

+255 745 700710

LIKE & FOLLOW US

ISSN 0856 - 5434 ISSUE No. 8993 • PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100 TANZANIA SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER, 2023

INSIDE Business

Halotel donates furniture to Dar's school
Page 13

FCC TO EDUCATE PUBLIC ON GOODS
Page 3

Making sure ships operate profitably
Page 4

BUSINESS

PBZ earns 41.9bn/- net profit in nine months

Tanzanians urged on better way to make minerals beneficial

Access to finance records more than double net profit

Halotel donates furniture to Dar's school

Page 13

Natural gas: Parties ready for pipeline project accord

Signing the agreement will enable other project activities to start, he said, while earlier the permanent secretary had explained that a joint team of experts prepared various documents, namely drafts of the bilateral agreement, joint procurement and terms of reference

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and Uganda are next month expected to sign a bilateral agreement for the construction of a natural gas pipeline.

Judith Kapinga, the Energy deputy minister and her Ugandan counterpart, Peter Lokeris, agreed at a meeting on Thursday in Dodoma city that the signing event will be conducted

TURN TO Page 2

SPORTS

Page 20



Unbeaten Simba SC targets Ihefu SC scalp in PL

Page 18



Yanga's new signings a motivation for Aziz Ki



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango and Bishop Dr Wilson Sanga of the South Central Diocese - Makete of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania lead the way during an inspection tour of the 360-KV hydro-electric power project implemented by the church. It was shortly after the VP launched it at Masiwi village in Makete District, Njombe Region, yesterday. Photo: VPO

Türkiye at 100: Govt hails \$1.9bn project investments

By Henry Mwangonde

TANZANIA is the third country with the highest number of Turkish projects around the eastern and central Africa region, totalling \$1.9bn, the government has stated.

Dr Damas Ndumbaro, the Culture, Arts and Sports minister, made this affirmation in Dar es Salaam yesterday at an event to commemorate 100 years of the

proclamation of the Türkiye Republic.

"In the recent past, our countries have witnessed growing business relations with Türkiye businesses stepping closer and becoming among the most reliable trading partners with Tanzanian firms," he said.

He expressed the government's commitment to work with foreign partners including Türkiye in advancing multi-lateralism to achieve faster economic

development through investments and trade.

"Tanzania invites international partners, friendly countries and all other like-minded partners to join efforts in advancing such objectives," he stated, affirming that imports from Türkiye since 2019 reached \$257.77m in 2022.

He expressed the hope that Türkiye

TURN TO Page 2

\$10m green bond to uplift clean cooking

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

BURN Manufacturing Ltd trading as BURN, a major cooking stove manufacturer and carbon-offset project developer, has issued a \$10m green bond designed for clean cooking financing in sub-Saharan Africa

Listed with stock exchanges, primarily in Nairobi and auxiliary citation in Lagos, the bond issuance is supported by Dry Associates acting as the placement agent for Financial Sector Development (FSD)

Africa, a specialist unit funded by UK International Agency for Development.

FSD played a key role in providing technical input on the bond framework and contributing technical assistance for the second-party opinion conducted by Agosto & Co., a noted Pan-African credit rating agency and green bond verifier.

Evans Osano, the FSD Africa capital markets director, said the financial trust was proud to have supported the landmark bond issuance, the first-ever green bond to finance clean cooking in sub-Sa-

haran Africa.

"Biomass fuel is the major source of energy for cooking for the majority of households in Africa and the proceeds from this capital raise will support these households to shift to more sustainable alternatives.

"These are not only better for the environment but also have health benefits from the reduction of particulate and

TURN TO Page 2

PM: Record keepers have to adhere to privacy ethics

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has emphasised on the need to uphold privacy of personal records among public records and archives management officials.

Officiating at the opening of the 11th Tanzania Records and Archives Management Professionals Association (TRAMPA) here yesterday, he said record keepers need to ensure that they adhere to ethics and oath of work when carrying out their duties.

The officers have a big role to play to ensure that they promote privacy of government documents to maintain security, he said, noting that record keeping is sensitive in the government.

They need to ensure that they live up to professional oaths, entrusted with ensuring that government privacy all the time remains confidential, he said, affirming that the government was improving the record keeping working environment.

He cited a revamping of the records and achievement management offices by installing new digital systems to facilitate easy record and document keeping, as well as buildings and systems in public institutions.

This will greatly help protect the documents from reaching unintended persons, he stated, underlining that ministries and specific public institutions conduct reviews of record keeping functions to list challenges for further actions.

"All employers should prioritize training archives and records management professionals, increase their pay and promote them to motivate them for efficiency," he said.

On the use of record keeping warehouses as canteens, the premier said this was not acceptable as it is an important place for record keeping.

George Simbachawene, the Public Service Management and Good Governance state minister in the President's Office, said the meeting will help members of the profession to improve their performance.

"The meeting will also be used to train employees on how best to protect records by respecting ethical rules and professional guidelines," he said.

In strengthening the profession, the government has released a permit to employ 930 archives and records management professionals.

Devotha Mrope, the TRAMPA chairperson, hailed the government for supporting the profession, asserting that his will further uplift performance.

Record keepers will intensify efforts to ensure that they follow ethics, rules and global standards to keep government secrets safe, she told the premier.



\$10m green bond to uplift clean cooking

FROM PAGE 1

carbon monoxide emissions which particularly impact women given their greater exposure," he said.

Ikechukwu Iheagwam, the Agosto & Co regional director for East Africa, expressed delight in supporting the manufacturer by providing a second party opinion (SPOI) on the landmark issuance.

The proceeds from the bond will allow BURN to increase manufacturing capacity in Kenya and launch a new facility in Lagos, where production will increase from 400,000 units per month at present to 600,000 units, producing a range of life-saving biomass, electric and liquid petroleum gas (LPG) stoves, he said.

Reputable institutions like the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Chicago have verified BURN stoves reliability, aside from a comprehensive impact assessment survey conducted by Yunus Social Business.

The stoves have consistently been proven to provide substantial health, financial and climate action benefits, with the funds from the green bond "poised to extend these benefits to an extra two million households by 2024."

Peter Scott, BURN CEO and founder, said that the decision to issue the green bond underscores the power of financial innovation to drive environmental and social change.

Leveraging benefits like investment communities' interest in green financing and potential tax advantages to investors, green bonds have gained

considerable traction in recent years, he said, expressing the company's excitement to deploy an innovative instrument to catalyse sustainable development.

"BURN displayed transparency in its pursuit to reduce greenhouse gas emissions following the very detailed scientific process backed by international standards and robust laboratory testing to ensure that the cookstoves consume less wood and charcoal fuel at ISO/IWA Tier 4 thermal efficiency ratings levels," he said.

"While this project is expected to have a significant positive environmental impact in terms of tons of firewood saved and tons of carbon dioxide emissions mitigated for each stove manufactured, the catalytic social, financial, economic and health benefits are quite compelling."

Reuben Mabishi, the Dry Associates Investment Bank head of research, said that Dry Associates was proud to be the transaction advisor on BURN's green bond programme.

"The Green Bond programme underscores the opportunities available for fixed-income investments in Kenya to catalyse capital formation, employment, and economic growth. We are attracted to BURN for the leadership team's focus, green finance acumen and the scale and professionalism of BURN's manufacturing operation in Kenya," the banker declared.

BURN's export growth story is a stellar example that Kenya can indeed deliver quality to the world, he added.

VP issues customary land occupancy title deeds to Makete District residents

By Guardian Reporter

VICE President Dr Philip Isidor Mpango has issued customary land title deeds to residents in Makete District, Njombe Region under a special proper land use programme.

Dr Mpango issued seven title deeds among 6,883 title deeds which were issued on October 27, this year.

Geoffrey Pinda, Deputy Minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development to launch the proper land use programme in 64 villages in Makete District.

The task involved two phases whereby the first was preparation of land use planning to 44 villages and surveying of 17 plots in villages which led to the issuance of 6,594 title deeds.

In the second phase the preparation of land use planning in 20 villages at Ukwawa and Lupalilo wards in which 20 villages were facilitated on planning and 287 title deeds were issued.

William Makufwe, Makete District executive director said the availabil-

ity of the title deeds was part of efforts to promote wheat production in the region.

He said his office has decided to promote production of the crop by issuing customary title deeds which will allow farmers to increase their production.

The issuance of the title deeds follows a task conducted by the Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development to launch the proper land use programme in 64 villages in Makete District.

The task involved two phases whereby the first was preparation of land use planning to 44 villages and surveying of 17 plots in villages which led to the issuance of 6,594 title deeds.

In the second phase the preparation of land use planning in 20 villages at Ukwawa and Lupalilo wards in which 20 villages were facilitated on planning and 287 title deeds were issued.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has an audience at Zanzibar State House yesterday with Nathan Belete (2nd-L), the World Bank Country Director in Tanzania also accredited to Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. To the president's left are Dr Saada Mkuya Salum, Minister of State in the Zanzibar President's Office (Finance and Planning), followed by Permanent Secretary Dr Juma Malik Akil. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Türkiye at 100: Govt hails \$1.9bn project investments

FROM PAGE 1

will build on the successes registered in bilateral cooperation, preserving the ethos of an excellent friendship, as

Tanzania and Türkiye have historical relations deep-rooted in the ethos of respect of sovereignty, self-determination, and development.

For decades, Türkiye has emerged as a strategic and reliable development part-

ner, the fourth country with the most projects eclipsing \$900m, he said.

The Türkiye embassy is working with the Turkish International Development Cooperation and Coordination Agency to facilitate implementation of various development projects ranging from education, water, and health to infrastructure, he said.

Tanzania will continue to create a conducive business environment to attract

investments and promote entrepreneurship, he said, noting that the reforms have resulted in greater ease of doing business, citing streamlined business registration, efficient customs procedures and enhanced investor protection.

Dr Mehmet Güllüoğlu, the Türkiye ambassador, said the hundred years of the country's modern existence has seen the country's economy attain the position of 17th largest in the world, and seventh

largest in Europe.

Türkiye is moving to its second century with a lot at hand to achieve, including advocating for peace globally and contributing to international order.

"As we implement our foreign policy, we have witnessed our bilateral relations with Tanzania grow even further in key areas of trade, investment and infrastructure development," he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa speaks opens the 11th General Meeting of the Tanzania Records and Archives Management Professionals Association in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: PMO.

Natural gas: Parties ready for pipeline project accord

FROM PAGE 1

in the Tanzanian capital next month.

Felchesmi Mramba, the permanent secretary and High Commissioner Col. Fred Mwesigye, the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) director general Mussa Makame also attended the meeting.

The ministry has already submitted the required documents for project implementation Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) and the office of the Attorney General, apart from the Treasury, he said.

The ministry has also received stakeholders' views and the attorney general's approval, he said, with deputy minister Lokeris noting that the project was important for both countries.

It is vital to commence implementing the initial steps, like signing the prepared documents, including the draft specific agreement between the two parties (bilateral agreement), he said.

Signing the agreement will enable oth-

er project activities to start, he said, while earlier the permanent secretary had explained that a joint team of experts prepared various documents, namely drafts of the bilateral agreement, joint procurement and terms of reference (ToR).

After preparing the documents, the team also agreed to seek views and opinions from responsible authorities in both countries, he explained.

Back in 2016, the government expressed its intention to build a natural gas pipeline to Uganda, to pump liquid natural gas for sale to the northern neighbour.

Tanzania has proven natural gas reserves of 57trn cubic feet, with at least 49.5trn cubic feet of those reserves on the country's special economic zone on the seashore.

In 2018, TPDC began to actively search for an expert to carry out a feasibility study to determine the most economic route for the pipeline and to determine the potential and size of the regional market for Tanzania's natural gas.

MONROVIA

Liberia's President George Weah may have to wait for a second round of voting to find out if he will retain his seat.

A vote count showed that none of the 19 candidates vying for the country's presidency had reached the threshold needed to be declared the winner, meaning the contest will have to be decided by a run-off.

This means that the two main candidates, incumbent President George Weah, a football legend, and former Vice President Joseph Boakai, will face each other in the second round.

According to the National Elections Commis-

sion of Liberia (NEC Liberia), the two are neck and neck with less than 50 per cent of the vote.

President Weah has 43.8 per cent of the votes cast, just ahead of Boakai with 43.5 per cent, according to provisional results.

By law, a candidate needs 50 per cent plus one vote to be declared the winner. Liberians went to the polls on Tuesday, October 10 in the fourth general election since the country emerged from civil war in 2003.

The 2.4 million registered voters cast their ballots for 20 presidential candidates and 88 lawmakers vying for seats in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Mr Boakai served as

vice president of Liberia from 2006 to 2018 under Africa's first female president, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. He lost the 2017 election to football legend George Weah. Weah won a second round with 61.5 per cent of the vote to Boakai's 38.5 per cent.

Weah, 57, who is running under his Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) party, is seeking re-election for his second and final six-year term. Boakai is running under the former ruling Unity Party. This is the second time he has challenged the incumbent.

Ahead of the vote, many political analysts had predicted a second round between Weah and Boakai.

AGENCIES



Gilbert Mworia (L), a senior manager for sustainability with Geita Gold Mine Limited, briefs Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in Dar es Salaam on Thursday at the firm's pavilion at the Tanzania Mining & Investment Forum 2023 conference. Flanking the PM are Minerals minister Anthony Mavunde (R) and Ocean Business Partners Tanzania Limited director Abdulsamad Abdulrahim. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TCAA to hold dialogue to discuss various challenges

By Getrude Mbago

THE Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) will hold a special stakeholders' dialogue meeting in Dar es Salaam next week to discuss challenges and milestone achievements recorded in the aviation sector.

The event which is part of the commemoration of its 20th anniversary is scheduled for October 30, and will be officiated by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam on Thursday, Mellania Kasese, chair of the organizing committee said the meeting will dig deeply on how to spur synergies in order to facilitate rapid growth of the sector.

"In this meeting, the

stakeholders will have a platform to discuss matters related to air travel and sector in general from success to challenges and what is needed to be done to continue improving service provision by TCAA," Kasese said.

She also said that as part of the commemoration of the anniversary, the Authority has also organised a Fun Run which will be conducted on October 29, this year in the Mlimani City area with an aim to stimulate tree planting and environmental conservation.

She said that despite various efforts implemented by the government and stakeholders, there is still a huge need to continue planting more trees to overcome the pressing climate challenges.

"Climate change is a global crisis that knows no borders and it is up to each one of us to lead the way towards a more sustainable and resilient future. We know that sky has also been affected by the ongoing climate challenges, this is why we are chipping in to promote massive tree planting especially in drought-prone regions," she explained.

Kasese noted that planting trees also helps address issues of pollution thus making the sky fresh and the environment clean and attractive.

She said that the race will attract over 400 runners where Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila expected to be the guest of honour.

PM applauds mining companies for CSR policy implementation

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has lauded mining companies for their endeavours to bring back to communities where they work with through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes.

Majaliwa made the reservations in Dar es Salaam on Thursday when wrapping up the two-day Tanzania Mining & Investment Forum (TMIF) 2023, themed: "Unlocking Tanzania's Future Mining Potential."

The forum connected the Tanzanian, African, and global mining community with global Ministers, CEOs, policymakers and industry leaders, who extensively discussed cooperation strategies to unlock and advance the opportu-

nities for development in this vital sector.

The premier commended the country's mining companies for the indomitable role in assisting communities around the mining sites and beyond through CSR projects, which in turn transformed people's lives.

He cited Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) as one example of mining companies that have done better in making CSR policy a reality in Tanzania.

Majaliwa commended the company for the great work it has done in its sustainability projects, including being the main sponsor of the forum.

"We commend you (GGML) for being a role model in complying with the requirements of the Min-

ing Act in terms of CSR, one of these projects, the construction of the Magogo football pitch, which we would like to see completed and implemented quickly, within six months.

"But don't just build a stadium in the Geita region, take these services to other regions to benefit and develop the talents of our youth," said Majaliwa.

Gilbert Mworia, GGML's senior manager for sustainability outlined the mining firm's strategies to ensure that Tanzanians and the community around the mine benefit from GGML's presence.

He also said that the company has been a leader in addressing issues of environmental protection and occupational health and safety.

Mworia said that GGML continues to be a role model in the country because of its commitment to health and safety, which has seen the company win four consecutive awards from its parent company, AngloGold Ashanti, ahead of its other mines around the world.

As for the construction of the football stadium, Mworia assured the Prime Minister that it would be completed within six months, but that a plan would also be drawn up to contribute to similar projects in other regions.

However, at the close of the exhibition held on 25 and 26 October this year, Majaliwa said the government will continue to give importance to the mining sector, which is the engine of the national

economy.

He said the government was ready and willing to allow private sector development projects in exploration, mining, extraction and value addition of minerals to achieve the existing strategies for all mineral extraction in the country.

Anthony Mavunde, minister for Minerals said the ministry used the forum to promote professional cooperation between countries through various topics presented, such as discussions on the use of clean energy to combat climate change.

He said that for the year 2023, the contribution from mineral extraction to the economy will be 678bn/-, representing 40 per cent of all collections, which shows

that the sector is making progress.



We commend you (GGML) for being a role model in complying with the requirements of the Mining Act in terms of CSR, one of these projects, the construction of the Magogo football pitch, which we would like to see completed and



Zanzibar First Vice President Othman Masoud Othman (R), who is also ACT Wazalendo's Vice Chairman for Zanzibar, bids farewell to the opposition party's candidate in the upcoming Mtambwe Constituency Zanzibar House of Representatives by-election, Mohamed Ali Suleiman. It was at a campaign meeting held at Daya Mtambwe in Wete District, North Pemba Region, on Thursday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Chinese government says will continue to support Tanzania

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Chinese government will continue to support initiatives to remain Tanzania's largest trading partner even after successful achievements of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Chen Mingjian, the Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania made the remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the press briefing of the Third Belt and Road forum for international cooperation held recently in China.

She expressed the progress and prospects of China-Tanzania Belt and Road Cooperation where Dr Natu El-Maamry Mwamba, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Finance from Tanzania led the delegation to attend the forum.

Mingjian said that in the first nine month of this year, the trade volume topped at \$6.37 billion while the bilateral trade volume reached \$8.31 billion in the year 2022.

The envoy said that 98 per cent of Tanzania's taxable items exported to China enjoy zero-tariff treatment.

She said China has approved Tanzania's export of high quality- and featured Tanzanian agricultural products including avocados, wild aquatic products to China, which helps continuous expansion of Tanzanian exports to China.

Meanwhile, China's investment in Tanzania has achieved remarkable results where by the end of 2022, China investment grew to 2.5 times that of 2012, thus providing a large amount of funds to the development

of such as manufacturing, mining and agriculture.

Also, in recent years, the investment volumes of many Chinese-invested projects, such as Keda Ceramics, Maweni Limestone Ltd, and Sapphire Float Glass Factory, have all exceeded \$100 million, creating a large number of jobs for the locals.

In the field of people to people exchanges, China has also promoted personnel exchange and further consolidated the foundation for popular support and public opinion.

The envoy said that during the forum, 458 outcomes have been reached including important cooperation initiatives and Institutional arrangements such as Beijing Initiative for Belt and Road Green development.

Others are the Beijing Initiative on the Belt and Road International Digital Economy Cooperation.

They also include specific targets including providing 100,000 training opportunities on green development for

partner countries by 2030, and increasing the number of joint laboratories to 100.

Commercial agreements worth \$ 97.2 billion have been concluded at the CEO conference. The tangible cooperation outcomes are a vote of support and confidence in BRI by participating parties including Tanzania.

Commenting on the TAZARA railway, she said, Tanzania and Zambia are exploring the ways to revitalize the "Friendship Railway" to make it the development railway.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

APPLICATION FOR TANZANIA CITIZENSHIP
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

LINDA ACHIENG MATORO
P.O. Box 14974
DAR ES SALAAM

Whose photograph provided above is applying to the Minister of Home Affairs for Tanzania Citizenship. Her Nationality at present is KENYAN Country of origin KENYA Employment.....Employers address is P.O. Box.....She has been living in Tanzania since 2003(20 years).

Any one, who knows any reasons why citizenship should not be granted to the applicant, should send us written and signed statement of facts to the commissioner General of Immigration. P.O. Box 512, Dar es salaam. Use reference DN. 21 DAR/36290

FOR: COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION.....

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PROVISION OF BUND WALL PENETRATION SEALS

Ref: MST-TZ-20231027

Daqing Oilfield Construction Group Co., Ltd. (hereinafter as DOCG), as a CONTRACTOR for Storage Terminal of EACOP Project, invites experienced and reputable contractors that have demonstrable capability, willingness, ability and availability to perform related works to express their interest in providing Bund Wall Penetration Seals near Chongoleani area, Tanzania.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania and an onshore Marine Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

The scope of the materials shall include Bund Wall Penetration Seals (The brand shall be @BEELE SAFETY SEALING SYSTEMS)

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Company Profile, Proof of business license for Tanzania, Registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Proof of Tanzania Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- An experience list for Oil and Gas industrial services supplied in the last Three (3) years;
- Confirmation that they can manufacture or purchase the required materials in accordance with project standards.
- A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO and OHSAS current certification or equivalent;
- Compliance with petroleum (local content) regulations, 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania.
- Evidence of organization HSE Management Systems & policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Industry standards for similar works.
- Quality assurance & Quality control plan/ procedures in place for the execution of similar type of work, Copy of ISO or any other certification as applicable.
- Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in **English** language by sending the above documents to zhaoning@docgi.cn; renhulin@docgi.cn; (not exceeding 20 MBs) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **10/Nov/2023**. Subject of the email should be **MST-TZ-20231027 EOI - [COMPANY NAME]**.

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will receive, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), a detailed pre-qualification questionnaire for further evaluation by Company.

DOCG reserves the right not to consider companies that submit an incomplete dossier.

Note: Only pre qualified companies will receive invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.



Emmanuel Khambay (C), CCM Parents' Wing Babati Urban District chairman, speaks earlier this week shortly after leading a fundraiser for construction work for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. Cash collections totalled 3.6m/- and 200 US dollars. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Morogoro to spend 30 billion/- for construction of roads at tarmac level

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

MOROGORO district executive director Ally Machela has said they are planning to spend 30bn/- for construction of 20 kms roads at tarmac level.

He said for the region to become a city, there should be improved water distribution channels as well as big drainages for rain water. He said plans are to construct the 4.5 km of water drainage to meet the criteria of becoming a city.

Machela made the remarks on Thursday when responding to questions from Morogoro Municipal Council councillors at a meeting held at the municipal hall.

He informed the councillors that the region has so far met the set criteria by between 85 to 90 per cent. He mentioned the criteria as having paved roads, which Morogoro had already constructed.

He said that they have already signed a contract with a Chinese company to start construction of roads and drainage systems. He said the contractor is expected to begin the job early next month.

He said the project will be implemented in two phases whereby the first phase will include construction of a 12 kilometers road at a cost of 19bn/- along with drainage systems while in the second phase, the contractor will be paid more than 10bn/-. He said the construction of ring roads and expansion of road infrastructure from Kibaha-Chalinze-Morogoro will boost economic development in the region.

Earlier, Kilakala Ward Councillor Marco Khanga urged the council to see the need to complete construction of ring roads, including the Bong'ola and Saiko roads.

Khanga claimed that the two roads are in bad condition and that they should be improved before the rainy season to avoid inconveniences to the people. He said the roads are impassable during rains.

Morogoro Municipality Mayor, Pascal Kihanga urged the councillors to continue cooperating with regional authorities to enhance revenue collections. He said revenue collection in Morogoro Region have increased from 4.02bn/- in 2016 to the current 13bn/-.

Invest in innovative strategies to make ships operate profitably, MSCL ordered

By Guardian Reporter

THE parliamentary Committee on Infrastructure has directed the Marine Services Company Limited (MSCL) to invest in innovative strategies and ensure that all ships under its custody operate profitably.

Selemani Kakoso, committee's chairman issued the directives during a meeting to receive an operation report for the compa-

ny for the period of July to October 2023.

According to him, currently, the ships were not operating profitably as many of the vessels were not receiving timely repairs.

"MSCL needs to repair all the ships and administer those available in Lake Tanganyika, Nyasa and Victoria, and but you should also ensure that you operate profitably," he said.

Kakoso added that the gov-

ernment set aside 124bn/- in the 2022/23 financial year to support the company, saying the committee was confident that the company will improve its services.

The deputy minister for Transport David Kihenzile said the government will continue to facilitate the company so that transport services in water also improves which also includes Lake Tanganyika, Lake Victoria and Lake Nyasa.

"The government has issued money for construction of ships but also has issued funds for construction of MV. Umoja, MV Liemba and MV Umoja," said Kihenzile.

Director for MSCL Erick Hamis said the construction of the MV Mwanza Hapa Kazi Tu is expected to complete by May this year adding that it has now reached a stage where they are now inserting chairs and other materials

which are almost complete now.

MSCL has a total of 18 ships of which only 18 are working as the company currently oversees operations of ships in Lake Tanganyika, Victoria and Nyasa.

Marine Services Company Limited (MSCL) is a government owned company which provides services for cargo on Lake Tanganyika, Lake Nyasa, and Lake Victoria. The Company also serves Democratic Republic of Congo,

Burundi, Malawi and Kenya.

The Company has more than 50 years of experience in maritime transport across Lakes Victoria, Tanganyika and Nyasa. MSCL services across the three lakes serves as a linchpin for the communities along the lakes and provides intermodal connectivity for the Northern and Central Corridors as well as East and Central African countries bordering the lakes.

MSD ordered to fast-track distribution of medical equipment to more health centres

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE government in Mbeya has directed the Medical Stores Department (MSD) to fast-track distribution of medical equipment to various health centres in the region to improve provision of health services.

Chairman of the region's primary health committee, Juma Homera gave the order early this week when opening the committee's conference which aimed to assess availability of various health services including vaccination and infrastructure.

Homera, who is the Regional Commissioner, said that MSD has been delaying distribution of medical equipment to health facilities despite being paid on time. He said the delay affects provision of services to the people.

He said the region has received more than 2.4bn/- for the purchase of medical equipment, thus asking MSD officials to make the equipment distributed on time.

"With the money we have just received, make sure you distribute these equipment on time, you have been delaying a lot, we pay for the equipment now, but you will bring them next year," said Homera.

He also asked health workers in the region to adhere to their professional ethics to ensure all citizens seeking medical treatment at the facilities are attended

accordingly.

He also urged supervisors of the health centers to properly supervise construction of various infrastructures that have been funded by the government so that they can be used.

The RC noted that all the infrastructures should be completed within three months to enhance services provision.

An officer responsible for education and advocacy from the Ministry of Health, Penford Joel said the government has invested a lot of money in strengthening health services because it is an important sector.

He said since medical treatments are expensive, Tanzanians need to take measures to prevent themselves from diseases as well as protecting others.

He said the Ministry of Health will continue to manage construction of various development projects related to the sector in order to provide better services to the people.

Health stakeholders, who participated in the meeting, including religious and traditional leaders, thanked the government for continuing to allocate funds for improvement of health services, especially construction of infrastructures.

One of the participants, Sheikh Idd Twaha asked the managers of various projects in the region to be honest in managing funds allocated for the projects.



Twaha Mbarouk (L), Muheza District chairman of the Union of Farmers and Environmental Conservation, pictured on Tuesday presenting 200kg of maize to Potwe Secondary School board chairman Mulla Suleiman in food support for teachers and students at the school. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

Suppliers, service providers in extractive industry urged to register with digital national database

By Getrude Mbago

SUPPLIERS, service providers and professionals in the oil and natural gas sub-sector have been urged to register in the special digital national database so as to benefit from various opportunities in the value chain.

Developed by the Petroleum Upstream Regulatory Authority (PURA) in collaboration with Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWU-

RA), the Common Qualification System (CQS) has so far registered over 300 local professionals and over 1900 suppliers.

PURA's head of local content and stakeholder engagement, Charles Nyangi made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening a one-day investors' meeting to furnish them with the new changes which also requires companies in the industry to now submit their applica-

tions and reports online.

"We have brought here today, companies working in the petroleum upstream projects them on the new digital system which has replaced paper works requiring the operators to submit their local content plan and reports every end of the year," he said.

He said Tanzanians who are legally eligible to serve in the sector are encouraged to register in the data-

base, as by doing so, companies and big investors will be able to see them easily.

"I encourage professionals and suppliers in the sector to register through the system to ensure they stand a chance to take part in several activities including the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) project and many other opportunities," he said.

Nyangi said in a bid to ensure that locals benefit well in the upstream oil and gas

projects, PURA has been supervising to ensure that the investors also engage local experts in the projects.

He further said the authority was determined to increase participation of Tanzanians in the extraction sector through awareness campaigns and building capacity to enable them exploit opportunities in the natural gas value chain.

Data shows that over 50 per cent of the country's

total area has been blessed with potential sedimentary basins which, if well explored could transform the oil and gas sector in the country.

Ally Mluge, community development officer at the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) said the new digital system was important as it will greatly help companies and stakeholders to communicate with the authori-

ties easily thus saving both money and time.

He commended PURA and EWURA for coming up with the system.

Local Content is the development of local skills, oil and gas technology transfer, and use of local manpower and local manufacturing in order to stimulate the development of capabilities of Tanzanians and to encourage local investment and participation.



Small traders clearly giving pedestrians a hard time making it along paths meant for them at a section of the Mbezi Mwisho stretch of Dar es Salaam's modernised Morogoro Road, as found yesterday afternoon. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Govt to explore deep seabed marine resources sustainable

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has reiterated its commitment to continue strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation on ensuring sustainable exploration and exploitation of deep seabed marine resources.

Minister for Minerals, Anthony Mavunde made the statement in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday at the closing of the 6th International Seabed Authority Annual contractors meeting 2023.

The meeting, which was conducted for three days, was held for the first time in the African continent where Tanzania had the opportunity to host.

The Minister said the country will continue to exploit deep seabed marine resources including seabed minerals while protecting the marine environment, a key pillar of ocean governance. "I wish to reaffirm and reiterate Tanzania's commitment to supporting the work of the Authority in implementation of its mandate as provided for in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the 1994 Agreement," he said.

Coupled with that he highlighted the current status of geoscientific information of the country saying the status indicates that 97 per cent of the country has been geologically surveyed, and the high-resolution airborne geophysical mapping accounts for only 16 per cent.

The minister added that the limited

data on high-resolution geophysical surveys can lead to insufficient planning on exploitation of mineral resources due to uncertainty on reserves whereabouts. "To unlock these, intensive and systematic explorations have to be undertaken across the country so as to increase the high-resolution airborne geophysical surveyed area for further detailed exploration," he pointed out.

Mavunde said the government through the Ministry of Minerals has developed a new roadmap coined "Vision 2030 Madini ni Maisha na Utajiri" which targets increasing high-resolution airborne geophysical surveyed area from 16 per cent by year 2030.

Adding: "the implementation of Vision will lead to new discoveries of other mineral deposits for potential mining investment, which would ultimately contribute to the GDP growth and sustainable mining business in the country."

He further noted that besides the mineral data, the information collected will be useful to other sectors as it will inform Aquifers for water drilling and irrigation.

Representing the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority (ISA), Dr Marie McKinnon said a meeting has been productive as they exchange ideas in various agenda items such as compliance in the implementation of exploration contracts by contractors.

New technology to fight malaria in the offing

By Guardian Reporter

A Japanese Company- Fumakilla Limited in collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has embarked on a survey to further provide more efficient usage of innovative mosquito coils.

Dubbed: "SDGs Business Validation Survey for Malaria Prevention with Anti Mosquito Products in Tan-

zania", the survey commenced in August 2023, following the previous survey which was conducted from October 2020 to May 2023.

In an interview with this paper, Toshiaki Muramoto, team leader of the new survey said in order to fight against mosquitoes which transmit malaria, dengue fever and other infectious diseases, Fumakilla has delivered highly effective products to the world, developed through re-

search conducted on the resistance of local mosquitoes.

In the new survey, Fumakilla will survey efficient ways to improve peoples' awareness on importance of mosquito prevention through health education at health facilities and communities.

He noted that specifically speaking, in Indonesia, Vietnam, and Malaysia, the company's share of mosquito coil products is the largest.

"I contracted malaria three times

a year when I was conducting an agricultural survey in Kilosa. I remember that the medicine I had at hand did not work well so I changed buses to reach a hospital in Morogoro, taking eight hours, despite having a high fever. Based on this experience, I have always wished to bring truly effective anti-mosquito products to Tanzania, as I hereby do, because of the unforgettable and painful experience I had at that

time which I do not want Tanzanian people to experience like me," he said.

He said through the new survey, Fumakilla intends to provide more efficient usage of those innovative mosquito coils made by them in Tanzania to enlighten people to use it along with mosquito nets to prevent malaria infection at home, in hospitals and in schools.

"Its specification at first, is low smoke

but strong efficacy, and can be used for 7-8 hours. Secondly, it can be put into use inside and outside, and it can be folded and ignited the following day, if it is not used-up in one day," he noted.

He added that its efficacy and safety have already been tested and approved by the Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticide Authority (TPHPA), the government agency which regulates the use of insecticide products in Tanzania.

Govt to strengthen collaboration with Tanzania Chamber of Mines

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has promised to strengthen collaboration with the Tanzania Chamber of Mines (TCM) to ensure the sector contributes more to the National Gross Product (GDP).

Antony Mavunde, the Deputy Minister for Minerals said yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the quarterly monthly breakfast meeting that was organised by the TCM in collaboration with the Ministry of Minerals to discuss challenges and chart a way forward.

He said the sector has contributed 9.1 per cent in the year 2022, adding that the government plans to see the sector contribute 10 per cent by 2025.

"I have clear instructions from the President Samia Suluhu Hassan and my duty is only to facilitate mineral operations in the country. I will never be a block," he said.

According to the deputy minister, there was no way he could act otherwise from the head of state's directives to propel the mineral sector operation in the country.

"I'm here to remove the red tape; my policy is open door policy, to keep the ball rolling.

The deputy minister said that if 243 bn/- was collected from Geita region alone from the minerals, the government can collect more revenues from the sector if stakeholders are fully involved.

TCM board chairman Engineer Philbert Rweyamamu called for the legal attraction environment adding that 2022 was a successful year in the mining sector.

"The chamber promises to collaborate and support the government to realise its vision by 2030. We are happy that our views were heard," he said.

Anna Rabin, Above Ground Advisory managing director commended the deputy minister for pushing a new collaborative approach.

She said the breakfast meeting was good and successful since the stakeholders met and discussed challenges facing them in the sector and charted the way forward.

Paulina Ninje, chairperson of the Tanzania Women in Mining and Mineral Industry (TWIMMI) called on the government agencies responsible for the mining sector to work closely with all stakeholders across the country.



Tatayo Laizer, a member of the Maasai Women Development Organisation based in Longido in Arusha Region, makes remarks at a three-day gathering of old women caring for grandchildren whose parents died of Aids. The just-ended 'International Grandmothers Gathering' was held in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Technological centre by Indian firm wins Z'bar govt accolades

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

MINISTER in the president's Office, Finance and Planning, Zanzibar Dr Saada Mkuya Salum has said that a decision by India based Airpay to establish a technology centre in the Isles will stimulate economic growth.

Speaking at an event to launch the centre which was concurrently launched with

the Public Private Partnership (PPP) department in the ministry, the minister said the centre will stimulate economic growth given that Zanzibar was implementing the blue economy policy.

On the digital agenda, the minister said there is need for government departments to engage the e-government agency to guarantee security of government information.

He advised the newly lunched centre to help public institutions reach out to digital customers including developing a tendency of practicing cashless economy.

"This centre is further going to cement our diplomatic relationship and we commend the government the government of India for the gesture," she said.

She said the launching of

the centre was an opportunity to entrepreneurs to access loans in various financial institutions," she said.

Minister of State in the President's Office, Labour, Economy and Investment Mudrik Ramadhan Soraga said the payment system launched will help in revenue collection.

He said the system launched involves businesses and entrepreneurs saying various the

system is used by various governments globally to facilitate availability of data of how the economy is run.

"In our case, most of the business people in the country have not been registered, therefore there are no actual data on their contribution to the economy including the large taxpayers and even the small taxpayers," he said.

Minister for Trade and In-

vestment in Zanzibar Omar Said Shaaban said the new system will create a good environment for businesses to manage payments including service providers.

Commissioner for PPP in Zanzibar Dr Bili Kiwia said the new system will help entrepreneurs and the informal sector to do business digitally and cashless.

Founder of the centre Yas-

min Chali said they have decided to invest in Zanzibar due to its capacity in innovation saying they will work to ensure that the investment benefits all.

She said they will work on ensuring that they train people on the best way to inclusive economy to help them grow their businesses and find solutions to their financial challenges.



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila (L) addresses a Confederation of Tanzania Industries meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on: CTI chairman Paul Makanza (R) and CTI executive director Leodegar Tenga. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

AfDB approves \$2.5m in horticulture grant

By Guardian Reporter

A \$2.5m grant to uplift an estimated 10,000 small horticultural units in Tanzania has been approved by the board of directors of the African Development Bank.

The fund that has been approved last week, will come from the Global Agriculture & Food Security Programme to support mainly food system service providers in rural areas.

The programme aims to increase the production and marketing of horticultural products to mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

It includes promoting sustainable and climate-smart agricultural and agro-ecological techniques and management strategies for biodiversity and landscapes. It will boost production, climate consultancy services and post-harvest management.

The scheme will be implemented in four regions: the rural district of Morogoro, Mvomero district in Morogoro Re-

gion; Wanging'ombe district in Njombe Region, and Kaskazini 'A' and 'B' districts in Unguja, Zanzibar. It targets five value chains: spices such as cloves, cinnamon, ginger, black pepper and garlic; tomatoes; peas; green beans and potatoes.

Other components include building at least five climate-resilient facilities for sorting, classification, bulk packing, packaging and storage to reduce post-harvest losses.

A multi-purpose, climate-resilient processing facility for spices will be established in the Morogoro District in the eastern side of the country to process spices for local and regional markets.

The project will allow small operators in Tanzania to improve the efficiency of their agricultural activities, substantially increasing the volume and quality of products per unit of surface area.

In the long term, these benefits should significantly impact other farmers, which should help more agricultural communities and the country as a whole.

Power outages will end soon, Dar RC assures industrialists

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

DAR ES SALAAM regional commissioner, Albert Chalamila has assured industrialists that power outages will end soon, due to a number of government's strategies, which are in place, including finding new sources of energy.

RC Chalamila made the assurance yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking at a meeting with members of the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI).

The RC is aware of electricity challenge that the traders are going through due to frequent outages but the government is standing firm to put plans that will eliminate the situation in the long run, saying that the last drought

reduced the level of water thus reducing the production of electricity produced through water and added that another reason for the decrease in electricity is the increase in users.

"There have been many electricity users, but electricity is limited, that's why the government is making efforts to find more sources of electricity and there is the Julius Nyerere Hydroelectric Power Plant (JNHPP) that will generate 2115 Megawatts, there is a Rusumo project, so in the near future the situation will be good," he said.

He also said Dar Salaam Region currently does not have a water problem because while the daily demand is 544 million liters but

the production of water is 590 million liters so there is an excess of production.

He said that the existing problem is the speed of the relevant authorities to connect people with the service, adding that after last year's drought, the government decided to intervene by drilling wells.

So far, he said nine wells were dug to deal with the situation and until now six wells are working and a tank with a capacity of 6,000,000 liters has already been built to overcome the water crisis.

"On the water side, what remains is to speed up the water network to reach many people and another thing that the Presi-

dent has done is to invest in the Kidunda dam Morogoro which will bring water to the Dar es Salaam region and Coast Region, but in your activities should be thinking about the issue of the environment to deal with the problem of climate change," he said.

Leodegar Tenga, CTI executive director, asked the government to reduce the influx of fees for businessmen's vehicles to distribute their goods into the city center as they increase production costs.

He said that industrialists are making products that they have to distribute to urban areas, but in order for their vehicles to reach the city, they have to pay charges starting between 20,000/- and 50,000/- for medium-sized

cars per day or 200,000/- per month.

"This is very sad, because no one can produce products without taking them to the city, but when taking them to the city, they are punished by being charged a series of fees, so we ask the government to look into it because it is a long-term cry," he said.

"When the producer is charged with the accumulation of charges, a very large burden is added to the production and these charges have been causing great inconvenience for their vehicles to be seized from time to time and taken to the yard where they have to pay a lot of money," he said.

Tenga also asked the government to renovate roads in the

industrial areas because when it rains the situation in Chang'ombe areas becomes worse.

"The roads are very damaged because there are ditches and the traffic is very high. We are asking TARURA and Tanroads to do something to reduce this inconvenience," he said.

He also said that there have been Inland Container Depot (ICD) in industrial areas, a situation that has caused heavy traffic of many large vehicles to the extent that industrialists lack the opportunity to carry out their activities.

He said that the vehicles that are inserted into the ICDs have sometimes blocked the road and caused great inconvenience to industrialists around there.

Chana urges Tanzanians on book reading culture

By Getrude Mbago

MINISTER for Constitutional and Legal Affairs Dr Pindi Chana has urged Tanzanians to inculcate a culture of reading books in order to fetch new skills and widen their understanding of various issues in the society.

She made the call in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday evening during the launch of a book titled: "The Fatimids" by Dr Shainool Jiwa under organisation of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) Tanzania and The Institute of Ismaili Studies (IIS).

The book narrates the history of Islamic religion and culture, delving into the salient features and values underpinning the Fatimid Empire, their impact on Islamic civilisation and their relevance to the world.

She said that reading books can help a person to be confident as well as acquire knowledge that will help him/her in solving various challenges in society but also be able to predict current and future happenings.

Dr Chana said the government will continue providing support to book writers who invest their time bringing publications which help address various challenges in the community as well as promote peace, love and unity.

She commended the author of the book for bringing an educational product which is going to be of great help to the general public by understanding deeply the Ismailis and their rich intellectual and cultural heritage, as well as certain aspects of their more recent history and achievements.

Dr Shainool Jiwa, the book author said he decided to write the book with the aim of giving children, young people and adults, knowledge, skills, attitudes and values to help them integrate with the world and contribute to the society's development.

He said the book lays out the scale and scope and impact of the Fatimid period, providing leaders with knowledge and skills on how to integrate with the world's diverse cultures.



Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister Dr Pindi Chana (C) shows a copy of The Fatimids, a book authored by Dr Shainool Jiwa (L) under the oversight of the Aga Khan Development Network (Tanzania) and the Institute of Ismaili Studies, shortly after she launched it in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. With them is Amin Kurji, the AKDN's Diplomatic Representative in Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Halfani Chusi

Grannies caring for children whose parents died of HIV plead for loans

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

GRANDMOTHERS who are taking care of children whose parents died from HIV/AIDS have appealed to be enjoined as beneficiaries of loans issued in local government authorities (LGAs).

They were speaking at the just-ended forum organized by the International Grandmothers Gathering under funding from

Stephen Lewis Foundation from Canada. The forum involved three organizations—Manyara-based Maasai Women Development Organization (MWEDO), Dar-es Salaam-based Kimara Peers Educator and Kilimanjaro-based Rainbow Centre.

Pfiriuel Kiwia, chairperson of the forum said: "We have various challenges including taking care of the children, we are living tough lives, we think we should be en-

joined in the loans."

She said the group has been facing serious economic challenges because taking care of the children needs funds which the women who are also aged do not have.

Kolumba Mirao from Mweddo said the loans will help the groups to overcome their challenges to sustain their lives.

Kolumba said most of the institutions which offer loans demand collateral which

most of the women do not have.

"We are taking care of the children which is a contribution to the country but we need to be identified by financial institutions so that we also benefit from poverty alleviation programmes," she said.

Cyprian Mbuya Dar es Salaam city council administrator said the request will be taken into consideration by the government adding that it was valid.

"You need to continue with what you are doing because you are doing a great job, we will work on the requests which you have issued to see how we can help," he said.

He said this was time for the group to issue their voices so that they receive the support which they are calling for so that if possible they are linked to the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) programme.

KFC shuts Lesotho stores over South Africa bird flu

MASERU

KFC has announced it is closing all its restaurants in Lesotho amid a severe outbreak of bird flu in neighbouring South Africa.

Lesotho's government has banned all poultry imports from the country, which KFC says has "severely impacted" its supply of chicken.

KFC says its chickens come from farms in South Africa which are certified as being free of bird flu.

Lesotho is a mountainous country entirely surrounded by South Africa.

South Africa has been struggling to contain bird flu for several months and has culled more than seven million egg-laying hens - 20-30% of the country's entire stock.

Last week, neighbouring Mozambique slaughtered about 45,000 infected hens it had imported from South Africa.

Namibia also banned the import of South African poultry in September.

The outbreak has led to a shortage of eggs and chicken meat in several countries in southern Africa.

KFC Lesotho said it was committed to finding a resolution and assured customers its restaurants would be opening their doors soon.



Lalji Foundation chairman Imtiaz Lalji (4th-R, standing) poses for a photo in Geita earlier this week with people attended to at a free eye treatment camp sponsored by the foundation. Photo: Correspondent

Malawi makes first large-scale wheat harvest

BLANTYRE

MALAWI has made its first successful large-scale harvest of wheat after years of attempts to find a variety of grain suitable for its soil. Wheat farming is seen as a solution to mitigate the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on grain imports to the African continent.

Ronald Ngwira, chief executive officer of Malawi-registered US company Pyxus Agriculture Limited, which operates a farm in central Malawi for the diversification of wheat seeds, said about four

varieties of wheat have been found suitable for Malawian soil out of about 80 varieties which had been tried since 2019.

Speaking during the start of the first large-scale harvest over the weekend, Ngwira said the wheat farming will help Malawi save millions of dollars spent on wheat imports.

"Malawi imports 200,000 tons of wheat at \$48 million. To get there, it could take us four years to produce enough wheat in Malawi to satisfy ourselves," Ngwira said. "Four years might be seen as a long

time, but we are already there and will have the seed available."

Agriculture experts in Malawi say wheat farming is expected to produce about 90 metric tons, which is 50 per cent of the country's wheat consumption.

Malawian President Lazarus Chakwera witnessed the harvest Friday at Mpale farm in Dowa district.

"Wheat farming can enable Malawi to be self-sustaining. But this will require each one of us to work hard to achieve the desired results. Let us all make a move

toward that goal by even using modern technology," Chakwera said.

Malawi has long been heavily dependent on imported wheat, and the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine has disrupted food supply chains. According to the United Nations, Africa takes up 12.26 per cent of grain imported from Ukraine.

A U.N. report notes that the Russian invasion of Ukraine triggered a shortage of about 30 million tons of grain on the continent, along with a sharp increase

in cost.

"If we can find markets, it can be another source of forex in the country," said Wisdom Mgombezulu, an agricultural economist and lecturer at Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences. "Because, as you know, wheat is among those high-value cash crops that are highly demanded in the world."

Mgombezulu said to achieve this, Malawi needs to find more sustainable production technologies that can give a comparative advantage, considering that there are already

big players in the market.

"We need more investment in research. Let's look for more funds and donor partners to finance agronomists and researchers who are trying their best to breed varieties that can be grown here in Malawi. But for that to be done, we need to research more investment and maybe get a share of the export market," Mgombezulu said.

In the meantime, Ngwira of Pyxus said they are planning to plant 15,000 hectares of seed in December to prepare farmers for mass wheat production next year.

TCDC urged to expedite process of setting up cooperative bank

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

TANZANIA Cooperative development commission (TCDC) has been tasked to speed up the process of establishing cooperative banks to effectively support the important sector.

Kwimba District Commissioner Ng'wilabuzu Ludigija made the call here yesterday when inaugurating the Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOS) Week.

Ludigija said: "There is no reason to delay the existence of the bank when you have the ability to have the bank. Legally, to have a bank, you must have a capital of 15bn/-, but I know now that you are close to reaching that level, do your best to reach that goal in order to build a strong economic entity in the country."

The DC said that some Saccos have borrowed more than 100bn/- and others one trillion/-, which is a very big step forward.

Acting Regional Administrative Secretary, Daniel Machunda said they have a total of 371 Saccos with 14,638 members with a capital of 12.7bn/-.

"Our SACCOS have become a solid foundation for raising people's incomes, whereby every year 12.5bn/- is issued as loans to the members," said Machunda.

Dr Benson Ndiege, TCDC managing director said they want to give more scope to every girl to be able to join many SACCOS unlike before.

"I have visited some countries here in Africa and Europe, our colleagues have made more progress and have more members due to the way they have improved them, it is our responsibility to make those reforms," said Dr Benson.

The climax of the SACCOS week is today where Tanzania joins the international community to mark the important event.



Tigo Pesa chief officer Angelica Pesa briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday as the firm launched 'Tigo Pesa Rafiki' as an innovative service enabling customers to make their Tigo Pesa transactions via WhatsApp. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Programme launched in Tanga to discourage underage drinking

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

SERENGETI Breweries Limited (SBL) has launched the smashed programme in Tanga region aimed at breaking the culture of underage drinking and reducing alcohol-related harm among young people. The programme represents a vital step towards foster-

ing responsible choices and empowering the youth of Tanzania with the knowledge and skills needed to make informed decisions about alcohol consumption and completely discourage underage alcohol consumption.

Rispa Hatibu, SBL communications and sustainability manager said: "SBL understands that peer pressure

is a reason for underaged drinking and it's important to remember that you have the power to say no and make choices that align with your values and goals. True friends will respect your decisions and support your journey."

He said: "As students, you are all part of a larger community beyond these school grounds, and we all share a

responsibility for the well-being of our peers and society as a whole. Encourage your friends and classmates to make responsible choices and stand up against underage drinking."

A study conducted by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare in 2008 among secondary school students in the Dar es Salaam Region found that 5 per cent used

alcohol, 10.8 per cent had taken a drink before age 14 and 26.2 per cent had a parent who abused alcohol. Alcohol use during early childhood and adolescence can have long-term detrimental health, social, economic and developmental effects on youth and society.

Research shows that youth who start drinking alcohol before the age of 15 are six

times more likely to develop alcohol dependency problems than those who start drinking after the age of 21.

Due to this Serengeti Breweries Limited introduced the programme in 2021, and it has already made a significant impact on our youth. As of today, SBL has reached 22 schools, educating over 24,025 students across the country.

The Programme is not just about discouraging underage drinking, it's about empowering our young minds to make informed and responsible choices. It encourages students to prioritize their education and develop crucial skills, such as emotional intelligence, which will serve as invaluable tools in navigating life's challenges.

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER 2023

**Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

Costly bus tracking equipment suitable for luxury speed buses

DIFFERENT signals are emerging over way in which commuting by rapid transit buses can be improved in the city of Dar es Salaam. For one thing, the government has put up an all-out effort to improve the road network to cater for the special buses, the problem remaining with the current operator, whether the way the work is organized suits the purpose. There is a multiplicity of stakeholders and confusion as to what really is the best way out of the situation, as there is an agency that holds the trump card as operator or service provider, but it relies on an operational system that is constituted as another company. Such diarchies are often inefficient.

The sector minister who has just come into the docket came up with a clear and tangible proposition or plan on decongesting DART bus stations, by having another operator on the spot. New developments shows that there is a plan that has been in the works for a while and has now come to fruition, apparently with ministerial acceptance, of installing a bus movement monitoring network, at a cost of 6.7bn/-. While the publicity around the project can be disarming, it is altogether clear that car track methods that exist more than fill such a gap, whereas the technology being talked about is more suited to networks as such, not really for bus operations.

When one has say ten vehicles on a franchise, or even tricycles and motorcycles as is quite often the case, it is a usable idea to have such a network as it will show who is nearer the point of particular caller. And a passenger who wishes for the services of a specific car or driver will be told in advance the

waiting time for such a driver to arrive. Buses have specific routes and turnaround schedules, and these do not need networking to manage, especially when the drivers are employees of that same bus system, having no personal decisions to make on passengers, routes.

The Dar es Salaam Rapid Transport (DART) is on the other hand bent on improving the image of the bus system to modernity, which is altogether plausible if it changes to a luxury bus system with higher fares and ample space for sitting. It would by implication be targeting upper class individuals wishing to leave their private transport and taking rapid transit especially those building in suburban areas far from the city centre. If there is space and is comfortable, it would convince a good number of them to skip own cars and commute to work by luxury rapid transit. It is change of mission, from mass transport to specialized transport.

It is unclear if the ministry is keeping track of the project in that manner, that there are two things involved and it isn't clear which has the upper hand. There is also the issue of what the company feels it can best do, compared to expectations that are being raised to the government on congestion on BRT routes. The signing of a communications and tracking system is not the answer to congestion but more buses, and saying the project will take 14 months without adding up to 50 buses at least is tantamount to ignoring the real issue for cosmetic changes of bus traffic management. It is easy to have an inspection saloon car to see how many people are at bus stations; passengers simply don't need to know the bus movements, etc.

NGOs, banks can start windows for women to borrow for land purchase

FOR more than two decades since the two land acts were passed by the legislature around 1999, women's organisations have used countless opportunities and events to insist on the government and stakeholders to increase women participation in land ownership. As in a number of issues, a debate comes up on the basis of shifting of goal posts, where for instance it is claimed that the law favours men when it comes to owning land. At best, when these organisations actually look at the reality, they complain about harmful customs or traditional beliefs on the issue.

Similar to debates relating to reforming the law of marriage, activists are calling for the dissolution of customary law as such, the way in which land is passed from father to son, or split between the sons.

Women often get portion of clan land to farm if the husband has died and the widow is still on the land, but the land is not shared among the siblings indiscriminately as activists urge. It means that women can also marry a man and unite with that man on the clan land of her father. It would be altogether strange but they do not say it loudly, just insist on the land.

In other words it is hard to understand what more needs to be done in strengthening land rights for women and men across the African continent, whereas the right of inheritance isn't at issue. For urban areas, when the husband dies the property remains with the wife on the basis of its non-belonging to the man's clan. Here there are

routine calls for omen to write wills while they still have ability to do so, as plenty depends on what a father decides to divide the property to heirs after he dies. Here again the government isn't part of the issue as it has no role to play in the way one writes a will, as the property at issue is detached, not clan property.

The whole idea of respecting reality in such matter is often wanting among activists, as mostly the groups are started by revolutionaries transferring their energy to human rights activism.

As a matter of fact the solution to land ownership if Europeans and Americans wish to help, is to beef up women's banks or other lending agencies, directed at purchasing land. Legendary South African president Nelson Mandela used the phrase 'willing seller, willing buyer' for such a policy but then at another stage, the property will be inherited by a son for the lady's family line, if not clan line, to persist. Indeed, the beautiful ones are not yet born.

In that context even the activist women, if they have property, will mostly bequeath to their sons in order to perpetuate their family names, and clans do not exist in urban areas but the names.

Women's financial independence increasingly destabilises marriages, but that is beside the point. Women have as much right as men to attain happiness in life, even at the expense of would be, or actual, suitors and husbands.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER: DENNIS NTAITA

Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757 154767
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Cel: + 0677 020701 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: lppmedia.com, epaper.ippmedia.com



This is how I try to survive crime in Cape Town

By Qaqamba Falithenjwa

LIVING in Cape Town, you hear gunshots any time of the day.

If you live in Philippi, Cape Town, you get used to the sound of a gun going off at any time of the day. Not a day goes by without residents being mugged, killed, hijacked or having their houses broken into. Everyone who lives here has learned ways to deal with crime.

Violent crime is so serious here that it is often not safe for City of Cape Town council workers or ambulances to operate. In May, in response to numerous robberies and threats the City launched specialised policing units to escort and protect the workers operating in Philippi and other dangerous areas.

I've been living in Samora since 2006, when I started primary school. I've survived all these years without personally experiencing any kind of crime. I have been robbed a couple of times, but it was not in Samora. But I've witnessed people being robbed in my area, and a lot of people I know, including family, have experienced crime. Once a woman whose house had been broken into ran and jumped into our yard. Mostly, criminals go about their work when it's dark, but in Samora, people are robbed and even killed in broad daylight.

I've learned ways to deal with the constant threat. One is prayer. Whenever I walk into or come across a dangerous situation I always mumble a little prayer until I'm past it.

I remember once when I was on my way to school, around 8am. I was just three minutes away from home. There were three guys across the road from me who looked as if they were having a casual chat; one of them had a bag and was taking stuff out of his pockets. It was when I saw a gun in the hands of one of the thieves that I realised that this was a robbery.

My heart raced and I wasn't sure whether to pass them and continue walking or just turn back and go home. I figured that if I turned back, they would realise that I had seen them and come after me. So I decided to walk past them fast while saying a little prayer and pretend I hadn't seen anything. I had a panic attack in the taxi a few minutes later.

What I have been taught since as long as I can remember living in Samora is that, when I leave the house I need to make sure that my wallet and cell phone are not in a bag I'm carrying, but on my chest or my waist. So that when my bag gets snatched, at least I have my essentials.

My dad got robbed on his way to work about a week ago, at the same spot where I witnessed a robbery. His smartphone and transport money were safely inside his socks and the bad guys only got a R10 note and a spare phone that was in his pocket. He says he always keeps stuff in his



Robert Sobukwe Street in Samora Machel, Philippi. People who live here have to find ways to deal with daily crime.

pocket just so that the thieves get something out of him, because if they don't get something they harm you.

A friend of mine from my street was chased by thieves on his way to work, at the very same spot. The thieves were across the road when they spotted him, but there was so much filth and dirty water between them it took too long for them to get to him so he had time to run for his life. He says that is what saved him.

When we talk about crime in Samora anytime is teatime. From the earliest hours of the morning until sunset, criminal activities are brewing.

It's best to avoid walking around at night in Samora. It doesn't matter whether you are male or female, if it's dark and you are outside, chances are you will get mugged, especially if you are around the hotspots.

The hotspots are next to the police station, next to the library and all along Oliver Tambo Drive until the beginning of an informal settlement called Kosovo. Also in between streets.

I live about 15 minutes away from the taxi rank. If I need to go somewhere by a taxi and it's early hours of the morning say around 5-6 am, I need to prepare myself.

If it's not necessary for me to carry my phone I leave it at home. I carry only the amount of money I need to travel and not my whole wallet unless I really have to.

I know I have to avoid corners. I have to avoid walking in between streets where there are no people around because I might just be trapped. When I come out of my street, I need to quickly find someone or a group of people to

walk with, people going to work or learners on their way to school. This is so that I'm not an easy target for thieves. This is something almost all people (especially females) in areas like Samora have adopted.

If you're walking around a scary place and you're female, quickly find someone (preferably another female) to walk with you. At times you'd want to walk with a male person, but that takes a lot of thinking about because you're not sure if that person is a predator himself.

The taxi rank itself can be deemed a "safe space" because we trust taxi drivers. We know that no criminal activity would occur in their presence, especially in their territory. So, if you make it to the taxi rank, you've won. If something were to happen at the taxi rank, the predators wouldn't get away with it easily, unless it's heavily armed professionals targeting the taxi drivers. That's a different kind of war.

I don't go out much. When I do, it's mostly in the day. If I do go out at night, it's mostly to church and with my parents.

The weekends are busy in Samora: from morning till midnight the streets are booming with people having all kinds of fun, and it's also a time when thieves get a chance to pounce on people. I avoid being outside at these times because I don't like crowds and also because I know my chances of being robbed or pickpocketed without even noticing are very high. If I have to be outside, I take someone with me.

About a month ago I was on my way from the supermarket in the late afternoon. I had two heavy

plastic bags of groceries with me, and my home was about 25 minutes away.

There was a guy walking in front of me and he kept turning back to look at me. Then he stopped walking and waited for me to pass by him.

I didn't know what to do. He didn't look like a robber but I'm smart enough to know that a robber doesn't look like a robber. So, I said a quiet prayer and walked past him, avoiding eye contact.

When I passed him, he asked if he could help me carry my plastic bags. I don't know why, but my answer was: "How do I know you won't run away with my groceries?"

I could see the shock on his face -- he didn't expect that answer -- but he told me he understood and continued walking next to me. He started making small talk and when we parted ways, he said goodbye. I know it must have been crazy for him to experience that, but then, I trust no one in Samora.

One thing that people say saves you, is knowing the criminals. Apparently, if a thief knows you and you know them, it's unlikely they will come after you. I do know one guy who I went to school with who robs people.

Another technique I use is, if I see a suspicious person and I can't dodge them, I try not to look them in the eyes. And if they try to talk to me, I make sure I respond nicely so as not to make them angry.

But even if you feel you've done all you can to protect yourself, you are still unprotected. It's just a matter of time before your turn comes.

Aiding or attempting to commit suicide violates right to life

By Telesphor Magobe

LAST week, we briefly looked at death penalty in relation to World Day Against Death Penalty marked each year on October 14. There are disagreements on the justification of death penalty because some people are for it and want it to be maintained while others are against it and want it to be abolished. In any case, as the theme for this year states: "The death penalty: An irreversible torture". We can add that it is barbaric.

Actually, many jurisdictions across the world have abolished it. As of December 31, according to Amnesty International (AI), about three quarters of the countries in the world had abolished the death penalty in law or practice.

AI statistics show abolitionist for all crimes (countries whose laws do not provide for the death penalty for any crime) were 112, abolitionist for ordinary crimes only (countries whose laws provide for the death penalty only for exceptional crimes such as crimes under military law or crimes committed in exceptional circumstances) were 9, abolitionist in practice were 23, total abolitionist in law or practice were 144 and only 55 countries were retentionist (countries that retain the death penalty for ordinary crimes).

Tanzania belongs to the "abolitionist in practice" - that is countries that still retain the death penalty in their penal code for ordinary crimes such as murder, but haven't executed any prisoner on death row for at least 10 years and are believed to have a policy or established the practice of not carrying out any executions.

The Law and You



Today, I invite you to briefly look at an attempt to commit suicide (kill oneself). Just as a reminder, this column is about helping laypersons to know what some of the laws they are subject to say about things they are familiar or unfamiliar with.

It is a criminal offence to kill another person, to cause the death of another person, to conspire (including counselling) to kill another person or to let an

other person be killed in circumstances in which you can prevent it. In short, as Article 14 of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania states: "Every person has the right to live and to the protection of his life by society..."

Three days ago, a person was found dead in an unfinished (partially developed) building in suspicious circumstances in the neighbourhood. The building in which his body was found

lying is near area a few years ago people found the body of a person who was killed and dumped there.

Although it is a planned area, not all plot owners have developed their plots. So, you can find that some plots are habited, but others are not. This area is also near an unplanned area inhabited by all types of people and where incidents of theft, stabbing and robbery are common.

So, with the case I am referring to, there are people who say the person who was dumped in the unfinished building was killed somewhere else and his assailants carried his body and dumped it in the building his body was found.

Others say the person was an itinerant preacher and would preach from time to time in a centre in the unplanned area which is densely populated and one day was heard saying that he had a few debts, but he was unable to settle at the time being and this torments him very much.

There are those who say that some of his creditors after seeing that he was unable to repay them they might have decided to kill him as this common saying goes: "ukimwaga ugali, namwaga mbo-ga" (in loose translation: if you cause suffering to me, I will also do a similar thing to you so that we both lose). So, there are still speculations going on about what was the cause of the itinerant preacher's death.

In Tanzania, and also in other jurisdictions, an attempt to commit suicide is a criminal offence. In the Penal Code (R.E. 2022), there are two sections in which suicide is mentioned. Section 216 provides for aiding suicide and section 217 provides for attempting suicide. Section 216 states:

"Any person who - (a) procures another to kill himself; (b) counsels another to kill himself and thereby induces him to do so; or (c) aids another in killing himself, is guilty of an offence and liable to imprisonment for life." Section 217 states: "Any person who attempts to kill himself is guilty of an offence."

Ramadhani vs Tanzania (2018), the applicant (Ramadhani) filed a case to

the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR) against the Respondent State (Tanzania) in relation to an appeal he lost in the Court of Appeal of Tanzania. He was first charged in a criminal case No 199/98 before the District Court in Arusha on August 25, 1999 and was convicted and sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment for armed robbery under sections 285 and 286 of the Penal Code, 7 years for attempted suicide under section 217 and 2 years for causing grievous bodily harm on himself under section 225.

On August 28, 1999, he appealed to the High Court of Tanzania in a criminal case No 64/2000 and on September 22, 2005, but the High Court upheld the 30 years' imprisonment sentence, only that it substituted the 7-year imprisonment sentence for attempted suicide with 2 years, and dismissed all other counts. On September 25, 2005, aggrieved by the decision of the High Court of Tanzania, he filed a criminal appeal No 228/2005 before the Court of Appeal of Tanzania in Arusha and on October 29, 2007.

The Court of Appeal dismissed his appeal and upheld the 30-year imprisonment sentence. Then, the applicant made several complaints in relation to the manner of his detention, trial and sentencing by the Respondent State's judicial authorities. I won't go in detail because judgments of courts outside Tanzania on issues determined by Tanzanian courts are not binding to Tanzania although they may be persuasive.

I have used this case to show that an attempt to suicide is a criminal offence and if a person is found guilty of the offence is liable for imprisonment for a period the court shall decide, taking into account the circumstances in which the offence was committed.

Today's proverb: "Praise makes good people better and bad people worse."

The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at t22magobe@gmail.com

A tug of war and the slow peace process in Yemen

By Magdalena Kirchner

FOR the first time since the beginning of a war that claimed the lives of over 220,000 people, a senior Houthi delegation travelled from Yemen to Saudi Arabia's capital Riyadh in mid-September.

The timing of the visit, just before the anniversary of the capture of the Yemeni capital, Sana'a, on 21 September 2014 and the subsequent military escalation between the rebels (also known as Ansar Allah) and a Saudi-led military coalition, marks a diplomatic success for the de facto rulers of northern Yemen.

This is despite the fact that their only significant concession so far has been the temporary cessation of cross-border attacks using missiles or drones on neighbouring states such as Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Some observers cynically suggest that Riyadh's real motivation is not to create an inclusive and lasting peace in war-torn Yemen but 'not to disturb the newly bought European football stars with the sound of explosions'. However, the Houthis are showing a genuine interest in continuing negotiations with Riyadh and in exploiting the advantageous momentum of an Iranian-Saudi détente.

With Tehran's support, they have developed a credible military deterrent in recent years. Neither their internal Yemeni opponents nor the latter's regional and international supporters have succeeded in preventing or even reversing the consolidation of their rule over large parts of the country and its population.

Yet, with the end of Saudi air strikes in April 2022 and the lifting of air and sea blockades crucial to economic prosperity in northern Yemen, the rebels now lack a key driver for mobilising and securing popular support within their own territory: an external enemy.

Normalisation efforts externally, consolidation of power internally

In the past months, critical voices have grown significantly louder, particularly about the fact that while revenues from taxes, increased tariffs on imports from government-controlled areas and the boosted activity at the port of Hodeida have increased by nearly half a billion US dollars between April and November 2022, public sector employees continue to wait for salaries and pensions that have been overdue for years.

Criticism also came from the ranks of the General People's Congress (GPC), the former unity and ruling party, to whom, until his surprising ouster by the National Security Council on 27 September, the prime minister of the Houthi government, Abdel-Aziz bin Habtoor, had belonged.



Frustration among the population in Yemen is running high, and there have been repeated roadblocks, injuries and even deaths during protests. Credit: UNDP Yemen

Hence, negotiations and the prospect of a financial peace dividend (i.e. an economic boost a country will get from a peace that follows a war) could be enticing and might buy the rebels time at home - even if it remains unclear how payments from a neighbouring state or the internationally recognised government (IRG) can be reconciled with their own claim to be Yemen's only legitimate government.

Improving relations with regional states, which could offset reduced or even suspended aid from the West, may help reduce the rulers' dependencies. This also explains why, on the anniversary of the capture of the capital, the Houthi leadership publicly announced that it wanted to address any concerns on the part of Saudi Arabia that might stand in the way of an agreement and stated its intent to double its own combat readiness if an 'honourable peace' could not be achieved.

The fragility of normalisation efforts between the former adversaries was underscored when a drone

course, especially with Western donor states, whose humanitarian support is the livelihood of more than 20 million people across the country. These tensions are further fuelled by the fact that aid organisations' ability to prevent the misuse of aid by those in power through independent needs assessments is systematically and sometimes violently curtailed.

Improving relations with regional states, which could offset reduced or even suspended aid from the West, may help reduce the rulers' dependencies. This also explains why, on the anniversary of the capture of the capital, the Houthi leadership publicly announced that it wanted to address any concerns on the part of Saudi Arabia that might stand in the way of an agreement and stated its intent to double its own combat readiness if an 'honourable peace' could not be achieved.

The fragility of normalisation efforts between the former adversaries was underscored when a drone

strike on a patrol by the Saudi-led military coalition in the Saudi border area with Yemen killed three Bahraini soldiers on 25 September.

Stuck in the starting blocks: an intra-Yemeni peace process

Although the international conflict dimension has de-escalated, this has not yet been accompanied by significant progress in a potential intra-Yemeni peace. In late September, hundreds of Yemenis commemorating the 1962 establishment of the Yemeni Arab Republic were detained in Houthi-controlled areas.

Although military clashes between the Houthi rebels and the armed forces of the IRG and its allies, assembled in the Presidential Leadership Council (PLC), have significantly decreased, attacks on government troops have not ceased. In July 2023, the rebels employed drones, battle tanks and artillery in the southwestern governorate of Ad Dali. However, a new form of economic warfare is hitting

the IRG and especially the people living in areas under its control even harder;

Since October 2022, the Houthis have been using drones to launch attacks on critical oil production and export facilities in IRG-held areas. According to its own reports, the IRG has suffered losses of more than \$1 bn in revenue as a result. The Houthis have also imposed a ban on importing gas from government-controlled territory and made it difficult to trade goods within Yemen, especially those imported via the port of Aden.

Although Saudi Arabia stepped in to assist the struggling IRG by pledging \$1.2 bn in economic aid at the beginning of August, the economic situation remains dire. The national currency, the Yemeni Rial, has lost a quarter of its value against the US dollar in the past year alone. Gas stations have frequently had to close in recent months, and the people in the southern city of Aden had to endure power outages of up to 17 hours - in sweltering heat.

Frustration among the population is running high, and there have been repeated roadblocks, injuries and even deaths during protests. Despite increased efforts by European partners to bolster the IRG through more frequent visits and a greater presence in Aden, the glaring weakness of state institutions and lack of unity among key actors in the south remain the government's biggest Achilles heel.

Former allies become estranged

These intra-Yemeni dynamics make Saudi Arabia's current negotiating strategy, as well as the support it receives from most international actors, all the more problematic. A statement by the US government on the Riyadh talks failed to mention the IRG or the fact that they, along with the United Nations, other conflict parties and civil society actors, are excluded from these 'efforts for peace'.

The UAE, the second major regional power with high stakes in the conflict, might feel equally left out. Its allies, such as the Southern Transitional Council (STC), which pursues the goal of southern statehood, could perceive their own interests as being at risk. The once-close relationship between Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman and UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed is now widely considered to have broken down. At the same time, the former allies now find themselves separated by the tangible geopolitical conflicts of interest in Yemen and the strategically important straits surrounding the country.

The talks in Saudi Arabia offer hope for a peaceful future for Yemen as they shed light on the real political interests of the Houthis, especially in the area of economic cooperation.

How to defend the environment and survive as a woman in Mexico

By Emilio Godoy

THE defense of the right to water led Gema Pacheco to become involved in environmental struggles in the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca, an area threatened by drought, land degradation, megaprojects, mining and deforestation.

Care “means first and foremost to value the place where we live, that the environment in which we grow up is part of our life and on which our existence depends,” said Pacheco, deputy municipal agent of San Matías Chilazoa, in the municipality of Ejutla de Crespo, some 355 kilometers south of Mexico City.

A biologist by profession, the activist is a member of the Local Committee for the Care and Defense of Water in San Matías Chilazoa, which belongs to the Coordinating Committee of Peoples United for the Care and Defense of Water (Copuda).

The local population is dedicated to growing corn, beans and chickpeas, an activity hampered by the scarcity of water in a country that has been suffering from a severe drought over the past year.

To deal with the phenomenon, the community created three water reservoirs and infiltration wells to feed the water table.

“Women’s participation has been restricted, there are few women in leadership positions. The main challenge is acceptance. There is little participation, because they see it as a waste of time and it is very demanding,” lamented Pacheco.

In November 2021, the 16 communities of Copuda obtained the right to manage the water resources in their territories, thus receiving water concessions.

But women activists like Pacheco face multiple threats for protecting their livelihoods and culture in a country where such activities can pose a lethal risk.

For this reason, eight organizations from five Mexican states launched the Voices of Life campaign on Oct. 12, involving hundreds of habitat protectors, some of whom came to the Mexican capital for the event, where IPS interviewed several of them.

The initiative seeks to promote the right to a healthy environment, facilitate environmental information, protect and recognize people and organizations that defend the environment, as well as learn how to use information and communication technologies.

In 2022, Mexico ranked number three in Latin America in terms of murders of environmental activists, with 31 killed (four women and 16 indigenous people), behind Colombia (60) and Brazil (34), out of a global total of 177, according to the London-based non-governmental organization Global Witness.

A year earlier, this Latin American country of almost 129 million inhabitants ranked first on the planet, with 54 killings, so 2022 reflected an improvement.

“The situation in Mexico remains dire for defenders, and non-fatal attacks, including intimidation, threats, forced displacement, harassment and criminalization, continued to greatly complicate their work,” the report says.

The outlook remains serious for activists, as the non-governmental Mexican Center for Environmental Law (Cemda) documented 582 attacks in 2022, more than double the number in 2021. Oaxaca, Mexico City and the northern state of Chihuahua reported the highest number of attacks.

Urban problems

The south of Mexico City is home to the largest area of conservation land, but faces growing threats, such as deforestation, urbanization and irregular settlements.

Protected land defines the areas preserved by the public administration to ensure the survival of the land and its biodiversity.

Social anthropologist Tania Lopez said another risk has now emerged, in the form of the new General Land Use Planning Program 2020-2035 for the Mexican capital, which has a population of more than eight million people, although Greater Mexico City is home to more than 20 million.

“There was no public consultation of the plan based on a vision of development from the perspective of native peoples. In addition, it encourages real estate speculation, changes in land use and invasions,” said López, a member of the non-governmental organization Sembradoras Xochimilpas, part of the Voices of Life campaign.



Dozens of women environmentalists participated in Mexico City in the launch of the Voices of Life campaign by eight non-governmental organizations on Oct. 12, 2023, which brings together hundreds of activists in five of the country’s 32 states. CREDIT: Emilio Godoy / IPS

Apart from the failure to carry out mandatory consultation processes, activists point out irregularities in the governmental Planning Institute and its technical and citizen advisory councils, because they are not included as members.

The conservation land, which provides clean air, water, agricultural production and protection of flora and fauna, totals some 87,000 hectares, more than half of Mexico City.

The plan stipulates conservation of rural and urban land. But critics of the program point out that the for-

mer would lose some 30,000 hectares, destined for rural housing.

The capital’s legislature is debating the program, which should have been ready by 2020.

Gisselle García, a lawyer with the non-governmental Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense, said attacks on women activists occur within a patriarchal culture that limits the existence of safe spaces for women’s participation in the defense of rights.

“It’s an entire system, which reflects the legal structure. If a woman files a civil or criminal

complaint, she is not heard,” she told IPS, describing the special gender-based handicaps faced by women environmental defenders.

Still just an empty promise

This risky situation comes in the midst of preparations for the implementation of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Escazú Agreement, an unprecedented treaty that aims to mitigate threats to defenders of the en-

vironment, in force since April 2021.

Article 9 of the Agreement stipulates the obligation to ensure a safe and enabling environment for the exercise of environmental defense, to take protective or preventive measures prior to an attack, and to take response actions.

The treaty, which takes its name from the Costa Rican city where it was signed, guarantees access to environmental information and justice, as well as public participation in environmental decision-making, to protect activists.

The Escazú Agreement has so far been signed by 24 Latin

American and Caribbean countries, 15 of which have ratified it as well.

But its implementation is proceeding at the same slow pace as environmental protection in countries such as Mexico, where there are still no legislative changes to ensure its enforcement.

In August, the seven-person Committee to Support the Implementation of and Compliance with the Escazú Agreement took office. This is a non-contentious, consultative subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties to the agreement to promote and support its implementation.

Meanwhile, in Mexico, the Escazú National Group, made up of government and civil society representatives, was formed in June to implement the treaty.

During the annual regional Second Forum of Human Rights Defenders, held Sept. 26-28 in Panama, participants called on the region’s governments to strengthen protection and ensure a safe and enabling environment for environmental protectors, particularly women.

While the Mexican women defenders who gathered in Mexico City valued the Escazú Agreement, they also stressed the importance of its dissemination and, even more so, its proper implementation.

Activists Pacheco and Lopez agreed on the need for national outreach, especially to stakeholders.

“We need more information to get out, a lot of work needs to be done, more people need to know about it,” said Pacheco.

The parties to the treaty are currently discussing a draft action plan that would cover 2024 to 2030.

The document calls for the generation of greater knowledge, awareness and dissemination of information on the situation, rights and role of individuals, groups and organizations that defend human rights in environmental matters, as well as on the existing instruments and mechanisms for prevention, protection and response.

It also seeks recognition of the work and contribution of individuals, groups and organizations that defend human rights, capacity building, support for national implementation and cooperation, as well as a follow-up and review scheme for the regional plan.

García the attorney said the regional treaty is just one more tool, however important it may be.

“We are in the phase of seeing how the Escazú Agreement will be applied. The most important thing is effective implementation. It is something new and it will not be ready overnight,” she said.

As it gains strength, the women defenders talk about how the treaty can help them in their work. “If they attack me, what do I do? Pull out the agreement and show it to them so they know they must respect me?” one of the women who are part of the Voices of Life campaign asked her fellow activists.



Involvement in the defense of water led Gema Pacheco to become an environmental activist, participating in the Voices of Life campaign in Mexico, which seeks to bring visibility and respect to this high-risk activity in Mexico. CREDIT: Emilio Godoy / IPS

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Joint efforts needed to help women on land ownership

By Getrude Mbago

DESPITE efforts made by the government and stakeholders to increase women participation in various fields as well as supporting all genders to own land, the issue still faces a number of setbacks in some communities due to harmful customs and traditional beliefs.

Over the past few decades there has been a growing drive of the need to strengthen land rights for women and men across the African continent. As a result, governments have come under growing pressure to improve laws, policies and institutions to guarantee Africa's smallholder farmers secure land tenure.

To help reverse the situation, champions of women's land rights are working tirelessly to promote equality in land at the grassroots level.

They include Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF), Haki Ardhi, Landesa and many others who have been working with stakeholders and groups to support women's land rights on the ground.

In an interview with this paper recently, the land right stakeholders called for increased combined efforts to educate the public on land rights as well as implement more projects that support land ownership for all.

Joseph Chiombola, senior programme managers and advocate at HakiArdhi says women are the major users of land working up every

day to engage in farming and other activities but unfortunately most of them have no say on land ownership.

Chiombola says the situation continues to be seen as a big challenge especially in rural areas as the traditions in their areas still pushes them to treat women as a group with no right to own land and properties making them remain inferior and oppressed.

She says it is vital to ensure that women's land rights are enshrined not only in law, but are actually upheld in practice.

According to her, when a woman has secure rights to the land that she tills, multiple benefits often follow, such as increased status within the household, better health outcomes for women and their families, improved household nutrition, and increased incomes.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) recognize the critical role that secure land rights play in alleviating poverty, fortifying food security, and enhancing women's empowerment and gender equality.

But women still face legal and customary barriers that impede their land and inheritance rights in more than half the countries in the world, and women are especially vulnerable to losing their land since their access often depends on their relationship with a male relative. If this male relative dies, a woman's continued access to her land is anything but certain.



"Women seem to be people only to be informed and not to be involved in the whole process, you will find a man selling a farm, and his woman doesn't even know and end up getting information that the land has been sold, this isn't fair and affect family development and the nation at large," she says.

In addition, he says that in order to be able to help women to own land, it was important to implement interventions to fight and break traditional systems and customs which become a major source of barring women from their right to own land.

He calls on the government to also think on incorporating the issues of equality into school curricula so that children can learn from a young age on the importance of treating each other fairly.

Japhet Ngonde, an independent lawyer says as per the country's Land Act and Village Land Act (both passed in 1999) state that any Tanzanian has right to own land regardless of the gender.

The current constitution also upholds equal rights to property for men and women."

He says access, ownership, and control over land can provide women with financial security, shelter, income, and livelihood opportunities.

"However, despite challenges, women participation in land ownership has started to grow compared to previous years, we have witnessed efforts taken by the government in collaboration with stakeholders to increase access of land to women, customary title deeds have continued to be issued to people both

women and men in various villages," he says.

He adds that civil society, governments and the private sector can work collaboratively to address important issues facing women in relation to land acquisition.

Zaituni Rashid, a resident in Coast Region says women face several challenges which thwart them from being totally free and happy to own land for their development.

Though Tanzania's laws provide for women's ownership of land, customary practices regarding marriage and inheritance continue to discriminate heavily against women.

She says customary practices in many parts of the country often require women to access land through their fathers, brothers, husbands or other men who control the land.

This makes women vulnerable and decreases agricultural productivity. When women lose their connection to this male relative, either through death, divorce or migration, they can lose their land, home and means of supporting themselves and their families.

She however urges women to continue being strong and wake up to stand for their rights in order to stimulate development both at family level and the community.

"Studies confirm that women are routinely allocated the smallest and least productive plots. This affects the way women farm. It affects their ability to feed their children. It affects their ability to leave abusive relationships. It affects their ability to support themselves and work towards a better future."

Chinese doctors win hearts with dedication in Zanzibar

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

THE names of Chinese doctors working with the 33rd batch of the Chinese medical team in Zanzibar are leaving an indelible mark on the twin islands of Unguja and Pemba by performing complicated surgeries and saving lives of local patients.

With limited medical resources, the Chinese doctors, all from East China's Jiangsu Province, are bringing broad smiles to local patients who are desperate for a decent life.

In the early morning of Oct. 11, Gao Lingling, a gynecologist, received a distress call from a local gynecologist on duty at the Mnazi Mmoja Hospital in Unguja, informing her that a patient who had undergone an abdominal hysterectomy five days earlier suddenly had a full-layer abdominal incision with an exposed bowel.

Gao rushed to the hospital's gynecological ward, where she examined the patient and found that the abdominal incision of the patient was infected, purulent and split while her small intestine was exposed and swelling.

In preparation for the emergency surgery, the local doctor on duty informed Gao that the patient was also infected with HIV. Together with Jiang Guoqing, the leader of the Chinese medical team and a general surgery expert, they completed the operation.

Jiang continued to help complete the operation on the HIV-infected patient, even though he had a bruised finger on his right hand from cleaning the medical team's residence some time ago. It was the first time Gao and Jiang had operated on an HIV-infected patient.

Faced with numerous patients, complex disease types, and a serious lack of equipment and drugs, members of the Chinese



Members of the 33rd batch of the Chinese medical team pose for a photo with local children after providing free medical services in Zanzibar. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

medical team are making full use of the existing conditions to develop feasible and effective surgical plans so that a variety of operations can be carried out smoothly, relieving nearly 100 patients suffering from various ailments in about a month since their arrival in September.

Wei Changqun is the only doctor of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) on the team, and his arrival also makes the local people feel the charm of TCM. Wei undertakes daily outpatient work in the acupuncture department, mainly

treating neck, shoulder, waist, and leg pain, sequelae of stroke, and other diseases with acupuncture. At present, the outpatient department of acupuncture and moxibustion is still relatively busy, with a daily outpatient number of more than 40.

Li Guang, deputy head of the medical team, said he found that there were a lot of thyroid patients coming to the clinic, which may have a lot to do with the local eating habits. Li, along with his colleagues, has successfully completed a thyroid surgery recently.

"The patient recovered well without any complications. He was grateful to be able to complete the surgery on his doorstep. Local doctors were amazed at Li's skills," said a nursing officer at the Abdalla Mzee Hospital on Pemba Island.

On October 4, Wu Wei, another doctor, completed the first laparoscopic partial hepatectomy surgery.

The patient, a 60-year-old woman, was found to have a huge cyst in the liver. Wu said surgery was the only way to cure the disease, but the Abdalla Mzee Hospital had never re-

ceived related cases before. With solid and exquisite clinical surgical skills, the team completed the operation. The patient recovered well after surgery and was discharged successfully a week later.

Raya, the daughter of the patient, expressed her great gratitude to Wu, thanking the Chinese doctors for using minimally invasive technology to relieve her mother's pain for many years.

"With the unremitting efforts of the successive members of the Chinese medical teams, it will bring

health and happiness to more and more local people, and further promote the progress and development of medical services in Zanzibar," said Raya, who is also a pediatrician at the Abdalla Mzee Hospital.

In preparation for the emergency surgery, the local doctor on duty informed Gao that the patient was also infected with HIV. Together with Jiang Guoqing, the leader of the Chinese medical team and a general surgery expert, they completed the operation



Uganda: When climate justice becomes justice denied

By Wambi Michael

ON December 4, 2019, landslides in the Bududa region of Uganda killed 20. The landslides occurred after heavy rains, and a Red Cross report estimated that 96 households were affected, with 49 houses destroyed. It displaced many, while others continued to live in high-risk areas that could “slide at any moment.”

This wasn't the first or the last incident of flooding - news reports from the region narrate numerous incidents where people died when their homes were buried in landslides after torrential rains.

In Uganda, the case, popularly known as ‘Tsama William and 47 others,’ has been pending since it was filed in 2020.

Williams and others have argued that the Government of Uganda had been aware of the risk of landslides in Bududa for many years, but it had not implemented landslide early warning systems.

They seek relief from the courts, including declarations that their right to life, right to own property, right to physical and mental health, and the right to a clean and healthy environment were infringed when landslides occurred.

“Bududa district is likely to suffer from more landslides in the future because of the past history of landslides and, due to factors such as changing rainfall patterns and increasing extreme weather events caused by climate change and environmental degradation, and that if the affected people are not urgently relocated and resettled, further loss of life, loss of property and infringement of human rights is likely to occur,” reads their founding affidavit.

The authorities deny their culpability. Julius Muyizi, the lawyer representing the National Environment Management Authority, instead accused William and other residents in the Mount Elgon region of having contributed to landslides through their poor agricultural practices, vegetation clearance, and poor cultivation.

William and his fellow survivors await a court judgment, but it could be a long wait; another similar case has been held up in the courts for more than a decade.

However, like many others caught in climate change-impacted weather events and disasters, William is part of a group of survivors who are increasingly using the courts to test whether governments, businesses, individuals, and local authorities are responsible for the impacts of climate change.

Environment and the judiciary

Justice Lydia Mugambe, a High Court judge and recently appointed judge at the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, told judicial officers at a recent training session that the judiciary was crucial in matters of the environment. She was presenting on judicial officers’ role in ensuring climate justice. One question was: Can individuals sue the government over climate change?

“I think the role of the judiciary is a very important one in matters of the environment, and we as the judiciary should take it on with gusto,” she said. “We need to change our mindsets; we need to separate politics from the real issues when cases come before us.”

Mugambe notes that judges need to understand the role of public interest litigation in matters of the environment.

“From my experience in the courts, a case can be brought straightforward as a public interest litigation. But there are cases that come as individual cases. But they are ‘public interest cases’ because of their nature. So, when determining these cases, what kind of remedies do we give?” she asked.

She suggested that judges could give remedies in individual cases that have the effect of creating reforms - this would ensure resolution so that other similar cases won't need to be prosecuted.

Over the years that Mugambe has worked as a lawyer and later judge, she said she had watched and witnessed environmental damage to Uganda's forests and water bodies and read about climate change ravaging some of the communities.

She believes judicial officers should take an interest in emerging laws like the country's newly enacted environmental law.

Judges should ask themselves crucial questions.

“What do these acts and conventions provide? And how



Survivors of the 2011 mudslide in Bududa district. Hundreds died in that disaster. Some of the victims were buried by huge boulders carried down by the impact of the mudslide. Credit Wambi Michael/IPS

can we use them in our judgments? And then what kind of remedies when these cases come before us? Are they meaningful remedies for environmental protection? Do we assess the context of the case before us so that we take account of all the factors?” suggested Mugambe.

The training session Mugambe was addressing was hosted by an environment advocacy NGO known as Greenwatch.

Advocacy and environmental laws

Greenwatch says it's crucial that every individual in Uganda knows that they have environmental rights, and these rights can be fully exercised through access to information, justice, and public participation.

Samantha Atukunda Mwesigwa, the director and legal Counsel at Greenwatch, told IPS that training of the judicial officers was critical because there were several environmental disputes in the courts.

“So, it's important to have a judiciary that is knowledgeable and equipped when it comes to climate aspects, in particular, climate justice,” Mwesigwa explained.

Uganda has joined the global trend of climate litigations in which victims of climate change cite human rights and constitutional violations in their arguments.

The recent Global Trends in Climate Change Litigation: 2021 snapshot recognized the crucial role judges can play in the context of climate justice. Training of Judges was one of the critical areas of concern.

Furthermore, On March 28, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a historic resolution asking the International Court of Justice (ICJ) - the UN's principal judicial organ - to provide an advisory opinion clarifying what governments' obligations are under international law when it comes to tackling climate change.

Justice Richard Buteera, the Deputy Chief Justice of Uganda, agrees that the training is vital because the judges are part of the vanguard of the environmental laws.

“We have to balance between human needs for now. But sustaining the environment for the future. Because in an effort to maintain the environment, these conflicts have to be resolved by courts. And the training is making clear the position of the law,” said Buteera, who previously served as Uganda's Director for Public Prosecutions.

Each time a new cohort of judges comes in for training, a wealth of information needs consideration. Some judges know a few things about international agreements like the Kyoto Protocol and the 2015 Paris Agreement, but because climate change and law are not everyday topics in their chambers, some are skeptical about it.

Bridget Ampurira, a lawyer with Greenwatch, has partic-

ipated in the training that started in 2019.

She told IPS, “Of course, there are judicial officers who will point out that they are skeptical about climate change and climate justice. So, they will point out and question us as to the reality of climate change. But there are those who have seen and realized that climate change is a real issue.”

Over 120 judicial officers have been trained. According to Ampurira, of those who have been trained, there has been progress in how they handle the cases before them.

“I can say in terms of court procedure, there has been great improvement in the attention accorded to climate change cases.”

Who is liable under international law?

The late Justice of the Court of Appeal, Kenneth Kakuru, still referred to as one of Uganda's front runners of environmental law, would raise questions whenever he addressed fellow judges.

“Is the government liable for failure to implement the obligations in international agreements? For example, we have seen children trying to go through a flood. This flood takes a child. Who is liable if the government has not obliged with its obligations?” asked Kakuru. “We owe it to ourselves and the citizens of this world; we owe it to those from whom we inherited this beautiful place. We owe it to our children and their children. To those yet unborn. The time is now, for tomorrow may be too late.”

While the training of judicial officers continues, cases before the Ugandan courts remain unresolved.

Climate cases before Ugandan courts

Greenwatch has, over the years, filed several public interest litigations under Uganda's constitution, which allows an individual or organization the right to sue the government where it has failed

its obligations. Some of the rights can be environmental or climate change related.

One of those cases is the one commonly known as the ‘Nisi Mbabazi.’ It was filed by Kakuru in 2012 before he was appointed a judge. Kakuru sued on behalf of the surviving minor children of the victims of a natural disaster.

The plaintiffs argued that Article 237 of the Ugandan Constitution makes the government of Uganda a public trustee of the nation's natural resources - including its atmosphere - and that Articles 39 and 237 require the government to preserve those resources from degradation for both present and future generations. Citing multiple examples of damage and loss of life resulting from extreme weather events, they alleged that the government has breached its constitutional duty.

Climate justice denied

Eleven years later, there is still no judgment in this case. Some activists have described the long wait for judgment as an injustice against victims of climate because of the delays.

Ampurira said one of the challenges Greenwatch has faced in the past has been the delay with the justice or a court system beset by adjournments. “So, you would find that a case that should take a year to be settled takes ten years.”

She suggested that the Uganda government should establish an environmental court like the ones established by Kenya to expedite the cases “Because we say justice delayed is justice denied. Kenya has two specialized fora for adjudicating environmental matters.

On July 16, 2023, the Land and Environment Court in Kenya awarded an equivalent of USD 13 million in compensation for the impacts on the environment and the health of a community caused by lead poisoning from a nearby smelter that recycled batteries.

It was the first in Uganda where victims of climate change-related disasters sued the government, asking it to comply with several articles of the Paris Agreement 2015 and articles of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which Uganda is a state party.

Peter Kibeti, who witnessed many landslides in Bududa, told IPS, “The landslides are not in a way related to destroying trees. But it has been due to heavy rains. The water has sunk into the soil, leading to the collapse of the slopes. We still have many trees in Bududa. Much as they say we should plant more trees - they also get uprooted by landslides. I cannot believe that cutting down trees causes landslide because heavy rains have weakened the soil.”

Yazidhi Bamutaze, an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography, Geo-Informatics, and Climatic Sciences at Makerere University, told IPS that the loss of vegetation and tree cover in Bududa cannot be solely blamed for the rampant landslide disasters.

“We have had previous cases, and they are a combination of factors that lead to the occurrences of landslides in that area. The slopes are quite steep. In some areas, they go over 80 degrees. Then you also have the climatic factors, particularly rainfall. If you look at the data, you realize you get over 1500 millimeters of rainfall,” he said, explaining the multiplicity of causes for the disasters.

International climate justice cases

Internationally the number of climate change cases has more than doubled from 884 in 2017 to 2,180 in 2022, according to the UN Environment Global Climate Litigation Report: 2023 Status Review.

This trend includes cases brought on behalf of “children and youth under 25 years old, including by girls as young as seven and nine years of age in Pakistan and India, respectively, while in Switzerland, plaintiffs are making their case based on the disproportionate impact of climate change on senior women.”

The caseload indicates that human rights links to climate change, protection of the most vulnerable groups, and “increased accountability, transparency and justice, compelling governments and corporations to pursue more ambitious climate change mitigation and adaptation goals” are increasing.

IPS UN Bureau Report



RAJIBA YA MIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 12.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 12.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 12.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 12.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 12.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 12.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 11.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI 12.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

BUSINESS



Small-scale mining activity in Tanzania

Tanzanians urged on better way to make minerals beneficial

By Correspondent Selemani Msuya

Tanzania has been urged to focus on education, skills, investment, negotiations, and capital to make the mining sector beneficial to the country.

This advice was given by the Legal Officer of the Dust A Side Institute, Sean Dikgale, while speaking to this journalist at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Center (JNICC), where the International Mining Investment Forum is taking place.

Dikgale stated that the mining sector is one of the major contributors to the National GDP and can be of significant benefit if managed by the right people.

He mentioned that South Africa succeeded in this sector by investing in specialized universities for mining, which empowered the community to effectively manage this vital resource.

"In South Africa, we have invested in skills, education, investment, negotiation, capital, and patriotism as crucial pillars to manage this sector. Therefore, Tanzania should examine if they have done justice to these areas," he said.

The official called on the Tanzanian government to provide funding for young people interested in mining-related studies to help the country through this sector.

Dikgale highlighted that the mining sector contributes more than 8 per cent of South Africa's GDP and employs

more than 400,000 people.

He emphasized that Tanzania and African countries, in general, can achieve progress through mining if they focus on the areas he mentioned earlier.

He stated that what is needed is a conducive environment to attract investors from all over the world, while also urging the community and leaders to avoid corruption.

He mentioned that this sector should uplift the low-income citizens who are surrounded by mineral resources.

Speaking about this sector, the permanent secretary, Ministry of Minerals, Kheri Mahimbila, said, "I would like to take this opportunity to briefly explain the achievements of the mining sector in the years 2021 and 2022. First, the increase in the value of mineral exports from \$3.1 billion in 2021 to \$3.4 billion in 2022. Second, the increase in employment in major mining projects from 14,308 jobs in 2021 to 16,462 jobs in 2022.

He said this achievement is the result of implementing the 2009 Mining Policy, the amount of domestic procurement in major mining projects has increased from \$700 million in 2021 to \$1.1 trillion in 2022.

These achievements have fueled the growth of the mining sector from 9.4 per cent in 2021 to 10.9 per cent in 2022."

PBZ earns 41.9bn/- net profit in nine months

By Guardian Reporter

The fast growing People's Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ) recorded a cumulative net profit of 41.9bn/- during the first three quarters of this year, compared to 24.7bn/- recorded during similar period of last year.

Unaudited financial statement for the third quarter of this year indicates that the increase of net profit resulted into growth of interest and non-interest income as well as recovery of impairment losses and advances.

On quarterly basis, the statements show net income after income tax grew by three quarters to 15.5bn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared to 9.5bn/- recorded during similar quarter of this year.

The growth of profit has also pushed the basic earnings per share (eps) to 262.36/- during the first three quarters of this year, compared to 154.53/- recorded during nine months of last year. On quarterly basis, eps increased to 97.20/- during the third quarter of this year, compared with 61.08/- in the third quarter of last year.



PBZ's Wete branch in Pemba.

Cumulative net interest income grew to 73.5bn/- during the first three quarters of this year, compared to 50.4bn/- during similar period of last year, while cumulative non-interest income slightly went up to 28.2bn/- compared to 23.1bn/- respectively.

The growth of non-interest income resulted from increased foreign currency dealings and transactions, fees and commission, amid slowed down of other operating income.

During the reported period of nine months of this year, the bank, which is wholly owned by the revolutionary government of Zanzibar also managed to recover impairment losses and advanced amount-

ing to 1.18bn/-.

Operating income went up to 59.96bn/- during nine months of this year, compared to 35.32bn/- during similar period of last year, while tax to the government increased to 17.9bn/- compared to 10.5bn/- respectively.

The statement shows the bank also managed to increase number of employees to 485 during the period ended in September this year from 476 who were available during the period ended in September 2022, after increasing number of branches to 31 from 27 respectively.

The bank's balance sheet amounted to 1.78bn/- during the this quarter of this year, compared to 1.82bn/-

during the second quarter, following the decrease of equity investment, other assets and balance with Bank of Tanzania (BoT).

The bank's cash increased to 72.99bn/- during the third quarter of this year, from 58.22bn/- during the second quarter, while balance with BoT, slightly decreased to 176.28bn/- compared to 195.25bn/- respectively.

Lending to various sectors of the economy increased to 977.12bn/- during the third quarter of this year ended in September, from 932.45bn/- during the second quarter, while balance with other banks and financial institutions amounted to 260.5bn/- in Q3, 2023, higher than 178.2bn/- during the second quarter.

The bank, which offer both conventional and sharia compliant financing products also increased its investment in government debt instrument portfolio to 85.06bn/- during the third quarter of this year, from 78.77bn/- during the second quarter.

The statement shows customer deposits amounted to 1.19trn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared to 1.22trn/- during the second quarter while special deposits went up by 85 percent to 185bn/- compared to 100bn/- respectively.

Total shareholder's funds also grew to 182.27bn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared to 166.72bn/- during the second quarter, which is more than ten times of the regulatory requirement of 15bn/-

Access Microfinance records more than double net profit

By Guardian Reporter

Access Microfinance Bank recorded a cumulative net profit after income tax more than doubled to 1.27bn/- during three quarter of this year, an increase from 559mn/- recorded during similar period of last year.

Unaudited financial statement for the third quarter of this year shows the sharp increase of net profit resulted from increased interest and non-interest incomes as well as assets recovery from impairment losses on loans and advances, pushing income tax provision to 263mn/- from 97mn/- respectively.

Basic earnings per share also more than doubled to 42/- during the first three quarters of this year, compared to 19/- recorded during similar period of last year.

On quarterly basis, the statement shows net profit after income tax slightly increased to 295mn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared to 260mn/- during the third quarter of last year.

Net interest income increased to 14.6bn/- during nine months of this year, compared with 12.29bn/- during similar period of last year, while non-interest income grew to



Julius Ruwaichi, CEO, Access Microfinance Bank

3.64bn/- compared with 3.38bn/- respectively.

The statement shows that the bank also managed to reduce impairment losses on loans and advances to 1.2bn/- during the first nine months of this year from 2.01bn/- recorded during similar

period of last year.

According to the statement, the increase of non-interest income resulted from growth of fees and commission to 1.14bn/- from 0.9bn/- respectively, as well as increase of other operating income to 2.5bn/- from 2.3bn/-.

The statement shows total assets increased to 77.2bn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared to 75.4bn/- during the second quarter due to growth of cash, balance with Bank of Tanzania (BoT), balance with other banks and credits.

Lending to various sectors of the economy went up to 53.9bn/- during the third quarter, a slight increase from 52.8bn/- during the second quarter, while cash increased to 5.3bn/- compared to 4.7bn/- respectively. Balance with banks and other financial institutions went up to 375mn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared to 226mn/- recorded during the second quarter.

The statement also shows that customer deposits amounted to 59.6bn/- during the third quarter of this year, an increase from 57.1bn/- during the second quarter of this year, while total liabilities amounted to 68.5bn/- compared to 67.0bn/- respectively.

Total shareholder's funds also went up to 8.7bn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared with 8.4bn/- recorded during the second quarter due to increase of profit account.

Halotel donates furniture to Dar's school



Director of Business, Halotel Tanzania, Abdallah Salum (in orange T-shirt) exchanges greetings with Egidius Mjunangoma, the head teacher of Oysterbay Primary School during the presentation of donated tables and chairs for teachers at the school. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent

Halotel Tanzania has donated teacher's chairs and tables to Oysterbay primary school, as a part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives, in a time of commemorating its 8th anniversary.

The contribution is a testament to Halotel's unwavering commitment to supporting the development of the education sector in Tanzania, and it aims to enhance the teaching environment for educators.

Speaking during the handover event at Oysterbay Primary School Abdallah Salum, Director of Business, Halotel, said, "As we commemorate Halotel's 8th anniversary, we are deeply grateful to the Tanzanian community for their continued support. Our commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility remains firm. We believe that education is a fundamental foundation for the development of our nation, and by improving the teaching environment, we hope to empower both teachers and

students to reach their full potential."

He said the company CSR initiatives have always focused on contributing to the betterment of the education sector and others in Tanzania.

"By providing teachers with comfortable and functional furniture, the company aims to create an environment that is conducive to effective teaching, which in turn will positively impact the students' learning experience," he said.

Salum said Halotel's generous donation aligns with the Tanzanian government's efforts to enhance the quality of education in both primary and secondary schools.

According to him, Oysterbay Primary School is just one of the many Primary and Secondary Schools that have benefited from Halotel's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives.

The government has recognized the crucial role that an optimal teaching environment plays in fostering a culture of learning and achievement among students.

"Halotel's contribution is a tangible

manifestation of its commitment to supporting these government initiatives," he added.

In response to the donation, the head teacher of Oysterbay Primary School, Egidius Mjunangoma, expressed his heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the company support.

He said "We are truly grateful to Halotel for their remarkable contribution to our school. The teacher's chairs and tables provided will significantly improve our teacher's comfort and, in turn, enhance the quality of teaching in our School".

He said the generous gesture reflects the telecom's commitment to the betterment of education.

"We applaud their dedication to making a positive impact on the lives of our students and teachers. It's promising to see the private sector actively participating in the development of our educational facilities, and we look forward to more collaborative efforts like these in the future," Mjunangoma stated.

Kilimanjaro Co-operative Bank net profit nearly doubles in 9 months

By Guardian Reporter

The Kilimanjaro Co-operative Bank Limited (KCBL) cumulative net profit nearly doubled to 238.5mn/- during the first three quarters of this year, from 127.8mn/- recorded during similar period last year, unaudited quarterly financial statement for the third quarter of this year has said.

The statement shows the increase of net profit resulted from growth of both interest and non-interest incomes, as well as sharp decrease of impairment losses on loans and advances.

Cumulative net interest income increased to 816mn/- during the first three quarters of this year compared to 605mn/- recorded during similar period last year, while non-interest income grew to 284.9mn/- compared to 253.9mn/- respectively.

The Moshi based bank also managed to dramatically reduce cumulative impairment losses on loans and advanced to 457mn/- during the first nine months of this year, compared to 9.1bn/- recorded during similar period of last year.

Basic earnings per share also went up to 8.59/- during nine months of this year, compared to 4.61/- during similar period of last year, while number of branches remained unchanged.

Total assets went up to 17.97bn/- during the third quarter of last year, compared to 15.1bn/- during the second quarter, due to increase of cash, investment in government securities, balance with other banks and fi-



ancial institutions, loans and other assets. Cash more than doubled to 139.5mn/- during the third quarter of this year compared with 63.7mn/- during the second quarter while investment in government debt instruments nearly doubled to 2.2bn/- during the third quarter from 1.2bn/- during the second quarter.

The balance sheet shows that bal-

ance with other banks and financial institutions grew to 4.8bn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared to 3.6bn/- during the second quarter, while lending to various sectors of the economy increased to 7.48bn/- compared to 7.07bn/- respectively.

Customer deposits grew to 8.9bn/- during the third quarter of this year

compared to 6.4bn/- during the second quarter, while the bank's capital gained to 7.9bn/- during the third quarter from 7.5bn/- during the second quarter.

The co-operative bank has also managed to reduce its rate of non-performing loans to gross loans to 3.13 percent during the third quarter, below the regulatory benchmark of

five percent, from 3.37 percent recorded during the second quarter.

Financial indicators shows assets growth went up more than four times to 19.01 percent during the third quarter of this year, compared to 4.21 percent during the second quarter, while deposit growth jumped to 39.03 percent from 2.37 percent respectively.

Geita mining firm scoops CSR award

By Guardian Reporter

THE Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) was announced the overall winner in the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) award during Tanzania Mining & Investment Forum 2023 Gala Night & Awards.

The awards bestowed upon GGML by the Ministry of Minerals for its contribution to the conference have cemented its status as the foremost company nationwide with respect to environment, health and safety concerns in the workplace.

Terry Strong, GGML's managing director expressed appreciation to the ministry for acknowledging the company's activities in adhering to the mining law's social responsibility standards.

He also noted that in terms of environmental protection, health and safety at work, the company has prioritised the dignity and sustainable environment of its employees and the community around the mine.

GGML has garnered these accolades for four consecutive years, having been the recipient of similar distinctions from its parent company, AngloGold Ashanti, which operates mines across the globe, including in this country.

The event was also attended by the Minister for Minerals, Anthony Mavunde and government leaders from Uganda, Malawi, and other countries.

Monica Chang'anamuno, Malawian Minister for Minerals also lauded GGML for successfully organizing the conference with the participation of over 2000 stakeholders from various countries across the globe.

She also expressed gratitude to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for driving progress in the mining sector, setting an example for nations in East Africa and south of the Sahara.

"I urge the stakeholders in this sector to sustain their cooperation with the government to attain the goals stipulated by the relevant ministries. It is noteworthy that Tanzania is endowed with a variety of minerals," she stated.

She expressed keen interest in Tanzania's mining policy as it is a crucial aspect of mining sector development and pledged to encourage the Malawian government to emulate the policy.

Outcomes of President Samia's trip to India unveiled

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

INDIA'S High Commissioner to Tanzania has outlined the outcomes of the recent state visit by President Samia Suluhu Hassan official trip to India.

One of the major concerns among Indian investors and their president raised during the trip is availability of land for Indians interested to invest in Tanzania.

High Commissioner Binaya Pradhan said this recently while briefing journalists from different media outlets about the outcomes of the state visit of President Samia Suluhu Hassan to India from 8th to 10th October this year.

"President Samia met her Indian counterpart Droupadi Murmu, whom they discussed things of mutual interest, between Tanzania and India," he said.

"The meeting proved fruitful as the Indian President Murmu said Indians are willing to invest in education, healthcare sector and business, that's why we called on Tanzanian president to facilitate access to land," he said.

"During the trip, TIC signed MoU

with Indian government institution to build industrial park in Tanzania that will be used by Indian businesspersons and government institutions," he said.

Elaborating on other outcomes, he said the state visit has also bore fruits to Tanzania investment Centre (TIC) and Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPFS) at the India-Tanzania Business and Investment Forum.

While in India Tanzanian businesspersons, TIC and TPFS's staff were able to sign nine Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote trade and investment.

The MoU covers insurance issues, startups, shipyard building, IT experts, cultural exchange, sport, and water and health sector.

TPSF signed an MoU with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce, (FICCI) while TIC signed MoU with Invest India and were able to create Joint Business Council.

300 Tanzanian and Indian Businessperson attended such forum.

Pradhan said, they both acknowledged that the bilateral relations were further deepened by the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to

Tanzania in July 2016 giving a significant boost to development cooperation.



India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Pradhan

Also Tanzanian side expressed

interest to cooperate with the Government of India in the field of Blue economy including tourism, maritime trade, services and infrastruc-

ture, marine scientific research, capacity in seabed mining, ocean conservation and maritime safety and security.

India and Tanzania agreed to cooperate under the framework of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) to ensure a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable Indian Ocean Region.

On trade and investment area, the two sides expressed commitment to increase bilateral trade volumes and towards this end, directed the respective Officials to explore new areas of trade.

It was further agreed that both sides should harmonise trade volume data and take initiatives to further enhance bilateral trade volumes by organizing visits of business delegations, business exhibitions and interaction with business communities.

The Tanzanian side acknowledged that India is amongst the top five investment sources for Tanzania whereby 630 investment projects worth US\$3.74 billion have been registered and thus creating 60,000 new jobs.

I&M Bank Tanzania intensifies retail business

By Guardian Correspondent

I&M Bank Tanzania has launched unsecured personal loans and three new transactional accounts, a strategic move aimed at providing a personalized banking experience for its retail customer base.

The enhanced offerings are meticulously designed to cater to customers' distinct life stages, ensuring flexibility and alignment with evolving financial and lifestyle journeys.

Zahid Mustafa (Pictured), CEO and MD at I&M Bank Tanzania stated, "We are thrilled to introduce these upgraded account services, reflecting our commitment to understand and meet the unique needs of our valued customers. By segmenting our offerings, we empower individuals to choose financial solutions that resonate with their personal transaction aspirations."

"I&M Bank would be the first bank in Tanzania to offer Free Bank

to Wallet Transactions, Free cash withdrawals from I&M ATM, Free Bill Payments, and Free Debit Card as part of the three new products 'Moja Account', 'Everyday Account' and 'Select Account'." Announced Deepali Ramaiya, Ag Head of Retail and Digital Banking.

"The new developments offer n array of features designed to deliver a seamless banking experience to customers, facilitating their financial transactions with ease and peace of mind." The identified customer segments and their tailored benefits are as follows:

Additionally, I&M Bank is introducing Unsecured Personal Loans to Salaries customer of both government and Private Sectors.

Coming with highly competitive parameters, customers can now access up to 100mn/- over a tenure of 6 years at a rate as Low as 15percent.

"To bring in the holiday spirit to our customers, we will be running a campaign for limited period to release loans at ZERO processing

Fees" Informed Zainab Maalim, Head of Customer." Our customers applying for unsecured personal loans will have a seamless experience with minimum document requirements and disbursement within 24 hrs. This product was the missing piece to our suite of retail products that includes Mortgages and secured loans and overdrafts".

I&M Bank Tanzania remains steadfast in its commitment to be a trusted financial partner, fostering financial inclusion and growth within the Tanzanian community. "These value propositions align with our strategy to deepen our presence in the Retail and MSME segments, providing tailor-made solutions that enhance customer experience while banking with us. We believe these advancements will not only meet the evolving needs of our diverse clientele but make banking more convenient while creating distinguished value." said Kihara Maina, I&M Group CEO and Board Chairmen of I&M Bank Tanzania.



WORLD

Firearms being smuggled from Ukraine to Russia, Putin says

MOSCOW

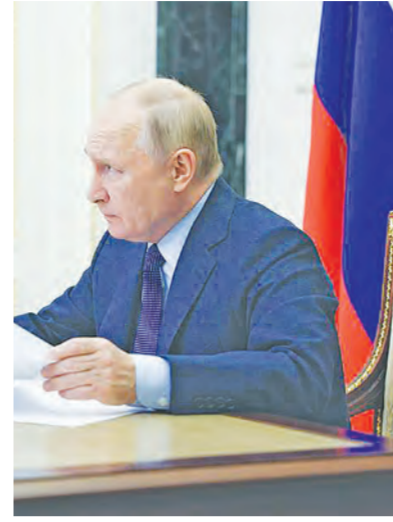
WEAPONS are being smuggled from Ukraine to Russia, President Vladimir Putin said during a meeting with the Russian Security Council.

"It is necessary to think how weapons and ammunition comes to Russia illegally. Including, by the way, from Ukrainian territory. Such weapons do end up, not in our Armed Forces, but on Russian territory," the head of state said.

In this regard, Putin noted, "it is necessary to look at all these channels, to look at how agency monitoring measures are organized, to look at what needs to be done to further reinforce the legal basis."

The president offered the Security Council to discuss the issue of arms trafficking in Russia in general.

"This issue is always important, I



won't delve into details now, but it is particularly [important] today, considering the conditions that we live in, the country lives in," he explained. "Overall, there is a wide array of

issues to discuss. We have two rapporteurs today: [Head of the National Guard] Viktor Zolotov and [Interior Minister] Vladimir Kolokoltsev. I would ask the colleague to report in detail, but I also ask everyone else to join the discussion of the solution project of today's meeting," Putin concluded.

The meeting was attended by Federation Council Speaker Valentina Matviyenko, State Duma Speaker Vyacheslav Volodin, Deputy Chairman of the Security Council Dmitry Medvedev, Council Secretary Nikolay Patrushev, Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu, FSB Director Alexander Bortnikov, Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) Director Sergey Naryshkin and Special Presidential Representative on Environmental Protection, Ecology and Transport Sergey Ivanov.

Agencies



China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi meets with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken at the State Department on Thursday.

Wang Yi: Deepen dialogue for healthy US-China ties

WASHINGTON

CHINA and the United States have disagreements but also share important interests, so they need to have "in-depth" and "comprehensive" dialogue to reduce misunderstanding and stabilize the relations, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said at the start of his US visit on Thursday.

Wang, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs, traveled to Washington for a three-day visit at the invitation of US Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

"China and the United States are two major countries. We have disagreements; we have differences. At the same time, we also share important common interests and we face challenges that we need to respond to together," Wang said before their meeting at the US State Department.

Therefore, the two countries need to have dialogue, Wang told reporters. Wang then highlighted the nature and purpose of that dialogue.

"Not only should we resume dialogue, the dialogue should be in-depth and comprehensive so that with dialogue we can increase mutual understanding, reduce misunderstanding and misjudgment, constantly seek to expand common ground and pursue cooperation that will benefit both sides so that we can stabilize China-US relations and return it to the track of healthy, stable and sustainable development," he said.

The veteran diplomat also noted that in China-US relations, from time to time there will be some "jarring voices", and when that happens, China treats it calmly.

"Because we think what is right and what is wrong is not determined by who has the stronger arm or a louder voice, but by seeing if one behaves in a way that is consistent with the provisions of the three China-US joint communiqués, consistent with international law and basic norms of international relations, and consistent with the development trend of the times," he said.

"We are confident that at the end of the day, facts will prove everything, and history will give its fair verdict," he added.

Blinken said he agreed with what the foreign minister said and he "very much" looked forward to "constructive" conversations over the next two days, according to a State Department release.

Wang was making a reciprocal visit after Blinken's trip to China in June.

During their meeting late Thursday, they had an in-depth exchange of views on bilateral relations and issues of common concern "in a constructive atmosphere", according to a readout from China's Foreign Ministry, adding that the two sides would continue to talk on Friday.

On Tuesday, ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning said Wang will have "friendly exchanges" with people from all walks of life in the US and will make clear China's principled position and legitimate concerns regarding China-US relations during this visit.

White House spokesperson John Kirby said at a briefing on Thursday that Wang is scheduled to meet US national security adviser Jake Sullivan on Friday.

The conflict in the Middle East was also set to be on the agenda during the talks between Wang and US officials, Kirby said.

Xinhua

Kenya launches tourism products to boost international tourist arrivals

NAIROBI

KENYA on Thursday launched new tourism products that will enable the country to boost its international tourist arrivals.

John Oluotua, the principal secretary in the State Department of Tourism, told journalists in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, that the 17 new signature tourism products will showcase to the world that the country has a lot more to offer beyond the iconic wildlife safaris and the pristine sandy beaches for both the repeat and first time visitors. "The products include adventure tourism, agro-tourism and wellness tourism, which are record-

ing steady growth in other parts of the world," Oluotua said, citing swimming with dolphins, hot air balloon trips, visits to coffee and tea farms, as well as immersive cultural experiences with indigenous tribes of Kenya.

Data from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics indicate that tourism is one of the leading sources of foreign exchange earnings alongside diaspora remittances, horticulture and tea exports. He said that the new products will support Kenya in delivering unique and authentic travel experiences to travelers to ensure that the destination remains competitive in the ever-changing tourism landscape.

Xinhua

UNGA resumes emergency session on Gaza conflict

UNITED NATIONS

THE UN General Assembly on Thursday resumed its 10th Emergency Special Session on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

General Assembly President Dennis Francis, in his opening remarks, condemned both the Hamas attack on Israel on Oct 7 and Israel's indiscriminate targeting of civilians and the destruction of critical infrastructure in Gaza.

"The brutality of the Hamas assaults is shocking and unacceptable, and has no place ... in our world," he said. "The ceaseless bombardment of the Gaza Strip by Israel and its consequences are deeply alarming. The right of self-defense does not and cannot lawfully give license to undertake indiscriminate and disproportionate reprisal."

Francis said all parties to this conflict must abide by international humanitarian law and immediately create the necessary conditions to allow for an opening of a humanitarian corridor to the Gaza Strip.

"We must ensure that urgently needed life-saving assistance reaches those in need - from the delivery of basic foodstuff to the safe passage of humanitarian and medical staff. Any action to the contrary - to deprive the people of Gaza of unimpeded access to essential livelihood supplies - would be a clear violation of their human rights and an affront to international humanitarian law," he said.

"We, the United Nations, cannot allow the fundamental principles of human rights and of international law to be compromised. As the United Nations, we are obliged to uphold them - without any conditions, or reservations, and certainly without any exceptions," Francis noted.

At this juncture, the most immediate step is clear: "the violence must cease, and further bloodshed must



General Assembly President Dennis Francis

be prevented," he said, calling for the prompt and unconditional release of all hostages; an immediate, unconditional humanitarian cease-fire; and an immediate, unconditional opening of corridors of humanitarian assistance and relief.

The only path to a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace is a negotiated two-state solution, consistent with international law, the UN Charter, and relevant UN resolutions - a solution that fulfills Israel's legitimate needs for security and that fulfills the state of Palestine's legitimate aspirations for an independent state, said Francis.

He urged all parties to set aside their animosities and focus instead on averting war by prioritizing saving lives.

"I urge the (UN) membership to use today's session not to further fan the flames of hate, division and revenge. Let us seize the opportunity, instead, to unify our purpose and our actions to save lives and to end violence."

The resumed Emergency Special Session is expected to run into Friday and a resolution tabled by Jordan is expected to be voted on.

The UN Security Council, which holds the primary responsibility for international peace and security, has failed to adopt any resolution on the latest escalation in the past two weeks.

In an emotional speech, Palestine's UN ambassador Riyad Mansour said Israel's war on Gaza is not defensible.

Some 7,000 Palestinians have been killed since Oct 7, 70 percent of them were women and children. Almost all of the killed were civilians, he said. "Is this the war some of you are defending? Can this war be defended," he asked Western delegations. "These are crimes. This is barbarian-

ism."

Mansour called on delegations to vote in favor of the Jordanian-drafted resolution.

"Vote to stop the killing. Vote for humanitarian aid to reach those whose very survival depends on it. Vote to stop this madness," he said. "Choose justice, not vengeance. Choose peace, not more wars. Vote to put an end to two, almost three weeks of the worst double standards we have seen in decades, to restore some credibility of this place and the rules it is supposed to embody."

"Lives are hanging in the balance. And every life is sacred. Please save lives, save lives, save lives," said the ambassador.

Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi, who spoke on behalf of the Arab Group, said the draft resolution his country is putting forward seeks what the United Nations was established to achieve: peace and compliance with international law.

"Let's make a collective cry. Cry out against more bloodletting. Let's unite for peace. Let's unite for justice. Let's unite for the right of every Palestinian and every Israeli child to live free from the horrors of war, free from fear, looking for a life full of promise and full of opportunity," he said.

"For the sake of Palestinian people and for the sake of Israeli people, vote YES," said Safadi. "Let the passing of the draft resolution be a message to Palestinians, suffering from the inferno of this Israeli war on them. Let it be a message that the international community sees them, feels their pain, and believes that Palestinian lives matter too."

Stop the bombs and save lives - Palestine envoy at

NEW YORK

RIYAD Mansour, Palestine's permanent observer to the United Nations, on Thursday said while the world body was holding a meeting, fellow Palestinians in Gaza were living in fear of bombs.

Voicing concern over the rising civilian death toll in Gaza, Mansour, in his address at the ongoing

special session of the United Nations General Assembly, called on the international community to save lives.

Mansour said, "We are meeting here while Palestinians in Gaza are under the bombs. Remember, that you are speaking while families are being killed, while hospitals are coming to a halt, while neighbourhoods are being destroyed, while people are fleeing from one place to another with nowhere safe to go."

"I urge you to choose your words carefully and to act accordingly for all those mobilised against an even greater manmade humanitarian catastrophe or of a regional spillover and these are worthy goals we say stop the bombs or both will happen. Stop the

bombs and save lives as the president of the general assembly has indicated all lives, lives of children, of civilians, of 2.3 million civilians in the Gaza Strip," he added.

Further, in his emotional address, the Palestinian observer at the UN said 3,000 children have been killed in Hamas-controlled Gaza over the past three weeks.

ANI

Hamis commander killed in overnight strikes, 36 arrested in West Bank raids

TEL AVIV

THE commander of Hamas' Western Khan Yunis Battalion, Madhath Mubshar, was eliminated by an Israel Defence Forces (IDF) aerial strike on Thursday night.

For the second consecutive night, Israeli troops carried out targeted strikes inside Gaza, as confirmed by the Israel Defence Forces, bracing them for their preparations for the next phase in the conflict against Hamas.

Additionally, the IDF also hit over 250 Hamas targets in the Gaza Strip in the past day.

"Madhath Mubshar-Commander of Hamas' Western Khan Yunis Battalion-was eliminated by an IDF aerial strike. Furthermore, the IDF struck 250+ Hamas targets, including a terrorist tunnel network in Gaza that detonated the secondary explosions," posted the IDF on X.

Military spokesperson, Rear Adm Daniel Hagari said, "Midhat took part in sniping attacks and large explosives against IDF forces and Israeli settlements."

The targets included Hamas tunnels, command centres, rocket launch positions, and dozens of operatives, the IDF said, adding that a Skyler 3 drone crashed in the Gaza Strip earlier today "as a result of a technical error."

Hagari also said that there is no fear of sensitive information leaking from the device.

The IDF has also confirmed the killing of Ayser Mohammad Al-Amer, a field commander in the Palestinian Islamic Jihad's Jenin wing, during clashes in the Jenin refugee camp overnight.

The army also confirmed clashes with Palestinian gunmen in the Jenin refugee camp and the city of Qalqilya, with earlier reports of four casualties, including Al-Amer, in these two locations, as reported by The Times of Israel.

The IDF said it returned fire at Palestinians who were shooting at their forces and dealing with rioters hurling explosive devices. There were no reported injuries on the Israeli side.

In overnight arrest raids across the West Bank, IDF troops detained 17 members of the Hamas terror group and 19 other wanted Palestinians, according to the IDF.

Since the war in the Gaza Strip began on October 7, the IDF has arrested around 1,030 wanted Palestinians in the West Bank, including approximately 670 individuals affiliated with Hamas.

The IDF has faced several clashes with Palestinians in the West Bank over the past two weeks, as well as thwarted attempted terror attacks, it said.

According to the Palestinian Authority health ministry, Israeli forces and, in some cases, settlers, have been responsible for the deaths of 110 West Bank Palestinians since October 7.

Separately, the IDF said that the head of the Central Command, Maj Gen Yehuda Fox, has approved a demolition order for a home owned by Hamas official Saleh al-Arouri, located in the town of Arura, near Ramallah.

Arouri is believed to reside in Turkey, The Times of Israel reported.

At least 7,028 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli attacks since October 7 and more than 1,400 people were killed in the Hamas attack on Israel.

ANI

Envoy welcomes cabinet nod to India-Japan partnership on semiconductor supply chain

NEW DELHI

JAPAN'S Ambassador to India, Hiroshi Suzuki, on Thursday welcomed the Union cabinet's approval of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between the two nations on semiconductor supply chain, calling it a "significant step" towards strengthening ties in this sector.

Taking to his official handle on X, Suzuki posted, "Delighted to witness the approval of the MoC on semiconductors between India and Japan. This collabora-

tion is a significant step towards strengthening our ties in this sector. Looking forward to further advancing our cooperation in this crucial field."

He made the statement in response to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's post on the cabinet's approval of the MoC between India and Japan in semiconductors.

PM Modi stated that the step will strengthen the semiconductor supply chain and create job opportunities.

PM Modi posted from his of-

ficial X handle, "This decision by the Cabinet is great news for the sector. It will strengthen the semiconductor supply chain and create job opportunities."

On October 25, the Union Cabinet acknowledged the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) signed in July 2023. This MoC between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of India and the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry of Japan focuses on the Japan-India Semiconductor Supply Chain Partnership, according to a press

release issued by the Cabinet.

The primary objective of this MoC is to bolster the collaboration between the two nations, acknowledging the pivotal role that semiconductors play in the advancement of industries and digital technologies. This Memorandum of Cooperation will become effective from the date of its signature and will remain in force for a duration of five years.

The collaboration under this MoC spans both Government-to-Government (G2G) and Business-to-Business (B2B) ini-

tiatives, focusing on creating opportunities to advance a resilient semiconductor supply chain while leveraging the respective strengths of India and Japan, according to the press release.

In addition to fostering cooperation between the two countries, the MoC is expected to bring about improvements in collaboration that could, in turn, lead to employment opportunities within the IT sector. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has been actively working to es-

tablish an enabling environment for electronics manufacturing, read the press release.

The "Programme for Development of Semiconductor and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India" was introduced to ensure the robust and sustainable development of semiconductor and display ecosystems within the country.

This programme also provides for fiscal support for the establishment of Semiconductor Fabs, Display Fabs, Fabs for Compound Semiconductors, Sil-

icon Photonics, Sensors, Discrete Semiconductors, Semiconductor Assembly, Testing, Marking, and Packaging (ATMP), as well as Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facilities, according to the press release.

The "India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)" was established under the Digital India Corporation (DIC) to steer India's strategies for the development of a semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem within the country.

ANI

Pakistan court declines bail to Imran Khan in state secret case

ISLAMABAD

A PAKISTANI court declined bail yesterday to detained former prime minister Imran Khan in a case in which he has been indicted on charges of leaking state secrets, his lawyer said.

The charge is related to a classified cable sent to Islamabad by Pakistan's ambassador in the United States last year, which Khan is accused of making public.

Former cricket star Khan denies that and said the contents of the cable appeared in the media from other sources. Lawyer Naem Panjutha said the Islamabad High Court de-



Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan

clined Khan's application for bail and for the case to be dismissed.

"We will challenge it," he said in a post on the social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter.

Khan was forced from office in 2022 after losing a no-confidence vote in parliament. He said at the time the military was trying to sideline him after he fell out with the generals over disagreements about top security appointments.

The military denied engineering Khan's ouster.

Khan has said the cable he has been accused of leaking was proof of a US conspiracy to push the military to oust him in the 2022 parliamentary vote because he had visited Moscow just before

Russia's special military operation in Ukraine.

Both the United States and the Pakistani military denied that.

Khan has had dozens of legal cases filed against him, which he has denounced as an effort to keep him out of politics.

He has been convicted in one graft case and sentenced to three years in jail. The sentence was suspended but he remains in prison in connection with other cases.

Given his conviction, Khan, whose conservative, nationalistic agenda won him considerable public support, cannot take part in a general election expected early next year. **Agencies**

Medvedev predicts 'bloody consequences' of Israeli ground operation in Gaza Strip

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev is certain that Israel's ground operation in the Gaza Strip will still take place and will set off a "machine of reciprocal violence" for years to come.

"Israel keeps postponing its ground operation in Gaza. Mostly under US pressure and for fear of sparking rage worldwide. But there should be no place for delusion. The operation will eventually take place and will entail the gravest, bloodiest consequences.

[The bloodthirsty Biblical figure of] Moloch always demands ever fresher victims. The machine of reciprocal violence will now be set into motion for years to come," Medvedev lamented in a comment on his Telegram channel.

Medvedev believes that the West is very tired of the Ukraine theme and, thus, has "enthusiastically shifted to supporting Israel." He pointed out that even the newly elected speaker of the US House of Representatives, Mike Johnson (Republican, Louisiana), named support for Tel Aviv as his top priority.

"Perhaps, it might all the same still be better to resume the Middle East settlement process and try, at long last, to implement UN Security Council Resolution 242 of November 22, 1967? Or even the original Partition Plan for Palestine, adopted on November 29, 1947 by UNGA Resolution 181?" Medvedev asked rhetorically.

These documents required that a settlement be achieved in the Middle East through the creation of two states in Palestine: Jewish and Arab.

Medvedev remarked that his questions were, "of course, rhetorical."

"After all, divvying up and pocketing all that cash allocated for someone else's war taking place far from American shores is a much more attractive proposition. And, so 'The war must go on,'" he said.

Tensions flared up again in the Middle East on October 7 when militants from the radical Palestinian group Hamas staged a surprise attack on Israeli territory from the Gaza Strip.

Hamas described its operation as a response to the aggressive actions of Israeli authorities against the Al-Aqsa Mosque on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's Old City.

Israel has declared a total blockade of the Gaza Strip and carried out air strikes on the Palestinian enclave, as well as some areas of Lebanon and Syria. Clashes are also underway in the West Bank. **Agencies**

Moroccan agency helps in timely neutralising German-Egyptian terrorist

RABAT

MOROCCO'S Direction Générale de la Surveillance du Territoire (DGST) warned German intelligence services in good time that a German-Egyptian Islamist extremist was preparing a major terrorist plot. Thanks to the vigilance of the Moroccan services, Germany was spared a carnage.

The Moroccan security services are reconfirming the efficiency for which they are renowned around the world. Once again, the DGST's recent alert to the German security services concerning Tarik S.S has prevented the worst from happening. On the basis of this alert, the German police were able to put this Islamist, who was active on the web from Duisburg where he lives, out of action.

He was arrested on 24 October in Essen in western Germany. According to information provided by the Moroccan security services to their German counterparts, this individual is a former Daech fighter and was planning to bring bloodshed to Germany in the name of this terrorist organisation. According to sources close to the case, the suspect was planning to carry out a number of attacks, including an attack using a ram truck in Germany.

As a reminder, last April the Director General of the DGST, Abdelatif Hammouchi, received in Rabat the Director of the German Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution (BfV), Thomas Haldenwang, accompanied by his principal deputies in this intelligence service. **Agencies**

A year after deadly S. Korea crush, families fight for accountability

SEOUL

ONE year after Park Young-soo lost her only son in a Halloween weekend crowd crush that killed 159 people in the South Korean capital, she still can't bring herself to open the door to his room.

She says she may not be able to move on with her life until she sees some kind of accountability from the government.

Park is one of more than 100 family members who say the authorities have done little to hold those responsible to account.

Like Park's 29-year-old son, Lee Nam-hoon, most victims were young people who went to Seoul's nightlife district of Itaewon on Oct 29 for its famed Halloween parties.

At around 10 pm, the crowds in the narrow streets and an alleyway around the Hamilton Hotel became so packed that people had trouble breathing.

Despite at least 11 emergency calls over some four hours warning of the worsening situation, authorities failed to respond before the crowd surged and left dozens of victims crushed or in cardiac arrest.

Lee died in the crush. His girlfriend survived.

This week, the area near the alley was designated as a space to

remember the victims. Political fault lines formed in the disaster's wake are still evident.

President Yoon Suk-yeol won't be attending a memorial gathering near the Seoul city hall this weekend, with an official telling the Yonhap news agency it was "more of a political rally held by the opposition party".

Gatherings have not been banned in Itaewon over Halloween this year though authorities and police have been conducting crowd-control drills featuring an AI-backed network of nearly 1,000 closed-circuit TV cameras, ahead of the first anniversary of the disaster.

The Itaewon deaths shocked a nation still scarred by the 2014 sinking of a ferry, the Sewol, that killed 304 people including 250 children on a school trip.

The Halloween disaster prompted a period of national mourning and a police investigation that ended this year with an acknowledgement of negligence and a poor response by the authorities, and the referral of 23 officials for prosecution.

But no senior government official has resigned or been removed over the disaster.

"The government agencies and the presidential office have been extremely irresponsible and inactive," Park said.



Park Young-soo, whose son died in the Halloween crowd crush a year ago, touches her son's portrait as she stands in front of his room at her home in Pocheon, South Korea, Oct 24, 2023. REUTERS

'It hurts my heart'

Yoon's office said in a statement the president had expressed on several occasions that he was "heartbroken and deeply sorry as president", and that remained unchanged.

"Our top priority is people's lives and safety; the government will continue to assess the national safety system and make necessary improvements," the office said. Interior Minister Lee Sang-min - who has fended off efforts to impeach him over the incident - issued an apology to victims on Wednesday and expressed "infinite responsibility" for failing to protect lives.

Relatives of the victims want a

special law that would allow an independent and comprehensive investigation into the cause of the crush. A bill, backed by the opposition, has yet to be passed by the National Assembly without the support of the ruling People Power Party.

"I just don't want the government to obstruct our effort," Park said with tears in her eyes, referring to the bid for an independent investigation.

Some ruling party lawmakers and a municipal official have accused the families and other critics of trying to profit from the tragedy.

Kim Young-nam, a mother who lost her daughter in the crush,

said she wanted to restore the honor of victims subjected to baseless accusations of drug taking, and what critics said amounted to victim blaming for going out to mark the foreign festival of Halloween.

"It hurts my heart. We need a thorough investigation and preventative measures so that young people are never sacrificed like this," Kim said at a memorial altar outside Seoul's city hall.

Twenty-six of the victims were foreigners, from 14 countries including the US, Japan and Iran. A relative of one of them told a press conference on Thursday that foreign families felt isolated with no support from the government. "Nothing is reported to us nor communicated to us," said Nari Kim from Austria, who lost her younger brother in the crush.

Jong-Woo Paik, chairman of the Korean Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, said the government had to show that lessons had been learned to avoid an erosion of trust in society.

"South Korea is an advanced country and the government should create an atmosphere and opportunities as a nation to overcome social disasters together," he said.

"In this aspect, the Itaewon tragedy has been deeply regrettable." **Agencies**

Women are agents of social change and social cohesion- India at UNSC

NEW YORK

INDIA at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) underlined the contribution of women in the present social scenario, changing world and highlighted the need of integrated approach for the betterment of society on Friday.

Yojna Patel, India's Deputy Permanent Representative (DPR) to United Nations while addressing a debate on "Women's participa-

tion in International Peace and Security from theory to Practice" said, "Women are agents of social change and social cohesion. It is now universally acknowledged that achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women, are critical factors in maintaining international peace and security. Sustainable peace requires an integrated approach based on coherence between the pillars of security, development, human rights and rule of law and

equality."

She added, "In this context, UNSC Resolution 1325 was path-breaking as for the first-time, it linked gender equality and the maintenance of international peace and security. It also recognized women's participation as being a key to resolving conflicts and securing peace."

India also went on to mention that the under-representation of women in the peace process and political dialogue and called for

overcoming the issue to ensure sustainable peace.

Yojna Patel stated, "Over the years, we have seen a strengthening of the normative framework of the WPS agenda.

However, despite that, women are still routinely under-represented in peace processes, political dialogues, and peacebuilding. The gender perspective is still neglected in conflict prevention, recovery, and reconstruction. For example, out

of approximately 95,000 peacekeepers, women constitute only 4.8% of military contingents and 10.9% of formed police units in UN Peacekeeping missions.

It is essential, that we increase the representation of female peacekeepers in UN peacekeeping operations to order to achieve sustainable peace and the improved well-being of women and girls in conflict-affected regions." **ANI**

US Republicans eye stopgap measure to avert shutdown

WASHINGTON

REPUBLICANS in the US House of Representatives on Thursday were debating their next move on how to avert a partial government shutdown next month, with one prominent lawmaker saying they needed to agree quickly on a "path forward."

Newly installed Speaker Mike Johnson was floating the possibility of extending funding through mid-January or mid-April to give lawmakers more time to negotiate 12 separate bills funding the government through the fiscal year that ends Sept 30, 2024.

But Johnson told Fox News in an interview late on Thursday that House Republicans want "certain conditions" attached to any stopgap bill. He did not give specifics but did say "I think they'll be conditions the American people can live with and a consensus we can build around here in the House."

Earlier in the day, multiple Republicans agreed they wanted to avert the risk of a partial government shutdown on Nov 17, after party infighting brought the US to the brink of that this month, headed off only by a bipartisan deal that led to the ouster of Johnson's predecessor, Kevin McCarthy, which left the chamber leaderless for three weeks.

"We need a path forward," said Representative Steve Womack, a senior

Republican member of the House Appropriations Committee. He said he would like to see the House go straight into government funding negotiations with the Democratic-majority Senate as a way to expedite the appropriations process, avoiding last-minute brinkmanship.

"I would like for us to be able to avoid that by dealing with it now, rather than at the last hour," Womack said.

Democratic President Joe Biden is also pushing for \$106 billion in new spending to aid Israel and Ukraine, and beef up enforcement at the US-Mexico border.

Meanwhile, the House and Senate must deal - in one fashion or another - with the 12 regular spending bills funding government activities for the fiscal year.

Fights over money have occupied most of Congress' time for the past year. Partisan disputes brought the federal government to the brink of defaulting on its then-\$31.4 trillion in debt in May, an event that would have shaken the world financial system.

Less than a month ago, intra-party fighting among Republicans brought the federal government within hours of a partial shutdown, with hardline Republicans rejecting a \$159 trillion discretionary spending limit Biden and Johnson's predecessor Kevin McCarthy had agreed on, instead calling for an additional \$120 billion in cuts.



US House Speaker Mike Johnson addresses members of Congress at the Capitol in Washington, Oct 25, 2023. AP

Notably, Johnson on Sept 30 voted against the temporary spending bill that averted an Oct 1 shutdown.

Representative Thomas Massie, a conservative firebrand, meanwhile told reporters that he backs a one-year extension of current spending, arguing, "There's no real leverage in it for us to have this (government) shutdown impending."

For months, many Republicans had opposed such a measure, arguing it simply enshrines spending priorities written last year by Democrats, who controlled the House,

Senate and White House.

But under a law enacted on June 3, a year-long extension of spending would trigger across-the-board spending cuts of 1 percent from the last fiscal year's appropriations. That could trouble many lawmakers who would not want to see indiscriminate cuts to social programs or the Defense Department at a time of wars in Ukraine

and Israel.

The intense debates over spending come amid high interest rates that have pushed up the government's cost of borrowing and for the federal Social Security and Medicare programs, driving Washington to a \$1.7 trillion deficit for the fiscal year that ended Sept 30. It also comes amid falling tax revenues.

Senate progress

The Senate, following long delays imposed by a few Republicans, moved ahead with three of its 12 bipartisan funding bills. By next week it hopes to pass appropriations for farm programs, transportation and housing and veterans.

Difficult negotiations by Congress over Biden's request for aid to Ukraine and more money for border security were anticipated.

Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer urged the House to follow his chamber's bipartisan model.

"In a divided government, the only way we'll fund the government ... is bipartisanship," Schumer said. "Speaker Johnson will not be able to ignore the need for bipartisanship."

Democratic House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries sounded a similar note, saying, "It's important that my House Republican colleagues take a government shutdown off the table."

The disagreements between Republicans that have slowed past dealmaking also remained.

"I don't even want to think of something lasting until January or April. That would be folly in my opinion," said Representative Andy Biggs, a prominent hardliner, voicing opposition to the stopgap funding measures known as continuing resolutions. "If you're going to do a CR, it needs to be super short. Why? Because a CR is cruise-control."

Agencies



Female junior cricketers making Dunda Secondary School's team pose for a photo shortly after the culmination of this season's Chanzo Cricket Bonanza that took place in Bagamoyo recently. Dunda Secondary School's team won the girls' showdown. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Bagamoyo school excels in 2023 Chanzo Cricket Bonanza

By Guardian Reporter

BAGAMOYO'S Dunda Secondary School won the junior cricket tournament, dubbed 'Chanzo Cricket Bonanza', that was held at Bagamoyo Centre in Coast Region last weekend.

The showdown that took place under the supervision of the Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) brought together 15 girls' teams and 15 boys' teams and witnessed over 260 players participating.

The Bagamoyo center, TCA Media and Communication Officer Atif Salim said, is the newest center that has been opened this year with an overwhelming response in its first 'Chanzo Cricket Bonanza'.

The 'Chanzo Cricket Bonanza' had Jitegeme Primary School cricketers ending as runners-up in the girls' event.

Nianjema Secondary School won the boys' event while Bagamoyo Secondary School settled for second place.

All finalists received gifts which included exercise books and other stationeries.

The showdown came hot on the heels of the 'Chanzo Cricket Bonanza' hosted by Geita Centre in Geita on October 1, with over 320 players making 20 girls' teams and 20 boys' teams participating.

Geita Center, Salim revealed, has been run exceptionally well by the national cricket body's development officers and has witnessed an overwhelming response this year.

All finalists were, as was the case for Bagamoyo's showdown, handed gifts which included exercise books and other stationeries.

The Chanzo Cricket Bonanza serves as a platform for junior cricketers to put the skills they have been honing in training sessions to practice.

Tanzania slightly improves in FIFA Rankings

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA senior national men's football team 'Taifa Stars' has moved one position up in the latest FIFA rankings that were released yesterday.

Taifa Stars is lately ranked 122nd in the world- one spot up from the previous 121st place the team was placed in.

Last month Tanzania moved from 124th to 122nd and for that matter scaling one place up shows progress for the team.

The Adel Amrouche-coached squad played out a 1-1 draw with Sudan this month in so far the only friendly game which took place at King Fahd Stadium in Saudi Arabia before battling it out in the 2026 World Cup qualifiers' Group E encounter against Niger.

Last month Taifa Stars qualified for the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) finals, slated for early next year in Ivory Coast, following an away goalless draw with Algeria at

the latter's backyard on September 7. Taifa Stars won the previous 2023 AFCON qualifiers against Niger 1-0 at home on June 23, the previous FIFA rankings were released on July 20.

Taifa Stars will launch the side's 2023 AFCON Group F campaign by facing Morocco on January 17 next year.

According to the full fixture released by CAF, the opening tie in Group A between the hosts Cote D'Ivoire and Guinea Bissau is set for January 13.

Group F's other contenders, DR Congo and Zambia will lock horns later the same day.

On January 21, Morocco will come up against DR Congo before witnessing Zambia entertaining Tanzania.

Thereafter, the last fixtures in Group F unfold on January 24 when Tanzania hosts DR Congo before Zambia confronts Morocco.

Taifa Stars will have to either maintain the current rankings or go up when they face Niger on November 13 and Morocco on November 20.

Yanga's new signings a motivation for Aziz Ki

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

ONE of the best players in the NBC Premier League at the moment is Yanga's midfielder, Stephane Aziz Ki.

He has shown massive improvement since he put pen to paper for the Jangwani Street side. This season, everything the player does on the pitch turns out to be right.

The Burkina Faso midfielder is currently the leading goal scorer in the NBC Premier League having registered six goals, followed by Simba SC's Jean Baleke, much as Aziz has played many games.

Since midfielder Feisal Salum left Yanga for Azam FC and forward Fiston Mayele headed to Egypt's Pyramids FC, Yanga has lacked a star player who can have the club banking on him to achieve success.

The arrival of midfielders Maxi Nzengeli and Pacome Zouzoua at Yanga may have awakened Aziz Ki.

There are times in life when an individual needs either someone who motivates him/her to be better or somebody who puts pressure on him/her so that he/she can be at his/her best.

Nzengeli won the hearts of Yanga supporters early on at the climax of the 'Wananchi Week' when the club faced South Africa's Kaizer Chiefs in an international friendly tie at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Ivorian midfielder, Zouzoua, took time to be known by Yanga's followers but, after breaking through to the squad's first XI and showing his efficiency, he has become one of the most dangerous midfielders in the league.

Aziz Ki has again started to show his prowess, he has shown Yanga's supporters why his signing was one of the most expensive in the country.

He is showing why he was registered and introduced at midnight. There is no doubt that Aziz Ki is one of the best players in the Premier League this season.

He is already leading the list of players with the most goals this season with six goals so far.

The departure of Salum and Mayele has made every player



Yanga's attacking midfielder, Stephane Aziz Ki (R), dribbles past Azam FC's defender, Lusajo Mwaikenda, when they locked horns in a 2023/24 NBC Premier League tie played in Dar es Salaam on Monday and ended in 3-2 victory for Yanga. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

at Yanga feel he is a key performer at the club.

Salum was the star among local players whereas Mayele was a star for the club. This season every player at Yanga is a star, every one of them is a king, and they play with authority in many games.

It is possible with the progress that Aziz Ki puts to show, he can be the club's star this season given he has what it takes to score goals and create chances for his teammates.

The arrival of Nzengeli, Zouzoua, and Kouassi Yao, who have directly entered the team's starting XI and made an impact, has awakened Aziz Ki and turned him into a better performer. Mayele's position at Yanga is still open.

For more than 10 years, Simba SC's right fullback Shomari Kapombe has outshined all of the side's new defenders that came into the country and has kept

doing well in every aspect of his game. Even though Kapombe has continued to be the best defender in Tanzania, it is now possible that he has found the right competitor in Yao, Yanga's right fullback.

Yao will be mentioned in the same breath as Kapombe if he can maintain consistency for at least four years.

The Ivorian fullback is a fast player, strong in attacking and tracking back, and he can become the best defender in Tanzania.

Yao is the type of player who is regarded as a star in the country, and it is difficult to find competitors due to the position he plays.

The position is limiting him from taking the star throne compared to the position highly-regarded footballers Aziz Ki, Pacome, and Nzengeli play.

I watch Yanga play and I cannot figure out who is the club's

star player this season.

There is much more competition in Yanga than elsewhere, if a person looks at the list of the top flight leading goal scorers this season. Aziz Ki has six goals, Baleke of Simba SC follows with five goals, Salum of Azam FC (four goals), and Pacome (three goals), as is the case with teammate Nzengeli.

If a person watches a repeat of the Azam FC versus Yanga match, he/she will realize that it was a difficult match, given star players in the two outfits battled to outshine each other.

Salum outshined Yanga's midfielder Khalid Aucho several times and Aziz Ki stood up when Yanga needed him the most during the match.

At the end of the day, big games are the ones that determine how prominent a player can become when needed the most by his club to produce a moment of magic.

Tanzanian firm set to sign deal with Gor Mahia

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

KENYA'S Gor Mahia is set to enter into a partnership with Tanzania's kit manufacturer, Ghalib Said Mohamed (GSM) Group Limited, which will see the company manufacture and distribute the outfit's kits.

GSM Group produces and distributes kits for Mainland Tanzania Premier League champion, Yanga, among other clubs in the top flight, and has a partnership that goes beyond merchandising with Yanga.

The move, if it materializes, will help to fill the replica gap being witnessed at Gor Mahia, which has seen unscrupulous business people capitalize on it and produce counterfeits that do not benefit the club financially. It could also open up Kenya's kitting market for GSM Group.

Gor Mahia Secretary-General Sam Ocholla, accompanied by the club CEO Raymond Oruo, has been in Tanzania for benchmarking.

The two officials met Yanga's



Gor Mahia Secretary-General Sam Ocholla.

president, Hersi Ally Said, who is also GSM Group's CEO, with a lot of issues about football development being discussed.

"On my benchmarking tour in Dar es Salaam, I met Yanga president Hersi Said, and we

discussed a lot in terms of football development in the region," Ocholla, who is also eyeing the Football Kenya Federation presidency, disclosed.

He added that the GSM Group boss is keen on having a deal

with Gor Mahia that is geared towards developing a self-sustaining club, nicknamed 'K'Ogalo'.

Ocholla revealed: "Yanga and Gor Mahia FC share a lot in common in terms of football success in this region. Hersi Said told me that he understands Gor Mahia is a big club and sought a partnership with us on the development and sustainability of Gor Mahia FC."

The Secretary-General further disclosed that GSM Group and Gor Mahia will, starting next season, enter into a five-year kitting deal.

"I am also glad that soon we shall sign a kitting deal for 5 years with sports apparel manufacturer GSM Group beginning next season," Ocholla noted.

"The deal will see GSM Group distribute replica jerseys throughout the country and kit our team gallantly."

Ocholla pointed out: "Hersi Said is the CEO of GSM Group, and he's happy to be associated with the most successful club in the region, Gor Mahia FC."

Wydad see off Enyimba in Casablanca to make AFL semis

CASABLANCA

THREE first half goals were enough for Moroccan giants Wydad Athletic Club as they saw off Nigeria's Enyimba 3-0 to progress to the final of the African Football League.

The three time African champions progressed with a 4-0 aggregate score, having won the first leg 1-0 over the weekend.

Ayoub El Amloud, Jamal Harkass and Moroccan international Yahya Attiyat Allah got the goals for the Red Castle as they soared into the last four.

They broke the deadlock as early as the fourth minute, when El Amloud dived in to tap the ball home from close range.

Skipper Yahya Jabrane had nodded down a cross, El Amloud flying in to direct it home.

The goal had initially been chalked off for offside by the assistant referee, but a review by the VAR officials awarded the goal.

It was a positive start for Wydad and the early goal gave them the chance to settle in and play under less pressure.

They continued dominating and scored twice within five minutes later on, to all but close down the tie.

Harkass doubled their lead on the night in the 38th minute on the second bite of the cherry after his initial header off an Attiyat Allah freekick was saved by the keeper.

In the 43rd minute, the left back turned from provider to scorer when he slammed the ball home from inside the box after a precise cutback from Hicham Boussefiane picked out his perfect run into the box.

In the second half, Wydad simply took charge of the game, controlling the tempo and passing the ball around with ease. They had some chances to score, but couldn't extend the scoreline.

With the tie seemingly looking secured, Wydad head coach Adel Rami took the opportunity to rotate his squad, pulling out starters like Attiyat Allah and skipper Jebrane to give everyone a taste of the competition.

Wydad have now set up a mouth-watering North African clash against Tunisia's Esperance in the last eight, the latter having beaten Congolese giants TP Mazembe by the same margin earlier on in the other quarter final duel in Rades.

(AGENCIES)

'Traitor' Lukaku awaits hostile return to leaders Inter

MILAN

ROMELU Lukaku is set for possibly the most hostile reception of his career when he returns to the San Siro to face Serie A leaders Inter Milan on a bumper Sunday in which champions Napoli host AC Milan.

Now at on loan at Roma from Chelsea, Lukaku will be blasted by 50,000 whistles distributed by Inter's hardcore fans who will lead an assault on the ears of a former hero they now consider a traitor.

Lukaku is guilty in the fans' eyes of abandoning Inter not once, but twice, and it was the manner of his second exit in the summer which definitively turned supporters against him.

The Belgium striker was once an idol, winning Serie A in 2021 before being sold to Chelsea that summer for well over 100 million euros, as a club weighed down by debts tried desperately to get their accounts in order.

It was Inter who extracted him from Chelsea on loan last year after a dreadful season in the Premier League, his time at the Blues over even if they are still technically his club.

Despite a difficult return to Italy dogged by injuries, in which he largely played second fiddle to Edin Dzeko, Inter then vowed to try and sign him permanently, offloading Andre Onana for 55 million euros in an attempt to raise funds.

However just as Inter were closing in on a deal with Chelsea, Lukaku vanished, not answering calls and even making noises towards Milan and Juventus, Inter fans' fiercest rivals.

It was that manoeuvre which definitively soured relations between Lukaku and both fans and club -- whose hierarchy were livid -- with even Lautaro Martinez publicly saying that he was "hurt" by his former striker partner's behaviour.

"After all we've been through over the years, all the things we've experienced, I was disappointed," he said at the time.

- On-form Lukaku -

Martinez has firmly put the affair behind him however, the Argentina striker netting 12 goals in as many matches in all competitions in a blistering start to the season alongside new attacking ally Marcus Thuram.

Lukaku too is having a positive start to life in Rome after being welcomed to the capital by thousands of fans in August and being reunited with his former coach at Manchester United, Jose Mourinho.

AFP

Man City loom for goal-shy Man United

LONDON

MANCHESTER City will test the strength of Manchester United's recent revival at Old Trafford this weekend, while red-hot leaders Tottenham were seeking their eighth win in 10 games.

Pep Guardiola's champions have put their own mini-slump behind them and go into tomorrow's game against their local rivals as firm favourites.

Ange Postecoglou's Tottenham can go five points clear of the chasing pack, at least temporarily, if they beat Crystal Palace on Friday.

AFP Sport picks out three talking points ahead of the action in the English top flight.

***Can Rashford find cutting edge against Man City?**

Marcus Rashford scored the winning goal at Old Trafford last year as Manchester United came from behind to beat Manchester City 2-1 -- the ninth time in a row he had scored at his home ground.

The England forward went on to score 30 goals for the club during the season, lifting himself into the bracket of elite forwards.

But it is a different story during the current campaign, with Rashford stuck on a solitary goal in a team struggling to find fluency



Manchester United manager Erik ten Hag and his Manchester City counterpart Pep Guardiola. Agencies

and a cutting edge.

United, in eighth place, have scored just 11 times in the Premier League this season -- just twice more than City forward Erling Haaland has managed on his own.

Manager Erik ten Hag predicted earlier this month that Rashford would soon be "on fire", but the 25-year-old has failed to score for United since then, though he netted for England at Wembley.

United have carved out three wins on the bounce in all competitions but remain far from convincing. They need their big players to step up if they are to have a chance of beating the treble winners.

Ange Postecoglou has had a transformative effect since arriving at Tottenham, earning 23 points already -- the biggest haul for any manager after their first nine matches in the competition's history.

Spurs, who were to fancy their chances of beating Crystal Palace, have the luxury of focusing on domestic concerns while their rivals are juggling European commitments.

Son Heung-min, with seven league goals, continues to fill the void left by the departed Harry Kane while James Maddison's arrival from Leicester has added a new creative dimension, with five assists and three goals so far.

"We have a brilliant relationship," said Maddison. "Sonny was a player I loved for years and years watching and now it is an absolute pleasure to play with him."

"He is a world-class player. I don't throw that around a lot. We like to link up, we work a lot on it in training and we are starting to understand each other's runs."

"Villa's Emery factor Unai Emery and fifth-placed Aston Villa have flown under the radar but are now forcing people to sit up and take notice."

The club were 16th when the Spaniard arrived from Villarreal last year but he

inspired them to a seventh-place finish, which meant qualification for the Europa Conference League.

Only three clubs -- Manchester City, Arsenal and Liverpool -- have won more top-flight points than Villa's total of 68 since the weekend of Emery's first game in charge in November 2022.

"We did the first objective, which was to be in Europe and we're playing in the Conference League and I think it's amazing for me and for the club, for the supporters and for the players," said Emery, whose team host struggling Luton on Sunday.

"The next step, of course, is try to do something in Europe and try to progressively get in other European competitions like the Europa League or Champions League -- that is my dream and my objective and I am working hard to get it."

Fixtures**Today**

Chelsea v Brentford (1130), Arsenal v Sheffield United, Bournemouth v Burnley (both 1400), Wolves v Newcastle (1630)

Tomorrow

West Ham v Everton (1300), Aston Villa v Luton, Brighton v Fulham, Liverpool v Nottingham Forest (all 1400), Manchester United v Manchester City (1530)

AFP

Barcelona forced to lean on youth in Madrid Clasico battle

BARCELONA

LA Liga champions Barcelona host bitter rivals Real Madrid in the first Clasico of the season today, forced into leaning heavily on players from their famed La Masia youth academy.

An injury crisis has ravaged the Catalan club, leaving them without several key players, across defence, midfield and attack.

Last weekend 17-year-old striker Marc Guiu pulled Barcelona, third, a point behind leaders Real Madrid with a goal just 33 seconds into his debut, while Lamine Yamal and Fermin Lopez strikes secured comeback draws against Granada and Real Mallorca.

The first team already features several young players who spent time at the club at youth level, including midfielder Gavi and defenders Alejandro Balde and Ronald Araujo, but the current situation has further exacerbated Barcelona's dependence on the youth system.

Injured stars Robert Lewandowski, Frenkie de Jong and Raphinha are fighting to return to play at least some part in the game at the Olympic Stadium, but Jules Kounde, Pedri and Sergi Roberto are set to miss out.

Real Madrid have had some injury problems of their own, but defender Nacho Fernandez will be allowed to play after his three-match ban for a dangerous tackle was shortened to two.

England international Jude Bellingham, the division's top scorer with eight goals, is Madrid's leader, and his arrival for 103 million euros (\$109 million) from Borussia Dortmund this summer



Marc Guiu

was in stark contrast to Barcelona's activity.

Still mired in financial problems, Barcelona were limited to signing players on free transfers or on loan, along with a low-cost move for midfielder Oriol Romeu, to try and fill the big shoes of former captain Sergio Busquets.

"We're in a moment where we have to bet on players from here, and they are ready," Barca coach Xavi told reporters last week.

"When things don't go well, you have to double down on the bet, we have to bet on the youngsters, homegrown. I see they are hungry."

With Barcelona fragile, scraping by without various key players and failing to consistently find the good football Xavi admits is demanded of

the club, Madrid have closer to it.

"We know exactly what we need to do -- everything we can to win it," said Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti.

"We're heading into this incredibly impor-

tant game full of excitement."

- 'Sociological Madridismo'

As ever, the lead-up to the Clasico has not just been focussed on football.

Madrid have launched an apparent campaign against Spain's referees, with Real Madrid TV producing various videos attacking officials, sometimes before matches are even played.

At the same time Barcelona president Joan Laporta has claimed in recent weeks that there is 'sociological Madridismo' in Spain -- saying Real are favoured by the state.

Laporta has been charged with bribery in the 'Negreira case', an investigation into Barcelona's payments to a former refereeing chief, which the Barca president believes is an example of it.

A Barcelona spokesman has also caused a stir with a social media post seemingly dismissing recent racism aimed at Madrid winger Vini-cius Junior, saying the Brazilian needs a "slap" and is a "clown" for his behaviour on the pitch.

According to Spanish reports, it has led to Madrid president Florentino Perez deciding to snub the Clasico in protest.

Both Xavi and his counterpart Carlo Ancelotti will each be hoping by the time the dust settles on Saturday night, the main topic of conversation will be their club's success.

Elsewhere in La Liga, second-place Girona host Celta Vigo on Friday, and could depose Madrid at the top of the table before the Clasico begins.

Atletico Madrid, fourth, welcome Alaves, 15th, on Sunday night.

Fixtures:**Today**

Almeria v Las Palmas (1200), Barcelona v Real Madrid (1415), Real Mallorca v Getafe (1630), Cadiz v Sevilla (1900)

Tomorrow

Real Betis v Osasuna (1200), Rayo Vallecano v Real Sociedad (1415), Athletic Bilbao v Valencia (1630), Atletico Madrid v Alaves (1900) Monday Granada v Villarreal (1900)

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Betting companies ask for tax reduction

By Guardian Correspondent

GAMING and betting companies have asked the government to review the current rules for the operation of betting to reduce the accumulation of taxes they are currently supposed to pay.

They issued their plea at a conference organized by the Gaming Board of Tanzania (GBT) in Dar es Salaam recently that was attended by the Deputy Minister for Finance Hamad Chande.

They said that the current rules are more restrictive for the operators of the games, so the government should look at better ways to improve the rules so that both parties can benefit.

Board of Directors Chairman at SportPesa Tanzania, Tarimba Abbas, said that the laws currently allow the government to benefit regardless of what the investor has invested.

"Betting games should be solely run by the parent institution, GBT, but as per the current procedures, there are other government institutions that have the authority," the SportPesa Tanzania boss stated.

"We also ask the government to look at how to reduce the tax burden on investors, these companies that run the games," Abbas said.

The GBT Director, James Mbalwe, said that currently the gaming industry and sports predictions are bringing in a lot of money for the government through taxes.

"Currently we have reached to pay or contribute an amount of 170 bn/- to the national income from taxes, this shows how fast this sector is developing," Mbalwe disclosed.

The Deputy Minister for Finance, Chande, instructed GBT and its board to look at how they can reduce the tax burden on the companies so that each side can benefit from the investment.

"But in addition to that, I strongly request investors in this sector to follow the rules and procedures laid down in holding the games," Chande noted.

"(You ought to) be good ambassadors by ensuring that the laws are not broken and everyone follows the procedures, companies that do not have an operating license should be mentioned so that action can be taken," Chande insisted.

He said the government will not discriminate against either a person or a company that follows procedures in investment, stressing it will provide the necessary cooperation.

The conference was held in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the GBT.

Unbeaten Simba SC targets Ihefu SC scalp in Premier League



Simba SC's attacker, Jean Baleke (R), dribbles past Ihefu SC right-back, Nicholas Wadada, when they met in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League match in Mbeya in April.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

FOLLOWING a long layoff with no NBC Premier League action due to international break and African Football League engagements, Simba SC will resume with a league tie against Ihefu SC today.

Simba SC, nicknamed 'Wekundu wa Msimbazi', will badly want to pick maximum points as the club seeks to maintain a perfect league record.

The match will be played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam and the hosts start the weekend in second place before yesterday's games involving Young Africans and Azam FC.

Simba SC is coming into the game on the back of the club's away fixture against Al Ahly in

the African Football League on Monday afternoon.

The game ended 1-1 to extend Simba SC's unbeaten start to 11 games in all competitions this season.

They recorded a 2-1 away win over Singida Fountain Gate FC in their most recent NBC Premier League fixture.

The win over Singida Fountain Gate FC means Simba SC is undefeated in the squad's last 28 NBC Premier League matches, which is an excellent record.

Simba SC head coach Robert Oliveira 'Robertinho' expressed the importance of this game which precedes the first league derby of the season against Young Africans.

The Brazilian noted: "We are coming back to our league championship, it is an important week because after this there is a derby game."

"We need to concentrate on this game because we are in a good moment, a positive moment," Robertinho said.

"We respect our opponent because I know this team very well. For the past three days, I, and my technical bench have checked everything about Ihefu SC."

"They have strong players who like pressing. Sometimes they play aggressively. Contact is normal in football but sometimes they are too aggressive, we need to pay attention to this," Robertinho revealed.

Newly appointed Ihefu SC head coach, Moses Basena, is relishing the challenge of meeting his former em-

ployers but acknowledged they are facing a formidable opponent who are coming back from participating in a major continental tournament.

Basena said: "We are playing against a formidable side that has been playing in the newly introduced competition called the African Football League and also qualified to play in the CAF Champions League Group Stage. They are the team to beat in Tanzania and we have to work on so many things."

The Ugandan coach revealed: "We have to accord them their respect. In respecting them we need to limit them in all aspects of the game. You don't have to remind me how good Simba SC is, I know everyone knows how good Simba SC is."

"Many years ago, I was a coach there. I know what it means for a player to play for Simba SC. I know what it means for a player to play against Simba SC, it is self-motivating," the tactician disclosed.

Tomorrow's encounter will be the fifth meeting between the pair in the top flight, dating back to the 2020/21 season.

Simba SC has won all games including the Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) meeting last season.

Twiga Stars were ready for Botswana, says Shime

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AFTER qualifying for the second and final round of the 2024 Women's Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers, Tanzania's senior national women's football team, Twiga Stars, made yet another step forward.

Twiga Stars registered a 2-0 home victory over Botswana in a Paris 2024 Olympic Qualifiers' game played on Thursday at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

A well-taken penalty in the second minute by Turkey-based striker Opah Clement, along with a late finish by Sweden-based attacker Aisha Masaka, ensured the Tanzania ladies get a confidence-boosting win over the Southern African side. The return leg is scheduled for Tuesday in Gaborone in a 16h00 GMT kick-off.

Post-match, a delighted Twiga Stars head coach Bakari Shime spoke to the press to assess how the game was won by his team.

Shime said: "We expected strong opposition from Botswana because they are a team that knows us well and we also know them well. This is the fourth time we have met."

The gaffer noted: "Their

style of play is something we were familiar with. As you saw, the way they played is what they have always been playing, but luckily we have been good at finishing and getting results in front of them."

"The match started with a shocking very early goal. Maybe we also did not expect to get an early goal that much," Shime revealed.

"At the end of the day, we took control of the game for a long time because Botswana decided to deploy a low block and we had the ball for a long time."

Shime pointed out: "The challenge for us was in the midfield. We were making too many sideways and backward passes which delayed us getting into the opposition zone. In the first half, you can see we didn't attempt through passes to our strikers."

"In the second half, we decided to increase the number of forward passes, but unfortunately or fortunately, on the other hand, our opponents also decided to press from the top."

The tactician noted: "The freedom we had in the first half to initiate attacks from the defense became a challenge for us."

FIFA appoints Tanzania's referees for 2026 World Cup Qualifiers

By Guardian Correspondent

FOUR FIFA-acknowledged referees from Tanzania have been appointed by the world football governing body's referees appointment committee to handle a match involving hosts Cameroon and Mauritius on November 17.

This will be Africa's 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifiers Group D tie that will be staged at the Japoma Stadium which is a 50,000-capacity all-seater multi-purpose stadium in Douala, Cameroon.

The group contains Cameroon, Cape Verde, Angola, Libya, Eswatini and Mauritius.

Both sides will be seeking qualification for the 2026 FIFA World Cup tournament to be staged in the USA, Mexico, and Canada in 2026. Cameroon will be heavy favourites to finish top of the pool.

The group winner will directly qualify for the World Cup, and the runner-up could compete in the play-off to advance to the inter-confederation playoffs.

A few weeks to the clash, the world football governing body has appointed Tanzanian officials to steer affairs of the game next month.

The Tanzania referees are Ahmed Arajiga (center referee), Frank Komba (first assistant), Kassim Mpanja (second assistant), and Ramadhan Kayoko (fourth official).

Meanwhile, the Tanzania Football Federation and its technical sponsor, Sandaland, revealed the new national team's kits in Dar es Salaam on Friday afternoon.

The Tanzania teams' home shirt introduces a clean design in blue and yellow stripes on sleeves and neck, featuring a subtle graphic across the front, back, and sleeves.

The national team's away shirt is a heavy change from the previous one made by Uhlsport. Tanzania team's away jersey is blue

with green stripes across the front, a stylish yet new colour combo for the team. Unlike the home shirt, the away football shirt does not have a graphic pattern.

The national team's third jersey is black, purple, and green shades in alternating shapes.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

SHOW ME YOUR CARBURETOR, EXHAUST PIPE MUFFLER, PISTON RINGS AND THE RADIATOR CAP. ASAP!

