



Uganda so far has had seven Ebola outbreaks, we may yet again get another Ebola outbreak

the infections in Uganda and the trial is to determine whether any or all of the three are effective in combating the Sudan strain.

Existing vaccines combat the more common Zaire strain, which spread during recent outbreaks in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo.

Ebola causes vomiting, diarrhoea, and bleeding from all body orifices, and spreads through contact with the bodily fluids of those infected.

Uganda is counting down to 42 straight days without any new Ebola cases reported. When that period ends on Jan. 10, it will be declared Ebola-free.

Aceng said even with no new cases reported, the vaccine trial will go on.

"Even if there are no cases, and no contacts and no suspects, the Ministry of Health will still request the scientists to continue with the study."

She added: "Uganda so far has had seven Ebola outbreaks, we may yet again get another Ebola outbreak."

Charity, progress recount colour Independence Day

By Guardian Reporters



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa with leaders from various countries attentively follows presentations during the 10th summit of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) in the Angolan capital of Luanda yesterday. The premier stood in for President Samia Suluhu Hassan. Photo: PMO

NATIONWIDE activities to mark the country's 61 years of independence were characterised by public dialogues and donations, along with environment protection efforts.

Conferences were organized at regional and district levels to deliberate on socioeconomic achievements, with authorities teaming up with residents in tree planting and donations to the disadvantaged.

Some of the donations were directed at remandees and prisoners as in Singida District, where leaders those in remand and those actually serving prison terms at the district's main prison.

The district authorities backed by charitable individuals donated 74 mattresses and 143 blankets to the prisoners.

District Commissioner Paskas Mulagiri handed over the equipment to the officer in charge, Mohammed Ng'anzi, where he remarked that the country has achieved a lot since 1961

On Monday, President Samia Suluhu Hassan cancelled Independence Day celebrations at the national level, directing that earmarked funds be used to construct dormitories at eight schools with special needs, with 960m/- now being redirected.

In Muheza District, Tanga Region, a symposium was held bringing together



Affairs armed units along with improvement of fire fighting and rescue services with new centres across the country

political leaders, government officials, ward councillors as well as pupils and students.

The ruling party's district vice-chairman, Salim Sechambo urged the public to adhere to the good things done by the founders of the nation to ensure unity and harmony is maintained.

The country has registered development strides in various sectors such as education, health and infrastructure, making efforts to ensure that development is sustainable by protecting the environment, he said.

Current and past leaders have worked to ensure the country's development, he said, intoning that embracing the good things they have done would take Tanzania to another development level.

Zuwena Omari, the regional administrative secretary for Coast Region, said at an Independence Day indoor discussion that Tanzanians need to maintain the prevailing peace.

Only due to peace can people freely engage in productive activities and contribute to the country's development, she said.

Dr Gunini Kamba, the region's chief medical officer, said the government has improved the provision of medical services, thus occasioning a vast decrease in child and maternal mortality rates in three consecutive years.

The Ministry of Home Affairs issued a statement on its achievements during the six decades, assuring the public and

'SGR set ticket prices too high'

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TENTATIVE ticket prices for the anticipated launching of standard gauge railway (SGR) speed train from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma are too high, a range of stakeholders affirm.

The Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) issued the ticket prices schedule yesterday, ahead of the train ride start for Dar to Morogoro in two months.

The scheduled fares are 59,494/- for ordinary class and 71,392/- for middle class coaches, to which a section of commentators said that as public service, SGR tickets were supposed to be cheaper.

The proposed ticket prices could fail to compete with buses which currently charge 30,000/- (ordinary class) and up to



The government needs to consider coming up with comparable ticket prices for speed train transport

40,000/- for luxury buses, they said.

Fares set for Dar es Salaam to Morogoro stand at 24,794/- for ordinary class and 29,752/- for middle class coaches, the statement noted.

Francis Nanai, a former executive director for the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) said ticket prices need to reflect actual living standards and cater for all, to be inclusive.

Globally, train transport is cheaper compared to other means of transport, he said, highlighting the need for people to be involved, by setting up public hearings.

"Rail transport is important for the public, hence the need for it to be cheaper for ordinary people to afford," he said, noting that the fares are higher than those charged by other service providers.

Anna Henga, executive director for the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), said ticket prices should be affordable to enable a good number of travellers to utilize the long awaited transport mode.

The announced ticket prices are not overly friendly to ordinary people. It is important to consider the majority who rely on trains to travel, so the government needs

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'Police, judiciary among top most corrupt institutions in Tanzania'

By Guardian Reporter

POLICE maintained its leading citation in corruption perception, followed by courts and land service departments.

This view, given earlier in remarks by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, is being backed up in a report by the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB), released in the capital yesterday.

Jenista Mhagama (pictured), the Public Service Management and Good Governance



minister in the President's Office, said at a press conference to make public the report's findings that the report ranks top institutions perceived to be prone to corruption and unethical conduct.

The report, National Governance and Corruption Survey shows that other areas where corruption is rather easy to sniff are the health sector and the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

More needs to be done in the listed

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Charity, progress recount colour Independence Day

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other spheres of the government of its readiness to ensure peace and security for people and their properties.

Dr Maduhu Kazi, the deputy permanent secretary, assured the public of enhanced security as people execute their daily activities, under the banner '61 Years of Independence, Peace and Unity are the Pillars of Development.'

He cited the importance of making the public informed on key development initiatives like the Immigration Department becoming

a full-fledged force to enhance productivity.

There was steady construction of houses for police, prisons and other Home Affairs armed units along with improvement of fire fighting and rescue services with new centres across the country, he said.

Plenty has been done in controlling human trafficking, setting up police gender desks to hear complaints tied up with domestic violence, while an online application for visa, residence permit and passport was going apace, he added.

'SGR set ticket prices too high'

FROM PAGE 1

to work on the matter to ensure all travellers enjoy rail transport services, she stated.

Friedrich Chibuga, a resident of Mwanza said that luxury buses charge not more than 45,000/- from Dar es Salaam to Mwanza and 30,000/- from Dar to Dodoma. The government needs to consider coming up with comparable ticket prices for speed train transport, he

said.

Pendo Thomas, a resident of Dodoma was uncertain as to the criteria used to set SGR ticket prices, urging that a review is conducted to enable many people to use the service.

"The set prices should not exceed amounts charged by operators of upcountry buses. People are expecting fair ticket prices because train transport is considered the cheapest globally," she added.

Police seize 50,000 litres of edible oil

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Tanzania Maritime Police (TMP) has seized five boats carrying about 50,000 litres of edible oil that were en route from Zanzibar to Kunduchi illegal port in Dar es Salaam.

The team seized the oil which was packed in a total of 2,352 barrels of 20-liters sizes.

In a statement issued yesterday by the Tanzania Marine Police commander, Moshi Sokoro, edible oil was seized on December 6, this year in the Indian Ocean as it was being smuggled out of Zanzibar to Dar es Salaam.

ACP Sokoro said the first boat with registration number Z.2523 under Captain Issa Baka (26) from Bububu, Zanzibar was seized with 500 barrels of edible oil. Baka was arrested along with his four colleagues.

The second boat with registration number Z.3145 under Captain Ramadhani Hamisi (42) from Uzi, Zanzibar was seized with 351 barrels of edible oil. The captain was also arrested along with his three colleagues.

The third boat with registration number Z. 2946 under Captain Mwalimu Hamisi (40) from Uzi, Zanzibar had 351 barrels of edible

oil along with two more people who were in the boat.

"The navy team also seized two more boats during night patrol. The first one had a total of 650 barrels of edible oil under Captain Ramadhani Eliasi (30) from Mwanakwerekwe, Zanzibar and the second one with registration number Z.3223 under Captain Juma Shaibu (51) from Mahonda, Zanzibar was seized with 500 barrels of the product," he explained.

The commander said that preliminary investigation showed that the boats were required to send the consignments to Mbwani port where all the legal processes including paying taxes could have been followed but the suspects decided to evade this and directed the boats to the illegal port.

He said that the Police Force in collaboration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and other government units are inspecting and verifying the consignments before further legal steps are taken.

Commander Sokoro hailed all citizens who supported the arrest of the suspects by issuing reports to authorities.

He warned traders and the public to stop engaging in illegal businesses as the government is well prepared to fight all forms of crimes.

'Police, judiciary among top most corrupt institutions in Tanzania'

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institutions so as to address ethical gaps in procurement especially, to improve service delivery, she said, noting that adherence to ethics in the public service was slotted at 75.9 (out of 100 potential scores) this year, from 66.1 in 2014.

The report urges monitoring of adherence to ethics among public servants, as well as regular training for newly recruited public servants and those already employed, along with raising public awareness of ethics and the effects of corruption.

She said the government was committed to combatting corruption in all spheres of economic activity, underlining that ethical adherence in the public service has however increased by 9.8 percent in 2022.

"The study findings show clearly the government's efforts in taking

various measures to establish a solid foundation in supervising ethics, create an enabling environment and strengthening accountability in the public service," she stated.

She tasked the permanent secretary with convening a meeting with stakeholders to explore the implications of the survey findings and thus come up with strategies to improve ethical conduct in various spheres.

The government was pursuing initiatives to strengthen accountability and create space for public voices against corruption, she stated.

The study was geared to facilitate an in-depth survey on the conduct of governance and incidence of corruption to create a database for institutional and other interventions in curbing corruption, the minister added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa greets Angola President Joao Lourenco when they met at the 10th Organisation of African Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) heads of state and government meeting in Luanda yesterday. The Prime Minister represented President Samia Suluhu Hassan. Photo: PMO

AMDT, partners launch programme to support youth, women in agribusiness

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

A one-year mentorship programme to support youth and women in agribusiness has been launched by the Agricultural Markets Development Trust (AMDT) in collaboration with partners.

Speaking during the launch in Dodoma recently, Executive Secretary of National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) Beng'i Issa thanked AMDT and partners for launching the 10 months mentorship program.

She said the program which involves 4 mentors and 24 mentees is aimed at exchanging experience on how to improve business between experienced entrepreneurs and upcoming

ones.

"The main objective is to enable them to move forward in doing agribusiness," she said.

She said the government recognises the role of women and youth in improving the economy, particularly in the agriculture sector.

"This is the core sector of our economy, I congratulate AMDT for identifying the importance of these groups and preparing a good program," she said.

According to her, women and youth are catalysts of development in any nation hence they are not supposed to be left behind in economic improvement.

She said young entrepreneurs in the agriculture sector are facing a lot of challenges hence

it was important for different stakeholders including AMDT in collaboration with the government to come up with different strategies aimed at building their capacity so as to get out of poverty.

Beng'i added: "The government believes in planning and incubation as a clear tool to support youth and we at the council have been doing so," she said commending the selected young entrepreneurs, urging them to increase efforts in learning to succeed in agribusiness.

"I understand there are few who got this chance, there are many others who wanted to join this program, do not let us down," she noted.

She insisted on all participants

be good ambassadors to others, particularly in doing business.

"I also take this opportunity to congratulate our development partners Denmark and Sweden through AMDT and the government. They have joined hands to work on challenges facing citizens," she added.

AMDT chief executive officer, Charles Ogutu, said the organisation is launching the second phase of the program due to the successes recorded in the previous one. He said the results of the pilot phase show that 55 percent of participants recorded good success.

He thanked NEEC for being ready to work with AMDT in reaching entrepreneurs wherever needed.



National Assembly deputy Speaker Mussa Azzan 'Zungu' (L) speaks during the launch of a guide book on avoiding non-communicable diseases at Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) grounds Muhimbili in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He is flanked by JKCI's managing director Dr Peter Kisenge. Photo: Correspondent Pilly Kigome



The Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) executive director Leodegar Tenga (L) speaks during the CTI annual general meeting in Dar es Salaam at the weekend about the best practices and principles of sustainable industry production in Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Govt reaffirms commitment to support young scientists

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has reaffirmed its commitment to continue putting an enabling environment for the young scientists to exploit their innovative potential for the country's development.

Minister for Education, Science and Technology Prof Adolf Mkenda said this in Dar es Salaam last week during the 12th Young Scientists (YST) annual awards.

In his speech read on behalf by Prof Evaristo Liwa, Vice Chancellor of Ardhi University (ARU), the minister said that the government will continue supporting start-up innovations and projects so as to spur economic growth.

He said the projects provide a fascinating insight into the creativity, curiosity, critical thinking of students and commitment of schools across the country to bring science, technology, engineering and mathematics alive inside and outside classroom.

Prof Mkenda said YST has been working hand in hand with the ministry and other stakeholders to provide an invaluable platform for secondary school students to show their innovative talents.

During the ceremony, Halima Muhunzi and Gloria Tibajuka, students of Kibaha secondary school in Coast region emerged overall winners 2022 with their project title "the Future of Ruvu water pump stations".

YST board chairman Prof Yunus Mgaya said the target is to reach many schools across the country adding that enhancing science performance was one of key priorities.

He said YST in collaboration with Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation (KJF), a total of 37 students were selected and awarded university scholarships.

Dr Gobert Kamugisha, the YST co-founder said this year, the number of students who submitted science project applications increased significantly whereby 1,143 project applications were received.

He said out of 1,143 projects applications, 530 were mentored by YST science advisory and 380 science projects were

fully developed as complete scientific research/science innovations.

"Young Scientists have passionately demonstrated to us that you are ready to engage in scientific and technological innovations for the future of our country."

Since 2011 YST has awarded 37 university scholarships to YST winners, some of whom have now graduated as doctors, engineers, and scientists and are now contributing to the socio-economic development of our country.

Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation (KJF) executive director Caren Lowland said that the foundation has been great partners of the YST exhibition for a period of twelve years through awarding university scholarships to the winners.

She said that up to 2021, the foundation has awarded university scholarships to 37 students so far, adding four students who will emerge as winners in this year's science exhibition.

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF TANZANIA AT SUMBAWANGA
CIVIL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2022
BETWEEN
BUSAID BRAHIM
(Administratrix of the estate of the late Issa Mohamed Doon)..... APPELLANT
VERSUS
1. THE ASSURANCE GENERAL..... 1ST RESPONDENT
2. WOVENA & CO. LTD..... 2ND RESPONDENT
3. GODWIN E. NZINYANGWA..... 3RD RESPONDENT
4. WEMA H. LUMULIKO..... 4TH RESPONDENT
5. GRACE H. LUMULIKO..... 5TH RESPONDENT
6. RICHENA PANKA..... 6TH RESPONDENT AND
7. HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL..... NECESSARY PARTY
RECORD OF APPEAL AND WRITTEN SUBMISSION
RE-SERVICE OF THE RECORD OF APPEAL AND WRITTEN SUBMISSION
TO THE: 2ND, 3RD, 4TH, 5TH AND 6TH RESPONDENTS
This is to notify and serve you the RECORD OF APPEAL and WRITTEN SUBMISSION in respect of the above Appeal. The record of appeal and Written Submission are found via the Email of the High Court of Tanzania at Sumbawanga and the office of Mwakolo and Company Advocates. You are accordingly served.
Email: bsumbawanga@judiciary.go.tz
Dated at Mtwara this 05th day of November, 2022.
SIGNOR T. H. MWAKOLO
(ADVOCATE FOR THE APPELLANT)

Agriculture teachers and extension officers laud empowerment efforts

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Society of Agricultural Education and Extension (TSAEE) has applauded the government for efforts to empower extension officers by providing equipment and transport services.

Speaking here yesterday, members of the society expressed satisfaction with the government's decision to increase funding to the sector as well as improving welfare of the officers.

TSAEE chairperson, Prof Catherine Msuya noted that extension officers were faced with several challenges in the past but the government is increasing working on them.

She singled out the recent purchase of over 4500 motorcycles for extension officers in some district councils in the country, and the promise to purchase more.

"We are happy that the sector that was once lowly regarded is taking a new momentum and will soon be equal with others" she said.

According to Prof Msuya, during the recently held Tanzania Society of Agricultural Education and Extension (TSAEE)'s 2022 annual general meeting and Conference, members acknowledged the good gesture.

During the meeting Minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe urged all extension officers in the country to work hard and help improve contributions of agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors to the national economy.

He argued that increasing the sectors contribution to the national economy and improving livelihood of farmers, livestock keepers and fishermen can only be realised if the officers work diligently at their areas.

In a speech read on his behalf at the opening of the he noted that the government was aware of the challenges extension officer and is working on how to end them.

The meeting brought together representative of extension officers

in all regions in the mainland and Isles who came to share experiences, challenges facing and learn from each other.

He said there is still a lot of work to ensure farmers, livestock keepers and fishermen use the right technology in their activities and boost the sectors performance in national economy.

"It is important that you cooperate with farmers, livestock keepers and fishermen in effort to get the right information, use extension services as a way of spreading technology, educate and provide professional advice and get feedback use of technology," Bashe told the officers.

The deputy minister reminded them to plan their working schedules in such a way that results to better performance due to ability to reach the relevant people who need extension services.

He added that the government through its research institutions continues discovering new technologies aimed at increasing

productivity on commercial farming, livestock keeping and fisheries.



While acknowledging the importance of providing public education, training and awareness on use of technology, extension officers in the country have the big opportunity on this and the government is ready to have in place conducive environment for them to participate.

Early in her welcome remarks, TSAEE Chairperson, Prof Catherine Msuya noted that extension officers face several challenges thus the need to convene such annual meeting where they share experiences and learn from each other.

She added that the organization is a platform where they share professional experiences and other matters affecting them as well as helping in improving policy issues.

According to the chairperson, TSAEE cooperates with different stakeholders both locally and internationally working to improve extensions services in the country

She observed that while the association which currently have 133 members have realized a lot of success, it is facing a big financial constrain.

REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Additional Backup for Security Systems

Pre-qualification Criteria

No.	Reference no.	Description of work	Pre-qualification Criteria
1	NM066/2022	Additional Backup for Security Systems	i. Contractor must be qualified and experienced on electrical system installation and commissioning. ii. Contractor must have installation experience on EATON Equipment. iii. Contractor must provide detailed information of resources and their qualifications to execute the said works. iv. Contractor must be registered with the Contractors Registration Board (CRB). v. Contractor must demonstrate compliance to the Local Content Regulations (2018).

Expression of interest
If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to nm.proposal@barrick.com

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit an EOI through this advertisement.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of NMGM

Key Dates

- Last date to submit EOI: 14 December 2022

North Mara Gold Mine Limited




REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

TSF Fencing

Pre-qualification Criteria

No.	Reference no.	Description of work	Pre-qualification Criteria
1	NM065/2022	TSF Fencing	i. All Gallagher, Dallmeier materials, CCTV cameras and FLIR PTZ camera should be supplied from approved and authorized channel partner(s). ii. Contractor must provide detailed information of resources and their qualifications to execute the said works. iii. Contractor must be registered with the Contractors Registration Board (CRB). iv. Contractor must demonstrate compliance to the Local Content Regulations (2018).

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North Mara Gold Mine Limited

ASL launches competition for African tech start-ups

By Getrude Mbago

THE African Startup League (ASL) has announced the 2023 innovation competition which is expected to commence in February next year, witnessing young entrepreneurs across the continent compete for a \$1 million (2.3bn/-) funding prize.

Organised collaboratively by three firms—Adnanian Labs, Humanity Nodes Protocol and Web3Africa, the competition gives opportunities for African tech start-up companies including those from Tanzania to get funding for capacity building, marketing and growth.

In a statement availed to the media yesterday, Ally Ramji, managing editor and co-founder Aly Ramji, a key partner in the Africa Startup League (ASL) competition said: "By building startup capacity across the continent, digital transformation will serve as the bedrock to create a productive and sustainable workforce, support development of an income generating environment and help to build a thriving economy across the continent."

Ramji, who is also Co-Founder of Web3Africa, the first pan-African Social Network and Web3 integrated platform, said the continent wide contest is open for innovators, entrepreneurs, micro-enterprises and early stage start-ups to attain access to finance, as well as the much-needed expertise required to scale businesses.

Judges for the competition are chosen from various fields across Africa to vote on the best startup, which will be evaluated based on criteria such as innovation and impact on the larger African communities.

He said the competition will run for six months enabling innovators and entrepreneurs to showcase their innovative products. The selected top 100 entrepreneurs will be competing for a grand prize of \$1 million and 99 prizes of \$10,000.

The African Startup League is a unique platform that connects entrepreneurs with strategists, innovators, engineers, communities and capital to design, build and

launch exponential organizations focused on improving the lives of humans and transforming the world of tomorrow.

The aim of the initiative is to create matchmaking of sorts, allowing startup to acquire the initial seed funding, mentoring and training to scale their businesses.

At the same time, one of the key goals is for Africans' to see the opportunities ahead of them and to compete in a challenge that can produce solutions for pressing needs in African communities.

"Rather than being left to fend for themselves, Africa's tech startup would benefit from networks that connect founders, tech hubs, universities, and government bodies to assist in the identification of business opportunities, the overcoming of skill shortages, and the attraction of the required talent," he asserted.

The Africa Startup League gives young businesspeople in Africa the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and innovations while facilitating a more effective strategy for addressing Africa's challenges and increasing the size and viability of their own companies.

Innovation is Africa's key to unlocking an economic boom for more than 1.3 billion people. Reports show that in East Africa, fintech is the fastest-growing industry.

Between 2020 and 2021, the number of tech start-ups in Africa tripled to around 5,200 companies. Just under half of these are fintech" reads the McKinsey report.

According to the analysis, Africa's financial-services market could grow at about 10 percent per annum, reaching about \$230 billion in revenues by 2025.

"Rather than being left to fend for themselves, Africa's tech startup would benefit from networks that connect founders, tech hubs, universities, and government bodies to assist in the identification of business opportunities, the overcoming of skill shortages, and the attraction of the required talent"

UK Aid plans to spend 271bn/- in support of Shule Bora programme

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

THE United Kingdom (UK) government through UK Aid has planned to spend 271bn/- to support the implementation of the Shule Bora (Quality School) programme aiming to address challenges facing schools and teachers in the country.

The programme is implemented in nine regions which include Dodoma, Katavi, Kigoma, Mara, Pwani, Simiyu, Tanga and Singida.

Speaking during the launch of the programme in Singida Region on Thursday, Social Policy Advisor at the UK Embassy in Tanzania, Getrude Mapunda said the programme will be executed for seven years from 2021 to 2027.

She said the programme aims to support the government in improving the provision of inclusive education as well as creating a safe learning environment for girls and boys at public schools.

"The Shule Bora programme will make improvements that will enable every pupil to get a good foundation in their education thus using the skills to contribute to the country's development," she said.

According to Mapunda, the programme does not introduce new things; it implements the district council's plans by putting together financial and human resources towards improving the quality of schools.

"We do not have more funds than the government. We only want to combine our funds with that of the government to see how we can achieve the target of improving primary and secondary school education," said Mapunda.

Singida Region has put in place various strategies to improve teaching and learning in secondary and primary schools which include collaborating with other stakeholders in strengthening the education sector.

Singida Regional Administrative Secretary, Stanslaus Choaji said the launch of the Shule Bora programme in Singida complements government efforts in improving the learning environment at schools as well as the provision of inclusive education.

Choaji praised the UK team championing the Shule Bora programme for their collaboration with the district council in the execution of the programme.

Choaji promised continued support to the stakeholders towards achieving the targeted goals which ultimately see improved education services in the region.

Coordinator of Shule Bora programme in Singida Region, Samuel Daniel said the presence of the offices will greatly help in the implementation of their duties.

The Shule Bora programme was launched on April 2021 at Kibaha District in Coastal region by UK Minister for Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Vicky Ford in collaboration with Minister for MoEST Adolf Mkenda and Deputy Minister for RALG David Silinde.

The Shule Bora is a seven-year programme (2021-2027) which will improve the quality and access to education for over four million children in nine regions of Katavi, Rukwa, Kigoma, Simiyu, Mara, Singida, Dodoma, Pwani and Tanga supports innovative initiatives that ensure children are in school, are safe, learning well and progress to secondary school.

The Shule Bora programme is £ 89 million (equivalent to 271/- billion) directly funded by UK aid from the British government, inclusiveness, and safety of learning for girls and boys in government schools in Tanzania. It was implemented with the technical assistance of Cambridge Education Tanzania, ADD International, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and Plan international.



Women in Law and Development Africa (WILDAF) Tanzania national coordinator Anna Kulaya (L) and the manager of the organisation for FGM eradication and the network against female genital mutilation (NAFGEM) Tanzania manager Honorata Nasuwa (R) congratulate the victim of violence and the founder of Songambe Initiative, Faustina Urassa shortly after being awarded during the 16 days of activism awards ceremony in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

WILDAF awards 16 champions of GBV fight

By Guardian Reporter

THE Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF) yesterday awarded 16 champions who pioneered changes in society towards the fight against gender-based violence (GBV) through various activities.

The awards were given as part of activities to mark the 16 days of activism which started on November 25th to December 10th that was organised nationally by the government in collaboration with WILDAF.

This year's theme is 'Every Life Matters: End Femicide and Violence against Women and Children'. The global theme is 'Unite! Activism End Violence against Women and Girls'.

Speaking after receiving the award, the founder of the Zaina Foundation, Zaituni Njovu said: "Through my foundation, I managed to train over 4,000 women on how

to use digital platforms without experiencing sexual violence and how to avoid it."

Njovu noted that most women are afraid of using social media for fear of being abused, the thing that results in them missing out on various opportunities that are available on digital platforms. She said her foundation has been educating them on how to safely use digital platforms.

Fausta Urassa whose institution supports people with disabilities said: "I became disabled after having an accident and the whole community rejected me, but I was courageous to start over and opened my own organisation which helps people with different disabilities."

She said through her organisation she provides training to people with disabilities and encourages them not to give up in any situation. She is of the view that disability is not the

end of life, because a person with a disability can do anything like any other person.

WILDAF National Coordinator, Anna Kulaya said they have been awarding GBV champions for three consecutive years since 2020.

Kulaya said the awards are provided in collaboration with development partners for purposes of recognizing their contributions towards the elimination of violence against girls and women.

"The awards have been different this year because these champions are ordinary citizens who are not famous but they are doing great things in our community. We went through a thorough process to get them as there were more than 3,000 applicants. We finally selected 16 people whom we will work with for the coming year. We will support them to continue doing what they have been doing before the awards," stated Kulaya.

She said the champions are divided into 16 areas which include, the eradication of child marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM) and sexual violence against women and children.

"If we believe that Tanzania without sexual violence is possible; everyone in their position should take action to eradicate these acts," she added.

The Tanzania Demographic Health Survey (TDHS 2015-2016) shows that sexual violence is frequently committed by persons with whom the woman has a close personal relationship.

40 percent of women who experienced sexual violence reported current or former boyfriends as perpetrators and nearly one-third (31 per cent) reported friends/acquaintances as perpetrators while only 7 per cent reported strangers as perpetrators.



Deputy minister for Works and Transport Atupele Mwakibete (2nd L) congratulates one of the best students of Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI), during the 18th graduation ceremony at the institute premises earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Govt pledges to address challenges facing DMI

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government has promised to address all challenges facing the Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) so as to enable it to produce enough competent seafarers and other supporting staff so as to promote blue economy development.

Deputy Minister for Works and Transport, Atupele Mwakibete made the pledge in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the DMI's 18th graduation ceremony.

In the event, a total of 904 graduates were conferred with certificates and masters degrees.

He said the government was aware of the efforts by DMI management to solve some challenges including ship training, shortage of classrooms, offices and

other training facilities which have been notorious challenges for the institute.

The deputy minister advised the graduates to use their skills for the benefit of the nation adding that they should be patriotic in everything they do.

He said there are abundant opportunities in the blue economy compared to other sectors so he told the graduates to open their eyes and see how they can use the opportunity after their graduation.

"Go and work diligently, use your skills to make changes in the society and through opportunities that are available in the blue economy and you should be an example to other youth," he said.

He further urged them not to relax with the level of education

they have reached but instead, they should strive to go to another level to increase their competence in maritime issues.

"DMI graduates are the ones who are expected to work in blue economy activities including ship operations, port operations, transportation and logistics, oil and gas, architecture and ship constructions," he added.

DMI board chairman, Captain Ernest Bupamba said an international organisation called DetNorsk Veritas Gemanischer Lyod conducted quality control supervision and was satisfied that DMI is the centre of excellence in East and Southern Africa.

Captain Bupamba said they are all the time adhering to international standards that is why

they continued to increase the number of its courses and increase enrolment every year.

"This institute started with only 12 students in 1981 but for the academic year of 2022 they have enrolled 2,542 students and he commended the government for solving some challenges which were facing the institute," he noted.

He said the commencement of the Education Fund (MET FUND) has helped the institute to get Live Radar worth 200 million adding that the ministry has helped the institute to get Full Mission Engine Simulator while in this financial year they expect to get two modern simulators.

Moreover, 36 students were sponsored by the Fund in the 2020/21 academic year, in 2021/2022, a total of 173 students were funded and in 2022/2023 a total of 229 received funding.



Kigamboni district commissioner Fatma Nyangasa (L) addresses participants during the conference to mark the 61st Tanganyika Independence Anniversary at the Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy in Dar es Salaam region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Female journalists urged to break silence against GBV

By Francis Kajubi

FEMALE journalists in the country have been urged to lead the fight against culprits of gender-based violence (GBV) in the newsrooms by intensively reporting the humiliation to relevant authorities and human rights defenders.

Speaking at the closure of the six-day training to female journalists on 'Effective reporting on gender-based violence', organized by the Germany Embassy in Tanzania in collaboration with the Media Convergency and the DW Akademie East Africa, Dr Kathrin Steinbrenner, Germany deputy ambassador to Tanzania called upon female journalists to come out and expose editors deemed to sex corruption.

She said the training also aimed to strengthen efforts at tackling diversity and inclusion in Tanzania media as part of the commemoration of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence.

According to her, the training was

meant to explore, analyse and reflect on ordinary and online gender-based violence in the media industry.

"For the Germany embassy, the just ended workshop marks the kick-off event for a whole series of training related to gender equality in the country's media industry," said Steinbrenner.

She asserted that inclusion of women in decision making and to positions, can have an impact on the quality of journalism which is evident through more diverse sources of information and more diverse topics in reporting.

Katharina Kuehn, GIZ representative to Tanzania and Access to Justice programme manager, said the agency has been working on projects that focus on how to keep the GBV agenda on the mainstream.

"We are working on identifying the gender gap in the newsroom and how it affects the quality of reporting," said Kuehn.

Miriam Ohlsen, DW Akademie representative for the East Africa

region and project director for women at Web East Africa, said that the akademie is working on realizing freedom of speech and equal distribution of positions in the media industry.

"Many resources are male dominated so selection of reporting is done on male perspective. In this case, female GBV victims don't open up to male reporters," Ohlsen said.

Asha Abinallah, CEO and founder of Media Convergency said women journalists are still marginalized and face many challenges in their daily duties.

Shesaidgenderbiasandstereotypes persists, reinforcing gender inequality in the media which also affects source diversity in terms of opening the news to the female perspective. According to her, increasing diversity in media contributes to more social participation of women and improves journalism.

"We are working closely with policy makers and respective authorities to influence policy reforms. To drive

reality at home, together with DW Akademie, we have conducted a study known as 'Overview of the state of online gender-based violence of women in politics,' Abinallah said.

She affirmed that the study has collected data from 294 women leaders in politics and also did four focus group discussions with 14 members of parliament in a period of six months.

This study has been integral to an increase of interest of the right key players towards realizing the goals of having policies and laws that support the cause.

Imani Henrick, general manager Kings FM Njombe said that the training was insightful and useful in today's reporting where online GBV cases are rampant.

"The majority of GBV perpetrators in newsrooms are male with personal biases rooted from cultural and tribal norms. We are going to be champions by producing stories that push for free GBV in newsrooms," Henrick said.

Stakeholders push for implementation of policies to promote agro-ecology sector

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

POLICYForum in collaboration with Action Aid Tanzania is implementing initiatives aimed to push the ministry of agriculture to fully implement the formulated policies and strongly promote the agro-ecology sector in the country.

Nicholas Lekule, Manager for Policy Analysis at Policy Forum said that it was high time for the government to increase the number of extension officers as well as capacitating them with useful knowledge pertaining to agroecology practices in order to assist more farmers in the country to adopt the sustainable type of farming that works with nature.

"The government has set good policies that, if well implemented, would help to improve performance of the country's agriculture sector through inviting more farmers in the agroecology area," he observed.

He noted that agroecology practices have been proved to stand among viable ways to overcome negative challenges of climate change and thus, it is prudent for the government to promote the practices among local farmers.

With the sector absorbing more than 75 percent of the country's population, mostly those coming from impoverished households, Lekule noted that enough funds must be allocated to support research and production of landrace seeds, organic fertilisers and bio-pesticide.

"Despite being one of the best ways to contain effects of climate change and improve crop yields among farmers, it is disconcerting that in Tanzania agroecology is being practiced by few farmers, not exceeding 2 percent of all farmers across the country due to poor promotion and awareness creation," he informed.

He hailed the sixth phase government for attracting investments in the production of organic fertilisers in the country as well as putting in place a helpful system on provision of subsidy fertilisers, but observed that the side faces some challenges that need to be addressed to attain further

improvements.

Joram Wimmo, Action Aid country coordinator observed that agro-ecology was the fundamental method to enable many household families to escape from the shackles of poverty, but also to place the country in a positive pathway to approach to the set 2025/30 economic vision.

"Agro-ecology practices allow farmers to better use natural resources available at their vicinity to locally generate organic fertilisers and pesticides, together with more other vital inputs at low costs," he expressed.

He observed that through use of the agro-ecological practices and technologies, farmers would stand a better chance to negate severe impacts of climate change, the 'unwanted' situation which for sometimes now continues to exacerbating crop yields levels among indigenous farmers to the extent of weaken performance of the vital sector in which the national income hinges.

"We are running these initiatives with a patriotic spirit to build a viable platform upon which farmers in the country can labour to improve production and productivity while protecting the country's land, environment and agro-climatic nature," Wimmo explained.

He said that Action Aid Tanzania is currently working to assist smallholder women farmers to adopt and practice agroecology as the way to improve their individual livelihoods, but further to escalate the general performance of the country's agriculture sector.

"We are working with the Tanzania Women Farmers Forum (TWFF), the tailor-made forum for pushing for the statutory rights for the smallholder women farmers in the country, and in our well established working cooperation, the role of Action Aid is just to coordinate useful forums to give the farmers ample opportunities to meet with the policy makers and others at ministerial levels officials to air their grievances, as well as deliberating together and chart on ways to improve agroecology farming in the country," he noted.



REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Electric Fence System Upgrade

Pre-qualification Criteria

No.	Reference no.	Description of work	Pre-qualification Criteria
1	NM064/2022	Electric Fence System Upgrade	i. Gallagher equipment should be supplied from authorized channel partner(s). ii. Contractor must provide detailed information of resources and their qualifications to execute the said works. iii. Contractor must be registered with the Contractors Registration Board (CRB). iv. Contractor must demonstrate compliance to the Local Content Regulations (2018).

Expression of interest

If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to nm.proposal@barrick.com

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit an EOI through this advertisement.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of NMGM

Key Dates

- Last date to submit EOI 14 December 2022

North Mara Gold Mine Limited



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Airstrip Security Upgrade

Pre-qualification Criteria

No.	Reference no.	Description of work	Pre-qualification Criteria
1	NM063/2022	Airstrip Security Upgrade	i. All Dallmeier materials should be supplied from approved and authorized channel partner(s). ii. Contractor must provide detailed information of resources and their qualifications to execute the said works. iii. Contractor must be registered with the Contractors Registration Board (CRB). iv. Contractor must demonstrate compliance to the Local Content Regulations (2018).

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North Mara Gold Mine Limited

Malaria cases and deaths remained stable in year 2021, despite impacts of Covid-19

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has released new data showing that countries around the world largely held the line against further setbacks to malaria prevention, testing and treatment services in 2021.

The 2022 world malaria report, states that there were an estimated 619,000 malaria deaths globally in 2021 compared to 625,000 in the first year of the pandemic.

In 2019, before the pandemic struck, the number of deaths stood at 568,000.

Malaria cases continued to rise between 2020 and 2021, but at a slower rate than in the period 2019 to 2020. The global tally of malaria cases reached 247 million in 2021, compared to 245 million in 2020 and 232 million in 2019.

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General said: "Following a marked increase in malaria cases and deaths in the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, malaria-affected countries redoubled their efforts and were able to mitigate the worst impacts of Covid-related disruptions to malaria services."

He added: "We face many challenges, but there are many reasons for hope. By strengthening the response, understanding and mitigating the risks, building resilience and accelerating research, there is every reason to dream of a malaria-free future."

The African Region shouldered about 95 percent of cases and 96 percent of deaths globally in 2021.

WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti said: "Despite progress, the African region continues to be hardest hit by this deadly disease. New tools—and the funding to deploy these—are urgently needed to help us defeat malaria."

Insecticide treated bed nets (ITNs) are the primary vector control tool used in most malaria-endemic countries and, in 2020, countries distributed more ITNs than in any year on record.

In 2021, ITN distributions were strong overall and at similar levels to pre-pandemic years: of the 171 million ITNs planned for distribution, 128 million (75 percent) were distributed.

Seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC) is recommended to prevent the disease among children living in areas with highly seasonal malaria transmission in Africa.

In 2021, expansion of this intervention reached nearly 45 million children per SMC cycle in 15 African countries, a major increase

from 33.4 million in 2020 and 22.1 million in 2019.

At the same time, most countries succeeded in maintaining malaria testing and treatment during the pandemic.

Despite supply chain and logistical challenges during the pandemic, malaria-endemic countries distributed a record number of rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) to health facilities in 2020.

In 2021, countries distributed 223 million RDTs, a similar level reported before the pandemic.

Artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs) are the most effective treatment for *P. falciparum* malaria. Malaria-endemic countries delivered an estimated 242 million ACTs worldwide in 2021 compared to 239 million ACTs in 2019.

Disruptions during the pandemic and converging humanitarian crises, health system challenges, restricted funding, rising biological threats and a decline in the effectiveness of core disease-cutting tools threaten the global response to malaria.

Total funding for malaria in 2021 was \$3.5 billion, an increase from the two previous years but well below the estimated \$7.3 billion required globally to stay on track to defeat malaria. A decline in the effectiveness of core malaria control tools, most crucially ITNs, is impeding progress against malaria.

Threats to this key prevention tool include insecticide resistance; insufficient access; loss of ITNs due to the stresses of day-to-day use outpacing replacement and changing behaviour of mosquitoes, which appear to be biting early before people go to bed, and resting outdoors, thereby evading exposure to insecticides.

Other risks are also rising, including parasite mutations affecting the performance of rapid diagnostic tests; growing parasite resistance to the drugs used to treat malaria; and the invasion in Africa of an urban-adapted mosquito that is resistant to many of the insecticides used today.

WHO recently launched 2 strategies to support countries in the African continent as they work to build a more resilient response to malaria—a strategy to curb antimalarial drug resistance and an initiative to stop the spread of the *Anopheles stephensi* malaria vector.

From late 2023 onwards, millions of children living in areas of highest risk of illness and death from malaria are also expected to benefit from the life-saving impact of the world's first malaria vaccine, RTS,S. Other malaria vaccines are in the product development pipeline.

NIT plans to establish rail transport training college

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Institute of Transport (NIT) is set to establish a special college that will provide rail transport training with support from the central government.

The college to be established in Tabora Region follows the huge investment by the government in the construction of modern railways.

In the same vein, NIT will between December this year and January next year receive two aircrafts that will be used for practical training for students pursuing pilot courses.

NIT Deputy Rector, Dr Prosper Mgaya made the revelation when speaking at the institute's 9th graduation symposium, where a total of 2,700 students graduated from various courses.

Dr Mgaya said the institute has been providing qualified graduates in all five means of transport, noting they have this year introduced rail training courses in support of the government's efforts. He said the government has been heavily investing in railway transport, hence the need to have a good number of professionals in the specific area.

He said that the construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro has reached a better stage and will be in use in the near future.

Operations of the SGR from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma will be in full swing from February next year, according to the Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC).

"You all heard President Samia Suluhu Hassan saying Tanzania is strategically positioned and is a gateway to a number of landlocked African countries including the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Burundi that depends on us to transport their cargo. The SGR will connect Tanzania with such countries," he added.

Tanzania is accessible through the Indian Ocean, which gives it trade links to Asia and sits in between six landlocked countries (Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Zambia and Malawi) which rely on it as their most efficient point for passage of goods.

Tanzania is also a natural and effective transportation gateway into Eastern, Southern and Central Africa due to its membership in the SADC Free Trade Area and EAC Common Market as well as its rail and road networks.

"The rail training college in Tabora will be fully sponsored by the government as we are working closely with TRC through the Ministry of Works and Transport," he said, adding that training is likely to start within a year.



A cross section of the Institute of Social Work graduates during the Institute's 46th graduation ceremony at Kijitonyama in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Pilly Kigome

Mtwara registers decrease in mental health disorder cases

By Correspondent Abdullah Bakari, Mtwara

MENTAL health disorder cases in Mtwara Region have decreased from 5,867 in 2019 to 3,038 cases in 2021, a situation which shows a good achievement by authorities and stakeholders to fight the vice.

Acting Mtwara Regional Medical Officer (RMO) Dr Frank Omollo said that three years of data was collected through Out Patient Department (OPD) reporting system.

In an interview with this paper, Dr Omollo revealed that 6,725 patients were reported under major mental illness (psychosis) and the rest 6,265 were under minor mental illness (Neurosis) accounting for 12,990 total cases reported in 2019/2021.

"Out of 6,725 patients with psychosis 3,156 were males and 3,569 were females while in neurosis cases 2,551 were males and 3,714 were females, the figures give us a clear picture of how mental illness is a serious problem in our

areas," Dr Omollo.

He added: "The figures also indicate that women are more susceptible to mental disorders than men, this is because women are more emotional and weak to handle complicated issues, however, this report shows the declining of reported cases gradually year to year."

He further said "psychosis cases were 2,591 in 2019, the cases declined to 2,235 in 2020, and finally to 1,899 in 2021. This also applies to Neurosis cases for example in 2019 we had 3,276 cases, 1,850 in 2020 and 1,139 in 2021."

Dr Omollo added that out of psychosis cases in 2019, 1,250 were males and 1,341 females, in 2021 out of reported cases 1,054 were males and 1,181 females and in 2021 out of reported cases, 852 were males and 1,047 females.

In Neurosis cases as well women are the leading group, in 2019, 1,380 were males and 1,899 females, in 2020, 709 were males and 1,141 were

females and in 2021 as well 402 were males and 677 females.

"Declining of reported cases possess two faces, one, the problem has decreased and two people have abandoned sending their patients to hospital due to the cost-sharing programme that started in 2019 before people with mental disorders were attending medical checkups and treatment freely," he noted.

He however said that the services are only offered at the district hospital level and above something that affects the attendance of patients to clinics as they are supposed to travel from rural areas which also has financial implications depending on how far they are to the hospital, the cost can range between 30,000/- to 50,000/- per trip as attendance scheduled monthly.

He stated that patients under neurosis recover soon after treatment while those under psychosis are initiated doses to

restore mental health and after a time they recover and join with community members.

Robert Lilungulu who is in charge of Ligula Mental Health Care Unit admitted that there was a decrease in reported cases after the introduction of the cost-sharing programme for mental disorders.

"Before the cost-sharing programme in this unit, I used to attend to 70 patients on a daily basis, but today I can only attend to 20 patients in a week. In this centre from July 2021 and June 2022 there were 735 reported cases of which 332 were for males and 403 for females and about 100 psychosis patients have been treated and rejoined with their member families," Lilungulu said.

Ahmadi Rashid (37) restored psychosis and urged communities to send mental disorder patients to hospitals instead of witch doctors, as his relief was only granted at the hospital.

"I am a bodaboda rider at Villa Park Centre, my situation was worse some time ago, but with the support that I got, I have totally recovered, hospital treatment made this possible, let us uncover mental patients and extend support to address the challenge," he said.



Employees at work to rehabilitate Sokoine Drive in the central business district of Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

ASA set to distribute 1,600 tonnes of subsidised sunflower seeds to farmers

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Agricultural Seeds Agency (ASA) has embarked on an exercise to distribute subsidised sunflower seeds to support farmers and bolster production.

ASA's coordinator for the provision of subsidised sunflower seeds varieties, Benjamin Mfupe, said in an interview yesterday that the state-owned agency was expected to distribute at least 1,600 of the subsidised sunflower seeds.

"In the exercise, we are giving first priority to the sunflower best producing regions, including Singida, Manyara, Tabora and Dodoma, though doors are also open for other regions and districts to send their applications for the seeds," he said.

Mfupe said that ASA has so far received requests of at least 471

tonnes of the seeds varieties from Singida region and they have already dispatched a total of 374 tonnes to the region.

He said the remaining cargo was in the process to be transported to the central zone region with high potential for the cultivation of the economic cash crop.

"The subsidy varieties that we're proving in the exercise are Records (1,500 tonnes) and Kenya Fedha (10 tonnes), the varieties have been inspected and certified by the Tanzania Official Seeds Certification Institute (TOSCI) and have useful potential in terms of yields as well as oil content," he communicated.

Apart from the sunflower strategic regions, Mfupe informed that the agency had also received requests for the seeds from other parts of the country, including from Simiyu, Kigoma (Kakonko), Chunya,

Lindi and Coastal region.

The Agency's chief executive officer (CEO), Dr Sophia Kashenge said that ASA will continue to stand firm, and at forefront to ensure farmers are getting the improved seeds varieties on time in order to scale-up production of the vital crop in the country.

She said during the past cropping season, and in efforts to accelerate availability of edible oil in the country, ASA had produced and distributed a total of 2088 tonnes of sunflower standard seed to the farmers within at least 23 regions.

"The region in which farmers benefited from the seeds were Singida, Manyara, Dodoma, Kilimanjaro, Katavi, Morogoro, Simiyu, Mara, Shinyanga, Kilimanjaro and Rukwa. Others, according to her, include Songwe, Iringa, Ruvuma, Tabora, Njombe,

Mtwara, Lindi, Mbeya, Coastal, Kigoma, Katavi, Tanga and Shinyanga," she expressed.

Dr Kashenge observed that the total demand of sunflower seed in the country is around 5,252 metric tonnes while availability of improved seeds is less than 400 metric tonnes.

"The deficit is too huge therefore, in the past growing season, the agency under government directives, managed to prepare a total of 2088 tonnes of Standard sunflower seeds to spur distribution among farmers and restrain the gap," she said.

She appreciated efforts from the government towards capacitating the agency to run its key activities professionally, especially in the side of sunflower seed production and distribution.

The country is currently producing only 290,000 metric tonnes of edible oil, forcing it to annually import 420,000 metric tonnes, and it is forecasted that demand would increase to 700,000 metric tonnes by 2030.

By Getrude Mbago

WHO partners govt, stakeholders in HIV/Aids prevention and treatment

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) is working closely with the government and various stakeholders to put much effort into HIV/Aids prevention, treatment and care for youth, children and pregnant women towards the global target of ending the epidemic by 2030.

Dr Johnson Lyimo, the WHO country office specialist for HIV, Tuberculosis and Hepatitis, said this during the commemoration of World AIDS Day 2022. This year's theme was, Equalize, highlighting the critical need to address inequalities that are limiting progress.

He said that the joint initiatives to be implemented which include mass promotion of HIV testing as

well as treatment, are aimed to achieve the global target of ending the endemic disease.

"Our aim is to continue investing in multi-stakeholders approaches so as to increase the fight against HIV by promoting testing for people to know their health status, the challenge is still high in children, youth, people with disabilities and pregnant women, this is where we are looking to put more efforts," he said.

He also said that more efforts will also be directed at integrating

interventions of HIV/Aids services as well as that of Hepatitis B.

Dr Lyimo noted that this year's commemoration highlighted three critical areas of reducing AIDS-related mortality by addressing advanced HIV disease, comprehensively addressing the needs of children living with HIV to end pediatric AIDS by 2030, and enhancing the reach and impact of primary HIV prevention to achieve epidemic control.

He said the WHO also supported the ministry of health in the

finalization of the 2021-2026 Health Sector HIV Strategic Plan (HSHSP V) and development of the two-year Operational Plan to further strengthen the fight against the disease.

Dr Lyimo further said the WHO together with the ministry of health, UN partners and key HIV stakeholders who are the Presidential Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) and beneficiaries-National Council of People living with HIV (NACOPHA) are establishing the Global Alliance to end AIDS in children, adolescents and pregnant and breastfeeding women by 2030.

"We must use proven strategies to ensure that we reach children and youth with testing services and put

them on the best treatment while strengthening systems to monitor and sustain gains. At the same time, we need to address drivers of pediatric AIDS-related mortality and champion strategies to enhance continuity in care, including a focus on mental health, to end childhood deaths," he explained.

Children and youth are left behind when it comes to HIV treatment, something which needs more joint efforts to address.

"In order to end AIDS, we need to end new infections among children, end lack of treatment access to them, and end structural barriers and stigma and discrimination towards key populations in every country as soon as possible," he added.

The expert further explained that

with only eight years left before the 2030 goal of ending AIDS as a global health threat, WHO calls for increased solidarity and bold leadership from all sectors to achieve the goal.

Approximately 38 million people are living with HIV globally whereby 5.9 million people who know they have HIV are not receiving treatment. A further four million people living with HIV have not yet been diagnosed.

While 76 percent of adults overall were receiving antiretroviral treatment that helps them lead normal and healthy lives, only 52 percent of children living with HIV were accessing this treatment globally in 2021.

Reports further show that 70 percent of new HIV infections are among people who are marginalized and often criminalized. While transmission has declined overall in Africa, there has been no significant decline among men who have sex with men - a key population group - in the past 10 years.



Temeke municipal human resources officer Grace Mtisho on behalf of the municipal director Elihuruma Mabelya cuts a ribbon to unveil one stop business centre between Danube Home and Furniture Centre in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on are the Furniture Centre chief executive officer Prasad Kumar (R) and Danube Home manager Mahfooz Gafoor (2nd R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

School in Iringa hails CRJE-East Africa for supporting education, sports development

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya,

Iringa

PAWAGA secondary school in Iringa District of Iringa Region has hailed the China Railway Jianchang Engineering (CRJE-East Africa Ltd) for supporting the school with assortments of equipment to boost education and sports development at the school.

At the handing over event Jairo Mwakavindi, the school's headmaster thanked the construction company for the esteemed support which will help reduce congestion in classrooms, stimulate teaching and learning and improve performance.

He said that the support has come at the right time when the school needs such things as for a long time the school has been facing the challenge of sports equipment as well as good school infrastructure such as classrooms.

The infrastructural challenge causes overcrowding of students in classes as the school serves three wards of Mbolimboli, Mlinge and Itunundu because Mlinge and Mbolimboli have no ward secondary schools.

Mwakavindi said that the construction company provided various sports balls, jerseys, exercise books and school bags as part of contributing to the

improvement of education and sports as well as returning benefits to the community.

He added that the company previously helped them with construction materials where the school managed to produce more than 4,000 blocks for the ongoing construction project of four classrooms and the teachers' office.

Mwakavindi said that the construction company is implementing the Mkombozi irrigation construction project in Igodikafu Village, Mbolimboli Ward, Pawaga division for rice farming in the area.

Students at the school expressed their gratitude to CRJE for the sports equipment as they have been facing the challenge for a long time, something which led to spending a lot of time without engaging in sports.

They said that sports help students to be happy, physically and mentally, so the equipment will help students participate in various sports and ultimately improve health and careers.

Felister Mgaya is a Form Six student at Pawaga Secondary School, the biggest challenge, especially on the sports side, is the lack of jerseys and balls which made the students miss games in the evenings when they are resting.

Christophina Chonya, a Sixth Form Student of PCM (subject

combination) asked other stakeholders to come and help in making various playgrounds, as there is currently one football field that is being contested by students.

CRJE Director Zhang Cui Shan said the company's aim is to continue supporting the government's efforts to improve service delivery in various sectors including education.

Shan urged the students to invest their energy in their studies until they reach the university level so that they can help themselves and be employed in various companies.

He asked the students to focus on their studies so as to achieve their dreams in the future.

Gray Mutasingwa, an engineer with the CRJE-East Africa Ltd, said that they are implementing a large irrigation project (Mkombozi Irrigation Scheme), which is implemented for a period of one and half year with a cost of 33bn/-.

He said that the areas of Pawaga are famous for rice cultivation but there is a challenge of irrigation infrastructure, but despite that, they saw that they came to the school to help even with a few things as part of giving back to the community.

China Railway Jianchang Engineering (East Africa) ltd has a history of working in Tanzania for more than 50 years. It was established in 1969 to undertake the Great Uhuru Railway-TAZARA.

WHO member states agree to develop first draft of legally binding pandemic accord in early 2023

GENEVA

WORLD Health Organization (WHO) member states agreed Wednesday to start developing the first draft of a legally binding agreement designed to protect the world from future pandemics.

"Countries have delivered a clear message that the world must be better prepared, coordinated, and supported to protect all people, everywhere, from a repeat of COVID-19," said Roland Driece, co-chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) Bureau.

In December last year, a WHO

assembly special meeting agreed to negotiate an accord to forge a future global response to pandemic prevention and preparedness following the emergence of COVID-19.



In February, INB members began work on a draft and presented it to WHO member states in late November, aware that some countries worry that an accord could diminish national autonomy.

The UN seeks to have binding and non-binding parts in the new accord.

"There will be some provisions that will be legally binding, and

some will be non-legally binding. Exactly what article in the WHO Constitution this ends up falling under is not determined yet," US Ambassador Pamela Hamamoto said at a press conference on Dec. 2 at the US Mission to the UN in Geneva.

"Today's agreement by the INB, comprised of the WHO's 194 member states, was a milestone in the global process to learn from the COVID-19 pandemic and prevent a repeat of the devastating impacts it has had on individuals and communities worldwide," said the WHO.

REQUEST FOR TENDER

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Supply of Various Instruments and Valves for Slurry and Water Duty

Qualification Criteria

Reference No.	Description	Qualification Criteria
NM067/2022/A	Package A: Supply of Various Electromagnet Flowmeter and Sensor for Slurry and Water Duty, for New Paste Plant Construction	i. Preferred Make – KSB, Endress & Hauser, Vega, Wika, Process Automation, or equivalent with their valid calibration certificates ii. All instruments should have an output signal of 4 - 20 mA, hard wired and coupled on power supply of 110 VAC, 50 Hz iii. Lead time of delivery iv. Should Submit commercial proposal (prices) for the package's items below: - A. Electromagnetic Flowmeters for Water ✓ DN25, 0 to 5 m ³ /h, 2500Kpa, Qty 16 ✓ DN25, 0 to 5 m ³ /h, 1600 kPa, Qty 6 ✓ DN32, 0 to 20 m ³ /h, 1000 kPa, Qty 1 ✓ DN65, 0 to 50 m ³ /h, 1000 kPa, Qty 1 ✓ DN80, 0 to 30 m ³ /h, 1000 kPa, Qty 1 ✓ DN150, 0 to 200 m ³ /h, 15000kPa, Qty 1 ✓ DN300, 0 to 750 m ³ /h, 1000 kPa, Qty 1 ✓ DN450, 0 to 1500 m ³ /h, 1000kPa, Qty 2 B. Electromagnetic Flowmeters for Slurry ✓ DN100, 0 to 30 m ³ /h, 1000 kPa, Qty 1 ✓ DN150, 0 to 225 m ³ /h, 1000 kPa, Qty 3 ✓ DN200, 0 to 525 m ³ /h, 1000 kPa, Qty 4 ✓ DN200, 0 to 200 m ³ /h, 15000kPa, Qty 1 ✓ DN250, 0 to 600 m ³ /h 2500 kPa, Qty 2 C. Nucleonic Density Meter ✓ DN200, 0 to 2 t/m ³ , Qty 1 ✓ DN150, 0 to 2 t/m ³ , Qty 1 ✓ DN250, 0 to 2 t/m ³ , Qty 2 D. Microwave Moisture Sensor ✓ 50 to 95% m, Qty 2
NM067/2022/B	Package B: Supply of Valves for Slurry and Water Duty, for New Paste Plant Construction	i. Lead time of delivery ii. Should Submit commercial proposal (prices) for the package's items below: - Knife Gate Valves (Pneumatic actuator, double acting with single acting, spring return solenoid) ✓ DN200, 1000Kpa, Qty 8 ✓ DN200, 2500Kpa, Qty 1 ✓ DN250, 1000Kpa, Qty 5 ✓ DN250, 2500Kpa, Qty 10 ✓ DN150, 1000Kpa, Qty 16

Submission of Proposals
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NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a proposal through this advertisement

Key Dates

- Last Date to Submit Proposals: 15 December 2022

North Mara Gold Mine Limited

Yes, CCM needs to work to restore popular esteem

WHILE the media and social hype were likely to be centred on a broadside comment at the just ended CCM general conference and electoral congress by former president Jakaya Kikwete that no one else can pick forms in CCM to contest the presidency in 2025, there was a lot more. One vital observation was made by the re-confirmed party chairperson, President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The president tasked the ruling party leadership countrywide to work to restore the image of the party, recalling that in the past people used to go to local CCM offices to seek help when they were aggrieved, unlike at present. Closing the two-day general meeting the party chairperson said pointedly that people no longer see the ruling party as their saviour. In expressing this view the party leader appeared to believe that it is possible for party leaders at the grassroots level to take a new approach to endear the party to the population generally.

Questions will linger on as to how far the party can go in that direction, and if it has the programme to take it to that level of trust, or it is split milk that the party must live with. The fact that the party leader made such a reference implies that it is within the CCM view of things that it gets accepted by the people, that it has their interests at heart. When such sentiment fades, chances are that people start drifting to opposition parties, in view of that they don't like in governance.

The president did indeed take a look at that aspect, raising the view that the ruling party is the mother party and everything it

does is examined intently, which means it still has the ability to endear itself to the people. It hasn't lost the confidence of the people, and past experience as well as recent experience of once bitter critics returning to the CCM fold is an illustration of this proximity to popular sentiment. CCM is still identified with what is good, despite hitches.

One elaborate concern at the conference was implementation of the CCM election manifesto, which admittedly was going on pretty well. Delegates raised issues of shortcomings which the chairperson said there was no time in the two days congress to respond to all those issues, but the party would provide answers by real deeds. It all has to do with removing complaints at the ward and district level on this or that social amenity that could complicate its drive in 2025. The tone was quite clear that gaps in popular expectations can be costly.

Essentially this is also an indication that 2025 is going to be a popularly contested election as the party is taking precautions on its image and how to shore up its performance. It isn't to assure its rank and file that the party is safe and impregnable, and CCM is also well immersed in democratic politics so they have to be reminded about unity around the party's leader in 2025.

When there are intense democratic sentiments in CCM, then democracy generally is safer, as democratic expression or contesting can't be removed from other groups of the population or political sentiment, without being removed from CCM, first.

Tourist arrivals surpassing 1m a sign that change is in the offing

WITH even with more tourists expected in the festive season, the government says that the number of tourist arrivals has increased from 922,692 in 2021 to 1,034,180 by September. Just how many may land by the time Christmas and New Year festival period is over cannot be said, but it is already a tremendous achievement. Its wider significance is that 'Destination Tanzania' is on the way up in terms of the world travel schedule, having stalled for a fairly long period.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pointed at the rise in tourist numbers in a presentation on what the government is doing in various sectors to execute the ruling party's election manifesto voted for in 2020 at the just ended electoral conference. While it is acknowledged that tourism is among the more important sectors in growth, jobs and revenue generation prospects, its actual or realisable potential has usually been less reflected in the numbers we attract. This might just be changing at the moment, whether it will be gradual or could change fast.

For one thing, there is a series of areas where Tanzania's image is improving among potential travellers around the world, especially in what is spread around by word of mouth. When there are many witnesses that Tanzania is a better place than other alternatives, either for investment or travel, it ignites evidence based interest in making the trip, as hearing from an authoritative person by and large makes that information valid. So it can easily be asserted that improving tourist numbers also has to do with an enhanced image of potential investment destination. Such images of a country aren't easily separated; they go in tandem.

The premier said that the government is investing heavily to

improve infrastructures in national parks and game reserves as well as diversifying tourist attractions to generate more visitations. The other factor also appreciated at the CCM congress was "The Royal Tour" documentary which President Samia Suluhu Hassan said was not part of the CCM manifesto but it was a good thing so it was undertaken. Yet despite what has been said about the documentary, it is arguable that the wider reformist image of the president created facilitating conditions for an excellent reception of the documentary.

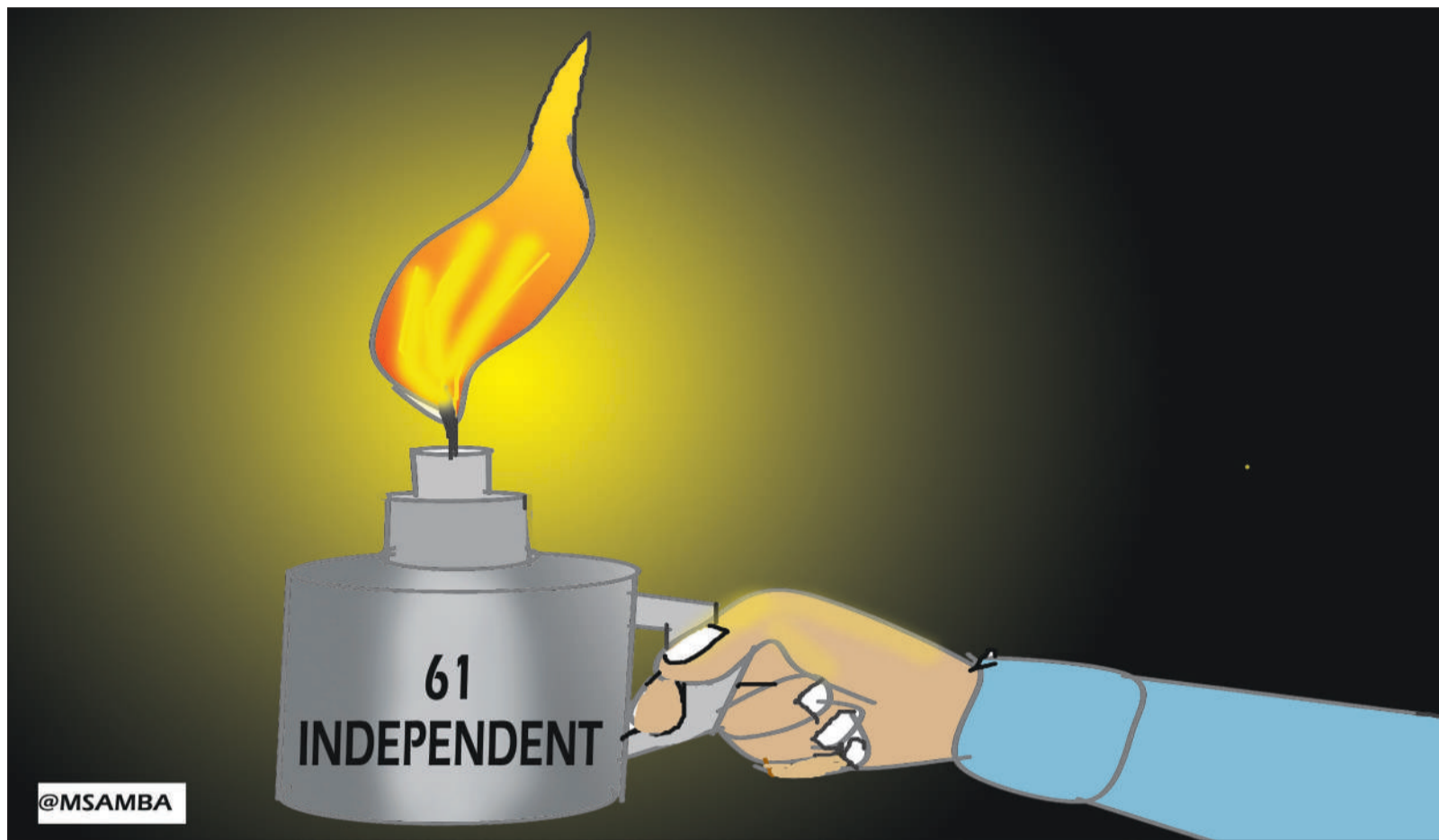
One source of tourism arrivals that the premier mentioned was a big tourist ship sailing from Florida in the United States with more than a thousand tourists from 35 countries that would arrive in Tanzania in due course. Taking out months at sea and visiting different places for a few days when a luxury liner anchors for a change of air is a usable tourist diversification so long as that destination welcomes tourists with open hands. Zanzibar is in the course of working on a 70 storey apartment building, suites and hotel rooms for long and short term business visitors as well as tourists. It is all part of the blue economy vision that the current Zanzibar authorities have laboured to project and anchor.

When it comes to its links with tourism, the blue economy and the sort of liberal facilities attached with it, including ease of accessing foreign exchange that local banks are in the process of solving at the country's key airports, as well as usable and relatively inexpensive luxury facilities for visitors, can help alter the picture. Far flung projections like Tanzania growing rapidly to become a centre of conference tourism are more complicated as the competition is likely to be more intense than targeting natural attractions, so long as other facilities are rightly handled.

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Nyerere helped to make Tanzania special by wit, principled wisdom

By Special Correspondent

TANZANIA (Mainland) marked 61 years of independence in a situation which, by all indicators, it has never had it well as it is at present. Despite that not everyone will admit as much in private or in public, there are features of success that are perhaps unique to Tanzania, and for reasons that no one really foretold or designed but some individuals played a crucial part in realizing pre-existing potentiality, and here the father figure of the Tanzanian state, the first president, Mwalimu Nyerere, stands in a unique position. Practically every aspect of his public and social life is an ingredient of the national psyche as a whole, very much a part of how we live.

Mwalimu had interesting combinations of outlook, first as

an eminent intellectual figure who commanded large academic audiences even without his being in power contributing to that influence. In the late 1970s at the University of Dar es Salaam, you listen to a conversation between senior students or tutorial assistants, and you hear there were two, three or at most four intellectuals who, if word spreads all of a sudden that in half an hour they will be at Nkrumah Hall, students and lecturers will leave what they are doing and go there. Lessons didn't need to be cancelled.

The first was President Nyerere; that students would battle with whatever constraints they faced to reach the hall and listen to Mwalimu, while close on his heels was exiled Kenyan political science don, the late Prof. Ali Mazrui. He built a name for himself in the 1960s at once as ardent admirer of the Tanzanian leader and often a biting critic as well. Students

and lecturers were sort of evaluating their attachment to Nyerere's ideas by being put to the test of Mazrui criticism, and usually came out impressed by the professor's intuitions/sarcasm, but unconvinced.

This admiration for what Mwalimu was doing, even if laced with a veneer of discontent on his role, was visible even as far away as the United States and Britain, at high levels of state. During the mid-1970s when President Nyerere was chairman of the Frontline States, coordinating foreign diplomacy on steps to be taken towards achieving majority rule especially for Zimbabwe, the matter once boiled in a major daily British newspaper.

The paper wrote a front page editorial at one point when Nyerere was in the UK and remained at the airport for the British prime minister to come and see him there; he did do, to the chagrin of Telegraph

conservative readership. 'Who is this arbiter of destiny (who we all must consult)?'

The answer Mwalimu gave as to why he was remaining at the airport instead of taking the road to see the prime minister at Chequers residence became a maxim of diplomacy that never left the lips of his erstwhile foreign minister (and earlier, top information aide), the late Benjamin Mkapa.

He kept reciting that 'the distance from here (airport) to Chequers is exactly the same as the distance from Chequers to (the airport)'. The hidden lesson was that it was the premier who ought to come to see the president and not vice-versa, and the fact that he obliged sent a shiver down the spine of conservatives. In truth, Nyerere was only saying we are equal to the British, by a clear illustration. It isn't wisdom we all had plentifully or to spare.

African industrialisation needs African free trade

By Special Correspondent

THE strong moves by the African Union towards the industrialisation of Africa, and it has just concluded an extraordinary summit on the topic, shows the vital importance of African to convert its huge deposits of raw materials into manufactured products.

That summit last week was extraordinary in several respects, and now just in its title as a summit outside the normal run of summits.

It is unusual for an AU summit to deal purely with practical economic issues, with political decision-making not just on the back burner, but not even on the agenda. The need for an entire continent to start moving forward rapidly was obvious, and the agenda was how to do this most swiftly.

It needs, as most of the economic experts made very clear, a set of common national positions. The first, in the modern world, is to ensure that the market is large enough.

A lot of African countries are quite small, with populations that are relatively modest, in the teens and twenties of millions and some even smaller.

There are a handful of giants in population, but not many.

This is why the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), is so critical. When established it will mean that things made in Africa, by Africans from African raw materials can be moved around the continent without attracting customs duties. The investors need not be African, but the rest has to come from the continent.

We have a group of regional common markets still in various processes of formation, and these have been on the books for more than three decades now. AfCFTA needs to

progress a lot faster.

When setting up a free-trade area there is a lot of work to be done, in drawing up things like rules of origin and ways of setting common standards.

But a lot of that leg-work should already have been done with the regional organisations, and considering that there was a strong preference from the start for these to use many of the same standards, they should fit together a lot better than would otherwise be possible.

But we need to move forward on converting the fairly strong political will into reality.

So the AU at its highest levels, like the summits, needs to become the major driver.

The need for industrialisation is obvious. Africa is still, by and large, a continent with the highest percentage of people involved in agriculture.

This cannot continue for ever, as we can see in Zimbabwe's case where census after census shows the steady fall in the percentage of the rural population, despite the fact that in actual numbers that population is rising or at least staying steady.

Land is limited, and while land reform opened a lot of opportunities now being exploited, it is a fact that not everyone who wants to farm can find a farm, and that will grow more obvious in time. We can maintain roughly what we have, and use more intensive farming to raise the existing farming families into the upper-middle income groups, but we are unlikely to expand their number, just their wealth.

While our birth rates are now fairly close to replacement levels, the result when you look around the world of giving girls and women equal access to education and ensuring decent primary and public health systems, our populations are still rising, and will

continue to rise until everyone born in the last 20 years, the Zimbabweans still to complete their education let alone start earning a living, are all old men and women.

Those livings will largely have to be earned outside agriculture, or more precisely outside direct farming. This does not mean that the new opportunities have to be in large towns and cities.

When we talk about rural industrialisation we are talking about a range of activity.

The two most important are local processing of farm produce and the sort of light industry that farming communities, especially those growing more mechanised and complex, need.

Local processing can cover a lot of area, but need not be basic.

To take an example from France, we have those ranges of local speciality foods known around the world, in small processing plants.

We have a modest group in the Champagne region converting the carefully selected grapes the farmers are paid to grow into the luxury end of the wine trade, with a string of processes required before someone packs bottles into a carton for the overseas customer.

So industry can cover the whole continuous range, from the new giant steelworks being built by Dinson Iron and Steel in Manhize, plus its smelters for alloy metals elsewhere plus its coking plant and power station in Hwange, to the village carpenter making a set of tables and chairs, or the small processing plant converting a nearby special fruit into something that can be a luxury brand.

But what all these have in common is turning a raw material there on the ground or under the ground into the intermediate raw material, like steel, or the final product, like a car.

Standing up for human rights involves recognising other people's dignity

By Telesphor Magobe

LAST week, we briefly looked at children's rights as stipulated in the Law of the Child Act (R.E. 2019), which provides for the promotion, protection and maintenance of the welfare and rights of the child (Section 2).

Thus, children have legal protection and need good (not harsh) upbringing, respect and fair treatment so that they may grow up as loving, caring, responsible and law-abiding citizens.

The bottom line was that if children are brought up in a friendly environment, they will likely make the best out of it. The proverb "Spare the rod, spoil the child" should be interpreted more positively as properly correcting the child than merely referring to inflicting corporal punishment (canning).

Today, I invite you to look at Human Rights Day, which is marked each year on December 10 as the culmination of 16 days of activism to end violence against women and girls (November 25 to December 10). This year's theme is "Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All" and the call to action is "stand up for human rights".

Flowers et al (2000) in their book entitled 'The Human Rights Education Handbook: Effective Practices for Learning, Action, and Change' define human rights as "rights that belong to every individual—man or woman, girl or boy, infant or elder—simply because she or he is a human being. They embody the basic standards



without which people cannot realise their inherent human dignity."

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) sets out fundamental human rights and freedoms every human being is entitled to by virtue of being a human being.

The Preamble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "the inherent dignity and...equal and inalienable rights of

all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world and disregard and contempt for human rights resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of humankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the

common people."

Furthermore, Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) states: "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood."

This means that in our freedom and equality in dignity and human rights in whatever we do we should show that we are endowed with reason and conscience and so we are expected to behave intelligently and responsibly without which dignity, freedom, and justice for all become an illusion.

In some countries the enjoyment of human rights is restricted or violated with impunity. The results are that civil and political rights are unduly restricted and where they are enjoyed they are treated as the state authority's favour to citizens.

Agnès Callamard, Secretary-General for Amnesty International in the Preface of "Amnesty International Report 2021/22: The State of the World's Human Rights" says: "If our leaders won't lead us to rights, then rights must lead us to each other. For that we must organise, support and enable a global movement for justice. We know that ultimately our future and our fate are intertwined and interdependent. We need to take charge - human rights charge - and demand together global governance for the rights of each one of us, to the exception of none of us, in the interests of all of us. Now, let's together - all of us - incubate that."

So, as we commemorate Human Rights Day we want to commit ourselves to creating a better and just world in which each person is recognised and respected for what he or she is. This is the world in which each person matters and we see each other as interdependent.

If we see each other in this way it means we will all work towards the realisation of human solidarity - that we are united in our diversity and not in uniformity where citizens are dictated to behave according to the wishes of those in power.

We are wary of leaders who take an oath to serve the country and its people, but in practice it is the people who serve them instead. It is in situations like this that on a day like today we reflect critically on and raise our voices and even if there is no voice heard the silence itself should be loud enough to be heard.

Article 9 of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania (1977) states that "...the state authority and all its agencies are obliged to direct their policies and programmes towards ensuring - (f) that human dignity is preserved and upheld in accordance with the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights." It is in perspective that we get the strength to stand up for the dignity, freedom, and justice for all and for human rights.

Today's proverb: "Those who do nothing generally take to shouting."

The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at tmagobe@gmail.com

To truly achieve human rights, the good starting point is food

By Maximo Torero

THIS year's Human Rights Day marks the 74th year since the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, an international document that enshrines the rights and freedoms of all people. The right to food became a legal obligation for countries to promote and protect as part of the economic, social and cultural rights in 1966.

That fundamental right every one of us is entitled to - to be free from hunger - is at risk today like never before. Amid multiple global crises, such as climate change, pandemics, conflicts, growing inequalities and gender-based violence, more and more people are falling into the hunger trap.

As many as 828 million people faced hunger in 2021, an increase of 150 million more people since 2019, before the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. Most recent projections indicate that more than 670 million people could still not have enough to eat in 2030.

It's a far cry from the

"zero hunger" target the world has ambitiously committed to less than a decade ago. It also shows just how deep inequalities run in societies across the world.

There is enough food to feed everyone in the world today. What is lacking is the capacity to buy food that is available because of high levels of poverty and inequalities. The war in Ukraine has made things worse. It shocked the global energy market, which has caused food prices to surge even more. This year alone saw an increase of \$25 billion in food import bills of the world's 62 most vulnerable countries, a 39 per cent increase relative to 2020.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, a health crisis rapidly evolved into a food crisis, as the virus caused a shortage of farm workers and threatened to break down food supply chains. It taught us the importance of understanding the interlinked challenges of meeting growing food demand while protecting environmental, social and economic sustainability, as envisaged under the Sus-



The gravity of the situation demands a holistic approach to tackle hunger problem. We must take a human rights-based approach so as to apply human rights principles in our efforts. Credit: Patrick Zachmann/Magnum Photos/FAO

tainable Development Goals.

Eighty percent of the global poor live in rural areas and rely on farming to survive. Many of them - women, children, Indigenous Peoples and people with disability - don't have access to food and are struggling with poor harvest, expensive seeds and fer-

tilizers, and lack of financial services. They are directly affected by the risks and uncertainties facing our agrifood systems.

The gravity of the situation demands a holistic approach to tackle the hunger problem. We have to fix our broken agrifood systems to make them more inclusive, resilient and sustainable.

It means that we must take a human rights-based approach so as to apply human rights principles in our efforts. International frameworks provide legal and policy guidance to achieve universal, fundamental human rights.

The United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural

Rights, for example, states that the right to food is indispensable for the fulfillment of other human rights. It emphasizes sustainability in that food must be accessible for both present and future generations. From availability, accessibility and healthy diets to food safety, consumer protection and the obligation of states to provide adequate food to their populations, it provides the foundation upon which to rebuild our agrifood systems.

Creating a coherent policy and legal framework around those core content will promote the right to food.

Since human rights are indivisible and interdependent, a human right cannot be enjoyed fully unless other human rights are also fulfilled. Advocating policies that promote other human rights - like health, education, water and sanitation, work and social protection - can positively impact the right to food as well.

Human Rights Day calls for dignity, freedom, and justice for all. Let us remember the critical role the right to food plays in achieving these important principles. And without these principles, we cannot reduce poverty or improve the well-being of all.

Food is fundamental to life. And it is key to strengthening our global efforts to find lasting solutions to today's challenges.

Maximo Torero is the Chief Economist of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Africa fights back against wildlife poachers, but drought is devastating

London

Elephant populations are starting to recover in parts of Africa as law enforcement agencies and local communities turn the tide in their long-running battle against wildlife poachers and traffickers.

But criminal gangs are constantly shifting tactics and exploiting other species, while the greatest threat now is posed by the severe drought devastating swathes of East Africa, displacing hundreds of thousands of people, threatening famine in Somalia, and killing off wildlife and livestock.

"Poaching of big game is going down in most countries," says Didi Wamukoya, senior manager of Wildlife Law Enforcement at African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), noting that poaching in Kenya and Tanzania of large iconic species for the international wildlife trade is now very rare. Elephant population numbers in those two countries are now increasing. It is a particularly dramatic turnaround for Tanzania, which lost some 60 percent of its elephants within a decade.

Wamukoya, who heads AWF's capacity training of law enforcement agencies to prosecute cases of wildlife trafficking, warns that criminals adapt. While elephants are faring better - also in part because major markets such as China have banned domestic trade in ivory - gangs trafficking to Asia are switching to other species, such as lions for their body parts, pangolins, and abalone.

Pangolins, which have been identified as a potential source of coronaviruses, are the most trafficked wild mammals in the world.

Combating cybercrime and enhancing the use of digital evidence in courts have become a key elements of AWF's work as criminals adapted to Covid-19 lockdowns. "Criminals live in society and are part of us, and they moved online too," Wamukoya told IPS in an interview, referring to social media platforms like Facebook used to market animals and wildlife products.

Much illegal wildlife trade - estimated by international agencies to be worth over \$20 billion a year globally - has moved online, but the actual poaching and transporting of smuggled animals and products across borders is the target of AWF's Canines for Conservation Programme, headed by Will Powell in Arusha, Tanzania.

Powell and his team train sniffer and tracker dogs as well as their handlers selected from ranger forces across Africa, including most recently Ethiopia.

"We are having to raise standards of our operations with dogs at airports as smugglers try to adapt and hide stuff in coffee, condoms, screened by tinfoil. First, rhino horn and ivory were the main target but now pangolin scales are the biggest thing, so dogs are trained on this," he tells IPS.

Trafficking in lion bones and teeth for Asian 'medicine' has also gone up as criminals switch from tigers. "We have to be sure dogs are up to date," he says.

Powell previously trained dogs to sniff out 32 kinds of explosives in the Balkans and says over 90 percent of dogs can find a smell after a year without exposure to it. A new smell can be introduced with just hours of training.

"Ivory is a range of smells from freshly killed to antique pieces. Dogs are amazing at how they figure it out, for example, by not responding to cow horn but picking out tortoises," he says.

AWF canine teams currently work in Botswana, Cameroon, Kenya.

Mozambique, Tanzania, and Uganda. All staff are local nationals. Since 2020 teams operating in Manyara Ranch and Serengeti National Park in Tanzania have made over 100 finds, resulting in multiple arrests.

No elephants in the Serengeti have been lost to the international wildlife trade since the canine teams have been in place.

AWF says that dog units across the six countries have uncovered over 440 caches that led to the arrest of over 500 suspects. Finds have included over 4.6 tonnes of ivory, 22kg of rhino horns, over 220 lion claws, 111 hippo teeth. Seven live pangolins were recovered, and over 4.5 tonnes of pangolin scales.

Dogs and their handlers are also impacting corruption among officials and law enforcement agencies.

"Dogs are an incorruptible tool," explains Wamukoya. Dealing with corruption is part of training for rangers and handlers. The transparency of their work and with handlers trained to send photos of seizures high up to authorities, corruption is made more difficult.

"Corruption is not zero but we are seeing light at the end of the tunnel," she says.

Tanzania has been known as the world's elephant killing fields, but a crackdown on poachers and traffickers in recent years has halted a horrendous decline in elephant numbers. On December 2, a Tanzanian high court sentenced to death 11 people for the murder of Wayne Lot-



A dog trained under Africa Wildlife Foundation's Canines for Conservation programme looks content with its handlers. Sniffer and tracker dogs deployed in six African countries have contributed to the arrests of over 500 suspects in the long-running fight against poachers and traffickers. Credit: Paul Joynson-Hicks

ter, a well-known South African conservationist who was shot in a taxi in Dar es Salaam in August 2017. The sentences are likely to be commuted to long jail terms.

Compiling accurate estimates of Africa-wide populations of various species, including big beasts such as elephants, is widely recognised as extremely difficult. So is the gathering of statistics on poaching and seizures of trafficked animals. The 2020 World Wildlife Crime Report by the UNODC attempts to

forced organised criminal groups to "adapt and quickly change their dynamics", possibly resulting in "illicit markets going even deeper underground, additional risks for corruption and shifts in market and transportation methodologies in the longer term".

It estimates some 157,000 elephants were poached between 2010 and 2018, an average of about 17,000 elephants per year. Data suggests a declining trend in poaching since 2011 but rising

in 'critically endangered' forest elephants in Central and West Africa because of loss of habitat and poaching.

The UNODC said a "trafficking trend of note" was more mixed seizures containing both ivory and pangolin scales together, singling out a container coming from the Democratic Republic of Congo on its way to Vietnam in July 2019, found to hold nearly 12 tonnes of pangolin scales and almost nine tonnes of ivory. The consignment

Support from governments outside Africa, particularly in Asia, is vital to tackle shifting markets and trading routes.

But now, the most devastating and immediate threat in East Africa is the worst drought in 40 years. Four consecutive seasons of drought over the past two years have taken a dramatic toll on people, livestock, and wildlife.

In early November, the Kenya Wildlife Service reported the deaths of 205 elephants, over 500 wildebeest, 381 common zebras, 49 endangered Grevy's zebras, and 12 giraffes within nine months. Rangers are removing tusks from dead elephants to stop poachers taking them.

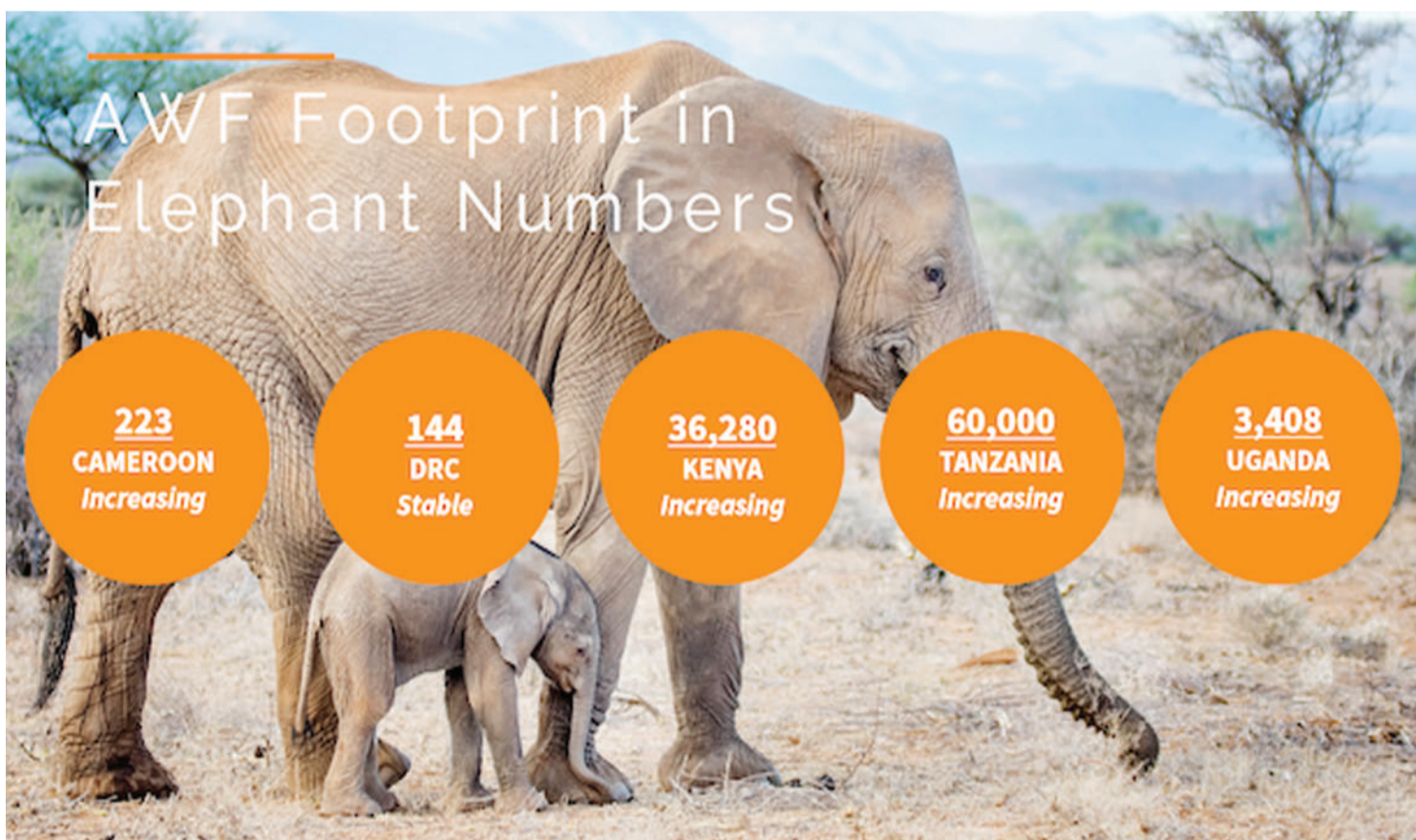
"It is a tragedy despite all our efforts," says Wamukoya. "Wildlife is not dying for poaching but it is drought and affecting the human population. Pastoral cattle communities no longer have pasture or food. Livestock are dying."

IFAW, a global non-profit that helps people and animals thrive together, quoted Evan Mkala, program manager for Kenya's Amboseli region, as saying he has never seen anything so devastating. "You can smell the rotting carcasses all around the area." He says poaching is back on the rise as people lacking food security are desperate for money to buy water and hay for their cattle.

The Horn of Africa is described by the UN World Food Programme as "a region at the intersection of some of the worst impacts of climate change, recurring humanitarian crises and insecurity".

It says over 22 million people face a severe hunger crisis in a swathe of territory covering parts of Somalia, Ethiopia, Djibouti, northern Kenya, and South Sudan. Over one million people have been displaced by drought; seven million livestock have died. A poor start to the October-December rains has initiated a fifth consecutive season of drought.

"This is the worst drought, the driest it's ever been in 40 years. So, we are entering a whole new phase in climate change," said Michael Dunford, WFP regional director for East Africa. "Unfortunately, we have not yet seen the worst of this crisis. If you think 2022 is bad, beware of what is coming in 2023. This means that we need to continue to engage. We cannot give up on the needs of the population in the Horn."



Elephant population statistics. Credit: AWF

unpick and track the trends since its 2016 edition, noting that lockdown measures taken by governments during the Covid pandemic

again slightly in 2017 and 2018. While elephant numbers are growing in Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya, there is a worrying decline

was declared as timber.

"It is possible that ivory traffickers, facing declining demand, are taking advantage of their established networks to move a commodity for which demand is growing: pangolin scales," the report said.

Save the Rhino International, a conservation charity, says poaching numbers have decreased across Africa since the peak of 1,349 in 2015, but still at least one rhino is killed every day. South Africa holds the majority of the world's rhinos and has been hardest hit by poachers.

These are hard-fought gains against wildlife traffickers that still need to be reinforced through support and training of law enforcement agencies, greater participation of local communities in conserving wild areas and wildlife, and reforms of legal systems.



A consignment of illegally trafficked pangolin scales and elephant ivory seized in Kenya. Pangolins are the most trafficked wildlife mammal in the world. Dogs trained by AWF have sniffed out a total of 4.5 tonnes of pangolin scales in six countries. Poaching of elephants and rhinos in Kenya is now rare as the government, local communities, and NGOs step up efforts to stop wildlife trade. Credit AWF

Call for urgent action in West and Central Africa as the region faces another year of record hunger

DAKAR

THE number of hungry people in West and Central Africa is projected to reach an all-time high of 48 million people, including 9 million children next year if urgent and long-lasting solutions to address this crisis are not delivered.

The latest Cadre Harmonisé food security analysis shows that over 35 million people (6.7 million children) in the region - approximately 8 percent of the assessed population - are currently unable to meet their basic food and nutrition needs.

In a joint statement at the annual meeting of the Network for the Prevention of Food Crisis in West Africa (RPCA) in Lomé (Togo), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Chil-

dren's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) urge governments across the region to increase support and investments in food security and nutrition programmes that reinforce the resilience of communities, and protect their livelihoods while reducing the risk of people falling into catastrophic food insecurity.

"The food and nutrition security outlook for 2023 is extremely worrying and this should be the last wake-up call for governments of the region and their partners," said Chris Nikoi, WFP's Regional Director for Western Africa Region.

Nikoi said: "Strengthening the resilience of communities has to become a singular and collective focus for us all if we are to pull this situation back from the precipice before it is too late."



"The Sahel is teetering on the brink of full-blown catastrophe; we are seeing food availability decline in most countries, and fertilizer prices are on the rise", said Robert Guei, FAO's Sub-regional

Coordinator for West Africa.

"This could have a negative impact on harvests next year and worsen an already-grave situation for many rural communities. We must act now to

shore-up rural livelihoods before it is too late" Guei added.

"The latest data indicates continuing unacceptably high levels of severe wasting for children in many countries in West

and Central Africa, leaving a devastating impact on the region's future," said Marie-Pierre Poirier, UNICEF Regional Director for West and Central Africa.

"We need to scale up

treatment and put much more attention on preventing child malnutrition through a multi-sectoral approach to reach every child," Poirier added.

Despite the good harvest prospects, improved market situation, and increased cereal production estimates across the region, food insecurity and malnutrition persist and are spreading from the Sahel toward coastal countries due to persistent insecurity, climate shocks, high food prices, the economic fallout from COVID-19, and the impact of the conflict in Ukraine.

Across Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Togo, the Cadre Harmonisé analysis reveals a 20 percent increase in food insecurity in the last quarter of 2022, compared to the same period last year.

In Nigeria alone, 25 mil-

lion women, men and children are facing moderate or worse food insecurity, meaning they can easily fall into an emergency food security situation if no immediate response is provided.

FAO, UNICEF and WFP will reinforce and expand their ongoing support to national social protection systems that are responsive to shocks and sensitive to nutrition for pregnant women, nursing mothers, young children and adolescents.

Building on existing systems at local, national and regional levels - and with the full participation of local communities - the three UN agencies will also scale up their medium to longer-term solutions aiming to reinforce the resilience of crisis-affected communities while supporting peace building and peaceful co-existence.

EAC member states to postpone launching Monetary Union, Single Currency rollout

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

A special task-force has proposed to delay the implementation of the East African Monetary Union (EAMU) until 2031 from initial date of 2024, saying it is too soon considering members have not attained all requirements.

The proposed delay is an indictment on the members' commitment to achieve EAMU, a key pillar of integration. The EAMU is the third pillar of the East African Community (EAC), others being the Customs Union and the Common Market Protocol.

"The region, under EAMU, was originally expected to adopt a single currency by 2024. "We have a roadmap that was supposed to be implemented between 2013, when the Monetary Union protocol was signed, and 2024. But we did not manage to implement most of the activities in that roadmap," Pantaleo Kessy, EAC's principal economist commented.

However, the review conducted by the task-force has shown that



all the partner states, namely Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and South Sudan, are behind schedule.

According to the EAMU roadmap, four broad prerequisites need to be achieved ahead of the

establishment of the Monetary Union and the first one includes the full implementation of the Customs Union and Common Market protocols.

Both the Customs Union and Common Market Protocols are currently under

implementation.

Although much progress has been made, the protocols are not yet fully implemented because partner states are at different levels of implementation.

Another obstacle hindering

the progress toward the EAMU stems from the fact that not all partner states have attained the four macroeconomic convergence criteria, for the implementation of the monetary union.

Joint collaboration spearheading tourism digitisation in Tanzania

By Special Correspondent

BETTER days for the tourism industry in Tanzania are in the offing thanks to the UNWTO Academy for imparting tour operators with pertinent digital marketing skills.

Dubbed "On-site modules training on tourism digitization," is the brainchild of two key UN agencies, namely the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Academy under the auspices of the Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO).

The first UNWTO Academy digital tourism training of its kind for Tanzania tour operators covered marketing, online events, e-commerce, sales optimization, web analytics, business intelligence, and customer relationship management.

In view of the growing importance of tourism in the Tanzanian economy and the need to develop the necessary digital skills in the subsector, the UNDP Tanzania has requested UN-

WTO's technical assistance in the implementation of key activities related to building digital capacities of related stakeholders to stimulate and accelerate tourism recovery.

In 2019, the tourism sector was the second largest economic sector contributing 17% to the national GDP, and it was estimated to be the 3rd source of employment, in particular for women, which make up 72% of all workers in the tourism industry.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the World Bank estimates that Tanzania's GDP growth decelerated to 2% in 2020. Tourism business slowed and the 72% drop in the tourism's revenues in 2020 (from 2019 levels) closed businesses and caused layoffs.

Zanzibar's economy was even more severely impacted with GDP growth slowing to an estimated 1.3%, driven by a collapse of the tourism industry.

While the Zanzibar tourism industry started slowly rebounding in the last quarter of 2020 with tourist inflows in De-

cember 2020 reaching almost 80% of those in 2019, receipts from tourism fell by 38% for the year.

Considering the impact COVID-19 can have to the tourism industry of Tanzania, UNWTO has expressed its willingness to assist the country with capacity building programs in different topics related to digital marketing and communication in international tourism.

"Growth of the tourism industry is an attractive sustainable economic development option for Tanzania with great potential to create jobs and boost employment. For this to happen, the country requires a highly skilled, qualified, and motivated human capital base, and the UNWTO Academy is here to assist the country with capacity building programs," said Dr Jasmina Locke on behalf of the UNWTO Academy.

The Executive Education Program Assistant at the UNWTO Academy, Tijana Brkic, said that the idea behind the program is to facilitate seamless travel and tourism operations through ap-

plication of digital innovative marketing and other solutions.

"It will also support the packaging of value for money and competitive tourism products as a way of building back faster and stronger destination," Brkic said in an exclusive interview.

Equally important, the scheme intends to restore confidence in the source markets including other travelers depending on the motive of travel, like either for business, volunteering work, study, amp, and research.

"At the end, the project wants to restore hope within the local economies especially those who have lost their jobs because of the COVID-19 pandemic," she explained.

It goes without saying that digital marketing is used by so many businesses of different industries and has proven its worth in delivering many more leads to them. And of course, more leads mean more business, and more business means more profit.

The travel industry in Tanzania is no different and

UN says illicit trafficking in cultural property harms the Africa's identity

NAIROBI

THE United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has said the illicit trafficking in cultural property harms Africa's identity.

Hubert Gijzen, UNESCO regional director for Eastern Africa said in a speech read on his behalf by Misako Ito, the regional adviser for communication and information for Africa at UNESCO that illicit export of physical cultural objects has been practiced throughout the history of the continent in various forms and with different intentions.

"The scourge threatens, in the long run, the very identity, history, and memory of the African peoples," Ito said in Nairobi, Kenya's capital, during a capacity-building workshop on the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property in eastern Africa.

The five-day forum aimed to raise awareness and build capacity on the importance of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

Ito called on all stakeholders to join forces in the protection of Africa's rich heritage because they represent unique instruments of cultural diplomacy.

She observed that certain works of art and culture play a critical role in the history of communities from where they were taken and the severing of the cultural property deprives people of their heritage because it is unjust for the symbols linking them to be denied, and for the roots that have taken hold to be severed.

According to Ito, eight countries in the Eastern Africa region including Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, and Tanzania have ratified the 1970 Convention on the illicit transfer of cultural objects.

Peninah Malonza, Kenya's Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage Cabinet Secretary said that the COVID-19 pandemic worsened illicit trafficking in cultural property in the Eastern Africa region and increased the challenges that now include large-scale looting and illegal online sales.

Malonza said that Kenya is keen to ensure that it puts in place robust preventive measures and commits to engaging in inter-regional and international cooperation to eliminate the illicit trafficking of cultural objects.

She noted that Kenya is also fast-tracking the ratification of the 1970 Convention on the illicit transfer of cultural objects so that it can join other state parties to the agreement.

Malonza said the ratification of the convention will further reinforce the role and contribution of culture as an enabler for the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

BUSINESS



Oil sets for steep weekly loss on slowdown fears

SINGAPORE

Oil headed for a weekly loss of around 10% after a volatile period of trading as concerns over the economic outlook overshadowed an easing of China's strict virus curbs and a disruption to US crude flows.

While West Texas Intermediate futures climbed to trade near \$72 a barrel on Friday, the US benchmark along with Brent crude have recently given up all of their gains this year. The oil market is also facing a persistent lack of liquidity that has left prices prone to large swings.

The shutdown of the Keystone pipeline after a spill roiled the flow of crude across the US, but traders are betting that at least one segment of the conduit will restart soon. Prices initially surged after the news before reversing gains to close lower on Thursday, capping a fifth day of declines.

"Oil has been dragged lower by broader recession fears that accompany global monetary policy tightening," said Vishnu Varathan, the head of Asia economics and strategy at Mizuho Bank Ltd. "And given the lags in monetary policy, a 'wall of tightening' may hit the global economy yet."

Crude is on track for its first back-to-back quarterly drop since mid-

2019 on a souring economic outlook as central banks tighten monetary policy, although Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen still sees the US avoiding a recession. Traders are also assessing the fallout from a price cap on Russian oil, which has led to a jam of tankers in Turkish waters due to a standoff over insurance.

There's widespread unease among oil-reliant economies over the cap imposed by Group of Seven nations, according to Oman's energy minister, citing concern it could extend to other countries. Still, for now, Russia sees the price limit having a limited effect on its crude production.

The market continues to signal ample near-term supply, with the prompt spread – the difference between the two nearest contracts – for both WTI and Brent holding in contango. The global benchmark was 44 cents a barrel in contango, compared with \$1.44 in backwardation a month earlier.

"The oil market retracement is, in our opinion, a function of paper markets selling into low liquidity air pockets rather than indication of a distressed physical market," according to a note from RBC Capital Markets LLC. "Physical barrels are not indicating signs of fire sale."

Dryness of Great Ruaha River affects tourism, energy sectors

By Guardian Reporter

The dried Great Ruaha River, the main source of water for living organisms at Ruaha National Park and main source of water for Mtera hydroelectric power dam, is continuing to affect the sustainability of tourism and energy sector in Tanzania.

Currently, no water from its sources is flowing to fill Mtera dam, which its shrinking water level has caused the reduction of electricity generations, and millions of animals, fish and birds are vanishing due to lack of water for drinking.

The great Ruaha River sources-Ihefu wetland- is also expected to contribute 15 percent of water source for the newly constructed Julius Nyerere Hydroelectric Power Project (JNHPP), the 2,100MW project which is in its final stages of construction.

John Masuki, the senior conservation officer- security at Ruaha National Park say the river dried not because of the climate change, but mostly the increased economic activities along Usangu valley and Ihefu wetland, especially irrigation farming and livestock keeping.

He said unless formidable measures are taken to reduce economic activities in the main sources of Great Ruaha River along Usangu valley, tourism activities at Ruaha National park, which is the main source of revenue, and electricity generation to three hydropower projects of Mtera, Kidatu and JNHPP will be a history.

According to him, the area of Usangu Valley and Ihefu wetland, which are the main water source and reservoir to great Ruaha River has currently shrunk to 10-20 square kilometres from 83 square kilometres in 1974 due to increasing



Small water pot holes remained along Great Ruaha River, which serves both the Ruaha National Park and electricity generation projects Photo by Guardian Photographer

irrigation activities, fishing and livestock keeping.

To the maximum, in order to maintain sustainable water flows from the main sources to great Ruaha River via Usangu and Ihefu, the wetland area need to be expanded to at least 48 square kilometres.

He said since 2000 to 2020, agricultural activities, which consume large quantity of water, which would have been flowing to Great Ruaha River to Mtera and Kidatu energy projects, increased by 1,349 percent, while the population grew by 103 percent.

Irrigation farming area has increased by 500 percent to 105,000 hectares in 2015 from

only 14,000 hectares in 1985 and this has caused big chunk of water to Great Ruaha River to end up in farms, while increasing soil sedimentation on the river, causing shallow depth and reducing the river bank ability to store water during rain season. During similar period, according to conducted researches, the wetland area has been reduced by 36 percent; water area has been reduced by 57 percent and forest cover shrunk by 45 percent.

It is therefore suggested that, in order to mitigate this consequences, there is a need of completion of demarcation of the Ruaha National Park as stated in the government notice number

28 and its amendment, to remove all intruders along Usangu valley and remove all livestock along the valley.

It is also recommended that the government should prepare proper land use programme, formulate strategies to manage Great Ruaha River water sources, to suspend river water diversion, suspend improper farming and introduce tree planting programme.

Other suggested measures include finding alternative ways to enable animals at the park to access water, ongoing with provision of public conservation campaign and improve patrols in the park.

DR-Congo, Rwanda, Burundi imports cargo at Dar port up

By Guardian Reporter

Import cargo through Dar es Salaam port to Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda and Burundi increased last year when compared with 2020, the central corridor transport observatory annual-report-2021 has said.

According to the report, import cargo to three countries amounted 2.9 million tonnes, with DRC recording the highest increase.

During the year, there was a gain for DRC's share of Central Corridor imports from 9 percent in 2020 to 12 percent in 2021.

The report shows import cargo through Dar Port to Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was observed to be 1.67 million tons in 2021. The cargo volume observed in

2021 was higher than that of 2020 by 38% (462,654 tons).

At 38% increase during the year, it shows a remarkable upturn from the performance in 2020 whereby cargo volume had declined by 3%, owing to COVID-19 shocks.

Monthly average volume of imports was 139,500 tons, increasing from 101,000 tons observed in the months of 2020.

This means that DRC recorded the second largest importer through the port of Dar and speediest annual increase between 2020 and 2021 (38%).

Monthly performance of import cargo for DRC had the same level of fluctuation in 2021 and 2020 at 18% around the monthly average, which is considered stable.

A linear model of trend

in monthly cargo volume during the year 2021 shows steady increasing pattern with the line fitting 76.6% of the information.

According to the report, import cargo through Dar Port to Rwanda was observed to be 1.33 million tons in 2021.

The cargo volume observed in 2021 was higher than that of 2020 by 10% (123,542 tons). At this level, the monthly average volume of imports was 110,655 tons, increasing from 100,360 tons observed in the months of 2020.

Rwanda imports through Dar Port recorded an upturn in growth in 2021 (10%) compared to year before when it increased by 0.1%, owing to the COVID-19 impacts.

Fluctuations of monthly import cargo for Rwanda had decreased in 2021

compared to 2020. In 2021, monthly imports fluctuated at 11% around the annual average, compared to 20% observed in 2020.

However, Rwanda import volume displayed non-linear monthly trend during the year 2021, indicating seasonal fluctuations whereby a polynomial fit (order 5) would predict 71.6% of the information compared to only 10% of the data that would have been explained by linear path.

This means, the monthly cargo volume had changing patterns of increase and decline about four times in a year and that successive monthly volumes were informed by inventories of previous months.

The report also shows import cargo through Dar Port to Burundi was

observed to be 0.5 million tons in 2021.

The cargo volume observed in 2021 was higher than that of 2020 by 30,641 tons or equivalent of 6.6%. At this level, the monthly average volume of imports was 41258.24 tons, increasing from an average of 38,705 tons typical of the months of 2020.

Furthermore, imports through Dar Port to Burundi had recorded similar level of growth in 2021 and 2020 (6.6% versus 7.9% respectively).

However, it was one member state that recorded lower increase in 2021 than 2020, a year of COVID-19 shocks.

Fluctuations in monthly trends of import cargo for Burundi had similar levels in 2021 and 2020 at 18% around the annual average.

The pattern of cargo volume in the months of 2021 displayed a weak polynomial path (order 4), indicating seasonal fluctuations where a polynomial fit would predict 59% of the information compared to 0% of the data that would have been explained by linear path.

This means, the monthly cargo volume had changing patterns of increase and decline about three times in a year and that successive monthly volumes were weakly informed by inventories of previous months and neither had smooth growths within the year.



UK now extends crypto currency assets tax break

LONDON

The UK has confirmed it will extend tax breaks for investment managers to cover crypto assets, after Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said he wanted to make the country a crypto hub.

In October, minister Andrew Griffith said he wanted to "tentatively seize" crypto opportunities, and promised a consultation on how to use new legislative crypto powers contained in the Financial Services and Markets Bill before the Christmas holiday.

In a package of financial services reforms unveiled today, setting out how to replace European Union banking and financial-market laws, the Treasury said it would extend an existing tax break, which allows investors to use a U.K.-based manager without drawing extra tax

liability, to the crypto sector. The change will be made via regulations this year.

The Treasury also said it will implement a "sandbox" to test out innovative financial market infrastructures next year, and will consult on a digital pound in the coming weeks.

In April, Rishi Sunak, then finance minister and now prime minister, said he wanted to make the U.K. a global crypto hub. While U.K. regulator the Financial Conduct Authority has already tentatively set out how it would use new crypto powers, some in the industry have warned that new advertising restrictions could prove unduly complex.

A Treasury spokesperson did not respond to a CoinDesk request for comment on the status of the wider consultation on crypto regulations.

Gov't undertakes key reforms to improve business environment

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government has promised to continue undertaking measures to improve the performance of the business environment upon which the manufacturing sector could thrive and reducing cost of doing business.

The promise was issued yesterday in Dar es Salaam by the director of industry development in the ministry of industry and trade, Christopher Mramba, when he was opening the annual Symposium of Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI).

He said some of the key reforms undertaken include the implementation of recommendations from the Blueprint for Regulatory Reforms to improve Business Environment and several other interventions which seek to develop a roadmap towards a reduction in the cost of doing business.

"CTI has been one of the leading business associations in assisting the government to address some of the challenges affecting the business community in the Country. Your valu-



The Director of Business Development in the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment, Christopher Mramba speak during the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) Annual General Meeting and Symposium held on Thursday in Dar es Salaam. (Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole)

able recommendations to improve trade related rules and regulations governing industrial development have contributed to a better business environment for industries to explore existing opportunities, expand and establish new ventures," he said.

He called upon all members share

their views on how to successfully implement the responsible business practices adding that their input will form the basis for suggestions on remedial measures that the government achieve the much-anticipated goals on sustainable industrialization and poverty

alleviation.

The objective of this symposium is aligned with the 6th phase government's development agenda seeks to transform the country into a semi-industrialized economy characterized by increased contribution of the industrial sector

in the growth of the country's economy.

He told manufacturers to continue with production through technically and economically sound processes that minimize negative environmental impacts, while conserving energy and natural resources.

CTI Chairman Paul Makanza, argued Tanzanian manufacturers to use available local resources to produce various products the move he said will reduce the cost of their product and compete to those imported.

He said Tanzania is blessed with abundant natural resources which can be used to produce many products with highest quality something that will help to reduce dependence of importations of products.

"In this annual Symposium we look on what we do concerning (SDGs) to reduce poverty, hunger and how we can reduce carbon in our daily activities and also we discussed how we can improve workers welfare especially their working environment," he said

Makanza said they also reminded to avoid child labor because many international companies cannot do business with company that entertains child labor.

Makanza also thanked the government for implementation of blue print to improve business environment in the country and reduce some nuisance taxes and other bureaucratic procedures.

AGRA trains African food systems leaders

By Guardian Reporter

Forty food systems leaders from Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Ethiopia have graduated from the AGRA-led Centre for African Leaders in Agriculture's (CALA) Advanced Leadership Programme in Nairobi, Kenya.

CALA was launched in August 2021, as an AGRA-led initiative, to provide practical training for African leaders in the agriculture sector.

They were awarded certificates in the Advanced Leadership Programme for Africa's Food Security and Sustainability after completing a 16-month training, designed to equip them with the practical leadership skills for effective implementation of national agriculture programmes prioritised in their respective countries.

This was the second of three regional graduation ceremonies scheduled for CALA's inaugural cohort of 80 delegates who were competitively selected from eight countries - Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Malawi, Ghana and Nigeria - for the 16-month programme last year.

The first graduation ceremony for 20 delegates from Ghana and Nigeria was held on November 30, 2022, in Accra, Ghana, in a function presided over by Dr Solomon Gyan Ansah, Director of Crops Services in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Twenty delegates from Tanzania and Malawi will be feted in Malawi in January 2023. Dr. Ansah noted the CALA programme's responsiveness to climate change mitigation and adaptation. "I am delighted by the delegates' deployment of environmentally friendly practices, tools and techniques to solve for food systems challenges."

The East African graduation was presided over by Mr Philip Kello Harsama, Principal Secretary in the State Department for Crop Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

Mr Harsama commended AGRA for supporting the Ministry to achieve its objectives, and for heeding to its promise of supporting sector leadership as they work to advance food systems transformation.

During the ceremony, the delegates presented preliminary results of their Action Learning Projects, a unique aspect of CALA's leadership training.

In Kenya this included the use of nutritious pre-cooked "fast food legumes" used in school feeding programmes, and an innovative access to finance model for dairy farmers. Ugandan delegates worked on enhancing protection of fish breeding areas, while in Rwanda they focused on improving production and commercialization of maize.

Ethiopian delegates' projects were on gender-responsive climate adaptation and on increasing the country's self-sufficiency in wheat through flour blends.

Mr Harsama highlighted CALA's collaborative spirit which brings together government, private sector and civil society to jointly solve food security challenges.

"One of the biggest challenges we face today is moving from decision making to action. Transformation beckons, with many of the technologies, financing mechanisms, practices and policies necessary for change in place. Yet all these require a spark. That spark, which CALA provides, is collaborative leadership. That is the ability to work together in all our diversity as leaders, to solve problems for the good of many," he said.

Dr Agnes Kalibata, AGRA's President, said CALA is building a critical mass of African leaders who are committed to cross-sector collaboration and innovation in food systems.

"CALA actively provides that practical space for peer learning, exchange and networks and we hope this scales and influences change for the agriculture sector. It is laudable how you have brought together your energies from government, private sector and civil society to implement solutions on various food systems focus areas."

The graduates join a growing continental network of leaders who have distinguished themselves advancing national food security goals.

Gov't to enhance artificial insemination for cattle

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Mufindi

The ministry of livestock and fisheries has started a program to encourage artificial insemination as part of producing quality and productive livestock.

This was said by the minister of livestock and fisheries, Mashimba Ndaki during the launch of the distribution of dairy cows to farmers in Nyololo and Maduma wards, Mufindi district, Iringa region recently, through the Nyololo Animal Gift Project by World Vision Tanzania (WVT).

Ndaki explained that until now they have distributed 336 bulls to 10 district councils, and bulls will stay there to breed with indigenous female cows.

The government will also buy improved cows for government farms throughout the country.

"For this fiscal year, the government has bought 1,160 dairy cows for reproduction and distribution to individual livestock keepers to replace the livestock they have..." said Ndaki.

The World Vision Tanzania (WVT) project expects to distribute 300 cows to farmers and has so far distributed 140 cows.



The Minister of Livestock and Fisheries, Mashimba Ndaki (standing) speaks during the launch of the distribution of dairy cows to farmers in Nyololo and Maduma wards in Mufindi district (Photo by Friday Simbaya).

The minister said the government has bought a large sperm production plant for insemination and during financial year 2022/23, will inseminate more than 373,000 cattle countrywide.

Ndaki said that the goal is to have crossbred cows

capable of producing a lot of milk.

Senior director of World Vision Tanzania, Dr. Joseph Mayala asked the government to add experts to help local farmers improve cattle breeding.

He said that the Nyololo

Animal Gift project started this year and involves the distribution of 300 dairy cows, 600 pigs and 4,000 chickens to farmers.

Dr. Mayala said that a total of 3,600 citizens are expected to benefit from the project funded by World Vi-

sion USA and implemented by World Vision Tanzania in Mufindi.

Speaking at the launch of the project Dr. Mayala said that the project will cost 1.4bn/- benefiting seven (7) villages of Mufindi district.

He said that the aim of the

project is to improve the value chain by providing three (3) types of livestock which are Dairy Cows, Chickens and Pigs and various types of garden crops for the improvement of nutrition through groups of vegetables and fruits such as avocado, passion fruit, Chinese, carrot and cabbage.

Mufindi District Commissioner Saad Mtambule said citizens and beneficiaries of World Vision Tanzania projects should give sufficient cooperation and take care of the projects to bring benefits to all citizens.

Mtambule said that the project is going to solve the problem of nutrition for the people of the district and remove the stunting that has been tormenting the people of the district. He said that any member of the public who comes forward to destroy the project, the government will take strict legal measures to control the destruction of the projects and help the people to benefit from the project.

DC Mtambule said that the cows will help raise the income of the people because the animals are cared for at international standards so the beneficiaries will get the best cows that will give them great benefits.

Absa supports reproductive health programme

By Francis Kajubi

ABSA Bank Tanzania has donated 15mn/- to EngenderHealth in facilitation of the implementation of its 'Education on reproductive health program' targeting teenage girls in schools and people with disabilities.

Speaking at the handing over of the dummy cheque held on Thursday in Dar es Salaam, Aron Luhanga Absa head of marketing and corporate relations said the donation is part of over 100mn/-

the bank has extended to the public through the corporate social responsibility (CSR) window.

"Absa's vision is seeing the country's health sector transformed to serving the low end community to the best of their wishes. We would like to have a country where girls are free from early pregnancies and hospitals with smart maternity wards for pregnant women," said Luhanga.

According to him, through 2022, the bank had extended donations to the public sector targeting the

education, water, sanitary and health sectors in support of the government's efforts in creating a better life for all.

Agnes Mgaya, Dar es Salaam reproduction health coordinator who graced the event as the guest of honor, commended the bank for its dedicated efforts in protecting girls in schools from early pregnancies by supporting related programs.

"We really need more sensitization programs to the general public on protection of girls if we are

to realize gender equality in education and opportunities;

Teachers in schools and parents at home must collaborate to ensure the safety of teenage girls. We need to know what time a girl is supposed to be sending to market errands as many incidents such rape occurs on the way," said Mgaya.

According to her, a slice of the donated money will be allocated to Buguruni ward to facilitate youth sensitization programs on gender equality and fighting gen-

der based violence.

Accepting the donation, EngenderHealth Country representative Moke Magoma said that the money will also be dedicated to capacitating the ability and skills of midwives from Buguruni health center in the city.

"Absa has been working with us for over two decades by giving part of its profit back to the community. We have been good partners for all this while and we do hope for further support so that we can uplift the needy," said Magoma.

World's top money managers see stock gains in 2023

NEW YORK

Some of the world's biggest investors predict that stocks will see low double-digit gains next year, which would bring relief after global equities, suffered their worst loss since 2008.

Amid recent optimism that inflation has peaked – and that the Federal Reserve could soon start to change its tone – 71% of respondents in a Bloomberg News survey expect equities to rise, versus 19% forecasting declines. For those seeing gains, the average response was a 10% return.

The informal survey of 134 fund managers incorporates the views of major investors including BlackRock Inc., Goldman Sachs Asset Management and Amundi SA. It provides an insight into the big themes and hurdles they expect to be grappling with in 2023 after inflation, the war in Ukraine and hawkish central banks battered equity returns this year.

The stock market could be derailed again by stubbornly high inflation or a deep recession, however. Those are the top worries for the upcoming year, cited by 48% and 45% of participants, respectively. Stocks could also reach new lows early in 2023, with many seeing gains skewed to the second half.

“Even though we might face a recession and falling profits, we have already discounted part of it in 2022,” said Pia Haak, chief investment officer at Swedbank Robur, Sweden's biggest fund manager. “We will have better visibility coming into 2023 and this will hopefully help markets.”

Even after a recent rally, the MSCI All-Country World Index is on track for its worst year since the global financial crisis in 2008. The S&P 500 will probably end 2022 with a similarly poor performance.

The energy crisis in Europe and signs of slower economic growth have kept a lid on stock prices even as China begins to ease some of its tough Covid curbs. Plus, there are growing fears that the slowdown already underway in many economies will eventually take a bite out of earnings.

Indian banks raise US\$2 billion from infrastructure bonds

MUMBAI

Indian banks have raised \$2 billion through infrastructure bonds over the last two weeks, anticipating a revival in private capital expenditure and increased government spending, analysts said.

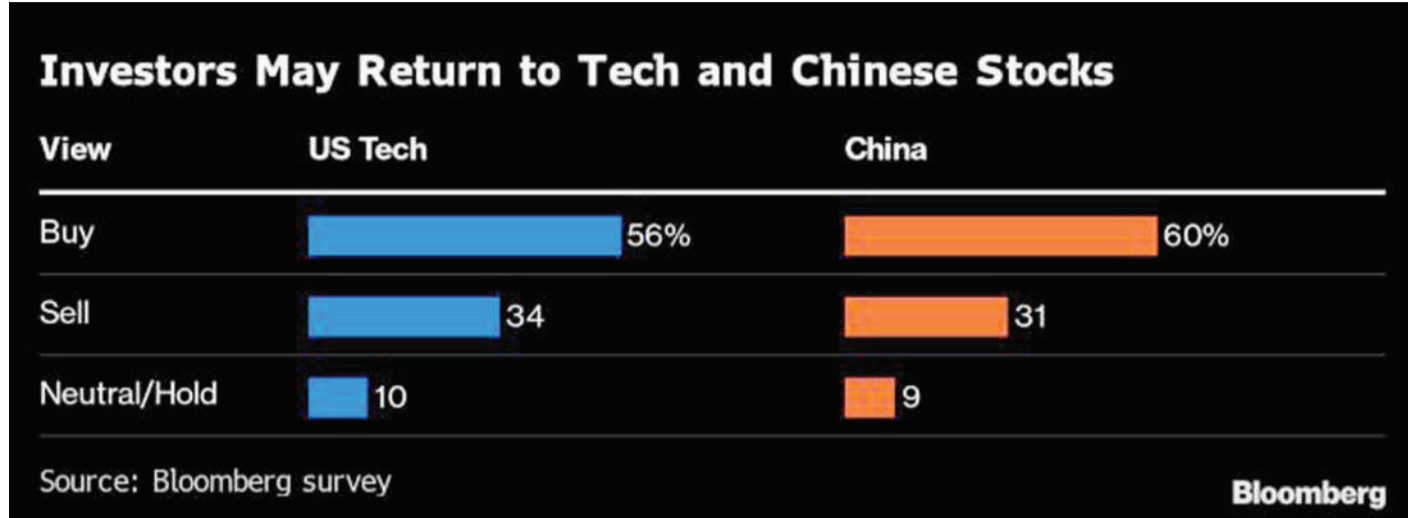
Two private lenders and one state-run bank have tapped the market to raise funds using these bonds in this period. Last week, the nation's largest lender State Bank of India raised 100 billion Indian rupees (\$1.22 billion) in the largest such issue.

“There is a revival in demand for infrastructure funds as economic activity picks up,” said Ajay Manglunia, managing director and head of investment grade group at JM Financial. “Hence banks that are focused on this sector are raising huge sums of money which would be deployed,” Manglunia added.

Infrastructure bonds are issued to finance long-term development projects.

Other banks that raised similar funds include ICICI Bank, which concluded a 50 billion rupees seven-year bond issue this week, and Kotak Mahindra Bank that garnered 15 billion rupees.

Several private lenders like Axis Bank and HDFC Bank are also planning infrastructure bonds in coming weeks, said merchant bankers, who spoke on condition of anonymity since their plans have yet to be firm.



The Bloomberg survey was conducted by reporters who reached out to fund managers and strategists at major investment firms between Nov. 29 and Dec. 7. Last year, a similar survey predicted that aggressive policy tightening by central banks would be the biggest threat to stocks in 2022.

Hideyuki Ishiguro, senior strategist at Nomura Asset Management, expects 2023 to be the “exact opposite of this year.” Part of that is due to valuations, which have slumped to leave the MSCI ACWI trading near its long-term average forward 12-month price-to-earnings ratio.

When it comes to specific sectors, respondents generally favored companies that can defend earnings through an economic downturn. Dividend payers and insurance, health care and low volatility stocks were among their picks, while some preferred banks and emerging markets including India, Indonesia and Vietnam.

After being hammered this year as interest rates climbed, US technology stocks may also come back in favor, according to the survey. More than half of respondents said they'd selectively buy the sector.

With valuations still relatively cheap despite the recent rally and bond yields expected to fall next year, tech behemoths including Apple Inc., Amazon.com Inc. and Google parent Alphabet Inc. are expected to benefit, fund managers said.

Some are bullish on China, particularly as it moves away from Covid zero. A slump earlier this

year has put valuations well below their 20-year average, making them more attractive compared with US or European peers.

Evgenia Molotova, senior investment manager at Pictet Asset Management, said she would be a selective buyer of Chinese shares “at current levels,” preferring industrials, insurance and health care in China.

In the Bloomberg survey, the 10% gain predicted for

stocks in 2023 would fall short of previous market rebounds, such as in 2009 and 2019.

For fund managers, better news on inflation and growth could be the catalysts for a stronger performance. Almost 70% of respondents said they were the main potential positive factors. They also cited a full China reopening and a ceasefire in Ukraine as upside triggers.

The emphasis on inflation and growth as the make-or-

break elements is in line with the findings of Bank of America Corp.'s latest fund manager survey. It showed recession expectations were at the high since April 2020, while a “stagflation” scenario of low growth and high inflation was “overwhelmingly” the consensus view.

Such worries look warranted. According to Bloomberg Economics, the global economy is heading for its weakest performance in years, exclud-

ing the financial crisis and Covid periods. The IMF said last month the situation is rapidly worsening.

“The outlook from here onward will be influenced by the probability, depth and longevity of recession,” said Fabiana Fedeli, chief investment officer for equities, multi-asset and sustainability at M&G. “There are still pockets of opportunity where companies with strong fundamentals that are able to weather the storm get sold off in times of market panic.”

Heading into year-end, the market direction hinges on two key events coming next week – US inflation data on Tuesday and the Fed policy decision a day later. Some good news has emerged here: price increases have started to cool after hitting a four-decade high and the central bank has signaled it may slow the pace of rate hikes.

“A sustained rally in risk assets isn't likely until inflation is more firmly downward trending toward target,” said Shoaq Bunglawala, head of multi-asset solutions for EMEA and Asia Pacific at Goldman Sachs Asset Management. He's maintaining a relatively defensive asset allocation in balanced portfolios.

Ben Powell, chief investment strategist for APAC at the BlackRock Investment Institute, is also cautious, saying stocks aren't yet reflecting the full impact of tighter monetary policy.

“We've had the lighting of policy tightening in 2022 and now the thunder will follow – that is to say, the damage,” he said. “Maybe we're seeing some signs of the slowdown in exports and housing, but that's going to become clearer next year and the market needs to price that a bit more effectively.”



Day	Time	Program	
SATURDAY 10 Dec	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	
	6:00	HABARI	
	6:40	Kumekucha	
	7:00	Habari	
	8:00	Al Jazeera	
	9:00	Watoto wetu	
	10:00	Shika Bamba 5	
	10:30	Usafiri wako	
	11:00	World Cup review	
	12:00	Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	
	12:40	Chetu ni chetu rpt	
	13:20	Hawavumi lakini wamo	
	14:15	Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	
	16:15	Igizo: Mizengwe	
16:30	Igizo: Rebeca		
17:00	Shamsham za Pwani		
18:00	Jiji Letu		
18:15	ITV Top 10 rpt		
19:00	Jungu Kuu		
19:30	Shika Bamba		
20:00	Habari		
21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka		
21:15	Igizo: Rebeca		
21:40	Art and Lifestyle		
22:10	ITV Top 10		
22:50	Hawavumi lakini wamo		
23:40	Soap: Uzalo rpt		
01:15	DWTV		
SUNDAY 11 Dec	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	
	6:00	HABARI	
	6:40	Kumekucha	
	7:00	Habari	
	8:00	Al Jazeera	
	09:00	Watoto Wetu	
	10:00	Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	
	11:50	Bongo Movie rpt	
	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo	
	15:30	Mwangaza	
	16:20	ITV Top 10	
	17:20	Kipindi cha kikristo	
	18:00	Jiji Letu	
	18:15	Mapishi	
18:30	Matukio ya wiki		
19:30	Igizo: Rebeca		
20:00	Habari		
21:05	Kipindi maalum: Biko		
21:10	Kipindi maalum: Reflexology		
21:15	Igizo: Mizengwe		
21:30	Mjuzi Zaidi		
22:15	Bongo movie:		
23:30	Soap: Uzalo rpt		
02:05	Al Jazeera		
MONDAY 12 Dec	5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo	
	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	
	6:00	HABARI	
	6:40	Kumekucha	
	7:30	HABARI	
	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	
	8:55	Habari za saa	
	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	
	9:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	
	9:55	Habari za saa	
	10:00	Watoto wetu	
	10:55	Habari za saa	
	11:00	The Base rpt	
	11:55	Habari za saa	
12:00	Al Jazeera		
12:30	Jungu Kuu		
12:55	Habari za saa		
TUESDAY 13 Dec	5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo	
	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	
	6:00	HABARI	
	6:40	Kumekucha	
	7:30	HABARI	
	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	
	8:55	Habari za saa	
	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	
	9:30	Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon	
	10:00	Watoto wetu	
	10:25	Jagina rpt	
	10:55	Habari za saa	
	11:00	World Cup review	
	11:55	Habari za saa	
12:00	Al Jazeera		
12:30	Ajya ya jamii		
12:55	Habari za saa		
13:35	Shikabamba		
13:55	Habari za saa		
14:00	Shikabamba		
14:10	Kipindi maalum rpt: PSSSF		
14:25	Igizo rpt: Rebeca		
14:55	Habari za saa		
15:00	Meza Huru		
16:30	Watoto wetu		
17:00	The Base		
18:00	Jiji Letu		
18:15	Mapishi		
18:30	Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ - Live		
19:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon		
20:00	Habari		
21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba		
21:30	Kipindi Maalum: NSSF		
21:45	Chetu ni chetu		
22:30	Soap: Uzalo		
23:00	Habari		
23:30	The Base		
00:30	Al Jazeera		
02:00	DWTV		
WEDNESDAY 14 Dec	5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo	
	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	
	6:00	HABARI	
	6:40	Kumekucha	
	7:30	HABARI	
	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	
	8:55	Habari za saa	
	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	
	9:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon	
	9:55	Habari za saa	
	THURSDAY 15 Dec	5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo
		5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
		6:00	HABARI
		6:40	Kumekucha
7:30		HABARI	
8:00		Kumekucha Michezo	
8:55		Habari za saa	
9:00		Kumekucha kishindo	
9:30		Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon	
9:55		Habari za saa	
10:00		Watoto wetu	
10:30		Shamba lulu	
10:55		Habari za saa	
11:00		World Cup review	
11:55	Habari za saa		
12:00	Al Jazeera		
12:30	Jarida la wanawake rpt		
12:55	Habari za saa		
13:00	Art and Lifestyle rpt		
13:30	Shamsham za pwani rpt		
13:55	Habari za saa		
14:00	Shamsham za pwani rpt		
14:30	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe		
14:55	Habari za saa		
15:00	Meza Huru		
16:30	Watoto Wetu		
17:00	The Base		
18:00	Jiji Letu		
18:15	Mapishi		
18:30	Jagina		
19:00	Usafiri Wako		
19:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon		
20:00	Habari		
21:05	Malumbano ya hoja		
23:00	Habari		
23:30	The Base		
00:30	Al Jazeera		
02:00	DWTV		
FRIDAY 16 Dec	5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo	
	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	
	6:00	HABARI	
	6:40	Kumekucha	
	SATURDAY 17 Dec	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
		6:00	HABARI
		6:40	Kumekucha
		7:00	Habari
		8:00	Al Jazeera
		9:00	Watoto wetu
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		10:30	Usafiri wako
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16:15		Igizo: Mizengwe	
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21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka		
21:15	Igizo: Rebeca		
21:40	Art and Lifestyle		
22:10	ITV Top 10		
22:50	Hawavumi lakini wamo		
23:40	Soap: Uzalo rpt		
01:15	DWTV		
SUNDAY 18 Dec	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	
	6:00	HABARI	
	6:40	Kumekucha	
	7:00	Habari	
	8:00	Al Jazeera	
	09:00	Watoto Wetu	
	10:00	Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	
	11:50	Bongo Movie rpt	
	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo	
	SAT 10 Dec	08:00	Al Jazeera
		09:00	Rev rpt
		09:30	Jagina rpt
		10:00	Culinary delight rpt
		10:30	Innovation rpt
11:00		Heka heka Kombe la Dunia	
12:00		Shamba Lulu rpt	
12:30		Our Earth rpt	
13:00		Business edition rpt	
13:30		Al Jazeera	
14:30		Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 17:15	
17:45		Bundesliga kick off	
18:15		Capchat rpt	
19:15		Mizengwe	
19:30	The Decor		
20:00	Ripoti Maalum		
20:30	Tomorrow Today		
21:00	Out n' About		
21:30	Music Club 101 rpt		
23:00	Capchat rpt		
01:00	Al Jazeera		
Sun 11 Dec	08:00	Al Jazeera	
	09:00	In good shape	
	10:00	Capchat rpt	
	11:00	Sports Gazette rpt	
	11:30	DW	
	12:00	Jagina rpt	
	12:30	Bundesliga Kick Off rpt	
	13:00	In good shape rpt	
	13:30	Dw	
	15:15	Aibu yako	
	15:30	Rev rpt	
	16:00	Dakika 45 rpt	
	16:45	Mizengwe rpt	
	17:00	The Decor rpt	
17:30	Meza huru		
18:00	EcoAfrica		
19:30	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights		
20:00	Jagina		
20:30	Out & About rpt		
21:00	Dw News Africa		
21:30	Capchat live		
22:15	Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love		
00:00	Al Jazeera		
Mon 12 Dec	08:00	Al Jazeera	
	07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	

WORLD

Israel's Netanyahu asks president to extend mandate to form govt

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Thursday asked President Isaac Herzog for an extension of the mandate to form a new coalition government, his Likud party said in a statement.

The Likud formally submitted to Herzog a request for additional 14 days to put together a coalition government, the statement said.

The president has yet to announce his decision. If he refuses to approve the request, Netanyahu's 28-day mandate would expire at midnight between Saturday and Sunday.

"The negotiations are in full swing and there has been a lot of progress," Netanyahu wrote in the request, adding that he still needs more time to form a new government.

He said the extension is needed be-

cause of "remaining issues" with the appointment of some ministers.

Earlier on Thursday, the Likud announced it signed an interim agreement with Shas, a Jewish ultra-Orthodox party, securing a comfortable 64-seat majority in the 120-seat parliament.

Under the deal, Shas Chairman Aryeh Deri will head the interior and health ministries for the first half of the government's term before assuming the position of finance minister. However, a final coalition agreement has yet to be signed.

Netanyahu signed on Tuesday an interim coalition agreement with the United Torah Judaism, another ultra-Orthodox party, while three ultra-nationalist parties – the Religious Zionism, Jewish Power and Noam – already signed full coalition agreements.

Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving leader, is expected to return to power



Benjamin Netanyahu

about a year and a half after he was ousted, thanks to the Nov 1 parliamentary elections in which he and his far-right partners won a majority.

Outgoing Justice Minister Gideon Sa'ar urged the president not to grant an extension. "The actual formation of the government has already been completed," Sa'ar wrote on Twitter.

Xi: China backs reconstruction in Iraq, hails ties with Kuwait

RIYADH

Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' al-Sudani on Friday and Crown Prince of Kuwait Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on Thursday, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

China will continue supporting Iraq's economic reconstruction and help it restore industries, improve people's livelihood and achieve sustainable development, Xi said.

On the bilateral ties with Kuwait, Xi said China is willing to continue to be a reliable partner of Kuwait and work together with Kuwait to create a better future for China-Kuwait relations.

Noting that China supports Kuwait in safeguarding national sovereignty and territorial integrity, Xi commended Kuwait for adhering to the one-China principle and supporting China on issues concerning China's core interests including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Taiwan, and Xinjiang.

Xi emphasized that China supports Kuwait in implementing its Vision 2035 and is ready to strengthen the docking of development strategies between the two countries, actively participate in the construction of major projects of Kuwait, tap the potential of cooperation in new energy, 5G communication, digital economy and other fields, and support cultural exchanges and cooperation.

The first China-Arab States Summit and the China-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Summit are milestone events, Xi said, adding that China is ready to work with Kuwait to promote greater development of China-Arab and China-GCC relations.

China congratulates Kuwait on becoming a dialogue partner of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and a member state of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, Xi said, commending Kuwait for supporting the Global Development Initiative.

China stands ready to strengthen communication and coordination with Kuwait in regional and international affairs to contribute to the common development and security of all countries, Xi said. Calling China a great country, the Kuwaiti crown prince said that Kuwait and China enjoy a time-honored friendship, and the two countries are as close as brothers.

China is committed to the equality of all countries, big or small, and non-interference in other countries' internal affairs, he said, noting that China is also committed to the well-being of the people of the world.

A series of important initiatives and measures put forward by China are beneficial to the world, he added.

Noting that Kuwait will always have a friend in China, the Kuwaiti crown prince, on behalf of the Kuwaiti people, congratulated Xi on his election as general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

He expressed belief that under Xi's wise leadership, China will continue to develop and fulfill the mission of realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

The Kuwaiti side abides by the one-China principle and is ready to make joint efforts with China to deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields and open up new prospects for bilateral strategic relations, he said. *Xinhua*

Beijing supports Sudan political transition, Tunisia development

RIYADH

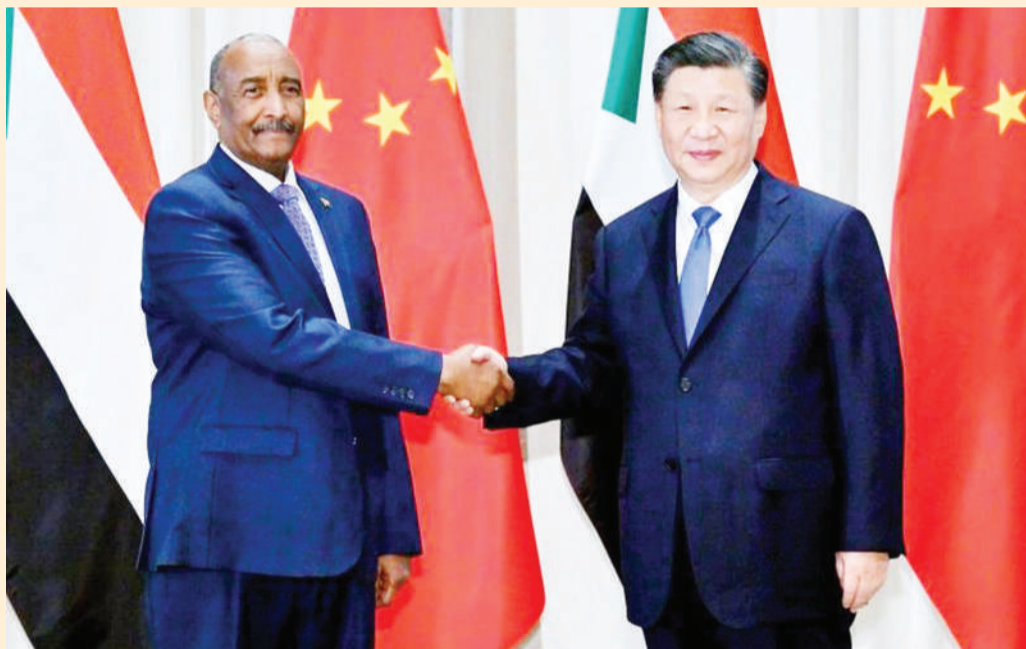
VISITING Chinese President Xi Jinping have met with the Chairman of Sudan's Sovereignty Council Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan and Tunisian President Kais Saied in the Saudi capital of Riyadh.

During his meeting with Al-Burhan on Thursday, Xi said China supports all parties in Sudan in continuing to push for steady political transition through dialogue and consultation, opposes interference by external forces in Sudan's internal affairs, and will continue to speak up for Sudanese friends on the international stage.

Calling China and Sudan good friends and good brothers who share weal and woe, Xi said that China is ready to join hands with Sudan to consolidate friendship and mutual trust, firmly support each other's core interests, deepen exchanges and cooperation in various fields, and push for steady and long-term growth of China-Sudan strategic partnership.

He stressed that China will continue to provide assistance for Sudan's development within its capacity, carry out cooperation in oil, agriculture, mining and other fields, and encourage capable Chinese enterprises to participate in Sudan to help Sudan's economic and social development.

China is ready to work with Sudan and other Arab countries to deepen and expand exchanges and cooperation in various fields, and is ready to strengthen cooperation with Sudan within the framework of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and strengthen coordination and cooperation



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with Chairman of Sudan's Sovereignty Council Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on Thursday. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

at the United Nations and other multilateral institutions to safeguard the common interests of developing countries and the international fairness and justice, Xi said.

For his part, Al-Burhan extended congratulations on the success of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Xi's election as general secretary of the CPC Central Committee.

With a long history, the friendship between the Sudanese and Chinese people is profound and solid, he said.

China has long been firmly supporting Sudan in maintaining national security and stability, said Al-Burhan, adding that he wishes to sincerely thank Xi and the Chinese people on behalf of the Sudanese government and all Sudanese people.

Sudan firmly supports China in safeguarding its core interests and firmly supports all China-proposed important initiatives, said Al-Burhan,

adding that Sudan hopes the relations between Sudan and China and the overall relations between Arab countries and China will be further developed.

China opposes interference in Tunisia

Xi also met with his Tunisian counterpart, Kais Saied, in the Saudi capital Riyadh yesterday.

China firmly supports Tunisia in pursuing a development path suited to its national conditions, and opposes external interference in Tunisia's internal affairs, Xi said.

China believes that Tunisia has the wisdom and ability to safeguard national stability and development, Xi said.

During the meeting, the Chinese president said practical cooperation between the two countries in recent years has been on the rise despite challenges.

The Chinese side, overcoming the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, has car-

ried out a number of health, sports and human resources training projects in Tunisia, providing impetus to the country's economic and social development, he added.

China, said Xi, is ready to steadily advance cooperation with Tunisia in such areas as health care, infrastructure and high and new technologies, expand exchanges between human resources as well as local and non-governmental exchanges, encourage competent Chinese enterprises to invest and do business in Tunisia, and welcome more marketable products and specialties from Tunisia to China.

China appreciates that Tunisia highly values the collective cooperation between China and Arab states and actively supports the collective cooperation between China and Africa, and is willing to work together with Tunisia to consolidate and deepen the bilateral friendly cooperative relationship so as to push for the greater development of

China-Arab and China-Africa cooperation, he stressed.

For his part, Saied extended heartfelt congratulations on the success of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China.

Noting that he highly agrees with Xi's important views, Saied said under the current international situation, no country can develop alone.

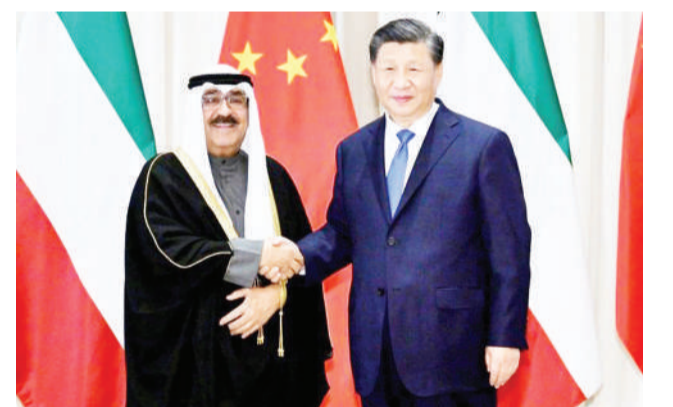
Countries worldwide should respect each other, take a new path of cooperation and mutual benefit, and solve the common problems facing the world today through close cooperation, he added.

China has always been on the side of international fairness and justice, said the Tunisian president, noting that the Global Development Initiative proposed by Xi embodies humanitarian concerns and advanced visions, and is of great significance to enhancing the capacity of developing countries and achieving common development and progress of all countries.

Tunisia and China enjoy friendly relations and huge potential for cooperation, Saied said, adding that his country will always remember China's long-time valuable assistance to its economic and social development as well as its fight against the pandemic.

More and more young Tunisians are learning Chinese, who believe that China will play an increasingly important role in the world, Saied said.

The Tunisian side is firmly committed to expanding and deepening cooperation in various fields and stands ready to work with China to elevate bilateral relations to a new and higher level, Saied said. *Xinhua*



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with Crown Prince of Kuwait Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on Thursday. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

Chances are high Putin to participate in G20 summit in 2023 – Russia's sherpa

NEW DELHI

THERE is every chance Russian President Vladimir Putin will participate in the G20 summit in New Delhi in September 2023, the Russian leader's representative in the G20 (sherpa) Svetlana Lukash, told TASS yesterday.

"I hope that, of course, [Russia's president] will go [to the G20 summit]. But this, in any case, is up to him to decide. Now, when the next summit is one year ahead, I cannot give an answer to such a question. The way I see it, that there are all chances for this," Lukash said.

She recalled that the meeting of the G20 leaders in New Delhi, as the Indian organizers had announced, was scheduled for September 9-10, 2023.

In all, India, during its G20 presidency, intends to hold about 200 events across the country. *Agencies*

China works vigorously to advance green transportation

BY 2030, no less than 70 percent of travel will be conducted through environmentally friendly means in cities with permanent populations of one million or more, said an action plan for carbon dioxide peaking issued by China's State Council.

Over the recent years, cities across the country have made intensive efforts to advance green transportation, adopting various measures to improve the green mobility experience of citizens and contribute to low-carbon development.

For instance, they have paved bicycle-only lanes, widely put new energy buses into use and built tightly woven rail transit networks.

Beijing's first bicycle-only lane opened to traffic on May 31, 2019. It extends 6.5 kilometers from

Huilongguan, a densely populated community in the northern part of the city, to Houchangcun Road, where a large number of high-tech companies are located. It has become a prioritized choice of commuting by bicycle for many citizens.

A man surnamed Zhang works for an internet company in Beijing. Cycling is his hobby.

"It took me at least an hour to drive to my office if I was caught up in traffic jams, but now I can ride to my office in around 30 minutes," he told People's Daily, wearing a helmet, a pair of cycling gloves and a cycling suit, which made him look like a very professional rider.

According to Liu Shuang, head

of the bicycle-only lane managing center of Beijing's Changping district, around 11,600 people ride on the lane every day. As of the end of November this year, a total of 6.49 million trips had been made on the lane, with an average ridership of 4,000 to 9,000 per day.

"Bike riding saves 32 percent and 50 percent of the commuting time respectively compared with driving and taking buses, and it cuts carbon emission by over 1,500 tons per year," Liu said.

Currently, the bike-only lane in Beijing is undergoing expansion projects, Liu said. Upon completion, it will form a "slow transport" network with a broader coverage

linking Changping, Haidian and Xicheng districts, and offer citizens with more choices of low-carbon and efficient transportation.

To put into practice the philosophy of green transportation, Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui province has vigorously promoted new energy buses over the recent years.

An official with the passenger transport management office of the city's municipal transport department told People's Daily that all new and updated buses joining the city's bus fleet since 2018 are pure electric.

As of the end of 2020, all operating buses running in downtown

Hefei were powered by new energy, the official added.

Statistics showed that currently there are 3,440 new energy buses in operation in Hefei, or 98 percent of the city's bus fleet.

Yang Haibing, general manager of the technical management department of Hefei Public Transport Group Co., Ltd., said that buses in the city reduced 155,700 tons of carbon dioxide emission in 2021, which was equivalent to planting 8.5 million trees based on the criteria that a tree absorbs 18.3 kilograms of carbon dioxide a year.

Apart from optimizing the energy structure of the bus fleet, Hefei also worked to upgrade its bus net-

work with digital means.

In an intelligent bus dispatching center of the city, there is a huge screen that displays real-time information about all the bus stations, passenger volume and operating vehicles in the city.

"By analyzing the data, we are able to manage our capacity in a targeted manner, which brings the maximum convenience to citizens and contributes to the reduction of carbon emission," said Bu Zexiang, head of the operation management department of the company.

Urban rail transit is favored by citizens, too. Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan province, has opened 13 rail transit routes with 558 kilometers of operation in total.

People's Daily

Daily short bouts of activity could lower premature death risk - Australian study

SYDNEY

ADDING bursts of intense incidental activity in daily tasks would help reduce the risk of premature death, particularly from cardiovascular disease, according to a study involving Australian researchers.

Published in Nature Medicine on Thursday, the study led by the University of Sydney's Charles Perkins Center found that three to four one-minute bouts of vigorous intermittent lifestyle physical activity (VILPA) every day is connected with up to 40 percent reduction in all-cause and cancer-related mortality, and up to a 49 percent reduction in death related to cardiovascular disease.

It also found the maximum of 11 bouts per day was related to a 65 percent reduction in cardiovascular death risk and a 49 percent reduction in cancer-related death risk, compared to no VILPA. VILPA is the very short bouts of vigorous activity (up to one to two minutes) people do with gusto each day, such as running for the bus, bursts of power walking while doing errands, or playing high-energy games with the kids.

The study was based on wrist-worn tracker data from UK Biobank, a large-scale biomedical database. It measured the activity of around 25,000 "non-exercisers" participants who self-reported that they do not do any sports or exercise during leisure time.

"Our study shows similar benefits to high-intensity interval training (HIIT) can be achieved through increasing the intensity of incidental activities done as part of daily living, and the more the better," said lead author Emmanuel Stamatakis, professor of physical activity and population health at the University of Sydney.

"Upping the intensity of daily activities requires no time commitment, no preparation, no club memberships, no special skills. It simply involves stepping up the pace while walking or doing the housework with a bit more energy," he said.

The research team is also calling for physical activity guidelines and clinical advice to be updated to acknowledge "all activity counts" regardless of duration.

"The ability of wearable technology to reveal 'micropatterns' of physical activity, such as VILPA, holds huge potential for understanding the most feasible and time-efficient ways people can benefit from physical activity, no matter whether it is done for recreation or as part of daily living," Stamatakis added.

Peru's Castillo faces criminal charges as Boluarte takes helm

LIMA

PERU'S former president Pedro Castillo faced a first court hearing on Thursday over his arrest on charges of rebellion and conspiracy, as his successor issued her first pronouncements from the presidential palace.

Castillo's swift fall from power on Wednesday came after lawmakers voted overwhelmingly to remove the leader following his failed attempt to rule by decree and dissolve Congress to avoid a third impeachment vote.

The Andean country has suffered intense bouts of political instability in recent years, with five presidents in just the last five years all unable to complete their elected terms.

Castillo, a former teacher and union activist who won a narrow victory in 2021 buoyed by poor rural and indigenous voters, was arrested Wednesday on criminal charges of "rebellion and conspiracy," according to prosecutors. He simultaneously faced separate corruption allegations.

Some Peruvians protested his arrest, shouting their lingering support for Castillo on Thursday. "The fight has begun! Free Castillo!" said one placard held by a demonstrator in Lima. Other, small protests led to clashes as police fired tear gas.

Castillo was ordered to be detained for seven days as the investigation into the charge that he orchestrated a rebellion proceeds.

Castillo's lawyer Victor Perez rejected the charge, arguing that such an act implies use of weapons and violence, which he said never occurred. He called his client's detention "illegal" and "arbitrary."

A constitutional court separately dismissed Castillo's claim of arbitrary detention Thursday, ruling the police acted properly in arresting him.

The former president attended

the hearing via teleconference from a penitentiary center in Lima where he is being detained. He was asked if he wanted to address the court, but declined.

He has requested asylum in Mexico and Mexican and Peruvian authorities are in consultation over the request, Mexico's foreign minister said on Thursday. Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador has indicated he would be open to granting asylum to Castillo, a fellow leftist.

The 17-month tenure of the 53-year-old Castillo was marked by unprecedented turnover among his ministers, as well as multiple corruption scandals which he dismissed as politically motivated efforts by right-wing members of the opposition-controlled Congress set on undermining his government.

Boluarte takes office

Dina Boluarte, Castillo's vice-president, was sworn in as the South American country's new president on Wednesday, making her the sixth president in five years and the first woman to lead the nation of some 33 million.

Boluarte, 60, has said little so far but is expected to begin naming a new cabinet over the next few days, with expectations running high that she will opt for a unity government.

The world's second-largest copper producer, Peru has held the title of Latin America's fastest growing economy over the past decade despite the political turmoil, but there are now signs that economic growth is slowing.

In brief comments on Thursday morning to reporters at the presidential palace, Boluarte suggested that calling early elections could be "democratically respectable" but said she wanted to hold further talks first, without adding details.

Russia to present response measures to oil price cap soon - Finance Minister

MOSCOW

THE Russian Finance Ministry considers it too early to assess the effect on the budget from the introduction of a price cap on Russian oil, but Russia is preparing retaliatory measures, Finance Minister Anton Siluanov told reporters.

"So far it is too early to talk about the impact on the budget. We are now preparing retaliatory, reciprocal measures regarding how our companies will react to the introduction of the price cap," Siluanov said. He noted that such measures will be announced in the near future.

The minister called the introduction of a price cap a non-market measure that would have implications for the world market. "It is clear that these are non-market mechanisms. The West has always called on us to use transparent, market-based measures, influencing the economy. Although, we have seen this before, itself it uses double standards. This is happening now. But you cannot deceive the market," Siluanov said.

Russian presidential spokesman Dmitry Peskov said earlier that Moscow's official response to the Western price cap on Russian oil will follow once the analysis of the situation is complete.

On December 5, an embargo on the delivery of Russian oil by sea to EU members went into effect, as did a resolution by the EU, the G7, and Australia to set an adjustable price cap for Russian oil supplied by sea at \$60 per barrel. According to Novak, Russia intends to develop a mechanism that will prohibit trading based on the rubles of the oil price cap.

South Korean truckers vote to return to work, ending strike over wages

SEOUL

AS their walkout entered its third week, South Korean truckers realized their bid to widen and make permanent a government scheme on minimum freight rates was failing as public support waned and President Yoon Suk-yeol refused to budge.

Many businesses prepared for the strike, which began Nov 24, and were ready to weather short-term pain. And as the government increased pressure - including unprecedented "start work" orders - some of the 25,000 striking truckers headed back to work this week, facing the prospect of not only lost income but lost jobs, drivers told Reuters.

Yesterday, the Cargo Truckers Solidarity Union said that 62 percent of union members voted to call off the strike to return to work but that the union would continue its minimum wage campaign.

"The game is over. It is so sad that all we could do is stop our cars, but nothing has changed," said Kang Myung-gil, a container truck driver who came back to work on Monday after a two-week walkout.

"The union fell into a trap that the government buried," said Kang, who is not a union driver, referring to the government narrative that the strike is devastating the country's economy. "Then, we, living day by day, just have to accept the reality and move on."

After the strike ended, Yoon's press secretary, Kim Eun-hye, said the government would "unwaveringly abide by laws and principles" on labour issues, adding that the truckers' action had caused "astronomical damage" to the economy.

This summer, an eight-day strike by truckers delayed cargo shipments from cars to cement across Asia's fourth-largest economy before it ended with each side claiming it had won concessions.

But this time, the government reject-



Members of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions hold up their cards during a rally against the government's labor policy near the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea on Dec 3, 2022. AP

ed the union's bid to expand minimum protections to other kinds of cargo, including oil tankers, package delivery trucks and auto carries, saying drivers are already well-paid. The government has said it would only extend the current wage program for three more years.

The difference was that Yoon took a harder line than in the first strike, and South Korean industries were willing to suffer short-term losses to keep operations running.

Yoon ordered some drivers back to work, using never-before invoked powers under a 2004 law.

After a start-work order was issued on Nov 29, traffic at ports began recovering to normal levels, government data shows.

There was no panic buying of gasoline, as most of about 11,000 petrol stations had enough supplies.

A major tyre maker preemptively cleared factory space to store inventory in advance of the strike, a company official said, declining to be

identified because of the sensitivity of the issue.

Refineries paid truckers more than double through agents to keep supplies flowing, and temporary workers were hired to get finished Hyundai and Kia cars to local customers, drivers and a transport ministry official said.

Striking drivers such as Kang criticized the union's leadership for not pushing for more during the first strike in June.

"Our union leaders shouldn't have walked away without any firm agreement in June. They didn't see their counterpart could change completely this time, but just left their own people bleeding out," said a unionized fuel tank driver, asking not to be named because of the sensitivity of the matter.

Meanwhile, Yoon's hard line on labor has accompanied a rise in his approval rating since the strike began, according to recent data.

A poll released on Thursday by

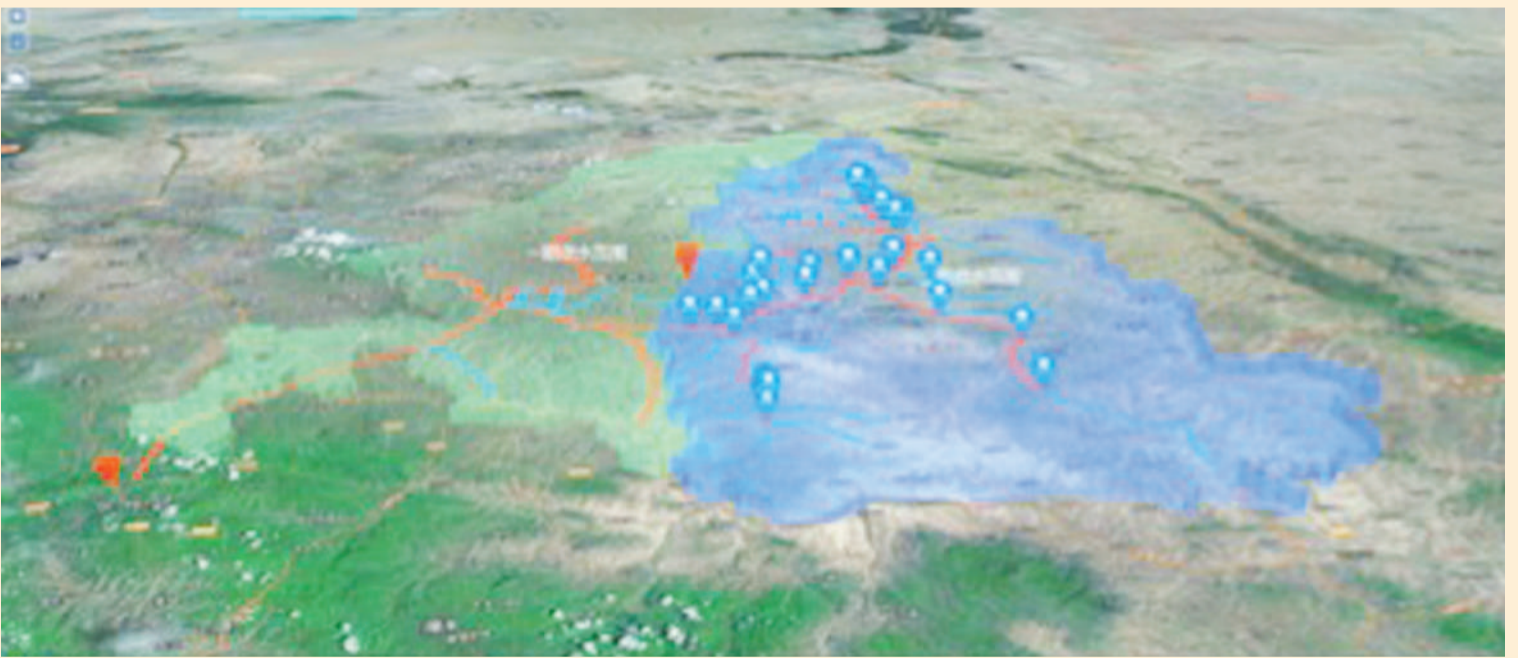
polling firm Gongjung showed the president's approval rating had jumped by more than 9 percentage points to 41.5 percent.

"Yoon's tough stance won the hearts of some elderly conservatives that have long been antagonistic about labor unions," said Kim Mi-hyun, head of pollster R&Search.

Businesses are also likely to welcome Yoon's handling of the strike, which could help them keep costs flat when margins are under pressure, analysts added.

"If the government continues to deal with labor issues the way it did with this strike, that would help companies reduce risk," said Kim Dong-one, a business professor at Korea University.

China's Gansu province powers water conservancy with digital twin technology



The digital twin system of a water diversion project designed to deliver water from the Taohe River, a major tributary of the Yellow River in Gansu province. (Photo by the water resources department of Gansu province)

"THE 'digital wings' has significantly improved our work efficiency," said Li Yujun, an official with the management office of the Shule River irrigation district in northwest China's Gansu province.

According to him, it only takes 10 minutes now to finish a patrol mission of all the irrigation canals with a total length of nearly 80 kilometers, while the work used to cost a few days.

The "digital wings" is a digital twin system of the Shule River, a national pilot project launched by China's Ministry of Water Resources in February this year. The project has created a virtual version of the Shule River in the digital world, which simulates all factors of the physical river and the whole process of water management based on the physical river basin, spatial-temporal data, mathematical models and water conservancy knowledge.

"To make it simple, it is a 'twin' of the river and water

conservancy projects in the virtual world. The sensors deployed along the water course and on the bank slopes can 'feel' what's happening like a neural network," said Xia Tian, director of the cyber security office of the information center of Gansu province's water resources department.

He told People's Daily that the digital twin system is like a brain of the river and water conservancy projects, which can not only forecasts potential hazards and predicts the development of possible emergencies such as floods, but also makes dynamic emergency response plans.

The Shule River is a typical inland river in the arid region of northwest China. The Shule River irrigation district is the largest surface irrigation area in Gansu province, which covers 89,333 hectares of farmland.

Li said a digital management platform has been established for the Shule River irrigation district, which includes 698 monitoring sites of end-canal metering, 106 sets of controlling and surveying gates and 28 radar monitors for water level measurement. The

platform is able to track real-time water information from the source of the reservoir to end-canal.

The water resources department of Gansu province has also built a monitoring and warning system for flash flood disasters in the Zhouqu section of the Bailongjiang River, a tributary of the Jialing River, which runs through many counties and districts.

"So far, we have set up a real-time monitoring network and an automatic warning system in the 123-square kilometer densely populated area in the Bailongjiang River basin," said Xia.

The system can offer pre-warning for outlet cross sections of 53 small watersheds and key cross sections along the 66-kilometer main river course.

In addition, the digital twin technology is also contributing to a water diversion project designed to deliver water from the Taohe River, a major tributary of the Yellow River in Gansu province.

As the longest cross-river water diversion project in Gansu province, the project has canals totaling nearly 1,070 kilometers, almost 400 kilometers longer than the

main stream of the Taohe River.

"For the water diversion project, which features a long distance, large quantities of tunnels and ceaseless operation, we have built a whole-process intelligent management system that creates a real-time digital twin, thus improving the project's operation safety and dispatching capability," said a manager of Gansu Water-Saving Technology Development Co., Ltd., the company that built the system.

According to him, the system has significantly lowered the energy consumption of water distribution facilities and improved the utilization of water supply to over 95 percent. Besides, it also lowered operational and management cost, and largely quickened failure response.

People's Daily



Honor Janza

Coach Janza leaves Taifa Stars role for Zambian club

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FORMER coach of the soccer national team and Namungo FC, Honor Janza, has left his role and join Zesco United of his country Zambia as technical director.

Janza, who was the temporary coach of the Tanzania soccer national team 'Taifa Stars', has reached an agreement with the leadership of Zesco United, after completing the initial negotiations.

The former Chipopollo coach, who served as the head coach of the Zambia soccer national team, has signed a three-year contract with the giants of the Zambian Premier League.

Announcing the appointment, the chairman of the club, Maxwell Saya, said: "Janza is a manager with high qualifications and has worked at the highest level of African football and comes with a great reputation."

"We hope that his vast experience in sports will strengthen the development of football in the club," Saya said.

The departure of the coach has given the Namungo FC leadership a chance to work with local coach Denis Kitambi, who for the first time was seen on the technical bench during the game against Yanga SC last Wednesday that ended with a 2-0 defeat.

Janza previously had a duo role in the country as he was in charge of the national team [caretaker role] and Namungo FC as head coach.

He started serving Namungo FC in January, this year, replacing coach Hemed Morocco who decided to leave due to the team's lack of good results.

During his tenure at the club he was assisted by Jamhuri Kiwelu.

His return to the Zambian side is not a surprise as a coach, because Janza is a life member of Zesco.

Reports in Zambia previously stated that he was not happy with what was happening at the club and he wants to help his club regain its status.

TSF: Lack of facilities hindering the development of squash

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Squash Federation (TSF) has attributed the slow growth of the sport and inactive in the country to a lack of infrastructure.

TSF secretary general Marwa Busigara said this yesterday at the opening of this year's edition of Uhuru Open squash tournament which is taking place at Colosseum Gym and Fitness Centre where 34 players are competing.

The Uhuru Open squash tournament has attracted players from Zambia and Kenya.

Busigara said TSF faces a lot of challenges, especially when they want to host the tournament.

He said a squash court is a rectangular box with four vertical walls of varying height and it has a level floor and a clear height above the court area.

"Yes, getting sponsors is one of our challenges, but the biggest challenge that squash is facing in the country is the lack of required infrastructure like courts. We may get a sponsor but if there are no required courts where are we going to play?" he said.

He said for a squash tournament to take place there must be a venue with a minimum of two courts, but it's a challenge in the country as many venues have one court.

The TSF official appealed to sports stakeholders in the country to help them with infrastructure.

"We have a lot of programs but we

are failing to implement them as we don't have the infrastructure. We have a plan for junior teaching and squash league, but we can't do anything. The sport cannot develop if the players are not playing competitive games," he said.

Busigara thanked Colosseum hotel and fitness centre for making their courts available for the Uhuru squash tournament and other TSF activities.

Zambian Enos Mwale, who is competing at the tournament, said Tanzania has a lot of talented squash players, but only that there are few tournaments in the country.

He asked TSF to look for more sponsors of the sport, saying it's only through regular tournaments that the country can have many top squash players.

"This is my third time competing in Tanzania. The country has a lot of talented squash players who can compete at any tournament, but the biggest challenge I have seen is that there are few tournaments in the country. TSF should look for sponsors of the sport," said Mwale, who once operated his Squash Junior Training in his country.

The main sponsor of the tournament is Lorenzo company, who are dealers of Japanese truck parts.

This year's top winner will take home 1m/-, the runner-up will pocket 600,000/- and two semifinalists will each get 200,000/-.

Selecting best coach each month, its normative, factual challenges

Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AZAM FC, under their coach, Kalimangonga Ongala, believe that the stability, solidarity and efforts of the players have been the catalyst for them to become one of the threat teams this season.

The ice cream makers have won eight straight matches in the NBC Premier League under coach Ongala to set a By Correspondent John Kimbute PERIODIC nominations and selection of either best players or coaches is a routine matter in club football, in the UEFA circuit and at the local level, not to speak of wider experience at the local level.

Without question, the system works best when the teams involved have comparable abilities, and thus each or at least a number of them, can shine or outshine others at one time or another.

There are plenty of such examples, for instance when Ihefu SC ended the league champions Yanga's unbeaten run of league ties to stop at 49.

Had they won another match or two, it would clinch it.

Selecting the monthly best coach runs the risk of reassessing an existing view of the best coach generally, or indeed one who has shown the best improvement in how his team is organized, and performing on the pitch.

That there is a fast-improving club each month to change the picture of who is the best coach around, tied up with what side is best performing at present, has modest chances at best.

In that sense, the monthly exercises may not be used profitably enough, if it is not dynamic.

That is why it is hard to assess the recent nomination or selection of Simba SC interim head coach Juma Mgunda as the best coach for November, contending with Yanga's



Kalimangonga Ongala

head coach Nasreddine Nabi and Singida Big Stars' head coach Hans van der Pluijm.

A certain amount of discussion was spent on how the shortlisting was done, and in view of the shortlist, how the Msimbazi Street club technical bench chieftain won the duel.

A name was missing from the list, and it was likely to change performance reading had it been included, and the issue was why it was not.

The missing name was Kalimangonga Ongala, interim head coach for Azam FC, who has done a good job in maintaining the club's standards and winning streak since taking over a few months back.

Strictly speaking, it would have been an ideal moment to make an evaluation of the new interim head coach, as there has been quite a lengthy period of evaluating the other two coaches contending for the nomination.

Only Mgunda was a relative newcomer out of the threesome group.

The issue that attracted some discussion was the reason for non-inclusion

of the Azam FC tactician, where the modality was rather technical, not to say pointillist, for the liking of a section of listeners.

At least one pundit was making the point that Mgunda had by and large been confirmed as head coach for the time being with the interim head coach contract, while Ongala was in a caretaker position - implicitly without a contract as he was already engaged with the club.

He also made some reference to regulations on the continental federation as to head coach recognition.

It was hence unclear in what way the differential contractual position for Mgunda and then Ongala was material enough in failing to list the latter for best coach of the month, as if he was not in charge of the side.

If the side is in the Premier League contest it follows that all evaluation that has to do with coaches it has to include the club coach, whatever are the contractual specifics or shenanigans as it were.

It looked like it was a clever way to argue a clear look over for strange cause, as indeed it was not the first instance in the past few months where the Azam FC technical bench has been overlooked - and surprisingly, to the benefit of Simba SC.

In that context, a section of Tanzania Football Federation skeptics, those who are not convinced that the federation and its organs are above a few casual moves, or objectionable mind

gates to alter psychological inclinations on the soccer scene, smelt a rat.

They saw a clear repetition of moves with exactly the same intent, to shore up the image of a leading club, to which the TFF president sentimentally belongs, and a number of key associates during his tenure as federation leader.

It was thus more of the same, a furtive attempt to shore up the Simba SC image at the clear expense of Azam FC.

Yet there appeared to be other circumstances for that move, noticed in the way the shortlisting was conducted, and perhaps predictable in the way Ongala was found sidelined from the shortlisting.

That doesn't mean it will always be done that way, but for some reason, it appeared somewhat necessary for the November evaluation, which can be said to relate to what is going on at Msimbazi Street side's leadership.

The club was in the doldrums since finishing the 2022/23 CAF Champions League group stage qualification, and the mood was only uplifted by the Ihefu SC win over their next street rivals.

Plans were being readied to get a foreign coach, and it may thus not be surprising if TFF local coaches lobby makes a vivid gesture, award Mgunda.

Ongala is caretaker definitely, but not exactly local compared to their favourite pick!

TOC advises national sports associations to host championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Olympics Committee (TOC) has said only athletes who compete at national championships are eligible to be members of the Athletes Commission.

TOC vice-president Henry Tandau said this on Thursday in Morogoro at the opening of the Athletes Commission annual meeting.

He said any athlete who competed at national championships has a right to be a member of the Athletes Commission, therefore he asked NSA to host Nation Championships annually.

"It is the right of any athlete to be a member of the Athletes Commission, but that right is reserved for only athletes who competed at the national championships. I'm asking athletes to demand national championships from their national sports association leaders," he said.

Gulam Rashid, who is TOC president, alleged that many na-



Some of the participants of the Tanzania Athletes Commission annual meeting held in Morogoro on Thursday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

tional sports associations are against having their athletes in the commission for fear that they will know and demand their rights.

"Am aware that many national sports associations are against their athletes being members of the Athletes Commission. They don't want that because

they know that being a member of the commission helps athletes to know their rights and they will start demanding them (rights), but am asking athletes to join the commission," he said.

Recently TOC and Athletes Commission organized a workshop for athletes that, among other aims, was to prepare

them to become leaders of national sports associations in the future.

The workshop facilitators were Tandau, Jabil Suleiman, who is TOC vice secretary general, and Suma Mwaitanda.

The athletes at the workshop were also advised to develop a culture of investing as the professional is a short-time career.

Further the athletes were also cautioned to behave properly in the community as success brings responsibility.

The athletes were also counseled to refrain from inappropriate behaviours like alcohol consumption, smoking and others.

"For you, an elite athlete to maintain your status, you must avoid many things. One of them is gambling. All elite athletes must stay away from betting in events which you are participating, avoid recreational and performance-enhancing drugs," advised Tandau.

CAF snubs Tanzanian referees for CHAN 2022

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE Confederation of African Football (CAF) has announced a list of 40 referees to handle the forthcoming African Nations Championships slated for January 13 to February 4, next year in Algeria.

Tanzanian referees will watch the tournament from the television as none of them were picked for the competition yet again after being overlooked for the previous edition in Cameroon last year.

Taifa Stars did not qualify for the tournament after they were bundled out by Uganda Cranes

Cecafa members - Uganda, Kenya, Sudan, Rwanda, Somalia and Burundi - have officials in the championship, while Uganda is sidelined without a single official in the tournament.

Tanzania has four center ref-

erees on the Fifa male referees panel - Hery Sassi, Arajiga Ahmed, Ramadhan Kayoko and Salum Siyah - as well as six male assistant referees - Ferdinand Chacha, Frank Komba, Soud Lila, Mohamed Mkono, Kassim Mpanga and Rajabu Ramadhan.

Female center referees include Florentina Zabron and Tatu Malogo. Fifa has also approved three female assistant referees; Janet Balama, Hellen Mduma and Glory Tesha.

Nineteen center referees and 21 assistant referees, including three women, will handle matches at the sixteen-nation continental championship that brings together teams with only players playing in their national league competitions.

The center referees are: Loutfi Bekouassa (Algeria), Milazare Patrice (Mauritius), Alhadi Allaou Mahamat (Chad), Kalilou

Ibrahim Traore (Cote d'Ivoire), Adel Elsaid Hussien M. (Egypt), Abdelaziz Bouh (Mauritania), Ibrahim Mutaz (Libya), Sabry Karim (Morocco), Atcho Pierre Ghislain (Gabon), Celso Armando Alvacao (Mozambique), Samuel Uwikunda (Rwanda), Mahmood Ali M. Ismail (Sudan), Nkounkou Messie J. Oved (Congo), Melki Mehrez (Tunisia), Djindo Louis Hougnandande (Benin), Daouda Gueye (Senegal), Tom Abongile (South Africa), Ngwa Blaise Yuvén (Cameroon).

Assistant referees: Abbes Akram Zerhouni (Algeria), Brahim El Hamlouli Sid Ali (Algeria), Clemence Kanduku (Malawi), Eric Ayimavo Ulrich Ayamr (Benin), Kwasi Brobby (Ghana), Hamedine Diba (Mauritania), Ngoh Adou Hermann Desire (Cote d'Ivoire), Hamza Hagi Abdi (Somalia), Modibo Samake (Mali), Dos Reis Abelmirro

Montenegro (Sao T. & P.), Ditsoga Boris Marlaise (Gabon), Menye Mpele Rodrigue (Cameroon), Nouha Bangoura (Senegal), Sanou Habib Juidacel (Burkina Faso), Dieudonne Mutuyimana (Rwanda), Lopes Ivanildo Meirelles de S. (Angola), Hensley Petrousse (Seychelles), Abdul Aziz Bollel Jawo (Gambia), Emery Nyongabo (Burundi).

Twelve Video Assistant Referee have also been selected to handle the tournament: Malunoud Ashor (Egypt), Issa Sy (Senegal), Lahlou Benbrahim (Algeria), Pacifique Ndabihawenimana (Burundi), Haythem Guirat (Tunisia), Bamlak Tessema Weyesa (Ethiopia), Samir Guezaz (Morocco), Peter Waweru Kamaku (Kenya), Daniel Laryea (Ghana), Zakaria Brinsi (Morocco), Dahane Beida (Mauritania), Mohammed Abdallah Ibrahim (Sudan)

Which new stars can replace Messi, Ronaldo after World Cup?

DOHA, Qatar

LIONEL Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo are not ready to say goodbye to the World Cup just yet. But the clock is ticking on their careers and Qatar could be the last time we see them on soccer's biggest stage.

With that in mind, thoughts naturally turn to a new generation and life beyond two men who have dominated the sport for the past 15 years, sharing 12 Ballon d'Or awards for best player in the world and nine Champions League trophies between them.

Theirs are big shoes to fill and, to their legions of fans, each one stands alone as the greatest of all time.

So if separating Messi and Ronaldo has been difficult enough, imagine replacing them.

But life – and sport – moves on and the World Cup is the perfect stage for a new breed of would-be superstars to showcase their talent.

One name stands out above all as the natural heir to the big two: Kylian Mbappe.

"I think we still have not seen the best of Kylian," said France teammate Olivier Giroud. "He is amazing and he is still young, which is scary because he still can improve his game."

Not that Mbappe could be described as "new." He may only be 23 and still waiting for his first Ballon d'Or or Champions League trophy, but Mbappe is already a World Cup winner and the leading scorer at this tournament with five goals.

He has the trophy Messi and Ronaldo crave – and in a week or so, could have two of them.

Mbappe could also have two or three more World Cups left in him, and, with nine goals over two tournaments so far, he is closing in on Miroslav Klose's all-time record of 16 at the finals.

Qatar feels like a passing of the torch to the Paris Saint-Germain forward, who combines mesmerizing footwork with devastating speed and clinical finishing, which are the qualities that set Messi and Ronaldo apart for so long.

But to match their powers of longevity, perhaps what Mbappe requires most, is a rival to push him to greater heights.

Would Messi or Ronaldo have reached such feats of excellence without the other one driving them on?

The most obvious challenge to Mbappe right now comes from Erling Haaland, the Manchester City goal machine whose country, Norway, didn't qualify for the World Cup.

AP

From serving pizzas, Fofona now delivering World Cup crosses

AL RAYYAN, Qatar

YOUSOUF Fofona has gone from serving pizzas to delivering crosses in the World Cup.

Dropped in 2015 at age 14 from Clairefontaine, France's national training center, his future in soccer seemed at an end. So he went to work for a pizzeria.

"That was the best way to earn money and also to follow my dreams," the 23-year-old midfielder said Thursday, two days before France meets England in a World Cup quarterfinal.

Fofona made his French national team debut in September and was picked by coach Didier Deschamps for the 26-man team that is defending Les Bleus' World Cup title.

He entered as a second-half sub in the group stage wins over Australia and Denmark, started in the 1-0 loss to Tunisia, and played the last 25 minutes of the round of 16 victory over Poland.

Quite the turnaround for a player who needed two years to find a professional club. He played for Drancy, an amateur side in Paris' northeast suburbs before signing with Strasbourg's youth academy in 2017.

"I had my doubts, and you have to know how to move forward," he said through an interpreter.

He made his Ligue 1 debut against Lyon on Aug. 24, 2018, moved to Monaco in January 2020 and reached the Europa League with his new club in 2021-22 and the current season.

France, seeking its third World Cup title, would advance to a semifinal against Portugal or Morocco. The other side of the bracket will have the Argentina-Netherlands winner play Brazil or Croatia.

Les Blues are led by Kylian Mbappé, who leads the World Cup with five goals. England right back Kyle Walker has faced Mbappé and Paris Saint-Germain while playing for Manchester City in the Champions League and said Wednesday "we take respect that he is a good player in good form at the minute, but I am not going to roll out a red carpet for him and tell him to go and score."

Fofona seemed amused by that.

"Hats off to him," Fofona said. "If he can stop Kylian, good for him. But there's 19 other teams in the French league that are waiting for the answer of how to stop Kylian, and the truth is on the pitch."

Fofona was in a jovial mood when discussing preparations. Asked about the frame of mind in the dressing room before World Cup kickoffs, he responded: "The atmosphere is tense, tense, tense." "No, I'm joking," he went on. "We can wear headphones, so if we don't like the chosen music for the group, then we can listen to our own music."

CLASS OF '98

Defender Dayot Upamecano said he has spoken with Marcel Desailly, a defender on France's 1998 world champion team. AP

Morocco now chasing World Cup history against free-scoring Portugal

DOHA, Qatar

MOROCCO head into today's last-eight clash with Portugal knowing they are only one step away from making history as Africa's first World Cup semi-finalists, but they face a buoyant opposition fresh from scoring six goals against Switzerland.

Walid Regragui's Moroccans are in uncharted territory after a surprise run which saw them finish top of Group F after beating Belgium and Canada before a stunning victory over Spain on penalties in the last 16.

The Atlas Lions are only the fourth African side to reach the quarter-finals – after Cameroon in 1990, Senegal in 2002 and Ghana in 2010.

Morocco have enjoyed the vast majority of support from the crowds at all their games in Qatar and that is likely to be the case again at Al Thumama Stadium.

"I think it's impossible for us to do this without the fans," said coach Regragui after knocking out Spain.



Morocco's head coach Walid Regragui is thrown in the air at the end of the World Cup round of 16 soccer match between Morocco and Spain, at the Education City Stadium in Al Rayyan, Qatar, Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022. (AP Photo), 2022. (AP Photo)

"A lot of fans came to Qatar from a lot of countries – America, Europe, Morocco.

"They love their country and what I can tell them is this – we can do nothing without them, I need them for the quarters and, hopefully, we'll make history."

There has still never been a country from outside Europe or South America in a World Cup final, but Morocco want to put that right.

"Why not aim for the sky? We needed to change and we needed

to change our mentality," Regragui said after the group stage.

"We're not going to stop here. We're going to respect every opponent. But we are going to be very difficult opponents. So why not dream about lifting that trophy?"

Morocco are unbeaten in seven matches since Regragui took over from the sacked Vahid Halilhodzic in August.

They have conceded only once in that time, an own goal against Canada.

Morocco have over-

come several injury problems to get this far in Qatar, with full-backs Achraf Hakimi and Nussair Mazraoui carrying knocks for most of the tournament.

Centre-back Nayef Aguerd hobbled off injured against Spain, while captain Romain Saiss soldiered on despite picking up an injury during extra time.

"Since the start of the competition, we've been playing with a team that's not 100 percent, that's why it's even more extraordinary," said Re-

gragui.

"We've managed to create a family, and we feel that we have a people behind us."

- Portugal, Ronaldo 'united' -

Spain struggled to create any clear-cut chances against the dogged North Africans but Portugal will be a different proposition after a fluid attacking display against the Swiss.

Coach Fernando Santos took the big decision to drop Cristiano Ronaldo to the bench, but it paid dividends as the superstar striker's replacement Goncalo Ramos scored a hat-trick in the 6-1 rout.

Portugal are in the World Cup quarter-finals for the first time since 2006, when they beat England on penalties before being knocked out by France.

They beat Ghana and Uruguay in the group stage before losing to South Korea, but without Ronaldo in the lineup, Portugal's attacking players appeared freer against Switzerland.

The 21-year-old Ramos stole the headlines, while Bernardo Silva, Bruno Fernandes and Joao Felix all impressed.

Media reports claimed Ronaldo threatened to leave the squad after being left out of the starting XI but he insisted the squad remain "united".

"It's a group too united to be broken by outside forces," he wrote on social media.

"A nation too courageous to let itself be frightened by any adversary. A team in the truest sense of the word, which will fight for the dream until the end."

Santos had expressed his displeasure at Ronaldo's reaction to being substituted against South Korea but said he left the five-time Ballon d'Or winner out for tactical reasons on Tuesday.

Even as a replacement, Ronaldo, who has never scored in a World Cup knock-out match, could play a crucial role.

"Ronaldo and I never confuse the human and personal aspect with the coach and player relationship. He is a very important player to have in the team," said Santos.

The prize for the winners is a semi-final against England or France and the chance to reach the World Cup final for the first time.

AFP

France brace for England showdown in World Cup quarters

DOHA, Qatar

DEFENDING champions France take on England in a mouthwatering World Cup quarter-final today that pits superstar Kylian Mbappe against a forward line-up packed with youthful zest.

The two European heavyweights, separated by just 20 miles (32 kilometres) of ocean, have surprisingly met just twice on the biggest stage, but not since 1982.

France, crowned world champions for the second time in Russia in 2018, eased past Poland in the last 16, with two goals from Paris Saint-Germain forward Mbappe and one from Olivier Giroud.

England beat Senegal 3-0, turning on the style for an ultimately comfortable win against the African champions after a shaky start.

Mbappe, 23, is the Qatar tournament's top scorer, with five goals in just four starts, while Giroud's strike against Poland made him France's all-time leading goalscorer.

Questions about how England will keep the deadly Mbappe quiet have dominated the build-up to the match, which takes place in the desert setting of Al-Bayt Stadium.

England's pacy right-back Kyle Walker, likely to have the task of shackling Mbappe on Saturday, is anxious to avoid the impression that the fleet-footed attacker is the only threat.

"I know he's a top player but we're not playing tennis. It's not a solo sport, it's a team game," said the Manchester City defender.

"We know he's a great player and that's why

he's the focus of all questions. But let's not forget (Olivier) Giroud, who has scored countless (goals), and (Ousmane) Dembele, for me just as good on the other wing."

The France midfield has coped well in the absence of the injured N'Golo Kante and Paul Pogba, with Antoine Griezmann impressing, but if there is a potential weakness in Didier Deschamps' lineup it could be in the full-back positions.

Jules Kounde and Theo Hernandez will face a tough test against whoever they face, with Marcus Rashford, Phil Foden, Bukayo Saka, Jack Grealish and Raheem Sterling all in the mix.

That wealth of attacking options means England will also have enviable game-changing options on the bench.

France midfielder Adrien Rabiot is predicting an open match.

"England are a team with similar characteristics to us, really quick players out wide, attacking full-backs and midfielders who like to get forward," he said.

"But I am not sure we need to say that we have to be wary of them. They will also be very wary because we can cause them problems."

- Southgate's gamble - Southgate is in a tricky position. Does he stick or twist? Does he let his young attackers off the leash or bolster his defensive options?

The England coach came under fire in the build-up to the World Cup after a miserable winless run even though he has credit in the bank from reaching the semi-finals in 2018 and the final of last year's Euro



Harry Kane

Kylian Mbappe

2020.

England are joint top scorers in Qatar heading into the quarter-finals, with 12 goals from their four games.

Their standout player has been marauding teenager Jude Bellingham, who has formed an impressive partnership alongside the more defensive-minded Declan Rice.

Like France, England's potential weakness is at the back, with central defender Harry Maguire vulnerable to pace.

Southgate said the match was the "biggest test we could face".

"They are world champions, with an incredible depth of talent and out-

standing players. They are very hard to play against and score goals against," he said.

"It's a fantastic challenge. It's a historic rivalry with great games from the past. It's a brilliant game for us to be involved in and test ourselves against the very best."

*England v France: Four memorable encounters

England and France will face off in the World Cup quarter-finals on Saturday in a rare clash on the biggest stage.

AFP looks at four of the most memorable matches between the two nations.

1966: Hunt sends Eng-

land through met in their opening match at the 1982 World Cup in Spain.

The Manchester United midfielder struck with just seconds on the clock in Bilbao to send England on their way to a 3-1 win.

He headed in England's second after Gerard Soler had levelled, and Paul Mariner poked home England's third to seal the points.

Ron Greenwood's team exited the tournament after the second group stage even though they were unbeaten.

Flamboyant France, led by all-time great Michel Platini, were knocked out in the semi-finals by Germany in a match remembered for a horrific foul by goalkeeper Harald Schumacher on France's Patrick Battiston, which went unpunished.

2004: Zidane steals the show Zinedine Zidane snatched a incredible stoppage-time victory for France with a free-kick and penalty within two minutes to turn the Euro 2004 group game on its head.

The win meant England were paired with Argentina in the quarter-finals rather than West Germany, whom they eventually beat in the final.

1982: Robson strikes early

Bryan Robson was the star when the two teams

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Morocco now chasing World Cup history against free-scoring Portugal

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Tanzania national cricket team's batsman (R) in action when the squad took on Gambia in a 2022 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Sub Regional Africa Qualifier Group B clash that took place in Kigali recently. PHOTO:TCA

Dar cricketers step up quest for ICC T20 Sub Regional Qualifier trophy

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S national cricket squad has stepped up its quest for lifting silverware in this year's ICC Men's T20 World Cup Sub Regional Africa Qualifier Group B, given the team is locked into two-horse race for the top honour with Nigeria.

In the regional qualifier now played in Rwanda, Tanzania is sitting second in the showdown's log, trailing log leader Nigeria which boast a better net run rate.

As of yesterday morning, Nigeria was leading the qualifier having won five ties in six outings to notch a 4.264 net run rate.

The log leader's better net run rate has helped it stay above second-placed Tanzania despite the latter having also come out victorious in five duels.

In yesterday's matches, Tanzania was expected to confront Cameroon, with the former needing an emphatic win to improve its chances of lifting the title.

Tanzania though also had to pray its close challenger, Nigeria, tumble to Ghana the same day.

The top two teams had faced each other in what was certainly a duel that was set to decide the qualifier's champion, held a day back, which ended as a no result.

The duel was abandoned because of rain once Tanzania had taken the crease to chase the score posted by Nigeria.

Having garnered a chance to bat first, Nigeria notched 101 runs in 19.4 overs with notable showing with the bat in the West Africans' batting stint coming from Sulaiman Runsewe, Sylvester Okpe, and Isaac Okpe.

Runsewe notched 39 runs, Sylvester ended with 19 runs not out, and Isaac chipped in with 14 runs.

Tanzania's pacer Ally Mpeka was in a great form when the squad fielded, given the experienced cricketer took four wickets.

In his four-wicket exploits, Mpeka bowled 3.4 overs and had an impressive 5.72 economy rate.

Needing 102 runs to come out victorious, Tanzania had reached 19 runs in 4.3 overs of the 20-over clash, having lost three wickets, by the time the duel was abandoned.

Prior to the clash, Tanzania had notched resounding victories over Eswatini and Gambia to stay in contention for the silverware.

Experienced cricketer Abhik Patwa put man of the match displays to catapult Tanzania to a 66-run win over Eswatini.

Patwa was in great form as he notched 79 runs when Tanzania took the crease and wound up with one wicket once the squad fielded.

Nigeria and Tanzania were as of yesterday, the contenders that had yet to lose a game in six outings played.

Mozambique was sitting third in the qualifier's log with four wins and two losses, followed by Sierra Leone in the fourth place.

Ghana was occupying the fifth spot having come out victorious in three clashes and lost as many ties, settling for a 1.974 net run rate.

Eswatini and Gambia came sixth and seventh respectively having notched one win apiece, the former notched a -2.067 net run rate and the latter posted a -3.865 net run rate.

Cameroon was placed at the bottom of the qualifier's table after losing five ties out of six the West Africans haven taken part in.

With Tanzania having been place second prior to the yesterday games, the side has all but garnered qualification for the regional final.

The top two squads in the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup Sub Regional Africa Qualifier Group B will make it to the regional final.

Big boys Simba, Yanga shift focus to Federation Cup

compete in the domestic cup competition. There are several fixtures to be played today including the meeting between Simba and Eagles.

The game will be played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium and Simba come into the match sitting third in the NBC Premier League while Eagles are playing in the Dar regional league.

Simba enter this match with plenty of confidence following their 3-0 win at Coastal Union in the NBC Premier League last Saturday.

The Msimbazi Street boys were the better team for much of the game and deserved to take maximum points from Mkwakwani.

That result means Simba are undefeated in their last eight games, all of which have come in the NBC Premier League. In addition to the victory at Coastal Union, Simba have beaten Polisi Tanzania 3-1 away and been held to a 1-1 away draw by Mbeya City.

Juma Mgunda charges can focus on the task of winning in the Federation Cup round of 64 against an opponent they should play off the park. Mgunda could rotate the team for the match allowing key stars to rest. Midfielder Sadio Kanoute is unavailable for selection as he serves a one-match ban.

The draw was cruel, yet exciting for Eagles as the

chance to play Simba allows them to compete against one of the best teams in Tanzania.

There will be a total of thirteen other fixtures today afternoon. JKT Tanzania are set to welcome fellow Championship side Biashara United at the Isamuhuyo Stadium while Geita Gold will lock horns with lower division side Transit Camp in Nyankumbu Stadium.

Also on display today will be a face-off between 2022 finalists Coastal Union and another lower side Tanga Middle at Mkwakwani Stadium. Ruvu Shooting will host Ndanda while Kagera Sugar entertain Mara-based

side Buhare FC.

Eight fixtures are scheduled for tomorrow. Singida Big Stars will be at home to Lipuli while TRA Kilimanjaro travel to Manungu to face 2018 Champions Mtibwa Sugar.

Defending Champions Young Africans will also be in action tomorrow evening as they take on Championship club Kurugenzi at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

The last fixture of the round of 64 on Monday, will see Cosmopolitan take on Mbeya Kwanza at Uhuru Stadium, while Magereza and Pan African will be fighting for the last remaining spot in the last 32 in Dar es Salaam.

We are more focused on winning game by game - Coach Ongala

Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AZAM FC, under their coach, Kalimangonga Ongala, believe that the stability, solidarity and efforts of the players have been the catalyst for them to become one of the threat teams this season.

The ice cream makers have won eight straight matches in the NBC Premier League under coach Ongala to set a new record for the season, taking second place in the standings with 35 points, only three points behind league leaders Yanga who have 38 points.

Azam have set a record of being the first team to win eight games in a row in the Tanzania Mainland Premier League this season and started to put pressure on Simba, who are in the third position with 32 points, and Yanga.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam, Ongala said the more they win, the higher the morale is evident in his team, and he believes they can achieve their goals at the end of the league.

"The main thing we are looking at is winging three points. If it is by one or more goals that is another task.

The biggest challenge we had was to win away from home, something that I see is slowly disappearing," he said.

On the part of the chief executive officer of the club, Abdulkarim Amin 'Popat', he said that since Ongala has been assigned to the team, he has started to bring hope in achieving more, something that gives them hope to continue to give him enough support.

Ongala took over the post after the former French head coach, Denis Lavagne, who was appointed on September 7, was fired on October 22, due to the team's poor performance, which led to their elimination from CAF Confederation Cup.

In those eight games, Ongala started with victories against Simba, Ihefu, Dodoma Jiji, Mtibwa Sugar, Ruvu Shooting, Namungo, Coastal Union and Polisi Tanzania.

In those games, the squad has scored a total of 14 goals, while its defense allowed six goals.

Before being named head coach, Ongala was entrusted with the role of being the attackers' head coach.

Also, acting information officer of

the team, Hashim Ibwe said that the motivation along with the return of Yusuph Bakhresa as the owner and front runner in the registration of the team are factors that help to achieve this success.

"Motivation is only a part of the team's success and we are very concerned about this, but since Yusuph Bakhresa has returned to the team, he has made a good signing which we see is paying off, it is something that carries us a lot," said Ibwe.

Ibwe also used the opportunity to congratulate coach Ongala for the great work he is doing while making it clear that there is a part of the team that needs to be strengthened in order for things to go accordingly and the coach knows where he needs to add more prowess.

"Our players and the technical bench have tried to give everything for the team and their response is visible because football is an open game. We have not conceded a goal in the few last games and it is one of the things that we agreed that now we should win but also not concede goals in matches," said Ibwe.

Mtibwa Sugar set to work on their defensive woes

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE leadership of Mtibwa Sugar Club has insisted on doing everything possible to achieve the recommendations presented by head coach Salum Shaban Mayanga, so that their team can do well in the second round of the NBC Mainland Premier League.

Mtibwa Sugar has finished the first round in sixth place in the standings after accumulating 22 points after winning six games, drawing four and losing five times.

Thobias Kifaru, the information officer of the Manungu-based club, said that the leadership is determined to strengthen their team by registering any player recommended by the Head Coach, whether he is from abroad or within the country.

He said that they still believe that their team has a chance to finish in the top four positions in the Premier League, so the management has put a lot of effort into believing in coach Mayanga, who will present a report on the first round that ended on Wednesday after Namungo FC's 2-0 loss to Yanga SC at Majaliwa Stadium in Ruangwa, Lindi Region.

"We are determined to do great things this season. We have finished the first round with 22 points, not least because the step we took is different from last season. To make sure we continue to perform well, the leadership is waiting for coach Mayanga's report so that they can work on it.

"Let me assure all Mtibwa fans that any player who will be recommended by head coach Mayanga will be registered at Mtibwa Sugar through the mini-transfer window. We are prepared to really fight this season, because we want to finish in the top four so that we can represent the country next season in the CAF interclub competitions," said Kifaru.

In order to ensure that they improve their team, the defensive line will be an area of a point of focus for Mtibwa Sugar towards the mini-registration window, as in their last six games the Morogoro team has allowed a total of 14 goals with an average of two goals per game.

The attacking department has been strong on Mtibwa's side, scoring at least a goal in each of their last six games.

Mtibwa Sugar will start the second round of the Premier League by facing Namungo FC at the Manungu Complex Stadium in Morogoro Region, December 16.



Vijana basketball team players train at the Jakaya Kikwete grounds in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Flexibles by David Chikoko

THINK ABOUT THIS:
YOUR THINKING IS
NO LONGER THINKING!

WHAT WILL YOU THEN
BE THINKING?

