



The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com



@TheGuardianTz01 theguardiantd paper.ippmedia.com www.ippmedia.com feedback@guardian.co.tz LIKE & FOLLOW US

ISSN 0856 - 5434 ISSUE No. 9279 • PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100 TANZANIA TUESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER, 2024

National Pg 3
Journalists urged to prioritise safety

National Pg 4
Ecobank Tanzania Ltd MD tours The Guardian Ltd

National Pg 6
Contract sealed to build Iringa-Msembe road

Page 13

Livestock sector stakeholders sit consult to ahead of strategic plan
By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

STAKEHOLDERS in the livestock sector are taking stock of achievements in the livestock master plan rolled out in 2017, ahead of the launch of a new five-year plan for the sector.

Abdallah Ulega (pictured), the Livestock and Fisheries minister, officiated at the opening of a meeting bringing together development partners, the private sector, civil society and the media, where he asked the participants to critically discuss what to improve in the 2022/23-2026/27 plan.

The Livestock Sector Transformation Plan (LSTP) is expected to build

TURN TO PAGE 2

'Mandatory travel insurance could help rival destinations'



Opposition Chadema national Chairman Freeman Mbowe shows the victory sign from inside a police car in Dar es Salaam yesterday morning shortly after he was arrested apparently in connection with alleged participation in a banned protest march. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

"Repeat visitors in particular might reconsider their travel plans if they feel constrained by the new insurance requirement, opting instead for locations with fewer restrictions"

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

COMPETING destinations like Mauritius and the Seychelles, lacking mandatory health insurance policy usable within Zanzibar, may start becoming more attractive to potential visitors.

Ephata Nanyaro, the Tanzania Local Tour Operators (TLTO) public relations officer, said in a statement yesterday that the formally approved mandatory travel insurance, contains seeds of destruction in the local tourism industry.

The statement comes up as more tourism sector operators raise caution to the Zanzibar authorities on the formal start of the \$44 mandatory travel insurance requirement set to kick off on Tuesday next week.

An explicit insurance policy will be required for all foreign tourists visiting Zanzibar in addition to the Tanzania e-Visa, which he said would have a negative impact on both travellers and local tourism businesses.

It potentially alters the appeal of Zanzibar as a vacation destination, he said, noting that Zanzibar has traditionally been seen as an af-

SPORTS

DAVIDS PROUD SIMBA STUCK WITH ITS GAME PLAN TO BEAT AL AHLI TRIPOLI

Page 20

MAN CITY AND ARSENAL LOOK READY TO GO THE DISTANCE AGAIN IN PREMIER LEAGUE AFTER 2-2 DRAW

Page 19

Police curb Chadema protests, detaining 14 Mbowe family members, reporters arrested, later released

By Guardian Reporters

POLICE yesterday contained protests by members of the opposition Chadema in various areas of Dar es Salaam, which at some point resulted in confrontations.

SACP Jumanne Muliro, the Dar es Salaam special police zone commander, told journalists that 14 party leaders and members had been arrested for defying a police ban on demonstrations issued on September 12.

He said that recent statements from Chadema leaders suggested potential unrest and instilled fear among the public, listing those arrested as including party chairman Freeman Mbowe,

Mainland vice chairman Tundu Lissu and northern zone chairman Godbless Lema.

Others include officials Peter Lazaro, Sheikh Omari Fakhri, Revocatus Mlay, Paulo Musisi, Shabani Kinde, Abubakar Mugalu, Emmanuel Ntobi, Sylvester Satu, Rachel Mlondela, Mary Nungi and Bakari Salum.

He said the police force was implementing strategies to prevent unrest and ensure peace in the city, urging city residents not to engage with "criminal groups," as such actions will have legal consequences.

John Mrema, the party's director of protocol, communication and external affairs, said in a statement that eight leaders, security guards and staff at party headquarters, along with over 40 members, were detained.

Others that the zonal police chief did

TURN TO PAGE 2

This will ensure that Zanzibar remains an appealing destination in a competitive market

fordable option for travellers seeking beautiful beaches and rich culture.

However, the new cost of mandatory travel insurance may deter budget tourists, especially those who have become more cautious about spending in the post-pandemic period, he asserted.

Zanzibar technocrats are seemingly unaware that foreign travellers already have travel insurance usually tied with credit cards or as employer benefits, he said, noting that having to purchase additional local insurance may frustrate many of them.

Perceptions that Zanzibar regulations are overly burdensome will come up, affecting the island's reputation as a hassle-free travel option, he asserted, noting his experience as tour guide and tour operator.

Tourists often prefer insurance plans that cater to their specific needs, such as coverage for adventurous activities or pre-existing medical conditions, he pointed out, underlining that by mandating a particular insurance policy, Zanzibar risks alienating those who value the freedom to choose coverage tailored to their unique circumstances.

Zanzibar's tourism industry, which relies on both budget and luxury travellers may struggle as the new insurance requirement raises overall travel costs. This will touch off a decline in tourist numbers and revenue for local businesses, he specified, elaborating that increased costs and hassle associated with mandatory insurance may lead to a reduction in bookings for

TURN TO PAGE 2

Songea Airport ready for nonstop operations Samia wants leveraging cultural assets for tourism

By Getrude Mbagi

SONGEA Airport is poised to begin around-the-clock operations following the completion of a 40.87bn/- rehabilitation and expansion project.

Abdul Mombokaleo, the Tanzania Airports Authority (TAA) director general, made this observation when briefing President Samia Suluhu Hassan on the airport expansion project, with the project expected to unlock economic opportunities for local investors in Ruvuma Region.

The airport's runway has undergone significant rehabilitation, increasing in length from 1,625 meters to 1,860 meters, with its width expanded from 23 meters to 30 meters, which stakeholders say meets specifications of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

Mohamed Besta, the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) chief executive officer, said that an apron has been enlarged to accommodate four Q400 aircraft and three light aircraft, with renovations to the passenger terminal nearing completion.

The TAA executive affirmed that the project improves available opportunities in Ruvuma Region, while the agency plans

TURN TO PAGE 2



Police curb Chadema protests, detaining 14

FROM PAGE 1

not mention are Benson Kigaila, the deputy secretary general Mbowe's wife Dr Lilian Mtei, his lawyer and their daughter Nicole, who was accompanying them.

He stated that the party had declared yesterday as a day of mourning for those abducted, tortured or killed in the country, urging the government to protect citizens and their property.

Meanwhile five journalists from Nipashe, Mwananchi and East Africa Television (EATV) were arrested while covering the protests. Photographer Jumanne Juma was apprehended at a gas station in Buguruni while taking photos of protesters and later released after questioning at the Buguruni Police Station, along with a Mwananchi reporter, without charges.

Nipashe reporter Jenifer Gilla was also detained while gathering information and taken to the Central Police Station, along with Michael Matemanga, Lawrence Mnubi and

Mariam Shaban.

The party chairman arrived at Magomeni area around 10 in the morning to assess the situation before the protests were scheduled to begin, but police were already deployed throughout the area. He discreetly alerted a reporter to gather others for a conversation but was soon recognized and approached by officers demanding that he leave.

Before his arrest, Mbowe stated that the protests were peaceful and aimed at mourning party members, condemning killings and abductions. "We have presented demands to the government, but they remain unaddressed. Protesting is our constitutional right. This excessive police presence and use of resources is unjustified," he declared.

Despite the tensions, the situation remained calm in areas where protests were expected, such as Mnazi Mmoja, with normal traffic and activities undisturbed, with police maintaining a visible presence throughout the city to prevent any gatherings.

Songea Airport ready for nonstop operations

FROM PAGE 1

to operate the airport in a manner similar to Songwe and Arusha airports.

"We expect considerable rise in passenger traffic through Songea Airport," he stated, while Works minister Innocent Bashungwa said that renovation has enabled Air Tanzania Co. Ltd (ATCL) to schedule flights to Songea three times a week.

President Samia was on the first day of a six-day working visit to Ruvuma Region, to inspect development projects, visit historical sites and engage with local communities.

At her first rally, the president emphasized the need for tourism stakeholders to invest in innovative strategies to transform the country's rich culture into viable business opportunities.

By leveraging cultural assets stakeholders can enhance tourism and contribute to economic growth, she said, wrapping up the third national cultural festival at MajiMaji Stadium in Songea municipality yesterday.

President Samia underscored the vital role of culture in the nation's livelihood, urging its protection and promotion to raise global awareness.

"We must view our culture through a commercial lens, promote it and leverage it to generate income. Our traditional products and innovations, if harnessed effectively, can significantly transform local economies," she stated. The National Arts Council (BASATA) and other relevant authorities to ensure effective oversight of the cultural sector to achieve the goals.

She further stressed the importance of aligning development with local customs and traditions, as straying from or undermining the traditions could lead to societal regression.

Rwanda starts mpox vaccination in diseases prevention campaign

KIGALI

RWANDA has started a vaccination campaign against mpox as part of the country's disease preparedness and response, according to the country's Ministry of Health.

The vaccination campaign, which began on Tuesday targeted populations with a high risk of getting mpox, including health workers, cross-border business operators, non-medical hospitality workers and other high-risk groups, the ministry said in a statement issued in Thursday.

Rwanda had four confirmed cases of mpox in July. Most of the patients were treated and discharged, and no deaths have been recorded, according to the ministry.

Speaking at a virtual weekly press briefing earlier Thursday,

Jean Kaseya, director general of Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), described Rwanda's launch of the vaccination campaign as a success story amid delays in delivering vaccines to the continent. "Let us talk about vaccination. We have a success story, we started in Rwanda, with 500 people vaccinated," Kaseya said.

Africa has recorded more than 29,000 mpox cases and 738 deaths so far this year, according to Africa CDC data.

Rwanda launched the vaccination with 1,000 doses of the vaccine it obtained from Nigeria under a bilateral arrangement, according to the Africa CDC.

Nigeria donated the 1,000 doses from an allotment of 10,000 it had received from the United States.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan pictured at Songea Airport yesterday shortly after jetting in at the start of a working tour of Ruvuma Region. Photo: State House

Livestock sector stakeholders consulting ahead of new plan

FROM PAGE 1

on the successes of earlier plans to strengthen breeding and animal health programmes, he said, elaborating that LSPT provides sector actors with evidence on where to invest in the livestock sector to achieve national development goals.

It is also designed to meet regional and global commitments such as the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The original plan was launched in 2017 as a collaborative development plan between the government, the private sector and non-governmental organizations, to

identify and strengthen priority livestock value chains and production systems, he said.

"Its goal was to translate national livestock sector priorities into realistic and achievable time-bound targets and objectives guiding sectoral investment decisions," he specified.

Stressing the vital role of the livestock sector, he acknowledged the development partners and the private sector in developing the sector and improving livelihoods.

The government has a regulatory role in a sector dominated by private players, with government ranches holding upwards of 100,000 animals, among 35m livestock numbers, he stated.

The minister said while several gains have been realized in the live-

stock sector, a lot more needs to be done to increase the sector's contribution to the national economy and improvement of individual livelihoods.

"The sector can help create jobs and earn foreign currency, strengthening national development," he remarked, tasking the stakeholders' meetings with identifying what needs to be done to accelerate investments in the sector.

Dr Charles Mhina, director of administration at the ministry, said the meeting will scan successes and challenges in the implementation of the previous plan.

"In the past five years we have realized the strength of the sector in creating development changes and we now need a common understanding on implementing the new

plan" he said.

Amos Omore, the eastern and southern Africa representative for the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), said that researchers and development partners have a common interest in improving the livestock sector.

Focusing on extension services improvement, he said that it is an area requiring significant attention as access has been declining. Tanzania's livestock resources account for 11 percent of the continental cattle population, with 33.8m cattle, 24.5m goats and 8.4m sheep.

It also has 1.9m pigs, 38.2m local chicken and 36.6m improved chicken in stock, with the sector touching on activities of 4.6m households earning incomes from livestock keeping, official data indicates.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi exchanges greetings with Oman's Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister (Administration and Finance), Khalid Almuslahi, at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Left is Oman's Consul General in Zanzibar, Said Salim Hamed Alsinawi. Photo: Zanzibar State House

'Mandatory travel insurance could help rival destinations'

FROM PAGE 1

tour operators, travel agencies and airlines promoting Zanzibar.

"Repeat visitors in particular might reconsider their travel plans if they feel constrained by the new insurance requirement, opting instead for locations with fewer re-

strictions," he stated.

Local businesses will face new operational hurdles as they adapt to the mandatory insurance policy, in educating clients about the new requirements and ensuring compliance as it will demand additional resources, thus higher operational costs.

Managing customer dissatisfaction regarding the insurance mandate could further strain local providers, as mandatory travel insurance for visitors to Zanzibar is supposedly intended to enhance traveller safety.

Yet its financial implications may deter visitors and complicate opera-

tions for local tourism businesses, in which case the Tanzania Local Tour Operators needs to advocate for a balanced approach that protects both tourists and the local tourism economy. This will ensure that Zanzibar remains an appealing destination in a competitive market, the statement added

Support LDCs, PM calls on UN

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has urged the United Nations to support the least developed countries (LDCs) that lack economic capacity so they can improve their domestic plans.

Majaliwa made the call over the weekend while delivering greetings from Tanzania at the opening of a two-day summit of Heads of State and Government on the Future (Summit of the Future) in New York, USA.

The premier, who is in the USA representing President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the 79th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA79), informed the summit attendees about the government's efforts in the areas of the economy, security, and climate change.

Majaliwa said: "We are asking the United Nations to support nations that lack economic capacity so they can improve their internal economic plans. In Tanzania, we are planning to build a better tomorrow for our people by strengthening agriculture, investment, industries, mining, and natural resources."

"When you talk about building a better future for your people, you cannot succeed without a secure country; therefore, security is essential, and we have assured the international community that, along with our internal security, the security of neighboring countries is also important," he said.

Regarding climate change, Majaliwa noted that the world is currently witnessing significant impacts in some countries due to social activities, including droughts and heavy rains causing floods. "Tanzania is in the process of educating its citizens about climate change so they can come together to discuss how to address it while continuing their economic activities."

He urged the summit members to take concrete actions to reduce carbon emissions, protect biodiversity, and support efforts to address this situation in developing countries. "Tanzania is committed to defending global climate issues and calls on the international community to fulfill its pledges of funding climate

efforts and technology transfer."

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the summit was convened at this time to find ways to save the world from the direction it is heading and bring it back on track. "The world has gone off the rails, and we now need to make tough decisions to return it to the right path," he said.

"I convened this meeting because the challenges of the 21st century require 21st-century solutions through well-designed, inclusive systems that require the expertise of all people."

Identifying these challenges, the Secretary-General mentioned some as the growing conflicts from the Middle East to Ukraine and Sudan with no hope of resolution, security systems threatened by geopolitical divisions, nuclear threats, and the development of modern weapons, with investment going into destruction and death instead of bringing hope and new opportunities.

This year's summit theme is: "No One Left Behind: Working Together to Advance Peace, Sustainable Development, and Human Dignity for Present and Future Generations."



When you talk about building a better future for your people, you cannot succeed without a secure country; therefore, security is essential, and we have assured the international community that, along with our internal security, the security of neighboring countries is also important

Pastoralists near conservancy create cultural tourism village

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Maasai pastoralists have capitalised on their proximity to Mikumi National Park in Kilosa District, Morogoro Region by establishing a cultural tourism village known as Mikumi Maasai Boma.

Located in Kikwalaza within Mikumi, the village offers tourists the opportunity to immerse themselves in various aspects of Maasai culture.

In an exclusive interview, Nuhu Mereni, the Coordinator of Mikumi Maasai Boma, explained that the initiative was created to attract more visitors to Mikumi National Park, allowing them to experience Maasai traditions and cuisine.

Upon arrival at the Mikumi Maasai Boma, tourists are dressed in traditional Maasai attire, taught how to make fire, and provided with the history of the Maasai people. Visitors can also participate in activities such as traditional dances.

The tourists have the chance to learn cattle herding techniques and explore traditional Maasai homesteads.

"We are grateful for the presence of Mikumi National Park. As Maasai pastoralists in Kilosa District, we have seized this opportunity to showcase our culture, which has impressed visiting tourists and generated revenue," Nuhu stated.

Makene Ngoromo, the founder of cultural tourism initiatives near Mikumi National Park, noted that they have also introduced cultural tourism focused on the Vidunda tribe, who reside near Mikumi and Udzungwa National Parks.

He explained that the Vidunda

cultural tourism highlights various attractions, including five stunning waterfalls found in the Vidunda Mountains, part of the Eastern Arc Mountain range.

Ngoromo added that the Vidunda people's way of life, along with the agricultural products grown on the mountain slopes, has captivated visitors eager to learn more.

Augustine Masesa, the head of Mikumi National Park, emphasized that the park is a vital conservation legacy inherited from elders, encompassing rich biodiversity and wildlife.

He noted that the park also offers opportunities for cultural tourism activities involving various tribes in the area, aiming to enhance local incomes.



We are grateful for the presence of Mikumi National Park. As Maasai pastoralists in Kilosa District, we have seized this opportunity to showcase our culture, which has impressed visiting tourists and generated revenue



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured yesterday presenting Tanzania's message to Heads of State and Government attending the high-profile 'Summit of the Future' at the United Nations headquarters in New York. He is representing President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the event. Photo: PMO

Gairo residents to start seizing opportunities in carbon trade

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

GAIRO District residents will soon have the opportunity to engage in the carbon trade, following education on the use of clean energy to protect the environment and public health.

Gairo District Commissioner Jabir Makame announced during discussions about preparations for the third season of the Samia Agriculture Business Expo 2024, scheduled to take place from October 6 to 12.

The expo will bring together local residents, farmers, and stake-

holders involved in agricultural, livestock, and environmental value chains.

"We have set aside a special day for stakeholders and residents to discuss the use of clean energy and the opportunities within the carbon trade," said DC Makame.

The DC emphasized that Gairo is implementing the "Green Heritage" campaign to address climate change challenges.

Morogoro Regional Commissioner Adam Malima highlighted the importance of clean cooking energy, affirming the region's commitment to supporting President

Samia Suluhu Hassan's agenda as a leader in clean cooking energy initiatives both in Africa and globally.

"We, as a region, have fully embraced this agenda. For instance, in Ulanga District, alternative charcoal is being produced from wood residues and rice husks," Malima explained.

He also mentioned an investor-owned factory in Morogoro Municipality that produces alternative charcoal using planted leaves.

"There are numerous opportunities, and these major exhibitions in Gairo will showcase the potential for demonstrating alternative ener-

gy solutions to charcoal users, especially in urban areas, to encourage a shift in practices," Malima noted.

The regional commissioner stressed that to ensure the sustainability of alternative energy use, higher taxes should be imposed on charcoal made from trees to curb deforestation.

"Using clean cooking energy is a safer method for health, particularly for women and others involved in cooking," Malima added.

He emphasized the significant relationship between the environment, the economy, agriculture, and the daily lives of people.



Tanzania Police spokesman David Misime addresses journalists and other media stakeholders at a seminar held in Dar es Salaam yesterday under the theme: "Ensuring Journalists Safety in Election Periods". Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

Prioritise safety when executing duties, DCP Misime tells scribes

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

DEPUTY Commissioner of Police (DCP) David Misime has urged journalists to prioritise safety when executing their duties, especially during elections.

He made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday during a seminar organised by the Union of Tanzania Press Clubs (UTPC) titled: "Ensuring Journalists' Safety in Election Periods."

DCP Misime stressed that media professionals must conduct risk assessments, recognising that their safety is paramount.

"Security and safety begin with

you. It must be your top priority. Take the time to evaluate the story's environment instead of solely focusing on reporting, which could jeopardize your life," he said.

He also advised journalists to choose their words carefully in presentations, as this could protect them in the future. "What you present may impact those involved in the story, so it's crucial to take precautions," he added.

DCP Misime further highlighted the importance of embracing President Samia Suluhu Hassan's 4Rs philosophy of reconciliation, resilience, reform, and rebuilding, de-

scribing it as vital for meeting current social, political, and economic challenges.

Kenneth Simbaya, executive director of UTPC, echoed the call for collaboration between the media and police.

He noted: "There have been misunderstandings between the media and the police, often stemming from a lack of clarity on how our roles complement each other. Both entities serve the public interest, and it is time we work together."

Simbaya also pointed out that police actions can sometimes infringe upon freedom of expression, high-

lighting the need for both parties to cooperate to prevent conflicts.

Fausta Musokwa, programme manager at International Media Support (IMS), underscored the importance of involving the police in media seminars to address ongoing challenges related to press freedom.

The concept of media security encompasses the protection of an organisation's reputation and brand image against attacks that exploit various media channels. Ensuring media safety not only saves lives but also strengthens the operational ecosystem of media outlets.

Ecobank Tanzania Ltd MD tours The Guardian Ltd



The Guardian Ltd deputy general manager Jackson Paul (C) pictured welcoming Ecobank Tanzania Ltd managing director Dr Charles Asiedu to the TGL offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The guest was on a familiarisation tour of the firm, which currently publishes two daily newspapers - Nipashe and The Guardian. Photos: Chief Photographer Selemani Mipochi



The Guardian newspaper managing editor Wallace Muggo exchanges greetings with Dr Asiedu at the TGL offices.



The Guardian Ltd printing manager Balasubramanian Venkadachalam exchanges greetings with the Ecobank Ltd MD.



Dr Asiedu exchanges greetings with Nipashe newspaper managing editor Beatrice Bandawe.



The Guardian newspaper managing Editor briefs Dr Asiedu on the flow of operations in the TGL newsroom.



The Guardian managing editor briefs the Ecobank Tanzania Ltd MD on pre-press operations in the TGL newsroom. Right is Nipashe newspaper news editor Salome Kitomari.



The TGL printing manager explains to Dr Asiedu how newspapers are printed.



TGL deputy managing director Jackson Paul (C) leads the Ecobank Tanzania Ltd MD to the venue of a briefing session. Left is TGL marketing manager Weapon Mwajombe.



Mbeya regional environment "ambassador" Chief Rocket Mwashinga pictured in Mbeya city yesterday airing his views at a meeting on the use of clean energy for cooking called by the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Vice President's Office (Environment), Christina Mndeme. Photo: Correspondent Nabantu Msokwa

Villagers call for research on rising elephant crop raiding behaviour

By Guardian Correspondent, Nantumbo

RESIDENTS in Likuyu Sekamaganga village in Nantumbo District, Songea Region have called on the government, through the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI), to conduct research on increasing incidents of elephants entering farms and human settlements.

The villagers claim that in recent years, there has been an increase in incidents of elephants invading farms compared to previous years, insisting that most of the incidents have been reported in the last three years, from 2022 to 2024.

"In the past, our parents coexisted with these wild animals, but there was no such damage to crops. We still don't know the exact reason, but perhaps there is something they are fleeing from in the reserve," said Abdallah Haule, Local Government Chairman, Likuyu Sekamaganga village when briefing members of the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) on the various efforts by the government and stakeholders in tackling Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC).

Likuyu Sekamaganga is one of the villages that are near to the Selous-Niassa Wildlife Corridor that connects Nyerere National Park and Mozambique's Niassa Reserve.

Haule noted that due to the on-going HWC, the village, which has a population of 5,531, had most of its people experiencing great crop loss this farming season as a significant portion of the crops were destroyed by elephants.

He however called upon relevant authorities to fit elephants with GPS collars so that when they about to approach farms or human settlements, the collar will send a message, thus ensuring timely response from village game scouts (VGS) as well as game wardens from the district, Tanzania Wildlife

Management Authority (TAWA) and Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA).

He also suggested construction of permanent camps for VGS to be erected near the park, a move he said would make it easier for them to drive the animals back into the park before they enter farms and human settlements.

Neema Mwakatimbo, Likuyu Sekamaganga Village Executive Officer (VEO) said that more needs to be done to educate villagers on coexistence with the wild animals as well as cultivating alternative crops that are less elephant friendly such as sunflower and sesame.

"The problem is big; elephants have destroyed most of our farms this farming season. I was expecting to harvest 100 sacks of maize but I ended up getting 30 sacks," she remarked.

A VGS, Hassan Mkonde said they are working closely with wildlife officers from district, TAWA and TANAPA. He acknowledged the support from stakeholders—German Development Agency (GIZ) for providing them with training at the Community Based Conservation Training Centre (CBCTC) in Likuyu Sekamanga.

GIZ is implementing the Mitigation of Human Wildlife Conflict in Tanzania project in the Ruvuma Landscape on behalf of Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Mkonde insisted the need for research following increased elephant raids on farms, noting the animals are now becoming familiar with some techniques used to scare them, hence the increase in raids.

Acting Natnumbo District Administrative Secretary, Haruna Mang'uli linked the increase in HWC with villager's limited understanding on conservation issues, adding they have been collaborating with GIZ in providing education on the importance of conservation as well as how to prevent the animals from entering farms by using smelly repellent.

By Guardian Reporter, Ngorongoro

Calmness shown by Ngorongoro residents excites President Samia

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has expressed satisfaction with the calm and cooperative attitude of Ngorongoro residents in the Arusha Region following the government's clarification on the importance of conservation efforts within the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA).

According to the Presidential Advisor on Political and Community Relations, Ambassador Rajab Luhwavi, the Head of State was happy with the positive response to further ensure that the NCAA is conserved.

Speaking yesterday at a thanksgiving service held at St. Luke Catholic Church in Endulen Ward, Ambassador Luhwavi noted that the peaceful environment

has prompted President Samia to instruct her aides to monitor the implementation of her directives in the area closely.

"The government commends the people of Ngorongoro for their continued unity, peace, and tranquillity, embodying President Samia's 4R philosophy of reconciliation, resilience, reforms and rebuilding," Luhwavi said.

He urged Endulen residents and the wider Ngorongoro area to remain patient as the government at all levels works diligently to implement the President's directives.

As of August this year,

approximately 1,598 households, comprising 9,618 individuals and 39,779 livestock, have voluntarily relocated from the Ngorongoro Conservation Area to facilitate conservation activities aimed at restoring the ecosystem, which has been compromised by human settlement and livestock grazing.

During the service, NCAA Conservation Commissioner Dr Elirehema Doriye reassured residents that the Authority is committed to overseeing the implementation of all directives issued by President Samia's representatives.

"We have already initiated

various measures to execute these directives, including strengthening the relationship between the NCAA and the local communities," Dr Doriye said.

Ngorongoro legislator Emmanuel Ole Shangai also spoke, commending the government for its decisive actions to ensure the implementation of development projects in the region.

He pledged to continue supporting such initiatives for the benefit of the community, emphasizing the importance of collaboration between the government and residents to achieve sustainable development goals.

STARTS TOMORROW

Meet Tanzania's Power, Solar & Renewable Energy Industry at One Place & Time.

8th POWER & ENERGY
PE AFRICA 2024

8th SOLAR
SOLAR AFRICA 2024

We Cordially invite you to the Opening Ceremony of Region's Prime International Trade Exhibition being inaugurated by, **Hon. Dr. Selemán Saidi Jafo, Minister for Industry and Trade, Tanzania,** on 25th September 2024, 11:00 am at Diamond Jubilee Hall, Dar-es-Salaam.

BATTERIES & ACCESSORIES - OILFIELD CHEMICALS - NATURAL GAS VEHICLES EQUIPMENT - CABLE & ACCESSORIES

POWER TRANSMISSION EQUIPMENTS - TRANSMISSION LINES AND TOWERS - SOLAR PANELS - GENERATORS

25 26 27

SEPTEMBER

Diamond Jubilee Halls
Dar - es - Salaam | 10 am - 06 pm

Meet Exhibitors from 22 Countries

Sponsors & Prime Exhibitors :

Supported by:

Organized by:

EXPGROUP

www.expogr.com

Tanzania: +255 778 748 677 / +255 713 246 267
Int'l.: +971 4 3050755 E: feedback@expogr.com

Scan the QR code

Expogroup supports the "GO GREEN" campaign across the globe. Please use paper only when necessary.

PROVISION OF INFORMATION FOR SUPPLY OF GOODS/SERVICES

TO M&P EXPLORATION PRODUCTION TANZANIA LIMITED

(Ref. No. MPEP/2024/TM/017)

1. M&P Exploration Production Tanzania Ltd. (MPEP), an upstream producer of natural gas from the Mnazi Bay gas field in Mtwara region hereby invites potential suppliers to express their interest and provide information for the supply of the following below services.
2. Vendors and Suppliers situated physically in Mtwara are encouraged to apply as well as vendors who can provide multiple services.

Marine Transportation and Vessels Provisions

- Provision of Rental or Hire of Sea/Ocean Vessel for Freight Forwarding Equipment and Materials to Mtwara, Tanzania.
- Barges, Sea Vessels and LCT
- The routing will be a shuttling service between Dar es Salaam Port to Mnazi Bay or Mtwara Port to Mnazi Bay and vice versa.
- Suitable for open ocean and island docking
- Properly trained crew and safety certificates
- Demonstrated ability to offload cargo from Shore to Vessel and vice versa

Sea Vessel for International Cargo to Mtwara, Tanzania

- Provision of Rental or Hire of Sea/Ocean Vessel for Freight Forwarding Equipment and Materials from different parts of the world to Mtwara Port, Tanzania.
- The origin of equipment will be varying but not limited to between Asia, UAE and Europe.
- Suitable for open ocean and island docking
- Properly and experienced trained crew and safety certificates
- Demonstrated ability to offload cargo from Shore to Vessel and vice versa

3. This call for Request for Information (RFI) marks an open, transparent, and competitive tender process. Detailed scope of work will be issued to qualified bidders upon demand.
4. Potential suppliers must submit information to demonstrate their capability and competency. This must include but not limited to the following:
 - a) Experience with Service Provision to Oil and Gas Operations or similar scope
 - b) Summary of service provision of similar type of service in the last 2 years
 - c) Audited Financial Statement for the past 3 years
 - d) Proof of Registration with the local authorities in Tanzania or Country of Origin. This shall include but not limited to a Company Profile, Certificate of Registration with BRELA, Tax Authority Clearance Certificates for Tax Identification Number and VRN Certificate, Valid Business Licenses, EWURA and PURA Registration References and Certificates, Relevant Vessels Certifications and Tax Clearance Certificate.
 - e) International companies with ability to team up with local entity in any form as per the Local Content Regulations, 2017.
5. All correspondence regarding this enquiry shall be made in writing and communicated by e-mail to contractmanager@tanzaniamp.co.tz and costcontrol@tanzaniamp.co.tz not later than **08th October 2024**.

Acquire TBS-certified goods, Tanzanians told

By Guardian Correspondent, Kigoma

TANZANIANS have been encouraged to purchase products, which are certified by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) to protect their health and income.

TBS officials made the call during public education campaigns held between September 9th and 20th across Kigoma Municipality, Buhigwe, Uvinza and Kasulu district councils.

About 2,730 residents, including 110 traders, were reached during the campaign.

Deborah Haule, TBS senior marketing officer told reporters here over the weekend that the campaign aims to educate residents on the importance of using certified products and how to report substandard or expired goods.

Haule said that the sixth-phase government acknowledges the vital contribution of entrepreneurs to the national economy and their personal livelihoods by offering free certification for their products.

She emphasised the need for entrepreneurs to seize this opportunity, noting that standards organisations within the East African Community (EAC) have established agreements, where once a product is tested and certified by the relevant national standards body, it does not require retesting when crossing borders into other countries.

"This is a significant opportunity for entrepreneurs who certify their products; all they need is an identification letter from the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO). We do not want to leave any entrepreneur behind; this initiative will uplift their economy and that of the nation as a whole," she said.

She stated that TBS aims to raise public awareness about the importance of standards in protecting consumer health and

empowering producers to compete in both domestic and international markets.

"We want people to stop buying products out of habit and instead check their expiration dates. If they encounter products that are substandard, expired, or any item they are unsure about, they should not hesitate to contact TBS through the toll-free number of the customer service centre," she advised.

She added that quality requirements include products having clear expiration dates, and this campaign educates the community and stakeholders about what to consider on packaging before making purchases.

During the campaign, TBS experts visited markets, shops, and business' groups to provide guidance on product storage and how to use TBS quality marks to identify product quality. The education sessions were held in open areas, including markets and bus stations, where large crowds gather.

Haule said TBS acknowledges the community's role in combating substandard products, which is why this campaign aims to unite efforts towards achieving a Tanzania free from substandard goods.

Peter Musiba, TBS senior quality control officer, urged business owners to register their food and cosmetics establishments to comply with national laws and safeguard consumer health.

"We call upon business owners to register their food and cosmetics establishments, as this is a legal requirement," Musiba said.

He added that the registration also applies to food and cosmetics imported into the country.

He explained that the registration of cosmetics is crucial to prevent the entry of banned products containing toxic substances into Tanzania.



Maria Memba, Legal Affairs Director with the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority and chairperson of the Women in Aviation Forum Tanzania, briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the launch of the forum's logo design competition scheduled for late next month. The competition, to be held in the city, is open to girls from across Tanzania aged between 14 and 20. Photo: Correspondent Dickson Mulashani

Maternal health expert says why women abandon family planning

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

SOME women in Mbeya District Council are reportedly abandoning family planning methods due to the myth that the methods are harmful to them and their children.

Nitike Kyejo, the council's Maternal and Child Health Coordinator, shared the information over the weekend during a family planning assessment report.

The evaluation meeting brought together health officials

from various councils in Mbeya, maternal and child healthcare providers, and heads of health departments in the region.

The objective was to learn from the experiences of maternal and child health coordinators from Chamwino District in Dodoma, who have significantly increased family planning usage from 22 percent to 92 percent.

Nitike explained that some women fear that using these methods may lead to infertility, prompting them to abandon family planning altogether. This

impacts their ability to effectively plan their families.

"Others believe that using an intrauterine device (IUD) will result in babies being born with the IUD, and these misconceptions have hindered the adoption of family planning methods in our areas," she said.

She emphasized ongoing efforts to educate the public through various channels to dispel these myths that contribute to poor family planning, adding: "We use media to reach people in their communities, even visiting farms

where they work." Waziri Njau, JHPIEGO Coordinator stated that they are committed to providing proper education to eliminate such misconceptions.

He mentioned that they are connecting maternal and child health coordinators with other health stakeholders to strengthen services nationwide.

Njau reiterated the importance of family planning services for spacing children within families and assured that they will continue collaborating to achieve this goal.

US supports Tanzanian women in politics

By Guardian Reporter

THE United States Agency for International Development (USAID) recently launched the Wanawake Sasa (Women Now) project, an 8bn/- (\$3million) project to advance women and girls' political participation and leadership.

At the launch event, USAID/Tanzania Mission Director Craig Hart was joined by Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women, and Special Groups, in inaugurating the new initiative.

The USAID Wanawake Sasa project

expands on the United States global commitment to empower women and girls and its partnership with Tanzania. This initiative seeks to break down gender barriers and ensure that the leadership and voices of all Tanzanians—especially women and girls—are not only heard but also play a key role in the nation's political decision-making processes.

"Tanzania thrives when all voices are heard, and where women are fully empowered to shape the nation's future," said USAID/Tanzania Mission Director Craig Hart. "Through USAID Wanawake Sasa, together, we are taking a clear step

to making this not just a goal, but a lived reality."

The USAID Wanawake Sasa project seeks to support the agency of women and girls to participate in civic and political spaces. It will work with communities, civil society, and government to foster more inclusive governance, and prevent all forms of gender-based violence. It will be implemented in four regions in Tanzania mainland (Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Iringa, and Mwanza) and in Zanzibar.

"Through USAID Wanawake Sasa, together, we are taking a clear step to making this not just a goal, but a lived reality."

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

THE government has signed a contract for the construction of the Iringa-Msembe road, which leads to Ruaha National Park (104 km), upgrading it to tarmac worth 143bn/- aimed to open up tourism, economic, and business opportunities in the Southern Highlands region.

The contracts were signed yesterday, at Samora Stadium in Iringa, between the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) and the contractor, along with the supervising engineer.

The event was attended by Minister of Works Innocent Bashungwa, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office for Policy, Parliament, and Coordination William Lukuvi, Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism Dr Pindi Chana, Deputy Minister of Transport David Kihenzile, and local leaders including Regional Commissioner Peter Serukamba.

Minister Bashungwa urged Tanroads to ensure that the contractor, CHICO, delivers a high-quality road within the agreed timeline.

Govt seals pact to construct 104km Iringa-Msembe road

"President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan understands that this road will unlock economic and tourism opportunities for the people of Iringa. She has allocated special funds totalling 142.56bn/- to ensure the project is completed," Bashungwa stated.

He also outlined the government's plans for Iringa, including the procurement process for the construction of a 7.3 km bypass and the ongoing expansion of Kitonga Mountain, where work is 65% complete at five hazardous corners.

Bashungwa further emphasized the government's commitment to improving transport infrastructure in the Southern Highlands region, facilitating trade, and boosting the economy.

William Lukuvi highlighted that the completion of the Iringa-Msembe road will significantly benefit the local economy, especially since Nduli Airport has been completed, enhancing tourism opportunities.

Dr Pindi Chana noted that the

new road will facilitate easier access to Ruaha National Park, thereby promoting tourism in the Southern Highlands.

Iringa Regional Commissioner Peter Serukamba urged the government to promptly address compensation for residents affected by the construction to prevent delays.

Eng. Mohamed Besta, TANROADS CEO, announced that the construction bids were awarded to China Henan International Corporation (CHICO) and Conseil Ingénierie Et Recherche Appliquée (CIRA SAS) from Mali, in partnership with Tanzania's NIMETA Consult. The project is expected to be completed within 24 months.

The Iringa-Msembe road project is part of the government's strategy to accelerate economic and social development in Iringa, particularly in Iringa Urban and Iringa Rural districts, by enhancing the road network to improve transport and tourism efficiency.

JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA
MAHAKAMA YA HAKIMU MKAZI KISUTU
DAR ES SALAAM
MADAI NA. 8269 YA MWAKA 2024

DCB COMMERCIAL BANK ----- MDAI
 DHIDI YA
 ISMAIL ATHUMAN ALMAS ----- MDAWA
 KWA
 ISMAIL ATHUMAN ALMAS
 POPOTE ULIPO
 KUITWA SHAURINI

Kwa kuwa Mleta madai amelea madai yake ambayo maelezo ya madai yameelezwa katika nakala za madai ambayo inaweza kupatikana katika Mahakama hii, kwa hiyo unahitajiwa kuhudhuria katika Mahakama hii binafsi au wakili au wawakilishi ambao wanaruhusiwa kisheria, siku ya tarehe **30/9/2024** saa **5:00** Asubuhi, kwa ajili ya **HUKUMU**. Mbele ya Mheshimiwa **G.J. MHINI – HAKIMU MKAZI MKUU ANGALIZO**

Kama hamkuhudhuria siku iliyotajwa hapo juu, Mahakama ikithibitisha kama mmepokea kuitwa shaurini, itaweza kutoa maamuzi bila ya ninyi kuwepo mahakamani.

Hati hii imetolewa kwa amri yangu na chapa ya Mahakama hii leo tarehe **13 Mwezi Septemba, 2024**

HAKIMU MKAZI MKUU
KISUTU - DAR ES SALAAM
 PRINCIPAL RESIDENT MAGISTRATE



Robert Roghat, director of local CSO Akili Platform Tanzania, pictured in Dodoma city on Saturday airing his views at a conference held in Dodoma city on Saturday on ways to combat violence, discrimination and killings targeting people with albinism. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Regional PRs body launched in Arusha

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE East African Public Relations Association has officially been launched in Arusha, with the city being earmarked to become the headquarters of the regional professional body.

Arik Karani, President of Africa Public Relations Associations (APRA), said the East African Public Relations Association (EAPRA) is a new regional body faced with the major task of branding the East African Community, its people, and development in a world cluttered with 'noise'.

"The world is filled with millions of brands and products all targeting one individual person and making a lot of noise to achieve that," stated Karani who also heads the Public Relations Society of Kenya (PRSK).

Karani was addressing the third East Africa Public Relations Week (EAPRW) taking place at the Lush Gardens on the outskirts of Arusha, with the opening ceremony being graced by the Deputy Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Eng. Maryprisca Mahundi.

Eng. Mahundi emphasized the need for public relations officers in East Africa to address issues of disinformation and misinformation that are becoming the norm in this digitally advanced era, in addition to pushing the East Africa agenda.

"The Public Relations Profession can be used as a tool to build trust and influence geopolitical discourse, uplift the East African Region, and create a lasting impact globally," she stated, pointing out that alongside promoting the community, the PR also has a role of clearing negativity and wrong information.

Karim Meshak, chairperson of the Tanzania Association for Government Communication Officers (TAGCO) said he was confident that the state will allocate land for the construction of the EAPRA headquarters in Arusha.

"EAPRA will not only bring change for the better in the region but also improve the way different institutions communicate and cooperate across the East African Region," pointed out Meshak.

Delegates at the meeting agreed that there is a rapid rise of misinformation and disinformation, something that didn't exist three years ago as there were no levels of Technologies that are in place today.

It was also stated during the launch of EAPRA that so far it is only four, out of the eight East African countries that have formed their national public relations societies.

"It is only Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and South Sudan but out of these four three are strong. South Sudan is still coming up. So we have other countries that are in East Africa and we want to find out how we assist DR Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi to set up theirs?" asked Arik Karani the APRA President.

Tina Wamala, President of Uganda's Public Relations Association said they have been pursuing parliamentary status recognition and have already made great Headway with the government of Uganda.

"It is important for us to legalize our profession and for us to ensure that we maintain the ethical standard of our profession. At the moment in Uganda we are on the 11th Hour of getting our bill," she said.



Dr Zakia Mohamed Abubakar (L), a member of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), looks on as election assistant clerks and biometric equipment operators undergo practical training at Mwanamwema Shein Secondary School in Singida Rural District yesterday. The updating of the national Permanent Voters' Register will be conducted in Dodoma and Singida regions from September 25 to October 1. Photo courtesy of INEC

TAMWA launches documentary to promote inclusive quality education

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA) has launched a new documentary focused on promoting inclusive quality education for public school students in Dar es Salaam.

The documentary aims to enhance access to quality and inclusive education for children and raise community awareness about the importance of enrolling children in school on time, particularly those at risk of dropping out.

Sylvia Daulinge, TAMWA acting director, and strategic manager shared the information during a press briefing about the six-month project.

Titled: "Pamoja Tudumisha Elimu"

(Together We Sustain Education), the initiative is funded by the international NGO We World under the "Education Above All" initiative.

"This documentary offers an in-depth analysis of the challenges faced by marginalized groups, including girls, children with disabilities, and those from low-income families, while providing solutions to ensure they receive an education," Sylvia said.

The documentary features the voices of children, parents, teachers, civil society organizations (CSOs), and government officials, initiating discussions on the barriers preventing these groups from accessing quality education.

Sylvia emphasized the need for poli-

cies and strategies that support vulnerable populations, such as girls, children with disabilities, and those from marginalized communities. Improving the school environment is essential for helping these children thrive in their education.

She further said that collaboration is crucial for representing the unique challenges faced by children in different contexts, thereby providing a comprehensive picture of their right to education and the obstacles they encounter.

Dr Rose Reuben, TAMWA director added that every child deserves quality, inclusive, and equitable education for the betterment of society as a

whole. "By breaking down barriers, we can create opportunities for all children to thrive. Let's work together to prioritize education in all our endeavours. Together, we can build a better tomorrow," Dr Reuben stated.

She called on all education stakeholders—including parents, teachers, community leaders, NGOs, and government officials—to collaborate in addressing the obstacles that prevent children from attending school.

"This documentary serves as a road-map for how we can collectively ensure that every child receives the quality education they deserve," Dr Reuben concluded.

TMSA to award this year's Best Marketers in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Marketing Science Association (TMSA) is next month expected to award the best marketers in Tanzania for 2024, the organisers said over the weekend.

To be held in Dar es Salaam, the event is themed: "Drive Growth by Passion: Reflect, Align, and Thrive through the Art and Science of Marketing," will emphasize collaboration between scholars and industry experts to inspire innovation and growth in the marketing sector.

It is also aimed at bridging the gap between academic knowledge and practical experience and has already attracted prominent figures in the Tanzanian marketing industry.

Prof Emmanuel Chao, Director of the Tanzania Marketing Science Association, emphasized the importance of marketing for brand growth and profitability, stating: "In any business, marketing is crucial, representing 30 to 40 percent of the overall budget and serving as a key factor in profitability and market survival."

Prof Chao said that TMSA aims to encourage companies and practitioners to adopt more professional standards.

He stated: "We are currently offering marketing certification programs and are in negotiations with the Chartered Marketing Institute in the UK to align with their offerings. Our goal is to develop qualified marketers with a deeper understanding of the African market."

Since its inception in 2021, TMSA has used these awards to highlight the efforts and achievements of individuals, organizations, and scholars making a significant impact in the marketing field.

Sponsors for the upcoming awards include Fern Marketing, JC Decaux, Hessa Africa, Red n White, Multi-choice Tanzania, Fasthub, Crown Paints, Attwood Marketing, and TCC.

TMSA will honour winners in various categories, including Excellence in Interactive Marketing/AR & VR, Excellence in Event Marketing, Excellence in Digital Marketing, Excellence in Experiential Marketing, Community-Focused Firm of the Year, Marketing Research Team of the Year, Marketer of the Year, Excellence in Product Launch/Re-launch, Rising Star of the Year, Marketing Agency of the Year, Digital Marketing Agency of the Year, Hall of Fame, and Young Marketing Leader of the Year.



This is all that remained yesterday at Mwanza city's Ukwaju small traders' market, commonly known as Zein, after fire gutted more than 300 business stalls and kiosks. Photo: Vitus Audax

ZARI, TARI team up towards boosting farming productivity

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI) and the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) have formed a partnership to drive advancements in agriculture and production.

Shamata Shaame Khamis, Zanzibar Minister for Agriculture, Irrigation,

Natural Resources and Livestock announced this during a recent session in the House of Representatives.

Khamis said collaboration aims to enhance research efforts, improve crop yields and address challenges faced by local farmers, ultimately contributing to food security and economic growth in the region.

"Our joint efforts have led to the de-

velopment of high-yielding, disease-resistant seeds, which are already making a substantial impact on local farming communities," he said.

He added that the initiative not only aims to combat crop diseases but also seeks to ensure that traditional seeds for various crops are readily available to enhance productivity and food security.

The minister expressed optimism that the improvements would lead to better yields for farmers, ultimately supporting Zanzibar's agricultural sustainability and economic growth.

By prioritising research and development in agriculture, the government aims to empower farmers and strengthen the region's resilience against agricultural challenges.

What of hopes by UNDP on sports tourism capacity in rural economy?

A United Nations agency and a sports tourism organiser are understood to be forging a partnership targeting the western sphere of Tanzania's northern tourism circuit.

Officials at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) talk of the move as an initiative meant to help turn the circuit into a more inclusive economic area.

It is a good idea as tourism is something of a concentrated kind of business, which is why the programme is interesting as it is focused on ensuring that tourism revenues benefit local populations around the Serengeti National Park - a UNESCO world heritage site.

UNDP officials say the idea is to use tourism to empower fishermen, farmers and livestock keepers to engage more meaningfully in the tourism value chain.

That would be an excellent growth idea if it focused on how tourism is conducted on a sustainable basis all year long. UNDP is targeting an event where this sort of 'inclusinomics' is demonstrated, then everyone goes home.

Were it a much wider strategy, affirmations on redirecting tourist spending towards grassroots economies would be more substantial, as finally everyone has the liberty to join a value chain if such person is sufficiently competitive.

That is why the effort initiated is aimed at an upcoming Serengeti Safari Marathon where UNDP seeks to ensure that local suppliers in products like beef, fish, fruits and vegetables to hotels and lodges in the Serengeti area buy local products.

The suppliers are local by being defined at the community level, which excludes neighbours.

What is noticeable in the UNDP

effort is far from surprising as radicals are always at hand to figure out how 'what there is' ought to be distributed, not how more capital is formed in a particular area or attracted from outside.

Having productive units that need to hire is the best way to bring up local communities, when they are assured of a market for their goods all the year round.

UNDP is targeting an event five to six weeks from now, and this is clothed in terms of boosting local businesses and fostering growth.

Momentary social inclusion is thus what can be expected, which diminishes any effort to gauge its relevance for environmental sustainability.

Going by what the UN agency is saying, it is as if the marathon event is meant to serve as a role model, an illustration of how tourism as a business needs to link with the grassroots level, but where it remains unclear as to how much the model can actually be emulated.

For once, it would appear to suggest that all that tourists need should come from within the local community where they can grow or produce, eliminating cross-border trade, etc.

There is competition among brands where consumers know what they want, and it is unlikely that UNDP will liaise with regional authorities on whether tourist hotels should place local beer exclusively so as to link with 'grassroots' or local needs general.

It would also be an issue if 'responsible trekking' that hurts local businesses for raising the trading bar can be allowed or not.

UNDP is singularly concerned about uplifting the local indigenous people, where the low level of such inclusion needs a big event so that more and more products - and not complex exchanges - are brought into the market.

We may have done well in how we collect statistics for good, bad data

REPORTS say that the government has completed 11 out of 13 activities in the first year of the five-year Tanzania Statistical Master Plan (TSMP), its second phase, taking us to fiscal 2026/2027.

The rollout is being closely followed by the World Bank working in tandem with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), with both mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar involved.

Owing to the dating of what took place and when it is being unveiled to the media, there can be some fine discussion points that could take time to resolve.

The reason here is an explanation that assessment is conducted once in every six months and the last assessment was conducted in May, with the results being peered over this long.

A senior official talked of a total of 65 activities tied to statistical master plans out of which Tanzania selected 13 for review, having thus far done well in 11 items.

Non-experts in such issues aren't expected to make hasty opinions on the matter, but there are structural issues to sort out - including whether the 13 issues chose were random or at least we stood to do well in those aspects rather than others. The clear implication is that if this was random selection, we are indeed doing fairly well.

Otherwise, if the selection was structured to suit where we at least have something to show, it is prior admission that in well over 50 activities the World Bank would be interested to monitor or examine

we couldn't promise much.

If these areas were skipped on account of clear weaknesses, it is mild solace that in the areas we could at least be accepted to be monitored, we did well in all but two. What remains is the global agency assessing that performance, even if we are predictably commended.

A senior economist at the global lender's New York office, something of a liaison office and likely a diplomatic window as well, commended the Tanzania's significant progress since its March 2023 mission.

Going by the assessment, this reflects the government's commitment to the TSMP objectives - which means that we are indeed doing something in that regard.

Still, there is something not quite transparent in the statistical uplift drive, perhaps indicated in the long list of aspects that could be monitored or assessed separately.

Evidently, this achievement places Tanzania in a spot from where to continue receiving support from the World Bank for subsequent activities under TSMP Phase II.

The activities include training, development of a quality assessment framework, enhancements in the viability of the consumer price index and improvements in statistical infrastructure.

There is also the need to procure computers for data collection and completion of research initiatives, all of which count as basic office needs.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

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

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

Mobile: 0677020701
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

DEMONSTRATION

It is made up of two words

...Rally: Bring or come together for a common cause

It could also mean...

DEMON: An Evil spirit/ Devil.

STRATION: A disease caused by a strata...

DEMO: A march

N: And

STRATION: A family of computer worms

Seven very uncomfortable truths you should know about life

By Josh Perkins

Life is a mix. It is filled with a lot of good and bad stuff. Dangers and safety coexist. And so you hardly can avoid them. I can assure you one thing: you will experience them both. Both good and evil will come your way.

The aim is to expect them and not complain when they happen: good and evil. My advice is to be open to both and see what you can make of them. Do anything but complain.

Complaining is the worst response to the experiences life will send your way. It makes you worse and teaches you nothing.

As you know, life is a school. Every experience is a lesson. And learning is the goal. Let's go!

One: That it worked for others doesn't mean it will for you. We all have different destinies. And every destiny has its unique magical powers.

What mine brings to pass yours might not. The business that brought me fortune might not bring you a fortune; the very principles that bring Tim Dennigs millions of views might bring you just a hundred; the very niche that brings someone huge engagement and fan loyalty might not do the same for you.

Do you know why? It has to do with the uniqueness of our journeys and destinations in life. We might all be on the same road but, trust me, we are heading to different destinations. It doesn't work for

The gender and AI divide: Bridging the gap for women in Zimbabwe's media

By Nonhlanhla Ngwenya

IN a world increasingly dominated by digital technology, the media landscape in Zimbabwe is undergoing significant transformation. The rise of artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping the way news is consumed and produced. However, this rapid evolution is magnifying existing gender disparities.

Women, who comprise 30 per cent of the Zimbabwean media workforce, face challenges that hinder their full participation in this digital era.

Addressing these issues is critical to achieving equity in opportunities in today's technology-driven environment.

The gender digital divide in Zimbabwe reflects a broader trend across Africa. Many women encounter substantial barriers to accessing essential digital tools and reliable internet services, with economic constraints and entrenched social norms often favouring men.

Fields related to science, technology, engineering and

you, it probably wasn't meant to. Either let it be or let it go.

Two: You won't always win. Life is a school. The objective is that through her experiences you grow, expand your soul, enrich your existence, and savour life to the fullest. Since that is the case, it is impossible to reach that height if you only have success happen to you.

So prepare to have some failed attempts - even in areas you have had the most success. There are unique virtues that it is only by failing that they get integrated into our nature. You don't want to miss them.

Three: People only enjoy the sound of their victories. There's a certain couple that had one of the best weddings and had a set of twins just one year later. Two years down the line, they lost those babies. Till now, they are yet to have another.

What happened? They kept posting these babies on their WhatsApp status, Instagram (now X) story and Facebook pages.

Advice: keep your success to yourself. The wickedness of men is more real than you think. Most people are not happy, trumpeting your success only makes them feel worse and angrier. And if they can do anything to turn your life upside down, they will. So take caution.

Four: Not everyone will like you. Your kindness won't change that a bit. They just don't like you. And there is absolutely nothing you can do about it. So don't try to impress anyone by going the extra

mile for them. Be fair to everyone.

But once you've done your best and they are not satisfied, don't do more. They still won't be satisfied. It is just life and your part is to accept it just as it is.

A certain supervisor cancelled my project work and asked me to start all over again; the same man accepted a similar work from my coursemate. It is what it is. Just accept it and move on.

Life continues no matter what happens to you. If you die today, life continues. People will still go to their offices. Your friends will still have their breakfasts. Your lecturer will still go to class. The sun will still shine.

So take care of yourself. Live life on your terms. Enjoy it as much as you can. In the end, whatever happens to you, life continues.

Five: A set of white teeth does not indicate a pure heart. She had no parents. The mother died in January 2010. Being the first of four and the only girl among four boys, she dropped out of school and started hustling.

During that period, she met a man who offered to help. He sponsored her through school. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

unwell. By the next morning, the condition worsened. She started vomiting.

Her man rushed her to the emergency unit of a specialist hospital. And that was it. She was poisoned.

"But it was a party of friends", you may wonder.

However, I'm not surprised. It is one of the sad truths of life. A set of white teeth does not indicate a pure heart. Be careful. Even among friends, there are enemies.

Six: Nobody stays forever. Everyone has a role in your life and when their role ends, they will leave. So be strong.

Seven: Soon you will be 70. Life will be so different then than when you were in your 20s and 30s. You may not be able to drive yourself, drink Coca-Cola freely, enjoy sex like you used to, hit the gym or go to parties...

Your strength will decline, and your sight will dim. And you will be depending on someone else for most things. Take care of the people around you. They are the ones you will depend on in your 70s.

Final thoughts. The world is not how many people think it is. And you can't afford to live in the dark like many others.

Chances are that you were ignorant about them before now. If you already knew them, I am glad they served as a reminder. Have a lovely day, today.

• **A medium.com dispatch.** Josh Perkins, a medic, is a relationship advice coach.

tech-centric positions, further constraining women's involvement in these critical fields.

The underrepresentation of women not only affects individual career trajectories but also impacts the overall quality of media output, as a lack of diverse perspectives can lead to skewed narratives and limited coverage of issues that resonate with women.

To tackle these challenges, a collective effort from various stakeholders - including the government, civil society, media organisations and the corporate sector - is essential.

Investing in digital infrastructure and ensuring affordable access to technology is paramount. Policies promoting digital literacy and scholarships for women in STEM should be prioritised.

NGOs and advocacy groups can enhance awareness and provide targeted training programmes in AI and digital technologies for women, while grassroots initiatives can dismantle societal barriers that hinder participation.

Media companies should implement robust training

programmes that empower female journalists to acquire skills in AI and related technologies and actively combat gender bias.

Ensuring women are represented in decision-making roles and creating inclusive work environments are crucial steps.

Additionally, corporations in the technology sector should forge partnerships with educational institutions and media organisations to enhance AI knowledge and skills among women, offering internships and sponsored workshops to bridge the skills gap.

Addressing the gender divide exacerbated by AI demands unified action from all corners of society. By enhancing access to technology, providing targeted education and training, and cultivating inclusive workplace cultures, we can empower more women to thrive in the digital age.

This shift will not only bolster women's representation in the media but also enrich the overall journalistic narrative in Zimbabwe.

• **The writer is a project officer at Zimbabwe chapter of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA).**

By Adonis Byemelwa

World patient safety day: A call for reform to improved health services

THE World Patient Safety Day, held annually on September 17th, highlights the critical importance of patient safety in healthcare. The 2024 theme for this important day was 'Improving Diagnosis for Patient Safety', underlining the crucial role that accurate and timely diagnoses play in ensuring patient safety and enhancing health outcomes.

A correct diagnosis is foundational to effective treatment. Incorrect or delayed diagnoses can lead to serious complications, unnecessary treatments, or worsening of health conditions. For example, an inaccurate diagnosis may result in patients receiving inappropriate treatments, posing unnecessary health risks. Conversely, precise diagnoses facilitate early disease detection, enabling timely intervention that can significantly improve recovery prospects and reduce healthcare costs.

Moreover, accurate diagnoses contribute to the efficient use of medical resources, including time, personnel, equipment, and finances. By ensuring that resources are allocated based on accurate information, healthcare systems can operate more effectively.

Reliable diagnoses also bolster patient trust in healthcare systems and professionals. When patients trust their healthcare providers, they are more likely to adhere to treatment plans, make necessary lifestyle changes, and collaborate actively with their healthcare teams.

The Alliance for Patient Safety (APS) has been instrumental in promoting World Patient Safety Day since 2015. The APS, along with the Swiss Foundation for Patient Safety and the Austrian Platform for Patient Safety, has created a multi-country initiative to advance patient safety. The APS's platform, patient-safety-day.org, serves as a hub for sharing knowledge and experience, providing valuable resources and recommendations to improve patient safety globally.

Diagnostic safety is integral to quality healthcare. Adverse events resulting from treatment errors jeopardize patient safety, and many of these errors stem from complex healthcare processes. Addressing systemic and cognitive factors that contribute to diagnostic errors is crucial. Systemic issues, such as communication failures, heavy workloads, and ineffective teamwork, as well as cognitive factors like clinician training, experience, and biases, must be tackled to improve diagnostic accuracy.

The World Health Organization (WHO) continues to collaborate with stakeholders to enhance diagnostic safety by strengthening systems, designing safe diagnostic pathways, supporting healthcare workers, and engaging patients throughout the diagnostic process.

In Tanzania, the challenges in patient safety and diagnostic accuracy are evident, particularly at Muhimbili Referral Hospital, one of the country's leading healthcare institutions. Muhimbili Referral Hospital has faced significant issues related to diagnostic errors and patient safety. Reports indicate that patients



The focus on improving diagnostic safety is not just a matter of global importance but a pressing issue within Tanzanian healthcare.

often experience long wait times and delayed diagnoses due to the hospital's high patient load and limited resources.

For instance, a 2022 study by Dr. Amani Mussa, published in the *Tanzanian Journal of Health Sciences*, highlighted that diagnostic delays at Muhimbili often result in worsened health outcomes for patients, underscoring the need for systemic improvements.

The hospital has also struggled with inadequate communication between healthcare professionals, which can contribute to diagnostic errors. A 2023 report by the Muhimbili Hospital Quality Assurance Committee revealed that lapses in communication between different departments have led to instances where critical diagnostic information was not conveyed promptly, affecting patient care.

Furthermore, the lack of resources

and high patient volume at Muhimbili Referral Hospital can exacerbate diagnostic inaccuracies. According to a 2024 report by the Tanzania Health Network, the hospital's limited access to advanced diagnostic tools and a shortage of medical staff have led to challenges in providing timely and accurate diagnoses. This situation reflects broader issues within Tanzania's healthcare system, where resource constraints and high demand can impact diagnostic quality.

The focus on improving diagnostic safety is not just a matter of global importance but a pressing issue within Tanzanian healthcare. Addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach, including enhancing healthcare infrastructure, improving communication among healthcare professionals, and investing in diagnostic technology and training.

Medical tourism among African political elites further complicates the healthcare landscape. In Africa, political leaders often seek medical treatment abroad, reflecting a lack of confidence in local healthcare systems.

This practice not only highlights the shortcomings of domestic health infrastructure but also diverts significant resources away from improving local healthcare. For example, Nigerian leaders spend over USD 1 billion annually on medical tourism, a stark contrast to the inadequate investment in domestic health systems.

The financial burden of medical tourism extends beyond individual countries. In Uganda, the cost of treating top government officials abroad could fund the construction of ten hospitals, demonstrating the significant impact of such expenditures on national budgets. This misallocation

of funds exacerbates the challenges faced by healthcare systems and underscores the need for political commitment to improving local healthcare infrastructure.

The disparities between healthcare systems in Africa and those in Western and Asian countries, often frequented by African leaders, highlight the need for improved political commitment and visionary leadership in healthcare. Addressing these issues requires not only curbing medical tourism but also strengthening local healthcare systems through increased investment, better resource management, and enhanced collaboration among healthcare professionals.

Behold, World Patient Safety Day serves as a critical reminder of the importance of diagnostic accuracy and the need for robust healthcare systems. Addressing systemic and cognitive factors that contribute to diagnostic errors, improving healthcare infrastructure, and curbing medical tourism are essential steps toward enhancing patient safety and ensuring equitable healthcare access for all.

The challenges faced by Muhimbili Referral Hospital in Tanzania exemplify broader issues within the country's healthcare system, underscoring the urgent need for comprehensive reforms to enhance patient safety and care quality. Muhimbili, despite its prominence, struggles with significant issues such as diagnostic errors, resource shortages, and communication breakdowns. These problems reflect a larger crisis affecting healthcare throughout Tanzania.

Diagnostic accuracy at Muhimbili Referral Hospital is often compromised due to inadequate resources and high patient volumes. This strain results in frequent delays in diagnosis and limitations in diagnostic equipment. The hospital's capacity to deliver timely and precise diagnoses is hindered, impacting patient outcomes. For instance, a 2022 study by Dr. Amani Mussa highlighted that these delays contribute to deteriorated health conditions for patients, emphasizing the need for improved diagnostic infrastructure and efficiency.

Communication gaps among health-

Africa and the US 'non-proposal' on UN Security Council reform

By Tim Murithi

THE reform of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has emerged as one of the most contentious and polarising issues under negotiation in the lead-up to the UN's Summit of the Future on 22/23 September.

The intergovernmental negotiations framework which has compiled the outcome document effusively billed as the UN Pact of the Future essentially kicked the can down the road as far as undertaking any concrete decisions on UNSC reform.

Twenty years ago, the Africa Union (AU) adopted the "Common Position on the Reform of the United Nations Security Council", known as the Ezulwini Consensus, through which AU member states demanded two permanent seats on the UNSC "with all prerogatives and privileges of current members", including the right to invoke the veto.

For the two intervening decades, all of the Permanent Five (P5) members of the UNSC - the US, UK, France, China and Russia - paid lip service to the idea of UNSC reform, and Africa's inclusion as a permanent member, but in effect rejected any genuine attempts to place the issue on the agenda.

This status quo maintenance strategy of the P5 appears to have been disrupted by the announcement from US ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield, who announced that the US was prepared to consider two seats for Africa as permanent members of the UNSC, with a significant snag being that those seats would exclude veto powers.

In effect, the US non-proposal would relegate the African continent's 1.4 billion people to the category of permanent second-class citizens without any significant decision-making power on a UNSC that allocates 60% of its agenda to issues relating to Africa.

In effect, Africa would once again be confined to the status of spectators in UNSC decisions that affect the lives of its people, repeating the historical exclusion of African countries that transpired in June 1945 when the UN was formally established in San Francisco.

In the second instalment of the industry-focused webinar series, Daily Maverick Masterclass, strategy expert David Blyth talks to Jessica Wheeler of Nando's and Robyn Lewis of MTN about the role of creativity in marketing on Thu 26 Sept at 12h00, live, online and free of charge.

The fact that the US proposal excludes the veto is a strategy that Washington's foreign policy mandarins have carefully calibrated and calculated as an opening gambit which is purposefully designed to precipitate rejection from African countries and provoke widespread opprobrium from China, Russia and the Global South.

The net effect of an all-out rejection of the US "non-



proposal" would be the desired response from those who would like to maintain the status quo. In the aftermath of widespread rejection, Washington's foreign policy establishment can throw its hands up in the air in moral lament, and castigate the Global South for rejecting a perfectly reasonable proposal of permanent membership of the UNSC without any permanent rights.

The world is already at an inflection point, and convoluted attempts by Washington's foreign policy mandarins to maintain and defend the status by any means necessary is ultimately a flawed strategy in the medium to long term.

In effect, the insistence on maintaining the status quo which has its supporters not only in Washington but also London, Paris and Brussels, will only push countries from the Global South away from the decaying and dysfunctional multilateral institutions, such

as the UNSC, and to seek alliances in emerging geopolitical groupings, such as BRICS and the Non-Aligned Movement, which will ultimately lead to the formation of parallel and competing multilateral institutions.

The UK and France, both with populations of 67 million contrasted with 1.4 billion Africans, are the decayed part of the UNSC furniture. The "permanent" presence of the British and French on the UNSC echoes the dying throes of a dysfunctional system in terminal decline, and their presence on the council resembles the gold-plated statues of dead and discredited colonial conquerors of a bygone imperial era.

This is also the reason that London and Paris generally tend to avoid using their veto powers unilaterally, because they know they have no credibility to sit as veto-wielding members of the UNSC.

The US "offer" to the African continent is

analogous to a back-handed slap with a leather glove, an act that European nobility would practise on antagonists that they considered not even worthy of any physical contact. Washington has set the status quo cat loose among the pigeons of change, and may be surprised to find that these birds will not fly!

The pursuit of a global order that advances the idea of equality among humanity is viewed with scepticism by the agents of US-Western hegemony. The thinking that informed the disingenuous non-proposal to reform the UNSC will only contribute to a more polarised and dangerous world.

Beyond merely moving the deck chairs around the planetary Titanic as it sinks, Washington's mandarins need to consider a mind shift, go back to the drawing board and frame the discussion through a different prism.

The UN Summit of the Future is billed as a once-in-a-generation opportunity to redefine

global governance for the 21st century.

The US "non-proposal" on UNSC reform to Africa is symptomatic of a failure by Washington's mandarins to identify with their fellow human beings, and will stand out as a pivotal missed opportunity to recognise and acknowledge that the world has changed significantly. Efforts to continue to pursue the reassertion and enforcement of yet another American century could tilt the planet and humanity into an even deeper crisis. DM

By Gavin Butler

Who is Sri Lanka's new president Anura Kumara Dissanayake?

LEFT-LEANING politician Anura Kumara Dissanayake has been elected as Sri Lanka's next president after he won the debt-ridden country's first election since its economy collapsed in 2022.

The 55-year-old beat off his nearest rival, opposition leader Sajith Premadasa, to emerge as the clear winner after a historic second round of counting, which included second-preference votes. Outgoing president Ranil Wickremesinghe trailed in third.

It's a remarkable turnaround for a man who won just 3% of the votes in the 2019 election. Dissanayake, who contested as candidate for the National People's Power (NPP) alliance, has drawn increasing support in recent years for his anti-corruption platform and pro-poor policies - particularly in the wake of the country's worst ever economic crisis, which is still having an impact on millions.

He will now inherit governance of a nation that is struggling to emerge from the shadow of that crisis, and a populace that is desperate for change.

So who is president-elect Anura Kumara Dissanayake?

A former Marxist

Dissanayake was born on 24 November, 1968 in Galewela, a multi-cultural and multi-religious town in central Sri Lanka.

Raised as a member of the middle-class, he is public school educated, has a degree in physics, and first entered politics as a student around the time when the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement was signed in 1987: an event that would lead to one of Sri Lanka's bloodiest periods.

From 1987 to 1989, the Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP) - a Marxist political party with which Dissanayake would later become closely associated - spearheaded an armed revolt against the Sri Lankan government.

The insurrectionist campaign, spurred by discontent among the youth of the rural lower and middle classes, precipitated a conflict marked by raids, assassinations and attacks against both political opponents and civilians which claimed thousands of lives.

Dissanayake, who was elected to the JVP's central committee in 1997 and became its leader in 2008, has since apologised for the group's violence during this so-called "season of terror".

"A lot of things happened during the armed conflict that should not have happened," he said in a 2014 interview.

"We are still shocked, and shocked that things happened at our hands that should not have happened. We are always deeply saddened and shocked about that."

The JVP, which currently has just three seats in parliament, is part of the NPP coalition that Dissanayake now heads.

A 'different' leader

While campaigning for the presidential election,



Anura Kumara Dissanayake positioned himself as a candidate for change

Dissanayake addressed another violent moment in Sri Lanka's recent history: the 2019 Easter Sunday bombings.

On 21 April 2019, a succession of deadly blasts tore through churches and international hotels across the capital Colombo, killing at least 290 people and injuring hundreds more in what quickly became the worst attack in Sri Lanka's history.

Five years later, however, investigations into how the co-ordinated attacks happened, and the security failures that led to them, have failed to provide answers.

Some have accused the former government, led by Gotabaya Rajapaksa, of obstructing investigations.

In a recent interview with BBC Sinhala, Dissanayake promised he would hold an investigation into the matter if elected - suggesting that authorities had avoided doing so because they were afraid of revealing "their own responsibility".

It's just one of many unfulfilled promises from Sri Lanka's political elite, he added.

"It's not just this investigation," he said. "Politicians who promised to stop corruption have engaged in corruption; those who promised to create a debt-free Sri Lanka have only worsened the debt burden; people who promised to strengthen the law have broken it. This is exactly why the people of this country want

different leadership. We are the ones who can provide it."

A candidate for change

Dissanayake was viewed as a strong contender in the lead-up to Saturday's election, positioning himself as the candidate for change against a backdrop of simmering nationwide discontent.

Former president Gotabaya Rajapaksa was driven out of Sri Lanka in 2022 by mass protests sparked by the economic meltdown.

Years of under-taxation, weak exports and major policy errors, combined with the Covid-19 pandemic, dried up the country's foreign exchange reserves. Public debt reached more than \$83bn and inflation soared to 70 percent.

Rajapaksa and his government were blamed for the crisis. And though his successor, President Wickremesinghe, introduced economic reforms that brought down inflation and strengthened the Sri Lankan rupee, people continue to feel the pinch.

On a deeper level, the 2022 economic crisis and the circumstances surrounding it - including systemic corruption and political impunity - created demand for a different kind of political leadership. Dissanayake has leveraged that demand to his advantage.

He has cast himself as a potential disruptor to a status quo which critics say has long rewarded corruption and cronyism among the political elite.

Dissanayake has repeatedly said he plans to dissolve parliament after coming to power, in order to have a clean slate and a fresh mandate for his policies - suggesting in a recent interview with BBC Sinhala that he would do this within days of being elected.

"There is no point continuing with a parliament that is not in line with what the people want," he said.

An advocate for the poor

Among Dissanayake's policy pledges are tough anti-corruption measures, bigger welfare schemes and a promise to slash taxes.

Tax hikes and welfare cuts were imposed by the current government as part of austerity measures aimed at steering the country's economy back on track - but they also left many people unable to make ends meet.

Dissanayake's promise to rein in those measures appears to have galvanised support among voters, in an election where analysts predicted economic concerns would be front of mind.

"The country's soaring inflation, skyrocketing cost-of-living and poverty have left the electorate desperate for solutions to stabilise prices and improve livelihoods," Soumya Bhowmick, an associate fellow at

India-based think tank the Observer Research Foundation, told the BBC before the election.

"With the country seeking to emerge from its economic collapse, this election serves as a crucial moment for shaping Sri Lanka's recovery trajectory and restoring both domestic and international confidence in its governance."

Some onlookers, including investors and market participants, expressed concern that Dissanayake's economic policies could have an impact on fiscal targets and disrupt Sri Lanka's road to recovery.

The presidential candidate tempered his messaging during campaign speeches, however, insisting that he was committed to ensuring repayment of Sri Lanka's debt. He also noted that any changes would be imposed in consultation with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which has provided a buttress for the country's still-embattled economy.

Many analysts think the next president's main task is building a stable economy.

Athulasiri Samarakoon, senior lecturer in political science and international studies at the Open University of Sri Lanka, told the BBC that "the most serious challenge is how to restore this economy", including managing public expenditure and increasing public revenue generation.

"Any future government will have to work with the International Monetary Fund," he noted.

An 'impressive win'

About 76 percent of Sri Lanka's 17.1 million electorate turned out to vote in Saturday's election, according to officials.

By mid-morning on Sunday, Dissanayake had already received messages of congratulations from supporters of his two main rivals, incumbent president Ranil Wickremesinghe and opposition leader Sajith Premadasa.

Foreign Minister Ali Sabry said on X that early results clearly pointed to a Dissanayake victory.

"Though I heavily campaigned for President Ranil Wickremesinghe, the people of Sri Lanka have made their decision, and I fully respect their mandate for Anura Kumara Dissanayake," Sabry said.

MP Harsha de Silva, who supported Premadasa, said he had called Dissanayake to offer his congratulations.

"We campaigned hard for @sajithpremadasa but it was not to be. It is now clear @anuradisnayake will be the new President of #SriLanka," said de Silva, who represents Colombo in parliament.

Another Premadasa supporter, Tamil National Alliance (TNA) spokesman MA Sumanthiran, said Dissanayake delivered an "impressive win" without relying on "racial or religious chauvinism". **BBC**

More than one million Cubans are without water

By Ernest Eimil

DESPITE constant reports of investments in hydraulic resources, an average of more than one million Cubans (around 10 percent of the total population) had difficulties accessing running water in mid-September 2024, according to official data.

State media frequently report on investment figures aimed at improving access to water. However, these actions do not seem to alleviate the crisis. "Many things have been done, but people do not see the impact," admitted Ines María Chapman, Deputy Prime Minister, during a visit to Pinar del Río.

At the end of May 2024, it was revealed that Kuwait contributed 102 million dollars to the island to improve the operation of the national hydraulic resources system.

The money was arranged into five loans, and -according to Antonio Rodríguez, president of the National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (INRH)- 84.7 percent of it had been executed.

The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has been providing funds to Cuba since 2003. Rodríguez stated that all the loans had been used in projects in Santiago de Cuba, Holguín, and Havana. Rodríguez also mentioned ongoing projects in sewage and sanitation in the capital, as well as a comprehensive solution to flooding along the Malecon boardwalk.

In March 2024, Granma reported that investments had not stopped. The official Communist Party newspaper announced that more than 67,000 Cubans had benefited from new water connections. Fernando Perez Gomez, INRH's Director of Infrastructure, pointed out

deficiencies such as the lack of construction materials to complete the works.

These statements are very similar to those made by officials of the same entity ten years ago to the same media outlet. In 2014, water losses from pumping through the conduits were 16 percent, and 20 percent through the networks. In 2024, the numbers do not seem to have changed much.

Supposedly, the INRH is implementing five investment programs in stages until 2030. These programs claim to take into account the country's priorities and focus on expanding aqueducts, water treatment and desalination plants, sanitation, storage, water transfer and protection, and hydrometry.

According to a television report, in Pinar del Río, some investment projects have failed due to defects in construction and execution.

Subsidies also do not seem to alleviate access problems. In June 2021, the French Embassy in Cuba provided INRH with 6 million euros for the "Unaccounted-for Water" project to improve water supply services in the city of Matanzas. The project was funded by the European Union's Latin America Investment Facility and was intended to complement the 22.7 million allocated for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of water supply networks damaged by Hurricane Irma.

No further information about the program could be found online, and there are no records of it on European Union's Latin America Investment Facility websites, which track such investments.

Since 2016, France has committed 138 million euros to implement sanitation and water access projects in Cuba.

Water access crisis

A report published by Cuba's National Television News stated that Havana faces a critical water shortage.

The situation in the capital is particularly difficult in the central and western municipalities, with La Lisa being the hardest hit. Leonardo Romero Soto, the INRH delegate in Havana, said that the average daily supply in the city ranges between 70 and 79 water trucks. But this is only a temporary measure.

Havana is not the only province with water access issues. Recent media reports indicate that Matanzas, Pinar del Río, and Santiago de Cuba are also affected. Given the current state of the distribution system and the functioning of hydraulic resources, practically the entire country is vulnerable to water shortages.

The company Aguas de La Habana explained that the water supply

has been affected by a combination of blackouts and adverse weather conditions. According to the INRH, power cuts cause failures in pumping equipment, leading to service interruptions.

Romero Soto noted that there are more than 2,000 leaks in Havana alone. More than 40 percent of the water pumped in Cuba is lost due to these leaks. Authorities reported that they are working on maintaining and repairing the damaged equipment that supplies water.

In September 2024, the lack of regular access to running water led to protests in Havana. On September 3, some residents of San Miguel del Padrón blocked streets in protest. "We want water!" chanted the residents in the early morning. A poll conducted by authorities revealed that 90 percent of Cubans are unsatisfied with governmental management of water resources.

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 ALIVEVUMA 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

Chinese automakers eye opportunities in African market

JOHANNESBURG

CHINESE automakers are accelerating their global expansion, with a particular focus on increasing their presence in African countries. On Friday, JETOUR Auto, a Chinese automobile brand, unveiled two new right-hand drive (RHD) models, DASHING and X7OPLUS, in Johannesburg, South Africa, marking another step forward in its global growth.

In 2023, China exported 4.91 million vehicles, achieving a year-on-year growth of 57.9 percent, making it the world's largest automobile exporter for the first time. The massive growth was propelled by a surge in the exports of new energy vehicles (NEVs), which soared 77.6 percent to more than 1.2 million units last year.

"The global expansion trend offers great opportunities for Chinese auto companies," Li Xueyong, president of JETOUR Auto, told Xinhua in a recent interview, adding that the company has established more than 600 sales and service networks in over 50 countries.

As an economic powerhouse on the African continent, South Africa boasts a mature car market. Since Chinese automakers entered the South African market more than a decade ago, over 10 Chinese brands have established a presence and achieved strong sales.

"We have placed great importance on the South African market, which is highly competitive and mature, and we have made thorough preparations to enter it," said Ke Chuandeng, vice president of JETOUR Auto. He added that the company aims to establish 40

sales networks in the country by the end of this year and sell 30,000 vehicles over the next three years.

As one of Africa's largest car producers, with a history of more than 100 years, South Africa's car market is relatively saturated, making it challenging for new entrants to gain a foothold. However, as more African countries turn to NEVs, Chinese automakers are finding new opportunities on the continent.

According to the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of South Africa, NEV sales in South Africa surged from 896 units in 2021 to 7,746 units in 2023. Last year, the country released a white paper on electric vehicle development, aiming to increase NEV market share from 1.45 percent in 2023 to 20 percent by the end of 2025.

For JETOUR, the African continent holds significant potential for NEV development.

"African countries have abundant metal mineral resources such as lithium and nickel, providing ample raw materials for batteries. South Africa's auto production and assembly began in the early 20th century, laying a solid foundation for its car industry," said Ke.

For Chinese automakers, the development and introduction of NEV models is key to standing out among international competitors. "JETOUR is actively introducing NEVs to the global market and has a comprehensive technological and product layout for hybrid, battery-electric, and other vehicles," Ke added.

To meet the diverse demands of consumers, JETOUR has launched the "Travel+" strategy, which integrates people, vehicles, and the



environment through the ecological layout of the entire travel industry chain, said Li.

"As a Chinese company, we are still adapting to the local market. Today's launch of the DASHING and X7OPLUS models is just the beginning, and we plan to introduce more off-road and hybrid models, led by the T2, for African customers in the future," Li said.

Beyond promoting its products, Chinese automakers are also committed to fulfilling their social responsibilities in the global market. In addition to the new model

launches, JETOUR announced a strategic partnership with the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) for wildlife conservation on Friday.

"JETOUR will collaborate with the Discovery Channel to produce a documentary on cheetah conservation to raise public awareness and encourage involvement in protecting cheetahs. We will also support the CCF by adopting cheetahs and donating vehicles for official use to contribute to wildlife protection," said Li.

Since its inception in 2018, JETOUR has

adhered to its unique "Travel+" strategy. With cumulative global sales exceeding 1.22 million units, the company set a new record with over 50,000 units sold in August this year.

Looking ahead, Li expressed full confidence and ambitious plans for the African market. "With the launch of new products in South Africa, JETOUR's presence in RHD markets is gaining momentum. In the future, we will also explore the European Union and other markets," Li said.

Scientists edge closer to saving the White Rhino from extinction

By Special Correspondent

IT was the first time it had been performed.

In September last year, Professor Thomas Hildebrandt from the BioRescue project performed the transfer of a Southern White Rhino embryo into a surrogate mother.

But the day was not historic for the Southern White Rhino, which has a population of roughly 20,000.

It was a great day for another subspecies, the Northern White Rhino – Population: two.

The transfer of an embryo was a test to see whether it was possible to create a lab-made embryo and implant it into a similar rhino.

"We produced a proven pregnancy in Africa with an embryo generated here in Europe from European parents. And this embryo grew into a nice little rhino," says Hildebrandt.

The next step is to transfer an embryo of the nearly extinct Northern White Rhino into a Southern White Rhino surrogate mother.

That's because while the last two remaining Northern White Rhinos are female, due to health complications, they both cannot bear children.

The last male northern white rhino, Sudan, was 45 when he was euthanized in 2018 due to age-related complications.

In this lab in Berlin, Northern White Rhino embryos are ready.

"Today, we can say that we have 33 Northern White Rhino embryos. Pure Northern White Rhino embryos. And these embryos derive from two different fathers," explains Hildebrandt.

The Southern White Rhino surrogate mother died from a disease unrelated to the pregnancy about 70 days after the artificial embryo transfer.

Hildebrandt and his colleagues quickly flew to Kenya to test the embryo, which had been removed from the deceased mother and confirmed that it had developed as it should until the fatal disease struck.

The next step is to attempt the same process with a Northern White Rhino embryo. The embryos were created using sperm that had been frozen, in some cases decades ago, and egg cells from one of the remaining female Northern White Rhinos.

Half of the embryos are kept in Berlin, the other half are in Italy.



If scientists are successful with artificial transfers into Southern White Rhino surrogates, it may be possible to slowly rebuild the Northern White Rhino population.

"We are here today with 33 embryos. We have a lot of embryos available, and we estimate that we can produce about 10 to 15 babies. That means these babies will, of course, also produce new egg cells. The programme could then continue indefinitely," explains Hildebrandt.

The first successful transfer could happen as early as this year, and if everything goes to plan, Hildebrandt hopes that Northern White Rhinos could be released into the wild in 20 years or so.

That is, if the funding continues. A grant from the German government ends next year, and the BioRescue organization is looking for new partners.

While the standards will be voluntary for manufacturers for now, their adoption could help accelerate progress against diets deficient in essential micronutrients, or what is known in nutrition and public health circles as "hidden hunger." Fortified bouillon cubes could avert up to 16.6 million cases of anaemia and up to 11,000 deaths from neural tube defects in Nigeria, according to a new report from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

"Regardless of economic situation or income level, everyone uses seasoning cubes," Bello said as she unwrapped and dropped one in her melon soup.

A growing and multipronged problem

Making do with smaller portions and less nutritious foods is common among many Nigerian households, according to a recent government survey on dietary intake and micro-

nutrients. The survey estimated that 79 percent of Nigerian households are food insecure.

The climate crisis, which has seen extreme heat and unpredictable rainfall patterns hobble agriculture in Africa's troubled Sahel region, will worsen the problem, with several million children expected to experience growth problems due to malnutrition between now and 2050, according to the Gates Foundation report released Tuesday.

"Farmlands are destroyed, you have a shortage of food, the system is strained, leading to inflation making it difficult for the people to access foods, including animal-based proteins," Augustine Okoruwa, a regional program manager at Helen Keller Intl, said, highlighting the link between malnutrition and climate change. Dietary deficiencies of the micronutrients the government wants added to bouillon cubes already have caused a

public health crisis in Nigeria, including a high prevalence of anaemia in women of child-bearing age, neural tube defects in newborn babies and stunted growth among children, according to Okoruwa.

Helen Keller Intl, a New York-based nonprofit that works to address the causes of blindness and malnutrition, has partnered with the Gates Foundation and businesses and government agencies in Africa to promote food fortification.

In Nigeria, recent economic policies such as the cancellation of gasoline subsidies are driving the country's worst cost-of-living crisis in generations, further deepening food hardship for the low-income earners who form the majority of the country's working population.

Globally, nearly 3 billion people are unable to access healthy diets, 71 percent of them in developing coun-

tries, according to the World Health Organization.

The large-scale production of fortified foods would unlock a new way to "increase micronutrients in the food staples of low-income countries to create resilience for vulnerable families," the Gates Foundation said.

Bouillon cubes as the vehicle

Bouillon cubes – those small blocks of evaporated meat or vegetable extracts and seasonings that typically are used to flavour soups and stews – are widely consumed in many African countries, nearing 100 percent household penetration in countries like Nigeria, Senegal, Ivory Coast, and Cameroon, according to a study by Helen Keller Intl.

That makes the cubes the "most cost-effective way" to add minerals and vitamins to the diets of millions of people, Okoruwa said.

Some conservation groups have argued that it is probably too late to save the northern white rhino with in vitro fertilization, as the species' natural habitat in Chad, Sudan, Uganda, Congo and Central African Republic has been ravaged by human conflict.

Sceptics say the efforts should focus on other critically endangered species with a better chance at survival.

Fortified bouillon cubes are seen as way to curb malnutrition in Africa

IBADAN

IN her cramped, dimly lit kitchen, Idowu Bello leans over a gas cooker while stirring a pot of eba, the thick, starchy West African staple made from cassava root. Kidney problems and chronic exhaustion forced the 56-year-old Nigerian woman to retire from teaching, and she switches between cooking with gas or over a wood fire depending on the fuel she can afford.

Financial constraints also limit the food Bello has on hand even though doctors have recommended a nutrient-rich diet both to improve her weakening health and to help her teenage daughter, Fatima, grow. Along with eba, on the menu today is melon soup with ponmo, an inexpensive condiment made from dried cowhide.

"Fish, meat, eggs, fruits, vegetables and even milk are costly these days," Bello, 56, said, her lean face etched with worry.

If public health advocates and the Nigerian government have their way, malnourished households in the West African nation soon will have a simple ingredient available to improve their intake of key vitamins and minerals. Government regulators on Tuesday are launching a code of standards for adding iron, zinc, folic acid and vitamin B12 to bouillon cubes at minimum levels recommended by experts.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Shifting Africa's financing for development paradigm



UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL and Special Adviser of United Nations Secretary-General on Africa, Cristina Duarte reflects on the generational importance of the Summit of the Future called for by Secretary-General António Guterres to support Africa's claim of its rightful place at the global leadership table.

Our world continues to reel from multiple crises, facing a trifecta of challenges related to financing, climate, food and energy that are exacerbated by the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

But we should "Never let a good crisis go to waste," as a former statesman reportedly said after World War Two, a difficult period in human history that ultimately led to the creation of the United Nations.

The parallel is fitting as we mobilize to address the challenges of our time by answering the call of the current United Nations chief, Secretary-General António Guterres, who says, "We cannot construct a future for our grandchildren with a system designed for our grandparents."

Today's crises and disruptions provide an opportunity to rethink the global financial architecture that influences Africa's financing for development.

As we come together at the United Nations Headquarters, in New York, to forge a "Pact for the Future," this opportunity must be leveraged to question the absurd logic that while Africa suffers a large financing gap, it continues to be a net creditor to the rest of the world, with large sums of money leaving the continent each year in the form of illicit financial flows (IFFs) or sovereign wealth funds, pension funds and foreign reserves held in foreign banks outside the continent.

Africa's development financing challenges

Based on Solving Paradoxes of Africa's Development: Financing, Energy and Food Systems, the UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA)'s 2023 flagship report, Africa loses an estimated \$88.6 billion annually in IFFs - 3.7 per cent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The pension funds outside Africa can be leveraged for infrastructure development and to de-risk long-term investment for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

OSAA's report estimates that if African countries could invest 2.8 per cent of their pension fund assets, it would generate \$20.9 billion more per year for infrastructure development, reducing the infrastructure financing gap by 30 per cent.

Another major source of leakages is the poor quality of public expenditure in Africa which diverts much-needed resources away from the budget.

The inefficiency of public spending amounted to roughly \$12 billion for education, \$30 billion for infrastructure and \$28 billion for health, representing a combined annual loss of 2.87 per cent of Africa's GDP.

There is a need to revisit the logic of massive tax incentives extended by African countries ostensibly to attract foreign direct investment (FDI).

OSAA's paradox report shows that most of these tax expenditures are redundant and costly, depriving governments of important financial resources. For instance, Sub-Saharan African countries experienced forgone revenues of roughly \$46 billion in 2019 - or 2.5 per cent of their GDP.

Contrary to the common perception, Africa does not have a liquidity problem. Africa has substantial resources, which, if harnessed effectively, could meet a significant portion of the continent's development financing needs.

Based on this argument, Africa's development is already financed, leveraging the continent's own resources through tax and domestic savings, a source of financing 20 times greater than FDI or nearly 17 times greater than Official Development Assistance (ODA).

The real challenge is mobilizing these resources and channelling them toward financing Africa's development priorities.

The finance paradox as a game-changer

OSAA's 2022 flagship report, Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19: The Primacy of Domestic Resources Mobilisation, reveals several oddities or paradoxes in the current global economic system, including a financing architecture that hampers Africa's sustainable development.

Different models and development frameworks implemented over the years have yielded little to no results, and Africa's development remains elusive. This path is not sustainable and puts at risk the achievement of the SDGs and the realization of the African Union's Agenda 2063 aspirations on the continent.

The business-as-usual approach must change. The

failure to address these anomalies is at the heart of Africa's liquidity problems and the associated debt stress across the continent. OSAA's report argues that financing Africa's momentum requires adopting a different approach and addressing paradoxes.

Africa must understand that blaming and begging are wastes of time. The continent must mobilize to break the triple paradox chain, which is the finance paradox feeding the energy paradox that links to the food systems paradox.

For the first paradox, Africa is in debt distress and captured by debt relief and debt suspensions despite being rich in resources.

For the second, Africa is rich in energy sources but remains a "continent in the dark," with 600 million people without reliable access to electricity and a huge deficit of industrialization to absorb the 18 million young people who reach the labour market annually despite the emergence of its middle class.

And for the third and last paradox, Africa has vast agricultural resources but faces frequent food insecurity.

The key to breaking this paradox chain is to shift the paradigm of financing for development in Africa and tackle the finance paradox as a game changer.

Relying heavily on external financing, such as ODA, FDI and debt, has proved inadequate. These external sources continue to decline. They are unstable and unpredictable financing resources.

Due to the low revenue base and relatively underdeveloped debt markets, African countries have

had to borrow to finance the large financing gap.

This has led to an increase in external debt - currently accounting for an average of 60 per cent of Africa's public debt and 15.5 per cent of Africa's exports in 2020, with debt servicing absorbing on average more than 20 per cent of government revenues and reducing the policy space.

Harnessing domestic resource mobilization

Exacerbating the situation is the dominant narrative that Africa's debt distress stems from excessive borrowing and fiscal mismanagement. Such an interpretation overlooks the intricate economic realities of the continent, which are fundamentally tied to structural challenges that extend far beyond the simplistic measure of high debt levels.

In OSAA's upcoming paper "Challenging Africa's Debt Narrative," the fundamental issue is identified as Africa's lack of control over its economic and financial flows, including illicit financial flows, profit shifting by multinational corporations, unfavourable trade agreements, dependence on commodities, underutilized carbon markets, and untapped pension funds, re-iterating the challenges outlined earlier.

This upcoming paper proposes that "To tackle these challenges, a comprehensive, cross-cutting approach is needed that focuses on strengthening domestic systems, reforming international economic structures and empowering African nations through systemic changes."

Realizing Africa's quest for structural transformation and sustainable development requires acquiring and preserving a policy space, which can only be achieved through DRM. Giving primacy to DRM is the only viable way to resolve the paradox of financing for development in Africa.

The continent must break with the past, take ownership of its future, and look within for its own financial development resources.

If all these resources leaking out of Africa are adequately mobilized and plugged into the continent's development priorities, such as education, health, and infrastructure, this could make a huge difference and significantly reduce its vulnerability to external shocks.

In short, African countries need to mobilize internal resources while promoting cross-border investments.

Robust domestic, regional, and global partnerships are essential for Africa to advance its domestic resource mobilization (DRM) efforts. These partnerships must address global challenges, such as the unfair international tax system and flawed financial architecture, aligning with Africa's development goals.

Improved natural resources management, enhanced fiscal capacity, and better deployment of financial resources are critical steps. Key issues like mispricing, rent-seeking, and ineffective mineral property rights must be resolved, alongside boosting transparency in resource management.

The continent must also strengthen its capacity to control marine resources, combat illegal fishing, and optimize its blue economy.

Tackling tax avoidance, evasion, and illicit financial flows is crucial to building a responsible fiscal culture.

Ultimately, Africa must effectively deploy its financial resources, curbing leakages and prioritizing development-driven investments.

Strategic policymaking for robust country systems

Africa's development potential could be unlocked by mobilizing investment resources to strengthen financial intermediation and build an effective financial system. This system is crucial for fostering a robust indigenous private sector, a key driver of growth for both large, resource-rich and smaller nations.

Over the next decade, African governments face the critical challenge of cultivating a genuine capitalist class. Without it, industrialization and job creation will remain elusive. Agriculture, with Africa's vast potential, offers a major opportunity.

The private sector must step up to meet Africa's \$30 billion food market and play a role in global value chains. With 50 per cent of the world's uncultivated arable land, Africa is well-positioned to meet the projected 70 per cent rise in global food demand by 2050, provided policymakers create the necessary infrastructure and institutions.

We must champion an Africa-centric policymaking that prioritizes institution-building and governance and enhances productive capacities to fully integrate into global value chains and drive industrialization.

Our focus should be on creating and managing wealth for Africa, within Africa, by Africans. To our development partners: true progress depends on win-win collaborations centred on transformative agendas.

Development cannot advance if partners simultaneously enable illicit financial flows or use aid to pressure African nations into unfavourable deals.

Together with our international partners, we must embrace a new paradigm that shifts from merely managing poverty to fostering structural transformation.

As we strive for Africa's accelerated development, let us be guided by Chinua Achebe's words: "While we do our good works, let us not forget that the real solution lies in a world in which charity will have become unnecessary."

Cristina Duarte is the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser of United Nations Secretary-General on Africa.

RADIO One

RATIBAYA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

Table with 7 columns: MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME, TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME, WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME, THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME, FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME, SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME, SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME. Each column lists a schedule of radio programs and their start times.

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One



Intra-African investment paves the way for deeper capital markets

Page 14



New submarine cable to elevate Tanzania's digital sector

Page 14



Russia trade with Africa grows amid sanctions

Page 15

Tanzania boosts foreign investment in fintech startups

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

THE Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) is actively promoting foreign investment in the nation's fintech startups, which play a vital role in addressing financial challenges and fostering economic development.

At the recent PesaTech networking event and Demo Day held in Dar es Salaam, TIC's Director of Research and Information Systems Leopard Shayo, underscored the significance of supporting local innovators, particularly the youth, who are essential in creating innovative solutions.

Shayo emphasized that many fintech innovators in Tanzania are young and possess a strong spirit of creativity and quick thinking.

He urged investors to support these emerging talents by investing in technology. "Our youth are skilled and brimming with innovative ideas; attracting investors in this field can significantly contribute to our economic growth," he stated.

The TIC is making concerted efforts to create a favorable investment climate, ensuring that foreign investors, especially newcomers, can navigate the market with ease. Shayo mentioned TIC's initiatives to connect startups with international part-

ners, highlighting the need for investments that nurture local fintech expertise.

"We have the human resources and skills necessary for innovation. By attracting investors, we can cultivate a workforce that will enhance our economic landscape," he noted.

He urged universities to prioritize technology and innovation, suggesting that utilizing tech hubs and online resources could further empower youth to compete in the fintech sector globally.

Shayo praised PesaTech Accelerator for its role in supporting young innovators who address local challenges through technology, particularly in finance. He highlighted the transformative impact of fintech on the economy, noting its potential to enhance financial ecosystems and promote inclusivity. For instance, fintech solutions can help farmers' access funds, enabling them to invest in modern tools and hire labor, thus improving their productivity.

"Fintech also facilitates quicker access to capital for SMEs, provides online accounting tools, and streamlines payment processes, allowing them to scale operations more effectively," he added.

Ivana Damjanov, UNCDF's country lead for Tanzania, emphasized fintech's critical role in promoting financial inclusion and called for more partnerships to bolster these initiatives. She described PesaTech not just as an accelerator but as a vital player in Tanzania's broader transformation vision.



Damjanov noted the success of the current fintech cohort, which features a significant number of female-led startups and has expanded its geographical reach to five regions: Mbeya, Dodoma, Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, and Arusha. This progress reflects growing awareness and interest in fintech across the country, as well as an increase in female entrepreneurship within the sector.

With support from NMB Bank, many applicants accessed capital and engaged in valuable dialogues with various bank departments, fostering effective collaborations. "The future of fintech in Tanzania looks promising, and PesaTech will continue to nurture the next generation of fintech entrepreneurs," she affirmed.

Tian Zhang, UNCDF's project manager, shared insights into the PesaTech Accelerator's evolution, detailing the extensive training, mentoring, and financial support provided to participants, ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000 per startup.

Edger Masatu, UNCDF Innovations Analyst, stressed the goal of empowering fintech entrepreneurs to tackle various challenges through innovative solutions that assist financial institutions in reaching diverse sectors like agriculture, education, health, and transportation.

He highlighted successful startups such as Hashtech Tanzania, which utilizes IoT and electronic ticketing to combat fraud via the Mysafari app; Swahilies, which offers digital management

tools for SMEs; and MEDPACK, which enhances the procurement and distribution of medical supplies through advanced financial technologies.

"Our mission is to ensure that every Tanzanian benefits from digital and economic inclusion, as these fintech solutions improve accessibility, security, and efficiency, ultimately driving economic growth across sectors," Masatu stated.

Joshua Silayo, managing director of Anza Entrepreneurs, emphasized that robust partnerships among entrepreneurs, investors, and stakeholders are crucial for developing a sustainable fintech ecosystem in Tanzania.

He explained that the selection process for the ten fintech startups began last year with 70 applicants, ultimately narrowing down to the chosen few who each received \$5,000 to address identified gaps in the fintech landscape.

"The selection process took eleven months, during which we provided comprehensive training in finance, technology, and entrepreneurship, while also connecting startups with stakeholders," Silayo noted.

Furthermore, the selected startups had the opportunity to visit Kenya, where they engaged with key players in the fintech industry at the Africa Technology Summit.

Lifezone initiates project financing for Kabanga nickel project

By Guardian Reporter

LIFEZONE Metals Limited in partnership with BHP have announced the commencement of the project financing process for the Kabanga Nickel Project in Tanzania, which the government owns 16 percent share.

Lifezone Chief Executive Officer, Chris Showalter announced yesterday in a statement that the company has received a Letter of Interest from the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) that expressed DFC's interest in considering the Project for loans as part of the Project's financing package.

Showalter also commented: "The initiation of the project financing process with Societe Generale is a crucial next step in securing the funding required for Kabanga, and is yet another indicator of the strategic importance of the Project to our global partners. With DFC's interest in supporting Kabanga, the US government clearly recognizes the critical role that sustainable mineral development in Africa plays in the global energy transition. Today's announcement reinforces this vision and again highlights the strong relationship between the United States and Tanzania."

DFC is America's development finance institution. It partners with the private sector to finance solutions to the most critical challenges facing the developing world today across sectors including energy, infrastructure, healthcare, agriculture, and financial services.

DFC investments adhere to high standards and respect the environment, human rights, and worker rights.

Minister of Minerals, Anthony Mavunde, welcomed the news, saying: "The Kabanga Nickel Project is a model example of the Government of Tanzania's commitment to fostering sustainable development and economic growth for the benefit of Tanzania and Tanzanians. We are delighted with the announcement that DFC has signed a Letter of Interest for project finance of Kabanga. Building on the 2023 visit to Tanzania by Vice President Harris, DFC's action shows that Tanzania and the United States continue to develop a strong economic partnership founded on a shared vision for sustainable development and we are looking forward to further developing our relationship to pursue our common goals."

Mavunde said this project will not only boost the country's economy regionally and nationally, but also position Tanzania as a leading international player in the global nickel market, contributing significantly to



the global energy transition.

Scott Nathan, Chief Executive Officer of DFC added: "DFC is helping to advance the global energy transition through projects that drive sustainable development and economic growth. The Kabanga Nickel Project represents a significant opportunity to advance responsible mineral development in Tanzania, diversifying critical supply chains and fostering economic resilience in the region."

The DFC loan application would initiate a comprehensive review process; this follows Lifezone's August 27, 2024 announcement that DFC would be evaluating political risk insurance coverage for future investments in Kabanga.

Kabanga is one of the world's largest and highest-grade undeveloped nickel sulfide deposits. By utilizing Lifezone's Hydromet technology, the project is expected to significantly reduce emissions compared to traditional smelting methods.

Kabanga is supported by the Partnership of Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGI), which is a values-driven, high-impact, and transparent infrastructure partnership that was created to meet the enormous infrastructure needs of low- and middle-income countries and to support the United States' and its allies' economic and national

security interests.

Kabanga is also recognized as a project within the Minerals Security Partnership, a collaboration of 14 countries and the EU to catalyze public and private investment in responsible critical minerals supply chains globally.

Also, Societe Generale has been appointed as the lead financial advisor to Kabanga Nickel Limited, a subsidiary of Lifezone that is managed by Lifezone and in which BHP has a 17 percent interest.

Lenaig Trenaux, Global Head of Batteries, Mining and Industries, Societe Generale, commented: "Societe Generale supports its clients in the energy transition, through dedicated solutions, and a commitment to contribute to sustainable finance. We are very pleased to be working jointly with Lifezone Metals and BHP to deliver the Kabanga Nickel Project, aiming to foster development in Tanzania and feed the energy transition with a large volume of low carbon critical mineral."

Societe Generale brings world-leading expertise in large-scale debt financing for mining projects globally. In cooperation with BHP, Lifezone and Societe Generale will look to optimize Kabanga's capital structure through a combination of multi-source project-level debt and equity.

Village secures forest land rights after 20-year boundary dispute

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

A total of 2,500 villagers from Lusane village in Tunguli ward, Kilindi District, Tanga Region, now have legal rights to the Oloilili Village land forest.

This development comes as the long-standing 20-year boundary dispute between Lusane and Kitingi villages has finally been resolved, paving the way for the establishment of Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM).

Speaking at the 24th Annual General Meeting of the Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA) held in Morogoro, Lusane village chairman, Isaya Paramisa, expressed his gratitude to MJUMITA and the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG).

He commended the groups for their efforts in resolving the conflict and facilitating discussions with village leaders, religious elders, party officials, ward councilors, district authorities, and lands officers from Kilindi district.

"We are deeply thankful to MJUMITA and TFCG for helping us engage with all stakeholders, from religious and traditional leaders to government officials. Their efforts have helped us finally resolve a conflict that has persisted since 1997," Paramisa stated.

As a result of the resolution, Lusane village has allocated 1,225 hectares of land to address community needs. Beacons have been installed to clearly mark the boundaries between the two villages, and Lusane now has a formal village land use plan.

This plan allocates land for various purposes, including livestock keeping, agriculture, water sources, sustainable timber harvesting, and most notably, the establishment of a Village Land Forest Reserve under the CBFM framework.

The establishment of the forest reserve is expected to promote sustainable forest management, provide income for village development projects, protect water sources, and combat deforestation, which is a significant contributor to climate change.

Paramisa praised MJUMITA and TFCG for training 14 members of the Village Land Use Management Committee on land use planning.

This training empowered the village to successfully implement its land use

plans. Additionally, members of the Village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC) received training on forest management techniques, including the use of Global Positioning System (GPS) technology to designate specific plots for sustainable timber harvesting.

"Thanks to the support of Peter Ibrahim and Simon Lugazo from TFCG and MJUMITA, we were able to overcome this challenge and establish a village land forest reserve. Without their assistance, this would not have been possible," Paramisa said.

He explained that earlier this year, a team of conservation experts from MJUMITA and TFCG visited Lusane village to educate the residents on land use planning. During the visit, the villagers shared that they had been unable to create land use plans due to the unresolved boundary conflict with Kitingi village. Following this discussion, MJUMITA and TFCG committed to helping resolve the issue.

Over a series of meetings with village councils, traditional elders, and religious leaders from both villages, the root of the conflict, a 2,450-hectare area in Kwedi-boko, was identified. This area, home to a primary school and bordering a protected forest, had been the focus of the dispute.

After careful assessment by land experts, it was agreed that the land would be divided equally, with each village receiving 1,225 hectares. Both villages accepted this proposal, putting an end to the two-decade-long dispute.

Peter Ibrahim, a project officer at TFCG, announced that Lusane villagers will soon begin benefiting from the Oloilili Village land forest reserve. Indigenous tree species suitable for sustainable timber harvesting have already been identified, and forest assessments are ongoing to determine the full potential for timber extraction.

Napoleon Mlowe, Natural Resource Officer for Handeni District Council, emphasized that designating village land as forest reserves is crucial for preventing deforestation and mitigating the effects of illegal activities that have damaged forests in many parts of the country.

This workshop was organized by MJUMITA with support from the African Visionary Fund, Maliasili: Investing in People for Nature, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Intra-African investment paving way for deeper capital markets

By Cheryl Buss

AFRICA is on track to become the world's fastest-growing region, outpacing Asia, as it continues to fuel its rising prominence on the global stage. The continent is home to 11 of the twenty fastest-growing economies in 2024, with its progression fuelled by its young population, rich natural resources, and blossoming emerging markets.

The continent's capital markets are a mosaic of diversity, reflecting varying levels of development across Africa. The Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) stands as the largest and most advanced stock exchange in Africa, and is the 16th largest globally by market capitalisation. Africa also harbours many rapidly developing economies, such as Rwanda and Ghana, which continue to advance at pace.

However, global markets have been hit by challenge after challenge in recent years. Geopolitical tensions, economic instability, higher interest rates, weaker local currencies, and the ongoing impact of Covid-19, have pushed many countries into a perpetual state of 'crisis mode'. Due to external factors beyond their control, many African nations are forced to focus their efforts on immediate problem-solving, putting long-term structural reforms on the back burner.

Just as the continent was beginning to build momentum in this area, it is now facing delays to critical policy changes which are vital for sustainable growth, stability, and attracting capital to Africa.

Enhancing local capital-market development in Africa is essential for laying a robust foundation for the continent's private sector growth and economic expansion. But to make real strides in creating an attractive and secure investment climate, the importance of intra-African trade and investment must rise up the policy agenda.

INTRAFRICAN INVESTMENT TO STRENGTHEN MARKET DEPTH

Historically, African economies have relied heavily on external sources of funding, often overlooking the capital that exists within its own borders. By focusing on the development of local capital markets, the continent can empower itself to boost resilience, finance its own development agenda, reduce dependency on foreign investment and attract capital to Africa.

Intra-regional trade is crucial for unlocking economic growth on the continent. However, intra-African trade remains disproportionately low in comparison to other regions - accounting for just 16 percent of Africa's total trade.

Prioritising intra-African investment and tackling trading problems were some of the key drivers behind the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)



Agreement.

The AfCFTA promises to create the world's largest single market, dismantle barriers to trade and smooth out difficult regulations from one country to another.

Strengthening intra-African economic ties also provides much-needed support to the continent's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). SMEs are the lifeblood of African economies, providing significant sources of employment, driving innovation, and contributing significantly to GDP growth.

However, access to finance remains a perennial challenge for many SMEs across the continent. By enhancing intra-regional trade, these enterprises can tap into broader markets, stimulating local economies and creating a positive 'trickle-down' effect that benefits communities at all levels.

While there is still a need to collaborate with development finance institutions (DFIs) to ensure adequate funding and support, the emphasis on SMEs can drive a self-sustaining growth cycle, in turn making the continent more attractive to external investors seeking diversified opportunities.

THE STATE OF PLAY IN AFRICA'S CAPITAL MARKETS

But against a backdrop of tough market conditions, there is still more work to be done to reinforce Africa's financial resilience. Without strengthening its capital markets infrastructure, African countries will struggle to improve the flow of local assets, stimulate trade and support the continent's SMEs.

To explore how countries can enhance the strength of their financial markets and boost sustainable growth, the Absa Africa Financial Markets Index (AFMI) was developed.

The annual report, created in partnership with the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum (OMFIF), scores 28 African countries' financial development based on measures of market accessibility, openness and transparency. This provides a good

lay of the land for the capital markets landscape in Africa and offers tangible recommendations to help the continent bolster its market infrastructure.

The results of the 2024 report showed scores rising for the majority of AFMI countries. This is largely due to an improvement in market transparency and macroeconomic conditions generally stabilising following the pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

The index shows that market size and liquidity have been significantly impacted by the downturn in global capital markets. Many African countries have a clear opportunity to improve their financial market infrastructure, particularly those in the earlier stages of development that have not yet established securities exchanges.

However, the report shows that development of such infrastructure in Africa is gaining momentum, strengthening financial resilience across the continent and offering a platform for intra-African trade.

For instance, Ethiopia is in the final stages of preparations to launch its first fully fledged stock market: the Ethiopian Securities Exchange (ESX). Stakeholders from Ethiopia's private sector are bidding to acquire stakes in the exchange, including major local financial services and insurance firms. This move will help accelerate the development of local capital markets infrastructure in Ethiopia, building a financial ecosystem ripe for investment.

ROOTED IN ROBUST GOVERNANCE

Large-scale initiatives to prioritise intra-African trade, such as the AfCFTA Agreement and the ESX, have the potential to significantly enhance Africa's trading position in the global market. However, the success of these initiatives must be underpinned by strong governance.

Openness and transparency are essential in building both local and international investor confidence, which in turn is crucial for attracting the capital needed to fuel Africa's economic ambitions. By committing to robust governance practices, African countries can create a more stable business environment which is aligned with international regulatory standards. This approach not only bolsters the credibility of intra-African trade agreements, but also ensures that the benefits of increased trade and investment are widely distributed across the continent.

With the right governance, Africa can build a more dynamic and resilient economic environment, encouraging long-term structural reforms and sustainable development - and cement its position on the world stage.

Cheryl Buss is the CE, Absa International, the international arm of South Africa-headquartered financial services holding company Absa Group

He warned that rising unemployment could trigger recessionary pressures and noted that close monitoring of labour market indicators will be crucial. Although unemployment has risen, Powell views this as driven by increased labour force participation rather than widespread layoffs. This, in combination with gross domestic product holding up well, suggests that recession risks remain low. But when it comes to future rate decisions, Dudley reflected, 'I think the labour markets now are going to get 80% of the attention and inflation 20 percent - six months ago, it was reversed.'

The 50-basis-point cut serves as a buffer against further weakening in the labour market. In the absence of a recession, Dudley projected that the federal funds rate may hover between 3 percent and 3.5 percent, but in a more severe downturn, they could fall even further, to somewhere between 2-3 percent.

Inflation persistence and investor optimism

Several risks complicate the monetary policy outlook. Inflation, particularly in service sectors, remains sticky, with prices above 4 percent. During the discussion, Dreyfus Chief Economist and former FOMC monetary policy director Vincent Reinhart raised concerns that inflation may persist longer than expected, complicating the Fed's efforts. Rising goods prices also present upside risks to inflation forecasts.

'The world's a risky place, and a part of the disinflation in 2024 has been the fact that goods prices have basically been unchanged,' explained Reinhart. 'I'm not sure that we should count on that over the next year... I have an upside risk associated with that.'

Market optimism also poses a challenge. Speakers agreed that investors anticipating rapid shifts to accommodative policies may underestimate the risks associated with rising interest rates. Effective communication with the market is therefore critical for the Fed going forward.

During the discussion, Sonal Desai, chief investment officer for Franklin

Templeton Fixed Income and former International Monetary Fund economist, pointed out a disconnect between tight high-yield debt spreads and underlying economic recession fears. While spreads indicate market optimism, the Fed must avoid exacerbating risks by mismanaging expectations. Dudley noted that markets are 'still pretty aggressive in the near term'. But he echoed Desai's concerns regarding excessive optimism - if markets 'expect more than Powell can deliver', it could destabilise financial conditions, complicating the Fed's management of rate expectations.

Dudley voiced modest expectations for the upcoming Fed monetary policy framework review. A thorough review of its quantitative easing and quantitative tightening practices was noted as essential by all discussants as well as a more pre-emptive symmetrical approach to inflation under- and overshoots. Dudley criticised the lack of a structured framework for assessing these tools, noting a \$200bn deficit in the Fed's balance sheet. There is a growing consensus that QE should not be the Fed's first tool in future downturns; instead, conventional tools should be prioritised.

The equilibrium real interest rate, or R^* , remains uncertain. Dudley agreed with Powell's assessment that R^* is likely higher than during the 2008 financial crisis, especially given fiscal pressures, and noted that Fed policymakers' estimations range between 2.4 percent and 3.8 percent. More generally, he lamented the lack of focus in the US on fiscal debts and deficits, observing that these could boost the term premium and even raise questions about fiscal dominance.

The Fed's ability to balance inflation control with labour market stability is crucial as it navigates fiscal policy uncertainties, market dynamics and economic risks. The path ahead will require a pre-emptive yet cautious stance and effective communication, along with clearer plans for QE and QT and more clarity on R .

Yara Aziz (pictured-R) is Economist and Taylor Pearce (pictured-L) is Lead Economist, Economic and Monetary Policy Institute at OMFIF.

New submarine cable seeking to elevate Tanzania's digital sector

By Guardian Reporter

THE new submarine cable infrastructure is set to elevate and transform the digital sector in Tanzania and provide superior internet connectivity to three billion people worldwide.

At the Connect 2 Connect (C2C) 2024 Summit in Arusha, Dr. Adedoyin Adeola, Chief Network Engineering Officer at Airtel Tanzania, highlighted the significance of the 45,000-kilometer 2Africa subsea cable, describing it as a game changer for Tanzania's digital ecosystem.

The telecom company has committed to leading the transformation of the digital landscape in Tanzania with the recent activation of the 2Africa Subsea Cable Landing Station in Mbezi, Dar es Salaam.

"2Africa will provide critical internet infrastructure to a continent with 1.2 billion people and beyond," Dr. Adeola stated. "It has the potential to significantly improve digital access in Africa, driving economic growth, reducing inequality, and fostering technological innovation," he said.

The positions Africa to better integrate into the global digital economy and supports sustainable development across the continent. It also es-

tablishes Tanzania as a technology hub for East and Southern Africa.

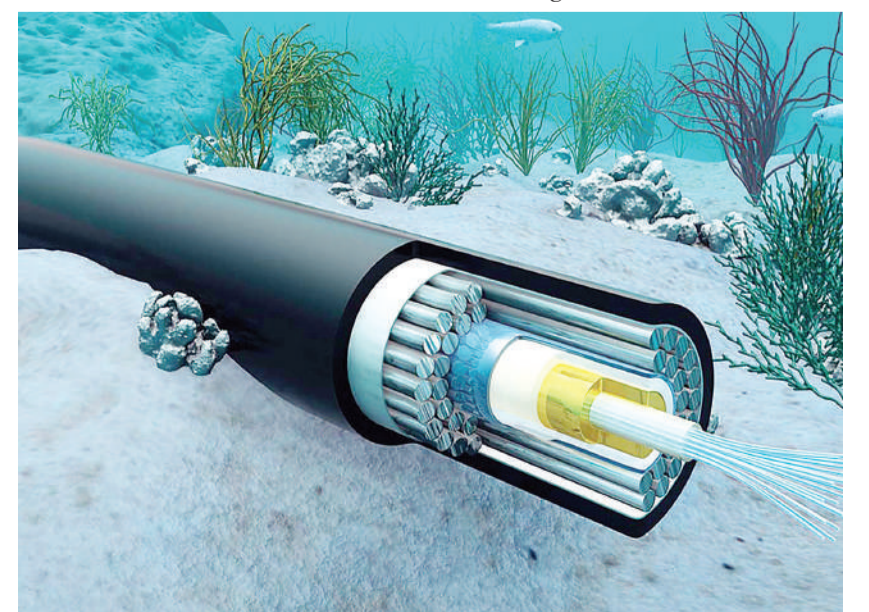
He further emphasized that the 2Africa Submarine Cable landing station will help bridge the digital divide between urban and rural areas in Tanzania by enhancing internet accessibility and promoting the growth of online businesses, ultimately creating additional revenue streams for the government and improving individual lives.

Joseph Muhere, Business Director of the telecom company, added that the infrastructure supports the country's transition to a digital economy, aligning with Tanzania's broader vision of promoting socioeconomic growth and digital inclusivity.

"The 2Africa submarine cable landing station reflects the company's commitment to positively impacting the lives of our customers, stakeholders, and communities," he said.

The facility has the potential to attract local and foreign investment and foster innovation. We invite companies to join us in elevating their capacities through this subsea cable.

Last year the company activated the 2Africa submarine cable system, spanning an impressive 45,000 kilometres, connecting three continents.



Fed shifts focus from inflation to employment

By Yara Aziz & Taylor Pearce

FOLLOWING the outcome of the September 2024 Federal Open Market Committee meeting, US monetary policy has been eased for the first time in four years. At a recent OMFIF discussion, Bill Dudley, former president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, analysed the Fed's monetary policy trajectory amid these evolving economic dynamics.

In the discussion, chaired by OMFIF US Chair Mark Sobel, Dudley framed the recent 50-basis-point cut of the federal funds rate as a calculated move to secure a soft landing for the economy, including as a 'catch-up' after holding rates steady in July.

Dudley praised Fed Chair Jerome Powell for uniting the committee behind the decision to cut by 50 rather than by 25 basis points, stating that the move was primarily driven by emerging signs of softening in the labour market.

Looking towards 2025, Dudley speculated that the federal funds rate could stabilise around 3-3.5 percent, provided labour market conditions do not deteriorate. Current market pricing reflects two potential



scenarios, both relatively benign: either no recession, leading to neutral rates, or a mild recession prompting the Fed toward easier monetary policy. Dudley emphasised the importance of pre-emptive action, pointing out past instances where the Fed was slow to respond to signs of economic overheating.

Divergence of inflation and employment

The Fed's dual mandate - achieving



price stability and maximum employment - requires careful balancing as inflation and employment diverge. While the FOMC's focus has been on inflation over the past two years, Dudley noted that core inflation is trending downwards, now around 2.5%, edging closer to the Fed's 2% target. At the same time, labour market softness is becoming evident, with the unfilled jobs-to-unemployment ratio dropping from 2:1 to 1:1.

How Tanzania can achieve cyber-security objectives

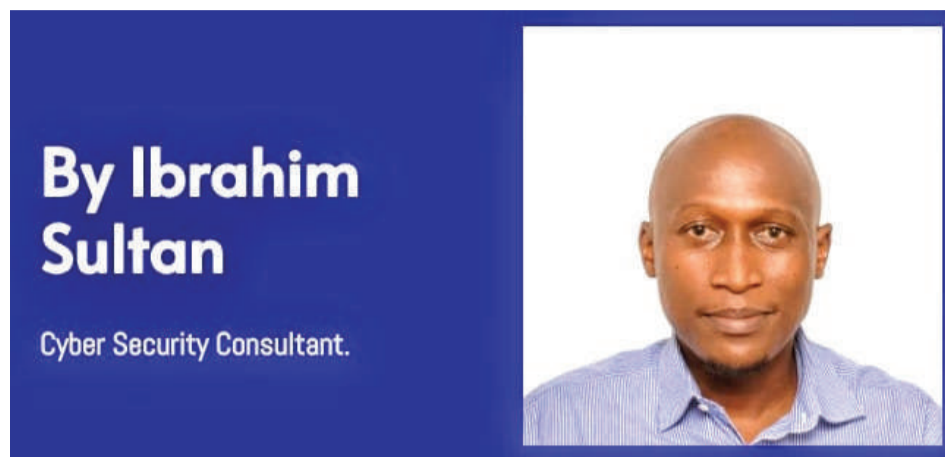
AS a nation, every organisation, institution and authority should be aware of and follow to cybersecurity best practices that advance our own goals and priorities and are consistent with the vision outlined in our Government Cybersecurity Strategy 2022-2027.

The cybersecurity strategy of any organisation, institution or authority should clearly describe the roles and duties of the stakeholders tasked with carrying out the activity, as well as contain means to hold members accountable for the implementation, monitoring, assessment, and outcomes of their actions. It's also critical to remember that any risk-management strategy should be routinely assessed because cybersecurity threats in businesses and government agencies are incredibly dynamic and unexpected.

The organisation's, institution's and authority's cybersecurity strategy should identify and assess the dynamic cyber threat landscape, as well as any potential effects and consequences on critical infrastructures and essential services that are necessary for the economy to function properly and whose destruction or incapacitation would severely undermine the nation's physical or economic security, public health, and safety.

A standard approach for managing cybersecurity risks should be identified in the strategy for all organisations, institutions and authorities. This approach should include evaluating assets, analyzing threats, putting in place and maintaining mitigating measures, and accepting residual risk. This will simplify the sharing of threat and risk information across interdependent systems and guarantee efficiency and consistency across all organisations, institutions and authorities.

Crucially, the risk-management methodology should offer guidance on minimizing risk through secure architecture and design and regular assessments/audits for the procure-



By Ibrahim Sultan

Cyber Security Consultant.

ment and development of infrastructures or services for organisations, institutions and authorities.

This is because it acknowledges that security is best achieved when it is an integral part of the process of designing, developing, and implementing a process, product, or service.

In order to strengthen the security of a nation's critical information infrastructure, the strategy should promote the establishment of official public-private partnerships. Building trust, identifying and exchanging ideas, approaches, and best practices for enhancing security, and developing cross-sector and sector-specific cybersecurity baselines are just a few of the benefits that come with working together to establish sustainable partnerships. All participating stakeholders must, however, have a clear understanding of the partnership's objectives and the mutual security benefits that result from doing so.

The following are examples of good practices that are taken into account when forming public-private partnerships: coordinating capacity-building initiatives, creating cybersecurity-specific curricula and awareness-raising campaigns, growing training and workforce-development programs, implementing international certification programs, and encouraging innovation and R&D clusters.

The development or expansion of specialized curricula targeted at speeding up the development of cybersecurity skills

and awareness across the formal education system should be facilitated by our education system, from elementary school to high school. Higher education programs in computer science and IT should incorporate cybersecurity courses.

Additionally, cybersecurity degrees and apprenticeships should be established. These establishments can be vital in imparting knowledge on the specific principles of cybersecurity to the civilian and military workforces. They can also act as breeding grounds for the next generation of workers, fusing theory with practice, tools, and implementation, and making the most of campus resources to integrate expertise, capacity for thought, and practical skills.

A nation's cybersecurity program must also be implemented successfully, which calls for strong political will and leadership supported by reliable alliances. The creation of cybersecurity education and skill-building programs for professionals and non-professionals in the public and private sectors can aid the nation in achieving its cybersecurity goals. This guarantees that a nation is well-aware of the risks to which it is exposed and enables it to control those risks to the greatest extent possible.

Ibrahim Sultan is Cyber Security Consultant based in Arusha. These are his personal views. He can be reached through email address: [HYPERLINK "mailto:sultibr_a@gmail.com" sultibr_a@gmail.com](mailto:HYPERLINKmailto:sultibr_a@gmail.com)

Russia trade with Africa grows amid sanctions

By Kester Kenn Klomegah, Moscow

AFTER two symbolic African leaders' summits, Russia's trading is steadily increasing but significantly in exports of military weapons and equipment.

According to Kremlin reports, Russian President Vladimir Putin said the trade turnover between Russia and African countries had increased by almost 35 percent in the first half of 2023 despite international sanctions.

During the first summit, Putin promised to double trade with African states within five years as he sought to win new friends with offers of nuclear power plants and fighter jets.

He fixed the expected figure at \$40 billion, which he repeated in several speeches until the last summit held in July 2023 in St. Petersburg.

According to the Russia Today (RT) report, under the headline "Russia expanding African defence partnerships" issued 5th Sept. 2024, Russia's arms exporter Rosoboronexport has outlined plans for joint ventures regarding military equipment with the continent. That report indicated that the Russian arms export agency Rosoboronexport has been advancing multiple cooperation projects with African countries, quoted Aleksandr Mikheev, the agency's head.

Mikheev, speaking on the sidelines of the Egypt International Airshow, further said his agency was working on several industrial cooperation projects with African countries, focusing on the licensed production of small arms, ammunition, armoured vehicles, and fast combat boats.

The head of the Russian arms export agency also noted the increasing importance of Africa and the Middle East in the company's overall business. "The combined share of Middle Eastern and African coun-



tries in Rosoboronexport's order portfolio exceeds 50 percent, which translates to over \$25 billion," he said.

Mikheev revealed that over 40 African nations are actively engaged in military-technical collaboration with Russia. "There is a very significant share of signed and executed contracts in the order portfolio. Mostly, of course, it is equipment, air force, air defence, helicopters, small arms, electronic warfare."

Last December for instance, the Rosoboronexport head said that African countries bought more than 30 percent of the weapons systems exported by Russia in 2023.

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) reported last year that Russia had overtaken China as the leading arms seller in sub-Saharan Africa, with market share growing to 26 percent as of 2022.

According to the report, Algeria, Angola, Egypt, and Sudan were the top importers of Russian weapons on the continent.

Business & Financial Times also reported that Putin had promised to double trade with African states within five years as he sought to win new friends with offers of nuclear power plants and fighter jets. Moscow remains the biggest exporter of arms to Africa.

The most successful pillar of Russia's con-

ventional trade with Africa is arms, managed mainly by state-controlled Rosoboronexport. Between 2010 and 2021 Russian arms exports to Africa dwarfed those of every other supplier and were three times greater than those of China, the second-biggest over the period, according to SIPRI.

Other Russian companies with significant operations in Africa include Alrosa, which operates diamond projects in Angola and is exploring in Zimbabwe; Rusal, which mines bauxite in Guinea; and Rosatom, which is building a nuclear power plant in Egypt.

As years move on, few of those promises have concretely materialized and yet Russian influence on the continent is growing faster than at any point since the end of the Cold War. But this trend has fallen short of the Kremlin's promise to African leaders. African exporters are not trading in Russia's market due to multiple reasons including inadequate knowledge of trade procedures, rules and regulations as well as the existing market conditions.

Until now, African entrepreneurs have struggled pathways to explore Russia's market as trade preferences also mentioned several times failed to be implemented.

Multiple challenges still grossly remain and stand in the pathways to ultimately realize the economic cooperation goals set by the two summits. Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov plans to hold the first Foreign Ministerial Conference in November 2024 to strategize some aspects of strengthening economic cooperation between Russia and Africa.

Some experts think that the ongoing crisis between Russia and the West is stimulating Russia's leadership to look for new markets, and besides Asia-Pacific countries, Africa has become its choice. Quite recently, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov wrote in his article: "We attach special significance to deepening our trade and investment cooperation with the African States. Russia provides African countries with extensive preferences in trade."

The minister went on: "At the same time, it is evident that the significant potential of our economic cooperation is far from being exhausted and much remains to be done so that Russian and African partners know more about each other's capacities and needs. The creation of a mechanism for the provision of public support to business interaction between Russian companies and the African continent is on the agenda."

Reports further showed that Russia has started, after the second summit in July 2023, strengthening its economic cooperation by opening trade missions with the responsibility of providing sustainable business services and plans to facilitate import-export trade in some African countries.

But these Russian trade centres can also embark on a 'Doing Business in Africa' campaign to encourage Russian businesses to take advantage of growing trade and investment opportunities, to promote trade fairs and business-to-business matchmaking in key spheres in Africa.

Kester Kenn Klomegah focuses on current geopolitical changes, foreign relations and economic development-related questions on Africa with external countries.

Unravelling the complexity of critical mineral resources: A call for expertise

JACK LIFTON

IN recent years, critical minerals have become a buzzword, yet the concept behind them seems newly minted. Suddenly, everything is "critical" in the resource world. But amidst this surge of attention, a fundamental issue arises—what exactly makes a mineral critical? As someone who has spent a lifetime immersed in the technical intricacies of the chemical and metallurgical properties of technology metals, I can tell you: it's a complex question.

I've noticed a disturbing trend in many of the analyses I come across. As a rule, I stop reading any technical report as soon as I find a glaring error because one mistake often compounds into several. Unfortunately, in the world of critical minerals, these mistakes are rampant, especially among analysts with little to no understanding of chemistry or metallurgy. And that is a major problem.

Understanding the core: chemistry and metallurgy

To the average investor, understanding the form and function of metals might seem like minutiae best left to professors or scientists. But I argue that without a proper grasp of the basic chemistry and metallurgy of these elements, any analysis of their economic importance is flawed from the start.

Let's get one thing clear: metals are not stable in their natural form. Unlike gold, which can be found as a metal in nature, most metals exist in oxidized forms.

Producing usable metals from ores involves reducing this oxidation, a complex process that transforms a mineral into its least stable form—a metal. Only a deep understanding of these processes allows us to accurately assess the feasibility and costs of mining, refining, and utilizing critical minerals.

Analysts often fall into the trap of assuming that the mineral found in the ground is ready for industrial use. This couldn't be further from the truth. Take, for instance, neodymium—a crucial element for permanent magnets. The raw mineral containing neodymium needs to go through numerous steps: extraction, separation, purification, and alloying, all before it becomes a usable material.

Each of these stages requires expertise, technology, and money—far more than what a simple price-per-

kilogram calculation might suggest.

The economics of misunderstanding

The sheer volume of misinformation in so-called critical minerals analysis is staggering. Many of the financial pundits predicting prices for rare earths, lithium, or other critical elements five or ten years from now lack a basic understanding of the science behind these materials. Predicting future demand or supply without a deep comprehension of their chemical nature leads to misguided conclusions.

In my own reading, I regularly encounter errors like confusing common elements such as germanium, gallium, or manganese with rare earth metals. This misunderstanding stems from a lack of basic chemical education and results in inflated claims about supply and demand.

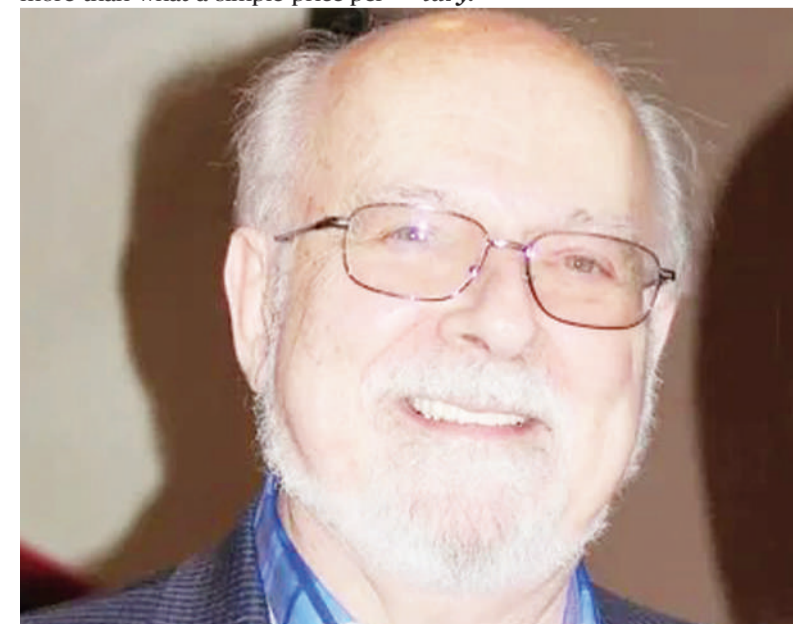
A call for true experts

As a metallurgist and a chemist, I do not claim to be a financial expert, but I do understand metals and minerals at a fundamental level. After decades of working in the trenches, I've seen firsthand how the lack of scientific knowledge can lead to poor decisions and misguided investments.

I believe it's time to start holding analysts accountable for the quality of their assessments. Let's create a system where we can measure the credibility of these analyses, based on sound scientific principles. This industry needs more experts, not fewer. And until we raise the standards of analysis, we risk continuing to misinform investors, governments, and industries alike.

For now, I will continue to hold my metaphorical lamp, like Diogenes, searching for truth in a world increasingly cluttered with half-truths and misunderstandings about the critical minerals we need to power the future.

Jack Lifton (pictured) is the Co-Chair of the Critical Minerals Institute (CMI), which was founded in 2022 and is focused on building a North American critical mineral supply chain. These include copper, rare earths, platinum group metals, steel alloy metals, lithium, cobalt, graphite, and most of the rare critical minerals necessary for our health, safety, and technologies, both consumer and military.



VIEW FROM THE TOP

WORLD

Leaders at UN climate meetings warn of growing mistrust between nations

NEW YORK

UN Secretary-General António Guterres launched a two-day, climate-themed "Summit for the Future" on Sunday as part of the UN General Assembly, where some leaders warned of growing mistrust between nations as climate-fueled disasters mount.

National leaders addressed the group after adopting a "Pact for the Future" aimed at ensuring and increasing cooperation between nations, with many calling for urgent access to more climate finance.

"International challenges are moving faster than our ability to solve them," Guterres told leaders at the summit. "Crises are interacting and feeding off each other - for example, as digital technologies spread climate disinformation, that deepens distrust and fuels polarization."

Prime Minister Mia Mottley of Barbados echoed Guterres' warning and urged a "reset" in how global institutions are governed so they can better respond to crises and serve those most in need.

"The distress in our institutions of governance, the mistrust between the gov-

ernors and the governed, will continue to foster social alienation the world over at the very time that we need to find as many people as possible to shape a new world," Mottley said.

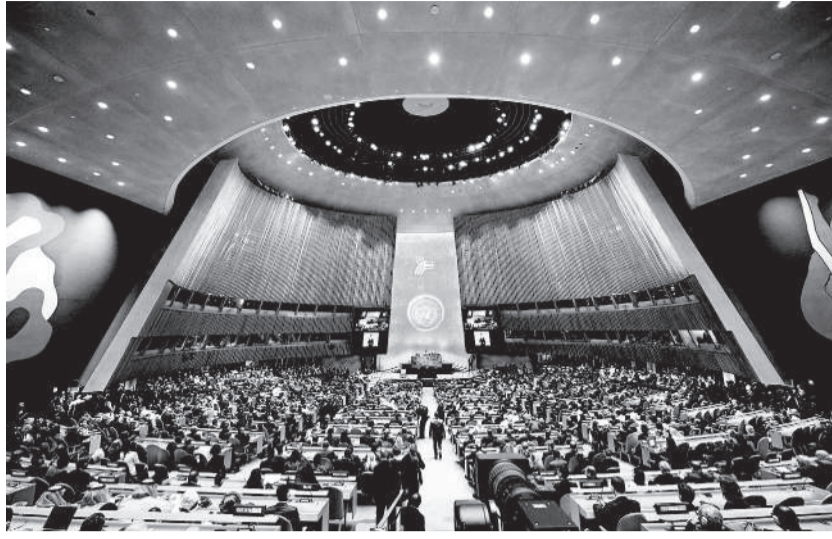
The UN climate summit continues on Monday with speeches from China, India, and the United States.

Elsewhere during the week, US President Joe Biden is expected to deliver a speech at an event also attended by actress and climate activist Jane Fonda and World Bank President Ajay Banga, among others. Another event hosted by the Clinton Foundation features speeches by Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex, and actor and water activist Matt Damon.

The Climate Group, which is coordinating Climate Week, counted some 900 climate-related events planned across the city this week, hosted by multinational corporations, international non-profits, governments and activists.

Big agenda

Climate summits and events like Climate Week, held alongside the UN General Assembly, have taken on a more urgent tone in recent years as rising temperatures fuel increasingly extreme disasters like heatwaves and storms.



A view of the General Assembly Hall at the opening of the "Summit of the Future" on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, on Sunday. AFP

Some observers to climate negotiations regretted that the global pact adopted Sunday morning by the General Assembly did not go further than last year's COP28 summit in Dubai in affirming a commitment to transition away from fossil fuel use.

Countries are showing "collective amnesia" about the need to tackle these polluting fuels, said Alden Meyer, a senior associate at the climate think tank E3G.

Leaders have also been grappling with a more urgent challenge on the climate agenda. There are just two months left until the UN's COP29 climate summit in Baku, Azerbaijan, leaving little time for agreeing on a new global finance target to replace the annual \$100 billion pledge that expires in 2025.

With some UN agencies estimating the annual financing need in the trillions, leaders are looking beyond their own budgets for ways to boost climate cash.

The World Bank and other multilateral development banks are undergoing reform processes this year, which could see them making more funding available or taking on more climate-related risk.

Under an initiative led by Barbados, France and Kenya, countries also continue to discuss imposing new global taxes to help pay for climate finance, such as a financial transaction tax or a shipping tax.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland noted that some of the world's poorest countries were now facing climate-fueled disasters along with an increased debt burden.

"We have to do more to understand the fundamental unfairness of the debt crisis that most of our developing countries are going through," Scotland told Reuters. "The development banks and the World Bank have to step up to that reality."

PM Modi in US assures CEOs of India's focus on technology, innovation

NEW YORK

AS a part of his three-day visit to the United States, Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with industry leaders to discuss the potential and opportunities India has to offer to the world.

PM Narendra Modi assured US business leaders of India's deep commitment to protection of intellectual property and to fostering tech-innovation during his engagement with the top CEOs from the technology industry at a roundtable in New York.

The roundtable hosted by PM Modi comprised several prominent figures from leading companies including, Chairman President and CEO of Adobe Shantanu Narayen, Google CEO Sundar Pichai, IBM COE Arvind Krishna, Lisa Su CEO of AMD, and Jensen Huang of NVIDIA and among others

During the meeting on the second day of his US visit, the prime minister discussed ways to foster greater collaboration between the US and India when it comes to the cutting-edge areas of Artificial Intelligence, quantum computing, semiconductors and biotechnology.

As per an official statement by Prime Minister's Office, the discussions revolved around the global technology landscape and the impact of innovations on human development and the world economy. The CEOs shared insights into how their companies are leveraging technology for innovation and expressed keen interest in collaborating with India.

PM Modi also emphasized the importance of initiatives such as the India-US Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (ICET) as central to the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership.

He highlighted that technology cooperation between India and the United States could drive mutual benefits and growth.

In a social media post on X PM Modi said "Had a fruitful roundtable with tech CEOs in New York, discussing aspects



Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets members of the Indian diaspora after addressing the gathering, at Nassau Coliseum in New York on Sunday. ANI

relating to technology, innovation and more. Also highlighted the strides made by India in this field. I am glad to see immense optimism towards India".

PM Modi also invited the participating companies to explore co-development, co-design, and co-production opportunities in India, pointing to India's rapid economic and technological transformation.

He emphasized India's strategic efforts in electronics and IT manufacturing, semiconductor production, biotech advancements, and green development.

PM Modi outlined his government's ambitious plans for turning India into a global hub for semiconductor manufacturing and mentioned the BIO E3 policy aimed at making India a biotech powerhouse.

On Artificial Intelligence, the Prime Minister reiterated India's focus on promoting AI for all, stressing the ethical and responsible use of this technology.

The CEOs responded positively, expressing strong interest in increasing investments and collaborations with India.

They recognized India's growing role as a global technology hub, driven by its favorable policies, thriving market, and growing talent pool.

Many also highlighted the synergies they see in investing in Indian startups to co-create new technologies and solutions for the future.

The roundtable concluded with a mutual commitment to exploring deeper collaboration and partnerships to advance technological innovation on a global scale.

The Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that PM Modi emphasised India's growth prospects, during the meeting with American CEOs.

"PM @narendramodi interacted with the top tech leaders and CEOs of USA, in a Roundtable hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) School of Engineering, in New York today," Jaiswal wrote on X.

In a separate bilateral meeting, PM Modi also interacted with Krishna Singh, founder and CEO, Holtec International.

According to a social media post by Ministry of External Affairs, during the meeting PM Modi and Krishna Singh discussed Holtec's plan to expand manufacturing in India and the potential for boosting cooperation in the field of civil nuclear energy.

"Working towards green goals! PM @narendramodimet Dr Krishna Singh of Holtec International today in New York. They discussed Holtec's plan to expand manufacturing in (India) and the potential for boosting cooperation in the field of civil nuclear energy" said the post.

On Saturday (local time), the prime minister attended the Quad Leaders' Summit in Delaware, which was attended by US President Joe Biden, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

On Sunday, the Prime Minister addressed a gathering of the Indian diaspora in Long Island and before he departs for the India he will deliver a speech at the "Summit of the Future" at the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

ANI

Russian diplomat slams Pact for the Future as serious blow on UN

UNITED NATIONS

RUSSIA'S First Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Dmitry Polyansky has slammed the Pact for the Future that has been adopted by a summit at the United Nations headquarters as a blow on the world organization.

"Regrettably, there is nothing good that today (on September 22) the United Nations adopted a Pact for the Future. The United Nations had infringed upon its own principles to pander to a group of delegations from the 'beautiful garden,' who have usurped the talks from the very beginning.

And the majority from the 'jungle,' like a herd, could not find courage enough to protest and defend their rights. This is they who will bear responsibility for the consequences," he wrote on his X account.

According to the Russian diplomat (pictured), the pact is unbalanced and has very dangerous provisions, which will lead to an opposite effect and will undermine the United Nations' multi-party and intergovernmental nature committed to paper in the UN Charter. "This is an enormous blow to the organization in general," he stressed.

"As a result, there was no inclusive negotiating process in the normal understanding of this term," he noted. "The new President of the 78th UN General Assembly [Philemon Yang] tried to correct the situation but it was too late."

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Vershinin told the UN Summit of the Future that a number of delegations did not support the text that had been submitted with violations of the procedure. The senior Russian diplomat suggested that Yang postpone the voting on the document until all of its provisions were agreed.

After Russia's amendment was declined, Vershinin said that Russia was distancing itself from the consensus on the Pact for the Future and the Global Digital Compact. He said that this especially concerned provisions on disarmament, issues of the participation of non-governmental organizations in the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The Summit of the Future is running at the UN headquarters in New York on September 22 and 23 ahead of the political debate of the 79th session of the UN General Assembly.

The summit's goal is to discuss global challenges and elaborate collective solutions. However, UN Security Council members are not participating in it at the level of heads of state and government.

Xi congratulates Dissanayake on assuming presidency of Sri Lanka

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping yesterday sent a message to Anura Kumara Dissanayake to congratulate him on his inauguration as president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Xi (pictured) hailed China and Sri Lanka as traditional friendly neighbors, saying that since the establishment of diplomatic ties 67 years ago, China and Sri Lanka have always understood and supported each other, setting a good example of friendly coexistence and mutually beneficial cooperation between countries of different sizes.

Xi said that he prizes the development of China-Sri Lanka relations, and stands ready to work with President Dissanayake to carry forward the traditional friendship, and enhance political mutual trust.

He also pledged to work with the Sri Lankan leader to facilitate more fruitful high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and make steady and long-term progress of China-Sri Lanka strategic cooperative partnership featuring sincere mutual assistance and ever-lasting friendship so as to better benefit the people of the two countries. *Xinhua*



Netanyahu examining siege plan for Hamas in North Gaza - Report

JERUSALEM/BAGHDAD

ISRAEL is examining a plan to use siege tactics against Hamas in northern Gaza, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was quoted by several Israeli media outlets as saying on Sunday.

Netanyahu's office did not respond to a request for comment. The reports cited unnamed sources at a closed parliament committee meeting.

The plan, published by retired military commanders

and floated by some parliament members this month, suggests Palestinian civilians would be instructed to evacuate northern Gaza, which would then be declared a closed military zone.

An estimated 5,000 Hamas militants remaining there would then be put under siege until they surrender. Army Radio reported that Netanyahu told lawmakers at parliament's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that it was being examined.

Public broadcaster Kan

quoted Netanyahu as saying that the blueprint "makes sense" and that "it is one of the plans being considered but there are others as well."

Israel has faced fierce international criticism for the humanitarian crisis brought on by its nearly one-year offensive against the Hamas militant group in Gaza.

Most of Gaza's population has been displaced. An estimated one million people - half the population - are currently crammed into a designated humanitarian zone

that makes up less than 15 percent of the territory and is lacking essential infrastructure and services, according to the United Nations.

Humanitarian access to northern Gaza, where estimates of the population run between 300,000 and 500,000 people - is especially difficult, according to the United Nations.

The war was sparked when Hamas-led militants burst into Israel on Oct 7, killing 1,200 people, most of them civilians, and taking another

250 hostage into Gaza, according to Israeli tallies.

More than 41,000 Palestinians have been killed in the Israeli offensive since, according to the Gaza health ministry. Gaza health officials say most are civilians.

Israel, which has lost 346 soldiers in Gaza, says at least a third of the Palestinian fatalities are fighters.

Also on Sunday, the Islamic Resistance in Iraq, a Shi'ite militia group, claimed responsibility for a drone attack on an Israeli target in the

Jordan Valley, which forms Jordan's western border with Israel and the West Bank.

The group said in a statement that the attack, the fifth of its kind on Sunday, was carried out "in solidarity with the people of the Gaza Strip," pledging to continue targeting "the enemy's strongholds."

It did not specify the affected sites or report any casualties.

Earlier in the day, the group claimed responsibility for multiple drone and mis-

sile attacks on Israeli targets, including a drone attack on sites in southern Israel at dawn, attacks with upgraded al-Arqaq cruise missiles at several sites in the north, and a drone attack on an Israeli military base in the Jordan Valley in the morning.

Since the onset of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Gaza on Oct 7, 2023, the Islamic Resistance in Iraq has conducted multiple attacks on Israeli and US targets in the region in support of Palestinians in Gaza.

Basalt rocks made into national flag carried by Chang'e-6 probe

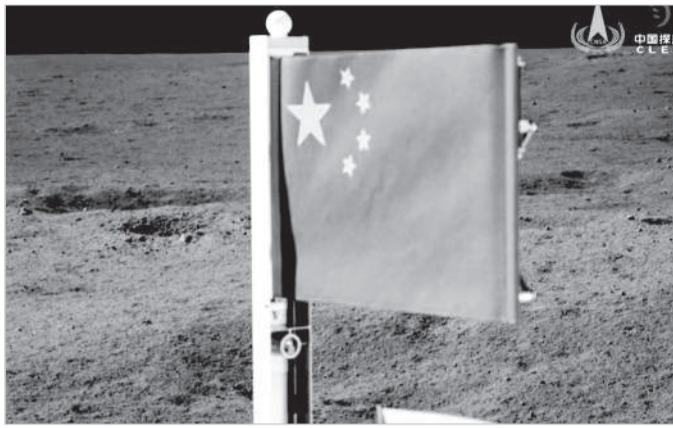
By Yuan Taoxiang, Zhang Tengyang

ON June 4 this year, a national flag carried by the lander of China's Chang'e-6 probe unfurled on the moon's far side, becoming the first national flag of any nation to be shown on the lunar far side.

The flag weighs only 11.3 grams, lighter than two 1-yuan coins. The threads used in it were made from a new high-performance material called basalt fiber. The fiber was produced by crushing natural basalt rocks, melting them and then drawing them into fibers. These fibers are only 1/3 the diameter of a human hair.

"Basalt fiber is lightweight, strong, corrosion-resistant, and environmentally friendly with a low carbon footprint. It can withstand temperatures ranging from -269 to 700 degrees Celsius, which further highlights its unique value," said Liu Jiaqi, an academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and former director of the CAS Institute of Geology and Geophysics.

According to Liu, basalt rocks, in their natural form, are in a columnar shape, roughly as tall as a person.



A Chinese national flag carried by the lander of Chang'e-6 probe unfurled on the moon's far side, June 4. (Photo from the China National Space Administration)

"They are abundant in China," he said.

Basalt deposits vary significantly, making it challenging to homogenize the raw material for fiber production. For over a decade, Zhu Zhaohun, head of a basalt mining company in Yuxian county, north China's Hebei province, has been working to tackle this technical challenge and improve the homogenization of the raw material.

The basalt used for the flag carried by the Chang'e-6 probe was sourced from Zhu's company. The company processes about 100,000 tons of basalt annually, but only 1/10 of this can be used to produce basalt fiber. The average price of this high-quality basalt is

600 yuan (\$84.25) per ton, three times the price of basalt used for road construction.

How are rocks turned into fiber?

Traveling about 1,000 kilometers south from Yuxian county, People's Daily reporters arrived in Xiangyang, Hubei province, where Huierjie New Material Technology Co., Ltd. (Huierjie), the company that produced the basalt fiber on the national flag carried by the Chang'e-6 is located.

In the furnace, basalt rocks are melted into lava at high temperatures ranging from 1,450 to 1,500 degrees Celsius. The lava is then drawn through a platinum-rhodium alloy bushing, where high-speed drawing machines pull

it into hundreds of fine, gold-brown threads, which are wound into strands.

Temperature control is a key technical challenge in the basalt fiber drawing process. After years of technological development, Huierjie can now produce basalt fiber with a diameter of just 5 microns, and each fiber can be drawn to a length of tens of thousands of meters.

An executive of the company told People's Daily that standard basalt fiber sells for 15,000 yuan per ton, while the new 5-micron basalt fiber product commands a price of 60,000 to 70,000 yuan per ton.

Basalt fiber has excellent insulation and radiation-resistant properties, but as an inorganic fiber, it has a smooth surface and is brittle, making it difficult to weave. To address this, Wuhan Yudahua Textile and Garment Group Co., Ltd. (Yudahua) collaborated with Wuhan Textile University to study how basalt fiber could be blended with viscose fiber and other materials, overcoming several key challenges in producing basalt fine yarn.

After delivering a prototype of the national flag on the Chang'e-6 probe in October 2023, the research team



An employee works in a workshop of a basalt fiber technology company in southwest China's Sichuan province. (Photo by Deng Liangkui / People's Daily Online)

began seeking ways to bring their technological achievements to the market, aiming to further advance the high-performance fiber industry.

Yudahua developed a flame-retardant, high-temperature-resistant basalt fiber fabric. The material feels like pure cotton denim, but when exposed to an open flame, it won't be burned.

"Basalt fiber is attracting attention not only in the textile industry but also in the automotive, aerospace, and medical fields," said Cao Genyang, a professor at Wuhan Textile University and a member of the development team of the national flag carried by the Chang'e-6

probe.

The potential applications of basalt fiber are expanding. On the sea, marine net cages made of the material used in eco-friendly oyster farms can withstand typhoons up to force 12; in the vast desert, basalt fiber is made into wind turbine blades and photovoltaic brackets to make them more durable. Besides, basalt fiber is also made into composite rebar and protective layers for cables.

In April this year, China's leading automaker FAW Group released a new vehicle model featuring interior components made from basalt fiber composites. These materials reduce the weight of the components by over 20 per-

cent while maintaining their original performance and offering the added benefit of low odor.

Industry experts estimated that by 2030, the automotive sector's demand for basalt fiber could reach 320,000 tons, with an output value of 8.4 billion yuan, potentially supporting a downstream parts market worth over 47 billion yuan.

Today, China has become the largest producer of basalt fiber in the world. In 2023, China's basalt fiber production reached approximately 30,000 tons, accounting for about 75 percent of the global output, with 9,000 tons exported.

As of September 2023, over 13,000 applications for basalt fiber patents were filed globally, more than 8,600, or 66 percent, were from China.

"Lunar soil and basalt have similar chemical compositions. By adapting basalt fiber production techniques, fibers drawn from lunar soil could become construction materials for future lunar bases, meeting the needs for in-situ resource utilization," said Zhu Meifang, an academician of the CAS and dean of the College of Materials Science and Engineering at Donghua University.

How two bearings mirror upgrading of China's manufacturing

By Li Xinping, Wang Zheng, Ding Yiting

BEARINGS are considered as "joints" of industries.

Recently, the Liu'ao offshore wind farm in Zhangzhou, southeast China's Fujian province, which features the application of 16-MW offshore wind turbine units, was put into full-capacity operation and connected to the grid for power generation. The bearings of the turbine units were independently developed in China.

Meanwhile, a tunnel boring machine equipped with a Chinese-manufactured main bearing, which comes with a diameter of over three meters, was instrumental in building the Suzhou Metro Line 6 in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu province.

These two bearings exactly mirror the solid strides in China's manufacturing over the past 75 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The bearings used on the 16-MW offshore wind turbine units were produced by LYC Bearing Corporation. "We were incapable of producing high-end bearings over 10 years ago, but we were determined to crack this hard nut," said Wang Xinying, chairman of the company.

To strengthen its capabilities, LYC set up Chinese national-level key laboratories and other innovative platforms. It also cooperated with Tsinghua University and other institu-

tions of higher learning to leverage their strength.

As a result, it launched a wide range of new products, such as bearings for new energy vehicles (NEVs), wind turbine units, and for rail transit. These products have been employed by important equipment such as the Chang'e series lunar probes, the Tiangong Space Station, and the Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Radio Telescope (FAST).

While LYC is striving for excellence in manufacturing high-end bearings, China Railway Construction Heavy Industry Corporation Limited (CRCHI) is focusing all of its energy on the development of tunnel boring machine (TBM) bearings.

In 2019, CRCHI set up a dedicated research and design institute to develop main bearings for TBMs, the "final piece of the puzzle" in China's goal to fully localize its TBM industry. After three years, the institute finally developed a TBM bearing with a diameter of over nine meters.

"This main bearing, the largest and heaviest in the world, can be used in the largest TBMs currently available," said Liu Feixiang, CRCHI's chief scientist. "In the past, what we could do was decided by what equipment we had, but now we can manufacture equipment for whatever task is needed," Liu added.

Behind the two bearings lies the strong confidence stemming from China's com-



The world's first main bearing for 25 MW wind turbine units successfully rolls off the production line at Luoyang Bearing Science and Technology Co., Ltd. in Luoyang, central China's Henan province, March 14, 2024. (Photo by Liu Yanfeng/People's Daily Online)

plete manufacturing system. In 1949, China's first batch of molten steel was produced by Ansteel in northeast China, and today, China has maintained the world's largest steel producer for 28 consecutive years, constantly breaking world records in the thickness of steel foils.

In 1956, the first Jiefang truck rolled off the assembly line of Chinese automaker FAW Group. Today, China has been the world's largest auto production and sales country for 15 consecutive years, while its production and sales of NEVs topped the global market for the ninth year in a row.

China has completed in a just few decades the industrialization process that took developed countries several hundred years.

It boasts the world's most comprehensive industrial categories and a well-rounded industrial system, with its manufacturing span-

ning 31 major categories, 179 subcategories, and 609 branch categories. For 14 years in a row, the country has remained the world's top manufacturing hub.

In 2023, its value-added manufacturing output accounted for 26.2 percent of its GDP and approximately 30 percent of the global output.

As Chinese enterprises constantly improve their capabilities and extend to the higher end of the industrial chain, more bearing products are hitting the market.

On March 10, a bearing developed by LYC for a 40-meter-aperture radio telescope in the Changbai Mountain area, northeast China's Jilin province, completed acceptance inspection to support future lunar and deep-space probe missions.

In China, mass-produced power battery cells now have an energy density of 300 watt-

hours per kilogram, placing them at the forefront of international standards. The silicon-perovskite tandem solar cells made in China have achieved an efficiency of 34.6 percent, continuously setting new world records.

Besides, recent years have seen rapid growth in China's export of "the new three," namely, NEVs, lithium-ion batteries and photovoltaic products, with annual exports exceeding 1 trillion yuan (\$140.93 billion).

Currently, strategic emerging industries account for about 13 percent in China's GDP, and China is home to 463,000 high-tech companies. Chinese manufacturing is rapidly advancing toward the high end of the global industrial chain.

Moreover, the penetration rate of digital R&D and design tools in major Chinese enterprises reached 80.1 percent, and 62.9 percent of their key production processes are numerically controlled. Industrial internet has been applied in all major industrial categories, and the steps of industrial digitalization and digital industrialization have been accelerated.

By upgrading traditional industries, expanding emerging industries, and planning for future industries, China is developing new quality productive forces tailored to local conditions, continuously creating new drivers of growth and competitive advantages.

Beijing develops China's first large model of atmospheric environment monitoring

By Pan Xutao, Hua Yiran

ON the streets of Beijing, residents may notice a uniquely designed van with sampling tubes mounted on its roof and the words "Mobile Atmospheric Monitoring" painted on its sides in Chinese.

The van is equipped with a mass spectrometer that can analyze the air it takes in and measure volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the surrounding area within five seconds. It is reported that the VOCs data will be uploaded in real-time to the Supervision-Monitoring-Inspection (SMI) mechanism developed by the Beijing Municipal Ecology and Environment Bureau.

The bureau has also developed a large model to support the SMI mechanism, employing advanced technologies such as big data and artificial intelligence. Supported by an innovative monitoring network, intelligent analysis techniques, and an efficient dispatching system, the model has contributed to the continuous improvement of air quality in Beijing.

Data quality is essential as it forms the cornerstone and foundation of large models. To enhance the quality of data, the large model has created a multi-dimensional sensing system that boasts different functions such as aerial surveillance and ground patrols, and involves

economic and social operation data such as electricity consumption. It combines over 200,000 smart sensing devices, collecting hundreds of millions of data points on a daily basis.

The large model has reportedly identified and flagged over 10,000 problems, offering effective assistance in pollution control and regular monitoring.

With the help of remote satellite sensing technology, the large model can intelligently identify more than 10 types of targets such as bare land, with an accuracy rate of 90 percent. Meanwhile, mobile monitoring vehicles can patrol the ground, measuring VOCs in real-time, achieving second-level response, intelligent traceability, and closed-loop regulation.

"The large model has incorporated over 50 types of databases, including data related to air quality monitoring and pollution sources. It also includes a database focused on environmental protection knowledge, comprising more than 1 million documents such as environmental standards, regulations, research reports, and papers," said Shen Xiu'e, head of the Beijing Municipal Ecological and Environmental Monitoring Center.

These data enable the large model to perform intelligent analysis, forecasting, precise tracing, and clue mining, Shen added.

The large model can also monitor electricity consumption at industrial facilities on a minute-by-minute basis. It can identify discrepancies in production and pollution control activities by intelligently matching and analyzing data.

"Using electricity monitoring technology, we have included over 1,000 key enterprises that emit air pollutants and more than 6,000 monitoring points into the system. If a company's production facility uses electric-



Photo shows a turret of the Forbidden City in Beijing, capital of China. (Photo by Song Jiaru/People's Daily Online)

ity while its pollution control equipment is not in operation, the system will capture and record this anomaly," Shen explained.

On June 20, the model detected that the printing machines and other production equipment of a company were running day and night, but the pollution control facilities appeared to only operate during the day and were inactive at night. After a thorough analysis, the problem was flagged and sent to Beijing's district-level law enforcement department for further steps.

In Beijing, there is also an air pollution control platform enabled by the SMI mechanism, which is a large screen showing real-time air quality and forecast results on the left, meteorological data, pollution source

data, and dispatch information in the center, and four major categories of problems including mobile sources, industrial sources, dust sources, and environmental hotspots, along with the results of targeted pollution control measures on the right.

Li Xiang, an official with Beijing's Comprehensive Law Enforcement Team for Ecological and Environmental Protection, described a case of problem detection and resolution. "The system alerted us to a high VOC concentration point near an auto repair shop, likely caused by the shop itself, so we conducted an on-site inspection," said Li.

Upon entering the shop, Li and other law enforcement officers inspected the paint spraying and baking room, discovering that some of the activated

carbon filters were overdue for replacement, and there were gaps in the carbon plates, allowing untreated exhaust to escape.

The team demanded the auto repair shop to immediately rectify the issue and handed the case over to local authorities for appropriate penalties. After the corrective actions were completed, officials returned for a re-inspection, confirming that the VOC levels had returned to normal.

The air pollution control platform can rapidly assess air quality, comprehensively analyze pollution trends, intelligently trace pollution sources, coordinate resources across districts and localities, dynamically track activity levels, and thereby effectively analyze and monitor major pollution sources.

The SMI mechanism and other technologies have significantly enhanced pollution control efficiency in Beijing, helping protect and maintain the ecological environment.

According to data from the Beijing Municipal Ecology and Environment Bureau, from January to July this year, the average concentration of fine particulate matter (PM2.5) in Beijing was 33 micrograms per cubic meter. Besides, the Chinese capital recorded a total of 150 days of good air quality during the same period, an increase of 7 days from a year ago.

SPORT

Ken Gold interim coach Jumanne Challe optimistic despite Premier League struggles

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

KEN Gold FC interim coach Jumanne Challe has reassured fans, acknowledging the team's current struggles in the Premier League but expressing confidence that they will overcome their tough patch.

The team is enduring a difficult period, having suffered four consecutive league defeats, the latest being a 2-0 loss to Kagera Sugar last Friday.

Challe took over as interim coach following the resignation of former head coach Fikiri Elias, who stepped down due to the team's poor form.

While their recent performances have raised concerns about their future in the league, Challe remains optimistic, emphasizing the team's determination to turn things around.

Having recently led Ken Gold to promotion from the Championship League, Challe admitted that the team's current results are far from ideal but believes their struggles stem from the challenge of adjusting to the higher level of competition.

He is confident that as the players become more accustomed to the Premier League's

intensity, their performance will improve.

"We have quality players in our team, and I believe they are capable of competing at this level. We've faced some challenges at the start of the season, but I'm confident we can overcome them and improve our performance," said Challe.

Since taking charge on September 17, Challe has been working to address the team's weaknesses, particularly in central defense and midfield.

"We've seen some positive signs in other areas, but we need to strengthen our defense and midfield to be more competitive," he added.

Despite the tough start, which has seen Ken Gold suffer defeats against Singida Black Stars, Fountain Gate, KMC, and Kagera Sugar, Challe remains hopeful.

He attributed the team's struggles to a combination of bad luck and the difficulties of adapting to the league.

Challe's optimism and the team's determination may be key to overcoming their current challenges as they seek to stabilize their form and rise in the Premier League standings.

AFC Leopards set for corporate transformation inspired by Tanzanian giants

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi & Agencies

KENYA Premier League powerhouse AFC Leopards are looking to Tanzania for inspiration as they embark on a transformation from a community-based club to a corporate entity.

The Leopards aim to learn from the successes of their regional rivals, Simba Sports Club and Young Africans (Yanga), who have successfully navigated this transition and achieved significant financial growth.

The Kenyan club is eager to move away from its current community-based structure to a corporate model that allows external investors to contribute resources.

A task force has been formed to drive this transformation.

Simba and Young Africans, two of Tanzania's most iconic football clubs, have already reaped the benefits of becoming corporate entities. This transition has attracted multiple investors interested in advertising and community projects, further boosting the clubs' financial standings.

Their success on the field has been matched by their off-field business acumen, with strategic marketing and partnerships contributing significantly to their financial growth.

As a result, Simba and Young Africans have become powerful brands, attracting sponsorships and broadening their influence in Tanzanian football.

The AFC Leopards' corporate task force now plans to travel to Tanzania for a benchmarking visit with Simba and Young Africans. They aim to learn how these Tanzanian giants

successfully transitioned into corporate models, bringing rewards both on and off the pitch.

"This initiative will explore various corporate models and their potential impact on the professionalization of football in Kenya," said task force chairman Vincent Shimoli.

"The tour aims to provide invaluable insights into the transformation milestones achieved by these clubs."

Following the benchmarking tour, the task force will engage AFC Leopards' members and stakeholders in a three-month civic education campaign, scheduled from October to December.

The goal is to inform club members about the benefits of shifting from the current society structure to a more investor-friendly corporate model.

"We will use the club's extensive branch network to reach over 5,000 registered members and, by extension, over six million fans across the country," said task force secretary Richard Ekhalie.

In January 2024, a retreat will be held to develop a comprehensive blueprint outlining the preferred governance structure. This blueprint will then be presented to club members at the Annual General Meeting for ratification and adoption.

Through this initiative, AFC Leopards hope to replicate the success of Simba and Young Africans by attracting investments and boosting the club's financial stability.

The transformation is seen as a key step toward professionalizing Kenyan football and bringing the Leopards back to their former glory on the field.

Singida Black Stars coach Aussems confirms Adebayor ready for Premier League debut

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SINGIDA Black Stars head coach Patrick Aussems has confirmed that new recruit, Victorien Adebayor, is set to make his Premier League debut after recently joining the team's training camp.

Adebayor, who arrived this season from AS GNN of Niger, had been following a specialized training program to ensure his fitness.

The left-footed attacker, who was previously on loan at AS GNN from South African club AmaZulu FC, has yet to feature for Singida Black Stars due to his tailored fitness regimen.

His late arrival to the camp was due to family matters, delaying his integration with the rest

of the squad.

"Adebayor needed more time because he joined the team late due to family issues. He had to settle in Singida first, and we're grateful for his development. He's now ready to play for the team," Aussems said.

The coach (pictured) confirmed that Adebayor was expected to join full team training sessions starting yesterday, alongside other new signings who arrived over the weekend.

Adebayor is now expected to be included in the squad for their upcoming league match against JKT Tanzania on September 29.

Singida Black Stars recently returned to Singida after securing a 1-0 win over Pamba FC in Mwanza, a result that has solidified their position at the top of the league table with 12 points from four matches.

The addition of Adebayor offers head coach Aussems greater tactical flexibility, as the player is capable of playing effectively on both wings and as a central striker.

This versatility will provide the gaffer with more options to rotate his squad and adapt to different game situations.

With Adebayor joining the likes of Elvis Rupia and Joseph Guede, Singida Black Stars now boast a formidable attacking lineup.

The team has scored seven goals and conceded just two, keeping them in high spirits ahead of their weekend clash with JKT Tanzania.

SPORTS

Yanga overwhelmingly pummel CBE 6-0 in a classy display

By Lloyd Elipokee

AFTER garnering a wafer-thin 1-0 triumph against Ethiopian side CBE a tad over a week ago in the first leg of their CAF Champions League second round tie, many Young Africans fans arguably expected the second leg to be a keenly contested affair.

However, once the second leg kicked off at the majestic Benjamin Mkapa Stadium last Saturday, it soon emerged that Young Africans were decidedly a cut above their opponents in what was a spectacular display of pulsating attacking football.

Indeed, in what was a particularly cheerless encounter for CBE, Young Africans ruthlessly took advantage of their opponents' porous defence to net a staggering six goals.

Thoroughly outclassed, CBE even failed to obtain a consolation goal as they were unceremoniously booted out of the CAF Champions League after suffering a humiliating 7-0 drubbing on aggregate.

Naturally, Young Africans' sterling victory has set tongues wagging in the country as the team's fans are likely already dreaming of reaching the latter stages of the prestigious CAF Champions League, which would be a remarkable coup for local football.

That being said, the road ahead for the Jangwani Street-based outfit is long and chock-full of obstacles.

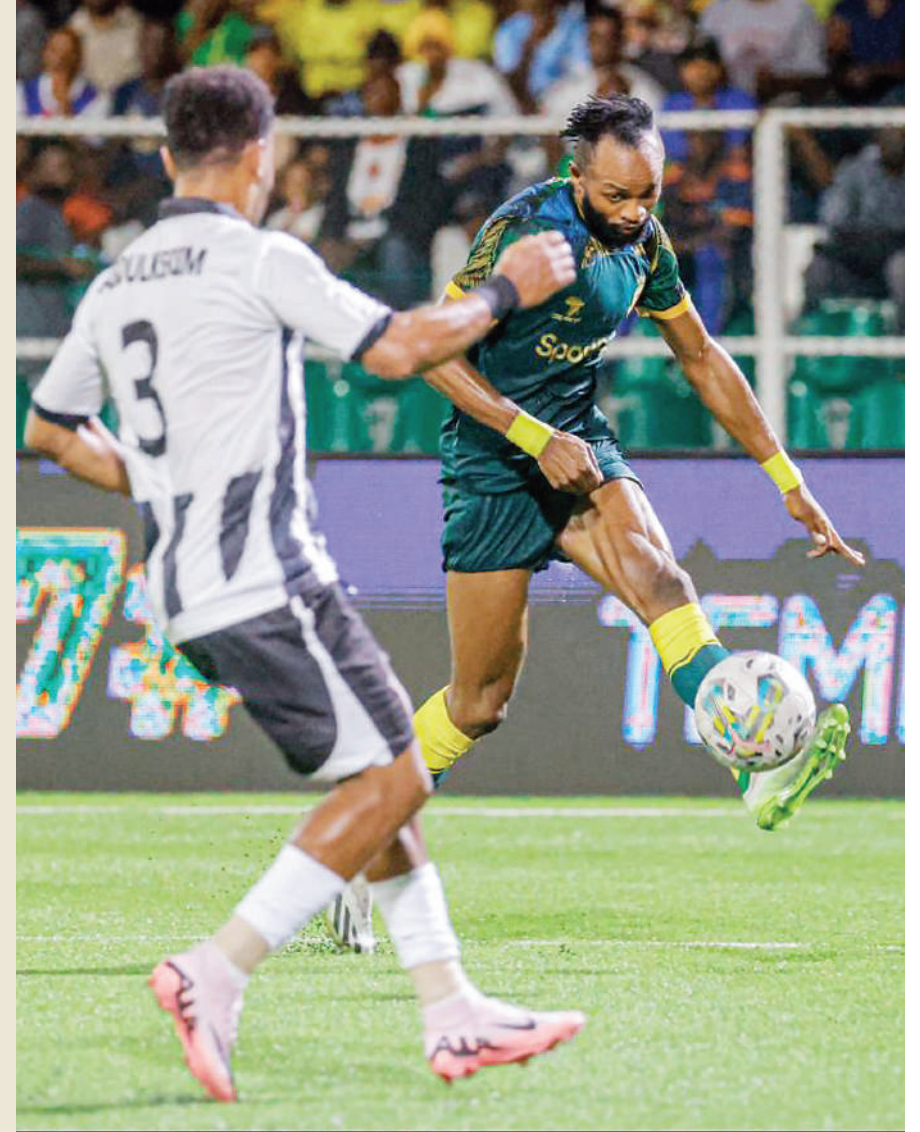
In light of that, one hopes that Young Africans do not fall prey to complacency as doing so could prove to be catastrophically damaging when facing the continent's pre-eminent football sides.

Speaking of foremost football clubs, one local club that has enjoyed consistent success over the years is Simba SC and it is crystal clear that the Msimbazi Street-based team means business this season.

Indeed, a little over a week ago, Simba faced off against their hosts Al Ahly Tripoli of Libya in the first leg of their CAF Confederations Cup second round tie.

That first leg between the two football sides ended in a disappointing 0-0 sharing of the spoils, and it set up a potentially compelling second leg that took place last Sunday at the grand Benjamin Mkapa stadium.

In what was a hugely fascinating matchup, it was Simba who fittingly



Young Africans defender Chadrack Boka in action during the second leg of their CAF Champions League second round tie against Ethiopia's CBE AS held on Saturday at the New Amaan Complex in Zanzibar. Young Africans won 6-0. Photo: Courtesy of YASC

emerged as the victors after downing their Libyan opponents 3-1.

As a result, Simba was able to successfully progress to the next round of the CAF Confederations Cup after securing a decent 3-1 triumph on aggregate over their Libyan foes.

It should be noted here that the jury is still out on whether Simba can have a markedly impeccable impact on the CAF Confederations Cup this season as these are still the early days of the competition.

Nevertheless, the mere fact that Simba are through to the next round should be a source of immense encouragement for the team's hordes of fans as it keeps their hopes alive of doing extremely well in continental football's second tier championship.

Let us turn our attention now to this year's East African Chipukizi Cup, which is one of the region's most eagerly anticipated youth

sporting championships.

This year, the competition is set to take place from December 9 to 15 in Arusha and it is expected that loads of attendees will gather in the aforementioned Tanzanian city to witness the event.

Excitingly, basketball will be added to the scintillating youth sporting festival this year, which is a notable first in the history of the competition that was strictly a football tournament in the days of yore.

Let us hope then that this year's East African Chipukizi Cup delightfully lives up to expectations.



Youth soccer team players Hamadi Ali (L) and Amani Hassan pictured on Sunday fighting for the ball during a training session at the Jakaya Kikwete Sports Park in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Man City players accuse Arsenal of 'dark arts' as Arteta hails 'miracle'

By Simon Stone

MANCHESTER City forward Bernardo Silva said only one team came to play football in their 2-2 Premier League draw with Arsenal, who were accused of employing "dark arts" at Etihad Stadium.

But Gunners manager Mikel Arteta claimed it was "a miracle" his side came so close to victory after playing the second half with 10 men.

John Stones' 98th-minute equaliser denied Arsenal what would have been a huge victory over the defending champions.

After winger Leandro Trossard was controversially sent off in first-half injury time, the Gunners had just 12.5% of possession in the second half.

City had 28 shots in the second period - a number eclipsed only by the momentous 'Agueiro' title-winning second half against QPR in 2012.

"There was only one team that came to play football," Silva told TNT Sports Brazil. "The other came to play to the limits of what was possible to do and allowed by the referee, unfortunately."

"I'm glad we always enter the pitch to try to win every match."

Arsenal were seconds away from becoming the first away team to win at the Etihad since Brentford in November 2022 - and move top of the Premier League - before Stones snatched a point that instead returned City to the summit.

"It is a miracle we played 56 minutes at the Etihad with 10 men," said Arteta. "It's unbelievable what we have done."

Asked if his side would have won had Trossard stayed on the pitch, Arteta said: "I have no clue. We would have tried for sure. But what I can tell you is 99 out of 100 times if you play 56 minutes against this team with 10 men, you're going to lose and you're going to lose by a lot of goals."

That Arsenal conceded so late given fourth official Andy Madley had signalled there would be seven minutes of stoppage time just added to Arteta's frustration.

He said he was happy to let others draw their own conclusions on Trossard's red card.

The incident came just a week after Gunners midfielder Declan Rice served a one-match ban for getting a second yellow for kicking the ball away.

Trossard, having already been booked, barged Silva in the back, then kicked the ball away. The Premier League confirmed he was shown a second yellow for the latter offence by referee Michael Oliver.

Arsenal fans were quick to seize on City winger Jeremy Doku doing what they felt was the same thing earlier in the game and escaping without sanction.

But there did appear to be a fundamental difference in that Doku was kicking the ball into the general area in which Oliver wanted Arsenal to take their free-kick.

"I've seen it and it's that obvious so I'll leave it to you guys," said Arteta.

When it was pointed out kicking the ball away is a yellow-card offence, Arteta said: "I prefer not to comment. You analyse the situation and how long it takes."

Arteta refused to comment when he was quizzed about perceived time-wasting tactics, which were the reason for game continuing longer than anticipated.

However, speaking to BBC Match of the Day, City defender Stones was critical of Arsenal's approach.

"They slow the game down," he said. "They get the keeper on the floor so they can get some information on to the pitch. We had to control our emotions during those tough times."

"I wouldn't say they have mastered it but they have done it for a few years now so we knew to expect

that. You can call it clever or dirty, whichever way you want to put it, but they break up the game which upsets the rhythm.

"They use it to their advantage and we dealt with it very well."

City captain Kyle Walker said on BBC Radio 5 Live: "As a football match, it is a great spectacle for the Premier League. Probably not so much certain stuff - I think it's part and parcel of the game and we'll say the dark arts."

"I think as a Manchester City fan or player, you are obviously frustrated. As an Arsenal manager, he is going to say well played and well managed."

After Erling Haaland gave City the lead, the hosts were upset at the build-up to Riccardo Calafiori's equaliser. Arsenal were allowed to take a quick free-kick by referee Oliver as Walker was returning to his position after being summoned for a chat along with opposite number Bukayo Saka.

Manager Pep Guardiola kicked his chair in the City dugout in frustration and made his feelings known to fourth official Madley both at the time and the end of the game.

And, while he acknowledged his side should have taken control of the situation by shuffling their remaining defenders across the pitch to fill the space and standing over the ball to prevent a quick free-kick, he also said in future he would tell Walker not to go to the referee if such a situation occurred and ask the official to go to him.

City earlier lost midfielder Rodri to injury 21 minutes into the game when he appeared to twist his knee while tangling with Arsenal's Thomas Partey.

Rodri also went down following a collision with Kai Havertz in the opening seconds, but that was not deemed punishable by the video assistant referee (VAR).

"It all started in the very first second. In the first action we realised what was going to happen," added Silva.

"We had a player injured after they sent him to the ground twice in 10 minutes. We had a goal conceded after the referee called our captain and then didn't allow him to recover his position."

"The second goal is already their usual block to our keeper allowed by the referee. And then the referee allowed a sequence of time-wasting events."

"The thing that bothers me the most is having a lot of meetings with the FA at the beginning of each season. They tell us they will control this kind of situation and will stop them, but at the end it doesn't have any worth. They say a lot but nothing happens."

Asked about the difference between City's rivalry with Arsenal to the one they shared with Liverpool during the Jurgen Klopp era, Silva continued: "I don't know. Maybe that Liverpool have already won a Premier League, Arsenal haven't. That Liverpool have won a Champions League, Arsenal haven't."

"Liverpool always faced us face-to-face to try to win the games, so by this perspective the games against Arsenal haven't been like the ones we had and have against Liverpool."

The controversy contributed to a thrilling afternoon that will live long in the memory - but Arteta said he wished the game had not turned on refereeing decisions.

"I cannot be happy," the Spaniard said at the end of his post-match media conference.

"I want to be involved in a game at this level that puts the game in a situation that we can enjoy and talk about it in the proper way. We're not talking about that. It's clear. You haven't asked me one single tactical question."

BBC

Manchester City and Arsenal look ready to go the distance again in Premier League after 2-2 draw

By JAMES ROBSON

ON this evidence, Arsenal and Manchester City look ready to go the distance again in the Premier League. Whether Mikel Arteta can finally get the better of Pep Guardiola is still unknown.

A 2-2 draw at the Etihad Stadium on Sunday showed Arsenal can certainly go toe-to-toe with the four-time defending champion - but it also confirmed City's powers of resilience after dominating English soccer for the past six years.

"Still we have this passion, this fire inside ourselves," Guardiola said after John Stones rescued a point with an equalizer in the eighth minute of stoppage time.

Arsenal has been runner-up to City in each of the last two years - setting new benchmarks along the way - but still coming up short.

Arteta was Guardiola's former assistant at City and now stands as his biggest threat.

On Sunday his team looked like snapping City's 47-game unbeaten home run, despite being down to 10 men for the entirety of the second half after Leandro Trossard was sent off in first-half stoppage time.

But Arsenal's resolve was finally broken by substitute Stones, who swept in from close range in the final moments to make it 48 home games without defeat for City.

"Obviously, it is already a miracle we played 56 minutes at the Etihad with 10 men. It is unbelievable what we have done," said Arteta, who was incensed when Trossard was shown a second yellow card for kicking the ball away.

"I'm expecting 100 Premier League games this season to play 10 against 11 or 10 against 10 or nine against 10, let's see," Arteta



Manchester City's John Stone (C) scores his side's second goal against Arsenal.

said.

City was defending an unbeaten home run dating back to a 2-1 loss to Brentford in November 2022. Arsenal was within moments of its first victory at City since 2015 after Gabriel Magalhaes' first-half header had put the visitors 2-1 up.

Stones' late leveler was in keeping with a game packed with intrigue and incident.

Erling Haaland reached a landmark when putting City ahead in the ninth with his 100th goal for the club in 105 appearances - firing past Arsenal goalkeeper David Raya.

That later felt like an aside as the home fans began to resign themselves to a rare defeat on home soil. Influential City midfielder Rodri had left the field in the 20th after appearing to hurt his right knee. The Spain internation-

al limped off and his departure proved a turning point as Arsenal leveled just two minutes later through Riccardo Calafiori's curling effort from outside the area.

Magalhaes then headed the visitors in front from a corner in the first minute of first-half stoppage time, having come close from an almost identical routine shortly before.

There was still time for another pivotal moment before the break when Trossard was sent off.

With a numerical advantage, City dominated the second half but looked like being frustrated by Arsenal's stubborn defense and some impressive saves from Raya.

Stones, a center back who sometimes operates in midfield, was brought on and Guardiola instructed him to join Haaland in attack.

"He wanted me to play closer to Erling, get higher up the pitch so when we got crosses in we could start to win more aerial duels," Stones said.

It paid off.

"Over the years we have learned as a team to stick together, no matter who is playing and to always be ready," Stones added.

The draw ended City's 100% winning record in the league season, but left it a point ahead of second-place Liverpool and Aston Villa in third.

Arsenal is two points off the leader in fourth.

Arteta said his players were "really gutted" in the locker room after seeing victory snatched away so late. "But, as well, they know that they have made another big step today," he said.

AP

Arsenal proved they are the best defensive team in the world - with or without their 'dark arts'

By Miguel Delaney

A DRAW that felt like a defeat for Arsenal in the moment, and from a match - and especially a climax - that certainly didn't feel like a mere Premier League match in September. Everyone knew the stakes were much higher.

Through that, it actually felt like a Champions League semi-final, and occasionally looked like one, too. Specifically, Jose Mourinho's Internazionale against Pep Guardiola's Barcelona in 2009-10.

Unlike that famous match, the Catalan this time got the late goal he desperately desired. Manchester City showed their admirable spirit, that has carried this squad through a lot of controversies over the past few years. This game was the very best of the Premier League in purely football terms, even if it was underscored by all manner of modern football issues.

The very consequence of the result could be changed by the hearing. City insist upon their innocence. The actual team plays on through it, as Guardiola has instilled them with this relentlessness.

It is why, despite the late disappointment, Arsenal might well look upon this with a lot more encouragement once the emotions from the end die down.

They did not get that huge win away to City, sure, ultimately failing to emulate what Arsene Wenger's side did at Manchester United in 1997-98. That will leave that lingering doubt about this team's credentials, but no one can doubt their own spirit now. They also came through a lot more adversity here.

That was first when Arsenal initially went 1-0 down, from a period when City were destroying Mikel Arteta's side. The fine opening goal was all of that dominance distilled into one fine display of this team's quality.

There was the turn from Savinho, the run between the centre-halves from Erling Haaland, the pass and then the wonderfully inventive finish after the Norwegian had stayed outside. It crowned what was probably City's best football performance since the 4-0 win over Real Madrid in the 2022-23 Champions League semi-final.

Arsenal showed their own intel-

ligence and individual quality to get through that, through the quick thinking before Riccardo Calafiori's sublime goal. It was fine character from the defender too, given he had been the player sent the wrong direction by Savinho.

Arsenal then stepped up to seize the shift in momentum, really pushing City back. That was right to Ederson's goal-line, as Gabriel plundered yet another set-piece. The header was from just yards out because of the quality of the delivery from Bukayo Saka. The whip alone was something else.

Arsenal were looking like they might do something new, that they might get that long-awaited win. It was there for them - for a time. It was why the Leandro Trossard red card was so frustrating. This was also where Arsenal showed real character as a team. It was the adversity going to another level.

Guardiola's City, after all, have not been beaten at home by a proper title challenger in a game of genuine consequence since Chelsea in 2016-17. And that's with 11 men.

On the red card, Trossard was silly, and he could have had no complaint if he had been given a second yellow for the initial barge. That fact alone undercuts some of the arguments about the decision. At the same time, booking a player for the manner Trossard kicked the ball away seems pedantic and impossible to consistently enforce. People were already pointing to Jeremy Doku doing similar. It is one of those directives that could have huge unintended consequences, and only create more controversy. That's because of the difficult balance between enforcing such a rule all the time and the smooth running of a fluid sport, as well as the manner it invites inevitable criticism about consistency. It is

known that some referees were doubtful about bringing it in due to precisely this.

Either way, the decision transformed this game, turning it from a proper Premier League back-and-forth into a more vintage game of extreme defence against extreme attack.

The end result has already invited debate over what dictated the final result. Did City run out of ideas? Did Arsenal time-waste too much, something all the more ironic given the Trossard decision? It's probably none of that.

This was really one of the best defensive units in world football right now against one of the best attacking teams for the past decade. Such contrasting qualities inevitably led to occasional stalemates.

People will say teams win with 10 men in other such games, but that doesn't happen in the same way in the modern era. And it especially doesn't happen away to City in matches of real consequence. Arsenal were exceptional in that context, both collectively and individually. David Raya is increasingly and consistently vindicating Mikel Arteta's decision to go with him, with so many big moments. There were two more fine saves here. Jurrien Timber is growing into a defender of real substance. Gabriel was again outstanding, the impact of his display reflected by how Haaland was clearly so frustrated that he bounced the ball off the defender after John Stones' equaliser.

What was so impressive about Arsenal's collective defending was how they constantly shored up space just when City thought they had an opening. It ensured that it was always Guardiola's least effective attacking players on the ball in the most dangerous areas, as witnessed in so many aimless

long shots from Manuel Akanji, Kyle Walker and - especially - Ruben Dias. The defender eventually realised how futile that was that, when it opened up for one strike, he just played it sideways.

Arsenal forced them into that, as well as the kind of equaliser that wasn't exactly characteristic of Guardiola. As one figure close to the Arsenal set-up quipped after the game, it was like a goal a lower-league team would score. A set-piece. Needs must, though. City did what was required - for now. They may now need more.

There is of course one huge detail missing from all this, that oddly became strangely easy to overlook given all of the drama that followed. That was the sad injury to Rodri.

It is such a shame a player suffers a moment like that, especially given his quality, and how he himself had complained about the calendar in the last week. This is the cost.

It could well mean, for all the focus on the final moments, the most consequential spell in this entire game was the midfielder's injury and the way Arsenal so quickly scored. It turned a 1-0 City lead that could have gone to 2-0 or even 3-0 into a totally different match, with the champions now concerned about their best player.

That could end up hugely significant, if for the wrong reasons. For now, the debate is already going on about Arsenal's euphemistically described "game management" - or what City's players labelled "dark arts". They did what they must, which was different to what was expected. The real moment of significance may have come long before the late equaliser.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko



“

Arteta refused to comment when he was quizzed about perceived time-wasting tactics, which were the reason for game continuing longer than anticipated.

SPORT

Man City and Arsenal look ready to go the distance again in Premier League after 2-2 draw

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Tanzania loses to Nigeria in ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup Africa Qualifier opener



Tanzania's U-19 women's cricket team assistant skipper Agnes Joseph showcased her mettle when the squad faced Nigeria in the 2025 ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup Africa Qualifier's tie in Kigali last Sunday. Nigeria won by four wickets. PHOTO: COURTESY OF RWANDA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

TANZANIA'S U-19 women's cricket team has begun its campaign in the 2025 ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup Africa Qualifier on the wrong foot, suffering a four-wicket loss to Nigeria in Kigali last Sunday.

The Group B game, which took place at the Integrated Polytechnic Regional College venue, witnessed Tanzania choosing to bat first, notching 108/8 in 20 overs.

A 60-ball 64 by top-order batter Jenipher Gabriel was the most outstanding showing in the team's innings.

Lilian Udeh had a great bowling display for Nigeria, given she wound up her stint with 5-12 in three overs.

The bowler's efforts, to a great extent, saw to it the West African nation's team prevented Tanzania from setting a much more tricky target.

Lilian ultimately was presented with the Player of the Match prize for her bowling exploits.

Chasing 109 runs to secure victory, Nigeria got down to a confident chase, notching 111/6 in 16.5 overs.

Victory Igbinedion recorded 24 runs to successfully catapult the batting side to the successful chase.

Even though Jenipher ended her bowling stint with 3-17 in three overs, her efforts hardly bailed Tanzania out.

In Group B's other game, Zimbabwe walloped Malawi by 144 runs at the same venue.

Zimbabwe took the crease first-posting 195/2 in 20 overs - with a blistering 86 runs by Beloved Biza playing a pivotal role in the Southern African nation's team batting dominance.

Evah Kabwere ended with 1-48 in four overs, as Malawi vainly fought to frustrate efforts by Zimbabwe to secure an imposing total.

Chasing a mammoth 196-run target to emerge victorious, Malawi's cricketers lost steam and were bowled out for 53 runs in 13 overs.

Mercy Kudimba was by far the cricketer who managed to showcase resoluteness in the fruitless chase, making her way back with 21 runs.

Beloved Biza orchestrated Zimbabwe's bowling charge and wound up with a stellar 5-5 in two overs.

The Zimbabwean player deservedly walked away with the Player of the Match prize for her scintillating all-round showing.

Tanzania's female cricketers had an opportunity to seek a comeback, given they were slated to lock horns with Malawi yesterday.

The 2025 ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup qualification is a series of regional qualification tournaments to determine the final four teams for the 2025 U-19 Women's T20 World Cup.

The global showpiece would have the America region lining up the United States, while Samoa is the East-Asia Pacific contender. Europe would enter Scotland.

The Africa Qualifier is divided into two divisions - with Division 2 having taken place in Kigali, Rwanda from August 21-27.

A total of seven women's U-19 teams from the region competed against each other in a single round-robin format.

The top two teams of the Division 2 tournament - Kenya and Malawi - advanced to the main Africa Qualifier.

Kenya and Malawi have joined the U-19 women's teams from Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe in the Division 1 tournament.

The participating teams in the Division 1 tournament have been placed in groups A and B.

Group A teams are Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda, and Uganda and squads making Group B are Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

Coach urges patience as Simba embark on CAF Confederation Cup group stage

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA Sports Club triumphed over Libya's Al Ahli Tripoli with a 3-1 victory, securing their place in the CAF Confederation Cup group stage.

The win came after an impressive performance by Simba's key players, with Kibu Denis, Lionel Ateba, and Edwin Balua delivering the goals that sent their Libyan opponents crashing out of the competition.

Simba head coach Fadlu Davids emphasized how his team adapted to the evolving nature of the game.

"In the second half, we identified how they were going to drop, especially their defensive line trying to play high. We remained patient and humble in both victory and defeat. We have young players who've never played in this tournament, and this game taught us how to manage such crucial moments," added Davids.

Despite the victory, Davids noted that Simba still has a long way to go in the competition.

"Going to the group stage is a small step in our development. The experience gained from this match will help us in the tournament, but we are not yet ready to think about quarter-finals. We have to remain humble and take it one game at a time," he concluded.

Simba's second half was not without drama. In the 64th minute, Ateba thought he had scored his second goal of the match, but it was ruled off-side by the assistant referee, Yamousa Sylva from Guinea.

Ateba had converted a clean pass from Ahoua, and while he was celebrating with his teammates, the offside flag was already up. The decision sparked frustration among Simba's players and fans alike, but the team maintained their composure.

As the game neared its conclusion, Simba's fans were beginning to feel the pressure of holding onto the narrow 2-1 lead. However, Balua eased their nerves by scoring a third goal in the 90th minute, ensuring Simba's place in the group stage. Balua finished off a well-orchestrated attack, calmly placing the ball into the net after a precise build-up from midfield.

This victory marks Simba's sixth appearance in the CAF group stages in seven seasons of club-level competition. It is their second time qualifying for the CAF Confederation Cup group stages, following their quarter-final exit in the 2021-2022 season. Simba now join a roster of African football heavyweights, including Zamalek of Egypt, RS Berkane of Morocco, CS Sfaxien of Tunisia, and CS Constantine of Algeria, all of whom have also qualified for the tournament's group stage.

Simba's success mirrors that of their Tanzanian rivals, Young Africans SC, who recently qualified for the CAF Champions League group stage for the second consecutive season. Young Africans' triumph over Ethiopia's CBE ensured that Tanzania will have representation in both of CAF's premier tournaments this season.

Simba's qualification is a significant achievement, but the road ahead remains challenging. Davids is keen on ensuring his team remains grounded and focused on the upcoming group stage matches.

"It's just the beginning. We have a lot to learn and improve upon, but we're ready to take on the challenges that lie ahead," he said.

Simba's journey in the CAF Confederation Cup continues, with the group stage draw set for October 7. The Tanzanian giants will be eager to test themselves against some of the best teams on the continent as they aim to advance further in the competition.

Davids proud Simba stuck with the game plan to beat Al Ahli Tripoli



Simba SC players celebrate following their 3-1 victory over Libya's Al Ahli Tripoli during their CAF Confederation Cup second leg of the preliminary round match held at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday afternoon. Photo: Courtesy of SSC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC secured their spot in the CAF Confederation Cup group stage after a 3-1 victory over Libya's Al Ahli Tripoli in the second leg of the preliminary round on Sunday afternoon.

The Tanzanian flag bearers kicked off their continental journey with a first-leg goalless draw in Libya last week, ultimately claiming a 3-1 aggregate win.

Al Ahli Tripoli took an early lead 18 minutes into the match at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, with Angolan veteran striker Agostinho 'Mabululu' Paciência capitalizing on sloppy defending by Simba to score from inside the box.

Simba responded in the 37th minute when Denis Kibu equalized, easing the tension among the home fans.

Just before halftime, Cameroonian forward Leonel Ateba netted Simba's second goal, giving the hosts a 2-1 advantage heading into the break.

The second half saw Simba playing with confidence, and Ateba appeared to have scored again, but the goal was ruled out for offside. In injury time, substitute Edwin Balua sealed the victory with a third goal, cementing Simba's 3-1 aggregate triumph and securing their spot in the group stage of the CAF inter-club competition for the fifth consecutive season.

Head coach Fadlu Davids praised his team for staying disciplined, even after going behind early in the match.

"I have to commend the players because we went through scenarios - what to do if we go a goal ahead or behind.

"It's easy to lose structure when you fall behind, but the players stuck to the game plan and remained calm," Davids said during the post-match press conference.

He added: "The turning point was getting the equalizer before halftime, which shifted the game's dynamics. In the second half, with the heat and the space behind their defense, we were able to exploit it well.

"It was a disciplined and well-executed performance. Huge credit to the players."

The CAF Confederation Cup group stage matches are set to take place between October and December 2024, with the knock-out stages and final scheduled between March and May 2025.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



“
Going to the group stage is a small step in our development. The experience gained from this match will help us in the tournament, but we are not yet ready to think about quarter-finals. We have to remain humble and take it one game at a time