



National Pg 3
Ensure children get quality education, parents urged

National Pg 4
TGDC identifies 52 areas with geothermal energy

National Pg 6
Dodoma to host symposium on sustainable fertiliser use



Motorists happy as fuel loses 100/- in key prices

“For those of us who fill large quantities of fuel, around 200 liters, we found it cheaper to refuel on the other side of the border, as we were saving up to 300,000/-, helping to cover our other needs”

By Guardian Reporter

MOTORISTS across the country can now enjoy some relief as fuel prices have dropped for October 2024, compared to the previous month.

The Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) yesterday announced new fuel prices, attributing the decrease to lower fuel prices in the Middle East market.

EWURA report said that petrol prices for imports through Dar es Salaam port decreased from 3,140/- per litre in September to 3,011/- for October quotations, a 4.1 percent reduction.

Similarly, prices for petrol from the port

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Vice President Dr Philip Mpango bids farewell Ansari Group Ltd chairperson Dr Sania Ansari shortly after their talks at the Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday. The firm is based in United Arab Emirates (UAE). Photo: VPO

ZRA gets 2.4bn/- more in September revenues

By Rahma Suleiman, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar Revenue Authority (ZRA) has exceeded its revenue collection target by 2.4bn/- for September. Said Ali Mohammed, the ZRA acting

commissioner general, said yesterday that the agency collected 76.497bn/-, well over the projected 74.049bn/-, in a briefing for journalists.

The increase represents 103.31 percent efficiency level in revenue collec-

tion, with September 2023 collections reaching 61.694bn/-, implying a 23.99 percent increase in revenue collection in the past month, he said.

During the first quarter (July-Sep-

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World Bank officials and Water ministry experts plus the Tanga Rural Water Sanitation Authority (RUWASA) taste water at the Sange project for Masaika dispensary, Pangani District, on Tuesday. The project billed at 540m/- is implemented through the 'pay for results' (P4R) programme. Photo: Correspondent Chaji Bakari

WFP enables TRC to set up refrigerated wagons facility

By Guardian Correspondent, Kilosa

REFRIGERATED wagons will now be used in bulk transportation of vegetables, meat and fruits on the traditional central railway line.

David Kihenzile, the Transport deputy minister, made this affirmation at the launch of the special cargo handling initiative handled by the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC), with funding from the World Food Programme (WFP).

Ronald Tran Ba Huy, the WFP country representative, recalled that two years ago the UN agency launched a milestone initiative in partnership with TRC for what is known as the structured rail cold chain project.

“Initially focused on horticultural products, the project aims to connect key production areas in Dodoma and Morogoro regions along the central railway line with major retailers and processors in Dar es Salaam and Dodoma.

It also seeks to facilitate export through port and airport facilities in Dar es Salaam, he said, highlighting that to date, WFP has invested \$0.53m in the project, covering a joint WFP/TRC assessment and a feasibility study.

It has also enabled the procurement of eight refrigerated 40-foot containers, 5,040 plastic crates, 200 pallets and 16 heavy-lift equipment pieces for project operations, all

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Smelly fencing checks jumbo farm intrusions

By Guardian Reporter, Namtumbo

A GERMAN Development Agency (GIZ) project in the Ruvuma landscape where it allocated funds for building smelly fencing with help from village game scouts (VGS) in camps for four months to ensure safety of farmers' crops is paying dividends.

In the project sponsored by the parent ministry initialled as BMZ, the agency works with the Natural Resources and Tourism ministry within Liwale District, Lindi Region as well as Tunduru and Namtumbo districts in Ruvuma Region.

Issa Ndomondo, the Namtumbo District game warden, said they have been advising villagers to use all the methods drawn up by experts like scaring away wild animals, methods that are now becoming familiar, but not too effective.

“The challenge was more serious before GIZ came to our district,” he said, noting that people are grateful that elephant intrusion incidents have been reduced in most villages.

Only three out of eight villages involved in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflict project reported elephant crop raiding incidents during the past farming season, he said, pointing out that in Namtumbo District, GIZ works in eight villages.

These are Nelawamwahi, Ligunga, Kilimasera, Mtonya, Likuyu Sekamaganga, Likuyu Mandela, Nambecha and Kitanda, with the project being implemented for three years, mid-2022 to June 2025.

Chrian Zimbaiya, the GIZ technical advisor in the district, told members of the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) that this interventions has contributed to reducing human-wildlife conflicts (HWC) in Mtelawamwahi, Ligunga, Kilimasera, Mtonya and Kitanda villages.

“HWC challenges have decreased in five vil-

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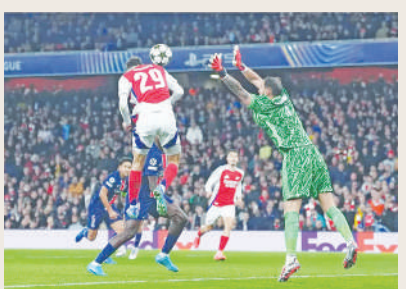
SPORTS

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Yanga ready to extend perfect start at expense of winless Pamba

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Luis Enrique's gamble to leave out 'not ready' Dembélé backfires badly against Arsenal



Motorists happy as fuel loses 100/- in key prices

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of Tanga dropped from 3,141/- to 3,016/- per litre, and for Mtwara port imports, prices decreased from 3,142/- to 3,016/-, it said.

Diesel prices followed a similar trend, with a significant drop for Dar es Salaam port imports, 1 from 3,011/- in September to 2,846/- in October quotations. Diesel prices at ex-Tanga port imports decreased from 3,020/- to 2,859/-, and at Mtwara port, the price went down from 3,021/- to 2,862/- per litre.

Dr James Mwainyekule, the EWURA director general said in a statement that the drop in prices is a result of declining fuel costs in the Arabian market.

Fuel prices in the country are based on free on board (FOB) prices from the Arabian market, with the October 2024 prices reflecting the trends as moving from September import quotations.

In comparison to August 2024, petrol prices have dropped by 7.42 percent, diesel by 9.15 percent and kerosene by 8.23 percent. Import costs (premiums) for petrol saw a

slight increase of 2.63 percent, while diesel premiums decreased by a significant 16.58 percent, kerosene premiums falling by 3.39 percent, he said.

The reduction in fuel prices is expected to provide some relief to businesses and households, with interviewed drivers expressing relief over the drop in fuel prices.

Some used to cross border points to refuel at lower costs, they said, where John Lyaheja, a freight transit cargo reaching some nearby countries, said they used to pay 3,374/- per litre of diesel in Mbeya, while in Zambia diesel prices ranged from 2,800/- to 2,900/- per litre.

"For those of us who fill large quantities of fuel, around 200 liters, we found it cheaper to refuel on the other side of the border, as we were saving up to 300,000/-, helping to cover our other needs," he asserted.

"We appreciate the authorities for thinking of lowering fuel prices, as it will continue to ease our living expenses. We urge the government to keep an eye on this issue and, if possible, lower prices even further," a city taxi driver intoned.

Smelly fencing checks jumbo farm intrusions

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lages involved in the project. Only three villages still faced the problem," he said, asserting that it GIZ hadn't initiated the measure, crop damage in the villages, especially in Likuyu Sekamaganga, would have been much more serious.

He said taking into consideration that the budget allocated to reducing HWC by the district is limited, hence decisions by GIZ to provide a 120m/- subsidy to help with fuel, uniforms, allowances and tents.

Noting that the funding is intended for one year, he stated that the government would later need to take full responsibility to address the challenge, with Kitanda village chairman Joseph Ngonyani affirming that the project made a difference.

With support from GIZ the wildlife authorities have succeeded to reduce intrusion incidents from 46 in 2023 to 15 this year. The success is linked with instructions to the villagers on how to scare away the beasts, as well as the provision of protective equipment handed as

part of the project.

The village government has been working with these agencies to stem elephant intrusions into farms and causing damage, he said, pointing at a smelly repellent as having worked wonders.

It is a handy method to mitigate the growing problem of crop-raiding by elephants, he said, noting that the few people still experiencing the challenge are those whose farms were not protected by using the smelly repellent fence.

Edson Ntungule, the Kitanda village executive officer, said that GIZ is also providing training to village wildlife officers to enhance their skills in dealing with the big animals.

He appealed for more VGS as well as providing them with allowances to boost their morale, while a farmer, Afuna Nyonni from Kitanda village said she has harvested more maize this year compared to last.

She had farmed two acres in the 2023 farming season but elephants entered her farm and destroyed one and a half acres, she stated at the event.

WFP enables TRC to set up refrigerated wagons facility

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of which have been handed over to TRC, he stated.

The refrigerated containers are compatible with both the meter gauge railway and the standard gauge railway (SGR), providing flexibility in operations, with this investment additional to technical support WFP provides to TRC.

"This important step is part of the government's strategy to increase cargo transport by enhancing railway business," the chief guest said in his remarks, noting that farmers, livestock keepers plus those engaged in horticulture will able to take advantage of this facility to widen business activity.

Ease of transportation will foster ability to meet domestic and international market demands, he said, asking those engaged in produce transportation to take up the offer, as this is vital for the sustainability of this programme.

He aired the that efforts need to be made to ensure that cold chain operations on TRC wagons remains sustainable, hinting concerns on this issue at the cabinet level, with specific instructions by Dr Doto Biteko, as deputy prime minister.

The aim is to elevate transportation sector reliability for horticulture and other perishables in local and regional markets and even beyond, he emphasised.

Prof. Godius Kahyarara, the Transport permanent secretary, said that work on the project follows years of awareness of extensive post-harvest losses for perishable goods, even if

they have some accessible markets, owing to poor storage practices.

Research shows that six million tonnes of vegetables are marketed annually but this is only a part of what is produced, he said, while Masanja Kadogosa, the TRC director general was optimistic on the new arrangements.

He said TRC starts with eight refrigerated wagons, with charges significantly reduced to allow more transporters to take up the service offer.

Shaka Hamdu Shaka, the Kilosa district commissioner, said the programme would help boost the economy for local residents and elsewhere in the region.

Residents Zena Said and Nasoro Ally praised the government's initiative, expressing the feeling that it provides an opportunity for farmers to expect more efficient access to markets.



TRC starts with eight refrigerated wagons, with charges significantly reduced to allow more transporters to take up the service offer



Finance Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (R) exchanges greetings with International Monetary Fund (IMF) experts' team leader, Harris Tsangarides in a ceremony to open discussions between the government and the IMF team in Dodoma yesterday. The team is in the country to conduct the fourth review of the extended credit facility programme, featuring low-interest loans to strengthen social services in particular. Photo: Ministry of Finance

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tember 2024) of fiscal 2024/2025. ZRA had an estimated target of 194.031bn/- but successfully collected 200.934bn/-, achieving a 103.56 per cent efficiency level, he said.

Fiscal 2023/2024 first quarter collections stood at 161.831bn/-, thus a 24.16 per cent growth in collections for this quarter, owing to economic interaction between Zanzibar and Mainland regions.

An improved business environment explains the situation, with large investments in infrastructure and social services, along with more intense economic activities in Zanzibar, he said.

Higher voluntary compliance due to better relations with taxpayers owing to trade facilitation, reaching out and listening to taxpayers helped, he said, pointing at the ZRA

ZRA gets 2.4bn/- more in September revenues

taxpayer contact center, and the ZRA access app.

Greater use of electronic fiscal receipting system (VFMS) and the ZIDRAS revenue collection system contributed, along with close monitoring of taxpayers, enabled by hiring more temporary employees, he stated.

Implementation of tax law amendments for fiscal 2024/2025 improved collection from value added tax (VAT), excise duty, port fees and infrastructure tax, he further noted.

The Zanzibar Treasury, ZRA and

the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), the Zanzibar Tourism Commission worked more harmoniously, enhancing overall compliance levels.

These methods will be used to enhance tax revenue collection for the second quarter of the financial year, visiting to taxpayers to address business challenges and tax disputes. This will ease tax law enforcement in eliminating business challenges, he stated.

ZRA will also work with business associations to ensure taxpayers integrate their business systems with

the electronic fiscal receipting system for accurate taxpayer information.

Campaigns aimed at promoting voluntary tax payment across all regions will be pursued, alongside taxpayer registration and uplifting the correct use of the VFMS, he said.

ZRA will also conduct research to find solutions for easing tax payment by addressing emerging challenges, enhance the skills of ZRA employees with appropriate training, strict management and delivering quality services to taxpayers, he added.



Said Ali Muhamed (C), the Zanzibar Revenue Authority (ZRA) acting director, briefs journalists on tax collections for September, which exceeded the set collection targets. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

ABIDJAN

MOST of Ivory Coast's main cocoa regions received below-average rainfall last week but farmers on Monday said it was sufficient to boost development of the next October-to-March season.

The world's top cocoa producer is in its rainy season, which runs from April to mid-November.

Most farmers said they were waiting for a new farmgate price to be set on Monday before selling their stocks of beans.

In the western region of Soubre and in southern region of Divo,

Below-average rain enough for Ivory Coast cocoa crop-farmers

where rains were above average last week, but also in the southern region of Agboville and in the eastern region of Abengourou, where rains were below average, farmers said more pods were ready to be harvested next month than in the same period last season.

However, farmers also voiced fears that heavy rainfall in October could damage bean quality.

"The plantations now need plen-

ty of sunshine and average rainfall, otherwise there will be crop losses," said Salame Kone, who farms near Soubre, where 33.3 millimetres (mm) fell last week, 12.9 mm above the five-year average.

In the west-central region of Daloa and in the central regions of Bongouanou and Yamoussoukro, where rains were below average last week, farmers said main crop harvesting would be significant in

October and gradually increase until December.

"There are more and more workers on the plantations for harvesting because there's so much cocoa," said Albert N'Zue, who farms near Daloa, where 27.8 mm of rain fell last week, 1.8 mm below the five-year average.

Average temperatures across Ivory Coast ranged from 24.7 to 26.6 degrees Celsius.

Child marriage: Govt pledges to amend law to protect girls

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has pledged to amend the controversial Marriage Act of 1971 to enhance protections of girls.

The aforementioned law allows girls as young as 15 to get married with parental consent while boys cannot get married before attaining the age of consent 18.

Amon Mpanju, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, made this announcement in Dar es Salaam yesterday during a press conference ahead of the International Day of the Girl Child on October 11.

He stated that the government, through the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, is currently gathering public input to inform the legislative changes.

Mpanju noted that a bill to review the law had previously been drafted and submitted to Parliament for amendment. However, it was recognized that the issue was cross-cutting and required broader public involvement.

The initiative to amend the law aims to tackle the numerous challenges girls face in society, including alarming rates of early pregnancies and violence against children.

"The government is committed to strengthening oversight and ensuring that all children in the country are protected so that they can achieve their dreams," he said.

Mpanju also urged parents and guardians to fulfill their primary responsibilities in raising children and protecting them from violence.

According to a police report on gender-based violence, from January to December 2023, there were 15,301 reported incidents of violence against children, compared

to 12,163 in the same period in 2022, representing a 25.8 percent increase.

The regions with the highest statistics of child abuse are Arusha with 1,089 cases; Morogoro (976) Tanga (8840), Kinondoni (789) and the Urban-West in Zanzibar with 788 cases.

The most common acts reported include rape (8,185 cases), sodomy (2,382 cases) and impregnating pupils (1,437 cases).

Mpanju emphasized that parents and guardians have a significant responsibility to protect children from violence, noting that 60 percent of the acts occur at home.

"Parents and guardians should communicate regularly with their children and monitor their behaviour to safeguard them from violence. Remember, a child may experience these acts and remain silent," he said.

Regarding the International Day of the Girl Child, Mpanju stated that every year on October 11, Tanzania joins other United Nations member countries to commemorate the day, established by the UN Security Council declaration on December 19, 2011.

He added that the observance aims to highlight the unique challenges faced by girls that hinder their fundamental rights to grow and realize their full potential.

In addressing the challenges, Mpanju mentioned that the government has implemented various initiatives, including establishment of special desks in schools to empower children through awareness and counseling in schools.

"By September of this year, a total of 3,618 desks were created, including 2,471 in primary schools and 1,147 in secondary schools," he said.



Justice Augustine Mwarija of the Court of Appeal delivering a lesson for trainees, numbering 60, on cybercrime and electronic evidence at a workshop in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Energy Minister Dr Doto Biteko has urged parents and guardians in the country to take advantage of the school infrastructure being built through collaboration of the government and donors to give children high quality education and speed up development.

Dr Biteko made the remarks while inaugurating infrastructure at Kimberly and Miles White Secondary School constructed at a cost of over 12bn/- in Mkinga District, Tanga Region. The aim is to help children

Biteko calls on guardians to ensure children get high-quality education

in the area overcome educational challenges.

He said that the infrastructure built at high cost should be well-maintained and preserved to benefit both the community and the nation.

Dr Biteko also urged students to seize the opportunity to further their education by focusing on their studies. He cautioned them to be mindful of social media content, suggesting that by doing so they will

not regret the positive outcomes they can achieve.

Minister for Education, Science and Technology Prof Adolf Mkenda announced that the ministry was preparing to introduce vocational training, with more than 100 schools being built nationwide to equip pupils with practical skills upon graduation.

He further stated that the significant effort invested in the

school's infrastructure will be safeguarded and developed to ensure achievement of the intended goals.

Robert Ford, ABBOTT board chairman and CEO, noted that construction of the school aims to provide local children with high quality education and essential skills. He expressed gratitude to residents of Mapatano for their cooperation throughout the project's implementation.

Stakeholders agree on Africa's plan on health, climate change

By Special Correspondent, Dakar

MORE than 80 health and climate change experts, partners and civil society representatives yesterday agreed on a five-year strategic plan for the African region to support countries build resilient and sustainable health system and make health an integral part of negotiations on climate-change adaptation and mitigation.

The experts also set in motion discussions and collaborations aimed at driving bold climate actions to address Africa's climate-induced health challenges. Clim-HEALTH Africa is a consortium for Climate and Health bringing together African technical institutions and international partners to guide and strengthen the public health resilience of African countries and communities to climate change. The network has been working with partners to help predict, prevent, and manage acute public health effects of climate change in Africa through evidence-based climate-informed planning, capacity building and expert knowledge sharing.

African countries are experiencing increasing climate-linked emergencies. In 2023 alone, extreme weather events killed more than 15 000 people, with droughts affecting more than 88 million people across six African countries, according to World Health Organization (WHO) data. However, only 22 countries in the region have national health adaptation plans and less than 20 percent of the countries have health mentioned in their nationally determined contributions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"Our region is home to six countries of the top ten most disaster affected countries in the world, with heatwaves, floods, cyclones and wildfires affecting health and livelihoods of millions of people," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa.

The finalization of a Clim-HEALTH Africa strategic work plan comes at a time when health is receiving increasing attention in the global discourse on climate change. The plan marks an

important step in the continent's climate change advocacy drive, as it clearly defines how countries can develop national health adaptation plans, integrate climate change and health challenges into national programmes. The plan also ensures the availability of climate and health indicators that will address issues of early warning systems.

With the growing need for countries to have climate-resilient health systems that can adapt to emerging threats, while continuing to meet existing health needs, knowing how to optimize resources remains key. The Clim-HEALTH Africa meeting was an opportunity to strengthen experts' capacities in climate negotiations in the bid to raise the voice of health in international climate debates.

This meeting organized with support from Wellcome Trust and Spanish Government Agency, builds on Clim-HEALTH Africa's past four gatherings. In 2017, a roundtable of Clim-Health Africa consortium-initiated discussions around using early warning systems for climate-sensitive diseases. A system which has so far been implemented in three pilot African countries to anticipate and rapidly control some infectious diseases like malaria.

The key shifts highlighted in this year's meeting include a focus on setting up a coordination mechanism for contributing to global climate and health indicators work programme, building Africa health negotiators' capacities in climate diplomacy and negotiations and planning for Clim-HEALTH Africa five years activities' agenda. "The African regional plan lays a strong foundation for concrete steps that countries can take to address these challenges, assert Africa's health voice in climate change forums and be resilient in the face of these emerging challenges," said Dr Moeti.

"Our region is home to six countries of the top ten most disaster affected countries in the world, with heatwaves, floods, cyclones and wildfires affecting health and livelihoods of millions of people"



Rajabu Abdulrahman (R), the Tanga Regional CCM Chairman, addresses Pangani residents yesterday after a party selection committee inspected the implementation of health and education development projects in Pangani. Left is Pangani District Commissioner Gift Msuya. Photo: Correspondent Cheji Bakari

ROME

THE United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has welcomed a renewed commitment by G7 agriculture ministers to work towards greater food security and better nutrition globally, noting that 309 million people face acute hunger caused by conflict, economic upheaval and the climate crisis.

During a two-day meeting in the southern Italian city of Siracusa, which ended recently, ministers agreed to work to make agriculture and food systems more productive, resilient and sustainable. They also made a specific commitment to help develop agriculture and food systems in Africa, through equitable

WFP praises G7 commitment to food security, nutrition in Africa

partnerships.

"Strategic investments by G7 nations are critical to drive the transformation in global agriculture needed to tackle widespread hunger and create food security for all. With our expertise and decades of experience, WFP is ready to play our full part in this process," said WFP Executive Director Cindy McCain during the ministers' meeting. "The G7's welcome commitments must now translate into tangible support, which helps smallholder

farmers adapt to climate change and builds strong foundations for more resilient global food systems."

Italy, which holds the G7 presidency for the year, has historically been one of the leaders in placing food security at the core of the global agenda and hosted the first G7 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in 2009.

The Italian G7 presidency held a 'Forum for Africa' in Siracusa aimed to strengthen cooperation in the agriculture sector between

G7 members and African countries. It was attended by ministers from nine African countries, the African Union as well as international organizations including WFP.

The United Nations World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian organization saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.

CO-OPERATIVE BANK OF TANZANIA

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI):

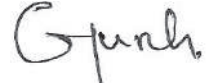
STATUTORY EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES FOR THE CO-OPERATIVE BANK OF TANZANIA
CLOSING DATE: TUESDAY, 8TH OCTOBER 2024 AT 16:00
EOI NUMBER: 01/2024

External auditors are hereby invited to submit an expression of interest to conduct a statutory audit for the co-operative bank of Tanzania for year 2024 and 2025.

Details and mode of application are available at www.kcblbank.co.tz. Kindly contact 0714476787 for any clarifications.

Note that any information contained therein does not constitute an expressed or implied contract or offer.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Executive Officer
Co-operative Bank of Tanzania

CO-OPERATIVE BANK OF TANZANIA LIMITED

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF STATUTORY EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES FOR THE YEAR 2024 & 2025

BACKGROUND

Co-operative Bank of Tanzania Limited (CBT) is commercial Bank formed after merging Kilimanjaro Co-operative Bank Limited (KCBL) and Tandahimba Co-operative Bank Limited (TACOBAL). The Bank is expected to start operations in October 2024. The Bank will have its Head office in Dodoma and three Branches located in Moshi, Tandahimba and Dodoma.

We would like to engage a reputable audit firm to carry-out the statutory audit of CBT for the financial year ending December 31, 2024 and 2025.

OBJECTIVE OF THE AUDIT

The objective of the external audit is to express an independent professional opinion on the Financial Statements of CBT in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA) issued by the IFAC (International Federation of Accountants). The external auditor is also required to express a professional opinion on the soundness of the internal control systems, compliance to International Accounting Standards (IAS) & International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), and the other legal and regulatory requirements. Moreover, The audit service will express professional opinion on IT system in line with BOT requirements.

SCOPE OF WORK

The successful External Auditor will cover review of:

- Financial Statements of CBT
- IT system as per BOT requirements
- Soundness of the internal control systems

Note that, the audit review of for year ended 31st December 2024, will cover last quarter of year ended 31st December 2024 since external audit of individual Banks (KCBL and TCBL) up 30th September 2024 will be completed in October 2024.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Eligible Audit firm should meet the following criteria:

- Compliance with legal requirements of registration
- Registered by Bank of Tanzania to audit Banks and Financial Institutions in Tanzania
- Experience of the audit firm with audit reporting under International Financial Reporting standards (IFRS) and International Standards on Auditing (ISA)
- References for similar audits performed within the last four years (From 2019 and above)
- Provide Audit Methodology, Proposed Work-plan, Curriculum Vitae for the partner, manager and key staff proposed for the audit team
- Audit firm and staff must be independent of CBT, and affirm their independence in the engagement letter.
- Any actual or potential conflict of interest in taking up this role should be highlighted.

Note: A detailed evaluation criteria is presented in Appendix 1 below.

TIME SCHEDULE

The audit for year 2024 is expected to be completed by 15th March 2025 (including issuing report and presentation to Board Audit & Risk Committee) while of 2025 by 15th March 2026.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINE

Proposal should be submitted through e-mail at info@kcblbank.co.tz with subject 'EOI Provision of External Audit Services'. Physical proposal may be sent through Post box 1760, Moshi or physically delivered at KCBL Head Office located at Nyerere Road in Moshi Municipal.

The deadline for submission of the proposal is: 8th October 2024 at/or before 16:00 hours East African time

Appendix 1: Evaluation Criteria.

A. Mandatory Requirements				
No.	Particulars	Marks	Compliant	Non-compliant
1.	Copy of Certificate of Incorporation/Certificate of Registration			
2.	Copy of valid Tax Compliance certificate			
3.	Copy of PIN Certificate			
4.	NBAA practicing license for the audit firm and for partners of the audit firm			
5.	Audited financial statements for the last 2 years (2021/2022, 2022/2023)			
Only those that meet the mandatory requirements in Section A will move to next stage of the evaluation.				
B. Expertise of firm / organization submitting proposal				
		Score	Max.	
6.	Impartiality, Independence and Perceived Conflict of Interest of the Firm			
7.	General Organizational Capability which is likely to affect delivery eg. Limited number of staff			
8.	Experience in reviewing various Banks and Financial Institutions in Tanzania			
C. Proposed Work Plan and Approach				
		Score	Max.	
9.	Is the scope of task well defined and does it correspond to the TOR			
10.	Is the audit methodology adopted appropriate for the task?			
11.	Is the presentation clear and is the sequence of activities and the planning logical, realistic and promise efficient implementation to the project?			
12.	Audit Timelines			
D. Team Members Experience & Expertise				
		Score	Max.	
13.	General Qualification of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner Team Leader Managers Senior Auditors Audit Assistants 			
14.	Professional Experience in the area of specialization: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner Team Leader Managers Senior Auditors Audit Assistants 			
E. Financial proposal				
15.	Audit Fees and other costs			
F. Other aspect				
16.				

'At least 52 areas in 16 regions have big potential for geothermal energy'

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

TANZANIA Geothermal Development Company (TGDC) has identified 52 areas in 16 regions with the potential for geothermal energy.

Mathew Mwangomba, TGDC Managing Director, made the statement here yesterday while speaking to journalists about the 10th African Geothermal Conference scheduled to take place in Dar es Salaam from 21 to 27 this month.

Mwangomba stated that Tanzania has the potential to generate over 5,000 megawatts of electrical energy and 15,000 megawatts of thermal energy for direct use.

"The company continues with its five priority projects aimed at generating 200 megawatts of electricity. The projects include Ngozi 70MW (Mbeya), Kiejo-Mbaka 60MW (Mbeya), Natron 60MW (Arusha), Songwe 5MW (Songwe) and Luhoi 5-38MW (Coast), making

a total of 200 megawatts," he said.

He added that the government has enabled the company to purchase a geothermal research drilling rig valued at 13.18bn/-, which will be used for drilling in various geothermal projects across the country.

"The drilling of research wells in the Ngozi project is expected to commence shortly after procurement processes are completed," he stated.

He said that through the projects, Tanzania aims to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels, gas and hydropower, thereby strengthening its electricity supply.

Regarding the conference, he stated that it would help take significant steps towards completing the global geothermal journey.

He noted that about 1,000 participants from African countries and 13 other nations in Europe and the Arab world are expected to

attend. "The conference is set to be opened by Vice President Dr Philip Mpango on 23 October this year and will be closed by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa on 25 October," he said.

Mwangomba listed the topics for discussion at the conference, including electricity generation using geothermal energy, direct utilisation of geothermal energy in sectors such as agriculture and aquaculture, geothermal well engineering and new technologies, and ways to secure funding for renewable energy projects, including geothermal energy.

Additionally, the discussion will cover environmental and social benefits in geothermal project development, research and development of geothermal resources, policies and regulations in the geothermal resource sector, and environmental and social impacts in the development of geothermal project.



A cross-section of nutritionists taking body measurements of an employee of the Pangani District Council for body mass index (BMI) assessment, in a week-long exercise intended to evaluate nutrition conditions of public employees in the district. BMI is calculated by dividing an adult's weight in kilograms by their height in metres. Photo: Correspondent Cheji Bakari

African, world leaders congratulate China on 75th founding anniversary

BEIJING

LEADERS of African and other countries recently sent messages and letters of congratulation to Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China

(PRC).

President of the Republic of Congo Denis Sassou Nguesso said his country will make every effort and remain steadfast in deepening cooperation with China, promoting greater development in bilateral ties.

Kenyan President William Ruto said that China is an important development

partner for African countries, and Kenya is willing to deepen the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership with China to benefit the two peoples and achieve shared prosperity.

Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema said that the Chinese people have made great achievements with unity and hard work, and the Zambian side is willing to continue to deepen cooperation with China in various fields and build a more harmonious and prosperous community of shared future.

China has created a great miracle in the history of human development, and the Chinese people are comprehensively advancing the cause of building a strong country and national rejuvenation with Chinese modernisation, setting an example for other developing countries, said Faustin-Archange Touadera, president of the Central African Republic.

Liberian President Joseph Nyumah Boakai said he highly recognized what Xi has said: "On the path to modernization, no one, and no country, should be left behind," noting his country is looking forward to strengthening cooperation with China.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL AT DAR ES SALAAM

APPEAL NO. 8 OF 2024

BETWEEN

B COMMODITIES ME (FZE) APPELLANT

AND

FAIR COMPETITION COMMISSION RESPONDENT

(Notice pursuant to Rule 16 of the Fair Competition Tribunal Rules, 2012)

TAKE NOTICE THAT an appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Fair Competition Commission (FCC), dated 14th August 2024, approving with conditions Merger Application No. CBC.127/359/217 in which the Appellant notified her intention to acquire the entire issued shares in Lipton Teas and Infusions Tanzania Limited.

The appeal is based on the ground that FCC erred in law in not affording the Appellant the right to be heard and relying entirely on views and recommendations of the Tea Board of Tanzania and by so doing, FCC abdicated its quasi-judicial functions and independence. Thus, the Appellant prays for orders reversing the decision in so far as it provides conditional approval and any other orders as the Tribunal deems fit.

BY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE any person who considers that he has sufficient interest may apply to intervene in the proceedings within seven days of the first publication of this notice to the Fair Competition Tribunal, 2nd Floor, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Building, Jamhuri Street, Dar Es Salaam.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the Tribunal this 3rd October 2024.

REGISTRAR



George Simbachawene, the Public Service Management and Good Governance state minister in the President's Office, goes through documents of a Musoma resident during a visit to inspect various development projects and engage with members of the community yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Prisons service gets vehicles to relieve movement of remandees

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TANZANIA Prison Service has received 11 vehicles and is scheduled to receive other 17 to address the challenge of transporting remandees to and from court.

Ally Gugu, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs unveiled this here yesterday when speaking to reporters on the received vehicles.

He stated that the vehicles received were purchased with funds from the 2023/24 budget, amounting to 6.2bn/-, provided by the government for the purchase of vehicles to meet existing needs.

He said that the 11 vehicles that have arrived will be used for administrative activities while the additional 17 vehicles to be delivered will be used to transport inmates to and from courts.

Guku urged staff to ensure that the vehicles are well maintained to last for a long time to facilitate execution of the service's rehabilitation work.

Jeremiah Katungu, Commissioner General of Prison (CGP) lauded the government for providing the funds to purchase these vehicles, stating that the vehicles will be distributed to various prisons and

one ambulance will be sent to Ukonga Prison Hospital to assist in providing services.

"I am very grateful to the government for the funds provided; these vehicles will be used appropriately for prison activities," he said.

He added that the service was continuing with implementation of prison activities carried out professionally to ensure that all prisons are well managed.



I am very grateful to the government for the funds provided; these vehicles will be used appropriately for prison activities

By Guardian Reporter, Njombe

TASAF tasks authorities to steadily monitor projects in Njombe Region

TANZANIA Social Action Fund (TASAF) has urged Njombe regional authorities to closely monitor its projects across all district councils to ensure they complete on time.

Shadrack Mziray, TASAF Executive Director, made the call yesterday during a press conference, noting that initial challenges with monitoring systems have been resolved.

"We have agreed that the region should enhance oversight at the council level. They have informed us of a robust system for obtaining implementation reports each

month, allowing them to effectively track progress," he said.

He highlighted that only two councils in Njombe were diligently executing their projects, specifically mentioning Makambako District Council and encouraged others to follow their example.

While TASAF projects are

scheduled for completion within twelve months, Mziray suggested that they should ideally be finalized within four months.

"All funding for projects is allocated at the council level; so, there's no justification for delays beyond four months," he said.

Paul Kijazi, TASAF project

manager, noted that the six councils in Njombe Region collectively oversee more than 50 projects across various sectors, including health and education.

"We are implementing initiatives to alleviate poverty and address challenges faced by residents of Njombe. Our projects aim to

improve infrastructure and provide opportunities for low-income individuals," he said.

Mussa Selemani, TASAF Coordinator in Njombe Region said that the region focuses on improving infrastructure in health and water sectors as well as initiatives to increase income

for beneficiaries and provide temporary employment. "The projects are progressing well and we recently welcomed a delegation from TASAF executive director to monitor various initiatives, including the construction of Kipagalo Health Centre in Makete District Council," he said.

Uganda's exports to China set to enhance foreign exchange earnings, says minister

KAMPALA

TWO protocols signed between Uganda and China last month that allow the country to export dried chillies and wild aquatic products will contribute to the country's foreign exchange earnings, a senior official said on Tuesday.

Minister of Agriculture Frank Tumwebaze told reporters that the two protocols were signed during the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Summit held in Beijing last month.

According to the minister, one of the protocols addressed "the inspection, quarantine and sanitary requirements for wild aquatic products, including Nile perch fillets, headless and gutted Nile perch, fish maw, fish skins, fish scales, and silverfish products to be exported from Uganda to China."

"The (second) protocol formalizes an agreement on the export of dried chillies, opening the door to one of the world's largest chili consumer markets," Tumwebaze said.

With the new agreements, traders of chillies and wild aquatic products will have free access to the vast Chinese market, following scrutiny and inspection by the authorities in both countries, said the official.

"With the combined efforts of the ministry and the private sector, Uganda

is well-positioned to meet the demands of the Chinese market while ensuring the highest standards of food safety and quality in its exports," he added.

"the inspection, quarantine and sanitary requirements for wild aquatic products, including Nile perch fillets, headless and gutted Nile perch, fish maw, fish skins, fish scales, and silverfish products to be exported from Uganda to China."

International School of Tanganyika
Challenge | Support | Inspire

Primary Campus: primary@istafrika.com | +255 684 228 4820
Secondary Campus: secondary@istafrika.com | +255 747 997 776/88

United Nations Road | Haile Selassie Road | Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

SALE OF USED GENERATOR

The International School of Tanganyika is selling a used generator as detailed below:

Description of item:

Item	Condition	Quantity
1. GENERATOR SET MAKE – CATERPILLAR MODEL: 700 SERIAL NO: CAT00000KM1Z01000 YEAR OF MANUFACTURE: 2010 RATED POWER – PRIME: 635KVA, 508KW, 0.80 COS 0 RATED VOLTAGE: 400/230V PHASE: 3PHASE FREQUENCY: 50Hz RATED CURRENT: 917AMPERE ENGINE CAPACITY: DIESEL ENGINE	Satisfactory running condition	1

Inspection can be done during office hours at Masaki campus, Haile Selassie Road.
Contact persons: Gaspar Kimario (mobile no. **0716 626201**) or Herry Lashku (mobile number **0718 702728/0755 267402**)

Offers in writing to be emailed to bids@istafrika.com latest by 3.00 p.m. on Thursday, October 17, 2024

The school reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.



JOB VACANCY

FISHERIES AND GOVERNANCE OFFICER

WWF Tanzania is seeking to hire a highly experienced, competent and motivated Fisheries and Governance officer to lead the Southwest Indian Ocean (SWIO) Region project on Sustainable Blue Economy and Illegal Unregulated and Unreported Fishing under the support of NORAD Funding agency. The project is operating in 5 countries of Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa and Madagascar. The candidate will be responsible to implementation the Tanzania component of the project in collaboration with State and non-state actors.

MAJOR FUNCTIONS:

- Strengthening the voice and influence of Civil Society Organizations in advocacy and decision-making.
- Supporting development, adoption and implementation of SBE policies in Tanzania, and ensure financial commitment to contribute to this initiative in collaboration with SWIO/SBE focal person.
- Ensuring engagement of National and International Financial Institutions in advancing BE agenda in Tanzania to catalyze an increase financial flow of investments and capacity building initiatives in collaboration with Programme Coordinator and WWF SWIO Fisheries and policy officer.
- Ensure fair and equitable access to sustainable fisheries resources in Tanzania is facilitated through a collective approach and decision making by local and central governments.
- Ensure the government of Tanzania adopt innovative and robust management measures to combat IUU fishing including implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA).
- Work with Deep Sea Fishing Authority (DSFA) on matters related to Minimum Terms and Conditions (MTCs), Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), collection of catch records on Tuna Fishery in Tanzanian landing sites, IUU Fishing and any other related policy aspect.
- Support governments of Tanzania with policy recommendations that demonstrate the advantages of adopting SBE principles and strong anti-IUU fishing policies.
- Strengthening the capacity of CSO in Tanzania (financial management, organizational capacity, leadership skills, SBE and other related policy advocacy skills).
- Influence private and public sector to finance SBE-based investments.

DESIRED SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Advanced degree in Natural resource governance, Project Management, International Fisheries Management, Social science with some knowledge in fisheries management, political science, Aquatic science or related field as required.
- At least 5 years' experience in project implementation, policy, governance of natural resources in the Indian Ocean, including a strong international component.
- Demonstrable experience in engaging with local and international Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Deep Sea Fishing Authority and International Development partners.
- Demonstrate experience in engaging with regional NGOs such as WIOMSA, WIO Mangrove Networks, CORDIO and others.
- Experienced and fast-trainable project manager in a complex environment and multi-stakeholders' tasks
- Experience in development and implementation of online and in-person training and workshops.
- Multi-lingual skills and multi-cultural experience are appreciated.
- Excellent interpersonal skills including advanced experienced presentation and facilitation.
- Experience in participatory approaches and working with diversity of actors.

Interested applicants may get the detailed Job Description (JD) through the website:

https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/ Application must include a Cover Letter & CV with full contact details of three referees and should be addressed to the Head of People & Culture, via email to: hrresources@wwftz.org by **Friday, 25th October 2024 at 17h00**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Female applicants are encouraged to apply. WWF is an equal opportunity employer and committed to having a diverse workforce

WWF has a principle of zero tolerance for fraud and corruption, if you encounter

FORM 58
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF TEMBEKE
AT ONE STOP CENTRE
PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION CAUSE NO. 243880 OF 2024
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE KELVIN
RICHARD MKULILA
AND
IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION FOR LETTERS OF
ADMINISTRATION BY ANNA MKULILA KELVIN
GENERAL CITATION
(Rule 75)
ALL PERSON claiming to have any interest in the estate of above-named deceased are hereby cited to come and see the proceedings if they think fit before the grant of probate (or letters of Administration) is made to the above named petitioner.
Objections to the grant should be filed on or before the 1 day of November, 2024.
Dated at DAR ES SALAAM this 2 day of October, 2024.

Minister admires IMF's development contribution through grants, soft loans

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

FINANCE Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba has expressed gratitude to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for its significant contribution to the nation's development through grants and concessional loans provided for implementation of various development projects, hence boosting the country's economy.

Dr Nchemba conveyed his thanks here yesterday when opening discussions between the government and IMF's team of experts who have arrived in the country to conduct the Fourth Review of the implementation of the Extended Credit Facility (ECF) programme.

The programme involves obtaining concessional loans to strengthen the economy through productive sectors and social services as well as the first phase of the Resilient and Sustainable Fund (RSF) programme aimed at addressing the impacts of climate change.

He stated that Tanzania is implementing a climate change resilience programme through RSF after meeting the necessary criteria.

"After successfully implementing

other programmes, including the Emergency Window through which we received funds to address the impacts of COVID-19 (Rapid Credit Facility - RCF), now with the ECF aiming to revive and strengthen the economy, Tanzania has qualified to implement RSF programme where we will receive funds from IMF to combat climate change," he said.

He explained that the expert teams from both sides will meet and discuss implementation of the programmes and agreed-upon issues during the review will be presented to IMF Board of Directors for approval and disbursement of funds.

Charalambos Tsangarides, IMF expert team leader, stated that IMF was satisfied with the implementation of ECF programme, which will be completed in the 2025/2026 financial year and commended Tanzania for receiving approval from IMF Board to implement the climate change resilience programme.

He added that IMF was pleased with the progress made regarding the performance criteria of ECF programme and the implementation report will be reviewed during the evaluation.



Prof Ezekiel Amri, the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT) deputy principal, opening a workshop on aligning curricula with outcomes and competencies in higher education engineering institutions held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Participating institutions are the National Institute of Technology (NIT), the Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology (MUST), the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), and DIT. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Canara Bank (Tanzania) Ltd.			
PUBLICATION OF INTEREST RATES, FEES AND CHARGES			
PURSUANT TO REGULATION 11 OF THE BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DISCLOSURE REGULATION, 2014 AND REGULATION 40(3)(a) OF THE FINANCIAL CONSUMER			
S/N	DESCRIPTION	FEES AND CHARGES	
		TZS	USD
1	Monthly Maintenance	SA 2,000.00 CA 6,000.00	2 4
2	Non Maintenance of Minimum Balance	SA 1,500.00 CA 4,000.00	2 4
3	Account Statement Charges	SA-Monthly - SA-Interim 1,500.00 per page CA-Monthly Free CA-Interim 1,500.00 per page	0 1.5 Free 1.5
4	Cash withdrawal	SA-Up 25M - SA-Over 25M SA-Up to \$2K SA-\$2K-\$5K SA-Over \$5k CA-Up to 25 M CA-Above 25M CA-Up to USD 5K CA-\$ 5K-\$10K CA-Above \$ 10K	Free 0.26% Free 0.60% 0.60% Free 0.26% Free 0.60% 0.60%
5	Cash Deposit Charges	SA-Up to 25M SA-Over 25M SA-Up \$5K SA-Over \$5K SA-small currency (\$1 to \$20) CA-Up to 50M CA-Over 50M CA-Up to \$10K CA-Over \$10K CA-small currency (\$1 to \$20)	Free 0.22% Free 0.50% 10.00% Free 0.22% Free 0.50% 10.00% Minimum charge \$1
6	Balance Confirmation Certificate	SA 12,800.00 CA 21,200.00	10 13
7	Account Closure Charges	SA 20,000.00 CA 50,000.00	20 50
8	Activation of Dormant Account	SA Free CA Free	Free Free
9	Stop Payment Charges	SA Free CA 35,000.00	Free 28
10	Cheque Return Charges/Dishonored Cheque	CA-Inward 50,000.00 CA-Outward 50,000.00	50 50
11	Cheque Clearing Charges	CA-Inward 1,300.00 CA-Outward Free	1 Free
12	Ledger folio charges per folio (40lines per)	SA Free CA 6,000.00	Free 4.00
13	Cheque book Charges	CA-50 Leaves 42,000.00	27
14	Mobile Banking		
i	Withdrawal Charge	Upto 100,000 1,700.00 101,000 to 200,000 2,600.00 201,000 to 400,000 4,300.00 401,000 to 600,000 5,100.00 601,000 to 999,000 6,800.00	N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A
ii	Funds Transfer/Mobile Wallet	Upto 100,000 500.00 101,000 to 250,000 900.00 251,000 to 500,000 1,700.00 501,000 to 1,000,000 4,300.00 1,001,000 TO 10 Mn 8,500.00	N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A
15	Locker Rent-Yearly	Small 296,700.00 Medium 508,500.00 Big 635,600.00	N/A N/A N/A
16	Remittances		
i	TISS	Any amount per 1 TZS 8,450.00 Equivalent TZS 8,450.00	
ii	E Remittances	Upto USD 1000 or Eq. TZS 17,000.00 1001 to 5000 20,400.00 5001 to 10000 40,700.00 10,001 and above 84,800.00	\$ 9.00 \$ 11.00 \$ 22.00 \$ 43.00
iii	Swift Outward	Upto 5,000 NA 5,001 to 10,000 NA above 10,000 NA	\$ 39.00 \$ 51.00 \$ 77.00
iv	Swift Inward	Upto 5,000 NA 5,001 to 10,000 NA above 10,000 NA	\$ 11.00 \$ 16.00 \$ 26.00
HEAD TREASURY AND TRADE FINANCE		02-OCT-24	
GM-CREDIT		02-OCT-24	
HEAD BUSINESS OPERATIONS		02-OCT-24	

Dodoma to host symposium on sustainable fertiliser use

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 200 agriculture experts are scheduled to meet in Dodoma next week at a two-day symposium to discuss issues related to fertiliser usage as part of commemorating this year's Global Fertiliser Day which is marked on October 13 annually.

Joel Laurent, Tanzania Fertiliser Regulatory Authority (TFRA) executive director told journalists in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday that during the symposium, the National Fertiliser Strategy will be unveiled.

Laurent stated that the symposium is scheduled for October 11 and 12 when a number of issues will be discussed on sustainable fertiliser use, policy development and technological advancement in agriculture.

According to him, key figures from the agriculture sector namely policymakers, industry leaders, researchers, soil scientists, businesspersons and farmers are expected to share experiences on best ways to transform the sector.

He also explained that apart from the symposium, other activities will be going on in Manyara Region, including a marathon, exhibitions, high-level symposiums and interactive sessions to ensure a memorable and impactful experience.

Manyara will also host exhibitions showcasing agricultural innovations and sustainable practices, alongside competitions such as the Best Farmer Award and quiz contests.

According to him, fertiliser companies, agricultural organizations and startups will present their products and innovations. Attendees will have opportunities to interact with exhibitors, ask questions and witness live demonstrations on efficient fertilizer application techniques, soil testing and integrated pest management.

Additionally, the 'Mbolea Fun Run' in Manyara will offer 2.5 km, 5 km, and 10km races to promote health, wellness and community spirit while highlighting the importance of fertilizer and sound agricultural practices.

The symposium will cover topics such as sustainable practices, policy development, advancements in fertiliser technology and successful case studies.

Proposed themes to be discussed at the event are Fertiliser Regulation and Controls; Creating a Conductive Legal and Regulatory Framework for Fertiliser Industry in Tanzania and From Lab to the Farm; Assessment of Fertiliser Quality Control Systems in Tanzania.

...apart from the symposium, other activities will be going on in Manyara Region, including a marathon, exhibitions, high-level symposiums and interactive sessions to ensure a memorable and impactful experience

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION



Tender No. TALG/PROC/0031/2024

For

MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION OF T-SHIRTS AND CAPS

Invitation for Tenders

1. Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU) has set aside funds for the operation of the financial year 2025. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the contract for the **MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION OF T-SHIRTS AND CAPS**
2. TALGWU now invites sealed tenders from eligible Suppliers for

S/N	LOT NO.	Description	Unit	Quantity
01	01	MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION OF T-SHIRTS AND CAPS	Pcs	110,000

3. Tendering will be conducted through the National Competitive Tendering procedures specified in the TALGWU Procurement Manual of 2018, and is open to all Tenderers.
4. Interested eligible Tenders may obtain further information from the office of the Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097 Dar es salaam, located at Plot No 65 Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam from 08:00am to 04:00 pm on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
5. A complete set of Tendering Document(s) in English Language and additional sets may be purchased by interested Tenderers on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 4 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Tzs 500,000/=** by depositing at NMB Bank account number 20606600115 payable to **KATIBU MKUU TALGWU**.
6. All tenders must be accompanied by a Tender Security of 2% of the bid price.
7. All applications, one original plus **TWO COPIES** properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097, Dar es Salaam, located at Plot No 65 Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam before or at 10:00am Saturdays on 02nd November, 2024. Applications will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Applicants' representatives who choose to attend in the opening ceremony.
8. Late Tenders, Portion of Tenders, Electronic Tenders, Tenders not received, Tenders not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Wandiba P. Ngocho

FOR GENERAL SECRETARY

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION



Pre-Qualification No: TALG/PROC/0028/2024

for

SUPPLY AND REPAIR SERVICES OF AIR CONDITIONERS

Invitation for Pre-qualification

1. The Tanzania Local Government Workers Union has set aside funds for the operation of the financial year 2025, and intends to pre-qualify Applicants for **SUPPLY AND REPAIR SERVICES OF AIR CONDITIONERS**.
2. Pre-qualification will be conducted through the procedures specified in TALGWU Procurement Manual and is open to all applicants.
3. Interested applicants may obtain pre-qualification documents at the Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097, Dar es salaam, located at Plot No 65 Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam from 08:00am to 04:00 pm on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
4. A complete set of pre-qualification documents in English may be purchased by interested Applicants on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 3 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Tzs 100,000/=** by depositing at NMB Bank account number 20606600115 payable to **KATIBU MKUU TALGWU**.
5. All applications one original plus **TWO COPIES** properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097, Dar es salaam, located at Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam before or at 10:00 am Saturday 2nd November, 2024. Applications will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Applicants' representatives who choose to attend in the opening ceremony.
6. Late applications, portion of applications, electronic applications, applications not received, applications not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Wandiba P. Ngocho

FOR GENERAL SECRETARY

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION



Pre-Qualification No: TALG/PROC/0025/2024

for

SUPPLY OF COMPUTER AND ITS ACCESSORIES

Invitation for Pre-qualification

1. The Tanzania Local Government Workers Union has set aside funds for the operation of the financial year 2025, and intends to pre-qualify Applicants for **Supply of Computer and its Accessories**.
2. Pre-qualification will be conducted through the procedures specified in TALGWU Procurement Manual and is open to all Applicants.
3. Interested applicants may obtain pre-qualification documents at the Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097, Dar es salaam, located at Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam from 08:00am to 04:00 pm on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
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6. Late applications, portion of applications, electronic applications, applications not received, applications not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Wandiba P. Ngocho

FOR GENERAL SECRETARY

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION



Pre-Qualification No: TALG/PROC/0027/2024

For

SUPPLY OF PRINTING SERVICES

Invitation for Pre-qualification

1. The Tanzania Local Government Workers Union has set aside funds for the operation of the financial year 2025, and intends to pre-qualify Applicants for **Supply of Printing Services**.
2. Pre-qualification will be conducted through the procedures specified in TALGWU Procurement Manual and is open to all applicants.
3. Interested applicants may obtain pre-qualification documents at the Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097, Dar es salaam, located at Plot No 65 Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam from 08:00am to 04:00 pm on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
4. A complete set of pre-qualification documents in English may be purchased by interested Applicants on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 3 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Tzs 100,000/=** by depositing at NMB Bank account number 20606600115 payable to **KATIBU MKUU TALGWU**.
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6. Late applications, portion of applications, electronic applications, applications not received, applications not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Wandiba P. Ngocho

FOR GENERAL SECRETARY

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION



Pre-Qualification No: TALG/PROC/0026/2024

for

PROVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Invitation for Pre-qualification

1. The Tanzania Local Government Workers Union has set aside funds for the operation of the financial year 2025, and intends to pre-qualify Applicants for **Provision of Motor Vehicle Repair and Maintenance Services**.
2. Pre-qualification will be conducted through the procedures specified in TALGWU Procurement Manual and is open to all Applicants.
3. Interested applicants may obtain pre-qualification documents at the Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097, Dar es salaam, located at Plot No 65 Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam from 08:00am to 04:00 pm on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
4. A complete set of pre-qualification documents in English may be purchased by interested Applicants on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 3 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Tzs 100,000/=** by depositing at NMB Bank account number 20606600115 payable to **KATIBU MKUU TALGWU**.
5. All applications one original plus **TWO COPIES** properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097, Dar es salaam, located at Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam before or at 10:00 am Saturday on 02nd November, 2024. Applications will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Applicants' representatives who choose to attend in the opening ceremony.
6. Late applications, portion of applications, electronic applications, applications not received, applications not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Wandiba P. Ngocho

FOR GENERAL SECRETARY

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION



Pre-Qualification No: TALG/PROC/0030/2024

for

SUPPLY OF STATIONERIES

Invitation for Pre-qualification

1. The Tanzania Local Government Workers Union has set aside funds for the operation of the financial year 2025, and intends to pre-qualify Applicants for **Supply of Stationeries**.
2. Pre-qualification will be conducted through the procedures specified in TALGWU Procurement Manual and is open to all Applicants.
3. Interested applicants may obtain pre-qualification documents at the Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097, Dar es salaam, located at Plot No 65 Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam from 08:00am to 04:00 pm on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
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Wandiba P. Ngocho

FOR GENERAL SECRETARY

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION

TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION



Pre-Qualification No: TALG/PROC/0024/2024

for

SUPPLY OF MOTORVEHICLE TYRES

Invitation for Pre-qualification

1. The Tanzania Local Government Workers Union has set aside funds and it intends to apply part of the proceeds intends to pre-qualify Applicants for **Supply of Motor vehicle tyres**.
2. Pre-qualification will be conducted through the procedures specified in TALGWU Procurement Manual and is open to all Applicants.
3. Interested applicants may obtain pre-qualification documents at the Tanzania Local Government Workers Union (TALGWU), Procurement Management Unit (PMU), P.O. Box 16097, Dar es salaam, located at Plot No 65 Block T' Chang'ombe Temeke Municipality opposite National Stadium Dar es salaam from 08:00am to 04:00 pm on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
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TANZANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS UNION

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TIC needs different tools in hosting Japanese firms for infrastructure talk

NEW pursuit of heavy engagement for wide ranging infrastructure development is in the air as the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) hosts the Tanzania-Japan Infrastructure Dialogue starting where upwards of 60 Japanese companies are expected to share experiences with local firms. This event comes after a fairly short hiatus for reflection and stock taking, in the wake of extensive consultations in the Forum of Africa-China relations, and more recently taking up themes covered in the Tokyo International Conference on African Development. Each event has its identity.

Lest we may forget, there were intense consultations with the United States via its International Development Agency (USAID), where its development bank appears to be widening its activities in Africa, something which lacks with the other partners. At the same time the European Union and UN agencies work through agencies like a capital development fund to target specific sections, for inclusive economic growth. In this beehive of investment and targeted funding activity, a dialogue with Japanese firms in the background of a changed landscape from the mid-1990s is interesting.

Those who have some memory going back to those years, it will remembered that it was Japanese firms which rectified major road arteries in the city of Dar es Salaam, laying the basic framework of its modernisation. It built the length of Morogoro Road and Kawawa Road lifelines, ending passing of public transport into inner streets in Kinondoni suburb as the main road was a depressed area during heavy rains. Even with the Japanese there was a switch of companies from high flying to middle firms, implying

that there was a diminution of capacity for equivalent contracting, later.

The bigger change was in the wake of consolidation of Chinese reforms and start of its outward reach with state-financed construction companies, with their methods of work the mainstay of regulatory expectations locally, until fairly recently. Now even the Chinese are operating with private firms though of a different character, basically cooperative or collective construction groups, seeking to avoid potential losses as in contractual engagements with public agencies. While the local regulatory agencies are trying to adapt to the new situation, they are being exposed to other investor groups.

Initial profiling by the country's envoy to Japan that the Japanese firms bring valuable expertise from numerous projects implemented chiefly in Asia was a telling indication of the distance we have travelled. Definitely Konoike and Kajima experiences building city roads would have come up first and foremost, except that this was anything up to 30 years ago. So it is a little strange for those with fairly clear memories of that period that the Japanese come into construction here virtually as 'beginners.'

These developments on the whole show that the dialogue process that Western and to an extent BRICS countries have been engaging with Africa has attained the height of its exploratory stage. All of these countries basically wish to work with the private sector, where state agencies act at the regulatory level, but a number of state agencies wish for both roles, as investor and thus shareholder and then as a regulator. While this isn't totally unworkable it could push many interested firms to 'nestle' elsewhere.

Enhanced indigenous seeds production drive checks global food systems thrust

POLICY focus on grain production and other food systems research is being anchored in directives by the Agriculture ministry on the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) to focus on indigenous seeds. The research unit is tasked with enhancing the capacity of its researchers in that direction, as stakeholders have for some years been gunning for setting up an indigenous seeds 'bank,' evidently the idea being to mostly exclude other variants where possible. Is this business or politics?

There are elements of both parameters but it appears that the business part, where it is credible, is tied to political fears about 'seed dependency,' that those familiar with trends in global or rather South-South development studies could pinpoint at what point it began, and why. One plausible reason is the perennial fear of importing genetically modified needs under cover of some enterprising or via third countries, in which case boosting indigenous seeds is seen as best placed. Yet seed research as a rule takes quite some time, and nutrition has to be boosted right away, a dilemma.

There is already plenty of effort in that direction as processing factories are being set up to boost grain produce with protein and vitamins, with much of this linked to food systems activity backed by the African Green Revolution Alliance (AGRA). Just how far AGRA programmes are tied to financing research on local seeds rather than making enriched seeds available to farmers is one thing, but it is a situation that they know how to manage. It is an issue of explicit directives like import regulations,

etc.

Another problem is how much the scientific team at the TARI Naliende Research Centre can actually do in a short while, as reports affirm that the minister received reports from researchers on seed research for cashews, sesame, peanuts along with vegetables. It would be a good thing if the latter was another crop but it is a whole field of study as regards improving nutritional potential for a whole series of greens. The best method would be to just add the vitamin or protein locally as they indeed seek to do in the planned factories, with the components already researched upon.

What is unlikely to generate much enthusiasm is the minister's instruction that documents be prepared for establishment of an agriculture research fund and its regulations. While TARI needs financial resources for its work, it needs to be tailored to accompany efforts to generate greater investment interest in agriculture, the idea that crop levies finance TARI research is untimely. The government has done plenty to remove nuisance taxes over the past three years, and bureaucrats work to restore them.

In other words there is a range of policy options in relation to crop research on the one hand and food systems improvement generally, where the focus ought to be food systems, urgently and effectively improved. With nearly half of school going children more or less stunted by the time they start sitting in class, focusing on seed purity rather than urgent vitamin and protein increase is strictly speaking objectionable. We need to check revolutionary tendencies privileging labels over human needs, life itself.



Dying for a cause: Environmental defenders in the firing line

By Busani Bafana, Bulawayo

IN 2017, South African activist Nonhle Mbuthuma took a stand against the powerful oil giant Shell, halting their plans to explore the pristine Wild Coast.

Despite facing death threats, she refused to back down. As a co-founder of the Amadiba Crisis Committee and a 2024 Goldman Prize winner, Mbuthuma continues to fight for her community's rights and the environment. Her bravery reflects the countless risks land and environmental defenders face across the globe.

The stakes are high. According to a recent report by Global Witness, 196 land and environmental defenders were murdered in 2023 alone, with Colombia suffering the highest number of deaths. Indigenous communities in Brazil, Mexico, and Honduras have been disproportionately targeted, standing up to powerful companies that prioritize profits over people and the planet.

Many people defending the environment have stood up to powerful companies. Since 2012, a staggering 2,106 defenders have been killed worldwide.

Africa, too, is a dangerous battleground for environmental defenders, with 116 murders recorded between 2012 and 2023. Many of these deaths involved park rangers in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and others occurred in Rwanda, Ghana, Kenya, Chad, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Liberia, and South Africa.

However, the alarming numbers only scratch the surface. Many deaths go unreported, leaving a vast number of environmental defenders without justice. Yet, despite these overwhelming threats, Mbuthuma has been undeterred, risking her life to protect the land and the environment from exploitation.

Mbuthuma continues to expose the devastating impact of extractive industries, including deforestation and land grabbing. She has called attention to the violence and intimidation that indigenous communities and activists face for defending their land.

"The brutality of these attacks reveals something profound: the power that ordinary people wield when they unite for justice," Mbuthuma noted in a foreword to the Global Witness report.

At the core of these killings is a clash between development and sustainability. Activists like Mbuthuma are not opposed to development but advocate for a model that respects both the environment and the rights of local communities to their natural resources. Unfortunately, their calls for responsible development



People defending the environment are on the firing line.

are often seen as an obstacle by investors and developers, leading to increased land grabs, resource extraction projects, and violent repercussions for those standing in the way.

Africa's immense natural wealth makes it a prime target for multinational corporations and foreign governments. The continent holds 30 percent of the world's mineral reserves, 8 percent of its natural gas, and 12 percent of its oil, according to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It also boasts 40 percent of the world's gold, up to 90 percent of its chromium and platinum, and large reserves of cobalt, diamonds, and uranium. With over 60% of the world's arable land in Africa, it's no surprise that the race to exploit these resources has led to severe environmental destruction, displacement of local communities, and escalating violence.

A shocking aspect of this violence is the pervasive impunity. Perpetrators are rarely prosecuted, and in many cases, the identities of those responsible remain unknown.

"It's rare that we ever get to know who murders a defender," says Laura Furones, Lead Author and Senior Advisor to the Land and Environmental Defenders Campaign at Global Witness, told IPS. "If there is something these cases share, it is that they are shrouded in impunity. Cases are often left unresolved, and the families have

to live knowing that the perpetrator won't face consequences. Even in the few instances where justice is served, it is usually the hired assassins who end up in jail, while those who ordered and funded the murder walk free."

Furones also notes that many of these killings go unreported, particularly in regions like Africa, where accessing information is a challenge.

"There are many good organizations working hard to improve reporting, but they often operate in difficult circumstances. Civic spaces are limited, access to information is curtailed, and those trying to expose attacks on defenders are themselves at risk."

The mining industry is especially notorious for its role in this violence. In 2023, the mining sector was linked to the highest number of defender murders worldwide, according to Global Witness.

"Our data shows that mining is by far the sector most frequently connected to murders of environmental defenders. The appalling practices by mining interests are well documented, and as we shift towards an economy that relies less on fossil fuels, the demand for critical minerals is only going to increase. We urgently need better practices to prevent a further surge in violence," Furones emphasizes.

As climate change accelerates, competition for land and resources

intensifies, particularly in Africa. The continent's vast minerals and natural resources are in high demand for projects that have displaced local communities from their ancestral lands, exacerbating tensions and leading to further conflict.

Mbuthuma's fight is just one example of the broader global struggle to protect natural resources.

South Africa, in particular, has seen its share of tragedy. In 2016, anti-mining activist Sikhosiphi Rhadebe was assassinated for opposing titanium mining in the Xolobeni region. Similarly, in the DRC, more than 50 environmental defenders were killed between 2015 and 2020, many of them caught in conflicts over artisanal mining and logging.

The rush for land in Africa has expanded not only for agriculture but also for "green" projects that claim to combat climate change. For example, large-scale land acquisitions for biofuel plantations and irrigation projects have displaced communities in Kenya and Ethiopia, leading to violence and unrest. In Kenya's Lake Turkana region, sugarcane plantations and geothermal projects have triggered conflicts with pastoralist communities, while in Ethiopia's Omo Valley, irrigation projects have displaced indigenous communities.

Despite the mounting risks, environmental defenders continue to raise their voices. They demand not just environmental protection but also justice.

"Our voices against environmental injustice are being silenced by the killings of defenders, but that will not kill our activism," Mbuthuma said. She calls for increased protection and support for environmental defenders and anti-land grab activists, particularly in Africa.

"Development has always been unjust, and that's why it has been easy to eliminate defenders of the environment. But getting rid of defenders doesn't solve the problems we face in Africa today—all in the name of development," Mbuthuma explains. She emphasizes that local communities must have a say in decisions that affect their lands and livelihoods.

Mbuthuma's fight, along with that of countless other activists, highlights the urgent need for reform in how land, mineral, and natural resources are exploited in Africa. "We are fighting for the future of Africa, and for our children," Mbuthuma said. "The battle for environmental justice is not just about protecting land and biodiversity; it's about safeguarding the rights and future of the people who depend on these resources."

Need to harmonize qualifications with experience in hiring teachers

THE government's goal of delivering quality education cannot be achieved without qualified and capable teachers. To ensure this, there must be a robust system for verifying teacher's qualifications before employment.

Traditionally, the government has been relying on certificates to assess teachers' eligibility. While this is important, it may overlook certain aspects of a teacher's competency, potentially resulting in the hiring of less effective teachers.

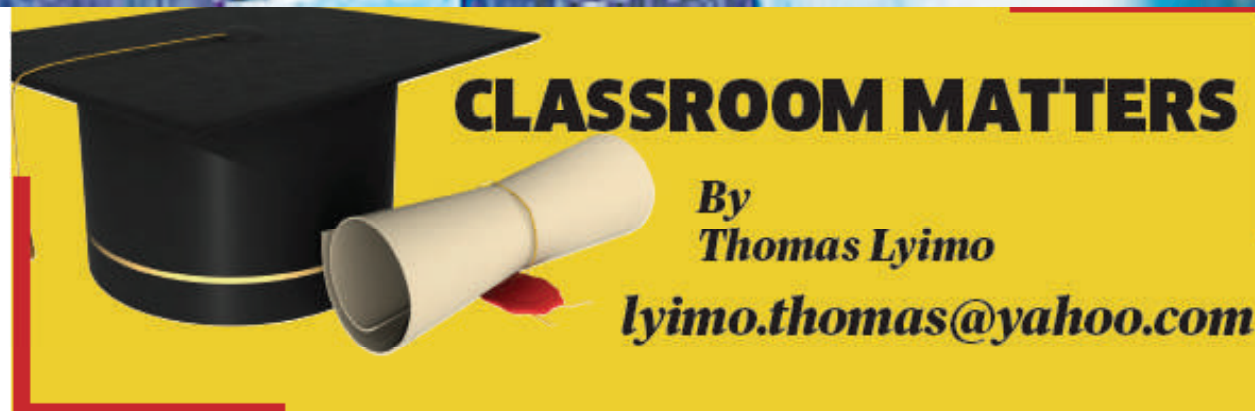
Some private schools have adopted a more rigorous approach, requiring applicants to take written exams similar to those taken by students before moving on to oral interviews. This method helps assess how well the teacher understands the material they will be teaching, with the assumption that if a teacher cannot achieve top marks, they will struggle to help students excel in national examinations.

The government, in its pursuit of knowledgeable teachers, once transferred secondary school teachers to primary schools in an effort to boost performance. However, this approach was not repeated, as it recorded limited success.

Effective teaching results from a combination of knowledge and experience. Recognizing this, the government has adjusted its hiring system through the Ajira portal, where applicants without proper qualifications are automatically filtered out.

While hiring based on the right qualifications is crucial for improving education, the government should also consider 'acquired qualifications' – the skills and experience gained over time. Many secondary school-trained and qualified teachers are unable to find positions in secondary schools, thus forcing them to join primary schools and have excelled.

Their experience with younger learners should be valued, even if their formal training is in secondary education.



This year, applicants with secondary school qualifications were barred from applying for primary school positions. While adhering to rules and regulations is important, the government should explore new ways of identifying quality teachers.

For instance, a teacher who has suc-

cessfully taught in a private school for three or more years likely has valuable experience, even if their qualifications differ from the current hiring criteria. Experience can significantly enhance a teacher's ability, and hiring should consider both ability and qualifications.

By harmonizing qualifications with

experience, the government can access a pool of skilled teachers who will benefit society in several ways:

Training quality teachers in private schools: Private schools, driven by profit motives, often enforce strict rules to ensure high performance. This leads to teachers in these schools to work hard

to meet the set standards, gaining valuable experience along the way.

When the government hires teachers from private schools, it allows these institutions to train new teachers, indirectly contributing to the development of quality teachers in the country.

Achieving quick results in education: Experienced secondary school teachers who have taught in primary schools should be considered for government primary school positions. Their knowledge and experience can quickly improve student performance, offering a better alternative to the previous policy of transferring teachers between levels.

Reducing teacher's training costs: Hiring secondary school teachers with primary school experience can reduce the government's need to invest in training new teachers, leading to significant cost savings. These funds can then be redirected to other areas of the education sector.

Developing multi-purpose teachers: Employing secondary school-trained teachers in primary schools creates multi-purpose teachers who can teach at both levels. This flexibility enhances efficiency in the education system, reducing the need for specialized training programs and providing a solution when shortages arise at either level.

The government's mission to provide quality education that prepares learners for today's challenges is closely tied to its ability to hire quality teachers. Certificates alone may not fully reflect a teacher's capabilities. The government should, therefore, consider both qualifications and practical experience when hiring, ensuring that teachers are equipped to perform effectively.

If secondary school-trained teachers have proven their ability to teach primary students, they should be given the opportunity to continue doing so. Teaching is about knowledge, experience, and the ability to deliver results.

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

SPECIAL Economic Zones (SEZs) and Economic Processing Zones (EPZs) have been cited as important economic development tools for countries to attract foreign investments. And if well utilised they are likely to boost the nation's economy to higher heights.

According to Associate Professor of Development Economics at the University of Dar es Salaam, Prof Abel Kinyondo, the government created EPZs and SEZs whereas the focus of SEZs was investment promotion in specific industries and EPZs focusing on promoting exports.

The general objectives for establishing SEZs were to promote economic growth and boost export earnings, create employment as well as attract investments both foreign (FDI) and domestic (DDI) from productive and service sectors consistent with Tanzania's Vision 2020 aimed at transforming Tanzania into a globally competitive economy (EPZA 2016).

Prof Kinyondo said EPZs were established a little earlier in 2002 following the enactment of Export Processing Zones Act of 2002 with the aim of increasing Tanzania's global competitiveness for export-led economic growth through promoting technological transfer, export-led industrialization, foreign exchange earnings, development of skilled labour and employment creation.

He was speaking during a recent five-day journalists training organized by Policy Forum in Dodoma. The main objective of the training was to empower journalists with reporting skills on illicit financial flows (IFFs), domestic resource mobilization (DRM), accountability and tax justice.

Linkages between the local economy and the international market, and promoting value addition through processing of local raw materials for export was yet another reason for the establishment of EPZA—a special economic zone designated area that is subject to unique economic regulations that differ from other areas.

SEZs, EPZs, can significantly impact tax justice, particularly in Tanzania, through their intended goals and effects on local economies.

In Tanzania, the relationship between SEZs, EPZs and tax justice is complex.

Unlocking Tanzania's economic potential: Need to balance growth and tax justice in SEZs, EPZs



Associate Professor of Development Economics at the University of Dar es Salaam Prof Abel Kinyondo stresses a point on tax justice during a journalists training organized by Policy Forum in Dodoma. Photo: Daniel Semberya.

While these zones can drive economic growth and development, their design and implementation must be carefully managed to ensure they contribute positively to the economy and do not exacerbate inequality or undermine the tax base.

Prof Kinyondo defines tax justice as the set of ideas, policies, and advocacy efforts aimed at achieving equality and social justice through fair taxation on wealthier individuals and multinational corporations. According to the Tax Justice Network, tax justice often targets tax havens, while seeking to curtail corruption and tax abuse by multinational corporations and the super-rich.

These tax havens offer significant tax breaks, which, while stimulating economic activity, can reduce government revenue, impacting public services. The

benefits of these tax incentives are not always distributed equitably, with large corporations often reaping disproportionate rewards compared to local businesses or communities.

Under the Tanzania's Export Processing Zones Act, goods processed and manufactured within EPZ-designated areas are exempt from import duties on raw materials. Similarly, factories registered under 'manufacture under bond' schemes for export purposes are exempt from import duties and other taxes on inputs.

However, the presence of large foreign firms in these zones can overshadow local businesses, potentially fostering monopolistic practices and stifling local entrepreneurship.

Reduced regulatory oversight in these zones can lead to exploitative practices

such as tax evasion and labour rights violations. Lenient regulations may open the door to corruption, undermining the principles of tax justice.

Over-reliance on tax incentives can also create unsustainable economic models, where growth is dependent on continued incentives.

To achieve tax justice, balanced policies are necessary. There needs to be a balance between encouraging investment and ensuring fair taxation and equitable economic growth. Tax justice experts have suggested that Tanzania should implement more transparent tax policies and establish clearer regulations for SEZs (Special Economic Zones) and EPZs. Transparent and consistent tax regulations would minimize ambiguity and ensure compliance.

The government should require companies operating in these zones to publicly disclose their financial statements and tax contributions. Tax incentives should be designed to specifically benefit local businesses and SMEs, rather than disproportionately favouring large foreign corporations.

Strengthening regulatory frameworks by enhancing oversight in SEZs and EPZs could help prevent tax evasion, corruption, and labour exploitation.

Prof Kinyondo also pointed out that despite Tanzania's relatively comprehensive fiscal regime, the country continues to suffer significantly from illicit financial flows.

The reasons for this include exploitative bilateral treaties and loopholes in the fiscal regime that multinationals exploit. He recommends introducing sunset clauses for tax incentives to ensure they are periodically reviewed and not extended indefinitely.

Experts have further emphasized the importance of capacity building to ensure SEZs and EPZs operate efficiently. Investing in training for tax authorities can enhance their ability to monitor and enforce compliance in these zones. Additionally, engaging with local com-

munities to educate them on their rights and the importance of tax justice can empower them to hold companies accountable.

The government and key stakeholders must implement programs to support local businesses, ensuring they can thrive alongside foreign firms and compete on fair terms.

There should also be channels for stakeholders, including civil society and local communities, to provide feedback on the performance and impact of SEZs and EPZs.

Aligning local tax policies with international standards is critical to preventing tax base erosion and profit shifting by multinational corporations. By joining international coalitions focused on tax justice, Tanzania can benefit from shared best practices and gain support for local reforms.

By implementing these measures, Tanzania can improve tax justice within its SEZs and EPZs, ensuring that economic benefits are more equitably distributed and contribute to sustainable development. This approach will strengthen the economy while promoting greater social equity and trust in government institutions.

Tanzania faces several challenges in implementing tax justice in SEZs and EPZs. These include complex and ambiguous tax laws, frequent policy changes that create instability, and limited resources for tax authorities to effectively monitor compliance. Inefficient tax collection systems, potential corruption within tax administrations, and a lack of transparency regarding tax incentives can further undermine tax justice efforts.

Emphasis on attracting foreign direct investment through tax incentives may result in unsustainable economic models that prioritize short-term gains over long-term benefits. Local businesses may be overshadowed by multinational corporations, leading to increased inequality and reduced competition.

To address these challenges, a multi-faceted approach is needed—one that strengthens tax administration, promotes transparency, and fosters a fair business environment. By tackling these issues, Tanzania can work toward a more equitable tax system within its SEZs and EPZs, contributing to sustainable economic development.

By Guardian Correspondent

The case for increased investment in ICT to aid sustainable blue economy



BLUE economy concept has been endorsed by the United Nations to promote sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and environmental conservation.

Tanzania's rich coastline, including Zanzibar and Pemba islands, stretches along approximately 1,424 kilometres of the Indian Ocean. Add this to lakes Victoria - the largest lake in Africa, Tanganyika - the world's longest and second deepest lake, Nyasa - the meromictic lake, Rukwa - the fluctuating lake, Natron - the red lake, Eyasi - the salt lake and Manyara - the flamingo lake. There are several rivers and dams too.

The aforementioned are not just water bodies; they are wealth waiting to be created and turned into cash money. The good thing about blue economy is that it creates employment opportunities for both skilled and unskilled people in entertainment and food apart from supporting other sectors such as transport and tourism.

But some Tanzanian academics think that there is one factor that can help the country realise its blue economy potential if it is given the importance it deserves: the information and communication technology.

Inspired by the zeal of President Samia Suluhu Hassan and Zanzibar President Hussein Ali Mwinyi, Abdi T. Abdalla, Kwame Ibwe and Baraka Maiseli (Department of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering, University of Dar es Salaam), Daudi Muhamed (Department of Technology & Innovation, WTC Zanzibar) and Mahmoud Alawi (Department of Telecommunication, Electronics and Computer Engineering (Karume Institute of Science and Technology, Zanzibar) undertook the study 'Towards ICT-Driven Tanzania Blue

Economy: The Role of Higher Learning Institutions in Supporting the Agenda.'

The work investigated the contribution of ICT in sustaining Tanzania's blue economy agenda. To this end, they extensively reviewed the curricula of selected Tanzanian Higher Learning Institutions (HLIs) to investigate ICT programmes in such institutions.

"Results showed that approximately 29 percent of the 24 selected universities lack ICT programmes and the remaining universities contain an inadequate number of ICT programmes," reads study.

"This observation further suggests a need to reform the curricula for HLIs by incorporating more ICT programmes, especially those directly linked with blue economy. In addition, researchers should be encouraged and supported to undertake ICT multidisciplinary research focusing on maximizing the potential benefits of marine and fresh waters while preserving the environment."

They noted that effective utilization of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) marks a key determinant for both individual business success and national economic growth. For the emergence of information age, in particular, emphasizes the importance of ICT in facilitating the nation's socioeconomic development through education, research and innovation. The Tanzania National ICT Policy 2016 and the National Development Vision 2025 acknowledge that the nation can significantly accelerate its socioeconomic development and gain global competitiveness through development, utilization and exploitation of ICT.

For years, the Tanzanian government has been expanding access to social and economic services through transformation of ICT infrastructures. The government has constructed the National Fibre Optic Cable network and the National ICT Broadband Backbone to achieve its grand ICT vision. The backbone infrastructure enhances the usage of computer and mobile ICT applications, including e-government, e-learning, e-health, and e-commerce, and supports research, innovation and future ICT services. The government believes that ICT, if properly exploited, can positively influence productivity,

Role of ICT in Blue Economy

The academics argue that ICT can play a major role in sustaining the blue economy, if positively exploited to solve related challenges. With the advancement and proliferation of digital technologies, researchers and practitioners may exploit the capabilities of ICT to accelerate the success of blue economy in Tanzania.

"ICT can automate the business processes of all sectors of blue economy to enhance efficiency and optimize productivity while simultaneously promoting ocean health and country's economic growth."

ICT in Fishing

They note that use of ICT can reinvigorate the fishing industry and ensure its sustainability and improved welfare of Tanzania fishers, hence advancing the overall country's economy.

Considering Tanzania as an example, small-scale fishers rely on their fishing experiences to plan for the next fishing sites. This approach does not guarantee the availability of adequate fishes and may create frustra-

tions among fishers to lose their limited resources.

To address the challenge, ICT-based fish finder gadgets can be applied to instantaneously and accurately locate fish-rich sites. Consequently, we can reduce unnecessary costs incurred during the manual fish finding approach where fishers can move to a number of locations searching for the best places.

"Using the state-of-the-art technologies such as Machine Learning (ML), highly accurate algorithms can be devised to locate the fish sites and their corresponding species by using previous fishing information. This low-cost approach can be achieved through a careful observation of the fishers to track their fishing records that may serve as a training dataset for the ML models," reads the paper.

"There have been a number of reported cases of missing and deaths of small-scale fishers due to emergency reasons, including boat sinks. If such events could be communicated without delay, then lives of fishers could be saved, thereby improving the reliability in the small-scale fishing industry. With the current state of ICT, a mobile application can be developed to track all registered boats and report vital information of the boats and fishers to the control centre for timely assistance. Emergency cases, including overfishing and boat sink or fire tragedies due to technical challenges, can be seamlessly exchanged between communicating parties to allow provision of appropriate assistance."

ICT in Aquaculture

The authors of the report state that ICT can provide cost-effective tools to automate the entire business process of aquaculture and improve its efficiency and productivity. ICT can, without human intervention, facilitate measuring, monitoring and controlling of water quality parameters (e.g., temperature, salinity, and pH) to ensure optimal fish growth and reduction of fish mortality rate. It has been widely reported in the literature that the quality of water and feeding behaviour can adversely affect the fish growth rate.

"This observation adds extra op-

erational cost as the fish will need more time before attaining the market weight. Using ICT solutions, the user can, in real-time, monitor the pond status, such as water level, and respond appropriately to maintain the optimum operating conditions. Also, the system can establish semi-automated or automated feeding schedules taking into account the age of the fish. Besides, the system can timely report all critical issues that may jeopardize the fish growth. Such a sophisticated system can significantly reduce the manpower without compromising productivity, an advantage that may maximize profit. The system may, in addition, create employment in the aquaculture industry and benefit both fishers and the country."

Digital Fish Market

Traditionally, fish introduced into the markets, geographical physical sites, necessitate travel of customer to the selling points without the knowledge of the market status.

Physical markets are challenged by a number of factors, including inaccessibility during unfavourable conditions and insufficient information on the product availability, leading to wastage of time and resources. Such markets provide no direct link between sellers and potential customers. To alleviate these challenges, mobile fish markets have been widely applied whereby sellers use vehicles to reach potential customers. These movable shops, unaffordable to many local fishers, unnecessarily add extra cost attributable to human resources as well as fuel and maintenance costs of the vehicles.

They argue that ICT may provide advanced tools for the development of an online interactive market that considers the existing business processes, such as auctions, to complement the physical market.

"In the online interactive market, the buyer will not be obliged to travel but yet can view all the available market products and swiftly buy the selected products. Also, with the online system, the seller can generate timely reports for their business analysis.

Through this system, buyers can

confirm transactions online and a reliable courier will be notified for delivery services, hence improving flexibility, adding convenience, and significantly reducing cost to the buyer. The system can create employment opportunities across various players in the Blue Economy ecosystem."

ICT in Tourism

The academics state that development of the tourism industry depends on the effective and high speed ICT infrastructure and software applications. The tourism management system requires tourists' data to be accessed at different levels. The tourism attraction sites and other products should be readily available through the use of technology-based dissemination mechanisms, including dedicated broadcasting channels and social networks, to ensure that the intended information reaches a wider community. Customers should have the ability to share information and ratings on destination, quality of services for hotels and restaurants, and environmental and social conditions.

"The current challenges in the tourism industry include under-trained tour guides, which then lowers the tourists' security and safety, a consequence that may reduce the number of potential tourists. To overcome such a challenge, mobile applications can be developed to automate the processes by providing auto-guides and translations (multilingual customized geo-maps)."

State of the Blue Economy in Tanzania

The scholars note that there have been commendable efforts by the Tanzanian government to establish the blue economy in country. The National Five-Year Development Plan 2021/2022-2025/2026 (FYDP III) has established several strategies to ensure positive transformation of the fisheries industries, including utilization of the Blue Economy potentials for marine and fresh waters. The FYDP III has recommended effective methods to achieve a sustainable Blue Economy, hence promoting freshwater and deep-sea fishing,

marine and freshwater conservation, and aquaculture. For instance, the government has been argued to facilitate fishing activities through procurement of fishing vessels and construction of fishing harbours.

"In different occasions, the current presidents Samia and Mwinyi have strongly supported the Blue Economy as a feasible approach to address most socioeconomic problems. In Zanzibar, the initiative to establish the Blue Economy Policy2 started since October 2020 to ensure sustainable utilization of marine resources. Similar efforts are expected to be duplicated in the Tanzania mainland. Generally, these efforts provide a promising future for Tanzania to accomplish the goal of the FYDP III: "realizing competitiveness and industrialization through human development." Tanzania and France are members of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)3 - dynamic inter-governmental organization with two primary objectives: strengthening of regional cooperation; and sustainable development within the Indian Ocean. As IORA members, the two will interact more closely in activities related to Blue Economy: tourism; safety and security; trade and investment; academic, scientific and technological exchanges; fisheries management; disaster risk management; and women's economic empowerment. These encouraging efforts by the government provide a promising future for Tanzania to achieve sustainable socio-economic development through blue economy."

Recommendations

The authors state that introduction of ICT in the Blue Economy sector cannot produce the intended benefits if unaccompanied by complementary organizational changes. A significant reform on the existing management structures should be made to create a conducive platform to practically realize the concept of Blue Economy. The government should establish a one-stop data centre in which data infrastructures, including data servers and associated systems, will be maintained.

Furthermore, adequate ICT human resource (experienced developers and technicians) should be prepared to undertake technical tasks in the centre. In this regard, the education system and curricula should, therefore, be adjusted accordingly to support the proposed concept."

Curricula Adjustment

Sustainability of blue economy needs preparation of skilled personnel to support ICT related matters required to foster the technology. ICT experts and professionals majoring in Blue Economy should be trained well, preferably through local universities and research centres. The Commonwealth of Learning5 has shown the importance of establishing courses on Blue Economy to promote socio-economic development. Universities and the national research centres should establish new academic and professional programmes at all levels to foster the implementation of the concept of curricula review. Local universities should review their curricula, especially on the existing blue economy related programs, such as fisheries and aquaculture, marine sciences, fish markets, and tourism, to ensure the candidates acquire relevant ICT skills so that the graduates can digitize their respective business processes. Emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, big data analytics, and internet of things should be considered as potential fields that experts should be equipped.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Joy as health centre in Nanyumbu refurbished

By Guardian Correspondent, Nanyumbu

THOUSANDS of villagers in Nangomba ward in Nanyumbu District, Mtwara Region could now heave a sigh of relief as they will no longer need to travel to access health services.

This follows completion of construction and improvement of Health Centre at the tune of 69.3m/-, thanks to the support made by betting firm—BetPawa

Borah Ndanyungu, firm's East Africa Regional Marketing Manager said the move was to complement government's efforts to scale up healthcare services to people.

The funds were used for construction, improvement, and expansion of the health centre through the Dream Maker programme, which aims to help address various challenges in communities across the country.

Ndanyungu expressed pride in participating in the community, especially in the health sector, and addressing the needs of the Nangomba village.

Ndanyungu said that the decision to improve the health centre resulted from a proposal submitted by Clinical Officer Anania Muba through the Dream Maker programme, which has so far addressed 20 different challenges in the community.

"The improvement included renovating damaged walls, raising the height of the building, adding support structures, completing plastering, installing doors,



Nangomba Ward Councillor, Sijaona Athumani (3rd L), cuts a ribbon to officially open the refurbished Nangomba Health Centre building in Nanyumbu District, Mtwara Region. Others are betPawa's East Africa Regional Marketing Manager, Borah Ndanyungu (L), and Nangomba Clinical Officer, Anania Muba (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

tiles, painting the walls, and fitting modern aluminium windows," said Ndanyungu.

She added that Muba contacted BetPawa through the Dream Maker project, seeking assistance to complete the renovation of the public centre after the project had

stalled.

"So far, over 500m/- has been spent to support the community through the Dream Maker programme, and the funds have been used over the past 10 months. The Dream Maker programme is our company's strategy to support the

community," she said.

"It is dreams of love like these that inspire and drive the Dream Maker project because we know that together we can bring lasting and positive change to every community, one step at a time," she said.

Muba said his biggest dream was to complete the renovation and expansion of their clinic, which serves 9,785 residents.

"The building we were using before was in poor condition and was not safe to be used as a health centre. I am grateful to BetPawa for making my dream come true by responding to my request in such a short time.

The residents of Ndangoma and neighbouring areas can now enjoy services in a modern, safe, and clean environment," said Muba.

Sijaona Athumani, Nangomba Ward Councillor praised BetPawa for completing the project, urging other companies to follow its example since many challenges still exist in the community.

"It is a joy to see this health centre serving at least 9,785 residents from various areas here in the village. I thank BetPawa for facilitating the construction and improvement of this centre.

Muba has shown his patriotism for the residents of Ndangoma, and I urge everyone to follow his example," said Athumani.

COP29: High stakes for small islands fighting for climate financing

SAINT LUCIA

SMALL Island Developing States (SIDS) are experiencing the most severe impacts of climate change. When leaders of those islands met in Antigua and Barbuda in May, they let the world know that achieving climate justice hinges on comprehensive climate finance.

As they prepare for the 2024 United Nations climate change conference (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, Saint Lucia is prioritizing this issue, strengthening alliances with other SIDS, and seeking critical funding for adaptation and mitigation projects. With the recent enactment of its Climate Change Act of 2024, the island nation recognizes that securing climate finance is vital for safeguarding its future.

"This year's COP has been dubbed the 'Finance COP'," Maya Sifflet, a Sustainable Development and Environment Officer for Saint Lucia told IPS. "The focus is to get the finance we need to mobilize and implement the ambitious climate action we've committed to."

Saint Lucia, like many other SIDS, faces significant challenges in adapting to the impacts of climate change. Rising sea levels, more intense storms and shifting weather patterns are already threatening its economy and infrastructure. Sifflet explained that Saint Lucia has developed a comprehensive National Adaptation Plan (NAP), which integrates climate action into national development strategies. However, without adequate funding, even the most well-crafted plans risk falling short.

"Every year, countries submit their nationally determined contributions (NDCs), outlining the climate action they're taking. We are encouraged to make them as ambitious as possible, stating what climate action we are taking. Our NDCs now capture not only our mitigation efforts, but our adaptation efforts as well," Sifflet said.

Finance is crucial to those plans.

"We need to ensure our sectors are more resilient—agriculture, tourism, fisheries. Each sector was encouraged to assess its risk, assess vulnerabilities and explore what actions can be taken to build resilience. We have therefore developed several sectoral adaptation strategies and action plans."

Saint Lucia has also developed a set of bankable project concepts, which aim to make the nation "finance-ready" when global funds become available. These initiatives are part of a broader effort to position the country to receive climate funding, whether through bilateral agreements or international mechanisms.

Sifflet emphasized that collective action through umbrella groups like the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) is crucial to Saint Lucia's success at COP29. "We negotiate in blocs. Our strength is in numbers," she said. "Through AOSIS, we exchange knowledge, share experiences, and amplify each other's voices in the negotiations. It's a big arena, it's very contentious and you need that collective presence to have power."

One of the key areas Saint Lucia and AOSIS members will focus on during COP29 is the operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund, which was a breakthrough agreement during COP27. The fund is designed to provide financial assistance to vulnerable countries for losses and damages resulting from climate change impacts that cannot be mitigated or adapted to.

"Operationalizing the Loss and Damage Fund would be a major success at COP29," Sifflet noted. "It's something SIDS have lobbied for over many years. This fund signifies that the global community is ready to put money where their mouth is."

Saint Lucia, in anticipation of the fund's formalization, has already conducted a Loss and Damage Needs-Based Assessment to ensure it is prepared to access financing once it becomes available.

"As vulnerable countries, we bear the brunt of climate change, often being forced to hit the reset button after every extreme weather event," Sifflet added. "And it's not just about economic losses—our cultural assets, things that can't be quantified, are at risk. There is so much at stake for us as small islands," she told IPS.

Sifflet concluded that while Saint Lucia's preparation for COP29 has been extensive, the real measure of success will be securing the finance and global commitments needed to ensure the survival and prosperity of small islands in the face of climate change.

This week, the COP29 Presidency unveiled a group of programmes to propel global climate action. In a letter to all parties, President-Designate Mukhtar Babayev said it include the Baku Initiative on Climate Finance, Investment and Trade, noting that "climate finance, as a critical enabler of climate action, is a centrepiece of the COP29 Presidency's vision."

This year's COP is expected to be a competitive negotiations stage for global climate change funding. Small island developing states will be looking to the large economies and major emitters of greenhouse gases to give the financial support needed for adaptation and mitigation measures to cope with a crisis that they did little to create. The stakes for Saint Lucia, and other SIDS, are high.

Below-average rain enough for Ivory Coast cocoa crop-farmers

ABIDJAN

MOST of Ivory Coast's main cocoa regions received below-average rainfall last week but farmers on Monday said it was sufficient to boost development of the next October-to-March season.

The world's top cocoa producer is in its rainy season, which runs from April to mid-November.

Most farmers said they were waiting for a new farmgate

price to be set on Monday before selling their stocks of beans.

In the western region of Soubre and in southern region of Divo, where rains were above average last week, but also in the southern region of Agboville and in the eastern region of Abengourou, where rains were below average, farmers said more pods were ready to be harvested next month than in the same period last season.

However, farmers also voiced

fears that heavy rainfall in October could damage bean quality.

"The plantations now need plenty of sunshine and average rainfall, otherwise there will be crop losses," said Salame Kone, who farms near Soubre, where 33.3 millimetres (mm) fell last week, 12.9 mm above the five-year average.

In the west-central region of Daloa and in the central regions of Bongouanou and Yamoussoukro, where rains were below average last week, farm-

ers said main crop harvesting would be significant in October and gradually increase until December.

"There are more and more workers on the plantations for harvesting because there's so much cocoa," said Albert N'Zue, who farms near Daloa, where 27.8 mm of rain fell last week, 1.8 mm below the five-year average.

Average temperatures across Ivory Coast ranged from 24.7 to 26.6 degrees Celsius.



Kenya hosts int'l travel expo amid quest to enhance tourist numbers

NAIROBI

KENYAN President William Ruto on Wednesday opened an international travel expo in the capital, Nairobi, reaffirming his commitment to growing tourist numbers through diversification and targeted marketing in emerging source markets.

The 2024 edition of the Magical Kenya Travel Expo, the leading travel trade show in East and Central Africa, which will run until Friday, has attracted over 4,000 delegates from across the globe.

Organized by the Kenya Tourism Board (KTB), a state-owned tourism marketing agency, the three-day event was attended by 180 international travel agents, including 75 from Africa, 37 from North America, 26 from Europe, and

42 from Asia and the Middle East. While acknowledging the tourism sector's resurgence after the pandemic-related hiatus, Ruto said the expo would serve as a platform to showcase Kenya's scenic attractions, including its wildlife, the Great Rift Valley, coastal beaches, and savannah grasslands.

"Platforms like the Magical Kenya Travel Expo have, over the last 14 years, provided a reliable platform for business-to-business meetings, connecting African tourism leaders with global buyers and linking Kenyan businesses with actors in the international market," Ruto said.

Kenya's tourism sector recorded significant growth in 2023, with arrivals reaching 2 million, up from 1.48 million in 2022, according to the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife.

The East African nation projects welcoming 3 million tourists by the end of 2024 and anticipates reaching 5 million visitors within the next two to three years.

Ruto said some of the government's interventions to sustain growth in the tourism sector include upgrading transport networks, streamlining the issuance of travel documents, and enhancing security.

Meanwhile, Ruto said the government has created a conducive environment to attract investments in the hospitality sector while showcasing niche products such as culture, sports, innovations and archaeological treasures.

"From vibrant pastoralist traditions to ancient coastal cultures, our cultural diversity enhances Kenya's global appeal," Ruto said, stressing

Kenya's unique identity as the cradle of humanity.

Kenya has introduced a Digital Nomad Work Permit designed for global digital professionals, enabling them to live and work while enjoying the country's natural beauty, Ruto added.

He also said that a transit and long-connection travelers' electronic travel authorization system would soon be introduced, allowing travelers in transit to step out of the airport and visit nearby natural wonders.

June Chepkemei, the chief executive officer of the KTB, said that during the travel expo, local investors would meet with travel operators from major source markets in Africa, Europe and Asia to forge partnerships that could boost arrivals.

By Guardian Reporter

World Rabies Day: Government, USAID unite to empower communities against the disease



In Tanzania, rabies poses a significant public health risk, especially in communities with limited knowledge and access to veterinary services.

ing rabies boundaries during this year's World Rabies Day commemorations which were held in Misungwi District, Mwanza Region.

Through the 'Holela-Holela Itakukosti' which translates to 'recklessness is costly' campaign, both the government and USAID continues with its mission to empower Tanzanian communities to break the cycle of this preventable yet deadly disease—rabies.

During the World Rabies Day commemoration, the campaign

raised awareness about rabies, a disease that claims the lives of over 59,000 people globally each year.

In Tanzania, rabies poses a significant public health risk, especially in communities with limited knowledge and access to veterinary services.

During national commemorations in Misungwi District, Abdul Mhinte, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Live-

stock and Fisheries, underscored the critical need for community

education and vaccination strategies in combating this disease. He called for strengthened collaboration between public health officials and local communities to foster a collective response.

Mhinte stated that rabies is preventable and the government's goal is to ensure that every dog in Tanzania is vaccinated, and every citizen knows what to do following a bite.

"Every community must play its part in this fight," he stated.

His emphasis on education

and teamwork forged a hopeful message for those in attendance. As the campaign targets communities, its key messages include the importance of vaccinating dogs and seeking immediate healthcare services post-dog-bite incidents.

Notably, children, who are among the most vulnerable to rabies exposure, are educated on avoiding interactions with potentially infected

animals.

Mhinte reiterated that collaborative initiatives such as 'Holela-Holela Itakukosti' are crucial for fostering a rabies-free future, stating, "Our partnerships with USAID and local communities are vital to protect public health and prevent rabies transmission."

Local testimonies highlighted the impact of these efforts. Revina, a mother of three from Mwanza, shared her experience saying: "Before the campaign, I had no idea how dangerous rabies was. When we learned that our dogs needed to be vaccinated, we took immediate action. Now, I feel safer letting my children play outside."

The campaign also addresses root causes of the disease like low knowledge, inadequate vaccination efforts, and unsafe animal management practices.

The on-going partnership between USAID and the government showcases the strength of international collaboration in addressing health crises at local level.

As World Rabies Day serves as a reminder of the challenges that rabies continues to pose, 'Holela-Holela Itakukosti' propels Tanzania forward, striving for a healthier, rabies-free future through education, vaccination, and community engagement.

Blunt and bold: Kenya's 'truth speaker' faces the sack

By Basilio Rukanga

KENYA'S embattled Deputy President, Rigathi Gachagua, calls himself the "truthful man", attributing his remarkable rise to the fact that he speaks truth to power.

But as he faces impeachment proceedings, he says these troubles are also a result of his outspoken nature.

Before he was elected MP in 2017, little was known about the man who would, in five short years, rise to become Kenya's second-in-command.

Not many people outside Gachagua's central Kenya constituency had heard of him or his style of politics.

Gachagua captured the limelight in the run-up to the 2022 elections, when he vehemently opposed President Uhuru Kenyatta's choice of preferred successor.

Kenyatta was campaigning heavily for former Prime Minister Raila Odinga.

But Gachagua allied himself with William Ruto, Kenyatta's then deputy, who was angling for the presidency that his boss did not want to bequeath to him.

At political rallies and in media circles, Gachagua railed against Kenyatta, often in words that other politicians would find cringeworthy.

"Don't kill me the way your father killed JM Kariuki," he said at a rally in July 2022, referring to an MP who was killed in 1975 during the administration of Jomo Kenyatta, the nation's first president and the father of Uhuru Kenyatta.

To this day, no one has been found guilty of Kariuki's death.

Before he became Kenya's deputy president, police raided Gachagua's home and arrested him in relation to a corruption and money-laundering case. The charges were dropped after he and Ruto took power following the 2022 election.

He had helped Ruto win by marshalling support in Mount Kenya - the biggest voting bloc in the country. Both Gachagua and Kenyatta come from there. Kenyatta had tried to rally Mount Kenya's voters to throw their weight behind Od-



Rigathi Gachagua was sworn in as the deputy president just over two years ago

inga, but he failed.

Long before Kenyatta became president in 2013, Gachagua had worked closely with him, including as his personal assistant for five years.

But after teaming up with Ruto, Gachagua went from being Kenyatta's "confidant" to one of his harshest critics.

However, since falling out with his current boss, Gachagua has apologized to Kenyatta, saying it was "foolish" of him to have "fought my own brother".

This humility is in sharp contrast to his rhetoric as Ruto's running-mate - analyst Javas Bigamo had even described Gachagua as a "feared political bulldog that Ruto needed to be able to counter President Kenyatta in the central region".

Gachagua was praised as an excellent mobiliser, who had the ear

of ordinary people on the ground.

Yet he was probably not the person many expected to take the deputy position, given that Gachagua had only been a politician for five years and was up against more seasoned candidates.

Ruto explained he had chosen Gachagua because "he is one of those leaders who are passionate about ordinary people".

Politics expert Bobby Mwangi previously said that Gachagua's ability to negotiate his way to the top "considering other names that were fronted and were known nationally" was "quite something".

But just two years after ascending to power, that ability seems to have fizzled out - leaving Gachagua butting heads with the president and in a position where many legislators are pushing for his removal.

He stands accused of corruption,

money-laundering, gross misconduct, insubordination and bullying public officers and six other acts of wrongdoing.

As the motion was being tabled in parliament on Tuesday, the MP introducing the motion, Mwangi Mutuse, said that 291 out of 349 MPs had signed the document pushing for Gachagua's removal.

The signatures of two-thirds - or 233 - of all MPs are required to impeach him.

Mwangi now says the deputy president has been "unable to consolidate the support of his base Gachagua has always been accused of being brash and aggressive - it was one of the reasons some argued against his selection to the running mate position prior to the 2022 election. But in recent months, this criticism has increased.

He denies this assessment of his

character, along with assertions that he alienates his fellow politicians.

He says all he does is "speak the truth", which he insists has made him unpopular within certain political factions.

"I will not compromise my principles," he said over the weekend as calls for his impeachment came to a crescendo.

Gachagua has often identified himself as a child of the Mau Mau freedom fighters, who battled British colonial rule.

He was born in 1965 to parents who he has said were well known for their involvement in the struggle for freedom.

His father built and serviced guns and his mother was a courier of ammunition and food for the fighters, Gachagua said.

His lineage has painted him as a champion of people in central Kenya, many of whom are descendants of independence struggle icons, but still continue to fight for economic freedom.

A popular catchphrase associated with the deputy president is "don't touch the mountain", a reference to his support base in the Mount Kenya region. However, he has also been accused of promoting tribalism rather than being a unifying figure.

But Gachagua has defended himself, insisting that speaking for the central Kenya region is not the same as antagonising other communities.

Before joining politics, Gachagua had had a long career.

After completing university, he began working as a public administrator in government, and as a district officer in different locations across the country.

Senator Danson Mungatana last week said Gachagua's words have "marginalised sections of Kenyans, created and continue to heighten ethnic tensions".

Gachagua has often defended himself, but recently he acknowledged that in the end, it may be the very same thing that catapulted him to the top that will lead to his downfall: his way with words and the politicians around him".



Analysts express mixed feelings on policy rate for Q4

By Guardian Reporter

Financial experts have expressed a mixed outlook regarding the upcoming Central Bank Rate (CBR) announcement by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) for the fourth quarter of this year.

The BoT Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is expected to announce the new policy rate for the fourth quarter and a monetary policy report today, following its 233rd meeting held yesterday.

"Given the current low inflation environment, which remains comfortably within the central bank's target, and the focus on supporting economic growth, we expect the MPC to maintain its current policy rate," stated Raphael Masumbuko, Chief Executive Officer of Zan Securities Limited, the investment advisory and fund management firm.

"With economic activity recovering and inflationary pressures subdued, the central bank is likely to continue its accommodative stance on monetary policy and keep its current CBR at 6 percent."

The MPC maintained the central bank rate (policy rate) at 6 percent for the quarter ending September 2024, following its decision made during its quarterly meeting on July 3, 2024.

The MPC's decision was supported by the successful implementation of monetary policy over the preceding two quarters, which helped anchor the inflation forecast below the target of 5 percent.

The central bank is also implementing monetary policy to ensure that the 7-day interbank rate evolves within the band of +/- 200 basis points of the CBR. This rate has averaged 7.55 percent in July this year, as reported in the economic review for August 2024.

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) Consumer Price Index reports indicate that headline inflation has been fluctuating between 3 to 3.1 percent from December 2023 to August 2024.

The NBS report shows that the annual headline inflation rate for August 2024 rose to 3.1 percent from the 3.0 percent recorded in July 2024.

"I expect maintenance of the current CBR. US rate cut and liquidity signals in the domestic banking sector deter the BoT raise the policy rate, while expected time lag between policy and outcome a quick reduction of the CBR," said Imani Muhingo, head of research and analytics, Alpha Capital.

Earlier, economists projected that Tanzania's central bank is likely to maintain the Central Bank Rate (CBR) at 6.0 percent in Q4 2024 due to robust economic perfor-

mance, with sectors such as construction, agriculture, and financial services experiencing significant growth.

GDP growth is expected to reach 5.4 percent in 2024, fueled by increased public and private investments.

Furthermore, economists indicate that global financial conditions are becoming more favorable, characterized by lower external borrowing costs and a more stable exchange rate environment.

This scenario allows the BoT to adopt a cautious stance, balancing the need to support growth while managing inflation risks.

"As such, barring any significant shifts in domestic or global conditions, the BoT is expected to maintain the CBR steady or potentially consider a slight reduction if inflationary pressures remain subdued," commented said another economist.

According to the AfDB's economic outlook for Tanzania, real GDP growth is projected at 5.7 percent in 2024 and 6 percent in 2025, driven by agriculture, manufacturing, and tourism, and bolstered by public investments and reforms to enhance the business environment.

Inflation is anticipated to decrease to 3.3 percent in 2024 and 3.4 percent in 2025, aided by stability in food and energy prices.

In its recent report, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) advised that Tanzania's Central Bank Rate (CBR) should be managed carefully to ensure stability in the financial markets during Q4 2024.

The IMF suggested that the BoT maintain liquidity conditions that keep the 7-day interbank rate within a corridor of +/- 200 basis points relative to the CBR, which is crucial for controlling inflation and fostering sustainable economic growth.

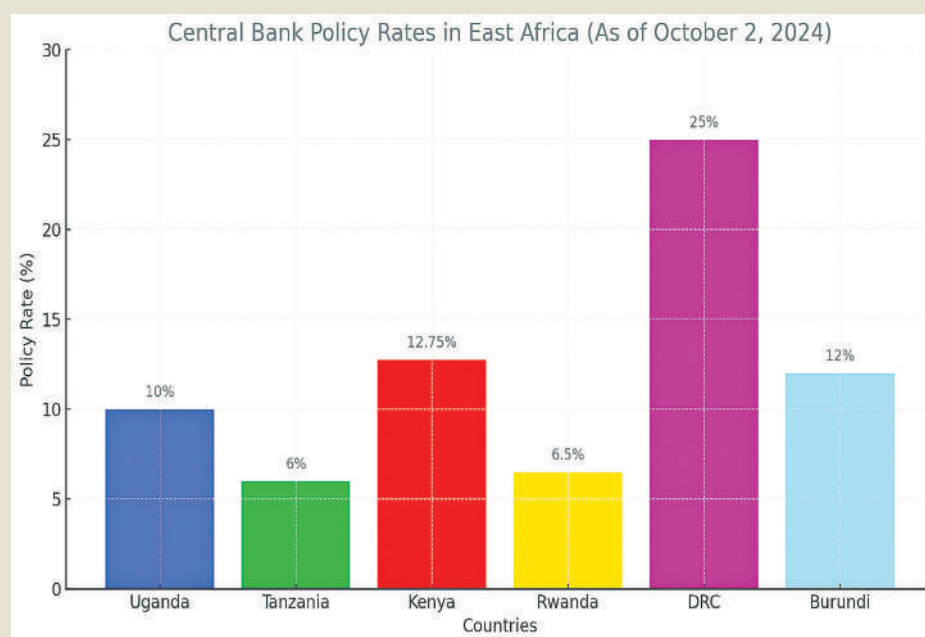
The IMF also emphasized the importance of aligning the interbank rate with the CBR to enhance monetary policy transmission.

Furthermore, enhancing the BoT's forecasting and communication tools was another key recommendation aimed at strengthening monetary policy effectiveness.

The IMF report indicated that inflation expectations have been well managed, with inflation projected to remain below the 5 percent target.

"For Tanzania, the economy is expected to grow steadily, supported by sectors such as agriculture, mining, and tourism, while inflationary pressures are anticipated to ease due to improved global conditions and increased foreign exchange inflows," the IMF stated.

"For Q4 2024, the outlook for Tanzania's central bank rate (CBR) remains steady with potential for varied adjustments depending on economic conditions," noted



a local economist, as quoted by the local newspaper.

"One key factor influencing the decision is the recent rate cut by the US Federal Reserve, which could alleviate pressure on the Tanzanian shilling and reduce borrowing costs. This shift opens up the possibility of maintaining or even lowering the CBR to support economic growth without risking currency depreciation or rising inflation. Inflation remains within the BoT's target, and private sector credit growth is robust, although slightly below 2023 levels."

The economist added: "While maintaining the CBR at 6 percent is likely, a rate cut could stimulate further investment and credit growth, especially in sectors such as construction and manufacturing."

However, he cautioned that potential global risks, including rising food and fuel prices, may prompt the BoT to prioritize inflation control, possibly leading to a rate

hike to safeguard price stability.

"The final decision will depend on both domestic economic conditions and external factors, particularly the global monetary environment, and will reflect the BoT's commitment to balancing inflation and growth," he remarked.

"The BoT will likely monitor interest rate movements by global central banks. Should major economies maintain tight monetary policies to curb inflation, the BoT might lean towards a stable or higher interest rate to prevent capital outflows and stabilize the Tanzanian shilling."

Overall, the central bank will likely aim for a balance between promoting economic growth and controlling inflation, with the possibility of maintaining or marginally adjusting rates upwards if inflation risks increase toward the end of 2024, another economist suggested.

During the third week of last month, the

US Federal Reserve enacted its first interest rate cut since the early days of the COVID pandemic, reducing benchmark rates by half a percentage point in an effort to prevent a slowdown in the labor market.

A financial analyst, Kelvin Msangi, was quoted by Daily News on Tuesday that the most likely outcome forms the Monetary Policy Committee, is a 50 per cent probability, a small interest rate cut of up to 25 basis points.

"A modest cut seems feasible," Msangi urged saying "this would align with global trends, such as US Federal Reserve cuts and easing measures in South Africa and Kenya, aimed at stimulating investment without significantly raising inflation risks".

The US Federal Reserve recently made headlines by cutting interest rates by 0.5 percentage points, marking its first rate reduction in four years.

This move is part of an "aggressive" strategy to restore the global largest economy's price stability while minimizing unemployment increases.

The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) is set to announce a new lending rate during its Monetary Policy Committee meeting on October 8, 2024 as analysts expect the lowering of the policy rate by 100 basis points to 11.75 percent, building on a previous reduction in August from 13 percent to 12.75 percent.

CBK cut its benchmark lending rate by 25 basis points in August, saying there was scope to ease policy gradually as inflation had fallen below the midpoint of its target range.

Kenya's inflation fell to 3.6 percent year-on-year in September from 4.4 percent a month earlier, the statistics office said yesterday.

The National Bank of Rwanda slashed its key interest rate by 50 bps to 6.5 percent at its meeting on August 21st, 2024, marking the second consecutive reduction in a row.

Policymakers justified the decision saying that inflation was projected to remain within its target band at around 5 percent for this year and the next year 2025.

The Bank of Uganda lowered its benchmark interest rate by 25bps to 10 percent during a meeting held on August 7th, 2024, after keeping it steady at 10.25 percent in June.

Policymakers cited a moderation in inflation risks as a reason for easing the monetary policy tightening.

The benchmark interest rate in Burundi was last recorded at 12 percent.

The central bank of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (BCC) decided to maintain its policy rate at 25 percent at a meeting of its Committee on Monetary Policy (CPM) held in June.

sizes the Middle East's crucial role in global Islamic finance.

In other parts of the world such as Sub-Saharan Africa, Islamic finance is just beginning to take off. In March 2024, Uganda opened licensed its first sharia-compliant bank, a branch of the Djibouti-based Salaam Group.

The nature of the African market—huge territories, little financial education, lack of regulatory frameworks—makes it challenging for Islamic banks to establish a presence in most Sub-Saharan countries. If sharia-complaint finance is to develop on the African continent, chances are will be led by banks from Egypt, Sudan and Morocco.

At this stage, Islamic finance in Africa tends to spread through private or sovereign bonds rather than brick-and-mortar banking. African governments see Islamic finance as a tool to raise development funds on international markets and diversify their pool of investors but so far, the results have been limited.

The Islamic finance market shows a solid growth trajectory and increasing global relevance driven by ethical and economic factors. With Islamic banking present in more than 80 countries, the sector is growing outside of traditional Muslim-majority nations.

The industry faces challenges, like limited standardization and harmonization of Shariah interpretations, regulatory inconsistencies across jurisdictions, and a shortage of skilled professionals in Islamic finance. Despite the challenges, the sector is poised for robust growth and innovation in the future.

Dr Mythili Kolluru

The global Islamic finance market is estimated to be around \$2.5-4.5 trillion by the end of this year.

Islamic finance, a unique financial system guided by the ethical principles of Islamic law (Shariah), sets itself apart from conventional finance in several ways.

It prohibits paying and charging interest (Riba), promoting profit and loss sharing. This system is underpinned by tangible assets, ensuring a more secure and ethical approach to finance.

Islamic finance banks are committed to ethical investments, avoiding harmful or unethical activities like alcohol and gambling.

Moreover, they shun excessive uncertainty and speculation, fostering a responsible financial management culture that inspires industry confidence.

The roots of Islamic finance run deep, with its origins dating back centuries in the Middle East. This rich heritage, dating back to the Middle Ages, is a testament to the enduring principles of Islamic finance.

The modern Islamic banking and finance industry began to take shape in the mid-20th century. The Mit Ghamr Savings Bank, Egypt, first experimented with Islamic banks.

From 1963 to 1967, the pioneering experiment combined the idea of German saving banks with the principles of rural banking within the general framework of Islamic values.

The pivotal moment for Islamic finance

Global Islamic finance to hit \$4.5trn in 2024



came in 1975, marked by establishing the Dubai Islamic Bank and the Saudi Arabia Islamic Development Bank.

As of 2024, the global Islamic finance market is estimated to be around \$2.5-4.5 trillion. From 2024 to 2031, the industry is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10-12.67 percent. The market is expected to reach \$5.1-6.7 trillion in 2031. Africa and the Middle East have the most significant market shares. The region with the quickest growth is Asia-Pacific.

Nearly 95 percent of the world's Sharia-compliant assets are concentrated in just ten countries: Iran and Saudi Arabia each have a 25-30 percent market share, Malaysia: 12 percent, UAE: 10 percent, Qatar and Kuwait combined: 5.5 percent, Bahrain and Turkey: 3.5 percent each, and Pakistan and Indonesia: 2 percent each.

The Middle East Islamic Finance market is a diverse landscape that includes Islamic banking, which accounts for 56 percent of the industry growth, Islamic insurance

(takaful), Islamic bonds (sukuk), and other Islamic financial institutions (OFIs) and Islamic funds.

Based on geography, the Islamic financial market includes Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iraq, Iran, and the rest of the Middle East—the Middle East accounts for 77.4% of the total Sharia-compliant assets. Iran and Saudi Arabia are the largest markets, accounting for over \$400 billion in assets. Oman's Islamic finance sector is relatively young compared to other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, but it has been proliferating since its introduction in 2013. Oman's Islamic banking sector is steadily growing, with total assets of RO 7 billion. The industry is projected to reach 20 percent of the overall bank assets by 2025. Moody's Investors Service rated Turkey and Oman as the fastest-growing Islamic financing markets in the world in 2021.

Iran and Saudi Arabia are at the top of the area in asset accumulation, highlighting their crucial position in the global Islamic banking scene. The market also displayed post-COVID-19 resilience, driven by a growing demand for Sharia-compliant products through Islamic banks' digital platforms. The growth empha-

FACTORS AFFECTING THE BANK'S LENDING RATES: PART TWO

KELVIN MKWAWA

In last week's article, we saw that the higher the lending rate, the more profits the banks get but policymakers prefer lower lending rates to improve the investment environment. Additionally, we have seen that the lending rate is crucial for the progress and development of the country, so it is important to understand what factors are affecting the lending rate. Lastly, I discussed the cost of funds as one of the factors that affect banks' lending rates.

That is where we ended last week. This week we will discuss the remaining four factors affecting lending rates:

Macroeconomic Environment - The macroeconomic environment results from Government policies and decisions through fiscal and monetary policy tools. Through them, the Govern-

ment can have a negative or positive impact on price indices, unemployment rate, taxes, GDP, and national incomes. A stable macroeconomic environment promotes lower lending rates and vice versa. For example, in an unstable macroeconomic environment, investors/business owners will face uncertainty about their investment returns which will affect their ability to pay back their debts and that will raise the lending rates as the level of nonperforming loans goes up. This domino effect caused by an unstable macroeconomic environment, will reduce the businesses' profitability while reducing the value of their assets and therefore their creditworthiness hence the banks will charge high lending rates to cover their risk premium.

Risks - The other factor affecting the lending rate is risks. Banks are exposed to various risks such as credit



KELVIN MKWAWA

risk, foreign exchange risk, legal risk, operational risk, and interest rate risk. For example, banks can be exposed to interest rate risk when they hold unmatched maturities of the loans and deposits. This happens when banks raise

funds through short-term deposits to finance long-term loans. Also, banks can be exposed to credit risk as a result of uncertainty and information asymmetry in the industry. So to cover all the risks, the banks charge a premium rate which increases the lending rates paid by the borrowers.

Taxes - Taxes influence the lending rate as they increase the intermediation costs such as withholding taxes, stamp duties, profit taxes, reserve requirements, value-added taxes, and transaction taxes. The presence of these taxes can discourage the activity of banks in the inter-bank market which plays a major role in maintaining the reasonable discount rate hence improving the effectiveness of monetary policy. With heavy taxation, the banks will see borrowing through the inter-bank market as uneconomical and increase their reli-

ance on deposits on central banks hence creating a liquidity crunch among the banks. With liquidity problems, banks will be forced to offer attractive deposit interest rates to attract more deposits hence the high cost of funds which translates into higher lending rates.

Regulatory and Legal Framework - Regulatory and legal framework influences the efficiency of the banking industry. To reach our potential as a country, it is imperative that we have stability in our banking industry. Without proper supervision of the banking industry, instability will increase, hence increasing the risk premium in the market which will force the banks to have higher lending rates. For example, we have weaknesses in our legal system when the banks want to enforce the lending contracts by selling the security when the customer defaults, which

creates credit management for the banks therefore the banks charge higher lending rates to cover the credit risk.

As a whole, we have seen that lending rates play a major role in the development of our economy as it is one of the main factors that determines the welfare of banks. More importantly, we have learned the five factors (i.e., Cost of funds, Macroeconomic environment, taxes, risks, and regulatory and legal framework) affecting the banks' lending rates. The current banks' lending rates (average of 20% per annum) are a barrier to our economic development and I challenge our government to find a way together with financial institutions to lower the lending rates to nurture our business environment.

Kelvin Mkwawa (pictured), MBA is Seasoned Banker. He can be reached through Email address: Kelvin.e.mkwawa@gmail.com

CENTRAL BANKS, CENTRAL BANKING IN A HIGHLY COMPLEX WORLD:

Demonstrating commitment, preserving high credibility

By Alfred Kammer

In many countries, headline inflation has returned to more comfortable levels, and the extreme uncertainty surrounding our economic models has diminished. This shift allows monetary policy to be guided more by forecasts, enabling policymakers to look beyond short-term variations in current data.

However, in some regions, the outlook remains uncertain. High headline inflation and persistent core inflation serve as reminders that our mission is far from complete. Efforts to combat inflation over the past two years have underscored a vital tenet of central banking: remain true to your mandate. Yet, this should not deter us from examining whether—and how—monetary policy strategies may need to adapt moving forward.

In addressing this question, I will focus on three key themes including the role of central bank frameworks, challenges from recent events and lessons for the future and lastly, I will offer thoughts on the lessons we can carry forward.

Let us begin with central bank frameworks. Traditionally, we view central banks primarily as guardians of price stability, a core aspect of their function. However, many central banks have historically had—and some continue to have—a broader range of responsibilities extending well beyond price stability.

For instance, Banca d'Italia served as the buyer of last resort for Italian government bonds from the 1970s until its 'divorce' from the Treasury in 1981. Similarly, after World War II, Banque de France was granted extensive powers to influence credit allocation to fulfill various economic policy objectives. Such instances were not isolated; credit-control policies were prevalent in post-war Western Europe, aiming to direct credit towards specific industries, accelerate industrialization, and promote higher growth.

Over time, central banks have evolved in response to changing conditions. Following the oil price shocks of the 1970s, quasi-fiscal functions and credit policies were gradually abandoned in most countries. The broad scope of central banks' mandates hindered the pursuit of price stability, which became the primary focus from that point onward. Mandates were narrowed, and central banks were granted institutional independence from political influence, thus preventing fiscal dominance and the associated inflationary bias.

The concept of inflation targeting emerged in the 1990s, marking a significant evolution in modern central banking. This new paradigm emphasized strong central bank independence from political interference, coupled



ALFRED KAMMER

with a clear mandate for price stability. Inflation targeting also necessitated transparency regarding how monetary policy decisions were made, holding central bankers accountable for achieving their objectives.

While independence forms the bedrock of modern central banking, transparency and accountability balance this independence with democratic principles. Inflation targeting frameworks have underpinned a period of remarkable economic stability and growth globally, often referred to as the 'Great Moderation.'

Other factors contributed to this stability, including globalization and structural reforms associated with EU accession in several CESEE countries. Nevertheless, the capacity of central banks to operate independently in pursuit of price stability is widely recognized as a crucial element of the Great Moderation, yielding benefits in terms of economic stability, growth, and prosperity.

Recently, however, this independence has faced increasing pressure. There have been growing calls for premature interest rate cuts and political interference in central bank decision-making and personnel appointments. Such pressures jeopardize the successes achieved and must be resisted.

The war in Ukraine has resulted in a significant supply shock, leading to a sharp increase in inflation that has impacted businesses and households disproportionately in CESEE countries. This heightened impact can be attributed to their greater exposure through imports and the higher share of food and energy in the region's consumer basket, along with second-round effects on prices and wages. Although inflation has decreased, elevated prices and

input costs pose potential competitiveness challenges for CESEE nations.

On a positive note, unlike in the 1970s, inflation expectations have largely remained anchored. Research by the IMF indicates that tighter monetary policies have effectively lowered inflation this time by preventing cost shocks from becoming entrenched. This aligns with historical evidence: an analysis of 100 global inflation episodes reveals that monetary policy action is vital in disciplining inflation, and that central bank independence facilitates this while minimizing output losses by keeping inflation expectations stable.

The National Bank of North Macedonia exemplifies this approach. Following an inflation peak of 19.8 percent in 2022, decisive rate hikes and strong credibility helped anchor inflation expectations, bringing inflation down to 2.2 percent by August 2024.

The challenge of fragmentation

The second economic challenge confronting central banks is fragmentation. Globalization had been slowing before the war, but recent geopolitical tensions have intensified this trend, shifting the world from a highly efficient, globalized trade model to one characterized by regional blocs, increased trade restrictions, and higher transaction costs. World Bank data indicates that nearly 3,000 trade restrictions were imposed last year—five times the number observed in 2015.

A less integrated global economy tends to be poorer, more susceptible to shocks, and more exposed to inflationary pressures. Model-based simulations by IMF staff indicate that the inflationary effects of trade restrictions between geopolitical blocs could be substantial. For example, a ban on energy and

mineral trade between a hypothetical 'China-Russia+' bloc and a 'US-Europe+' bloc could increase inflation in the US-Europe+ bloc by up to 0.6 percentage points in the first year following the ban.

These emerging economic challenges compound existing issues such as Europe's aging population and stagnant productivity. Unfortunately, fiscal maneuverability is often limited, and necessary reforms are typically politically challenging.

Given these circumstances, it is not surprising that central banks are facing calls to expand their mandates to address wider societal challenges.

Climate change:

Climate risk is a macro-critical issue, and central banks are increasingly integrating it into their policy frameworks. Examples include the ECB's climate stress tests and the prioritization of firms with better climate performance in corporate bond purchase schemes by both the ECB and the Bank of England.

Digital innovations:

Digital currencies, fintech, and AI present significant opportunities for efficiency but also introduce new risks. Central banks must stay ahead of these developments, including exploring the potential of central bank digital currencies (CBDCs). The IMF is actively providing guidance in this area.

Financial inclusion:

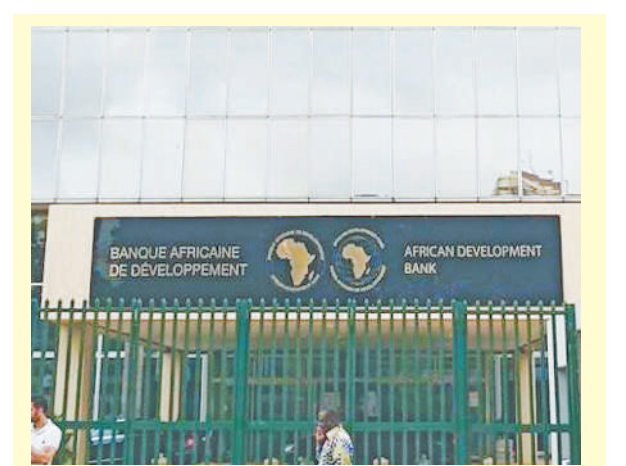
Enhancing financial inclusion, particularly gender-inclusive finance, is vital. By promoting accessible and affordable financial services, central banks can help close gaps, including those related to gender.

We will revisit some of these topics later today, as all are crucial. However, it is essential to recognize that broadening central bank mandates may dilute their focus on core monetary policy, invite political interference, and strain institutional capacity.

Given the prevailing economic challenges, identifying possible trade-offs will be critical. The primary priority for central banks must remain price stability, necessitating careful management of public expectations.

Central banks have made considerable progress in reducing inflation following the recent surge, thanks to enhanced frameworks that have bolstered resilience during recent crises. However, the "last mile" remains challenging, requiring ongoing vigilance. The reemergence of political pressures on central banks threatens to undermine the hard-earned credibility essential for maintaining economic stability.

Alfred Kammer (pictured) is the Director of the European Department at the International Monetary Fund. In this role, he oversees the IMF's work in Europe.



AfDB issues EUR70m to boost trade across Africa

ABIDJAN

The African Development Bank (AfDB) has approved a trade finance facility of EUR70 million for Bank of Africa Morocco (BOA) to promote trade in Africa.

The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank Group has approved a trade finance facility of EUR 70 million for Bank of Africa Morocco (BOA).

"The African Development Bank, which is rated AAA by the largest rating agencies, is joining forces with the Bank of Africa Morocco to promote access to trade finance on the continent, in particular providing support for SMEs operating in transition States" said Ahmed Attout, director of the Bank's Financial Sector Development Department.

The facility comprises a Risk Participation Agreement (RPA) of EUR 50 million and a Trade Finance Line of Credit (TFLOC) of EUR 20 million.

"We are delighted with this first partnership with BOA, a leading player in Africa. Together, in Morocco and across the continent, we are strengthening financial inclusion for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) involved in foreign trade, to help them to operate more widely," added Achraf Hassan Tarsim, head of the African Development Bank's Country Office in Morocco.

The RPA will offer Bank of Africa Morocco the opportunity to provide more support to local banks on the continent in their international operations, as they increasingly face a decline in financing and confirmation lines with their foreign counterparts.

In addition, the TFLOC will facilitate access to finance for Moroccan SMEs working in the key sectors of health, agriculture, the pharmaceutical and automotive industries, and transport.

The facility should catalyse almost EUR 300 million in trade over a 3.5-year period.

More broadly, the aim of the cooperation is to strengthen countries' diversification of production and competitiveness, raise additional tax revenues and create new job opportunities.

In 2024, Africa's trade finance landscape will be shaped by a combination of technological advancements, sustainable practices, regional integration, and changing global dynamics.

Stakeholders in the trade finance ecosystem, including banks, fintech companies, and policymakers, will need to adapt to these changes to support economic growth and development across the continent.

ICT conference to facilitate AI uptake among young innovators

By Francis Kajubi

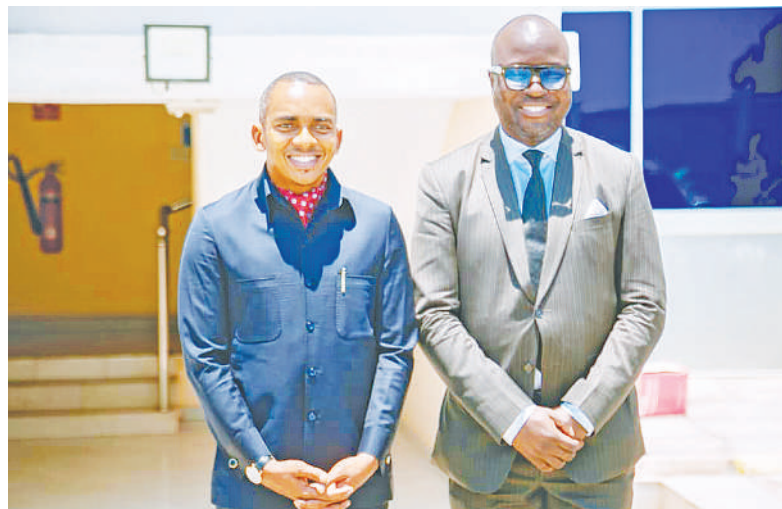
The Ministry of Information, Communication, and Information Technology is set to identify and equip start-ups with advanced artificial intelligence (AI) technologies during the Tanzania Annual ICT Conference 2024 (TAIC 2024).

Jerry Silaa, the Minister for Information, Communication, and Information Technology, announced yesterday in Dar es Salaam that the eight conferences, themed "Unleashing the Power of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics for Socio-Economic Transformation," will take place from October 13 to 17.

"It will feature pre-conference events, including the African AI Competition, scheduled for October 13-14. The main TAIC 2024 event, which will include expert discussions and presentations, will occur from October 15 to 17," Silaa stated.

According to the Minister, TAIC 2024 aims to gather a wide range of participants, including ICT professionals, practitioners, academics, researchers, development partners, industry leaders, and digital technology innovators. He emphasized that start-up business owners and innovators will be encouraged to showcase their innovations at the conference.

Dr. Nkundwe Mwasaga, Director General of the ICT Commission,



Jerry Silaa (L), Minister of Information, Communication, and Information Technology and ICT Commission Director General, Dr. Nkundwe Mwasaga, pose in a photo shortly after their discussion held in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

revealed that to support innovators and foster their growth, the Commission signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) valued at 8 billion shillings with the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) in June. This MoU aims to establish regional innovation incubation hubs.

Under the government-funded program known as "National Digital Innovation Acceleration," the ICT Commission will provide

funds to SIDO to develop these hubs, enabling youth to acquire skills and knowledge necessary for establishing more start-up companies. This initiative aligns with Tanzania's efforts to create a competitive youth population for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) market.

Dr. Mwasaga explained that the program involves establishing six digital innovation hubs and two equipment innovation hubs, with initial development focused

on six regions before expanding nationwide in phases.

"The six digital innovation hubs will be located in Mwanza, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Mbeya, and Lindi, while the two equipment innovation hubs will be established in Arusha and Dar es Salaam," said Dr. Mwasaga.

The program also targets the youth, who make up 21 million of Tanzania's total population of 61.7 million, to capitalize on regional and continental digital economy opportunities.

"Our primary goal is to facilitate the establishment of start-ups in economic sectors such as mining, tourism, services, agriculture, and transportation," Dr. Mwasaga noted.

He emphasized that the innovation centers will serve as dedicated spaces for youth to incubate their innovative ideas, ultimately contributing to the economy by creating decent jobs and significantly increasing the current two percent contribution of the ICT sector to the country's GDP.

Additionally, he mentioned that a similar MoU has been signed with the Tanzania Industrial Research and Development Organization (TIRDO).

Geita mining tech expo to generate 1.5bn/- in revenue

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Geita

The 7th edition of the Geita Mining Technology Exhibition, which commenced yesterday, is projected to generate a total of 1.5bn/- in revenue.

Running for at least ten consecutive days at Geita's renowned External Processing Zones Authority (EPZS) grounds, this prestigious expo is expected to attract over 600 participants from both local and international markets.

Participants will represent various sectors related to mineral mining, technology, logistics, financial institutions, social security funds, and diverse business affiliations.

During a briefing on the event, Charles Chacha, the coordinator of the exhibition and Assistant Regional Secretary for Industries, Trade, and Investment, announced that Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Energy Dr. Dotto Biteko is scheduled to officially open the event on October 5, 2024.

"We anticipate that more than 10,000 visitors will attend the event daily," he stated.

Chacha reported that a significant number of traders have confirmed their participation in this important economic gathering. "Both small and large-scale traders will showcase various products and services, creating lucrative opportunities throughout the ten-day event," he added.

The expo organizers have provided participants with a special seminar to ensure adherence to the relevant protocols. "We have made extensive preparations to host this exhibition at an international standard, attracting a large number of participants from within and outside the country," he emphasized.

He noted that the exhibition would create a valuable platform for local mineral stakeholders, particularly small-scale miners and companies, to adopt modern technologies essential for improving their performance and standards.

This year's exhibition has been organized by the Ministry of Minerals in cooperation with the Geita regional government and the Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade).

As the region's premier showcase for the latest technology in mining and mineral processing, the expo features earthmoving equipment, safety gear, and much more.

The exhibition serves as a one-stop shop for buyers from across East Africa seeking new products, equipment, machinery, services, and solutions related to the mining sector.

Records from the parent ministry indicate that Tanzania's mining sector heavily relies on imported machinery and supplies, with investors allowed to import capital goods at zero duty.

There are substantial opportunities for exporting technology, machinery, and services to the mining sector in Tanzania, which also requires infrastructure and financing solutions, including roads, railways, ports, power supply, and credit facilities.

AfDB invests \$10m equity in Kenyan firm

NAIROBI

The African Development Bank (AfDB) has made a strategic equity investment of \$10 million in Dhamana Guarantee Company, a Nairobi-based provider of guarantees to support sustainable growth enterprises.

This follows an anchor investment from the UK-Government-backed Private Infrastructure Development Group through its subsidiary, InfraCo Africa.

Dhamana will also receive equity investments from County Pension Fund Financial Services (CPF), and technical assistance support from and Financial Sector Deepening Africa (FSD Africa) and Cardano Development.

Solomon Quaynor, African Development Bank Vice president for Private Sector, Infrastructure & Industrialisation, attended a ceremony in Nairobi to sign agreements relating to the African Development Bank's equity investment in Dhamana Guarantee Company.

Dhamana will support access to financing for key sectors including transport, water, renewable energy, and waste management. It is also committed to catalysing green and sustainable financing into East Africa, providing credit guarantees to stimulate private institutional investment in infrastructure."

By targeting businesses that im-



prove citizen's daily lives, Dhamana will enhance access to affordable finance, reduce the capital needed for projects, and advance progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

In his remarks at the ceremony, Quaynor said, "The African Development Bank's equity investment in Dhamana reinforces the catalytic role and potential of credit enhancement companies in leveraging opportunities for infrastructure financing in local currency. We intend to replicate this business model in appropriate markets across Africa with partners such as the Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) and others."

He noted that the first example of this type of credit enhancement company was InfraCredit in Nigeria which has demonstrated success.

"The investment in Dhamana aligns with the Bank's priority to mobilise financing through innovative vehicles from African institutional funds including pension funds, sovereign wealth funds and insurance companies for infrastructure development in Africa," Quaynor said.

InfraCo Africa CEO Gilles Vaes represented PIDG. He said, "Building on the success of other PIDG-supported credit enhancement facilities in Nigeria and Pakistan, Dhamana will demonstrate the value of such a facility in the East African market, opening up opportunities for investors and clients alike. Crucially, Dhamana will engage new partners and investors in our efforts to urgently address the climate crisis and accelerate delivery of the UN Sustainable Development Goals."

Dhamana CEO Christopher Olobo said, "With the support of our investors and supporters, the Private Infrastructure Development Group, Cardano Development, FSD Africa, CPF Financial Services, and the African Development Bank, we have worked to develop Dhamana as an important catalyst for long-term sustainable finance in the region. Dhamana's local currency guarantees will connect pools of untapped capital with East Africa's real economy, making a tangible difference to people's lives and offering local investors the opportunity to invest in Paris-aligned initiatives."

Dhamana is working to catalyse the development of domestic capital markets in East Africa. It does this by connecting significant under-utilised sources of domestic institutional capital with the real economy, such as new green infrastructure, and providers of credit to businesses. This increases access and the affordability of local capital, providing new low-risk opportunities for local investors.

Dhamana will also serve to provide a portfolio of businesses with access to the local currency capital needed to deliver bankable projects, meeting the high demand for new affordable housing, transportation, water, and energy infrastructure, and promoting long term economic development.

BANKING & FINANCE

Muheza schools benefit from 60m/- facilities donated by bank



The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Energy, Dr. Dotto Biteko (L), listens attentively to an explanation by Doreen Joseph during the handover of educational facilities to five schools at the Jitegemeo grounds in Muheza. Also present are Muheza District Commissioner Zainabu Abdallah (3rd R) and Muheza Member of Parliament Hamisi Mwinjuma, who is wearing black spectacles. Photo: Cheji Bakari.

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Muheza

Five schools in Muheza District have benefited from educational facilities valued at 60m/-, donated by a local bank.

During the handover of the facilities, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Energy, Dr. Dotto Biteko, commended the bank for supporting the government's efforts in the education sector by providing various teaching and learning materials and constructing educational facilities in different areas.

Dr. Biteko expressed his gratitude while presenting the equipment valued at 60 million shillings to the five schools in Muheza District, Tanga Region, as part of the initiative to support the education sector.

He made the donation at the Jitegemeo grounds in Muheza during "Education Week," which

coincides with the launch of a campaign aimed at educating schoolchildren to become future leaders, titled "Mtoto wa Leo, Samia wa Kesho," meaning "Today's Child, Tomorrow's Samia."

The campaign was jointly organized by Muheza Member of Parliament Hamisi Mwinjuma, who also serves as the Deputy Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, and Muheza District Commissioner Zainabu Abdallah.

Dr. Biteko used the platform to urge parents and guardians to collaborate closely with teachers to prepare their children to become future leaders, emphasizing that the government has invested significantly in education to achieve positive outcomes.

In her remarks, Deputy Minister in the President's Office for Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Zainabu Katimba, stated that

the government is committed to nurturing tomorrow's leaders by investing in the education sector and constructing child-friendly educational facilities, including those for inclusive education, to facilitate effective teaching and learning.

Doreen Joseph, the Chief Quality Assurance Officer of the bank that donated the facilities, handed over 200 desks, 40 double-decker beds for hostel students, and 80 mattresses to Dr. Biteko before they were presented to the leadership of Muheza District.

According to Doreen, the desks will be distributed among Kwembakala, Masuguru, Mdote, Ngomeni, and Mwembeni primary schools, while the 40 double-decker beds and 80 mattresses will be allocated to Ngomeni Primary School.

She also mentioned that the bank has provided 32 beds and

64 mattresses to the special needs unit at Masuguru Primary School, explaining that this support will help address the shortages faced by the school.

"I would like to thank you, Deputy Prime Minister, and the sixth-phase government for the significant changes and developments in the education sector in the country. We at NMB are committed to collaborating with you in advancing such developments," stated Doreen.

She further explained that this donation is also part of the bank's Corporate Social Responsibility. "Our bank recognizes the government's efforts in ensuring education for all, including providing free education in both urban and rural areas. As education stakeholders, we are pleased to support the government's initiatives," emphasized Doreen.

WORLD

Biden directs US forces to aid Israel's defence against Iran



US President Joe Biden (second right) speaks alongside Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg (third right) and Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas (first right) during a briefing on Hurricane Helene response and recovery efforts, in the Roosevelt Room of the White House on Tuesday in Washington, DC. AFP

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Joe Biden has directed US forces to aid Israel's defence against Iran, which launched missile attacks against the Jewish state, the White House said on Tuesday.

In a post on X, formerly known as Twitter, US National Security Council spokesperson Sean Savett said Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris "are monitoring

the Iranian attack against Israel from the White House Situation Room & receiving regular updates from their national security team".

The US president "directed the US military to aid Israel's defence against Iranian attacks & shoot down missiles targeting Israel," the spokesperson added.

The statement came as Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps said it had targeted Israel with dozens of ballistic missiles.

Earlier in the day, the White House said the US was "actively supporting" Israel's defence against the missile attack from Iran.

"The United States has indications that Iran is preparing to imminently launch a ballistic missile attack against Israel," multiple US media outlets quoted a senior White House official as saying.

"We are actively supporting defensive preparations to defend Israel against this attack. A direct mili-

tary attack from Iran against Israel will carry severe consequences for Iran," the official said.

The same day, the US embassy in Jerusalem put out a security alert saying it has directed "all US government employees and their family members to shelter in place until further notice".

The direction is sent to relevant US personnel in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza.

Iran says military action against Israel concluded

TEHRAN/JERUSALEM

IRAN'S Foreign Minister Seyyed Abbas Araghchi said the country's military action against Israel has concluded.

He made the remarks in a post on social media platform X early Wednesday while elaborating on a missile attack by Iran Tuesday night against targets inside Israel.

Araghchi said Iran on Tuesday evening "exercised self-defense" under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, "targeting solely military and security sites in charge of genocide in Gaza and Lebanon."

He added Iran took the action after exercising "tremendous restraint for almost two months, to give space for a ceasefire in Gaza."

Iran's action was concluded unless Israel would decide to "invite further retaliation," a scenario in which Teheran's response would be "stronger and more powerful," he said.

Araghchi said Israel's "enablers now have a heightened responsibility to rein in the warmongers in Tel Aviv instead of getting involved in their folly."



Demonstrators celebrate Iran's missile strike against Israel during a gathering in front of the British Embassy in Tehran, Iran, Tuesday, Oct 1, 2024. (PHOTO / AP)

Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps said in statements on Tuesday that it launched dozens of ballistic missiles on strategic centers in Israel in retaliation for Israel's assassinations of Hamas Politburo Chief Ismail Haniyeh, Hezbollah Secretary-General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, and senior IRGC commander Abbas Nilforoushan, as well as its intensification of "malicious acts" with the US support in its offensives against Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Commenting on the attack, Iran's Defense Minister Aziz Nasirzadeh said on Tuesday that if Israel "dares respond, our subsequent actions would be far more severe, and we would use a more advanced array of the missiles that we have at our disposal."

Also on Tuesday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed that Israel would retaliate against Iran's missile attack earlier in the day, during which 180 missiles were fired toward Israel.

"Iran made a big mistake tonight, and it will pay for it," said Netanyahu during a Security Cabinet meeting, which discussed Israel's ground campaign in Lebanon and possible responses to Iran's missile attack.

At a press briefing earlier, the Israeli military spokesman Daniel Hagari confirmed that several Iranian missiles hit central and southern Israel, and "quite a few" were intercepted by air defense systems.

A 38-year-old Palestinian was killed as one of the missiles exploded near Jericho city in the occupied West Bank, local Civil Defense said. There has been no immediate report of fatalities within Israel yet.

Earlier in the day, Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) claimed that it had targeted Israel with dozens of ballistic missiles.

The IRGC said in a statement that the attacks were in retaliation for Israel's assassinations of resistance leaders, including Hamas Politburo Chief Ismail Haniyeh, Hezbollah Secretary-General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, and senior IRGC commander Abbas Nilforoushan, as well as its intensification of "malicious acts" with the US support in its offensives against Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Agencies

Rahul Gandhi pays tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat on Gandhi Jayanti

NEW DELHI

CONGRESS leader and Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition (LoP) Rahul Gandhi paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on Wednesday morning.

The Congress leader could be seen

paying his respects to the most iconic figure of India's freedom movement on his 155th birth anniversary, who steadfastly followed the principles of truth and non-violence.

Rahul Gandhi also paid tribute to former prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri at Vijay Ghat on his birth anniversary.

Notably, the second prime minister was also born on this day, who raised the slogan of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan" and whose simplicity and honesty earned him wide respect.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also paid flower tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at the Rajghat.

The Prime Minister bowed in respect to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

PM Modi also took to his official handle on X to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi and posted, "On behalf of all countrymen, salutations to Pujya Bapu on his birth anniversary. ANI

India, Israel aligned in condemning terrorism, says Israeli Embassy spokesperson

NEW DELHI

GUY Nir, Spokesperson of the Israel Embassy in India, while talking to ANI, said that India and Israel are on the same page as both countries believe in condemnation of terror activities.

Nir said that India is one of the most peaceful countries, and Israel would appreciate swift action by India to end the war.

"First of all, any terror activity should be condemned and should be stopped. And the fact that Prime Minister Modi is speaking about that just shows you that we're on the same page. Terrorism needs to be eliminated. So I'm thankful for that. As for the role of India, this is really for India to decide," he said.

He said that everyone would appreciate a swift resolution for the escalation.

"I will not tell any Indian diplomat how to conduct anything. I've been living here for a year, and India is one of the most peaceful countries that I've been to, and if you can make it work with all the large variety of people that you have here if you can give us assistance, I'm sure we would all appreciate a swift resolution for this matter," he said.

Nir said that Iran's condemnation of Israel's actions is 'laughable' as Iran has the blood of thousands of people in its hands.

"I think that's laughable. I think Iran, a terror state condemning the killing of a terrorist with blood on his hands of thousands of people is just laughable. Where were they when Israelis were being killed, were being targeted, were being terrorised? They didn't condone the October 7.

They didn't condone thousands of missiles being fired at civilians. They're condoning when a terrorist is killed. When people are condoning terrorism, when people are okay with terrorism, that just shows you who they are.

Terrorists are okay with terrorists, and Iran is a terror state. So what do I have to say about that? Iran is a terror state, and that's it," he said.

Nir said that Israel would not stop until Gaza releases all the 100 people they have held as hostages.

"For the last 11 months, Hezbollah has been firing rockets at Israel indiscriminately. We have been calling for diplomatic action... We have been waiting and focusing our attention at the south until we have had right now the attention span to hit Hezbollah back. For about two weeks, we have been targeting Hezbollah high-ranked officials.

In the last 24 hours we have begun a ground operation to try to eliminate more terrorists on the ground," he said.

When asked how long is the conflict going to last, he said that even they didn't want this to prolong.

"That's a tricky question. I cannot foresee the future until exactly how long, but I can tell you that we are looking for something short. We don't want this to prolong. The longer this continues, the more in danger it puts our soldiers. We're looking for something short and quick to finish as soon as we can and get out," he said.

Talking about ceasefire, he said that they are eliminating terrorists and are protecting their citizens. They will not stop till they get their hostages back from Gaza.

"The great old questions of ceasefire. Well, people are asking for ceasefire, where have you been for the last 11 and a half months? We have been asking for a ceasefire since Hezbollah began shooting us on October 8, 2023, and indiscriminately at our population. We have been asking for diplomatic solution.

No one was calling out for a ceasefire then. Now you're calling for a ceasefire when we're protecting ourselves and we're eliminating terrorists.

ANI



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar meets with United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, in Washington DC on Tuesday. ANI

Experts, officials applaud Xi's pledge to promote peace and development in National Day speech

BEIJING

EXPERTS and officials around the world have applauded Chinese President Xi Jinping's latest pledge that the Chinese people will score more remarkable achievements and make greater contributions to the peace and development of humanity.

"We must always stand firmly on the right side of history and on the side of human civilization and progress, hold high the banner of peace, development, cooperation and mutual benefit, and strive to promote world peace and tranquility and common progress of mankind," said Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, as he addressed a reception held Monday at the

Great Hall of the People in Beijing to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

Xi's speech comprehensively reviewed China's major achievements in national rejuvenation and provided clear strategic guidance for a Chinese modernization drive, Eduardo Regalado, a senior researcher at the International Policy Research Center of Cuba, told Xinhua.

Impressed by the concept of "putting people first" in the speech, Regalado said he believes this demonstrates the humanist character of China's development model in the pursuit of collective well-being. In the past 75 years, China has achieved "great, steady and significant accomplishments," benefiting not only its own people but also the international community, said Ira-

nian Vice President Shina Ansari in a message to a reception commemorating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC held in Tehran Saturday.

China's achievements over the past 75 years are the result of Chinese modernization.

The Chinese government creates policies based on the people's needs, and the mechanism that is Chinese democracy can quickly translate policies into actions and actively respond to various challenges, said Fausto Pinato, president of the Brazil-China Parliamentary Front of the Brazilian National Congress.

China's development has benefited the world, with several Chinese companies sharing the dividends of the country's development overseas.

Pinato said China's development

concepts and democratic model have inspired other developing countries. "President Xi's speech is always an inspiration to us," said Yeidckol Polevnsky, former president and general secretary of Mexico's ruling party National Regeneration Movement (Morena). "China should be an example to all governments."

Polevnsky said the speech illustrates how China advocates and supports multilateralism and promotes developing and revitalizing countries in the South. In his speech, the president repeatedly referred to a crucial idea -- putting the people first, and this shows that at the heart of this philosophy is the belief that all policies must put people at the center and at the foundation, said Polevnsky, noting that no policy is effective if it does not address the needs of the

people.

This philosophy is also highly consistent with the Mexican government's governing philosophy: politics only makes sense when it serves the people. Polevnsky added that Latin American countries and people are content with China because the country has always worked alongside the people of Latin America for win-win cooperation.

The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative and the country's effort to build a community with a shared future for mankind demonstrate that China is not only focused on its own development but is also directly contributing to the successful development of other countries and peoples. Galina Kulikova, first deputy chairperson of the Russia-China Friendship Association, and a recipient of China's

Friendship Medal, said Monday at a photo exhibition opened by Xinhua in Moscow to showcase China's historical transformation over the past decades.

The international recognition of China's development model serves as a reassurance of China's positive global role. Mukerrim Miftah, an assistant professor at the Ethiopian Civil Service University, said China has proposed the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative and actively promotes building a community with a shared future for mankind.

More and more countries have recognized these ideas. China's successful experience is worth learning from for developing countries like Ethiopia, Miftah said.

Xinhua

UK PM Starmer heads to Brussels for 'first conversation' on EU reset

BRUSSELS/LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Keir Starmer will push for a reset of relations when he meets European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen on Wednesday for what Brussels described as a "first conversation" on issues like trade, security and youth mobility.

Starmer, whose Labour Party won a July election, has been clear that his government won't seek wholesale negotiation of the Brexit deal that took Britain out of the bloc.

But he is seeking to tweak the relationship in a range of areas. The European Union shares his desire for a joint security pact, but talks on barriers to the movement of goods and people could prove thornier.

"We will only be able to tackle (international) challenges by putting our collective weight behind them, which is why I am so determined to put the Brexit years behind us and establish a more pragmatic and mature relationship with the European Union," Starmer said in a statement ahead of the visit.

Starmer has already visited Berlin, Paris, Rome and Dublin since the election to lay the groundwork for a reset in ties. As well as von der Leyen, Starmer will also hold talks with European Council President Charles Michel and President of the European Parliament Roberta Metsola on Wednesday.

"The word reset is being used by both

sides so obviously it will be an opportunity to discuss a possible way forward," a Commission spokesperson said this week.

"This is a first meeting of the two and therefore it will simply be the beginning of a conversation."

Starmer has ruled out any return to the EU's single market, its customs union or freedom of movement arrangements.

But he has pledged to seek a new veterinary agreement aimed at reducing border checks, and also wants the mutual recognition of certain professional qualifications, and easier access to the EU for artists on tour.

Warmer tone

While Starmer's warmer tone has been welcomed by EU leaders, both sides have recognized that changes in the substance of the relationship will be subject to tough negotiation, even if the main tenets of the Brexit settlement are not touched.

For instance, Starmer has said there are no plans for a youth mobility scheme, rejecting an EU proposal to allow 18 to 30-year-old EU citizens to live in Britain and young Britons to stay in the EU for up to four years.

Youth mobility is a key EU demand and London's acceptance, perhaps in a watered down form, may be a condition for moving forward on Britain's wish list.

Ground operation in Lebanon, threat of wider conflict: Tensions escalate in Middle East

MOSCOW

THE Israeli army, which launched Operation Northern Arrows against Lebanon's Shia group Hezbollah on September 23, says it intends to carry out a ground operation as soon as possible.

According to Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Spokesman Daniel Hagari, US allies have passed on information about Iranian preparations for an "imminent" potential missile attack on the country.

TASS has compiled the main information about the situation in the region.

Israeli operation in Lebanon

The Israeli Air Force continues to target Hezbollah facilities in Lebanon, recently carrying out another "precise strike in Beirut." According to the Al Arabiya TV channel, the Israeli army plans to advance deep into Lebanon at a distance of up to one or two kilometers in the initial phase of the operation.

At the same time, the IDF called on residents of 29 settlements in southern Lebanon to leave their homes immediately. According to Hagari, Israel decided to carry out the ground operation in the shortest possible time.

For its part, Hezbollah continues to shell northern Israel. In particular, the army press service reported that the military had recorded the launch of about 15 projectiles which exploded in an uninhabited area in various districts of the Upper Galilee.

The Shia group also said that it had carried out a missile strike on an Israeli Air Force base at Sde Dov airport in the Tel Aviv suburbs.

According to the Al Hadath TV channel, over 1,700 people have been killed and more than 8,700 injured in Lebanon since Israeli airstrikes began on September 23.

Attacks on Syria

Israeli air force jets have attacked southern Syria. According to the Al Mayadeen TV channel, the strikes targeted

facilities near the Izra settlement in the Daraa governorate, as well as in the Tel Haruf area in the As-Suwayda governorate.

The Al Hadath TV channel, in turn, reported that at least four facilities were targeted in the Daraa governorate and one in the As-Suwayda governorate. According to the media, electronic warfare stations and air defense systems may have been the targets of the Israeli attacks.

Israeli authorities' statements

Israeli servicemen have received information from the US about potential Iranian preparations for an attack against Israel, the IDF spokesman said, adding that Tel Aviv has not seen any such actions from Tehran so far.

At the same time, the Ynet news outlet reported that the Israeli side is discussing a potential telephone conversation between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Russian President Vladimir Putin in light of the threat of an Iranian attack on Israel.

International reaction

The Russian Foreign Ministry said that Moscow condemned the Israeli attacks on Lebanon and called on the sides "to immediately cease hostilities, withdraw [Israeli] troops from Lebanese territory and engage in the search for a real peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict."

Meanwhile, the US is preparing to deploy three additional squadrons to the Middle East, Air Force and Space Magazine reported, citing unnamed US officials.

The UK, for its part, has scheduled the evacuation of its compatriots from Lebanon for October 2, Foreign Secretary David Lammy said.

Italy's ITA Airways suspended flights to Tel Aviv until October 31, and Dutch airline KLM extended its decision to suspend flights to Tel Aviv until the end of the year.

Rightward drift in Europe fuels political fragmentation

BRUSSELS

FAR-RIGHT parties, once confined to the political periphery, are gaining ground across Europe, be it at the EU level or in national politics.

The latest case was in Austria. According to the preliminary official results, Austria's far-right Freedom Party won the first-ever national parliamentary election since the end of World War II on Sunday.

Observers say the far-right's triumph was not so much a welcome for the populism by voters, but rather an echo of disenchantment with their current governments' incompetence in dealing with economic and social woes.

They desire for change. However, the rise of the right-wing forces consequently led to political fragmentation and posed a challenge to the governance in European countries.

SHIFT TO THE RIGHT

Traditional European political forces suffered a setback in this year's European Parliament elections in June.

Though the center-right European People's Party and the center-left Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats maintained as the largest and second-largest group in the parliament, right-wing and far-right forces have made unprecedented wins.

In the snap French parliamentary elections held in July, despite the efforts of the left and center blocs to prevent an outright victory for the far-right National Rally through strategic alliances before the second round of voting, the French National Assembly ended up with a "three-way split" configuration. This outcome ultimately led to the resignation of French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal.

In September, Germany's Alternative for Germany (AfD) party made big gains in the Thuringia state election -- the first victory for a far-right party in Germany since World War II. Such victories also took place in the Netherlands, Sweden and Belgium.

As rising far-right forces increasingly seek greater influence over national and EU policymaking, the traditionally dominant center-left and center-right mainstream parties and coalitions have rallied their efforts to counter their rise.

Europe is showing a trend of polarization between the left and right wings, with centrist parties being squeezed, a situation that has further deepened political fragmentation and exacerbated governance challenges in many countries. Ding Chun, director of the Center for European Studies at the Shanghai-based Fudan University, told Xinhua that the rising far-right political forces were insufficient to fundamentally transform the overall EU political landscape.

Still, their emergence stood to undermine and place constraints on traditional parties. Jin Ling, deputy director of the Department for European Studies at the China Institute of International Studies, also told Xinhua that for a long time, the main political parties in European countries have adopted a "firewall" strategy to ward off far-right forces.

However, as political fragmentation in Europe has deepened, the "firewall" has gradually crumbled, Jin added.



Leader of Austria's Freedom Party Herbert Kickl (C) celebrates with supporters in Vienna, Austria, Sept. 29, 2024. Xinhua

VOTERS' DESIRE FOR CHANGE

In recent years, European established parties have been ineffective in addressing critical challenges like the sluggish economy and rising immigration, which led to growing public dissatisfaction and mistrust in governments. In the Netherlands, the public's discontent has also been growing with the government's handling of such issues as housing shortages, declining public service quality, and rising living costs.

Voters handed a landslide win to the right-wing Party for Freedom in the 2023 general election, embodying their resentment and strong demand for change.

Wu Huiping, deputy director of the German Studies Center at Tongji University, said that German society has undergone significant changes in recent years, with citizens expressing dissatisfaction with domestic infrastructure, bureaucracy and international competitiveness, and disapproving of the government's actions.

As a result, more voters have cast their ballots for the AfD. In addition, immigration has had a consistent effect on votes for the far-right.

Ding said that amid the worsening refugee and immigration situation, citizens in many European countries have become generally disappointed with their governments' policies. So when far-right parties' campaign agendas accommodate voters' concerns, they become highly appealing.

CHALLENGE FOR GOVERNANCE

The growing presence of far-right parties has triggered political fragmentation in many European countries. As political power becomes increasingly divided among multiple parties, factions, and interest groups, the absence of a strong governing majority becomes inevitable.

Following AfD's gains in the regional election, Uwe Jun, professor of political science at the University of Trier, told French media outlet Les Echos that the increasing fragmentation of the German political landscape complicates the formation of

coalitions, as well as their work.

It then becomes difficult for a government to maintain a clear political line, which then creates discontent among voters, Jun added.

The prolonged delay in appointing France's new prime minister is a direct consequence of partisan struggles. After two months of haggling, veteran politician Michel Barnier was finally named as the new prime minister.

However, French political observer Clement Guillou warned that Barnier's path to governance will be fraught with challenges as his new government will face dual pressure from both the left and the right in the National Assembly.

According to Zhao Chen, director of the European International Relations Research Office at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Europe's political fragmentation will hinder governments from effectively implementing policy agendas due to constraints from tug-of-war among various political forces.

Moreover, the success of far-right parties in elections in key European countries is prompting even centrist and left-wing governments to tighten policies on migration, hoping to retain voters.

Florian Trauner, a migration specialist at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, told the local media that the anti-immigration position that was once the exclusive domain of the far right is now contaminating center-right parties and even center-left parties like the Social Democrats in Germany.

Germany reinstated checks at all its land borders earlier this month to curb illegal immigration and address security concerns, even though the move contradicts one of the EU's core principles.

However, Oliver Lembcke, a political scientist at the University of Bochum in Germany, has warned that "if there is no political implementation, no real changes," voters will continue to punish mainstream parties with their votes, supporting "anti-establishment" parties in subsequent elections, thus creating a "vicious cycle."

US dockworkers strike, halting half the nation's ocean shipping

NEW YORK

US East Coast and Gulf Coast dockworkers began their first large-scale strike in nearly 50 years on Tuesday, halting the flow of about half the country's ocean shipping, after negotiations for a new labor contract broke down over wages.

The strike blocks everything from food to automobile shipments across dozens of ports from Maine to Texas, a disruption analysts warned will cost the economy billions of dollars a day, threaten jobs and potentially stoke inflation.

President Joe Biden and his administration have repeatedly said they will not use federal powers to end the strike, and on Tuesday pressured dockworker employers to bump up their contract offer to land a deal.

The sides are talking to each other, but there was no active bargaining late on Tuesday and the strike appeared to be headed into a second day, a person briefed on the talks said.

The International Longshoremen's Association union, which represents 45,000 port workers, had been negotiating with the United States Maritime Alliance (USMX) employer group for a

new six-year contract ahead of a midnight Monday deadline.

The ILA said in a statement it shut down all ports from Maine to Texas at 12:01 am ET (0401 GMT) after rejecting USMX's final proposal, adding the offer fell "far short of the demands of its members to ratify a new contract".

The ILA's leader, Harold Daggett, has said employers such as container ship operator Maersk and its APM Terminals North America have not offered appropriate pay increases or agreed to demands to stop port automation projects that threaten jobs.

"We are prepared to fight as long as necessary, to stay out on strike for whatever period of time it takes, to get the wages and protections against automation our ILA members deserve," Daggett said on Tuesday.

USMX said in a statement: "Our current offer of a nearly 50 percent wage increase exceeds every other recent union settlement, while addressing inflation and recognizing the ILA's hard work to keep the global economy running."

Daggett said the union is pushing for more, including a \$5 per hour raise for each year of the

new six-year contract.

The White House weighed in, saying it was time for USMX to negotiate a fair contract for workers.

"Shippers have made record profits since the pandemic, and, in some cases, have seen profits grow in excess of 800 percent," White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said, referring to a boom in shipping demand since the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It's only fair that workers who put themselves at risk during the pandemic to keep ports open see a meaningful increase in their wages, as well."

Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su said the employer group has "refused to put an offer on the table that reflects workers' sacrifice and contributions to their employers' profits."

"The parties need to get back to the negotiating table, and that must begin with these giant shipping magnates acknowledging that if they can make record profits, their workers should share in that economic success," she said.

The dispute is wedging labor-friendly Biden into a virtual no-win position, with Vice President Kamala Harris in a razor-thin race for the White House with

Republican former President Donald Trump in the Nov 5 election.

Trump on Tuesday blamed the strike on inflation, which he said was caused by the Biden-Harris administration.

"Everybody understands the dockworkers because they were decimated by this inflation, just like everybody else in our country and beyond," Fox News Digital quoted Trump as saying in an interview.

Higher costs

The strike, the ILA's first major stoppage since 1977, is worrying businesses that rely on ocean shipping to export their wares or secure crucial imports. It affects 36 ports - including New York, Baltimore and Houston - that handle a range of containerized goods from bananas to clothing to cars.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg on Tuesday called on the ocean carriers to withdraw surcharges they may impose in the wake of the strike. USMX declined to comment.

The walkout could cost the American economy roughly \$5 billion a day, JP Morgan analysts estimate.



Jean Charles Ahoua: The game-changer Simba needed

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA Sports Club's new midfield sensation, Jean Charles Ahoua, is already turning heads in the Tanzanian Premier League.

The Ivorian midfielder (pictured), who joined Simba this season, is proving why he was crowned MVP in the Ivory Coast's top flight.

Ahoua's early performances indicate he could replicate that success in Tanzania, positioning himself as a strong contender for the MVP award in his debut season.

Ahoua's contribution on the pitch has been outstanding. In just four matches, he has netted two goals and provided four assists, highlighting his ability to influence games.

His composure in Simba's critical win against Dodoma City, where he coolly converted a penalty, has endeared him to the fans and made him a key figure in Simba's title chase.

At 22 years old, Ahoua has quickly adapted to the Tanzanian Premier League, demonstrating his flair for creating goal-scoring opportunities.

His four assists in as many games reveal his sharp vision and creativity, qualities that have drawn comparisons to the league's elite midfielders, including Feisal Salum of Azam FC and Stephane Aziz Ki of Young Africans.

Ahoua's dominance in midfield has been instrumental to Simba's strong start. His impressive stats - two goals and four assists in 289 minutes - underline his all-around capabilities.

In Simba's 4-0 win against Fountain Gate FC, Ahoua scored and assisted two goals,



showcasing his dual threat as both a playmaker and goal-scorer.

In previous matches, Ahoua was pivotal in Simba's 3-0 victory over Tabora United, where his assist to Che Fondoh Malone helped break down the defense. His performance in Simba's 2-0 win over Azam FC further solidified his grow-

ing influence, with another assist for Leonel Ateba.

With Ahoua's early success, there is growing anticipation that he could emerge as the league's MVP. Historically, players like Aziz Ki and Kipre Junior have led the league in assists, but Ahoua's current form suggests he could surpass them this season.

Simba's rivals, including Young Africans and Azam FC, are closely watching Ahoua's progress. While Salum and Clatous Chama have been pivotal for their respective teams,

Ahoua's combination of goals and assists sets him apart. Other top league performers like Simba's Mohamed Hussein 'Tshabalala' and Fountain Gate's Salum Kihimba have also made notable contributions, but Ahoua's consistency has positioned him as a frontrunner for individual accolades.

Ahoua's rapid rise in the Premier League also highlights the growing influence of Ivorian players in Tanzanian football.

Signed from Stella Club d'Adjame, Ahoua's swift adaptation to a new league showcases his football intelligence and work ethic.

His performances have boosted Simba's chances of reclaiming domestic glory and reaffirmed the value of scouting talent from leagues like Ivory Coast's.

If he continues on this trajectory, Ahoua could become one of the Tanzanian league's best foreign imports in recent years.

As the season progresses, all eyes will be on Ahoua to see if he can sustain his impressive form and lead Simba to success.

With his ability to control the game, provide key assists, and score crucial goals, Ahoua is a strong contender for the NBC Premier League MVP award.

For Simba SC fans, the arrival of Ahoua has reignited hopes of competing at the highest levels both domestically and continentally.

His journey has just begun, but Jean Charles Ahoua is already showing signs of becoming a game-changer in Tanzanian football.



Fountain Gate FC goal poacher related with national team call-up

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FOUNTAIN Gate FC striker Selemani Mwalimu attributes his recent call-up to the Tanzania national team to hard work and dedication.

Mwalimu (pictured) has been selected by interim coach Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman for the crucial AFCON qualifiers against DR Congo.

The call-up follows Tanzania's successful international break, where the Taifa Stars secured four points with a goalless draw against Ethiopia and a 2-1 victory over Guinea.

The Taifa Stars will first travel to DR Congo on October 10 before hosting them in Dar es Salaam five days later.

Tanzania is aiming for its fourth AFCON finals qualification and has already secured automatic entry for the 2027 edition, which will be co-hosted by Kenya and Uganda.

Mwalimu's selection comes after his standout performances in the Tanzanian Premier League, where he has scored five goals in six matches.

This is his debut season at the top level, and his form has impressed Fountain Gate coach Mohamed Muya.

Mwalimu's consistency has not only earned him a starting spot at his club but has also caught the attention of the national team selectors.

Reflecting on his success, Mwalimu emphasized the importance of hard work, discipline, and following his coaches' guidance.

"I work closely with my teammates, but I also engage in personal training, which is key to my achievements. My dream of playing in the Premier League and representing the national team has come true," he said.

While Mwalimu does not want to predict his total goal tally for the season, his primary focus is to help his team win and to create scoring opportunities in every match.

He also remains confident that Fountain Gate FC will improve their league standing, despite their recent 3-2 loss against Tanzania Prisons.

Mwalimu, who was the top scorer in the Zanzibar Premier League last season with 27 goals and seven assists, also earned the MVP accolade.

He expressed his commitment to continuing to perform at a high level and helping his club and country succeed.

Fountain Gate FC are also determined to provide exciting football for its fans, with Mwalimu and his teammates aiming to deliver entertaining performances throughout the season.



Houston lawyer Tony Buzbee holds a news conference at his office announcing that he's representing 120 accusers who have come forward with sexual misconduct allegations against Sean "Diddy" Combs, the hip-hop mogul who is awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024, in Houston. Agencies

Sean 'Diddy' Combs accused of sexual misconduct by 120 people, attorney says

HOUSTON

AN attorney said Tuesday he is representing 120 accusers who have come forward with sexual misconduct allegations against Sean "Diddy" Combs, the hip-hop mogul who is awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges.

Houston attorney Tony Buzbee said he expects lawsuits to be filed within the next month, with most expected to be filed in New York and Los Angeles. Buzbee described the victims as 60 males and 60 females, and that 25 were minors at the time of the alleged misconduct. One individual alleged he was 9 years old when he was abused, Buzbee said. The allegations cover a period from 1991 to this year.

"This type of sexual assault, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation should never happen in the United States or anywhere else. This should have never been allowed to go on for so long. This conduct has created a mass of individuals who are injured, scared and scarred," Buzbee said at a news conference.

Following the announcement of the accusations in Texas, an attorney for Combs said the performer "cannot address every meritless allegation in what has become a reckless media circus."

"That said, Mr. Combs emphatically and categorically denies as false and defamatory any claim that he sexually abused anyone, including minors," attorney Erica Wolff said in a statement. "He looks forward to proving his innocence

and vindicating himself in court, where the truth will be established based on evidence, not speculation."

Buzbee said more than 3,280 individuals contacted his firm and alleged they were victimized by Combs and that after vetting the allegations, his firm decided to represent 120 people. Other cases are still being reviewed. He said some of his clients have spoken with the FBI.

The individuals that Buzbee's firm is representing are from more than 25 states, with the majority from California, New York, Georgia and Florida.

The abuse that's being alleged took place mostly at parties held in New York, California and Florida where individuals were given drinks that were laced with drugs, Buzbee said.

Some of the alleged conduct took place at auditions where "many times, especially young people, people wanting to break into the industry were coerced into this type of conduct in the promise of being made a star," Buzbee said.

Combs, 54, has been locked up at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn since pleading not guilty Sept. 17 to federal charges that he used his "power and prestige" to induce female victims into drugged-up, elaborately produced sexual performances with male sex workers in events dubbed "Freak Offs."

Other alleged victims have already filed lawsuits against Combs that include allegations of sexual assault.

Combs has pleaded not guilty to rack-

eteering conspiracy and sex trafficking. His attorney said he is innocent and will fight to clear his name.

Combs is one of the best-known music executives, producers and performers across hip-hop, having won three Grammys and worked with artists such as Notorious B.I.G., Mary J. Blige, Usher, Lil Kim, Faith Evans and 112. He founded Bad Boy Records in 1993, the influential fashion line Sean John, a vodka brand and the Revolt TV network. He sold off his stake in the latter company in June of this year.

Buzbee has also represented women who accused NFL quarterback Deshaun Watson of sexual assault and misconduct.

Haaland keeps up remarkable Champions League scoring record as Foden shines for dominant Man City

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia

WHILE Erling Haaland maintained his staggering record of having more goals than games in the Champions League, it was the performance of another attacker that might have given Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola more satisfaction on Tuesday.

It is difficult to build too many narratives from an easy 4-0 win for City at outsider Slovan Bratislava, but Phil Foden's display in the Slovakian capital – featuring a goal, a sumptuous assist and plenty more – was hard to ignore.

Given an extended break after helping England reach the European Championship final during the summer, the England forward has been eased into this campaign by Guardiola.

Indeed, this was just a second start in all competitions for Foden, last season's player of the year in English soccer. The world might be about to see Foden at his best once again.

His finish for City's second goal – a calm, low, curling shot into the far corner from just inside the area – was classic Foden and the type of strike he delivered time and again last season.

"It's my signature, to be honest," Foden said. "Get it out of my feet and find the far corner."

Better was his scooped pass over Slovan's back line to fellow academy product James McAtee for the substitute's goal that rounded off the scoring on a comfortable night for the English champions, who had drawn 0-0 with Inter Milan to begin the new-look Champions League.

"Nice to score again but more importantly to enjoy my football," Foden said. "Delighted with the result and how I played."

"I've had a very slow start to the season with a bit of illness and a bit of fatigue but I'm getting back into it now and feeling more like myself."

Foden finished the game as City's center forward, a role he might have to assume on the occasions Haaland isn't around given the team sold back-up striker Julian Alvarez during the summer and didn't sign a like-for-like replacement.

Haaland was substituted in the 60th minute having just scored City's third, putting him on 42 goals in 41 appearances in Europe's elite club competition. It's a remarkable record for a striker who, nevertheless, missed a great opportunity to really pour in the goals in a mismatch that saw City enjoy 76% possession and have 28 shots – three of them hitting the goal frame.

Instead, this was more a night for Foden to show how integral he remains for City and Guardiola.

His season starts here.

AP

Indian soccer team refuses to travel to Iran for game because of security fears

KOLKATA, India

INDIA's Mohun Bagan Super Giants has refused to travel to Iran to play Tractor SC in an Asian Champions League Two match scheduled for Wednesday because of the escalating security problems in the country and region.

The Kolkata club asked the Asian Football Confederation to reschedule the match, which was due to take place in the northwestern city of Tabriz. The teams play in the continent's second-tier competition.

The organization released a statement on Tuesday that said: "The matter will be referred to the relevant AFC Committees with further updates to be communicated in due course."

In the top-tier Asian Champions League Elite, four-time champion Al-Hilal of Saudi Arabia made it two victories from two with a 5-0 win over Al-Shorta of Iraq.

Marcos Leonardo, signed from Benfica as cover for the injured Neymar, opened the scoring after 11 minutes. Aleksandar Mitrovic made it 2-0 four minutes later. Salem Al-Dawsari, Nasser Al-Dawsari and Mohamed Kanno each scored in the second half.

Advertisement

Elsewhere, Qatar's Al-Gharafa of Qatar defeated Al-Ain of the United Arab Emirates 4-2.

The 24 teams in the revamped tournament are divided into two groups of 12 – one based in the west and one in the east – with the top eight from each progressing to the round of 16.

In the eastern zone, Gwangju FC of South Korea won a second game in its first appearance in Asia with a 1-0 win at Kawasaki Frontale of Japan. Jasir Asani's first-half penalty was enough.

Also from South Korea, three-time champion Pohang Steelers recovered from an opening-round loss to beat Shanghai Port 3-0. City rival Shanghai Shenhua lost by the same scoreline to Johor of Malaysia while Thailand's Buriram United won 2-1 at Australia's Central Coast Mariners.

AP

Dortmund scores 7 while Barcelona, Manchester City and Arsenal all win in Champions League

By CIARÁN FAHEY

KARIM Adeyemi starred as Borussia Dortmund ran riot against Celtic while Barcelona and Manchester City claimed their first wins in the re-structured Champions League on Tuesday.

Adeyemi scored a first-half hat trick as Dortmund routed Celtic 7-1 at home. It was the second big win from a German team in the competition after Bayern Munich's 9-2 bashing of Dinamo Zagreb in the first matchday.

Robert Lewandowski got Barcelona off the mark as the Spanish giant eased to a 5-0 home win over Swiss team Young Boys, while his former teammate Ikey Gündoan got City off to a 4-0 win at Slovan Bratislava. Erling Haaland scored his 42nd goal in his 41st Champions League game.

City was held 0-0 by Inter Milan in their opening game, while Barca responded to its 2-1 loss at Monaco, the team's first defeat under new coach Hansi Flick.

Mikel Arteta's Arsenal outclassed his former team Paris Saint-Ger-



Manchester City's Erling Haaland takes the ball past Slovan's goalkeeper Dominik Takac to score his side's throw goal during the Champions League opening phase soccer match between Slovan Bratislava and Manchester City in Bratislava, Slovakia, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024. (AP Photo)

main in a 2-0 win with Kai Havertz and Bukayo Saka scoring in the first half for the Gunners.

PSG coach Luis Enrique's gamble on leaving Ousmane Dembélé out did not pay off.

Arteta enjoyed a successful 18-month loan spell at PSG while he was still a teenager at Barcelona.

***Dortmund fans cry**

foul

Though the Dortmund team appears to have adapted to the new competition format very well – last season's beaten finalist has 10 goals from two games after starting with a 3-0 win over Club Brugge – its fans made their opposition to the reforms clear with a huge tifo slamming UEFA.

This season UEFA changed the structure of Europe's premier competition to add four more teams. The group stage was scrapped for a league system with each of the now 36 participating teams playing eight opponents once in a first phase of the competition.

UEFA claimed the changes would ensure

more evenly matched games, but Tuesday's results – the big wins for Barca, City and Dortmund – appear to belie that claim.

There were more big wins Tuesday with Inter Milan defeating Red Star Belgrade 4-0, and tournament debutant Brest routing Salzburg 4-0 away for its second win in as many games in

Europe's premier competition.

Iran forward Mehdi Taremi struck a penalty past Israel and Red Star goalkeeper Omri Glazer and set up two more goals for Inter hours after his country launched a barrage of missiles at Israel.

Senegalese forward Abdallah Sima netted twice for Brest to take his tally to three goals in two games after he scored in the French team's tournament-opening 2-1 win over Austrian champion Sturm Graz.

Also Tuesday, Bayer Leverkusen defeated AC Milan 1-0 in Germany thanks a well-worked move finished by Victor Boniface.

Daniel Bragança scored late to earn Sporting Lisbon a 1-1 draw at PSV Eindhoven.

Kaen Kairinen's brilliant free kick was enough for Prague to draw 1-1 at Stuttgart.

Stuttgart fans displayed a huge choreography saying "Back in Europe" behind one of the goals. It was the German team's first Champions League match at home since a 1-1 draw with Barcelona in February 2010.

AP

Luis Enrique's gamble to leave out 'not ready' Dembélé backfires badly against Arsenal

LONDON

LUIS Enrique had taken a big gamble by leaving Ousmane Dembélé out of his squad for PSG's biggest game of the season against Arsenal.

It backfired Tuesday night. Badly.

Dembélé was fit and in form, but the PSG coach sanctioned the France forward because of a perceived lack of commitment and decided he could do without his services against one of the best sides on the continent.

"If someone does not comply with the requirements from the team, it means that they are not ready," PSG coach Luis Enrique said before the game. To fill the void left by the prolific forward – Dembélé has already scored four goals and delivered three assists in the French league this season – Luis Enrique fielded Désiré Doué and Lee Kang-in up front alongside Bradley Barcola.

Facing an Arsenal back-four playing at its best, PSG's attacking players were largely non-existent at the Emirates Stadium, where the buoyant PSG fans did a better job than their players. PSG lost 2-0 to Arsenal in the league phase of the revamped Champions League.

Mikel Arteta's Arsenal looked a far more mature team and outclassed the French league champion with Kai Havertz and Bukayo Saka scoring in the first half for the hosts.

Despite PSG's struggles, Luis Enrique took time to try and adjust his lineup, making his first substitutions in the



Kai Havertz opened the scoring with a fine headed finish (PA)

64th minute when Randal Kolo Muani and Fabian Ruiz came on. PSG played better afterward but it was too little, too late.

"It's easy to say after the match that one player has to play, and that another should have not," Luis Enrique said.

With PSG keeper Gianluigi Donnarumma seemingly at fault on both goals, the coach took the blame for the stinging loss.

"I'm responsible for the defeat," Luis Enrique said. "Their defenders always anticipated what our forwards were doing, and our forwards never managed to anticipate their defenders."

It was Arsenal's first win in the competition after the London side drew its opener against Atalanta last month. PSG, which was unbeaten in

despite just returning from an injury. He came under the spotlight this summer at the Paris Olympics, scoring a goal and delivering an assist as France finished with a silver medal.

He did not seem ready in north London while Lee was a marked man throughout and struggled to find space.

Arteta – an admirer of Luis Enrique – had named an unchanged team from the 4-2 victory against Leicester over the weekend in the Premier League, and it worked well.

PSG and Arsenal are both chasing an elusive first Champions League title.

Arsenal enjoyed possession, dictated the tempo, won most of the duels and opened the scoring within 20 minutes.

"The Champions League brings different demands, really different to the Premier League, but I think we dealt with it really well," Arteta said.

Up front, the Arsenal pair of Leandro Trossard and Havertz was lethal as PSG's center-halves struggled to follow their fast moves and connections. Trossard delivered the cross into the box that led to the opening goal when Havertz was faster than Donnarumma to the ball and headed it home.

"It's a big step for me," Havertz said, after scoring his third goal in

the space of a week. "Back in the day I wasn't a player who liked the duels but now I just love it. If we win against teams like this it gives us a big boost."

A rare satisfaction for the visitors came from right-back Achraf Hakimi, who caused some problems down the right flank with his great speed, but he was well muzzled by Riccardo Calafiori.

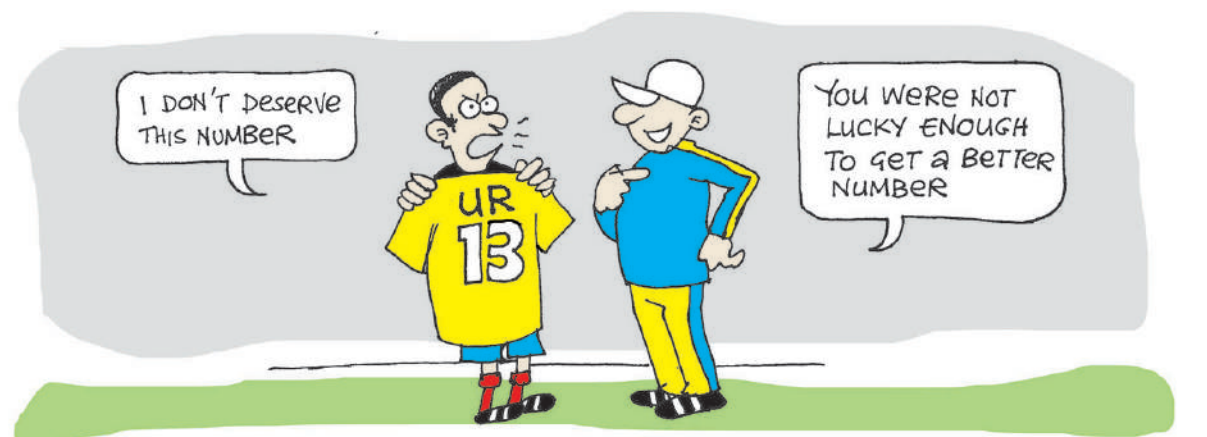
PSG had a chance to level when a shot from Nuno Mendes clipped the post, only for Arsenal to double its lead in the 35th minute when Saka curled a low free kick that flew across the goal and surprised the whole PSG defense before ending its course in the back of the net.

A beautiful collective move of fast-flowing soccer from Arsenal just after halftime saw Gabriel Martinelli test Donnarumma with a good effort, but this time the PSG goalie had the last word. PSG's best chance in the second half came when Joao Neves had an effort parried away by Arsenal goalkeeper David Raya onto the woodwork.

"Mikel Arteta has been managing Arsenal for the fifth year, I have been with my team for one year and two months," Luis Enrique said. "I have a clear idea where I want to be, but I don't know how long it will take."

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Yanga ready to extend perfect start at expense of winless Pamba

SPORT

Dortmund scores 7 while Barcelona, Manchester City and Arsenal all win in Champions League

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Wounded Azam FC desperate for victory against Namungo FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE quest to make a quick recovery from a defeat to Simba and a hugely disappointing draw with Mashujaa will be the driving narrative as Azam are entertained by Namungo at Majaliwa Stadium this evening.

Azam come into this match wounded after a 2-0 loss to title rivals Simba last week and a goalless draw with Mashujaa, which has seen them drop nine points from their first six league games.

Newly appointed head coach Rachid Taoussi will be under pressure to guide his team to a much-needed win and avoid further slip-ups.

Namungo, currently sitting in 10th place, have had a mixed start to their season with three wins and three losses from their five Premier League outings. They've managed to score four goals while conceding five.

Their campaign started with a 2-1 home loss to Tabora United, followed by a 2-0 defeat to Fountain Gate and a narrow 1-0 loss to Dodoma Jiji.

However, they've rebounded with victories, including a 2-0 win over Coastal Union and a 1-0 victory against Tanzania Prisons last weekend.

Namungo's head coach Mwinyi Zahera faced significant pressure after three consecutive losses, but recent wins have provided some relief. Tonight, Zahera's side will look to build on their momentum and continue climbing up the table.

Historically, Azam holds the advantage in head-to-head encounters with Namungo. In their last ten league meetings, Azam has won five times, while Namungo has managed three victories.

Last season saw each team win away from home: Namungo triumphed 3-1 at Chamazi in October, while Azam responded with a 2-0 victory at Majaliwa Stadium in April.

In the most recent meeting, Azam defeated Namungo in the Federation Cup in May to advance to the semifinals.

For Namungo, key players like Djuma Shabani and Pius Buswita will be vital to their chances, while Azam will look to Feisal Salum, Iddy Selmani, and Nassoro Saadun to deliver goals.

With both teams eager to improve their positions in the league, this match promises to be an intense battle as Azam fight to regain their footing in the title race and Namungo aim to solidify their mid-table standing.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans will aim to maintain their flawless start to the 2024/25 Premier League season as they host Pamba Jiji at the Chamazi Complex this afternoon.

The reigning champions have been dominant in their first three league matches, securing victories over KMC, Ken Gold, and Kagera Sugar.

Young Africans kicked off their campaign with a 2-0 away win against Kagera Sugar, followed by back-to-back 1-0 triumphs over Ken Gold and



KMC.

Maxi Nzegeli has been instrumental, scoring twice in these matches, helping the club sustain a perfect start to the season.

Head coach Miguel Gamondi's side has now claimed victory in their last 10 league matches and will be looking to extend their unbeaten run across all competitions to 22 games.

Young Africans, also known as Wananchi, are formidable at home, with an incredible 48-game unbeaten streak in Premier League matches at

their home ground.

The last time they tasted defeat on their own turf was back in April 2021, when Azam secured a 2-1 victory.

Today, they face Pamba Jiji, a team struggling at the bottom of the league standings.

Pamba Jiji's defense has been fragile, particularly in their recent match against Coastal Union, and Young Africans will be keen to exploit those weaknesses.

Despite the busy schedule, Gamondi (pictured) remains confident in his

squad's mental strength and determination to keep their winning momentum.

"We're doing our best, despite having played four games in quick succession," said Gamondi. "It's challenging to recover our injured players, but the team is mentally strong and hungry for success. We expect a tough match, but we are ready to fight."

Pamba Jiji, on the other hand, are still searching for their first win of the season.

As one of the two newly promoted sides, they have yet to secure a victory in their six league outings, managing four draws and suffering two losses.

Their latest defeat, a 2-0 loss to fellow strugglers Coastal Union, further underscores their challenges.

Although Pamba Jiji have managed to hold teams like Tanzania Prisons, Azam, and Mashujaa to draws, they desperately need to notch their first win if they are to avoid sinking further in the standings.

However, the vast difference in quality between them and Young Africans is evident, though they may find some hope in their recent goalless draw against Azam at the same venue two weeks ago.

Young Africans will be looking to continue their dominance, while Pamba Jiji will hope for an upset that could ignite their season.

Mollet eyes championship as Lina PG Tour enters final round

By Guardian Correspondent

PROFESSIONAL golfer Nuru Mollet is almost certain to claim the championship of the Lina PG Tour after winning the fourth round of the tournament in Moshi. It would take a miracle in the fifth round to alter the outcome.

Mollet, from Arusha Gymkhana Club, has positioned himself well to win the five-round tournament after his victory in the fourth round, which concluded in Moshi over the weekend.

The overall winner of the fifth round will earn a ticket to compete in an international tournament in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Mollet's main threat is Fadhil Nkya from Dar es Salaam, who finished second behind Mollet in the fourth round, mirroring the results of the first round held at TPC grounds. In that initial round, Mollet and Nkya were tied before the winner was decided through extra holes.

In summary, Mollet has claimed first place three times and second place once, while Nkya has secured second place twice but has never finished first.

Speaking after the conclusion of the fourth round, Mollet emphasized that it is still difficult to guarantee victory, as anything can happen in the final fifth round, which will take place in Dar es Salaam next month.

"The competition is still tough; all players are putting in a lot of effort, but I will continue training to ensure I perform well in the fifth round in Dar es Salaam," Mollet said.

Mollet dedicated his fourth-round victory to the sponsor of



Junior golfer Rodjey Mwakawago participates in the Lina PG Tour tournament. The competition took place in Kilimanjaro at the Moshi Gymkhana Club over the weekend, with the first place being claimed by professional golfer Nuru Mollet (not pictured). Photo: Correspondent

various golf tournaments and former chairman of the Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) and National Sports Council (NSC), Dioniz Malinzi, as a token of gratitude for helping him and his peers become professional golfers.

"I dedicate my fourth-round victory to Malinzi because he is the one who trained us thoroughly before we played for the national team and later became professional golfers," Mollet added.

Elisante Lembris, another professional golfer from Arusha, also expressed his

gratitude to Malinzi for his time and financial support in helping local players, and for developing young golfers who, 20 years later, have become the top players in professional golf.

"From the first-place winner to the 10th, and even those who did not qualify for the final two matches, all of them were nurtured by Malinzi. We are very grateful to see him here in Moshi witnessing how his protégés are excelling on the course," said Elisante, who finished third in the tournament.

However, in amateur

golf, predicting the overall winner remains difficult due to stiff competition between Ally Isanzu, Isiaka Daudi, and Enosh Wanyeché, who emerged as a serious contender after winning the fourth round in Moshi.

Isanzu, with a score tally of 1-1-5-2, meaning he has won twice, finished fifth once, and second once, is up against Daudi, who has a score of 2-2-4-2, having finished second twice, fourth once, and second once.



Barefooted youths are seen playing with a makeshift ball made from newspapers in an open area at Kivule, Dar es Salaam.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 EATV TUESDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 SSPORTS (r)
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 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

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05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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