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'Govt hasn't fully solved woes, but we see progress'

Rice productivity has increased from 1.25 tonnes to 4.0 tonnes per hectare, and maize productivity has risen from 2.0 tonnes to 4.5 tonnes

By Correspondent Paul Mabeja, Dodoma

WHILE the government hasn't solved all problems in building an integrated economy that maximizes benefits for all citizens, significant progress has been made. President Samia Suluhu Hassan made this assertion at a rally during the climax of this year's agro-sector exhibition here yesterday, reaffirming that current economic efforts focus on boosting agricultural pro-

ductivity.

She emphasised the need for building an integrated economy by empowering farmers, breeders, and fishermen, stressing government plans to invest heavily in agriculture, providing needed support for farmers.

The government's goal is to ensure that by 2030, the government will have delivered 10,000 tractors and 10,000 power

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NMB Bank CEO Ruth Zaipuna (2nd-R) pictured yesterday briefing President Samia Suluhu Hassan at one of the pavilions at the climax of this year's edition of the Nane Nane (Farmers' Day) agricultural exhibition held at a national level at Nzuguni grounds on the outskirts of Dodoma city. It is reported to have attracted over 600 Tanzanian and foreign exhibitors. Photo: State House

TNBC panel urges tax tag for informal sector traders

By Guardian Reporter

A TECHNICAL working group of the Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC) is proposing the use of technology in informal sector tracking so that the vast group of economic actors significantly contribute to revenue coffers, to expand the tax base.

Dr Natu El-Maamry Mwamba, the Treasury permanent secretary who also chairs the working group, said that the idea is to integrate small traders into the formal economy and increase their contributions to government coffers.

The business council working groups are tasked with finding out challenges and engaging with senior government officials and private sector counterparts in discussions towards solving such challenges, with the tax issue also being examined by a presidential team of experts recently constituted.

The panel was formed in the wake of intense tax administration disputes towards the finalisation of the Budget session of the legislature, with a range of decisions reached in a meeting between wholesale traders' representatives and Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa. The Treasury executive made this observation at a press briefing shortly after a meeting of the Finance Working Group in Dar es Salaam, seeking to end the purely informal character of

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US-led donor working group hails agro-sector investments

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Development Partners Agriculture Working Group has applauded the government's commitment to developing agriculture, livestock and fisheries, affirming that these sectors are the main body of the country's economy and vital sources of income for two-thirds of the population. Michael Battle, the United States ambassador and the working group chairman, said the working group "stands with the people to ensure that their own contributions and the investments of the government reach those who truly need them."

In remarks at the agricultural exhibition's climax here yesterday, he said that the increase in government support for agriculture from \$110m in 2022 to over \$470m in 2024, testifies to this commitment.

He similarly referred to various plans and initiatives to enhance productivity, foster ag-



The international agro-sector exhibition helped to highlight Tanzania's potential role as an agricultural leader on the continent

ribusiness, curb post-harvest losses and increase trade in agricultural products across the region.

The group was established to enable coordination among the development partners to harmonize agro-sector efforts, promote a coordinated policy dialogue and reduce transaction costs, he stated.

Those who need agro-sector investments are Tanzania's subsistence farmers and budding commercial farmers or agribusinesses, especially those who have the greatest growth potential, he said, pointing at women, youth and vulnerable communities.

Citing recent data, he said that last year, the Quarterly Investment Bulletin for October issued by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) highlighted \$90m in domestic and international private investment in ag-

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NFRA set to buy 1.7m tonnes of grain, export markets topmost

The grains will be available for sale to the public when the need arises

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) has announced plans to purchase 1,750,000 tonnes of various grains from local farmers for domestic and regional markets.

Dr Andrew Komba, the NFRA director general, told journalists here yesterday that the increase in government support for agriculture from \$110m in 2022 to over \$470m in 2024, is testimony to this com-

mitment, he said.

This effort is tied with various plans and initiatives to enhance productivity, foster investment in agribusiness, curb post-harvest losses and increase trade in agricultural products across the region, he said.

NFRA earlier signed contracts to export 1,150,000 tonnes to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia, with other tonnage being released to the domestic market.

Upwards of 650,000 tonnes of maize

had last week begun to be transported to Zambia following the completion of payment, he said, highlighting the purchase of 500,000 tonnes by the DRC authorities for Katanga Province, southeast from the capital, Kinshasa.

NFRA was also executing a contract to supply grain to the World Food Programme (WFP) which is slated for Malawi, where the UN food relief agency has asked to purchase 100,000 tons of grain, with an initial contract for 35,000 tonnes, he said.

"This reflects a significant demand for grain this year domestically and region-

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TPLB unveils new technical regulations for 2024/25 season

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'Govt hasn't fully solved woes, but we see progress'

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and enhance productivity in various crops including rice and maize, she said, highlighting vast efforts to seek markets that offer better prices for farmers' produce.

"For instance, the price of peas has risen from 200/- per kilo to 4,000/- after finding overseas markets, with coconut prices increasing from 700/- to 900/- to 30,000/- per kilo," she said.

Rice productivity has increased from 1.25 tonnes to 4.0 tonnes per hectare, and maize productivity has risen from 2.0 tonnes to 4.5 tonnes, she said, pointing at the target of seven tonnes of rice and five tonnes of maize per hectare in future.

There was a 19 percent increase in food crop production, from 17.1m tonnes in 2021/22 to 20.4m tonnes in 2023/24, she said, while Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe highlighted the target of a 130 percent increase in agricultural productivity by 2025/26.

Agricultural products sales are expected to fetch \$2.3bn this year from \$2.3bn last year, he said, underlining that supplying subsidized fertilizer has helped increase input use from 360,000 tonnes to 900,000 tonnes in the past financial year

Abdallah Ulega, the Livestock and Fisheries minister, hinted at plans to provide free vaccinations for chickenpox troubling poultry farmers, along with loaning out 450 modern fishing boats plus enabling the setting up of 900 fish farming cages this year.

"I have heard people criticize the government for purchasing cars for its officials instead of tractors for farmers. The government operates according to its plans and investments are made with purpose.

"We need management structures to ensure effective use of resources," she stated, pointing at improvements in agricultural support like furnishing a modern agricultural laboratory, expected to process all types of crop samples by 2026.

In addition to improving yields and finding markets for agricultural products, the government is working on developing meat processing factories chiefly for export, she said.

Ongoing collaboration with financial institutions to offer concessional loans to farmers are being pursued, meanwhile as the government was keen about the stability of financial institutions, she stated.

The government is making an effort to build an integrated economy



We need management structures to ensure effective use of resources

NFRA set to buy 1.7m tonnes of grain, export markets topmost

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ally," he said, noting that the agency is sufficiently prepared to meet the current market demand for grain.

He similarly affirmed that NFRA plans to purchase up to 600,000 tonnes of maize and rice from farmers in a wider effort to maintain substantial food reserves.

A total of 500,000 tonnes will be maize, while rice takes up 100,000 tonnes, with the tonnage expected to be used as a buffer against any shortages of grain, to ensure that the country has adequate food reserves, he said.

The grains will be available for sale to the public when the need arises, he added.

US-led donor working group hails agro-sector investments

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iculture.

While this situation demonstrates progress, it represents only a fraction of what might be possible if the business-enabling environment becomes more helpful to investors, he further noted.

The donor community was committed to supporting the government in making the tax regime fairer and predictable, "to send the message to international investors that Tanzania is truly open for business," he declared.

The international agro-sector exhibition helped to highlight Tanzania's potential role as an agricultural leader on the continent, he said.

Despite already being a pivotal food exporter and contributor to regional food security, Tanzania still holds vast untapped potential while many of its people remain vulnerable to poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition, he said.

To fully harness this potential and overcome these challenges, stakeholders must work together to increase investment in advanced technologies, improve access to lucrative markets and strengthen partnerships with the private sector, the envoy affirmed.

over 350 women, a quarter of them working in the agriculture sector.

"Today, as we all celebrate Tanzania's significant strides in the agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors, we understand that together, with determination and perseverance, we can expand and broaden Tanzania's impact across East Africa and beyond," he said.

The United States, like other donor partners, has a longstanding partnership with local stakeholders, both in supporting efforts of the government to promote agricultural development and in ensuring progress and reform creating a more competitive economy, he stated.

This goes in tandem with promoting international engagement and investment in Tanzania, where the US authorities, like other members of the donor working group, is confident that collective work fosters opportunities for farmers and agribusinesses.

Through the Feed the Future Initiative, partners of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) work directly with local farmers, businesses, agricultural organizations and communities to improve productivity, promote nutrition and reduce food losses and waste, he further asserted.

Through efforts such as the commercial dialogue, the US Department of Commerce and the local authorities are working together to increase international trade and economic empowerment, the envoy added.



The US Ambassador to Tanzania, Michael Battle, pictured at the Nane Nane agricultural exhibition grounds on the outskirts of Dodoma city yesterday trying his hand at threshing maize using a home-made gadget. He was in the national capital to attend the climax of this year's national Farmers' Day celebrations. Right is Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA) chief of party Amani Temu and his deputy. Photo courtesy of US Embassy

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trading into a category of formalized and recognized taxpayers.

She described the TNBC working group financial sector panel as tasked with advising the government on strategies to widen the tax base and enhance economic growth, particularly in strategic sectors.

"We also anticipate reducing interest rates in financial markets, especially loan rates for the private sector, to encourage economic growth and generate new sources of funds," she stated, somewhat in contrast with repeated calls for reducing loan interest rates to the agricultural sector.

The government will collaborate with the private sector to ensure that the business environment is more conducive and supportive,

TNBC panel urges tax tag for informal sector traders

including the number of taxpayers, including those outside the formal sector, she stated.

Theobald Sabi, the NBC Bank managing director, co-chair of the working group from the private sector, and chairman of the Tanzania Bankers Association (TBA), said the meeting was part of implementing directives from President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the just-ended 15th TNBC meeting in Dar es Salaam.

He stressed the need for quarterly meetings of the panel to find solutions to challenges faced by businesses and raise new opportu-

nities, noting that the committee meetings discuss the challenges facing businesses and come up with workable recommendations.

TNBC executive secretary Dr Godwill Wanga said that the council was a high-level discussion platform, whose members include national leaders, cabinet ministers and key private sector stakeholders.

He emphasized the need to formalize businesses and reduce tax rates by increasing the number of taxpayers, a step that will lead to a decrease in tax rates, while cen-

tral bank deputy governor Sauda Msemu underlined using the national identification system to accelerate the formalization of financial activities.

This will boost the economy and lay the foundation for sustainable development, she said, specifying that BoT collaborates with various institutions to ensure that the national identification number is obtained for every Tanzanian.

Through the working group, close monitoring would help to achieve the goals set by the committee, she added.



Zanzibar's Second Vice President, Hemed Suleiman Abdulla, is gifted fruits when he graced the annual agricultural exhibition at Dole in Zanzibar Urban/West Region yesterday. Photo: SVPO

Kenya welcomes global funding, technology to spur mining sector

NAIROBI

KENYA seeks to leverage foreign funding and technology to boost the mining sector, a government official has said.

Through international partnerships, the contribution of the mining sector can expand from the current 0.7 percent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) to 10 percent by the year

2030, said Sophie Kutiti Olesambu, chairperson of the state-owned Mineral Rights Board, in Nairobi, Kenya.

"The mining sector is very capital-intensive, and so we need foreign investors to help Kenya achieve its full potential," Olesambu said at the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Jialin East Africa Mining Company Limited and Sinohydro Corporation

on the Sokoke titanium mining project in Kilifi County.

A stronger mining sector will help improve Kenya's socioeconomic development, as most mines are located in arid and semi-arid areas that lack access to key social services such as education and health, Olesambu said.

Duan Juan, chief executive officer (CEO) of Jialin East Africa Mining Company Limited, said mining at

the Sokoke project is expected to begin by December.

Jialin East Africa is committed to improving the livelihoods of the community near the titanium mine by providing employment opportunities, she said.

Her company will invest in infrastructure to speed up the development of port and logistics facilities in Kenya, Duan said.



Sencori Njau, an eye care specialist based in Dar es Salaam, examines one of the scores of people who turned up at a free medical camp held at a health centre in the city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Samia hands over 354m/- crop insurance as reward to hailstorm-affected farmers

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has handed over a cheque worth 354m/- from NBC Bank as compensation to tobacco farmers who were affected during the previous farming season in various regions across the country.

This compensation is part of the crop insurance service provided by NBC in collaboration with the National Insurance Corporation (NIC).

Samia also handed over health insurance coverage to members of the Lindi Mwambao Cooperative Union based in Lindi Region, through the Farmers' Health Insurance service offered by the

bank in partnership with Assurance Insurance Company.

She handed the crop insurance cover here yesterday after visiting the NBC booth at the just-ended Farmers' Exhibition, where she received a briefing from the NBC Managing Director, Theobald Sabi, on the various banking services provided by the lender, including crop insurance and health insurance specifically for farmers.

"This crop insurance is one of the crucial solutions in ensuring farmers have a reliable income, without fear of challenges such as natural disasters, including hailstorms. I call upon all farmers in the country to make the best use of this important opportunity by accessing these

kinds of insurance services. I also highly commend NBC and all the stakeholders participating in this program," she said.

Agriculture Minister, Hussein Bashe stated that it will help to eliminate the loss farmers have been experiencing due to various calamities beyond their control, including floods, fires, and hailstorms, which have significantly affected the well-being of farmers and caused some to be reluctant to invest in the crucial sector.

"However, Madam President, this step by NBC is just the beginning, as this is the second year since they started offering this service, and the results are already visible. As the government, we promise

to continue supporting the wider implementation of this service, to ensure that this crop insurance service reaches more farmers," Bashe commended.

According to Sabi, the farmers who benefited from these payouts are from 23 primary cooperative unions in Shinyanga, Geita, Tabora, Mbeya, Katavi, and Kigoma regions.

"In addition to these insurance services, as a bank, through this exhibition, we have continued with our program of providing financial education and various banking opportunities to farmers, alongside offering them various loans, including loans for agricultural equipment, particularly tractors, to eligible farmers," Sabi added.

Address issuance of IDs on border regions, Dr Nchimbi tells Masauni

By Henry Mwangonde, Karagwe

CCM Secretary General Dr Emmanuel John Nchimbi has directed Home Affairs minister Hamad Masauni to ensure his deputy accompanies him to address issues related to the issuance of National Identity Cards in border regions.

Speaking in Ngara, Kyerwa, and Karagwe Districts in Kagera, Dr Nchimbi highlighted the need for the Ministry of Home Affairs representation during his tour to directly address public grievances.

At Nkwenda Maziwa Grounds in Kyerwa, Dr Nchimbi noted that the issuance of National ID cards was a top concern among residents. "Since starting my tour in Kigoma and now in Kagera, the public has consistently raised issues about NIDA card issuance. This concern has also been brought up by your legislator, Innocent Bilakwate," he said.

Dr Nchimbi's Political rallies in the districts have spurred complaints about delays and inefficiencies in the ID issuance process.

Dr Nchimbi emphasized the importance of improving and expediting this process, describing the demand for ID cards as a sign of patriotism.

He urged that either the Minister for Home Affairs or their Deputy join the tour to address these concerns directly.

Dr Nchimbi stressed the need for the Deputy Minister's presence to ensure that residents' grievances are communicated directly to the authorities for timely resolution.

Kyerwa District, strategically located near the borders of Rwanda and Uganda, is also crucial for regional development projects.

Dr Nchimbi underscored the importance of the road linking Karagwe Omurushaka to Kyerwa, a project featured in the CCM Manifesto. He instructed the Ministry of Works to oversee this project closely and ensure its timely completion, and he called for the allocation of funds from the road fund to improve roads around Nkwenda, where a major construction camp is planned.

In Ngara, Dr Nchimbi addressed ongoing infrastructure and development concerns.

He highlighted that over 12trm/- have been allocated to the Kagera region and stressed the urgent need to complete the Rulenge Tembo Nickel Road project, vital for economic growth and connectivity.

Residents have had to use borrowed IDs for essential services and local security, prompting a call for a more efficient system.

Earlier, Ngara MP George Ruhoro had raised concerns about delays in several key projects.

Dr Nchimbi also addressed delays in critical energy and water projects.

He instructed the Ministry of Energy to expedite the completion of the delayed electricity project and urged the Minister for Water to issue permits for the Kumnazi water project, in Ngara which is vital for residents' health and safety.

During the visit, which aims to inspect the implementation of the CCM Election Manifesto 2020-2025, promote and strengthen the party, and listen to the public, Dr Nchimbi is accompanied by Issa Haji Usi Gavu, Secretary for Organization; Amos Makalla, Secretary for Ideology, Publicity, and Training; and Rabia Hamid Abdalla, Secretary for Politics and International Relations.

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Home Affairs deputy minister Daniel Sillo addresses Burundi refugees at Nduta camp in north-western Tanzania yesterday on the need for them to return to their home country voluntarily. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Manage use of farming tools sustainably, PM urges LGAs

By Correspondent Nebart Msokwa,

Mbeya

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has tasked regional and district commissioners to manage well the use of agricultural equipment purchased by the government so that it can be used for targeted activities to increase crop production.

Majaliwa made the directives here yesterday in a speech which was read by Ridhiwani Kikwete, Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability) when wrapping up the 31st Farmers' Exhibition in southern highlands.

He also asked the leaders to supervise extension officers in their areas to ensure that they carry out their duties of providing quality agricultural education to farmers to increase production.

He also asked the leaders to manage all areas with irrigation infrastructure so that they can be used well between farmers and breeders without raising conflicts.

Majaliwa also asked the National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) when it prepares documents to prepare

irrigation schemes in areas where there are livestock farmers to ensure that the schemes also benefit the livestock farmers by providing them with places to water livestock.

"But also the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries should enable the livestock keepers to get the best food for animals, to increase productivity and control conflicts between farmers and herders," said Majaliwa.

He also directed secondary schools with large areas to plant crops such as nutritious beans and various fruits to strengthen nutrition for students, claiming that regions with large food production are the ones with the most indicators of stunting in children.

Alexander Mnyeti, Livestock, and Fisheries deputy minister asked all herders to comply with the law in all areas where they live, including avoiding bringing their livestock into farmers' fields, a situation that causes conflicts with farmers.

He also asked the herders to adhere to best animal husbandry practices to increase productivity including improving the price of the livestock and its products so that the sector becomes one of the leading sectors for bringing in the

nation's income.

He said that the practice of herdsmen migrating and raising livestock is not required, instead, herdsmen should graze in designated areas.

"We as a Ministry continue to provide education to breeders about the production of fodder, to distribute quality fodder seeds, so we as a Ministry will not be part of defending breeders who do not follow the law," said Mnyeti.

He said livestock statistics show that there is a large increase in livestock in the country due to claiming that until the 2023/2024 financial year in Tanzania, there are 37.9 million cows, 27.6 million goats, 9.4 million sheep, 3.9 million pigs, and 100.3 million chickens.

Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera said that the southern highlands regions have been leading in the production of various crops, especially food, and thus become part of the regions that feed the nation.

He said the production has been increasing due to the government putting subsidies on fertilizers as well as good agricultural education that farmers have been getting regularly.

VACANCIES - SHIPPING POSITIONS

A multi-cultural leading shipping agency with head office in Mombasa representing a major shipping line engaged in liner shipping invites applications from suitable candidates for the below positions based in Dar es Salaam in order to strengthen the present set up and further improve the service levels.

Applicants need to have good academic record, commitment to the core objectives, requisite experience, proven track record, self-driven, excellent communication and interpersonal skills, computer literacy, integrity and a good team player in addition to the professional capabilities.

The ideal candidates should be organised, able to do multi-task, prioritize work and be able to work effectively under tight deadlines.

1. CHIEF ACCOUNTANT / SENIOR SHIPPING ACCOUNTANT - 1 POSITION. - BASED IN MOMBASA, KENYA.

The ideal candidate must be a mature, competent qualified accountant and hold a bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or a related field and have a minimum of 5 years work experience in audit, taxation, accounting, finance role or a similar position, preferably in a shipping industry having a Strong understanding of Tanzanian tax laws and financial regulations, and be based in Mombasa, Kenya.

The candidate must possess detail-oriented and multi-tasking skills; have strong interpersonal and communication skills; excellent organisation and administrative skills; Integrity and leadership skills; good analytical and problem-solving skills and be a Computer literate proficient with ERP accounting systems. The Candidate should be fully compliant with the Tanzania Governing Laws and other financial, operational and administrative framework.

The candidate should be able to handle the entire accounting functions to detail covering Strategic Financial Management and Control; Financial Planning, Forecasting and Modelling; Accounting and Financial Reporting; Systems Development and Internal Control Monitoring; People Management and Development; Business Tax Payable, Various disbursement reporting, Revenue Commission workings and local statutory procedures up to finalization of accounts. Personnel with less qualification but requisite experience shall also be considered to the post.

2. SHIPPING ACCOUNTANT - 1 POSITION - DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA.

Commerce graduate / CPA (part 2/3 passed) with 3-4 years' experience in Shipping Industry and familiar with Voyage/Disbursement Accounting, VAT Computation Preparation and submission, Freight Tax Payable, Various disbursement reporting, Revenue Commission workings and local statutory procedures up to finalization of accounts. Personnel with less qualification but requisite experience shall also be considered to the post.

3. JUNIOR ACCOUNTANT - 1 POSITION - DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA.

Accounting graduate / CPA (part 1/2 passed) with 1-2 years' experience in Shipping Industry and familiar with analysing and reconciling general ledgers, Accounts Payable, Bank and Cash including timely reconciliations. Personnel with less qualification but requisite experience shall also be considered to the post.

4. EQUIPMENT CONTROL EXECUTIVE - 1 POSITION - DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA.

Equipment control executive will be responsible to monitor closely and handle/supervise independently the entire movement of containers, data up-dation in system, notifications based on interchanges, raising invoices for demurrages / detentions / damages as applicable, arranging surveys, co-ordination with depots, clients, various offices and internal daily reporting.

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Key responsibilities areas will be cargo canvassing for both imports and exports for various sectors of shipping services, dedicated field activity to meet the clients to generate business, making and following up on quotations, establishing rates, preparation of various sales reports, meet the targets etc. Compiling of trade statistics and market information on regular basis. Additionally Senior Sales Executives and Sales Manager may also apply.

6. DOCUMENTATION EXECUTIVE - IMPORT AND EXPORT - 2 POSITIONS - DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA.

Ideal candidate will be fully responsible to handle entire import and export documentation work independently and attend to all import/export related queries from clients, liaise with customs/port authorities, lodge manifest with authorities etc. Must have knowledge of local customs/port documentation procedures (TPA CARGO & TANCIS SYSTEM). Applicant must be self-driven and self-disciplined team player, flexible on working hours and be able to work under pressure.

7. DELIVERY ORDER-EXECUTIVE - 1 POSITION - DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA.

Responsibilities include scrutinizing respective shipping documents and issuing delivery order, receiving payments, providing information and assistance to customers on the front desk.

8. IT ASSISTANT - 1 POSITION - DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA.

The Candidate will be responsible for overseeing the planning, implementation, and management of an organization's information technology systems and infrastructure. Ensure data security, privacy, and compliance with industry regulations and standards. The Candidate should be able to determine IT plans, set and monitor departmental goals, establish team workflows, choose technology to invest in, and facilitate collaboration across the organization.

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We are an equal opportunity employer and the deadline for submitting your applications with the supporting testimonials and other documents is 15th August 2024.

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

Chinese-introduced rice variety in Zanzibar farmers proves successful

ZANZIBAR plans to approve a new drought-resistant rice variety-WDR-73 developed by the Shanghai Agro-Biological Gene Centre to enhance agricultural production.

The variety was introduced in March and has demonstrated promising results.

Speaking recently here, Zanzibar's Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock, Ali Khamis Juma said that the pilot project for the new rice variety has been successful.

He indicated that the government could approve it for commercial use by the end of the year.

The PS's remarks came during a visit by experts from China Agricultural University (CAU), who travelled to Zanzibar to assess the new rice variety's development.

The drought-tolerant rice was planted on one acre at Kibonde-Mzungu farm, located on the outskirts of Zanzibar city. After 115 days, the crop was harvested,

yielding 2.5 tonnes of rice per acre.

Dr Liu Zao Chang from the Shanghai Agro-Biological Gene Centre noted that the rice variety matures 10 to 20 days earlier than local varieties and is particularly well-suited for higher ground.

He highlighted that this rice could significantly boost food production in African countries and help reduce methane emissions, which are associated with global warming.

The rice's adaptability to low-water environments and its reduced fertilizer needs, just one-third of conventional varieties, are also significant advantages.

Experts have indicated that this new rice variety not only increases yields in food-insecure regions but also minimizes farming's carbon footprint and fertilizer requirements.

Dr Liu suggested it could compete with hybrid rice in yield

and perform well in less-than-ideal fields, saving labor by allowing direct planting of seeds rather than nurturing seedlings.

Dr Salum Faki Hamad from the Zanzibar Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI) said: "The Chinese experts brought these seeds for trials and started with a smaller planting density. The harvest has been surprisingly large."

He believes this variety can help transform farming in Zanzibar and improve farmers' incomes during harvests.

Dr Hamad urged rice farmers in Unguja and Pemba to access the weather-resistant seeds, as rice is a staple food for many residents.

China has a long history of supporting food self-sufficiency in Africa and has introduced similar water-saving and drought-resistant rice strains to other East African countries, including Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, and Kenya.



Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission officer Adolf Ndunguru pictured at an event held in Mtama District, Lindi Region, yesterday distributing to members of the public various leaflets with information on the agency's services - including issuance of loans. Photo courtesy of Finance ministry

By Special Correspondent

Africa's Green Economy to be explored with research bonds

JACOB's Ladder Africa (JLA) and the Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Development have joined forces to conduct research on livelihoods and jobs within Africa's green economy.

The collaboration involves developing a research agenda aligned with JLA's green economy expertise as well as envisaging the next steps Future of Development and JLA will take to jointly develop a Green Jobs Tool - an adaptable tool that aims to empower African policymakers to prioritise both economic growth and sustainable practices with an initial pilot in Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa.

The partnership also explores how JLA's work with future youth entrepreneurs can be adapted and scaled to leverage growing opportunities in Kenya's green economy.

"We recently got the mandate of mobilising different actors, and as Jacob's ladder, we are bringing together the development partners, the government, the academia,

and then the youth of course. And we are leading the process of developing a legislative framework for Kenya on green jobs and green skills development," said Sellah Bogonko, CEO of Jacob's ladder.

As global leaders prioritise the transition to a sustainable economy, a significant challenge remains: ensuring job creation and skills development for the 1 billion young people entering the labour market in the next decade. The demand for workers with green skills will inevitably increase over time in response to the worsening climate change crisis. Evidence suggests skills reduce labour market frictions and in turn, create better employment outcomes. Yet, there is little evidence on which skills can be constituted as green and, in turn, which jobs can be characterised as green jobs.

The most prominent definition for green jobs comes from the International Labour Organisation

and is described as 'decent jobs that contribute to preserve or restore the environment, be they in traditional sectors such as manufacturing and construction, or in new, emerging green sectors such as renewable energy and energy efficiency.'

However, this definition remains open to multiple interpretations creating significant challenges for measurement, standardisation and cross-country comparisons. Thus, it is imperative to study and better understand the green skills and jobs landscape and make it accessible for public consumption.

"We are leading the process of developing a legislative framework for Kenya on green jobs and green skills development."

Africa's persistent youth unemployment crisis also presents a unique challenge for policymakers, demanding a delicate balance between job creation and the promotion of environmentally sustainable practices.



Banana Breeder (Ref. No: DDG-R4D/BB/07/24)

Background: The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) invites applications for the internationally recruited position of **Banana Breeder**.

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) is a not-for-profit institution that generates agricultural innovations to meet Africa's most pressing challenges of hunger, malnutrition, poverty, and natural resource degradation. Working with various partners across sub-Saharan Africa, we improve livelihoods, enhance food and nutrition security, increase employment, and preserve natural resource integrity. IITA is a member of CGIAR, a global agriculture research partnership for a food secure future. Please visit <http://www.iita.org/> for more information on IITA.

IITA focuses on breeding of six very important crops in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA): cassava, yam, banana/plantain, maize, soybean, and cowpea. These breeding programs have been reviewed using the Breeding Program Assessment Tool (BPAT) (<https://plantbreedingassessment.org/>) and have had extensive interactions with the CGIAR Excellence in Breeding (EiB) platform. As a result, crop specific and cross cutting (institutional) improvement plans have been developed along with product profiles and market segmentation analyses. Implementing these plans will be a central part of the Accelerating Breeding Initiative of the OneCGIAR with active involvement and close collaboration with other Initiatives within the Genetic Innovation Science Area and bilateral projects.

The successful candidate will design, execute, and manage the banana breeding program, while also coordinating a breeding network targeting East and Central African banana prioritized market segments. The successful candidate will work closely with local partner organizations, including CGIAR and NARES institutions, as well as other partners, to establish a crossing and evaluation program aimed at delivering superior varieties that support rapid adoption by farmers. This position reports to Banana Breeding Program Lead.

Position Responsibilities

- Breeding Strategy:** Formulating breeding strategies aimed at achieving specific goals, such as increasing yield, improving stress tolerance, or enhancing nutritional content.
 - Product Design and Development:** Implement an effective breeding strategy to develop elite breeding material and a product advancement process to identify new candidate varieties for targeted market segments and product profiles.
 - Demand-led Breeding:** Support and contribute to the revision of market segment definition and product profile development and seed system activities in the region.
 - Germplasm Development:** Working with NARS and selected partners, identify, obtain and develop appropriate germplasm to sustain the breeding program.
 - Coordination:** Coordinate the development of a stage gate multilocation product performance testing strategy, data analysis and advancement process, which is aligned with target market segments, TPEs or Agro-ecologies.
 - Optimization of Breeding Processes and Operations:** Ensure cost effective breeding operations, and standard operating procedures that deliver agreed quality and performance indicators.
- Collaboration and Partnerships: Develop strong partnerships with national public breeding programs to collaboratively identify critical germplasm, product needs and define complementary breeding objectives. Enable and actively support the regional crop network to collaboratively plan and implement breeding activities that optimize the development of individual and shared network germplasm products and builds capacity to share knowledge, best practices, training etc.

Capacity Building: Provide training and mentorship to breeding staff, partners and scholars on breeding techniques, methodologies, data analysis and scientific communication.

Resource Mobilisation: Contribute to or lead the development of research proposals and other fundraising activities.

Publication: Lead or contribute to publication of research results in international, refereed journals.

Reporting: Produce monthly and annual reports.

Educational Qualifications

The candidate should have a PhD in plant breeding, genetics, or a related field. At least 5 years of experience in plant breeding.

Experience applying quantitative genetics principles, genomics and latest breeding technologies is desired.

Experience working in the tropics will be considered favourably.

Experience with polyploid and perennials is an asset.

Strong networking and facilitating skills with focus on enabling and empowering others to succeed.

Demonstrated ability to work in multicultural and diverse environments.

Excellent interpersonal, analytical and organizational skills.

Successful experience and commitment to inclusive research design and implementation.

Evidence of experience in resource mobilization.

Excellent written and oral communication skills.

Core Competencies

Duty Station: IITA-Arusha, Tanzania

General information: The contract will be for an initial period of three years. IITA offers an internationally competitive remuneration package paid in U.S. Dollars.

Applications: Applications must include a cover letter which should address how the candidate's background/experience relates to the specific duties of the position applied for, curriculum vitae, and names and addresses of three professional referees (which must include either the Head of the applicant's current or previous organization or applicant's direct Supervisor/Superior at his/her present or former place of work). The application should be addressed to the Head of People and Culture. Please complete our online application form using this link: <https://apply.workable.com/iita/#jobs>

Closing Date: This position will remain open until filled.

IITA is an equal-opportunity employer and is committed to building a diverse workforce, particularly welcoming applications from women.

While all applications will be acknowledged, please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



ZAMBIA CARGO & LOGISTICS LIMITED

Plot No. 237, Kurasini Area
Near Dock Yard
P.O Box 105638, Dar es Salaam,
Tanzania

Mukuba Depot

Phone: +255 22 2851471/4
Fax : +255 22 2851640
Email: info@zamacargo.co.tz

Date: 07th August 2024

ZAMBIA CARGO AND LOGISTICS LIMITED TRANSPORTERS REGISTRATION

Zambia Cargo and Logistics Limited (ZCL) is a regional logistics service provider and wholly owned by the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) through the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) with terminals in Tanzania (Dar Es Salaam), Walvis Bay (Namibia) and operating centre in Ndola, Zambia. ZCL has customers on all the major regional corridors and wishes to update its database of transporters based in Tanzania for possible partnerships in the provision of freight forwarding service.

ZCL is therefore inviting transporters specialized in providing transportation service in the following routes:

- Domestic
- Tanzania/Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
- Tanzania/Zambia

Interested transporters must submit the below stated documents/information:

- Company profile
- Certificate of Incorporation
- List of shareholders and Directors
- Regulatory licenses
- Active routes
- Appropriate Insurance policies (GITs/Carriers Liability cover, Fidelity Guarantee etc)
- Contact details (email and phone number)

The above requested information should be emailed to: freightforwarding@zamacargo.co.tz by 20th August 2024.

Zambia Cargo and Logistics Limited will offer competitive payment terms to its transporters!

Marketing and Corporate affairs Manager
Zambia Cargo & Logistics Limited.

A Member of the IDC Group of Companies

Bank dishes out 1.6trn/- to farmers in three years

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

NMB Bank CEO Ruth Zaipuna affirmed yesterday the bank's full support for the government's vision of agricultural transformation, highlighting that the bank has played a pivotal role in financing the sector over the years.

Zaipuna informed President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the Nanenane Agricultural International Expo in Dodoma that NMB Bank's loans to farmers have surged from 730bn/- in 2021 to 1.6trn/- to date.

"Out of this lending, 450bn/- in loans has been extended at an interest rate of nine percent to farmers," Zaipuna stated in her briefing to the Head of State when she visited the bank's pavilion at the Nzuguni Nanenane grounds.

"We have also provided 105bn/- in loans to livestock keepers, primarily for animal fattening to support modern livestock rearing practices," she added, as Samia acknowledged the bank's financing of the farming, livestock, and fisheries sectors along with their entire value chains.

The seasoned banker noted that its ongoing investments to modernize agriculture and livestock keeping have also significantly reduced conflicts between farmers and livestock keepers in many parts of the country."

She stated that NMB has been developing operational strategies to align with the government's development goals and to support its vision for transforming the agricultural, fisheries, and livestock sectors.

As a result, she explained, the bank has opened millions of new accounts nationwide through its highly innovative NMB Pesa Account service, aiming to bring more Tanzanians into the formal financial sector.

"With just 1,000/-, farmers can now digitally open and manage a bank account and access additional services like Mshiko Fasta microloans. These loans, ranging from 1,000/- to 1m/-, can be obtained via mobile phones without the need to visit our branches," Zaipuna pointed out.

She highlighted that NMB Bank's participation in this year's Farmers' Day has been highly successful. Beyond providing banking services to participants and visitors, the bank has conducted daily financial literacy sessions, enlightening many on money management issues such as fiscal discipline.

Zaipuna reaffirmed the bank's commitment to working closely with the government to financially empower Tanzanians and support Samia's vision for improving lives across the country.



SEEDCO seed company farm manager Afrey Maziko (R) briefs Same district commissioner Kasilda Mgeni (L) on varieties of crop seeds at the Nane Nane (Farmers' Day) agricultural exhibition at Njiro on the outskirts of Arusha city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

TCRI to do soil testing, analysis in 18 regions

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI) is implementing a special programme on soil testing and analysis in all regions within the six agricultural zones where the crop flourishes in the country.

Through the programme which aims to empower the crop's farmers to improve coffee beans productivity and quality, the institute has already conducted the exercise within a total of 18 regions, covering at least 41 councils.

Dr Suzana Mbwambo, TaCRI programme manager unveiled this here yesterday when speaking at the just-ended Farmers' Expo.

She said the initiative was working to achieve their major areas such as improvement of soil fertility, pesticide management, and coffee development.

"In terms of soil fertility, we have done a great job in building the capacity of farmers to use the right fertiliser at the right time," she said, adding: "When we say appropriate fertiliser, we mean fertiliser that is compatible with the conditions of the soil found in farmers' fields."

Dr Mbwambo said TaCRI has established a modern laboratory to analyse the soil to ensure the availability of the status of soil fertility to enable farmers to use fertilisers according to the chemical contents of the soil in their production areas.

"Through our laboratory, we provide farmers with reliable information on the number of nutrients on their land so that they can know the appropriate fertiliser to use," she said.

She said the programme is also based on advising farmers on the right time to use fertilisers.

"For example, we advise farmers

to apply NPK fertiliser when the coffee trees begin to flower, and when the pods begin to fill the legumes, we advise them to apply nitrogen-rich fertiliser to increase the productivity of the tree," she added.

She mentioned the regions where the Institute has done soil analysis including Kilimanjaro, Kagera, Arusha, Ruvuma, Mwanza, Geita, Kigoma, Mbeya, Songwe, Tanga, and Manyara.

"We have made brochures and a database of all coffee-producing areas to help extension officers guide farmers on the correct use of fertilisers," she said.

TASAF's beneficiaries in Bahi get better rice yields

By Guardian Reporter

BENEFICIARIES of the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) in Bahi District, Dodoma Region have harvested good rice yields in the last farming season due to several initiatives provided to them on paddy farming.

Shedrack Mziray, TASAF's executive director unveiled this here yesterday when speaking at the just-concluded Farmers' Exhibition.

"Our beneficiaries now are primarily involved in agriculture and use the money wisely, allocating funds for purchasing inputs and other needs. TASAF has made a substantial impact on the agricultural sector," Mziray stated.

He highlighted that the fund provides grants of varying amounts based on recipients' needs where some beneficiaries have invested the subsidies in agriculture, yielding benefits.

In Njombe Region, Regional Commissioner Anthony Mtaka has collaborated with the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor (SAGCOT) to provide TASAF beneficiaries with high-quality avocado seedlings.

"We visited the beneficiaries and encouraged them to intensify their efforts so that, after three years, they can move out of poverty," he said.

TASAF plans to establish partnerships with other local institutions and the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) to ensure that beneficiaries' products meet quality standards and succeed in competitive markets.

The organisation is committed to ensuring that beneficiaries produce well-researched goods that can enter the market with minimal obstacles.

Beno Mgaya, chairman of Lisitu Agri-business under SAGCOT, explained that the goal is to shift beneficiaries' mindsets from seeing themselves as poor to recognising the value of their farming land.

Mgaya mentioned that, in collaboration with TASAF, they have reached over 4,000 beneficiaries

across Dodoma, Mbeya, Morogoro, Njombe, Ruvuma, Rukwa, and Kigoma regions.

"Through our partnership with TASAF, beneficiaries have embraced commercial agriculture, allowing them to grow crops such as avocados and Irish potatoes," he said.

Mlengi Magesa, a TASAF beneficiary from Mapilinga Village in Misungwi District, Mwanza Region, described TASAF as a blessing that has enabled him to educate his four children.

"I have a child completing primary education (Standard Seven) this year, while the other three are attending Igokelo Secondary School. When I first joined TASAF, I was renting, but I have since built my own home. I have also gained skills to produce items like soap, water, and cleanliness products," he said.

Magesa, who receives 31,000/- per month, urged President Samia Suluhu Hassan to continue supporting TASAF so it can keep assisting disadvantaged citizens.

Shafii Hamad Faki from Mgogoni in Wete District, Pemba noted that TASAF has brought significant improvements to the lives of many villagers, including better nutrition and education for his children.

"Since joining TASAF in 2015, I have gained valuable skills, including soap and oil production, beekeeping as well as participation in entrepreneurial groups," he said.

Faki also highlighted TASAF's contributions to his village, including the construction of a secondary school and a water project located five km away, among other developments.



We visited the beneficiaries and encouraged them to intensify their efforts so that, after three years, they can move out of poverty



Implementation of Dar es Salaam's rapid transit bus infrastructure project in progress at an Ilala-Bungoni section yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

More funding going to female-founded African tech startups

By Special Correspondent

THE general share of total funding that goes to female co-founded and female-led ventures has increased over the last 12 months, the result of a much-improved 2023 when it comes to the percentage of capital going into such ventures, even as African startup funding declines overall.

The second edition of "Diversity Dividend: Exploring Gender Equality in the African Tech Ecosystem", Disrupt Africa's annual deep-dive into the state of gender diversity in the African startup and venture capital

ecosystems, is powered by Madica, an Africa-focused pre-seed investment programme dedicated to empowering underrepresented and underfunded mission-driven founders.

The report, which also counts Goodwell Investments, SAIS powered by GIZ, and the International Trade Centre's NTF V programme among its partners, has tracked measurable progress from a gender diversity perspective over the last 12 months, yet what has been achieved can still only be characterised as "baby steps" given the significant disadvantage

women face within the ecosystem.

The level of representation of women within the leadership of African tech startups has increased over the last year, as had the percentage of funding going to female-run ventures, but progress is limited in its extent.

In 2023, of the 406 African tech startups that raised funding, 107 (26.3 percent) had at least one female co-founder, and 62 (15.3 percent) a female CEO. Female co-founded ventures raised 16.6 percent of total funding, while female-led startups secured 8.2 percent of capital. All of these percentage shares were up on

2022 figures.

However, there is work to be done in 2024 to ensure there is no other regression when it comes to the gender diversity of tech startup funding in Africa. In the first five months of 2024, 18.9 percent of funded ventures had at least one female co-founder, and 11.7 percent a female CEO, while the share of total funding for female-led teams has also declined.

As the ecosystem looks set to see a further fall in funding, it remains a concern investors could revert to type when it comes to diversifying their portfolios.



**PETROLEUM BULK PROCUREMENT AGENCY
PRE-QUALIFICATION NO: PBPA/CPP/PQ/2025**

FOR

SUPPLY OF BULK PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

**INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR THE
SUPPLY OF PETROLEUM PRODUCT IN THE YEAR 2025**

- Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency (PBPA) has been established by GN. No 423 of 2015 and mandated to coordinate importation of petroleum product through the Bulk Procurement System by, G.N. 198 of 2017 and its amendment G.N 40 of 2024 under The Petroleum Act, No 21 of 2015;
- The Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency (PBPA) intends to Pre-qualify suppliers for Supply of Petroleum Products i.e. MOGAS, GASOIL, JET A1 & KEROSENE in Tanzania under Bulk Procurement System (BPS). It is mandatory for petroleum products in Tanzania to be procured under the Bulk Procurement System (BPS);
- Average monthly total volume of MOGAS, GASOIL, JET A1 & KEROSENE procured under BPS is 500,000 Metric Tons. Tenders shall be floated on cargo-by-cargo basis whereas the estimated number of cargoes per month is 8 to 12 with estimated cargo sizes as provided below: -
 - AGO- 60,000-100,000 MT
 - PMS 35,000- 38,000 MT
 - IK AND JET 20,000-30,000 MT
 - Combi cargo for Tanga AGO and PMS 25,000 -38,000 MT
 - Combi cargo for Dar es Salaam KOJ1 and Mtwara AGO and PMS 25,000 -38,000 MT
- Pre-qualification will be conducted under International Competitive Bidding (ICB), through the procedures specified in the Petroleum Act Cap 392, the Petroleum (Bulk Procurement) Regulation 2017 GN. NO.198, its amendment G.N 40 of 2024 and Petroleum Bulk Procurement Manual of 2024.
- Applicants shall pay a non-refundable prequalification processing fee and shall receive a complete set of pre-qualification documents in English language, the amount payable shall be USD 5000 for international/foreign companies and Tanzanian shillings 5,000,000 for local companies. The amount shall be paid by direct deposit or direct transfer in favor of Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency from Monday to Friday (Working Days) between 09:00 hrs and 16:00 hrs.
- 2023 and 2024 prequalified bidders shall be eligible to participate in tenders for supply of MOGAS, GASOIL, and JET A1 & KEROSENE for the year 2025 upon payment of validation fees of USD 1000, and submitting the required information/documents. The amount shall be paid by direct deposit or direct transfer in favor of Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency from Monday to Friday (Working Days) between 09:00 hrs and 16:00 hrs
- Application for pre-qualification should be submitted in sealed envelope, in English language, delivered to the address below, before or on Wednesday 04th September 2024 from at 16:00 hrs and be clearly marked "**Application to be Pre-qualified for the Supply of Bulk Petroleum Products for tender no. PBPA/CPP/PQ/2025**";
- Applications will be evaluated and results be announced on or before 13th November 2024 for pre-qualified suppliers to participate in tenders for the year, 2025.

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Kariakoo market merchants trained on financial literacy

By Guardian Reporter

A Cross-section of Small and midsize enterprises (SMEs) at Kariakoo Market in Dar es Salaam have trained financial literacy in a new drive to boost business growth and its sustainability.

Organized by the Bank of Africa (BoA), and themed: "Let's grow together", the one-day training aimed at supporting SMEs in Tanzania by focusing on financial growth and business stability. The workshop covered key topics including commercial record-keeping, tax issues, and strategies for business expansion.

Among the beneficiaries, Frank Chaula described the training as an eye-opener and equipped them with skills in financial discipline, procurement rules, and financial record management.

"This workshop is valuable for improving our business skills and tackling emerging challenges," he said, lauding the Pan-African bank for organising it as it has taken them to the extra mile in terms of doing business.

Elia Komba, a transporter at Kariakoo Market said the training workshop was useful for them

as it imparted to them financial technical skills and other banking technology skills needed for their businesses.

Workshop attendees praised BoA for its efforts to facilitate access to loans and improve business operations. They encouraged the bank to continue enhancing its services to benefit more Tanzanians.

Esther Cecil Maruma, BoA managing director said: "Our three-year strategic plan is dedicated to supporting entrepreneurs through financial training. This sector is crucial, contributing around 30 percent to national income, and with 90 percent of businesses being small and medium enterprises, empowering these businesses is essential."

Maruma said since the inception of these programs in 2021, BoA has reached 500 SME customers and intends to assist 170 more by the end of this year.

She said the results have been encouraging, with the bank's profitability increasing by 33 percent from 6.03bn/- to 9bn/- between June of last year and June this year.

Maruma also highlighted the bank's effective management of

non-performing loans, which currently stand at 1.5 percent, well below the Central Bank of Tanzania's 5 percent threshold.

"These figures reflect our customers' reliability and promptness in repaying their loans," she said, assuring Tanzanian entrepreneurs of the bank's ongoing commitment to their success. "The theme reflects our dedication to investing in this sector," she said. BoA's three-year strategic plan allocates 62.23bn/- specifically for SMEs from 2022 to 2024.

Last year, the bank disbursed approximately 47.87bn/- in loans, with 20.67bn/- provided by June of this year, benefiting over 16,000 SME customers.

Mwamvua Majeshi, the bank's acting head of retail banking also assured participants that credit services will be delivered promptly and in line with national banking regulations.

"In addition to services at our branches, we have invested in digital solutions such as mobile banking (B-Mobile), internet banking (BOA Web), and the new Bank of Africa WAKALA service, which includes over 200 agents nationwide," Majeshi said.



Bank of Africa managing director Esther Maruma addresses clients at a workshop on small and medium businesses the bank organised for its clients in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. The aim was to promote financial inclusion and provision of financial education to the special market segment. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) has managed to propel impressive improvement in the country's avocado production sector.

Through the implementation of various interventions in cooperation with a record number of local and international stakeholders, the sector has witnessed a smooth metamorphosis in productivity, value addition as well as exportation, said Geoffrey Kirenga, SAGCOT's chief executive officer when speaking at the avocado pavilion during the 31st Farmers' Expo

Kirenga said that there has been a growing collaboration in the concerted efforts to promote the crop among key stakeholders in Tanzania.

"As you can see, in this pavilion here there are over 60 SAGCOT stakeholders who are engaging in various avocado sectors, including a total of 18 agro companies, specifically for depicting various issues continuing in the avocado value addition chain in the country, including seeds production, as well as the processing of avocado oil," he said.

He added that SAGCOT has so

SAGCOT set for boosting annual avocado yields to 250,000 tonnes

far worked to empower small-scale farmers to grow up and expand their production, but also in searching and linking the farmers to reliable markets.

"Through a partnership with the stakeholders, we have also achieved to impart the farmers with needed agronomic practices for the professional cultivation of the avocado, from the preparation of plantations, use of improved seeds, pesticides management and managing post-harvest losses and processing," he said.

Kirenga noted that SAGCOT has also managed to assist avocado growers in adopting the use of modern farming implements, together with other key facilities to support the crop's professional storage and processing, stressing that there are at least four best varieties for avocado, two being farmer's favourable ones, which are Bacon and Hass, saying the target was to attain the needed productivity.

"For instance, as per the needed productivity, one avocado tree is supposed to produce between 15 and 30kg, but the farmers can yield up to between 150 to 300kg per one tree, the development which

enables farmers to fetch profits at the market," he said.

The crop, he said is currently grown in many regions across the country, including Njombe, Iringa, Rukwa, Katavi, Kigoma, and Morogoro (200 acres).

"We're now expanding the crop in Ruvuma Region where there is a total of 600 hectares that have been planted with avocado under SAGCOT supervision."

"Avocado production keeps on expanding in Tanzania, creating prestigious economic opportunities for the farmers to benefit accordingly through cultivating, but also venturing into value addition," Kirenga said, stressing that currently there is a total of 25,000 tonnes which is exported outside the country.

Kirenga said the target was to ensure the country produced and exported between 200,000 and 250,000 tonnes within ten years ahead. "Demand for avocado in the world market keeps on mounting, formerly we used to export to European markets, but currently we export also in India, and soon we will start to reach out to China market and South African markets," he said.

Ethiopia inoculates 10m people against cholera

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIA has vaccinated over 10 million people as part of a national campaign to contain the spread of an ongoing cholera outbreak, the World Health Organization (WHO) has said.

In a statement issued Wednesday, the WHO said that two years after the cholera outbreak began in August 2022, the East African country has continued to battle the disease, with

a recent increase in the number of cases.

A national oral cholera vaccination campaign, launched recently to protect at-risk populations covering 89 districts across eight regions in Ethiopia, has achieved 98.4 percent coverage, vaccinating over 10.19 million people, it said.

As part of the anti-cholera efforts, multi-sectoral stakeholders have also implemented response measures

to contain transmission, including house-to-house disinfection, water testing and treatment, and latrine construction.

The WHO stressed that the lack of funding is severely impeding the coordinated anti-cholera response efforts led by the Ethiopian Public Health Institute. It called for "extensive investments" in safe water supply and sanitation systems to effectively combat the outbreak.

Telecom firm to fix towers in Dodoma city to improve communication services

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

AIRTEL Tanzania is to improve its 5G technology services in Dodoma city by the end of this month as it embarks on installing more towers and upgrading 18 others in the city, it has been revealed.

Salum Ngururu, the company's Zonal Business Manager, made a statement here yesterday, stating that some 18 connectivity towers will be upgraded to 5G technology to help keep up with the growing demand.

He noted that Dodoma city now attracts many people, most of whom own compatible smartphones or dedicated routers, the requisite for the new technology. "The increasing demand in the capital city has necessitated the need to expand 5G services and we cannot hesitate to do so," he said.

Speaking at the ongoing farming and livestock exhibitions at Nzuguni grounds in Dodoma, he said.

Airtel has enabled many farmers to get relevant information for their activities.

Presently, the technology is only available in some locations and can be accessed with compatible smartphones or a dedicated router.

He said Airtel's 5G technology has revolutionized internet connectivity in Tanzania, offering superfast download speeds.

The service, according to him ensures higher quality streaming, low latency, increased availability, and more reliable and stable connectivity. Whether for high-definition video conferencing, or

streaming ultra-high-definition content, Airtel 5G sets to meet the demands of digital lifestyles for individuals and businesses.

"Airtel Tanzania is excited to lead the charge in 5G connectivity, making advanced data services accessible to Tanzanians increasing the much-sought broadband penetration," noted the Zonal boss.

To enjoy Airtel's 5G services, customers can access it through 5G-capable handsets or the newly introduced Airtel 5G Smart Box. The 5G routers are available under two arrangements tailored to either Business or Home (retail) customers. Notably, the device remains an Airtel asset for the entirety of the contract period, emphasizing our commitment to providing continued support and service excellence.

Understanding the diverse needs of our customers, Airtel has introduced affordable unlimited 5G plans. The Airtel 5G Home WIFI has plans to cater for light usage internet up to very heavy usage internet with prices ranging from 70,000/- for 10Mbps to 110,000/- for 30Mbps up to 200,000/- for 100Mbps.

This gives it a broad appeal from home customers to the growing small & medium enterprises customers as well as self-employed professionals, for various needs ensuring everyone can experience the power of 5G.

The Airtel 5G Smart Box is available for purchase at Airtel shops in Dar es Salaam and Dodoma, or through our door-to-door Airtel sales representatives.



Agriculture deputy minister David Silinde (2nd-R) cuts the ribbon to launch Green App at Nane Nane Nzuguni grounds in Dodoma Urban District yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TPA to create room for Tanzania's crops export

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) has expressed its determination of becoming reliable and cost-effective solution for transporting crops to global markets.

Nicodemus Mushi, TPA's communications and public relations manager made the remarks yesterday while addressing journalists at the just-ended Nanenane Farmers' Exhibition.

Mushi highlighted that TPA's ports

are served by two major transport corridors: the Central Corridor and the Dar es Salaam Corridor.

"We also have TPA centres in several countries, including the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, Malawi, Comoros and Zambia," Mushi explained.

The TPA pavilion has attracted considerable attention, with many visitors eager to learn about the opportunities and services provided by TPA.

Mushi noted that visitors were

particularly interested in TPA's services and the courses offered by Bandari College in Dar es Salaam.

"Our courses are unique and competitive in both local and global job markets. Graduates from our college have opportunities to work at ports, whether on oceans or lakes," he added.

He emphasised that TPA values the exhibition as farmers and their agents depend on ports to transport their goods to international markets.

At the TPA pavilion, Kamlesh

Asawla, Director of Premium Agro-Chem, commended TPA for its innovations and the significant transformation and renovation of Dar es Salaam Port.

Asawla highlighted that his company has been using the port for imports and exports since 1994.

He mentioned that, at the time of his visit, the company had a cargo ship carrying 10,000 tonnes of fertiliser awaiting offloading at Dar es Salaam Port, underscoring the festival's significance to the company.

Have better land use plans to protect sources, Speaker Ackson Tulia tells Mbeya CC

By Correspondent Nebart Msokwa,

Mbeya

SPEAKER of the National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson has asked Mbeya City Council to come up with a better land use plan to protect water sources, which are overwhelmed with anthropogenic factors.

Dr Tulia, the Mbeya Urban MP, made the call on Wednesday when she visited the Itagano Water Source Project implemented by Mbeya Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (Mbeya-UWSA) at the tune of 5.2bn/-.

Dr Tulia said that near the source, some citizens cultivate various crops in the hilly areas and others have established settlements. This situation endangers the existence of the source and low agricultural productivity.

She said that when the citizens who built houses in those areas with steep slopes need water service and other services, it becomes a big expense.

"We cannot stop people from farming, but we advise them not to cultivate short-term crops, we advise them to plant trees that will help take care of our water sources, but we do not allow them to build housing," she said.

She said that farmers who cultivate on steep slopes even their productivity becomes low due to the fertilizers they use being washed away by water and causing soil erosion.

Dr Tulia said that she is ready to distribute trees to the people free of charge so that they can plant them in the areas instead of continuing to plant short-term crops.

However, she praised the authority for improving services to the people, including bringing water to areas where the people were not getting it, as well as designing new water sources.

Gilbert Kayange Mbeya-UWSA managing director said the project is expected to serve more than 40,000 people of Ilemi, Iganzo, and Mwansekwa wards and that so far it has been completed by more than 90 percent.

He said that the people have

already started to benefit from the water of the source by setting up a special system that helps to deliver services to the people while the construction is going on.

He said apart from that source, the government is also continuing with the construction of the Kiwira River Source water project which is expected to end the water problem in the city, Mbalizi Township Authority, and nearby towns.

He said that currently the level of water production and that currently the availability of water has reached more than 90 percent and they are continuing to design new sources.

He said that in the past three years, the level of water production has increased from 38 million liters to 68 million liters and that the increase is due to the government investing a lot of money in the construction of water projects.

"But even the time to serve the people has increased from the previous 14 hours to 19 hours and we expect to reach 24 hours after the completion of important projects including our strategic project of the source of the Kiwira River," said Kayange.

Edna Mwaigomole, Mbeya-UWSA's board of directors' chairperson thanked the government for approving funds for the implementation of various development projects.



But even the time to serve the people has increased from the previous 14 hours to 19 hours and we expect to reach 24 hours after the completion of important projects including our strategic project of the source of the Kiwira River



Donasian Kessy (L), Shinyanga regional commander of the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau, pictured in Shinyanga municipality on Tuesday making remarks at a workshop for journalists. Part of the thrust at the event was on the importance of ensuring that late this year's local government elections and late next year's parliamentary and presidential ones were corruption-free. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Zimbabwe faces worse food crisis due to El Niño droughts

HARARE

A new report from the UN Aid Coordination Office (OCHA) reveals that food insecurity levels in Zimbabwe are rapidly deteriorating after it was hit with historic droughts due to the El Niño weather pattern.

This comes just two months after UN humanitarian declared Zimbabwe as one of the hunger hotspots where acute food insecurity was likely to deteriorate.

The storm destroyed more than half of the country's harvest, leaving about 7.6 million people at risk of acute hunger.

El Niño is a regular and naturally occurring weather event that affects the air temperatures around

the sea and coastal landmasses. The climate crisis in recent years has led to more frequent and intense patterns.

Officials from the UN and the World Food Programme (WFP) recently visited Zimbabwe to determine the drought's impact on the nation and to call for more international support for the humanitarian response.

"Nationwide state of disaster" In April, local Zimbabwean authorities declared that the country was in a nationwide state of disaster.

Figures from the authorities showed that 57 percent of people in "rural" parts of the country are set to be food insecure between

January and March 2025 - a peak hunger period there.

Other UN reports indicate that civilians will need to depend on "alternative sources of income, social support, and humanitarian assistance" to withstand this season.

It was further reported that "humanitarian assistance needs will remain high in many areas of the country until the harvest in 2025 due to poor purchasing capacity resulting from limited income-earning opportunities and high food prices."

The El Niño-induced droughts have reportedly put a strain on Zimbabwe's economy, leaving more than a fifth of children out of school and a lack of water supplies in the

country.

The UN and some of its partners are working with the Zimbabwean Government to provide aid to civilians.

However, these teams require more funding, as the \$429 million flash appeal which was launched in May that aims to aid over 3 million people, is only about 11 percent funded.

The El Niño droughts have also affected other South African countries including the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Madagascar, Malawi and more. Each of these nations is in high need of humanitarian interventions as food insecurity levels have risen significantly due to the drought.

Impact of climate change outweighing seriousness of efforts to mitigate them

THOSE blessed with particularly sharp keenness when it comes to record keeping will recall that we, The Guardian, published a survey-based report sometime in early March 2019 hinging on what the gradual phasing out of wood-based charcoal as fuel by engaging more environmentally friendly options would entail or mean.

A wide and rich variety of voices were soon heard, some emphatic that an economically viable income-generating and environmentally sustainable alternative already existed in the form of micro-enterprise/community-based biomass fuel briquette production.

It was reported that some locally trained producers in various parts of our country, including Lushoto District in Tanga Region, were doing so using home-made presses and were making it into a number of markets.

What was especially heartening was that raw materials and a variety of other resources were generally free, among them waste agricultural residues such as leaves, grasses, straws, husks, pods, corn cobs and coffee husks.

Experts said - and experience already showed - that these could be safely used with or without commercially processed waste like carton boards, rice husks, sawdust, charcoal dust and waste crumbs.

In fact, one expert quipped: "Just about anything that burns well as a carboniferous residue can be blended into making the fuel briquette."

The expert said that the resulting product competed very well with wood-based charcoal "both thermally and cost-wise" and that there was ample proof of that in dozens of countries across the globe. Closer to home, by then, the

technology had already been in use in the East Africa region for some six years. However, it had only been introduced to Tanzania two years earlier with specialised training and coaching for members of several village-based groups in Lushoto.

It was expected that, if adequately served and equipped, Lushoto would replicate skills and production capacity throughout the country.

From the standpoint of a small business standpoint, the opportunity involving the briquettes has always seemed excellent.

The opportunity for local income generation with minimum start-up hassle, while directly tackling the whole deforestation issue, was becoming increasingly promising and merited closer official support right from the grassroots level and on to the national level.

It's a whole half a generation since The Guardian's survey report. It is only to be hoped that more and more communities are benefiting much from the production and use of locally made quality and highly efficient briquettes ably competing with wood and charcoal.

As we witness this, the environment should be profusely thanking all those behind the monumental success - and hence the need to extend as much support to the undertaking as practicable.

It would meanwhile be doubly tragic and lamentable should things be going the other way round. For how else could one describe a scenario where fire is added to the destructive impacts of climate change planet Earth is already grappling with?

Find even just a second to consider the wisdom of whoever it is that said this: "If you really think the environment is less important than the economy, trying holding your breath while you count your money."

WFP has a widening role in local agriculture calling for cementing

WHETHER it is about local purchasing of grain or other needs for refugee camps, and now increasingly being involved in recent government programmes in agriculture, the World Food Programme (WFP) is firmly embedded with what the government is doing on a routine basis.

Much the same applies to a number of other United Nations agencies and some multilateral organisations.

Various other agriculture stakeholders are also involved in implementing a wide range of projects, among them irrigation and crop experimentation.

What is interesting is the manner in which WFP is taking up a project meant to increase youth engagement in agriculture, giving it a captivating gender bias, including targeting its involvement with getting young women on board.

Yet there is a distinction in relation to the programme in which the agency is actively engaged and a more recent initiative apparently tailored more than a decade ago that was seemingly more gender inclusive.

'Youth in Agribusiness' is an initiative going as far back as the year 2008 and should already have appreciably turned things around for over 200,000 farmers at least in Arusha, Dodoma, Manyara, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Singida and Tabora regions - which is to suggest that the more recent drive is simply a booster.

The fact that WFP saw it fit to bring up this initiative in the now-ending 31st Agriculture (Farmers' Day) Expo suggests that it isn't a lesser issue in its schedule of work.

A WFP official told visitors that the

initiative was meant to assist farmers engaged in strategic crops named as sunflower, sorghum and beans.

There is a range of technical considerations explaining why the crops were selected, with nutrition and end-use forming part of those needs especially to WFP as likely to be a major customer for the produce.

Definitely, all issues arising in the recent initiative were noticed already in its precursor, the only difference being that the former programme was geared at elevating crop tonnage and form special groups of farmers in an inclusive manner.

The more recent drive has its focus on youth unemployment especially among graduates, seeking to help them have usable skills that can be improved and blend with an agricultural vocation. Here there is some experimentation on the youths, whereas earlier experimentation was on the crops.

Still, the two programmes aren't just complementary in having involved youths in either instance or in directing considerable effort in uplifting agriculture, as there are more pertinent issues.

A comparison of the two programmes will show that the earlier programme is slow but sure and that it received perhaps modest allocations either locally or generally as project funding from abroad. Additionally, WFP still confidently talks of having brought on board more than 200,000 farmers.

Even with the more noticeable resources currently made available, the WFP programme design still poses a valid question for policy makers.

And this is none than whether the target should be specific crops or the youth as, with the latter, the range of trial and error widens dramatically - unlike in the case of pursuing crops.

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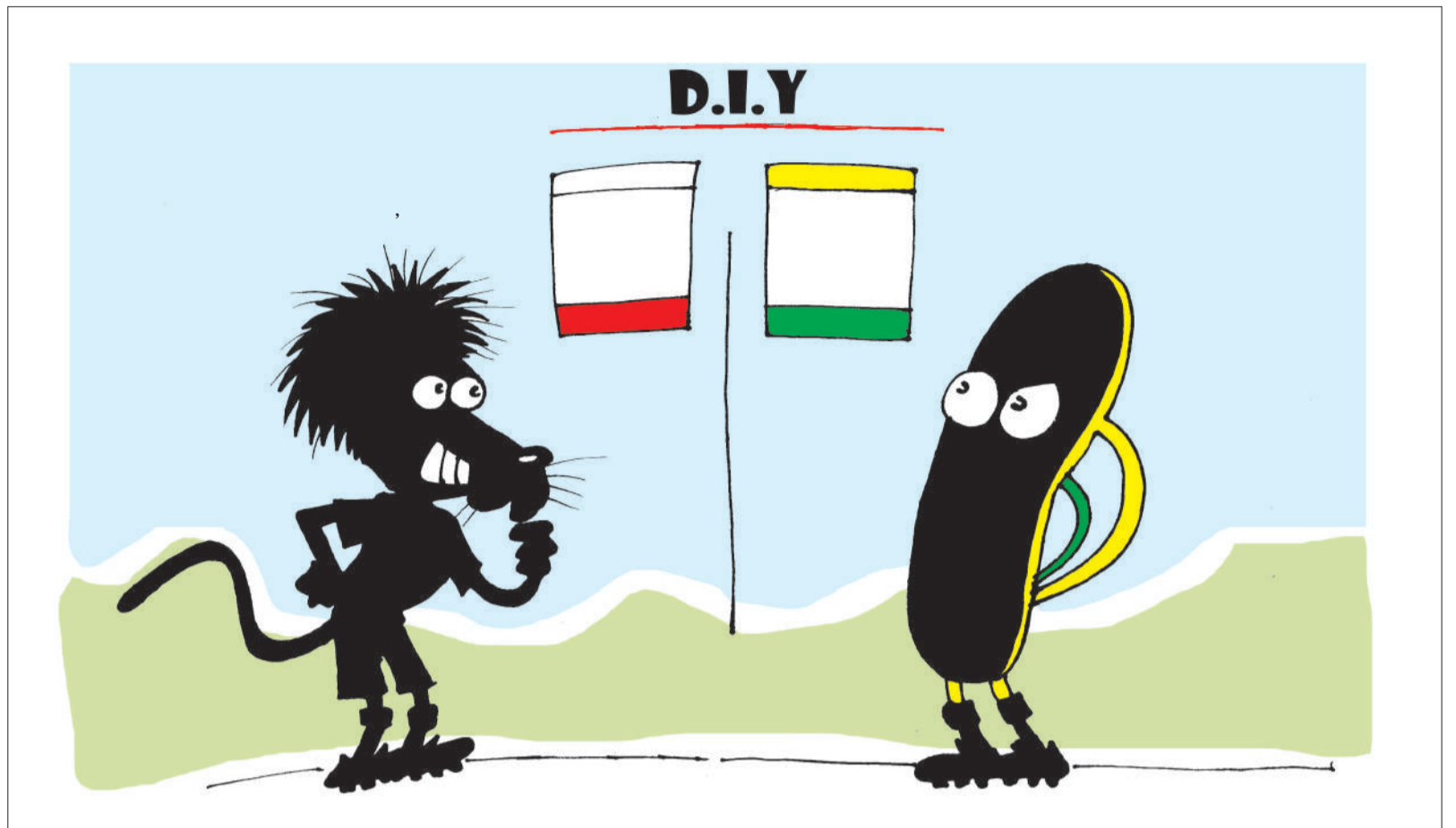
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Will the new cybercrime treaty be used as a tool for government repression?

By Thalif Deen

A new UN Cybercrime Treaty, which is expected to be adopted by the UN General Assembly later this year, is being denounced by over 100 human rights activists and civil society organizations (CSOs) as a potential tool for government repression.

The treaty is expected to be adopted by a UN Ad Hoc Committee later this week and move to the 193-member General Assembly for final approval.

Deborah Brown, Deputy Director for Technology, Rights, and Investigations at Human Rights Watch (HRW), told IPS governments would then need to sign and ratify the treaty, which means going through national processes.

"We anticipate that as countries move to ratify the treaty it will face considerable scrutiny and pushback from legislators and the public because of the threat it poses to human rights."

The treaty, she pointed out, would expand government surveillance and create an unprecedented tool for cross-border cooperation between governments on a wide range of crimes, without adequate safeguards to protect people from abuses of power.

"Negotiations are also expected to start on a protocol to accompany the treaty to address additional crimes and further expand the treaty's reach. We urge governments to reject a cybercrime treaty that undermines rights," Brown said.

Recognizing the growing dangers of cybercrime, the UN says member states have set about drafting a legally-binding international treaty to counter the threat.

Five years later, negotiations are still ongoing, with parties unable to reach an acceptable consensus, and the latest meeting of the Committee members in February did not conclude with an agreed draft, with countries unable to agree on wording that would balance human rights safeguards with security concerns.

One of the nongovernmental organizations taking part in the negotiations is Access Now, which defends and extends the digital rights of people and communities at risk around the world.

Whilst the February session was still taking place at UN Headquarters, Raman Jit Singh Chima, the Senior International Counsel and Asia Pacific Policy Director for Access Now, spoke to Conor Lennon from UN News, to explain his organization's concerns.

"This treaty needs to address 'core cybercrime', namely those crimes

that are possible only through a computer, that are sometimes called "cyber dependent" crimes, such as hacking into computer systems, and undermining the security of networks," said Chima.

Clearly, these should be criminalized by states, with clear provisions put in place enabling governments across the world can cooperate with each other.

"If you make the scope of the treaty too broad, it could include political crimes. For example, if someone makes a comment about a head of government, or a head of state, that might end up being penalized under the cybercrime law," he pointed out.

"When it comes to law enforcement agencies cooperating on this treaty, we need to put strong human rights standards in place, because that provides trust and confidence in the process".

Also, if you have a broad treaty with no safeguards, every request for cooperation could end up being challenged, not only by human rights advocates and impacted communities, but by governments themselves, he warned.

Meanwhile, the joint statement by CSOs points to critical shortcomings in the current draft of the treaty, which threatens freedom of expression, privacy, and other human rights.

The draft convention contains broad criminal provisions that are weak - and in some places nonexistent - human rights safeguards, and provides for excessive cross-border information sharing and cooperation requirements, which could facilitate intrusive surveillance.

"Cybercrime regimes around the world have been misused to target and surveil human rights defenders, journalists, security researchers, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, in blatant violation of human rights".

The draft convention's overbreadth also threatens to undermine its own objectives by diluting efforts to address actual cybercrime while failing to safeguard legitimate security research, leaving people less secure online, the CSOs warn.

"National and regional cybercrime laws are regrettably far too often misused to unjustly target journalists and security researchers, suppress dissent and whistleblowers, endanger human rights defenders, limit free expression, and justify unnecessary and disproportionate state surveillance measures".

Throughout the negotiations over the last two years, civil society groups and other stakeholders

have consistently emphasized that the fight against cybercrime must not come at the expense of human rights, gender equality, and the dignity of the people whose lives will be affected by this Convention.

In an oped piece in Foreign Policy in Focus, Tirana Hassan, executive director of Human Rights Watch, says the new treaty, backed by Russia, is aimed to stifle dissent.

She points out that Cybercrime - the malicious hacking of computer networks, systems, and data - threatens people's rights and livelihoods, and governments need to work together to do more to address it.

But the cybercrime treaty sitting before the United Nations for adoption, could instead facilitate government repression, she noted.

By expanding government surveillance to investigate crimes, the treaty could create an unprecedented tool for cross-border cooperation in connection with a wide range of offenses, without adequate safeguards to protect people from abuses of power.

"It's no secret that Russia is the driver of this treaty. In its moves to control dissent, the Russian government has in recent years significantly expanded laws and regulations that tighten control over Internet infrastructure, online content, and the privacy of communications," said Hassan.

But Russia doesn't have a monopoly on the abuse of cybercrime laws. Human Rights Watch has documented that many governments have introduced cybercrime laws that extend well beyond addressing malicious attacks on computer systems to target people who disagree with them and undermine the rights to freedom of expression and privacy, she pointed out.

For example, in June 2020, a Philippine court convicted Maria Ressa, the Nobel prize-winning journalist and founder and executive editor of the news website Rappler, of "cyber libel" under its Cybercrime Prevention Act.

The government has used the law against journalists, columnists, critics of the government, and ordinary social media users, including Walden Bello, a prominent progressive social activist, academic, and former congressman.

In Tunisia, authorities have invoked a cybercrime law to detain, charge, or place under investigation journalists, lawyers, students, and other critics for their public statements online or in the media.

In Jordan, the authorities have arrested and harassed scores of

people who participated in pro-Palestine protests or engaged in online advocacy since October 2023, bringing charges against some of them under a new, widely criticized cybercrimes law.

Countries in the Middle East-North Africa region have weaponized laws criminalizing same-sex conduct and used cybercrime laws to prosecute online speech.

The treaty has three main problems: its broad scope, its lack of human-rights safeguards, and the risks it poses to children's rights, said Hassan.

"Instead of limiting the treaty to address crimes committed against computer systems, networks, and data - think hacking or ransomware - the treaty's title defines cybercrime to include any crime committed by using Information and Communications Technology systems."

The negotiators are also poised to agree to the immediate drafting of a protocol to the treaty to address "additional criminal offenses as appropriate."

As a result, when governments pass domestic laws that criminalize any activity that uses the Internet in any way to plan, commit, or carry out a crime, they can point to this treaty's title and potentially its protocol to justify the enforcement of repressive laws.

In addition to the treaty's broad definition of cybercrime, it essentially requires governments to surveil people and turn over their data to foreign law enforcement upon request if the requesting government claims they've committed any "serious crime" under national law, defined as a crime with a sentence of four years or more, Hassan said.

This would include behavior that is protected under international human rights law but that some countries abusively criminalize, like same-sex conduct, criticizing one's government, investigative reporting, participating in a protest, or being a whistleblower.

In the last year, a Saudi court sentenced a man to death and a second man to 20 years in prison, both for their peaceful expression online, in an escalation of the country's ever-worsening crackdown on freedom of expression and other basic rights.

This treaty would compel other governments to assist in and become complicit in the prosecution of such "crimes."

Moreover, the lack of human rights safeguards, says Hassan, "is disturbing and should worry us all."

Enhanced conservation: WWF Tanzania equips villagers with prerequisite knowledge on CITES

By Guardian Reporter

It is important for local communities to have a broad understanding of conservation issues as they play a crucial role in conservation of natural resources, biodiversity as well as ensuring sustainable use of wildlife. They also need to have a good understanding of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)

It is crucial for citizens to recognize their responsibilities under the convention and what actions they need to take to ensure its successful implementation.

CITES helps ensure that international trade does not threaten the survival of wild animal and plant species. Local communities can contribute to and benefit from these conservation efforts by protecting local biodiversity. By understanding and following CITES regulations, communities can engage in sustainable use practices, thus preserving wildlife ecosystems.

Local communities should also be aware of their roles in enabling the government to implement and achieve the convention's set goals. This is because many people, including those in the Ruvuma landscape, lack information on commitments and agreements reached by member countries when ratifying the convention.

Informed local communities are better positioned to contribute to global efforts to protect endangered species and promote sustainable use of wild animals and plants.

There are over 40,900 species including 6,610 species of animals and 34,310 species of plants that are protected by CITES against over-exploitation through international trade. The species are grouped according to how threatened they are by international trade.

Recently, WWF Tanzania conducted capacity building to villagers in Ruvuma landscape coming from Tunduma, Namtumbo, Rufiji, and Liwale districts. Participants included leaders from Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) and members of the Village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC). Training beneficiaries are expected to pass on acquired knowledge to their fellow villagers

WWF Tanzania conducted the capacity-building training to capacitate villagers with adequate information on the convention and how it works so that they are able to manage and hold policy implementers accountable.

When villagers understand CITES thoroughly, it becomes easier for them to participate in preventing illegal wildlife trafficking.

Some participants who spoke to The Guardian said they have benefited enormously, insisting most of them had a little understanding of CITES.

Juma Kihindo from Kimbanda WMA in Namtumbo District, Ruvuma Region, said the knowledge they received would help them manage wildlife and other forest resources. He said local communities need to take steps to ensure sustainable harvesting of resources as per CITES principles.

"We are still experiencing unsustainable harvesting of



forest resources, especially trees. This is due to the fact that most villagers including local leaders are not aware of the laws and regulations that need to be followed in harvesting and trading of forest products," Kihindo told The Guardian, underscoring the need for the training to be conducted to all the villagers to bring about significant changes in resource management.

He said that as community members, they are the primary managers of resources since they live near conserved areas. He plans to share the knowledge he has gained with fellow villagers through village meetings held every three months.

"If properly managed, forest resources—including wildlife, flora and fauna, can benefit more people. It is important for the community to understand the laws and regulations governing harvesting and sale of resources," he added.

Simageni Mandepi, is the Secretary at Mgingo WMA in Liwale District, Lindi Region, she thanked WWF Tanzania for training them on CITES since she was unaware of the convention.

Explaining, Mandepi said they used to see people transporting animals and other resources without knowing there were laws and regulations governing the trade at national and international level.

"We do business with investors, (game hunting) but all the permits are issued by District Game Officers. The education we have received will enable us to manage this business in accordance with the laws; thus making it sustainable for current and future generations," said Mandepi, emphasizing the need to share the acquired

knowledge with fellow villagers from 13 villages that are members of the WMA.

Khadija Kikanda from Liwale WMA in Lindi Region said: "I knew nothing about CITES, but I am now aware of the convention and how it works. The training was timely because many of us, including WMA leaders, had little understanding of the specific laws and regulations used in transporting wild animals and plants".

Training Facilitator, Steven Kapinga, an Environmental Scientist and Activist said they decided to build the capacity of local communities to enhance their understanding of CITES, thus being able to contribute to decision-making. The government will cooperate better with citizens only if they have a good understanding of the international trade in wildlife and plants.

"Many stakeholders still lack understanding of the convention and resolutions agreed by member states. Villagers as well as local leaders need to be aware about CITES and how governments are implementing the agreed resolutions," Steven added.

The CITES convention, which Tanzania

ratified in 1980, is applicable in both mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. The convention is governed by resolutions and decisions from the general meeting, so far more than 89 resolutions and 196 decisions have been made and are at different levels of implementation.

He added: "Understanding CITES fosters a sense of responsibility and stewardship towards the environment, encouraging communities to take an active role in preserving their natural resources. Engaging locals in conservation efforts helps ensure that future generations enjoy and benefit from the natural resources and biodiversity".

According to Kapinga, the goals under CITES, of which member countries have set for themselves, includes ensuring that the international trade in plants and wildlife is not exploited excessively by ensuring sustainable harvesting of wildlife flora and fauna, controlling and monitoring of international trade of endangered and selected species, as well as ensuring that international trade does not threaten the existence and life of flora and fauna.



VACANCY

CAMFED Overview

CAMFED (the Campaign for Female Education) is internationally recognised as a leader in education for girls, for its child protection policy and practise, and as a voice for girls' education and women's empowerment at the highest levels. Founded in 1993, CAMFED supports young women throughout their primary and secondary school's years, into economic training and further education, and onto leadership, as role models, activists, and philanthropists. CAMFED Tanzania is looking to recruit Senior Finance Manager based in Dar es Salaam.

Job Title: Senior Finance Manager

Accountable to: Head of Finance, National Director
Accountable for: Finance Manager / Finance Officers / Others
Start Date: ASAP
Location: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Job Description:

To support the Head of Finance in leading the Finance function at CAMFED Tanzania driving strategic financial planning, financial management, control and analysis; to ensure the efficient and effective use and accountability over financial resources; and the smooth operation of the Finance team and system.

Specific Accountabilities:

- 1. Financial Accounting**
 - Processing of income and expenditure transactions in Financial force (Salesforce platform) ensuring the accuracy and completeness of coding in line with approved expenditure authorisations.
 - Managing accounts payables, programme payments and transfers ensuring adherence to set procedures and authorization levels.
 - Managing field advances (22600) including regular review, analysis and clearance of the 22600 holding account.
 - Timely production of monthly bank reconciliations.
 - Monthly analysis of all balance sheet accounts and reconciliations.
 - Reviewing, checking and processing of financial reports from partners in the field.
 - Maintenance of the asset register and leading the quarterly verification of all organisational assets.
 - Proper filing and storage of financial records.
 - Preparation for and executing successful external audit process.
 - Support in the preparation of annual and donor financial reports.
- 2. Management Accounting**
 - Development of country annual budgets and proposal budgets ensuring that appropriate cost estimates and costing models are applied.
 - Support the planning process to map workplans, budgets and donor contracts and the link with quarterly expenditure plans.
 - Support the development and timely submission of quarterly forecasts (Expenditure Authorisation)
 - Producing weekly, monthly and quarterly management reports, analysis and accompanying commentary for senior management, ensuring that reports, i.e. donor update reports and budget tracking reports are explained to department Heads and the National Director.
 - Work with other department Heads to analyse variances and explore potential problems. Perform regular three-dimensional reviews of the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of CAMFED Tanzania's work, i.e. triangulation of Impact (M&E) reports, finance reports and programme reports as a way to inform programme delivery and improvements thereof.
- 3. Cash flow planning**
 - Produce annual, quarterly and monthly cash flow forecasts and processing of cash requests ensuring that there is a good balance of adequate cash at all times to support timely programme implementation without missing out on investment opportunities of

exce

- Identify and recommend short-term investment options for excess cash.

4. Field monitoring

- Carry out regular field monitoring visits to review proper usage of programme funds and provide capacity building to field partners ensuring compliance with CAMFED's internal financial guidelines.
- Training of stakeholders in latest best financial management practices.

5. Staff management

- Manage CAMFED Tanzania finance staff, including allocation of duties, staff training, mentoring, capacity building, annual evaluation and on-going motivation.

6. Internal controls

- Ensure adequate controls are established and that substantiating documentation is approved and available such that all purchases/payments may pass independent and internal audits.
- Develop and maintain systems of internal controls to safeguard financial assets of the organization and oversee the coordination and activities of independent auditors ensuring all audit issues are resolved, and all compliance issues are met, and the preparation of the annual financial statements is in accordance with GAAP and International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

7. Other

- Assist in the on-going design and development of CAMFED systems and processes.
- Work with the rest of the global CAMFED finance team and other teams in developing and sustaining good practice.
- Any other duties as defined by the Head of Finance, National Director and/or CAMFED International Executive Team

Person specification

- A Bachelor degree in Accounting, Finance, Business Administration or Financial Management (BCom, BAF, BA etc.)
- Certified Professional Accountant, Management accountant or equivalent professional level (CPA, ACCA, or CMA) registered with appropriate professional governing Authority.
- Master's Degree is an added advantage.
- Minimum of more than 5 years' experience.
- Proven Management skills.
- Strong advanced Excel skills.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Speedy and attentive to detail.
- Team player.
- Working in a multi-cultural set-up
- Please note: All official communication pertaining to job applications and interviews will be exclusively conducted through CAMFED's official channels. These can be found on our website (<http://www.camfed.org>). CAMFED will never request applicants to pay a processing fee or to provide personal or financial information for recruitment purposes.**
- CAMFED has a zero-tolerance approach to sexual exploitation, abuse, discrimination and harassment in all forms. All applicants will therefore, be subject to a comprehensive verification process, which includes background and reference checks, as well as verification of qualifications.**

Please submit applications to recruitmenttanzania@camfed.org including your most recent CV and Cover Letter using **specific Title: Senior Finance Manager** in the subject line. We will close this vacancy on **16th August 2024**.



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By Elizabeth Pearson

White nationalists tell themselves they are 'protecting' women and children as they riot

MANY of the people rioting in towns and cities in England and Northern Ireland claim that their violent acts are their way of "protecting" Britain's children. It's a confusing paradox, but one that must be understood to get to the bottom of what has happened.

"Protecting" women and children is central to nationalist rhetoric. This is why the Southport attack that killed three young girls proved an instant trigger for the violence that subsequently unfolded. The death of three small girls struck to the heart of ultra-nationalist, anti-immigrant narratives about the threat posed by immigrant men.

Even though the teenager arrested over the attack is not an immigrant, misinformation was spreading that he was. And those rioting outside hotels housing migrants and mosques are presenting themselves as taking action against the threatening people inside.

White supremacy is founded on the narrative of a specifically gendered and racialised threat - the threat from "other" men to "native" women and children. This idea is the undercurrent to the Nazi slogan kinder küche, kirche (children, kitchen, church) which situates women inside and men outside the home. It's explicit in the so-called "14 words", the most famous slogan in white nationalism, which urges followers to "secure a future" for white children.

It is a threat that requires a particular masculine response: violence. This is what nations, and the far right, have long been built on.

The mansphere and the far right

During research for my book *Extreme Britain* (2023), I attended far-right demonstrations and talked to both men and women about why they were there. My conclusion was that, although individual reasons differed, extreme activism was focused on achieving masculine status, expressed in different ways.

Those associated with far-right group Britain First, for example, idealised military, and disciplined Christian masculinity. The group itself adopts military symbols in its messaging. Its "security" staff wears paramilitary style uniforms. Members carry nationalist flags with military insignia, and demonstrators march to drums. The group is infamous for so-called "mosque invasions", where they carry the cross into mosques.

The culture of English Defence League (EDL) protest is

different. They adopt the norms of the football grounds - such as drinking and chanting - and the casual violence of football hooliganism. To them, the EDL co-founder Tommy Robinson (real name Stephen Yaxley Lennon) represented a particular expression of robust, "working-class" (their label) identity, that cannot be tamed, despite perceptions of state attempts to silence him. People I met chanted his name, posed for selfies with him and had his face on homemade T-shirts.

Following the Southport attack, Robinson told men that they need to prepare to become a "dedicated, fit, healthy, ready, British resistance".

Robinson began the video in which he made this statement by telling viewers he had just completed a workout - emulating something misogynist influencer Andrew Tate is known for. Tate's entire messaging is aimed at young men and is one long sales pitch of aspirational "warrior-businessman" masculinity, in the face of a culture of emasculation led by liberal government and empowered women.

While not explicitly far right, Tate's messaging calls on the western "common man" to wake up, and he has shared far right propaganda, such as great replacement theory memes.

For Tate the message begins at home: "If you don't feel like a king in your house, how are you to feel like a king anywhere else?" In his view, because western men are so downtrodden by feminism that has destroyed the nuclear family unit; they do nothing to protect them. Tate regards himself as an alpha male, the superlative warrior and teacher. In a Rumble video entitled "Collapse", published three days after the Southport attack, Tate said it was "men like me" that would stand up to someone attacking "little girls" - claiming politicians would walk on by.

Men are needed to build a counter narrative For both Robinson and Tate, the response to one act of male violence - the Southport attack - is to ready other men to fight back. Online influencers made the attacker's ethnicity the focus of the attack, not any other characteristics, such as, for example, his maleness, in order to justify further violence.



But the real problem here is male violence - across Britain, as in the Southport attack, and this needs to be confronted. Yes, women have been visible at protests and riots, and women can of course "do" far-right masculinity too. But they have so far been in the minority.

Confronting male violence with more male violence, believing in the worth of male violence, and giving it status, as Tate or Robinson do, will only perpetuate a cycle. There needs to be an alternative.

Some men are already trying, tak-

ing a positive masculinities message to social media and workshops, to try to counter the toxicity of Tate and others like him. Male gender scholars are also working with peace activists in conflict zones to reconfigure how we understand masculinity, and how to promote masculinities that can resist political violence, rather than resist other men. But as masculinities author and scholar David Duriesmith notes, men first have to acknowledge that gender shapes their lives as much as it shapes women's.

Extremist gender norms are not

produced in a vacuum. Ultra-nationalism is possible because we accept the validity of nationalist norms - that men should defend women, which attack on women emasculate "their" men. Tate thrives because men like his messages. If we want to tackle Robinson, or Tate, or stop the epidemic of men's violence against women and girls, we need a community of men, not a mansphere, ready to rescript gender roles and gender relationships. These men cannot afford to remain simply women's allies, but need to be proactive, as role models.

A third of India's economy relies on nature: Here's why corporates need to invest more in natural climate solutions

By Andrea Willige

AGAINST this background, a new survey of India's largest companies by the World Economic Forum shows that they have made strong commitments to sustainability and natural climate solutions (NCS), which aim to protect, conserve, restore and sustainably manage terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems.

India's economy is one of the most nature-dependent in the world. Some 33% of its GDP is generated in sectors classed as highly dependent on nature. These include forestry, agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, food, beverages and tobacco; energy and water utilities and construction.

Many of these are threatened directly by the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels, receding glaciers and unpredictable monsoon patterns. Agricultural output alone is predicted to drop by 16%, equivalent to a 2.8% GDP loss by 2030.

Yet, the same sectors are also the largest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. The energy sector accounts for just below 70%, followed by agriculture, forestry and other land-use, which adds nearly 6%, the Forum's white paper highlights.

India's corporations are committed to natural climate solutions

India has set itself ambitious national abatement goals for 2030, including emission reductions of 45%

from 2005 levels, generating 50% of power capacity from non-fossil fuels and increasing its carbon sink by a fifth through additional tree cover. However, as of December 2023, Climate Action Tracker rated India's efforts towards achieving these targets as "highly insufficient".

India's largest corporations are highly committed to NCS as part of their sustainability commitments. Image: World Economic Forum

The Forum has now looked at the role that the private sector can play in advancing emission reductions in India through NCS. It quotes research that, for example, 94% of investments made in forest restoration efforts in India between 2011 and 2017 were the result of government interventions. This underlines that there are vast opportunities for the private sector to work together with government and other stakeholders to deploy natural climate solutions.

Based on a sample of India's largest companies, the Forum finds that private sector organizations are strongly committed to reaching these goals. Almost 9 in 10 companies (89%) have dedicated sustainability strategies and nearly half have set themselves net-zero emission goals. Around 70% have included NCS into their commitments, with investments in afforestation, reforestation, the restoration of grassland, wetlands and mangroves, and agricultural land management to improve soil structure.



Nature and climate risks have a significant effect on India's economy.

More investment in natural climate solutions needed to meet India's 2030 emission targets

While more than 8 in 10 of the companies (86%) surveyed highlighted the business case for NCS and over a third stated that mitigating

emissions was an investment driver (39%), the Forum found that most investments are comparatively small in scale.

More than half of the respondents said their organization's NCS investments were less than \$1 million

(57%). A further 23% stated that they had put between \$1 million and \$5 million into NCS projects.

The white paper quotes estimates that India needs to spend more than \$9 billion per year until 2030 to satisfy its climate abatement targets

in the forestry sector alone. With public spending on forests averaging \$1.75 billion annually (2012-17), it's clear that a greater contribution from the private sector and other stakeholders will be needed to hit India's climate goals.

What is holding corporate NCS investments back? Asked about the main barriers to increasing their investments in NCS, the most cited ones were a lack of a clear regulatory framework, a dearth of high-quality NCS projects, uncertain returns on investment and limited access to funding or financial incentives.

To address these roadblocks, respondents highlighted the factors that would lead them to increase investments in NCS included clearer guidelines for the Indian government's green credit programme and its policy on carbon credits. Other factors that would influence corporates' commitment were collaboration with state governments for restoring degraded land and clarity on investment modalities. Added to this were considerations such as projects aligning with long-term sustainability goals as well as opportunities to partner with local communities and demonstrate positive impact of such initiatives.

The white paper concludes that India's stakes in mitigating the climate crisis and nature loss are high and calls on the public and private sectors to work together to ease the path to higher investments in natural climate solutions in the country.

Seema Arora, Deputy Director General of the Confederation of Indian Industry, commented:

"As businesses in India prepare to confront the multifaceted challenges arising from biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and natural resource shortages, it becomes crucial to address the emerging risks by enhancing investments in Natural Climate Solutions.

"The benefits of investing in NCS go beyond environmental motives as NCS also helps address climate risk, build resilience, embed sustainability in corporate strategies and support human well-being.

"The time to act is now, and this white paper offers a comprehensive framework for companies to move forward."

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	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	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	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	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI	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

Building the future: The significance of local investment in Tanzania's industrial progress

By Correspondent Kenneth Simbaya

In a landmark event for Tanzania's industrial sector, on Tuesday, August 6th, 2024, President Samia Suluhu Hassan laid a foundation stone for the expansion project of the Serengeti Cigarette Company (SCC) factory in Morogoro Region.

This project, led by local investor Ahmed Huwel, aims to significantly boost the country's tobacco processing capacity, reflecting a broader vision of economic growth and industrial development in Tanzania.

The ceremony was more than a mere foundation stone laying; it symbolized a steadfast commitment to Tanzania's bright future, underscoring the pivotal role of local investors in propelling economic progress. It was a moment that celebrated visionary leadership and the transformative power of home-grown investment, highlighting how local entrepreneurs like Ahmed Huwel are the lifeblood of Tanzania's industrial renaissance. Their contributions are not just financial but are foundational to the nation's journey toward sustainable development and prosperity.

The SCC factory is a strategic move to elevate Tanzania's tobacco processing capacity from the current 80,000 tonnes to an ambitious 200,000 tonnes annually. With Tanzania aiming to process 300,000 tonnes per year, the SCC factory represents a significant leap toward that goal. Thanks to Mkwawa Leaf Tobacco and Mkwawa Leaf Processors Limited.

President Samia's presence at the inauguration highlighted the government's unwavering support for such initiatives, reinforcing the message that local investment is crucial for national development.

One of the most immediate benefits of the factory is job creation. Upon completion, the project is expected to generate at least 12,000 jobs, providing livelihoods for thousands of families in

the Morogoro region and beyond. This influx of employment opportunities is a direct boon to the local economy, stimulating growth and improving the quality of life for many residents.

Besides, the SCC project underscores the potential of local investments to drive economic transformation. By increasing processing capacity, the factory will not only meet domestic demand but also enhance export potential, contributing to Tanzania's foreign exchange earnings.

Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe highlighted that despite challenges from El Niño rains, tobacco exports last season exceeded \$400 million, underscoring the sector's resilience and importance to the national economy.

At the event, President Samia urged investor Ahmed Huwel to support the government's Universal Health Insurance Fund policy, which is nearing implementation. This call to action reflects the interconnected nature of economic and social policies, where successful industrial projects can bolster public welfare initiatives. The President's appeal signifies a broader vision where private sector growth and public health advancements go hand in hand.

Furthermore, President Samia emphasized the need for the factory to align with the government's clean cooking energy agenda and environmental conservation efforts. This directive is a reminder that industrial growth must be sustainable, balancing economic gains with environmental stewardship. By adopting clean energy practices, the SCC factory can set a precedent for other industries, promoting a culture of sustainability across Tanzania's industrial sector.

The SCC factory highlights the critical role of local investors in driving Tanzania's industrial growth. Local investors, like Ahmed Huwel, possess a deep understanding of the domestic market and are more attuned to the needs and



President Samia Suluhu Hassan is briefed by Serengeti Cigarette Company Ahmed Huwel at the laying of a foundation stone for the construction of SCC factory in Morogoro Region on Tuesday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

challenges of their communities. Think of among many by-products of Ahmed Huwel's investment in the tobacco sector (Mkwawa Leaf Tobacco, Mkwawa Tobacco Processors, and SCC) such as 12,000 jobs to be created.

Supporting local investors is essential for several reasons. Firstly, it fosters a sense of ownership and pride within the community, encouraging further investment and entrepreneurship. When local investors succeed, they inspire others to follow suit, creating a ripple effect of economic activity and innovation. Secondly, local investors are more likely to reinvest their profits within the country, ensuring that the economic benefits of their projects are retained domestically.

The government's support for local investors has been a cornerstone of its economic policy. President Samia's administration has prioritized creating a conducive environment for business, resulting in significant growth in the number of factories. Minister for Industry and Trade Dr. Selemani Jafo noted that the number of factories in Tanzania has increased from 62,000 to

80,000 since President Hassan took office, including 166 large-scale factories. This growth is a testament to the government's efforts to attract and support both local and international investors.

The government support extends beyond financial incentives. It includes providing infrastructure, ensuring regulatory stability, and facilitating access to markets. These measures create a favorable climate for business operations, enabling local investors to thrive. The swift completion of the SCC factory expansion, as acknowledged by investor Ahmed Huwel, is a direct result of such supportive policies and cooperation. Despite the positive developments, challenges remain. The agricultural sector is vital for supplying raw materials to industries like SCC factories, faces numerous obstacles.

Adverse weather conditions, such as the El Niño rains mentioned by Minister Bashe, can impact production and supply chains. Addressing these challenges requires a concerted effort from both the government and private sector to invest in resilient agricultural practices and infrastructure.

SCC factory is part of a larger narrative of Tanzania's industrialization journey. Industrial growth drives economic development by creating jobs, enhancing productivity, and fostering innovation. It also has a multiplier effect, stimulating growth in related sectors such as transportation, logistics, and services.

For Morogoro Region, the factory's expansion signifies more than just increased production capacity. It represents a transformation in the local economy, with new opportunities for business development, skills training, employment opportunities, (12,000 jobs to be created), and community growth. The ripple effects of such projects can lead to improved infrastructure, better educational facilities, and enhanced healthcare services, contributing to the overall well-being of the population. Ahmed Huwel highlighted a significant challenge local investors like him encounter, the single borrowing limit, imposed on local banks, which constrains local investors' ability to finance large-scale projects.

President Samia acknowledged this

issue and assured swift action, directing the Finance Minister, Bank of Tanzania (BoT) governor and Agriculture Minister to collaborate on a rapid resolution. This proactive approach reflects the government's commitment to creating a conducive environment for local investors, ensuring that financial barriers do not hinder the country's industrial growth and economic development.

The story of the SCC factory is a powerful reminder of why supporting local investors is essential. These investors are the backbone of the economy, driving growth from within and ensuring that the benefits of development are widely shared. Their success is a testament to the potential that lies within Tanzania's borders, waiting to be unlocked through strategic investments and supportive policies.

Local investors need more than just financial backing; they require a holistic support system that includes access to information, markets, and technology. The government's role in facilitating these elements cannot be overstated. By creating an enabling environment, the government can help local investors overcome challenges and seize opportunities, paving the way for sustainable and inclusive growth.

The inauguration of the SCC factory's expansion by President Samia marks a significant milestone in Tanzania's industrial journey. It exemplifies the profound impact that local investors can have on the economy, job creation, and community development. As Tanzania continues to strive towards its goal of processing 300,000 tonnes of tobacco annually, the success of this project underscores the importance of supporting local investors.

By fostering a business-friendly environment, aligning industrial growth with sustainable practices, and addressing the challenges faced tobacco sector, Tanzania can build a resilient and diversified economy. The story of the SCC factory is not just about tobacco processing, it is about the promise of what local investments can achieve for the nation. It is a call to action to support and empower local investors, ensuring that the benefits of industrial growth are felt by all Tanzanians.

Africa expands efforts to fight nature crime across borders

By Temwani Mgunda

TACKLING nature crime in Africa - and globally - is a major challenge. A big factor is that many of these are cross-border crimes, which need the kind of international cooperation and information sharing that is scarce.

The Nature Crime Alliance, launched in August 2023, is trying to help fill this gap. In February, Ghana and Malawi became the latest African governments to join this global alliance of governments, civil society groups, law enforcement agencies and private organisations. The network is managed through the World Resources Institute in association with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime.

In Malawi and the wider Southern Africa region, nature crime is a pressing issue. Malawi's director of forestry, Titus Zulu, tells Dialogue Earth: "Our forests, including the valuable miombo woodlands, are under threat due to illegal logging, driven by both domestic and international demand," he says. "Wildlife crimes, including the poaching of elephants for ivory and pangolins for scales, also pose a serious challenge because they involve international syndicates."

Wood from Zambia's miombo forests is weighed to check if it is dry enough for charcoal production.

As for West Africa, Ghana's Forestry Commission chief executive, John Allotey, tells Dialogue Earth that the region's rich biodiversity and forests draw global attention, including from illegal miners, fishers and their customers. He gives the example of illegal gold mining leading to deforestation, river pollution and increased poaching.

"As for Ghana, the high forest zone - which covers about 34% of the country - is the hub for nature crimes," Allotey says. "There is quite some pressure on natural resources where natives and migrants engage in these crimes as a means of earning their livelihood."

More than an environmental problem

The alliance defines nature crimes as illegal forms of logging, mining, fishing, wildlife trade and land conversion. Africa feels the impacts of such activities particularly severely, explains



Men cut boards from a felled ceiba tree in eastern Ghana

Robert Wabunoha, environment governance coordinator for Africa at the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). To combat the problem, robust continental, national and local efforts are needed, he adds.

The illegal trade in Africa's wild elephants, rhinos and pangolins has hit these populations, diminishing biodiversity and disrupting ecosystems, Wabunoha says. "This not only threatens biodiversity, but also impacts tourism, which is a crucial economic sector for many African countries," he states.

The Nature Crime Alliance's director, Yulia Stange, says much of this criminal activity directly impacts those parts of the world most critical to the planet's ecological health and to human well-being. As an example, illegal logging in the Congo Basin - the world's second largest rainforest - causes habitat loss and the release of planet-warming gases.

Stange says it will not be possible to meet global

climate and biodiversity goals without addressing the scourge of nature crime.

She says nature crime overlaps not only with financial crime and corruption, but also with the trafficking of human beings, drugs and small arms. "Nature crime should therefore be seen not only as an environmental challenge, but as an economic and security challenge, too."

"In parts of Africa, for example, nature crime has been linked to terrorism finance," Stange says.

Efforts and challenges

Africa loses about USD 17 billion annually to illegal logging, with most of the smuggled wood going to Asia. As an example of wildlife crime, about 157,000 elephants were poached in Africa between 2010 and 2018, according to a report by the UN Office of Drugs and Crime.

Africa does have other initiatives and measures, as well as the Nature Crime Alliance, to fight nature crimes.

In Ghana, Allotey says a new Wildlife Resources Management Act was passed last year, revising all laws relating to wildlife and protected areas. There is Ghana's REDD+ Strategy 2016-2035 to preserve forests and make agriculture more "climate-smart". And there is the Ghana Shea Landscape Emission Reductions Project, which also involves stemming forest loss and restoring trees.

In Malawi, Zulu says various policies have been implemented, including the National Forest Policy and the National Parks and Wildlife Act. The country collaborates with regional bodies, like the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the African Union, on initiatives such as SADC's Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching Strategy.

"But challenges remain," Zulu says. "Greater regional cooperation and stronger legal frameworks are needed to enhance the effectiveness of these efforts."

UNEP has been trying to combat nature crime in Africa through various interventions, such as by training police in Uganda, and supporting the development of laws and policies.

According to Wabunoha, UNEP also implements specific projects to combat nature crime in Africa via the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which channels money to projects that support five environmental conventions including the UN's biodiversity and climate conventions. He gives the example of the GEF-6 project to combat illegal wildlife trade in South Sudan.

There is also the Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF), which focuses on combating transboundary illegal wildlife trade in Africa, and the Bamako Convention which addresses hazardous waste and chemical management.

Towards fostering collaboration Zulu is very positive about the Nature Crime Alliance. "For Malawi, it means better access to resources and expertise that can help strengthen our enforcement capabilities and develop more effective strategies to combat nature crime," he says. "Regionally, the alliance represents a unified commitment to addressing a common threat, fostering collaboration that can lead to more coordinated and impactful actions against nature crime."

Stange says the alliance is committed to building its network in Africa to support efforts to counter nature crime. For instance, in January it convened the first Southern Africa Regional Private Sector Dialogue on Disruption of Financial Crimes related to Environmental Crimes.

Stange says the alliance is also supporting members, such as the Environmental Investigation Agency and the Wildlife Conservation Society, to undertake work in Africa under the Countering Nature Crime initiative, which is funded by the US Agency for International Development.

"This includes work to develop Gabon's timber traceability system," she says, "and a project focused on wildlife trafficking in Nigeria and the Republic of Congo."

Babies in Nigeria are being born with antibiotic-resistant bacteria

By Special Correspondents

SEPSIS occurs when one's immune system has an extreme response to an infection. It's a life-threatening condition: globally, it accounts for about 11 million deaths - 20% of all deaths per year.

And it doesn't just affect adults. In 2020, 2.4 million newborn babies died of sepsis in the first month of their lives. Most of these deaths happened in sub-Saharan Africa.

The main treatment for sepsis is antibiotics. However, the overuse and misuse of antibiotics in human medicine and agriculture has led to antimicrobial resistance - a process in which bacteria, fungi and parasites have developed the ability to resist the action of medicines.

The World Health Organization describes antimicrobial resistance as one of the top global public health and development threats.

This growing resistance is due to the overuse and misuse of antibiotics in both human medicine and in farming. They're used in large quantities to grow crops and in animal feeds to treat and reduce the risk of infection in livestock.

It has been forecast that, by 2050, more people will die from antimicrobial resistance than both cancer and diabetes combined.

Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the regions with the highest rates of deaths associated with antimicrobial resistance (including sepsis) in the world, with 23.5 deaths per 100,000 people.

In our latest study we found that samples taken from mothers and newborn babies younger than one week in Nigeria already had colistin-resistant bacteria present in their bodies. But neither the babies nor their mothers had been treated with colistin.

Colistin is one of the last remaining antibiotics that is still effective in killing bacteria and fighting infections such as pneumonia. It is deemed critically important for human medicine by the World Health Organization.

We surmise that mothers may have picked up these colistin resistant bacteria from the environment. We cannot speculate on the specific mechanism. The babies, meanwhile, could have picked up the bacteria from the hospital, the community, or from their mothers. It's not yet known if these colistin-resistant bacteria stay in the mothers or babies - but if they do this may increase their chances of acquiring future drug-resistant infections.

How we did our study

The samples from newborn babies and their mothers in our study were collected between 2015 and 2017 from three hospitals in Kano and Abuja. This research is the largest ever screening of intestinal microbiota for colistin resistance in Nigeria.

Of the 4,907 samples we analysed in our Cardiff and Oxford laboratories, we found that 1% of samples had genes conferring colistin resistance, across 41 mothers and eight babies. Although this is a low percentage, it is extremely worrying that any babies were carrying colistin-resistant bacteria within their first week of life.

Colistin is rarely used in hospitals and clinics in Nigeria. Therefore, our findings suggest that resistance may have emerged from the increasing use of colistin in agricultural settings in the country. We are continuing our research with collaborators in Nigeria to further understand the levels of resistance in both the health-care system and more broadly.

Dangers of using antibiotics in agriculture

Globally more antibiotics are prescribed to animals than to humans. Most of this consumption is not to treat infections; rather, it is to prevent infections or promote faster growth in animals.

In 2016 mobile colistin (mcr) genes were discovered in E. coli bacteria from a pig farm in China. These genes carry resistance to the antibiotic colistin, and can spread between bacteria, furthering colistin resistance.



Babies born with colistin-resistant bacteria may have a higher chance of acquiring future drug-resistant infections.

This discovery led to a total ban on colistin's agricultural use in China. In February 2022 European laws were expanded to make it illegal to add antibiotics to livestock feeds as a precaution to prevent infections before they start. However, in a study we published in 2023, we found that, while European countries have banned the use of colistin in farming, paradoxically they still actively export livestock feeds that contain colistin to low- and middle-income countries such as Nigeria for agriculture use.

It seems a highly questionable practice to knowingly profit by selling feedstuffs banned for use in Europe to developing countries that lack these regulations - particularly when these countries already suffer from some of the highest rates globally of endemic antimicrobial resistance for common antibiotics

and treatment alternatives are either prohibitively expensive or completely inaccessible.

Estimates suggest that globally almost 100,000 tonnes of antibiotics were used to raise cattle, sheep, chickens, and pigs in 2022. This usage is expected to increase by another 8% by 2030 and will lead to a direct increase in antibiotic-resistant infections.

Read more: Antibiotic resistance causes more deaths than malaria and HIV/AIDS combined. What Africa is doing to fight this silent epidemic

Call for a total ban

There needs to be a global ban on colistin's indiscriminate agricultural use to preserve this crucial antibiotic for when it is urgently required.

However, this is a delicate balance. A ban

without alternative solutions will likely affect food production and adversely affect farmers' livelihoods in already challenging climates. And, with the world's population set to increase by about 2 billion by 2050, demand for affordable meat will only rise.

Urgent investment is also needed in hospital infection prevention and control programmes and improved water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in farms to help to limit the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria around these environments.

Animals should be given antibiotics only when they are sick. These antibiotics should be selected from those the World Health Organiza-

tion has listed as being "least important" to human health rather than from those classified as "highest priority/critically important".

In September 2024, during the UN General Assembly in New York, leaders from governments, industry, financial institutions and scientific organisations will come together for a UN High-Level meeting on antimicrobial resistance.

This meeting offers a timely opportunity for global leaders to set some targets to reduce antibiotic use in farming and support farmers in low- and middle-income countries to improve farm hygiene practices.



RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:10 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:10 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:30 AM NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 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Radio One

AFRICA'S PATH TO SUSTAINABILITY: A TRUSTED PARTNER, COLLABORATION, LEARNING FROM GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

JOHANNESBURG

In today's interconnected world, pursuing sustainable development has become increasingly important for societies everywhere.

With its diverse ecosystems, rapid urbanisation and growing population, Africa faces distinctive challenges and opportunities on the path to achieving sustainability, a path which requires collaboration, knowledge and expertise, future thinking and impactful solutions.

As an independent organisation with global reach and leading expertise, business improvement and standards company BSI is in a unique position to impartially identify regional and global sustainability trends. It understands what best practices exist to positively impact organisations and society, drive change and enhance lives.

BSI Growth Director Martin Townsend says: "We are a signatory of the UN Global Compact, the world's largest sustainability network and proud to be aligned with and committed to advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Our comprehensive approach to sustainability which covers the three pillars of ESG - environmental, social and governance - enables us to make a positive impact through our own actions, and assist our clients [to] make tangible and impactful sustainability choices, ultimately accelerating progress towards a better future and a sustainable world."

In carving out a path towards achieving sustainability objectives across Africa, the organisation looks at several trends locally and the opportunities emerging from successful practices across other continents.

Renewable energy transition
 One of the most prominent emerging trends in Africa is the shift towards renewable energy sources. From 2019 to 2020 alone, solar and wind capacity increased by 13 percent and 11 percent respectively, and hydropower soared by 25 percent.

The World Economic Forum reports that North Africa is the continent's current leader in renewable energy capacity, and the largest increase is expected in Central Africa, when all under-construction projects are completed, and renewable energy capacity is set to double. Africa can learn from regions like Europe, which has more than doubled renewable energy consumption since 2004.

According to International Energy Agency (IEA), Electricity is the backbone of Africa's new energy systems, powered increasingly by renewables.

Africa is home to 60 percent of the best solar resources globally, yet only 1 percent of installed solar PV capacity.

Solar PV - already the cheapest source of power in many parts of Africa - outcompetes all sources continent-wide by 2030.

"Expanding and modernising Africa's electricity infrastructure requires a radical improvement in the financial health of public utilities, which have been battered by recent



From 2019 to 2020, Africa's solar and wind capacity increased by 13 percent and 11 percent respectively, and hydropower soared by 25 percent

economic crises and longstanding under-pricing of electricity," says IEA.

Conservation and biodiversity protection

Africa has remarkable biodiversity, with unique ecosystems such as the Serengeti, in Tanzania, and the Okavango Delta, in Botswana. The continent, however, faces threats of illegal logging, poaching and habitat destruction resulting in 65 percent biodiversity loss since 1970. Learnings can be taken from South America, where in 1998 the Brazilian government pledged to conserve 10 percent of its Amazon rainforests. This led to

collaboration between the government, WWF, the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility, resulting in the establishment of the Amazon Region Protected Areas Programme. Funds from this are used to finance protected areas indefinitely.

Waste management and circular economy

Africa's waste generation is expected to reach 244-million tons by next year, almost double that of 2012, highlighting the importance of improved waste management strategies.

Europe, where the EU Commission

adopted the circular economy action plan in 2023, serves as a valuable example of how regions can embrace a circular economy mindset to reduce pressure on natural resources and improve their waste strategies. By incorporating sustainable waste management practices, Africa can reintroduce secondary resources, minimise pollution, conserve resources and create green jobs.

Mining Sector

Africa has abundant natural resources and is home to nearly 30 percent of the world's natural mineral reserves, 8 percent of natural gas and 12 percent of oil reserves. This offers immense potential for economic growth. The mining sector, however, faces sustainability challenges related to environmental conservation, social responsibility and economic diversification.

The Oceania region's sustainable mining initiative 'Towards Sustainable Mining' provides a framework example for the development of sustainable mining practices. By adopting responsible mining practices and emphasising the social well-being of mining communities, Africa can progress towards sustainable

mining operations.

Carbon reduction strategies Addressing carbon emissions is crucial for sustainable development. If we continue to produce carbon emissions at our current rate, global temperatures are expected to rise beyond 1.5 degrees -levels that will threaten the lives and livelihoods of people everywhere.

There are valuable insights from countries like Germany and Switzerland, where significant progress has been made in carbon reduction strategies. Transitioning to cleaner energy sources, investing in research and innovation, and providing policy incentives can all shift the dial.

Africa's pursuit of sustainability can be accelerated by embracing emerging trends and adopting and/or adopting successful practices from around the globe.

Collaboration, innovation, and shared knowledge will play a crucial role on this journey, and BSI is here as a trusted partner to facilitate this transformation. Turning ambition into action together, we accelerate progress towards a fairer society and a sustainable world.



The Standard Gauge Railway

TRANSFORMING TRADE:

Tanzania's new SGR unleashes economic potential

By Correspondent Paul Mabeja, Dodoma

LAST Thursday, President Samia Suluhu Hassan, accompanied by various government officials, inaugurated commercial services on the electrified Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) between Dar es Salaam and Dodoma.

The initiative aims to enhance regional trade and is expected to stimulate the country's economic growth.

The SGR, built by a Turkish company, spans 440 kilometers (273 miles) and is part of a larger 2,561-kilometer railway network designed to connect Tanzania's northern and western regions to the port city of Dar es Salaam.

Economists emphasize the project's far-reaching benefits, stating it will not only boost trade within Tanzania but also enhance cross-border commerce. "The efficient SGR service is expected to foster regional development by improving connectivity between economic hubs," remarked one economist.

The improved transport infrastructure is poised to attract foreign investments, facilitate trade, and provide a reliable means of travel for passengers and goods alike. Notably, the SGR will allow Burundi to increase nickel extraction from the Musongati mine, generating significant revenue through enhanced access to the Dar es Salaam port.

Currently, Burundi depends on the port for approximately 80 percent of its import

and export activities, highlighting the SGR's vital role in the region's economy.

Beyond trade, the new railway is anticipated to benefit local miners and the broader Tanzanian population. Environmental analysts note that the SGR will provide a safer, more reliable transportation option, contributing to reduced carbon emissions and less noise and air pollution. The project aims to minimize vehicle-induced pollution, making it an environmentally friendly alternative.

Donald Mmari, executive director of the Tanzanian Poverty Alleviation Research think-tank REPOA, stated, "Trains are expected to reduce travel time from four hours by bus to just one hour and forty minutes, with four daily SGR trips operating on this route."

He added that the SGR will enhance the productivity of the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC), creating both direct and indirect job opportunities while attracting further investment.

Zacharia Juma, a resident of Chanika in the Ilala district of Dar es Salaam, expressed his excitement about the new service. "SGR is a milestone for our country. We waited a long time, but our dream has finally come true," he said. Masanja Kadogosa, head of the Tanzanian Railways Corporation, echoed this sentiment, stating, "We are eagerly awaiting the cargo carriages, as they will bring substantial economic benefits."

During the launch, President Samia

Suluhu Hassan emphasized how the increased train speed will significantly reduce travel times and facilitate efficient movement across the country. "Traveling by the electric SGR train between Dar es Salaam and Dodoma takes about three and a half hours, compared to over nine hours by bus," she noted.

The president also highlighted the SGR's capacity to alleviate congestion at the Dar es Salaam port, with the potential to transport 17 million tonnes of cargo annually. Her administration is focused on extending the SGR network to connect East and West Africa through Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, underscoring the strategic importance of linking Tanzania's ports with landlocked neighboring countries.

According to President Samia, the entire project, which costs 23.3trn/., requires the protection and maintenance of local citizens, especially those residing along the railway route, to ensure its economic viability. Transport Minister Makame Mbarawa announced that the total SGR project in Tanzania will cover 1,560 kilometers from Dar es Salaam to Mwanza, forming part of a 2,102-kilometer railway that will extend to Burundi and the DRC. He added that the construction of the SGR will be executed alongside improvements to marine, air, and surface transportation.

With the launch of commercial services, Tanzania is poised for a new era of transportation, trade, and economic growth.

Tanzania to host 5th global logistics convention

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

FREIGHT logistics professionals in the country have been urged to utilise effectively the 5th edition of the 2024 Global Logistics Convention scheduled to start from 14th to 16th this month, by getting exposed to best practices in sustainable logistics.

The GLC dubbed 'Africa's Supply Chain and Logistics Industry in the age of sustainability' is an annual freight logistics convention of the Federation of East African Freight Forwarders Associations (FEAFFA) expected to bring together over 500 freight logistics industry experts from across the globe.

Edward Urrio, Tanzania Freight Forwarders Association (TAFFA) President, made the call in Dar es Salaam as he briefed journalists underlining that the convention will seek to explore opportunities for building capacity of supply chain and logistics industry to transition and adopt sustainable logistics.

"Logistics actors have an important role in the transition to a decarbonised future. This is what GLC 2024 intends to unlock. It will therefore be an opportunity to raise awareness, take stock of the global developments, and the progress Africa and especially the EAC region has made, highlight the impediments, and forge a way forward," he said.

He further said that convention will also provide a platform for Business-to-Business matchmaking. Create awareness, advocate and benchmark recommended practices in sustainable logistics, finance, technology and capacity building solutions for Africa's transport and logistics industry.

Andrew Magombana, acting assistant director in the Ministry of Transport pledged the government's full support upon the convention as it has for long shown its dedication in the transport sector.

"The government's completion of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) train is the culmination of a vision that spans political, economic and international dimensions, aimed at shaping the transport sector," said



Edward Urrio, Tanzania Freight Forwarders Association (TAFFA) President (C), briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the upcoming 5th edition of Global Logistics Convention (GLC) 2024 set to start 14th -16th this month. Others in picture are Andrew Magombana, acting assistant director in the Ministry of Transport (L) and Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) representative and Beatrice Jairo (R). Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke.

Magombana. According to him, the bold government's move on revamping Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) has shown the its ambitious plans to develop a vibrant and robust aviation sector.

He added: "I urge all stakeholders participation in the upcoming Global Logistics Convention that will provide an opportunity for the industry to engage on contemporary industry matters and developments such as financing and insurance for transport and logistics."

Beatrice Jairo, Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) representative said GLC provides an opportunity that will provide global networking; a platform for logistics professionals to network with industry leaders, potential clients, investors, and partners from diverse geographical regions.

She further added that the platform will provide a marketing intelligence opportunity in gathering and analyzing the missing actual data that will uncover key insights in improving supply chain and logistics.

The Convention has been held successfully in four EAC countries, first in 2017 in Tanzania, 2018 in Uganda, 2019 in Rwanda and 2023 in Kenya.

The Federation of East African Freight Forwarders Associations (FEAFFA) is a regional private sector apex body of the Customs Clearing and Freight Forwarding (CFA) industry in East Africa representing over 2500 CFA firms. The Federation aims to promote a professional freight logistics industry for trade facilitation and regional economic growth.

SPECIAL REPORT

ENHANCED COOPERATIVES' SUPPORT IN EDUCATION, HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE -10

BY FRANCIS KAJUBI

COOPERATIVE unions have been in the forefront in giving back part of their profits to the community through schools and health facilities construction projects in the form of corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes.

The cooperatives have also been active in extending financial aid to the needy when natural disasters strike as a result of affecting the well-being of people's lives by identifying CSR programmes plans.

According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) a CSR programme is the corporate practice to contribute to the surrounding society. It can simply be termed as bringing back the part of the business profit to the society.

However, CSR programmes empower organizations into adopting sustainable practices, which in turn leads to proper use and maintenance of country's key resources.

In Tanzania, CSR programmes are designed to ensure that the wealth accumulated and profits from exploited resources is not just equitably distributed but rather benefits are spread across multiple stakeholder groups in society which includes but not limited to companies, communities and the government.

Karim Chipola, Chairperson Tandahimba-Newala Cooperative Union Limited said that in giving back to the community through CSR programmes, the union had in May this year extended 50mn/- to the Mtwara regional government to help improve the infrastructure of primary and secondary schools.

"This is the third year since we started issuing CSR funds. In 2022 we issued 50mn/- and last year we issued 50mn/- for the regional health sector investments. The increase in profits has led us to double the CSR budget," he said.

Suzanne Ndomba-Doran, Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE) Chief Executive Officer, was of the view that when CSR programmes are employed well within the developing world the practice proves to provide much needed sources of finance for development activities which transcend into multiple advantages to local communities.

According to her, CSR programmes are an essential element to sustainably progressing the nation's untapped potential on human, physical and natural capital.

Alhaji Salim, Chairperson Masasi-Mtwara Cooperative Union (MAMCU) said that at the beginning of this year the union had extended 50mn/- to the Mtwara regional government for it to improve community services including the education sector.

"We feel comfort and pride to be a part of the devel-

opment of the community we come from by contributing part of our profit that we make every harvest season," he said.

CP Faustine Shilogile, Vice Chairperson URA SACCOS Limited board of directors said that in April this year the SACCOS donated 235.55mn/- through its CSR programme for the purchase of medical equipment in health centers which are under the custodian of the traffic police force.

Ress Mashurano, Chairperson Kagera Cooperative Union (KCU) told this journalist that the union formed by AMCOS 141 provides 2mn/- annually to every AMCOS under its custodian which is used for giving back to the community by implementing priority development projects through CSR programmes as recommended by the respective communities.

Lieutenant Colonel Lucy Chacha, Chief Executive Ngome SACCOS said that the SACCOS has been giving back part of its profits to the community in the health sector by providing medical equipment and supporting orphanage centers and special groups.

Samson Mwendu, Chairperson Mombo Irrigation Scheme Agricultural Co-operative Society Limited in Rural Korogwe district of Tanga region said last year the Co-operative donated over 400 kilogram of rice to four primary and secondary schools in the district as part of giving back to the host communities through CSR programmes.

According to a paper by The Law Brigade (Publishing) Group dubbed: 'A need of compulsory corporate social responsibility in Tanzania: an analysis of laws and practices' published October 2022, there are shortfalls with monitoring of CSR projects in the country in relation to what investors reap from natural wealth.

The paper states that with the existence of various economic sectors like entertainment, industry, tourism, manufacturing, agriculture, transport, communication, sports, fishing, ports and so many other sectors.

However, over all these sectors it is only in the mining and petroleum sector where the CSR programmes are legally recognised.

The scenario infers that it is only the provisions of the Mining Act (Amendments) 2017 and the Petroleum Act of 2015 which considers the compulsory implementation of corporate social responsibility programmes.

On the other economic sectors the implementation of the CSR programmes are not addressed at all in the provisions of the law. Hence, the performance of the CSR programmes is left at the business entities' discretion.

It asserts that the Tanzania Extractive Industries (Transparency and Accountability) Act No. 23 of 2015, the Mining Act (Amendments) 2017 and the Petroleum Act 2015 recognised the compulsory CSR programmes.

The said laws required that any person holding a right



of dealing with natural resources has to prepare and implement a corporate social responsibility plan for the host communities of programme implementation.

"In this sense therefore, there is a need of amending the existing legal regimes or else to enact new laws which will recognise the compulsory implementation of CSR by all entities operating in all economic sectors in Tanzania," reads the paper in part.

This journalist has learned that in the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania 1977 there is no specific provision which speaks about the CSR programmes. However, the constitution imposes the duty to the society to participate in works.

Article 25 of the Constitution imposes a duty to the public to participate in work so as to create material wealth within the community.

According to the Constitution it is the duty of every person in Tanzania to participate in lawful and productive work.

This has to be done so by observing work disciplines and striving to attain individual and collective production targets desired by law.

This journalist has established that in the year 2000 the UN Global Compact was formed. The instrument called upon the business corporations in the world to take up sustainability and socially responsible measures.

The companies were required to do the business responsibly to meet their main objectives as well as advancing the societal goals.

This is set out by complying with 10 principles of the UN Global Compact which are aligned with the subjects related to human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

To be continued.

Tanga port gets global prominence after expansion

By Correspondent Cheji

Bakari, Tanga

Tanga port is getting the global prominence in the movement of goods, serving as gateways across the continent and beyond, as well as act as intermodal connectivity.

This came after the government spent over 491bn/- in the improvement and expansion of port infrastructure and facilities including dredging of two berths.

The expansion has enabled large ships to dock at the port.

Recently, Seafont Shipping Services Limited (SSS) successfully launched the first general cargo vessel, MV Annegrit with 200-meter long transporting approximately 14,000 metric tonnes of about 500 units direct from China to Tanga Port.

The ship's welcoming ceremony was attended by transport deputy minister David Kihenzile, the permanent secretary ministry of transport Professor Godius Kahyarara and Tanga Regional Commissioner Dr Batilda Burian.

The ship spent 6-day and 12 hours only to unloading the goods.

According to Tanga port officials, goods services delivery, time management, strategic marketing efforts have attracted more transport and logistics firms to use the port.

Data show that the port

is marking significantly milestone after recording 307 ships arrivals in 2022/23 from 118 ships docked in 2019/2020.

"These efforts witnessed to improve port's productivity, efficacy, efficiency and competitiveness after both port's stakeholders stand in line with our vision, mission and core values of making sure affordable cargo handling costs, time management and good operations service," said Rose Tandiko, Tanga Port's Principal Marketing Officer.

She further stated that, due to its improved efficiency in operations, the port now holds the potential not only enhancing country's economic growth but also contributed significantly job creations, both direct and indirect jobs.

For his part, Tanga Port Operations Officer, Abuubakari Hamisi Hamadi said increased number of ships arrivals had also attributed tremendously increasingly number of casual workers, who are work-

ing on shifts.

He explained that in just ended two months, the number of casual employees increased three times from 400 to 1,260, as at August 7th.

"This number means not only providing indirect employment to Tanga residents but also increases the trust among port industry stakeholders to come here," said Hamad.

"This development is ensuring them that they are in tip toe shape to handle the movement of goods because there are no delays or congestions, which can hinder them to dig deep into their pockets, due to time or double handling".

"As the numbers of people are working tirelessly like busy bees, it makes business people feel more confident when shipping their goods at our," he added.

Earlier, port Manager Masudi Mrisha assured business people that as apart from expansion and renovation of facilities, the

port is also equipped with specialised and technologies for efficient cargo handling, storage and distribution.

"These resources streamline the loading and unloading of goods, reducing transit times and costs," said Mrisha.

"Furthermore, port infrastructure supports intermodal transportation and means cargo can seamlessly transition between ships and trucks enhancing supply chain and also people are doing business for example food vendors popular known as Mama Lishe are generating their income".



Transport deputy minister David Kihenzile (C) cuts the ribbon to mark the official receiving of MV Annegrit, the first ever general cargo vessel that sailed direct from China to Tanga Port. Right to him is Tanga Regional Commissioner Dr Batilda Burian and on his left is the permanent secretary, Ministry of transport Professor Godius Kahyarara. Photo: Correspondent Cheji Bakari

Seed agency, dealers enhancing supply of subsidised improved sunflower seeds

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) is expected to meet agro-dealers across the country to brainstorm ways of enhancing the supply of improved sunflower seeds in rural areas.

Edward Mbugi (pictured), ASA's Marketing Manager revealed this to the Guardian at the ongoing 31st Tanzania Agricultural International Expo.

"The government decided to subsidize the sunflower seeds in order to bolster production and tasked ASA to ensure the seeds are available to all farmers across the country, specifically in rural areas," he said.

"We had prior entered into working contracts with a number of agro-dealers to help marketing the seeds to farmers, but our study found that the majority of farmers in rural areas are not getting the seeds at subsidised prices."

He said ASA will continue working to set and implement proper strategies to multiply and distribute improved seeds varieties to the farmers in all agricultural zones in the country.

Speaking for his part, ASA's Acting Production Manager, Benjamin Mfupe said the agency has introduced three new varieties for sunflower, wheat and sorghum.

He said introduction of the seeds, which include the open pollinated varieties (OPV) for wheat and sorghum and the hybrids for sunflower target to improve production and productivity.

He named the new seeds as TARISO II (Sorghum), Sun Bloom (sunflower) and SST 884 of wheat.

"The new sunflower variety, Sun Bloom and the SST 884 of wheat have been imported in the country so as to quench the thirst of the high demand for the improved seeds within the sector,"

"So far, we have imported at least 700 tons of Sun Bloom variety, the good seed which will now enables the farmers to yield between 16 and 18 sacks per acre," he said.

He said the new hybrid sunflower seed is available at a cheap price of at least 10,000/-per one kg, instead of 45,000/- as sold by other seed companies.

Explaining over the growing potential of the variety, he said with the seed, the farmers will stand a chance to harvest sunflower around 110 days after planting, as

early maturing variety, he added that the variety produces large head with seed of good oil content.

Mfupe said the local wheat farmers must have all reasons to smile as well, unveiled that the imported new variety of SST 884, possesses high growing potential with wide range of adaptation.

"With the variety, it takes between 90 to 110 days for the farmers to harvest, and the seed has capacity to produce at between 14 and 18 sacks per acre," he said.

He said that experience proved that the variety imported from Zambia flourishes well in several regions across the country, including Dodoma (central zone), Southern Highlands regions, Arusha, and Kilimanjaro.

He added that ASA has already dispatched a total 500 tons of the useful seed in at least 12 municipalities with wheat production.

He named the areas as Makete, Makambaku, Njombe, Arusha, Wangin'gombe, Ludewa, Siha, Monduli, Hanang, Babati, Sumbawanga and Nkasi.

However, he added that ASA has also distributed a total of 692.9 tons of local made wheat varieties, namely Juhudi and Sifa, saying the farmers can buy and use the improved varieties to boost productivity.

Pertaining to the new sorghum seed, TARISO II, Mfupe said the seed has been hatched by the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), saying the variety is potential in terms of resistant to diseases, including destructive birds, and it has capacity to turn out between 14 and 16 sacks within for one acre.



TECHNOLOGY

TIC RECALLS DEVELOPER OF STALLED \$43M HOUSING PROJECT

By Guardian Reporter

CHINESE investor of a US\$43m (over 90bn/-) Royal Glory Residence and Commercial Complex in Dar es Salaam has been invited to meet with Tanzania Investment Centre's (TIC) executive director Gilead Teri to discuss how the landmark project, which has been stranded for over two years, can move ahead.

Teri said in Dar es Salaam during the week while responding to questions regarding the stalled project located in the posh Mikocheni Warioba area of the commercial capital that his office has no information relating to the project which started in 2019 and was scheduled to finish in 2022.

Residents of the area said construction work at the site of the project which is an investment of China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation, stopped in 2022. "I don't know the reason behind the project being stalled but I suspect it may be financial," Teri said.

He stated that TIC is readily available to all investors facing hurdles in implementation of their projects to ensure that they are finished and



Stalled Royal Glory Residence project in Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam

contribute to the country's growth. He said the multibillion shillings project received both TIC certification and tax exemption for deemed capital goods from Tanzania Revenue

Authority. "Normal projects with certificate of incentives like this have always received TIC and TRA approvals for all items agreed as deemed capital

goods as provided by the law," Teri noted while stressing that the developer might have also been discouraged by a weak real estate market experienced two years ago.

"But now the sector is booming and it is TIC's third fastest growing in the market," the TIC executive director explained. The CCECC blamed Covid-19 impact

when the project stopped in 2022 but dismissed claims that it has collapsed.

"First, this real estate project is still in progress, we cannot accept comments that the project has collapsed. As of now, the main structure works are all completed, and we are continuing the following finishing works," the company said in a statement.

"You may also be aware that the COVID-19 has caused a serious impact on the real estate market in Tanzania. A large number of real estate or investment projects have slowed down the pace of development, which is a normal economic phenomenon," the statement added.

The Royal Glory project sits on a five acre plot and has 14 villas and 156 apartments. The facility will also be equipped with a swimming pool, children's play area, a gym and tennis court. The developer said the project was supposed to be implemented in two phases with 17 modern shops covering 38 to 400 m2 each by 2023.

The CCECC is well known for its role in the construction of Tanzania Zambia Railway (Tazara) in 1970s.

The company has also invested in a Dream Glory residential project located at the posh Oysterbay area in Dar

Farmers benefit from 1.8trn/- bank's credits

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN farmers have benefited from 1.8trn/- CRDB Bank's financing, equivalent to 43 percent of the total credits issued by the banking industry.

The bank's managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela said yesterday during the climax of farmers' exhibition (Nanane), which was closed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in Dodoma.

Nsekela said during the last three years ended in July, the bank extended agricultural loans amounting to 4.06trn/- of which 944bn/- were extended to 541 Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (Amcos) for purchasing inputs, construction of warehouses, industries for processing livestock and farms products, investments in forests and fishing.

"For livestock and fishing, until July this year, we have issued loans amounting to 70bn/ and we have entered into agreement with livestock keepers association to issue credits to its members to boost productivity through improving watering infrastructure and feeds farming for livestock. In Zanzibar, the bank is implementing its programme to support the blue economy of which we have extended loans amounting to 29bn/- to entrepreneurs and 28bn/- on blue economy," he said.

He said CRDB Bank has also collaborated with the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) to build the digital platform for supplying subsidized inputs to farmers, which is responsible for registering farmers, agro-dealers and producers of inputs.

"This registration platform involve the distribution of smart cards which enabled farmers to conduct banking transactions and other digital services including farmers' identification during the access to farmer inputs in future," said Nsekela.

In order to support modern livestock keeping, Nsekela said the CRDB Insurance Company, the bank's subsidiary is offering livestock insurance, using modern technology of livestock's biometric identification.

"This move enables us to issue credits to livestock keepers using their livestock as security for loans," he said.

Nsekela also said the iMbeju programme, managed by the bank's foundation is empowering youths, women and special groups such as livestock keepers, through the provision of financial education, seed capital and entrepreneurship training.



Barley farmers, among of the beneficiaries of the bank's financing. File Photo

The programme has so far benefited 500,000 people through seed capital amounting to 10bn/-

He said the foundation's programme in collaboration with Sokoine University Graduate Entrepreneurship Programme (SUGECO) has financed the university's graduates to attend field attachments abroad.

The beneficiaries are given between US\$3,500 and US\$4,500 as seed capital and at least 2,500 graduates are expected to benefit from this programme and plans are

in place to empower them on modern farming and export facilities.

He said CRDB Bank Foundation has also entered into an agreement with Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) to provide financial education, agricultural training for small barley farmers as well as connecting them into formal banking services.

"A total of 64 farmers have benefited from 325m/- financing issued as seed capital as well as covering them

with agri-insurance. We have also entered into an agreement with Kagera Sugar Limited and Kilombero Sugar to provide education to out growers, provide them with seed capital to purchase improved seeds, pesticides and other necessary needs including crop insurance," he added.

COUNCIL APPLAUDS GOVT'S MEDIATION IN RICE TRADE INSURER, BANK PARTNERING TO ACCELERATE HEALTH INSURANCE

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

THE Rice Council of Tanzania (RCT) has applauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan's interventions in rice trade to ensuring that farmers are benefitting from their cultivation efforts.

Geoffrey Rwiza, RCT's executive director (pictured), expressed the council's gratitude during a press briefing regarding President Samia's commitment to supporting paddy farmers in Tanzania.

"We are very pleased with what the government has done to boost the production and trade of rice. This includes increasing irrigation areas through the improvement and construction of irrigation schemes, many of which are dedicated to rice production," he said.

The fertilizer subsidy program has also improved access to fertilizers for rice farmers, and the introduction of improved seed varieties by the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) has provided farmers with more choices to address various production and market challenges.

Additionally, government-promot-

ed regional trade and private sector investments have positioned Tanzania as the leading regional rice producer and exporter, which led into Tanzania to export rice valued 400bn/-.

During her official visit to Morogoro on August 5, 2024, President Samia addressed the issue of low prices offered to rice farmers.

She instructed the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) to start purchasing paddy from farmers at 900/- per kg, compared to the current market price of 570/-.

She also announced plans to construct 10,000 acres of irrigation schemes in Kilombero and another significant project in Rufiji to further boost paddy production.

President Samia's directive to review various levies charged on rice was welcomed by RCT, as it will boost farmers' incomes. "We presents sincere appreciation to President Samia for prioritizing the rice development and showing affection for the sector by sharing her own challenges of rice farming," Rwiza said. The council pledges to work with the government to ensure that farmers are well trained in good agronomic practices and that paddy seed produc-



tion is increased. He said the council will also continue to promote trade linkages for local rice producers with domestic and regional buyers.

Recently, RCT partnered with Research

on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA) to implement the TRADECOM project, aiming to improve the competitiveness of Tanzanian rice in regional and international markets.

Through this project, RCT trained over 100 rice millers in high production regions, leading to improved milling practices and investments in new milling machines, facilitating access to regional markets. Through the Growing Resilience program, implemented by Norgesvel, NafakaKilimo, and RCT, there is close collaboration with TARI to promote the development and utilization of improved rice varieties.

The initiative has helped farmers increase productivity and reduce production costs, ultimately improving their net incomes. The recent measures introduced by President Samia are expected to boost farmers' incomes and encourage increased rice production in Tanzania. For the past decade, Tanzania has consistently produced surplus rice, meeting domestic demand and generating significant export potential.

The council has urged President Samia to continue harmonizing regional trade to ensure smooth exports, contributing to both national and regional

INSURER, BANK PARTNERING TO ACCELERATE HEALTH INSURANCE

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

BRITAM Insurance Tanzania has partnered with Bank of Africa (BOA) Tanzania to increase access to health insurance products.

The move comes at a time when the two companies aim to leverage the extensive customer base of the bank to ensure that more individuals and families have access to affordable and comprehensive healthcare services.

The insurance schemes are designed to cater to the diverse medical needs of the bank's customers, providing them with peace of mind and financial security in times of health-related emergencies.

Farai Dogo, CEO of the insurance company, expressed his enthusiasm for the partnership, stating, "We are delighted to join forces with the bank to bring two health insurance schemes.

"This partnership aligns with our commitment to making quality health-

care accessible to all Tanzanians. By working together, we can reach more people and provide them with the protection they need to lead healthier lives," said Dogo.

Esther Cecil Maruma, CEO, BOA, highlighted the significance of the new products for Bank of Africa customers, saying, "Our collaboration with the insurer is a testament to our dedication to offering exceptional services to our customers," she said.

According to her, the products not only enhance our product offerings but also ensure that our customers have access to essential healthcare services. The initiative underscores our commitment to improving the overall well-being of the community.

Eva Daudi Kakwale, Principal Officer Bancassurance added that these products will be available to all customers in Tanzania, marking a significant step towards increasing healthcare access and insurance penetration in Tanzania.

WORLD

Biden 'not confident' of peaceful power transition if Trump loses election

WASHINGTON

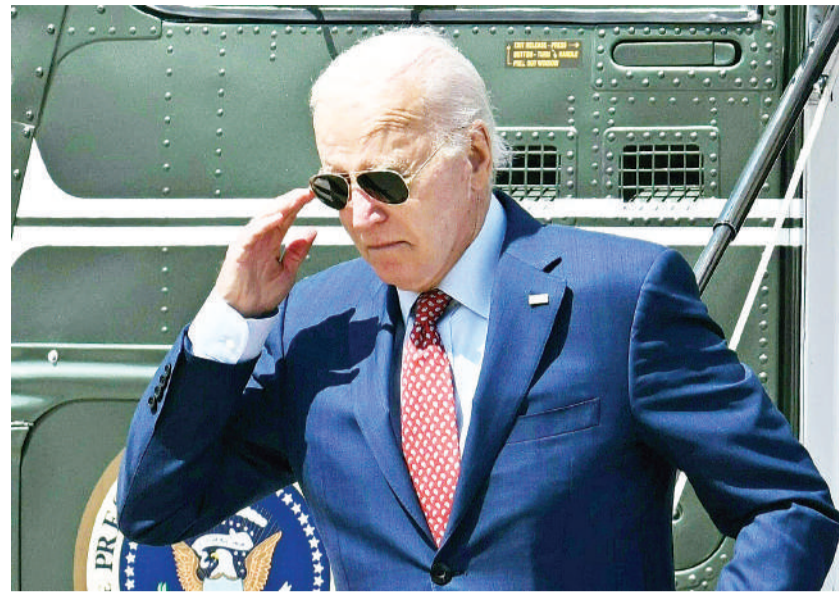
US President Joe Biden said on Wednesday he was not confident about a peaceful transfer of power in the United States if Republican Donald Trump loses the Nov 5 presidential election.

"If Trump loses, I'm not confident at all," Biden said in an interview with CBS News when asked whether he thought

there would be a peaceful transfer of power after the vote.

"He means what he says. We don't take him seriously. He means it. All this stuff about if we lose there'd be a bloodbath," Biden added.

During a March campaign appearance in Ohio, Trump warned of a "bloodbath" if he fails win the election. At the time Trump was discussing the need to protect the US auto indus-



US President Joe Biden arrives at Delaware Air National Guard Base in New Castle, Delaware, on Aug 2, 2024, as he travels to Wilmington, to spend the weekend. AFP

try from overseas competition, and Trump later said he was referring to the auto industry when he used the term.

Trump has falsely claimed he won the 2020 election against Biden and was criminally charged in Washington DC, and Georgia with illegally trying to overturn the results.

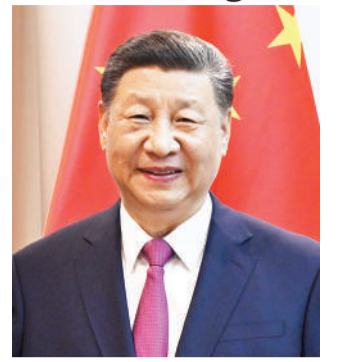
Biden dropped out of the cam-

paign last month after fellow Democrats called for him to step aside following a poor debate performance against Trump that raised questions about the Democratic president's age and health.

Biden's vice-president, Kamala Harris, has since captured the Democratic nomination and is running against Trump. **Agencies**

Xi stresses preserving China's cultural, natural heritage

CHINESE President Xi Jinping has urged further efforts to preserve the country's cultural and natural treasures and renew their glamour in the new era.



Xi (pictured), also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks in an instruction on strengthening the protection, preservation and utilization of cultural and natural heritage.

The instruction was made after one cultural heritage and two natural heritages of China were inscribed on the World Heritage List by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in July 2024.

UNESCO announced the inscription of Beijing Central Axis: A Building Ensemble Exhibiting the Ideal Order of the Chinese Capital, Badain Jaran Desert -- Towers of Sand, and Lakes, and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries along the Coast of Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf of China (Phase II) on its list at the 46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee held in New Delhi, India.

The inclusion of these heritage items has positive significance for the building of Chinese modernization that features material and cultural-ethical advancement and harmony between humanity and nature, Xi said, noting that it also adds new luster to world civilizations.

Xi called for efforts to take this UNESCO inclusion as an opportunity to further strengthen the comprehensive and systematic protection of cultural and natural heritage and make good use of them to better meet the people's needs.

He also urged enhanced international exchange and cooperation in this field, and efforts to make greater contribution to the practice of the Global Civilization Initiative and the building of a community with a shared future for humanity.

Currently, China is home to a total of 59 World Heritage Sites.

Medvedev calls for crushing enemy, learning lessons from developments in Kursk Region

MOSCOW

RUSSIA needs to learn lessons from the Ukrainian army's actions on the border with the Kursk Region and resolutely crush the enemy, Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev wrote on Telegram.

"We need to learn a serious lesson from what happened and do what Chief of the General Staff Valery Gerasimov pledged to the supreme commander-in-chief to do, that is, resolutely defeat and crush the enemy," he said.

Medvedev (pictured) stressed that "the reasons and goals of the terrorist operation of Ukrainian Nazis in the Kursk Region have been thoroughly and objectively analyzed."

In his opinion, Kiev was particularly guided by a desire to demonstrate the best sides of its dwindling forces to its masters in order to get more money and weapons, as well as to make Russia redeploy some of its forces from the line of engagement to Kursk and Belgorod, "temporarily making making a failure look like a success in the information field."

On August 6, the borderline Kursk Region came under a massive attack from Ukraine. Shelling and drone strikes killed five civilians and injured 31 people, including six children.

Army General Valery Gerasimov, chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces, reported to President Vladimir Putin that Russian troops would complete their operation in the Kursk Region by defeating Ukrainian forces and regaining control of the border. **Agencies**



Tense Israel in waiting as attack threat looms

RAMLA

ISRAEL'S ambulance service has stocked blood supplies in a fortified underground center, factories have moved out hazardous materials and municipal authorities are checking bomb shelters and water supplies as the country waits for a threatened attack from Iran.

Israel has been fortifying its home front for months and many preparations have been in place since the start of the war in Gaza last October, when thousands of Hamas-led gunmen carried out a devastating cross-border attack on Israeli communities.

But the urgency has risen sharply over the past 10 days as a relatively contained conflict with the Hezbollah movement in southern Lebanon has threatened to spiral into an all-out regional war.

"I know that the citizens of Israel are on alert, and I ask of you one thing - keep patient and cool," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Wednesday while meeting new army recruits.

"We are prepared for both defense and attack, we are striking our enemies and are also determined to defend ourselves," he said.

Israel now finds itself facing the threat of a multifront war, confronting a clutch of militant movements - Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis in Yemen.

An attack is expected in the coming days following vows from Iran and Hezbollah to retaliate for the assassinations last week of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran and Hezbollah military commander Fuad Shukur in Beirut.

After months of alarm and an attack



Passengers line up to check in at Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv on Wednesday, amid regional tensions during the ongoing war between Israel and the Palestinian Hamas movement in the Gaza Strip. AFP

by hundreds of Iranian missiles in April that was thwarted by Israel's air defenses and the help of international allies, Israelis have become used to the crisis.

Tens of thousands of people were evacuated from northern areas in range of Hezbollah rockets at the start of the war and many border areas now have a ghostly, abandoned air.

But a prolonged bombardment from Hezbollah's rocket arsenal could reach deeper into the country to sensitive targets like the port city of Haifa in northern Israel, which is well in range.

The city's Rambam Hospital has been on alert since last October and has readied its three-floor, fortified underground facility to treat patients.

"We're waiting to see what happens," said David Ratner, a hospital spokesperson.

Alert system

The military is on high alert and last weekend it augmented its nationwide system of air raid sirens and broadcast alerts to include real-time text messages to be sent to residents in targeted areas.

Many local councils have advised residents to reduce non-essential activity, stay near protected areas and avoid large gatherings.

In Haifa, public bomb shelters have been equipped with digital systems so they can be unlocked remotely during an attack, said Yair Zilberman, director

of the city's security and emergency services department. They are also being equipped with generators.

A number of underground parking lots have been approved as makeshift shelters with enough space for thousands of residents if needed, Zilberman said.

In the city of Ramla in central Israel, national ambulance service Magen David Adom (MDA) has been collecting blood donations in a subterranean service center, shielded with extra-thick concrete walls, blast doors and airlocks.

"We've got the threats from Iran, we've got threats from Hezbollah," said MDA's Aryeh Myers. "Massive rocket attacks, massive threats to the state of Israel and we want to make sure that we are ready for anything."

Last Thursday, the Environmental Protection Ministry held a situational assessment to decide how best to protect factories with inventories that could be dangerous if targeted in a missile strike, or how to deal with an attack on a building that contains asbestos.

The military said the Home Front Command keeps in constant contact with factories and local authorities to maintain a "complete picture of the inventory levels of hazardous materials".

The Bazar Group, which operates in Haifa one of the largest oil refineries in the eastern Mediterranean, told Reuters it was "working to maintain energy security and the continuity of fuel supply to the economy."

Mass cash withdrawals are another scenario for which authorities are preparing. **Agencies**

India, Zimbabwe discuss ways to strengthen cooperation

HARARE

INDIA and Zimbabwe held their third Foreign Office Consultations in Harare and reviewed bilateral relations. The two sides discussed ways to strengthen cooperation in development partnerships, trade and economic relations, digital technology, agriculture, health, defence, consular and cultural issues, among others.

In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated, "The 3rd Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) be-

tween India and Zimbabwe were held in Harare on 6th August 2024."

For the meeting, the Indian side was led by Puneet R Kundal, Additional Secretary (East and Southern Africa), Ministry of External Affairs while the Zimbabwean side was led by Mike Chigiji, Chief Director (Political), Zimbabwe's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

The two sides exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual interest including cooperation in the United Nations. The discussions pro-

vided an opportunity for both sides to take stock of the current status of bilateral relations and explore avenues for further deepening ties between the two nations.

In a statement, MEA said, "Both sides reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations between the two countries including existing institutional mechanisms such as the Joint Commission and the Joint Trade Committee."

"Sectoral Cooperation in the fields of defence, agriculture, health, mines, minerals and geology, digital Plat-

forms, education, training and capacity building and cultural exchanges were also discussed," it added.

The two sides agreed to hold the next Foreign Office Consultations at a mutually convenient date in New Delhi.

In a post on X, MEA official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated, "3rd FOC held in Harare, Zimbabwe today. Co-chaired by Additional Secretary (E&S) @prkundal & Chief Director Mike Chigiji of @MoFA_ZW.

ANI

WHO to convene emergency committee to assess international risk from mpox outbreak

THE head of the World Health Organization said on Wednesday an emergency committee will be convened to discuss whether the current mpox outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo represents a public health emergency of international concern.

The current mpox outbreak in Congo has already seen around 27,000 cases, and claimed more than 1,100 lives, most of them children, since the beginning of 2023.

The WHO said that 50 more mpox cases had been confirmed and more were suspected in four countries - Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda - where cases have previously not been re-

ported.

WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that he had decided to convene an emergency committee in light of the spread of mpox in neighboring countries and the potential for further international spread within and outside Africa.

An emergency committee is made up of international experts who provide technical advice and recommendations to the WHO chief about whether a disease outbreak is a "public health emergency of international concern" - the agency's highest level of alert. The final decision is made by the director general.



The UN-affiliated WHO said the emergency committee will be pulled together "as soon as possible" but did not provide a definite date for the meeting or other de-

tails.

"We have released \$1 million from the WHO contingency fund for emergencies to support scale up of the response and we plan to release more in the coming days," Tedros said on a call with journalists.

Tedros added that the agency had triggered the process for emergency use listing of the two mpox vaccines - Bavarian Nordic's Jynneos and KM Biologics LC16 - to help accelerate access to the shots. Congo authorities had approved the use of both the vaccines in June.

The outbreak began with the spread of an endemic strain, known as Clade I. But

the new variant, known as Clade Ib, appears to spread more easily through routine close contact, as seems to be the case among children.

Presence of the Clade Ib strain had been confirmed in Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda, WHO's Tedros said while the strain in Burundi was still being analysed.

A different, less severe form of the virus - clade IIB - spread globally in 2022, largely through sexual contact among men who have sex with men. This prompted the WHO to declare a public health emergency. Although that has ended, WHO has said the disease remains a health threat.

Agencies

SPORT



Vijana basketball team players are pictured during a training session at the Jakaya M. Kikwete Youth Park in Dar es Salaam yesterday. CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Paris Olympics Day 12: Quincy Hall gives Americans another come-from-behind gold

PARIS

QUINCY Hall became the latest American to electrify Olympic track and field with an out-of-nowhere comeback Wednesday night at the Paris Olympics.

Hall sprinted from far behind in the 400 meters to reel in three runners and capture the gold medal. Hall, buried in fourth place as the runners rounded the last bend, outran the runner on his outside, then two more to the inside to cross the line in 43.40 seconds, the fourth-fastest time ever.

Hall then dropped to the track to do snow angels to celebrate.

Matthew Hudson-Smith of Britain finished second and Muzala Samukonga of Zambia finished third.

Hall is the first American since LaShawn Merritt in 2008 to capture gold in the one-lap race. His victory came an evening after teammate Cole Hocker came from far behind late to beat the favorites in the men's 1,500.

The win came about an hour after Noah Lyles advanced to the final of the 200 meters despite finishing second to Letsile Tebogo in his semifinal heat. Lyles will race for the gold medal Thursday.

Highlights of what happened on Day 12 of the Paris Olympics: "U.S. takes silver and almost pulls upset in steeplechase

Soufiane El Bakkali of Morocco defended his title in the men's steeplechase with a .36-second win over American rival Kenneth Rooks.

Rooks had the lead heading into the homestretch and was looking to pull off a massive upset, but El Bakkali overtook him. Rooks still beat his personal best by almost 9 seconds to capture the second silver in three Olympics in the event for the United States.

Australia reaches new heights with pole vault win Nina Kennedy's gold medal in the pole vault was Australia's 18th at the Paris Games, an Olympic record for the country.

Kennedy cleared 4.95 meters to beat defending champion Katie Moon of the U.S.

*Lin Yu-ting advances to gold-medal bout
Boxer Lin Yu-ting of Taiwan advanced to the gold-medal bout in the women's featherweight division. She won her third consecutive bout while dealing with widespread scrutiny regarding misconceptions about her gender.

One day after welterweight Imane Khelif of Algeria reached her weight division's final with a third straight victory in Paris, Lin defeated Esra Yildiz Kahraman of Turkey 5:0.

Lin will fight for gold on Saturday.

Lin and Khelif have dominated all of their Olympic bouts despite the massive distractions created by the fallout from the Olympic-banished International Boxing Association's decision last year to disqualify both fighters from the world championships for allegedly failing an eligibility test.

Both fighters have responded to this unwelcome spotlight by making two of the best tournament runs of their lengthy amateur careers.

*U.S. women's basketball keeps winning
Aja Wilson scored 20 points and Jackie Young added 15 to help the United States beat Nigeria 88-74 in the women's basketball quarterfinals. The victory extended the Americans' record Olympic winning streak to 59.

Breanna Stewart also had 13 points for the Americans, who haven't lost since the 1992 Barcelona Games and are now two victories away from an unprecedented eighth consecutive gold medal. They will face a familiar foe in Australia in the semifinals on Friday night.

The loss ended a historic run by Nigeria, which became the first African country to reach the Olympic basketball quarterfinals.

*Americans win gold in women's team pursuit
The American women's pursuit team had twice before raced for the Olympic gold medal, and it had been on the podium all three times the cycling event had been on the program for the Summer Games.

Successful, but never on top.
The U.S. changed that at the Olympic velodrome when road race champion Kristen Faulkner, time trial bronze medalist Chloe Dygert, Jennifer Valente and Lilly Williams finally took that last step up.

They soared to a big early lead on New Zealand in their head-to-head showdown, then held on through a ragged finish to finally win the gold medal.

The Americans led by more than a second a quarter of the way through the 4,000-meter race, and they stretched the gap at one point to nearly two seconds. When they began to come apart from their single-file, aerodynamic draft with about two laps to go, they had to fight to the finish to hold off Ally Wollaston, Bryony Botha, Emily Shearman and Nicole Shields.

In the final of the men's pursuit, Sam Welsford, Oliver Bleddyn, Conor Leahy and Kelland O'Brien of Australia beat Britain in a close final at the Vélodrome National de Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines to win gold for the first time in two decades. **AP**



Quincy Hall, left, of the United States, beats Matthew Hudson-Smith, of Britain, to win the men's 400-meter final at the 2024 Summer Olympics, Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024, in Saint-Denis, France. (AP Photo)

SPORTS

2024 Climate Change Marathon to promote environmental conservation



Tree of Hope non-governmental organization's Director, Fortunata Manyeresa (C) speaks to journalists about the preparations for the 2024 Climate Change Marathon slated for September 28 in Pangani District, Tanga. She has been flanked by (L) Tanga Regional Athletics Association (TAA) secretary-general Hassan Mwangomba and FEMAPO Network Director Mathias Lyamunda. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT CHEJI BAKARI

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Pangani

THE 2024 Climate Change Marathon, slated to take place in Pangani District, Tanga on September 28, is geared towards raising funds for purchasing liquefied petroleum gas cylinders and distributing them free of charge to women to mitigate climate change and conserve the environment.

Domestic and foreign runners are set to take part in the race, which is organized by a non-governmental organization - Tree of Hope.

The NGO's director, Fortunata Manyeresa, told journalists recently that the race targets to motivate the communities to protect the environment by using clean energy cooking gas in a campaign aiming to mitigate climate change and conserve the environment.

"Women from 50 households in

Handeni and Pangani districts will be some of the beneficiaries and they would receive the liquefied petroleum gas cylinders. This will help to broaden and sharpen their awareness on negative effects of environment and air pollution on communities," Fortunata said.

Foundation for Environmental Management and Against Poverty Organization (FEMAPO) Network Director, Mathias Lyamunda said the race will have the runners battling it out in 21 kilometers, 10 kilometers, 5 kilometers Fun Run, and 2.5 kilometers for children.

He explained that the winner of the 21-kilometer race would pocket 500,000/- while the 10km race champion would take home 300,000/- and 250,000/- has been set aside for the 5-kilometer winner.

He said the registration fee for adults is 35,000/- each, whereas children will have to pay 10,000/- each for the exercise, adding all registration procedures are done online.

Tanga Regional Athletics Association's

secretary-general, Hassan Mwangomba, thanked and commended Tree of Hope for coming up with such an initiative, which seeks to raise funds for purchasing gas cylinders and distributing them free of charge.

The official noted the gesture reflects President Samia Suluhu Hassan's agenda on using clean energy.

Mwangomba revealed the drive also backs Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 7 stressing environmental sustainability, reduction of carbon emissions, and the conservation of the environment. The official requested other stakeholders to back such efforts.

Snoop Dogg has exploded on the Olympics' global stage. He's just being himself

PARIS

SNOOP Dogg steps out of a sleek black SUV, his entourage in tow, as a Parisian crowd erupts into chants of "Snoop, Snoop, Snoop!" outside the NBC set.

Decked out in a custom-made, Noah Lyles-themed USA sweatsuit, the ultra-smooth entertainer glides past the adoring fans with flashing phone cameras into the Musee de l'Homme. Inside, his longtime friend Martha Stewart greets him with a hug. They chat, clink champagne glasses and then he "crip walks" onto the set to film a Sunday night segment.

OK, the show can start - Snoop has arrived. Literally.

At the Paris Games, grand entrances have become the norm in Snoop's spectacular Olympic life.

after returning from watching Lyles' historic victory in the 100-meter sprint and filming a primetime segment with Mike Tirico and Stewart, a surprise guest.

"This opportunity was nothing but a chance for me to show the world what it's supposed to look like when you put the right person in the right environment," Snoop said.

Snoop, 52, has become the star of the Paris Games, ascending to new heights with several memorable moments. He's carried the Olympic torch, captivated audiences as NBC's prime-time correspondent, swam with Michael Phelps, attended a U.S. women's soccer game with Megan Rapinoe, danced with Simone Biles and Jordan Chiles, and cheered on Caeleb Dressel alongside the swimmer's wife and son.

The rap icon is currently in his comfort zone. And sleep? Even that's having a hard time catching up with the on-the-go multi-hyphenate entertainer.

"It's more about relaxing rather than sleeping because I'm having so much fun," he said. "This ain't the town to sleep in. This ain't the time to sleep. This is time to be on it like you want it. It's different events happening day and night. I want to be active with everything, because I love the American athletes and competition. This is what I'm here for."



Snoop Dogg carries the Olympic torch at the 2024 Summer Olympics, Friday, July 26, 2024, in Saint-Denis, outside Paris, France. (AP Photo)

Stewart said she's extremely proud of how Snoop is successfully taking on the challenge. She was impressed by his ability to genuinely connect with Olympians and their family members.

"I think he's done an amazing job for the Olympics," said Stewart, who attended a equestrian team dressage event with Snoop on her 83rd birthday Saturday. For the horseback riding competition, the duo wore matching helmets, black jackets and white pants.

"This is the celebration of the finest athleticism ever in the world and he has made it so accessible to everybody," she continued. "That's his talent. Everybody loves him."

Snoop also has the Games' most in-demand souvenir: A Snoop Dogg pin, which shows him wearing a blue top while exhaling rings colored the same as the Olympics logo. He's gifted one to tennis star Coco Gauff, but passed on offering more details for now on how to obtain more saying, "I'm going to be honest with you. I have zero answers for that."

Meanwhile, Snoop has mastered the art of being himself in front of the television camera - even for a global audience.

He initially went into his correspondent assignment, thinking NBC wanted more "buttoned-up" commentary from him until network executives encouraged him to be his authentic self - especially after seeing his in-person potential during the U.S. Olympic trials.

At the trials, Snoop had done casual on-video interviews with a few Olympians about their sports, including women's basketball player Aja Wilson, gymnast Sunisa Lee, skateboarder Jagger Eaton and beach volleyball players Sara Hughes and Kelly Cheng. He met with Lyles and participated in a 200-meter race - clocking in at 34.44 seconds - with NBC analyst and former Trinidadian track star Ato Boldon and former U.S. national champion Wallace Spearmon.

"This is what I do. I do it every day," said the rapper, who had already become a fan favorite during the Tokyo Games, when he and Kevin Hart did in-studio commentary for Peacock in which he called a "layup drill."

"That's why it's not hard for me," he said. "It's not like an act. The bits that we do. They're comfortable. They're not stretched or forced. It's me being me." **AP**

SPORT

Why Kenya produces so many world-class marathoners - 1

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Almasi Kasongo

TPLB unveils new technical regulations for 2024/25 season

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

THE Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) has announced a series of new technical regulations, which were agreed upon and approved during the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) National Executive Committee meeting held on August 1.

These regulations, set to take effect for the 2024/2025 season, were confirmed in a letter released by TPLB on Wednesday.

Key amendments include updates to Rule 7 of the First League regarding the Top Eight, and seven new Premier League rules affecting various aspects such as stadium requirements, game procedures, penalties for failure to show up for matches, club control, foreign player fees, coaching qualifications, and non-appealable decisions.

The committee also introduced 12 new regulations that will be included in the 2024 edition.

All amendments to the Premier League Regulations will impact other competitions under TFF's jurisdiction, with the updated publications to be made available.

One notable change allows Premier League teams to select an alternative stadium for up to two home games per season, provided they choose from approved venues.

Teams must submit an application 21 days before the intended match at the alternative venue.

In knockout stage games, a team that fails to show up will be automatically disqualified, regardless of previous results.

Following last season's controversy surrounding Simba SC's request to play some league games at Amaan Stadium in Zanzibar, a new rule has been introduced permitting league games to be held in approved stadiums on the Islands.

Additionally, the Union Cup has been officially added to the calendar.

This competition will feature the top two teams from the Mainland Tanzania Premier League and the top two clubs from the Zanzibar Premier League.

From the 2024/25 season onward, head coaches from outside of Africa will be required to hold a Pro License from sister confederations, while assistant coaches must have at least an A License. All foreign coaches must have coached a top-flight club or national team within the last two years.

To combat issues related to integrity in sports, TFF has also introduced regulations prohibiting players, coaches, and officials from participating in sports betting.

The 2024/25 season commenced yesterday with two Community Shield semi-final matches, with the final scheduled for Sunday.

The NBC Premier League will kick off on August 16 and is set to conclude on May 24, 2025.

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Teams must submit an application 21 days before the intended match at the alternative venue

Vital'O poised for CAF Champions League showdown against Yanga

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

BURUNDI Premier League champions, Vital'O, are confident of causing an upset when they face Tanzania's Young Africans in the preliminary round of the CAF Champions League.

Arsene Bacuti, the club's information and communication officer, expressed optimism about his team's chances, declaring them ready to challenge the favourites and advance to the next round.

Vital'O, who secured the Burundi Primus Premier League title with 72 points from 30 matches, are back in the spotlight after last winning the league in the 2015/2016 season. The team has a record 21 league titles to its name.

"We want to compete against Young Africans. I know we are not favourites, but these games are about results. We want to win and progress in the Champions League," Bacuti stated.

He added, "We have a good and competitive team. We recognize Young Africans' quality, but we want to show Africa our skills by eliminating them. Fans should expect to see Vital'O as a team aiming to advance in this competition."

Vital'O will play a friendly match against Pamba FC on August 10 in Mwanza before heading to Dar es Salaam for the first leg against Young Africans on August 17 at Azam Complex.

The return leg will be played on August 24 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, where Young Africans will be the home team.

Young Africans are aiming to qualify for the group stage of the CAF Champions League back-to-back for the first time in their club history.

The aggregate winners between the two teams will face either SC Villa of Uganda or Ethiopian club Commercial Bank in the final play-off round.

This year, Azam FC will join Young Africans to represent Tanzania in the CAF Champions League.

Azam FC will compete against APR of Rwanda, with the winners potentially facing JKU of Zanzibar or Pyramids FC of Egypt for a spot in the group stage.

In the CAF Confederation Cup, Simba SC will enter the competition in the second preliminary round, awaiting the winners of the match between Uhamiaji FC of Zanzibar and the Federation Cup champions from Libya.

Coastal Union will begin their campaign with an away fixture against AS Bravo of Angola, followed by a home match. The overall winners will advance to face FC Lupopo of DR Congo for a place in the group stage.

Kiseto, Bakrania hold sway in ICC U-19 Men's CWC Africa Qualifier Division 2

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

TANZANIA'S U-19 cricketers, Karim Kiseto and Laksh Bakrania, have improved their quest for the best batsman and bowler prizes in the ongoing ICC U-19 Men's Cricket World Cup Africa Qualifier Division 2, given they are so far some of the showdown's best performers.

Kiseto is, until now, the top run-getter in the tournament after amassing 281 runs in three innings. Even though he has yet to end the innings with an unbeaten stint, Kiseto has turned out to be a reliable cricketer for the tournament hosts, when it comes to batting.

In his scintillating stint, the promising batsman has posted two half-centuries and one century, blasting 26 fours and five sixes.

His best performance with the bat saw him garner an impressive 133 runs when Tanzania's U-19 cricket side defeated Mozambique by a comprehensive 353 runs on Tuesday.

Nigeria's trio of Femi Oresenwo (107 runs), Ali Rahmon (105 runs), and Gafar Kareem (88 runs) are sitting second, third, and fourth in the race, and Tanzania's Mohamed Simba is hot on the Nigerians' heels after garnering 87 runs to stay fifth.

Bakrania is lately sitting second in the Best Bowler honour race - having collected 10 wickets in three ties. The talented player has given away 47 runs and has a 2.54 economy rate.

In his best bowling showing, the performer ended with 4-11 when Tanzania faced Ghana last Sunday, grabbing a 162-run win over the latter.

Ghana's skipper Lee Nyarko is leading the Best Bowler race having collected 11 wickets, Sierra Leone's Raymond Coker (nine wickets), Nigeria's Okasha Isiyaku (eight wickets), and Botswana's Aryan Abin (eight wickets) sit third, fourth and fifth in the prize's battle.

Nyarko's hopes of laying his hands on the Best Bowler prize though are up in smokes, as Ghana, slotted in Group B, has already missed out on booking a place in the last four.

Tanzania's U-19 cricketers showcased an exceptional performance at the University of Dar es Salaam ground, securing their place in the semi-finals with a commanding victory over Ghana last weekend.

Opting to bat first, Tanzania set a formidable target of 215 runs in 35.4



Tanzania's U-19 cricket squad's batsman, Karim Kiseto, celebrates after scoring a century as the side came up against Mozambique in the ICC U19 Men's World Cup Africa Division 2 Qualifier's tie in Dar es Salaam last Tuesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

overs, thanks to Kiseto's explosive 91 runs off 82 balls and a solid 47 runs off 52 balls by Dylan Thakrar.

Ghana's bowlers, led by Nyarko with 4-60 and David Ateak with 3-21, struggled to contain the opponents' batting onslaught.

In response, Ghana crumbled under the relentless pressure from Tanzania's bowlers.

Fast opening bowler Khalidy Amiri set the tone by picking three wickets in the fifth over, with one more wicket falling in the same over due to a run-out, reducing Ghana to 7-5 after five overs.

Despite this, Aariz Sood and Bernard Neequaye provided some resistance, forming a 41-run partnership that was the saving grace for Ghana's innings.

Bakrania was outstanding, claiming 4-11 in just 2.3 overs, while Khalidy Juma took 4-18 in 6 overs. Ghana's U-19 cricketers were bowled out for a mere 53 runs in 16.3 overs. This victory not only secured Tanzania's semi-final berth but also highlighted Kiseto as the top run-getter of the tournament so far.

Kiseto, the Player of the Match award's winner, said: "I want to thank the Almighty and my fellow players. The camaraderie in the team is good, and that's why the results are showing. I am disappointed not to convert this innings into a century, but the most important thing is the team won."

Nyarko, Ghana's skipper and leading wicket-taker in the tournament, remarked: "Today we didn't play good cricket, but we

will show it in the next game. So we have to wait and see."

In the showpiece's tie at the Gymkhana ground, Nigeria delivered a record-breaking performance, setting the tournament's highest total with 362/8 in 50 overs against Mozambique.

Hossana Omokhobio led the charge with a well-crafted 69 runs off 95 balls, supported by Peculiar Egamasi's 53 runs off 48 balls and a quickfire 45 off 32 balls by Gafar Kareem.

Mozambique U-19 team's bowlers, despite their best efforts, could not stem the flow of runs.

Eugenio Azine and Charles Mbebe were the pick of the bowlers, taking 3-58 and 2-58, respectively. In reply, Mozambique's batting lineup collapsed under immense pressure, managing 48 runs in 18.5 overs.

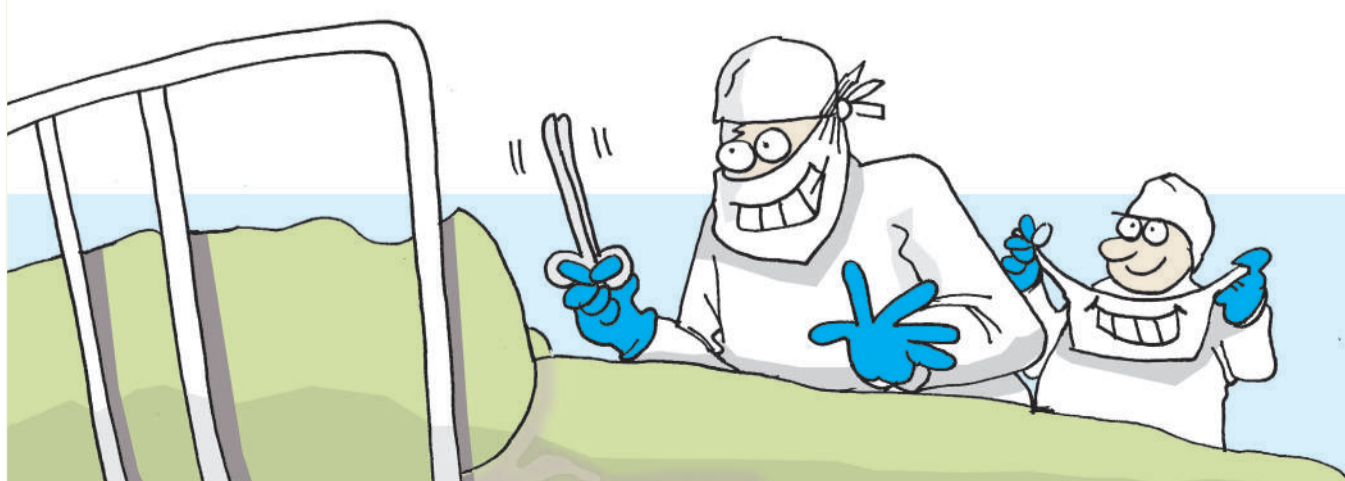
Antonio Laice, the Mozambique captain, was the only player to reach double digits, scoring 20 off 44 balls.

Kareem's brilliant all-round performance continued as he took 3-10, and Isiyaku supported well with 3-16. Nigeria won by an astounding 314 runs.

Kareem, who received the Player of the Match award, said: "The plan to bat first was good as it was a flat wicket and there was a good chance of scoring big runs. We have a crucial game against Ghana, and we aim to carry this momentum forward."

Botswana, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and hosts Tanzania are battling it out in the showpiece.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 EATV FRIDAY

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

TONIGHT @ 9:00

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Movie
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 Movie
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 Skonga
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Friday Night Live
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

Friday Night Live The Weekend begins here! Listen to upbeat mixed music by the hottest DJs, Gossip, showbiz updates and exclusive interviews with celebrities from home and abroad. Don't you dare miss this.

eastAfrica RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 Friday Night Live

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM