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NEC finalises process to get Speaker



National Pg 6
TCB establishes new Katavi branch



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Safeguarding Tanzania's children's rights



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PM appeals to youth to work harder to attain lifetime goals

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa (pictured) has called on Tanzania youth to make sure they set targets for themselves in studying hard to get the expertise that will assist the nation to develop.

He referred to instructions by President Samia Suluhu Hassan on the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training to make curriculum reviews to bring the sector to performing better, in tandem with the changing technological environment.

The premier made the remarks yesterday when inspecting classrooms at Gehandu and Nowu secondary schools in Mbulu District, Manyara Region.

He said that the government has mobilised resources and will continue facilitating better learning and teaching



The school had also built other five classrooms with other funding, two of which were funded by EP4Rn funds and three from council funds and people's contributions

environments to enable the country attain the skills needed for rapid development.

The classrooms were constructed from loaned Covid-19 recovery funds, he stated, urging the youth to study hard up to university.

District councils ought to have in place plans for building dormitories from internal revenues to enable students stayed at schools for more time to study, he stated, reminding public servants to realise that they have a big responsibility to serve the people and implement the 2020 CCM Election Manifesto.

Earlier, Gehandu secondary school headmaster Gadiel Bei thanked President Samia for providing the funds for classrooms construction.

The school had also built other five classrooms with other funding, two of which were funded by EP4Rn funds and three from council funds and people's contributions, he stated.

Govt: No pharmacies 500m from hospitals

By Correspondent James Kandoya



James Francis Mbatia (2nd-L), national Chairman of the opposition NCCR-Mageuzi, holds consultations with his legal counsel at the High Court grounds in Dar es Salaam yesterday in connection with his objection to the manner in which Job Yustino Ndugai resigned as National Assembly Speaker earlier this month. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

HEALTH minister Ummu Mwalimu has given a five-month ultimatum to owners of pharmacies operating from within 500 meters from public hospitals to relocate their facilities until June 30th, this year in an effort to curb theft of government drugs.

Ummu made the directive yesterday in Dar es Salaam after touring the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) where she inspected various departments to see how services were delivered to patients.

She said the law prohibits opening pharmacies close to public health facilities, saying that by June 30 all shops selling medical drugs should be removed from the vicinity of hospitals.

The ministry came up with regulations in 2019 that prohibit privately owned pharmacies to be built within 500 metres from public health facilities but the regulations are being violated as a number of pharmacies have been opened outside hospitals, she stated.

"Privately-owned pharmacies within 500 metres from hospitals must be moved before June 30. The presence of pharmacies close to public health facilities causes people to lose confidence in the government believing that some hospital staff collude with pharmacy operators" she declared.

The office of the Chief Pharmacist will from now stop issuing permits to intended operators of pharmacies located less than 500 meters from public hospitals, the minister alerted, signaling that she had also ordered the Medical Stores Department (MSD) to speed up distribution of drugs.

Availability of drugs should reach 90 percent from the current 50 percent within three months, she specifically affirmed, revealing also that the government plans to construct a new state of the art national hospital to boost provision of healthcare services.

The national hospital was built nearly 70 years ago and is overwhelmed by cases of

Nyerere Park yields billions in revenues

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Morogoro

of 3.6bn/- in revenues.

THE Nyerere National Park (NNP), the newest in the country, is recording great potential and within this year the destination is focused to realise upwards

Last year, the park yielded 3.1bn/- and the trend is maintained, even gradually increasing and soon the park could eclipse northern circuit facilities as the goose that lays the golden eggs.

This trend was brought to light yesterday during a visit by the Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister, Mary Masanja who inspected development projects in the park and received updates on a vital project.

At the ongoing resilient natural resource management for tourism and growth (REGROW) project, the park's CEO Dr Emilian Kihwele said at the moment there are efforts to improve infrastructures in the area.

These include carving new roads, levelling

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CRDB leads the way in interest rates cut move

By Guardian Reporter

THE CRDB Bank Plc Group CEO and managing director, Abdulmajid Nsekela, has made good on his promise to lower interest rates to single digit, given during a financial institutions conference last month, retaining lending rates at 9 to 13 per cent from 20 per cent.

Nsekela, who is also the chairman of the Tanzania Bankers Association, promised that banks will start lowering interest rates soon in line with revisited rates offered by the Bank of Tanzania to commercial banks.

He said loans given to the agriculture sector will now be charged nine per cent from 20 per cent earlier, while salary loans will be charged 13 percent, down from 16 percent.

"In good collaboration with the central bank which supervises the banking industry, end last year, we sat down and started a process of gauging new interest rates charged



CRDB Bank Plc group CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (2nd-L) addresses journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday. In part, he announced a reduction in interest rates on loans to employees and farmers' groups loans. He is with CRDB chief operations officer Bruce Mwilile (2nd-R), chief financial officer Frederick Nshekanabo (L) and corporate affairs director Tully Esther Mwambapa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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Nyerere Park yields billions in revenues

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new airstrips and establishing more facilities to cater for guests, as the park became one of the largest national parks in the country after it was carved out of the Selous Game Reserve, and is now cutting its teeth as a dedicated tourism facility.

The deputy minister visited an airstrip at the park adjacent to the Mtemela Gate, where she said it was important to ensure that the park borders are surveyed and demarcated afresh as at the moment the park is still mapped under the Government Notice of 1974.

Wherever there are conflicts between national parks and villagers, which are often inevitable, the management needs to find ways of solving the land-related problems in a sustainable manner, she said.

In the project, the World

Bank is injecting \$37.7bn into Nyerere National Park to help in infrastructure development, community empowerment and other conservation needs, to strengthen the management of protected areas in the southern circuit.

This entails the promotion of nature-based tourism to contribute to diversifying livelihoods in the surrounding communities, the CEO noted.

Over 600 kilometers out of 792 kilometers proposed road facilities are now being constructed in the vast park covering over 30,893 square kilometers, gazetted in 2019.

It is bordered by the Ruaha National Park, measuring 20,226 square kilometers and now outsized followed by the iconic Serengeti with 14,763 square kilometers.

Govt resolves soft drinks price hike

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

INVESTMENTS, Industry and Trade minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji has resolved the challenge facing the importation of industrial sugar in the country warning traders to stop the habit of hiking prices of soft drinks.

She made the remarks here at the weekend when addressing reporters soon after her inspection visit at Jambo Food Products factory, manufacturers of various goods including soft drinks.

She said from October last year to January this year, there was a problem of price hikes of soft drinks, hence the government, through the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) resolved the matter.

She added that it was discovered that drinks production dropped due to the scarcity of industrial sugar, contributed to the shortage of the containers to transport the sugar.

"The containers are made in countries that have been greatly affected by Covid-19 pandemic, but the government was able to find alternative to import the sugar, and we have 25,000 tonnes of the stuff, hence there is no longer shortage of industrial sugar in the country," she said.

She further said they discovered the soft drinks' price hike was not contributed by the manufacturers, but by traders and distribution agents for their own interests.

She added that the step being taken by the government is to control the wanton price hiking of various products in the country and warned traders to stop doing so saying steps will be taken against them.

Meanwhile, Dr Kijaji said the government has begun online issuance of permits for importing industrial sugar as well as improving cargo clearance at the port.



Livestock and Fisheries minister Abdallah Ulega has an audience in Tanga city yesterday with experts with the ministry based in Tanga Region. It was shortly before the start of a meeting on the strategic implementation of activities related to marine aquaculture. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchala

CRDB leads the way in interest rates move

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on different types of loans and we are happy that CRDB has finally come up with the latest rates," he said.

CRDB Bank is taking the lead in lowering lending rates, he said, underlining that other banks and financial institutions will follow suit, "so that long term concerns by the public and the government should finally be brought to an end."

He urged the public to seize the opportunity presented by the

rates reduction, as sectors such as agriculture that is noted for its bad risk potential are now better off.

"Our objective is to speed up the agricultural revolution in the country by facilitating small and medium scale farmers adopt modern farming practices through access to affordable agro input and equipment loans," he declared.

The CRDB chief further noted that agriculture, which contributes 26 per cent in the gross domestic product and employs some 75

percent of rural folks, has a big potential to transform the country's economy.

CRDB has the largest loan portfolio in the agriculture sector where it controls about 40 percent of the market with over 1.6trn/- disbursed to the entire value chain so far. Lowered rates on salaried loans are also meant to give borrowers relief, hence contribute towards individual and family income stability.

"Employees are an important group of clients to our bank and

that's why we have been reducing rates charged on salaried loans annually," he pointed out while stressing that reduced rates will also help the group attain its set goals this year.

Opening the financial institutions conference, President Samia urged BoT and commercial banks to work together and reduce interest rates charged on loans so that individuals and private companies can afford to repay on schedule while stimulating economic growth.



Investment, Industry and Trade minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji (C, in blue-and-white headscarf) pictured in Shinyanga municipality yesterday having a feel of juice produced by Shinyanga-based Jambo Industries factory. With her are the factory's owner, Salum Hamis (2nd-R), Shinyanga regional commissioner Sophia Mjema (R) and Shinyanga district commissioner Jasinta Mboneko (L). Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda,

Mwanza

THE Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in Mwanza Region had inspected and monitored implementation of 17 development projects worth over 9.8bn/- between October and December last year.

Among the 17 inspected and monitored projects, was the construction of a water infrastructure at Mwabilanda village in Kwimba district worth 333m/-.

Addressing journalists yesterday here, PCCB regional chief Frank Mkilanya said that other projects were the construction of the health centre at Bulale worth 250m/- and an Out Patients (OPD) building at

'PCCB investigated 17 development projects worth 9.8 bn/- in Mwanza'

Sahwa health centre in Nyamagana district worth 50m/-.

Others include rehabilitation of Gandhi Hall worth 200m/-, construction of toilets at primary schools and public areas worth approximately 3.7bn/- as well as construction and rehabilitation of roads worth 3bn/-.

According to him, other projects include construction of classrooms and dormitories for students with special needs worth 2.2bn/- using the COvid-19 funds 9 worth 2.2bn/-.

"The projects have been inspected and different directives given with

aims to complete them on time and they are now at the stage to be completed," he said.

With the inspection of the projects, PCCB in the region has also made an analysis on the system of supervision of examinations given by the colleges offering certificate and diploma courses to establish as to whether procedures of examinations follow regulations by the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, he noted.

He said that PCCB also made an analysis on the Government Procurement Services Agency

(GPSA) system with aims of evaluating its execution and services offered by the agency to the procuring institution.

In addition, PCCB in the area has also imparted education and reached different groups of people with anti-corruption education through seminars and public meetings.

He said that they received 70 complaints concerning corruption acts, whereby six of them their investigations have been completed and investigations are still going on for the rest 62 cases.

Govt: No pharmacies 500m from hospitals

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patients being referred from district hospitals in Dar es Salaam and upcountry, she said.

The government is determined to build another national hospital to boost healthcare services and reduce patients' congestion at MNH which receives patients from across the country as well as city referral hospitals of Amana, Temeke

and Mwananyamala, the minister underlined.

MNH Executive Director Lawrence Museru assured the minister that the institution will implement all the given directives to ensure patients get quality health services.

MNH will submit to the ministry a proposal on the new national hospital as the hospital management is going to work on all complaints from patients, he added.

Agriculture ministry called on to establish section on organic crops

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

THE Ministry of Agriculture has been advised to establish a department for organic crops that will engage in coordination of crops that are in danger of disappearing and closely monitor those which can withstand diseases.

The advice was among recommendations given here at the weekend by ecological farming stakeholders and farmers in Kilimanjaro region.

"In recent days organic foods have been an attraction to many people in various areas countrywide. And we think the establishing of a department dealing with such crops will motivate farmers to continue cultivation and developing of these crops through organic seeds that still exist in various areas of the country," said Rose Mwendu, a participant at the training seminar.

He said there those who travel to Moshi to buy organic foods, and have already seen the benefits, as they contain nutrients that supply energy in their bodies.

establishment in 2007, the value of organic foods has increased significantly.

"For example, the price of a bunch of the 'kitarasa' type of bananas is between 2,000/- to 3,000/-, but its price reaches 35,000/- to 40,000/- per bunch after adding value," he said.

He said the establishment of the market under the coordination of Slow Food Tanzania, has enabled many people receiving education on organic foods and seeds, the situation he said has made many people involving themselves in the cultivation of organic crops.

Shao explained that another achievement of the market is its access to sponsors from Italy who has assisted the organic crops farming project as well getting markets thereof.

Earlier, the coordinator of organic crops market project run by Slow Food Tanzania, Reguli Marandu, said the project, among others, aims to stop the disappearance of organic foods in the country.

He said to attain its objectives, the project has also established various programmes including teaching the benefits of organic foods in schools.



Information, Communication and Information Technology minister Nape Nnauye (R) listens to Tigo chief regulatory affairs officer Sylvia Balwira (L, gesturing) when he visited the mobile phone service provider's offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Fourth right (in tie) is Tigo acting managing director Innocent Rwetabura. Photo: Guardian Photographer

National Assembly Speaker: NEC working on modalities

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE National Electoral Commission (NEC) is finalising the process to get the Speaker of the National Assembly from non-members of Parliament, saying only contestants whose political party has no representation in the august House has picked up forms to vie for the post.

NEC's director of elections, Dr Charles Mahera told The Guardian that the commission has until Wednesday for those interested in vying for the post to submit their applications before its meeting on Thursday for final recommendation before forwarding the names to the Parliament.

Dr Mahera explained that the process of getting a new speaker is the duty of the Parliament but the parliamentary standing orders allow NEC to coordinate the process of getting non-members of Parliament candidates through their registered political parties.

He made the remarks on the sideline of a workshop with a theme, "democratic stakeholder's dialogue to review 2020 general elections in line with an analysis of legal framework governing electoral processes to enhancing electoral legal reform".

The workshop was organised by the Tanzania Peace, Legal Aid and Justice Centre (PLAJC) and brought together different stakeholders.

He said Section 3 of the Parliamentary Standing Orders No 9 (3) states that names of non-parliamentary members vying for the post of speaker of the National Assembly be submitted to NEC five days before election by their parties for scrutiny and those qualified forwarded to the clerk of the National Assembly two days before election.

"One party has submitted name of a candidate for the position of the speaker as of today but the door is open, those interested can do so today (yesterday), Tuesday and Wednesday before the window closes" he said, adding that his team will meet either on Thursday or Friday to go through the names submitted.

The revelation to get another person vying for the post of the speaker came just in less than a week since the ruling party,

Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) proposed Deputy Speaker Tullia Ackson to be the next Speaker of Parliament.

Dr Ackson will replace Job Ndugai, who resigned on January 6, 2022 following pressure over statements he made questioning the country's borrowing.

The CCM Central Committee said Dr Ackson's name will be tabled in parliament for a vote. Dr Ackson is currently the Mbeya constituency Member of Parliament.

CCM's Ideology and Publicity Secretary, Shaka Hamdu Shaka, told a press conference in Dodoma, Tanzania's administrative capital, that the Central Committee had approved Dr Ackson's name out of 70 CCM members who had applied for the job.

"From Friday January 21 to 30 CCM MPs will vote for a candidate to be elected as next Speaker of the National Assembly," he said.

More than 70 aspirants collected nomination forms through the ruling party CCM in a bid to fill the vacant seat of the Speaker of the National Assembly.

Mwanza Police hold 5 for allegedly killing 3 people

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

POLICE in Mwanza region are holding five people over deaths of three people from one family after which they dumped the bodies near River Jellys.

The killings happened on January 18 this year at Mecco around 11:39 pm in Ilemela district, Mwanza region after the suspected killers - Douglas Vincent (26) and his wife Hajira Thomas (24) allegedly conspired to

commit murder.

Mwanza Regional Police Commander, Ramadhani Ng'anzi told reporters that those killed are Mary Charles (46), a business woman, a mother in the family, her daughter Jenifa Fredy (22) and Monica Jonas (19) a housemaid.

"The cause of the killing is said to be a business conflict between Mary (deceased) who used to bring goods from Kigoma and gave to some of the suspects who later failed to pay her

and allegedly conspired to murder her," said RPC Ng'anzi.

He named the arrested suspects as Thomas Jilala (26), a push cart operator, Hajira Thomas (23), a tailor, Deoglas Vicent (31) shopkeeper of electrical goods, and Emmanuel Mathew (19) all Buhongwa residents in the city and Charles (36), a plant operator at Mwadui Mines, and resident of Mecco.

"After interrogation, the suspects confessed to have committed the

crime by striking her with a sharp object after which they made away with her three mobile phones."

He said other items they made away with included a mattress, two 18-in Singung TV sets, two radios, gas cooker and a refrigerator.

RPC Ng'anzi said after receiving the report of the murder on January 19, the police started their investigation and by January 23 they arrested the suspects including various items of the deceased.

He said late Jenifa has a one-month old baby and was in the process of getting married to her fiancé.

He said the police were hunting for more suspects who are still at large and all will appear in court after investigations had been completed.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TEMEKA HIGH COURT SUB-REGISTRY
(ONE STOP JUDICIAL CENTRE)
AT TEMEKE
MATRIMONIAL CAUSE NO.09 OF 2022
MERGITU EBBA.....PETITIONER
VERSUS
JULIUS MUHUZA.....RESPONDENT
NOTICE OF DATE OF HEARING
TAKE NOTICE that the above case has been fixed for hearing on 26th day of January, 2022 at 9:00 am before Hon MUGETA Judge.
You are required to appear in this court without a failure and you must produce to that day all the documents upon which you intended to rely in support of your case.
GIVEN under my hand and seal of the court this 24th day of January, 2022

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MSPH Tanzania LLC, 7th Floor, Jangid Plaza, Plot No. G6, Chaburuma Road (Off-All Hassan Mwinyi Road) P.O. Box 80214, Dar Es Salaam, email: icap-tz-info@columbia.edu phone: +255 (0) 22 270 0719+255 (0) 22 270 0725

icap Global Health

Procurement reference number ICAP/TZ/08

Introduction:
ICAP at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health is the recipient of a five-year PEPFAR-funded cooperative agreement beginning in October 2021 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support comprehensive community- and facility-based HIV and VMMC services in Mwanza region.

Invitation to quotes for statutory audits and system assurance services:
ICAP now is looking for a reputable and registered organization to execute auditing and system assurance services listed on the below Lot numbers. Detailed specification for each Lot is contained in the tender document which will be provided to interested bidders upon request.

Lot 1	Statutory audit Services	Lot 2	System quality assurance services
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General criteria for submission:

- Please clearly indicate lot numbers, failure to comply will disqualify your application.
- The public tender opening will be made in the presence of all bidders or their official representatives, we encourage all bidders to attend through zoom call and zoom call link will be sent to all who applied only in advance of the meeting.
- Bid documents will be sent to all the applicants via email address upon request.
- Bids not received and opened in public at the public bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
- The tender validity period is 14 days.
- Selection criteria will be lowest price, technically evaluated and acceptable based on technical specifications and other criteria described above.
- ICAP reserve the rights to disqualify any offer based on failure to follow solicitation instructions.
- ICAP reserves the rights to waive minor proposal deficiencies that cannot be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition
- ICAP will be contacting all those that have submitted quotes to confirm contact person, address and that bid was submitted for this solicitation.
- The evaluation of bids will be conducted as per ICAP procurement guidelines.

How to apply:

- Submit one application for each you are applying for. If a supplier is applying for two different lots, each lot should have a separate application document with supporting evidence specifically for that lot.
- Interested, eligible suppliers should email their electronic quote via email to procurement department at TanzaniaProcurement@cumc.columbia.edu.
- All quotes must be in Tanzania Shillings.

Attention to:
The Tender Committee,
MSPH Tanzania LLC – ICAP,
Jangid Plaza 7th Floor – Chaburuma Road
P.O Box 80214, Dar es salaam, Tanzania

Submission:
The deadline for submission is 10:00am East Africa Time on 8th February 2022. All tenders should be electronically submitted to TanzaniaProcurement@cumc.columbia.edu. No tender fee is charged for this invitation.

166651



Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Nape Nnauye (R) has an audience with members of Airtel Tanzania Plc's senior management team when he made a working visit to the firm's headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He was briefed on the mobile phone service provider's strategic development plan, the major operational challenges facing the company and the importance the firm attaches to delivering quality communication services to the nation. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Dr Mwinyi to grace the 2nd three-day 'Insurance Retreat for Africa' in Z'bar

By Getrude Mbago

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi is tomorrow expected to officiate the 'Second Insurance Retreat for Africa' which will bring on board a number of stakeholders in the insurance value chain to discuss best ways to increase the sector's penetration and growth in the continent.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday, chairman of Retreat Organising Committee and chief executive of Insurance Companies Forum of Tanzania (ICFT), David Sawe said during the conference, delegates will discuss the progress of the insurance industry from operational to policy perspective; engage in in-house discussions and strategic sessions.

Organised collaboratively by African College of Insurance and Social Protection (ACISP), ICFT and the Association of Tanzania

Insurance (ATI), the forum will be conducted for three days.

He said the forum will discuss topics on agriculture, health and medical treatment, life, human resources and expertise in the insurance sector.

"High level speakers will incite our minds towards a journey of innovative solutions that will revolutionise the industry into tangible and sustainable development," Sawe said.

The chairman said that during the forum, participants will also have deeper discussions, training of board directors of insurance companies as well as enjoy tourist attractions available in the Isles.

He said the forum will draw participants from various areas including the ICFT, ATI, TIBA, Bancassurers, Mobile Network Operators (MNOs), InsurTechs/ Fintechs, government officials and development partners. "Decisions

will be made and monitoring plans will be set to stimulate growth of the insurance sector and contribute to the development in the continent," he said.

The conference will be used as a platform to also offer awards by recognizing excellence in the insurance industry.

Tanzania Insurances Regulation Authority (TIRA) director for Planning, Research and Marketing Development for Insurance, Zakaria Muyengi, said the government will improve cooperation with the ACISP to ensure that the insurance sector is developed in order to contribute its required share to the economy.

He said players across the insurance value chain have to work in synergy to support the achievement of the goals highlighted in the country's Financial Sector Development Master Plan 2020-2030.

The master plan has set ambitious goals for the insurance sub sector within a decade to reach 50 per cent population coverage of the adult population.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE COTTON DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND



JOB OPPORTUNITY ADVERTISEMENT

Cotton Development Trust Fund (CDTF) was incorporated in Tanzania on 4th March 2008 under Trustees Incorporation Act (CAP.318 R.E. 2002) as per certificate of incorporation No. 3352. The Fund is a replacement of the Cotton Development Fund (CDF), which was established under the auspices of the Cotton Industry Act No. 2 of 2001. Formation of the Fund was in line with the wishes of the Cotton Industry Stakeholders as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding which was signed on 21st April 2006. This Fund which is under the supervision of Tanzania Cotton Board is looking for qualified, young and dynamic Tanzanian to fill in the following vacant position on contractual basis.

ACCOUNTS OFFICER II (01 POST)

Qualifications and Experience Required

Education requirement:

Holder Bachelor Degree or Advanced Diploma in one of the following fields: Accounting, Finance, Commerce or Business Administration majoring Accountancy or Finance, Intermediate Stage (Module D) offered by NBAA or equivalent qualifications from recognised institutions or any other equivalent qualification from a recognized Institutions.

Duties and responsibilities:

- To process payment vouchers and receipts of the Fund
- To review and post suppliers invoice of the fund
- To perform cash and bank reconciliation statements
- To prepare weekly reports for Seed Cotton deliveries
- To assist preparation of annual budget
- To assist preparation of financial and management reports
- To prepare annual operating and capital expenditure budgets
- To perform any other duties as assigned by immediate supervisor

Qualitative Requirement:

- The candidate must have good communication skills
- Fluent in English and Kiswahili
- Must be computer literate
- Self-motivated individual
- Team Player

DUTY STATION: MWANZA

Remuneration:

Attractive remuneration will be paid to the right candidate

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- Applicants must attach an up to date a passport size, current Curriculum Vitae (CV) having reliable contact postal address, email address and telephone number(s).
- Applicants must attach their detailed relevant certified copies of Academic certificates as follows:
 - First Degree certificates
 - Form IV and Form VI National Examination Certificates
 - Birth Certificate
- Form IV and Form VI result slips are strictly not accepted. Presentation of forged academic certificates and other information in the CV will necessitate to legal action.
- Applicants should indicate three reputable referees with their reliable contacts in their CV.
- Certificates from foreign Universities should be verified by Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) or National Accreditation Council for Technical Education (NACTE) for foreign non degree certificates.
- Only qualified candidates will be contacted for further processes
- Closing date will be 11th February, 2022**

Mode of Application

Application letters should be posted, e-mailed or hand delivered to the following address:

**DIRECTOR GENERAL
TANZANIA COTTON BOARD
P.O. BOX 61
MWANZA
E-mail: info@tcb.go.tz**

166656



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE TANZANIA COTTON BOARD



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB) is a regulatory body established under the Cotton Industry Act No. 2 of 2001 whose functions are provision of regulatory, development and promotion services to the cotton industry in Tanzania. The Board is looking for qualified, young and dynamic Tanzanian to fill in the following vacant position under contractual basis.

1. AGRICULTURAL OFFICERS (Cotton Classing) (4 Posts)

Duties and Responsibilities:

Agricultural Officer (Cotton Classing) shall be assigned duties to classify cotton in accordance with rules, regulations and standards as will be directed by Supervisors.

Qualifications and Experience Required

Education Requirement:

- Holder of a Bachelor Degree in Agricultural Science or any other related qualification from a recognized institutions.

Qualitative Requirement:

- The candidate must have good communication skills
- Fluent in English and Kiswahili
- Must be computer literate
- Self-motivated individual
- Team Player

DUTY STATION: SHINYANGA

2. ACCOUNTS OFFICER II (1 Post)

Duties and Responsibilities:

Accountant will be assigned duties in the Accounts Department whereby will facilitate payments of cash/cheques to employees/suppliers, record transactions in the accounting system, prepare financial statements and maintaining updated books of accounts of the Board.

Qualifications and Experience Required

Education Requirement:

- Holder of Bachelor Degree or Advanced Diploma in one of the following fields: Accounting, Finance, Commerce or Business Administration majoring in Accountancy or Finance, or equivalent qualifications from recognised institutions.

Qualitative Requirement:

- The candidate must have good communication skills
- Fluent in English and Kiswahili
- Must be computer literate
- Self-motivated individual
- Team Player

DUTY STATION: MWANZA

REMUNERATION:

Attractive remuneration will be paid to the right candidate as per TCB scales.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- Applicants must attach an up to date current Curriculum Vitae (CV) having reliable contact postal address, email address and telephone number(s).
- Applicants must attach their detailed relevant certified copies of Academic certificates as follows:
 - First Degree certificates
 - Form IV and Form VI National Examination Certificates
 - Birth Certificate
- Form IV and Form VI result slips are strictly not accepted. Presentation of forged academic certificates and other information in the CV will necessitate legal action.
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**DIRECTOR GENERAL
TANZANIA COTTON BOARD
P.O. BOX 61
MWANZA
E-mail: info@tcb.go.tz**

166656

TCB earmarks TZS 500m for social investments in 2022

By A Special Correspondent

Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) has set aside over TZS 500 million for implementing its 2022 corporate social responsibility (CSR) agenda with the major focus of the social investments targeting to make a difference in the education and health sectors.

The oldest lender in the country revealed the new budget for its philanthropic activities last week in Kagera Region at a project handing over event in Muleba District.

Speaking at Kitunga Primary School, TCB's Director of Corporate Banking, Ms Adolphina William, said corporate giving was a key aspect of the bank's strategic operations and activities.

As a responsible corporate citizen, she explained, it is obligatory for the bank to give back to the communities where it does business and share the profits it makes with society.

The huge CSR spending TCB makes every year are part and parcel of its commitment to support the government and other stakeholders in improving the welfare of Tanzanians.

"Tanzania Commercial Bank allocates funds annually for social investments in its endeavour to support the communities where we operate. For this year, we have set aside some TZS 500 million that will be invested mostly in the education and health sectors," Ms William said.

On Tuesday last week, the bank handed over 50 desks to Kitunga Primary School together with two rehabilitated classrooms and newly built toilets for teachers worth TZS 36.3

million.

The handing over ceremony was graced by the Kagera Region Administrative Secretary, Prof Faustin Kamuzora, who commended TCB for the investment and its corporate citizenship gesture.

Prof Kamuzora called on other financial institutions and the whole of corporate Tanzania to emulate the bank by making similar donations, which he said are vital in improving living standards, and supporting overall national building efforts.

According to him, the responsibility of improving the learning and teaching environment in schools was not for the government alone to oversee and undertake but an obligation for all stakeholders, including parents.

In that regard, he called upon students' guardians and residents of Kagera Region to work closely with the government in its efforts to address education challenges facing the region.

Prof Kamuzora said apart from shortage of key items like classroom furniture, the challenges facing many schools such as Kitunga also include accommodation facilities for teachers and the associated amenities such as toilets.

Teaching is made easy and enjoyable, he noted, when quality facilities like toilets are readily available at schools for both teachers and students.

He said improving and investing in such services should not always wait for the government's intervention since parents and communities can

help to cost effectively provide them.

"Ex-Kitunga Primary School students are obliged to play a key role in improving both the learning and living conditions at the school where they acquired their primary level education.

"I know for sure that there are many parents and relatives of these pupils here in front of us who in one way or another can greatly help to better the current situation at this school," Prof Kamuzora pointed out.

"We thank TCB for the support it has offered through this TZS 36.3 million investment that was spent to buy the 50 desks that have been handed over today as well as rehabilitation of the two classrooms and building the toilets for teachers," he added.

"Let this not be the end of your (TCB) support since there are still many other challenges to address that require concerted efforts of all stakeholders in the education sector to sort out," he emphasized noting that the issue of improving the living conditions for teachers was of utmost importance.

Prof Kamuzora said the government was leaving no stone unturned to ensure that teachers live comfortably and work in conducive environments so that they can perform their duties diligently.

However, he cautioned that the mission to make both the learning and teaching environment friendly should not be left to the government alone. According to him, the support of the whole country is required and strategically vital to accomplish that noble national goal of making Tan-



The Kagera Region Administrative Secretary, Prof Faustin Kamuzora (2nd left), cuts a ribbon on Tuesday last week to mark the handing over of two classrooms rehabilitated by Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) at Kitunga Primary School in Muleba District. Others are TCB's Director of Corporate Banking, Ms Adolphina William (left), its Director of Strategic Planning, Mr Muondakweli Kaniki (2nd right) and headmaster Hashim Kibaiza.

zania a learned society and modern economy.

Prof Kamuzora urged Kitunga parents and local authorities in the area to see to it that no teacher leaves the school because of wanting teaching circumstances and poor living conditions.

"If these teachers leave, it will affect the learning of your children and their

academic performance. Let's work together and involve other stakeholders to ensure we retain them," Prof Kamuzora urged.

The school's head teacher, Mr Hashim Kibaiza, lauded TCB for implementing the project, which he said will play a crucial role in the overall development of the school.

Mr Kibaiza said they still face many challenges such as inadequate classrooms, offices for teachers, a library, ICT services and facilities as well as reliable water supply for mostly sanitation purposes.

"We call upon all stakeholders to help us sort out these issues and support communities in need whenever possible," he stressed.



The Kagera Region Administrative Secretary, Prof Faustin Kamuzora (right), sits on one of the 50 desks donated by Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) to Kitunga Primary School in Muleba District on Tuesday last week. With him is TCB's Director of Corporate Banking, Ms Adolphina William.



Prof Faustin Kamuzora (centre) arrives at Kitunga Primary School to officiate the handing over function at the school. With him are TCB's Director of Corporate Banking, Ms Adolphina William (left) and the Director of Strategic Planning, Mr Muondakweli Kaniki (right).



Prof Faustin Kamuzora (seated centre) in a group photo with TCB officials, Muleba District leaders and some teachers of Kitunga Primary School.



Kitunga Primary School pupils in Muleba District sitting on some of the 50 desks donated by Tanzania Commercial Bank to help address shortage of the furniture at the school.

Comply with the law to register firms with WCF, employers challenged

By Felister Peter

THE government has called upon employers from both public and private sector to comply with law by registering their companies to the Worker's Compensation Fund (WCF) and pay employee contributions.

Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament, Labour, Employment, Youth and the Disabled) Prof Joyce Ndalichako made the remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday during her tour at WCF, been the first government institution to be visited by the minister since was appointed early this month.

She was accompanied by the ministry's Deputy Minister Patrobas Katambi and other ministry officials.

According to her, there are no reasons for employers to hesitate registering their companies to the funds because the government has already taken measures to reduce employer's monthly contributions as well as the penalty paid by defaulters.

Prof Ndalichako said that in August 2020, the government endorsed reductions of contribution rate for the private sector from 1 percent to 0.6 percent of employees' gross monthly income to provide relief to employers and promote voluntary compliance.

The minister challenged the WCF social security scheme to ensure professionalism and enhanced productivity in their duties so that injured employees are compensated and receive medical treatment timely.

She was concerned that the government established the fund for purposes of taking care of workers and making sure they get proper medical treatment or compensation whenever they are injured during the course of their work. She insisted that delays in issuance of compensation not only affect the injured worker, but also his/her

family.

"I am pleased with the way you execute your duties, almost 85 percent of your activities are done online using the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) systems developed by young Tanzanian graduates", she said commending the funds employees for ensuring it continues to perform better since its establishment in the past six years.

Earlier, Emmanuel Humba, Chairman of the WCF Board of Trustees said: "We are delighted to be the first institution to be visited by the minister. We are ready to work with the government to achieve the fund's targeted goals."

Humba noted that despite the fact that WCF was the last social security scheme to be established in the country; it has performed better within its six months of existence. He said the aim is to make WCF one of the best social security schemes in Africa

He appealed to the government to assist it in establishing offices in regions across Tanzania because currently it has nine offices countrywide. He said WCF has a total of 132 employees, 54 are women and 73 men.

WCF was established under the Workers' Compensation Act No 20 of 2008 which requires companies to register and pay employee contributions.

The Act applies to employees from both the private and government sector. It provides compensation for employees injured or incapacitated in the workplace.

WCF provides various types of compensation including medical treatment to injured workers, maintenance services and counseling to injured personnel with permanent disabilities. The fund also pays a certain amount of money to a person who is taking care of an injured worker upon approval from doctors.



Handeni district administrative secretary Mashaka Boniface Mgeta (2nd-L) pictured yesterday gracing the presentation of motorcycles the government has extended to extension officers to help them move around faster and work more efficiently. Photo: Correspondent Boniface Gideon

By Beatrice Philemon

THE National College of Tourism (NCT) students and graduates have been called on to use Information and communications technology (ICT) to market what they planned to offer in tourism sector, because the industry is growing fast.

College of Business Education (CBE) deputy rector academics, Prof Edda Lwoga made the call last week at the just-ended one day 1st Convocation day that was organized by NCT and bring together professionals from the hotel industry.

"Tanzania is endowed with a lot of tourist's attractions, you can use IT technology to market what you have planned to do in your business and later on benefit from what you have learned," she said, urging them

College graduates urged to use ICT skills to market tourism products

to use knowledge and skills gained from the college to be creative and come up with new business ideas in tourism industry.

"Don't stay inside the box, let's think outside the box and use digital to market what we have planned to perform in tourism," she added.

For part, NCT's Tutor, Domina Moshi also called on students and graduates to have a passion about what they will do and excited by it because will help tourists who will visit in Tanzania to obtain best services in accordance with the funds they have.

"Stand up for what you believe in because it will help you to be happier at work and solve the main problems you encounter in business you have or in the workplace," she said.

She urged graduates to use the knowledge and skills gained from NCT to provide high quality services in areas where will be employed or operate their business to become role model for students who are now studying at the NCT and other campuses located in Mwanza and Arusha Region.

"Be ready to learn from others, prepared to have a million questions

pop up every day regarding what you're doing. It might take you days to get a hang of your duties at your new job, so show management that you are coachable, paying attention and always willing to learn new things," she said.

NCT alumni, Anastazia Gati advises students and graduates to have a confidence for what they do because they meet with different customers, be friendly for the studies that teachers teach them to allow them provide best services for tourists and behave better in areas where they will be employed or work.

TCB establishes a new branch in Katavi Region

By Guardian Correspondent, Mpanda

THE Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) has established a new branch in Mpanda District, Katavi Region, to extend its financial services in the country.

The branch was officially launched by the Regional Commissioner Mwanamvua Mrindoko.

Speaking at the launch, TCB chief executive Sabasaba Moshingi said that the move comes in the wake of increased financial literacy among the farmers and pastoralists in the region as well as bringing

its services close to the public.

He said the new Mpanda branch will facilitate the provision of banking services to its customers, something which gives relief to the residents of walking long distances in search for the banking services.

He said the bank is committed to serve its customers in a more efficient and quick manner so as to promote financial inclusion.

"Our focus is on farmers and pastoralists, we have recognized that there is huge demand for the services to the groups and other people in the region," he said.

He said Tanzania Commercial Bank is not only one of the largest banks in the country, but also makes a significant contribution to social activities, especially education and health.

"Recognizing the importance of expanding services, especially in rural areas, the bank has continued to empower agents who will assist in providing such services which will help move services to our clients across the country," he said.

He added, currently the bank has 82 branches and more than 3,800 ATM machines.

In her keynote address, RC Mrindoko commended TCB's leadership for coming to invest in the region saying that many of the people who have attended the event will go and open their accounts in the bank. She said Katavi has a number of opportunities including agriculture, processing factories, pastoralism and trade.

She assured the leadership of the bank that Katavi is a fast growing region due to productive and developmental activities, so opening of the branch will further stimulate economic activities and financial inclusion. "The launch of the TCB's branch here in Katavi means that banking services will be more accessible so Katavi workers, farmers and traders, I encourage people to seize this opportunity," she added.

Judgment on Z'bar civil case over return of nationalised house to be delivered tomorrow

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE ruling of the civil case involving the return of the house nationalised by the Zanzibar government after the 1964 Revolution at Mlandege filed by Sultanali Abdalla Gulam Hussen against five respondents is expected to be delivered on January 27 by Unga Urban West magistrate Isaya Kayange.

Earlier the judgment could not be delivered because it had not yet been written by the magistrate.

"The judgment which I had to give today, I will do so on January 27 not at Vuga Court, but at the new court building at Tunguu," said magistrate Kayange.

In the case, the plaintiff was forced to file an appeal in objection of the ruling given by Zanzibar High Court Judge, Aziza Iddi Suweidi in her review of an earlier ruling given by the former High Court Judge,

Abraham Mwampashi who in now the Judge of the Tanzania Court of Appeal in Dar es Salaam.

On his judgment, Judge Mwampashi ruled in favour of the plaintiff and required respondents to move from the house at Plot No 3043 and 3044, but one respondent, Razaki Mahamoud Hussen filed against the ruling in regard to the house on plot No 3041 to be involved in the judgment as he was not in the sworn affidavit of the plaintiff.

Giving judgment on October 10 2020, Judge Aziza Iddi Suweidi said court was releasing House No 3041 after it was satisfied that it was erroneously included and instead the court ruling implementation should continue in regard to Houses at plots 3043 and 3044.

Also, the Court ordered that each side should bear the cost of the court.

Civil case No 24 between Zanzibar Housing Corporation

(ZHC), the plaintiff and Sultan Abdullah, Mahmoud Hussein Parker, Razak Mahmoud Hussein, Yussuf Ramadhan, Suleiman Yussuf and Salama Kombo (respondents) was filed in 2020.

According to the Confiscation of Immovable Property Decree No 3141, the house was nationalized when it was owned by Abdullah G. Gowani as well as seven other houses in various areas of Unga and Pemba.

Other people whose houses were also nationalised by the government include Salumu Muhsin in Kwaalamsha area, Habib Vusta Punja, (Muembe Mimba), Nurdin A. E Jivanji (Kajificheni, (Stone Town) Visanji Changa Bazar, Ismail Jamat (Wete-Pemba), Ismail Jamat (Chake Chake, Pemba) Ithnasherl (Wete, Pemba).

These houses were nationalised and published in the government gazette in 1970.



Anne Makinda (R), a former Speaker of Tanzania's National Assembly, joins several other dignitaries in congratulating National Reconciliation Committee chairman Sheikh Alhad Mussa Salum after he was conferred with a University of Dodoma honorary degree. It was at the university's graduation ceremony held in Dodoma city at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL OF TANZANIA
AT DAR ES SALAAM

CROSS APPEAL NO. 7 OF 2020

BETWEEN

JOSEPHINE MHINA NAAMAN APPELLANT
AND

TANZANIA ELECTRIC SUPPLY
COMPANY LIMITED 1ST RESPONDENT

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES
REGULATORY AUTHORITY 2ND RESPONDENT

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

TAKE NOTICE THAT a cross appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) given on 25th March, 2020 in which EWURA held the 1st Respondent responsible for the fire incident that destroyed the premises and household items of the Appellant and awarded general damages of TZS 37,000,000 (Thirty seven million shillings) and costs of the complaint to the Appellant.

The cross appeal is based on the grounds that the award was not based on the evidence adduced during the hearing. Thus, the Appellant prays for orders to be paid TZS 173M as compensation and general damages with costs.

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 25th January, 2022.

REGISTRAR

106649

TUESDAY 25 JANUARY 2022

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Child marriages far from defeated, the war against them should go on

POVERTY in its various forms and levels of seriousness continues to be the lot of millions of our people, as a wide range of efforts to root it out from our midst similarly run on.

For us at The Guardian, this is but to reiterate a view we have held - and made public - for many years.

As has been discovered, for some to great surprise and much chagrin, it is an entrenched "cancer" and will never be an easy or soft target.

Analysts will readily attest to this cruel fact - as, indeed, will all those most hit and therefore feeling the pinch most.

This is why it gets especially painful when legally registered institutions or agencies entrusted with helping to ease the plight of poor members of society betray that trust by benefiting from those agencies at the expense of the rightful beneficiaries.

By one count, the government once had registered well over one hundred NGOs and community or faith-based organisations ostensibly out to add value to the wretched lives of the needy, among them people living with or otherwise affected by HIV and Aids.

Fortunately, records show that positive change of sorts has been registered since, with the "disciplining" of at least some of the errant players. But the benefits would be much greater with more rigorous sprucing up, which those in the wrong would least appreciate but which would go some way in ensuring that justice is done and seen to be done.

All those responsible for ensuring

that the game is played in line with the laws, regulations and guidelines regulating it should play their role to satisfaction.

We draw joy from interventions made from time to time with respect to problems relating to the disbursement and use of Tanzania Social Action Trust Fund (TASAF) funds meant for poor households but landing in the wrong hands. That is how things ought to run if we are to see transparency and accountability really at work.

Much the same applies with regard to overtly anti-social or outright criminal behaviour or practices such as gender-based violence and child marriages, both still prevalent in some parts of Tanzania despite years of efforts from various quarters to end them.

For instance, in the case of child marriage, it is confirmed that rates have dropped in recent years but remain unacceptably high - even as the drastic consequences of the practice are well-documented.

Hence the need for greater sensitisation of the public on these consequences, among them the fact that there is a big likelihood of girls married early experiencing violence, abuse and forced sexual relations - and, by extension, complications commonly associated with teenage pregnancy.

Poverty in its widest sense is also known to "induce" child marriage, which underlines the need to ensure that the war on the latter problem is waged right from the roots - and from root to roof. Only focused action, not rhetoric, will assure us of the change we want.

Nothing more devastating than seeing children suffering from malnutrition

CHILD health and nutrition in Africa is concerned with the health care of children through adolescents in the various countries of Africa. The right to health and a nutritious and sufficient diet are internationally recognised fundamental human rights protected by international treaties and conventions on the right to life, as well as in charters, strategies and declarations. Sustainable development goals highlight, respectively, how poverty, hunger, child mortality, maternal health, the eradication of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases are of particular significance in the context of child health.

Despite these commitments and ideals, however, the reality is that high mortality among young children, particularly in Africa, continues to be a cause for concern. Within developing countries, there are significant disparities between rich and poor and urban and rural areas.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has appealed for US\$ 255 million to ramp up its emergency nutrition response in priority countries in eastern and southern Africa in 2022.

The UN agency said the funds will also be used to support children with adequate and life-saving nutrition services, including treatment for severe wasting.

The UNICEF warned in a statement released in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi that at least 1.5 million children are not receiving life-saving treatment for severe wasting in Eastern and Southern Africa. It said the number represents almost half of the estimated 3.6 million children in urgent need, who are not being reached in time to save their lives or keep them from permanent development damage.

"Nothing is more devastating than seeing children suffering

from severe wasting when we know it could have been prevented and treated," Mohamed M. Fall, the UNICEF regional director for Eastern and Southern Africa.

He said despite gradual improvement in wasting treatment outreach in the region, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, combined with climate shocks and ongoing conflict, continues to push children and families to the brink. In addition, consistent shortfalls in funding remain a barrier for the UNICEF's humanitarian response.

The UNICEF said more than 255,000 children received treatment for severe wasting in 2021 in Somalia, whilst the country still undergoes one of the worst droughts ever recorded. Moreover, at least 65,000 children in Kenya were reached in 2021 with treatment services for severe wasting.

The UN agency said families across the region are currently dealing with multiple crises, including rising levels of food insecurity, economic deterioration, disease outbreaks, unprecedented cycles of floods and droughts, and conflict. And millions are having to reduce the quantity or quality of the food they eat in order to survive. In many cases, families are forced to do both.

It said the situation in the region remains dire and any disruptions to an already stretched humanitarian operation could further aggravate what is already a long-running nutrition crisis.

"This is a looming nutrition tragedy that can - and must be averted. With unhindered access and predictable funding to reach children in need, the UNICEF and partners can save the lives of nearly every child admitted for severe wasting in the region," it said.

In Ethiopia, the country with the largest child population in the region, the UNICEF and partners reached an estimated 500,000 severely wasted children in 2021.

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What science tells us about future of Covid-19 - II

By Umair Haque

LET me say it again: Covid-19 boosters hit 50 per cent efficacy in ten weeks - which is all the data we have so far. In other words, there's evidence of rapid declines in the efficacy of boosters.

Meanwhile, we have plenty of evidence that you can be reinfected with Omicron. Add those two facts up, and it means that people will keep on getting Omicron after their booster efficacy wanes. Every three or four months or so, because, just as boosters had lower efficacy than first doses, so even fourth and fifth shots will offer less and less protection, too.

Until we have a vaccine specifically against Omicron, we're going to face reinfection. Even if it's "mild", or just like a "cold", because many of us are vaccinated, not because of "evolution", we're going to keep getting it.

And by that time...maybe you can guess what I'm going to point out next...there's probably going to be another variant.

Why is that? Because the danger of every Omicron case isn't just that you get ill. I've had Omicron, and for me, it was...weird. I woke up with a bad case of vertigo (dizziness).

The room was spinning. Then I proceeded to have something like the flu for about a week. But what science tells me is that the problem here isn't just that - how sick (or not) I get. It's that every case of Omicron helps produce the next variant.

And if you understand the science above, because Omicron isn't Covid-19 "evolving to become the common cold", the next variant could go either way.

Here's what Dr William Haseltine, doctor, PhD, and former professor at Harvard Medical School, has to say in his new book, Variants. He is perhaps the single smartest mind on this topic, and I'm going to show you why.

Haseltine: "The existing literature on coronaviruses already tells us that they can recombine...in fact, this process is likely how SARS-CoV-2 came to be born, in the ant-eating mammals known as pangolins. There are unpublished reports that recombination among SARS-CoV-2 variants occurs."

"Given the high prevalence of both SARS-COV-2 and other cold-causing viruses at this time, I suspect all the events above have either already

occurred or inevitably will."

Did you get that? Dr Haseltine seems to have predicted Omicron.

Now that is shockingly smart. Haseltine figured out something that affected the entire world, as far as I can tell, first. Where will the next variant come from, and what will it be like?

So where does the man when who predicted Omicron think the virus will go? He's monitoring immunocompromised patients. Because they are where new variants appear to emerge, something like - and I hate to say this, but there is no other way to put it - petri dishes for mutation and recombination.

"In some instances of Covid-19 infection, lingering symptoms may last for months, often in immunocompromised individuals.

"This allows the virus to effectively adapt within a single patient over time, resulting in potent mutations to the Spike protein and larger genome, particularly in cases when the patient receives any sort of antiviral drug.

"Here we examine one such case of a 72-year-old patient who was infected continuously for two months, as detailed by Truffot et al."

You should read that article - it's published in Forbes, of all places. It's very detailed, and you'll come away with a much, much better understanding of the science - and the stakes.

Here's what Dr Haseltine goes on to say: "Position 493 is interesting as well. Until recently, Q493R in the Spike protein was an uncommon, highly antigenic mutation.

"Gideon Schreiber described a number of receptor-binding domain mutations for antigenicity, one of which was at positions 493. He described Q493H as a highly antigenic mutation.

"The Q493R and Q493H mutations are both neutral to positive charges, indicating Q493R should have a similar effect. This means transmissibility for variants that carry this mutation is much higher.

"The only instance of Q493R in variants of concern is the current Omicron variant which is reigniting Covid-19 infections throughout the world. Its observation in an individual immunocompromised patient is notable, to say the least."

Haseltine is literally watching new variants being born in immunocompromised people: "This is not the only instance of dangerous mutations developing

within an immunocompromised individual. There is a long history of these patients, many of which we have analysed, including the London, Boston, Pittsburgh, and Italian patients.

"Recently a 58-year-old patient who underwent a six-month-long infection developed a few questionable mutations in the Spike protein as well, in this instance, E484G and F490L in the receptor-binding domain and several deletions in the N-terminal domain. These mutations all aid in the transmissibility and immune resistance of major variants."

Emphasis mine. What is Dr Haseltine watching for? Well, understanding viral evolution, he understands that a new variant could go either way. It could be relatively benign, or even milder than Omicron.

Or it could be really deadly, recombining, as he warned recently, with elements of MERS and SARS, which have mortality rates of 40 per cent and 15 per cent.

Or it could be something entirely novel - like the mutations described in the above paragraph, which appear to elevate transmissibility and severity.

Haseltine is monitoring immunocompromised patients as patient **zeros** for new variants of Covid-19. Precisely because there is no guarantee whatsoever - certainly not by "evolution" - that a new variant will be milder.

That is because Covid-19 is not "evolving to become the common cold". It is just evolving. And we can't say what direction - or jump, leap, sudden recombination or mutation - its evolution will take.

That is the science - as far as I've read it and know it. Virologists and epidemiologists are welcome to weigh in. I've tried to be careful not to take a side. To commit the fool's mistake of politicising science.

Science is the closest thing we have to eternal, objective truth in this fragile world. None of us should sully it with the callow stupidity of politics, as our leaders do - and pundits do, too.

Read the above carefully. Reflect on it. I'm not telling you anything. I'm just sharing science with you, my reading of it, my interpretation of it. I have no motive or agenda.

I would rather have fewer people who really engage to read this post than more who don't. I care about disco and art and fashion - but I also

read and love science. Here is what it tells me.

It seems it's a myth that Omicron is Covid-19 "evolving to become the common cold" or "evolving to become less severe". That is not how viruses evolve. It isn't how any of them, from polio to smallpox, ever has.

The danger now is of complacency. We will assume that Omicron is Covid-19 evolving to become the common cold, hear that myth repeated back to us a hundred times a day, believe it because it's what we want to be true, and then get angry and defensive when it's challenged.

Meanwhile, our leaders, being who they are - irresponsible, imbecilic, incompetent - will seize on this comfortable narrative, which acquires them of a problem to solve.

Pundits will force it along, grinning all the while, because they are to science what clowns are to libraries.

The world will assume that "Covid-19 is over" because it has "become the common cold" - and few will question whether that's actually true or false.

But believing that myth is an error and a mistake. It's sheer dumb luck - or recombination probability - that Omicron is milder, not the invisible hand of "evolution", and we're probably not going to get lucky forever.

Meanwhile, wiser minds, like Drs Haseltine and Hanage will stay vigilant, for the next variant. Because having actually understood the science, they know that there is no guarantee that it will be better - or worse.

There is only the guarantee that it will come, and that guarantee is Omicron itself - spreading, mutating, recombining explosively.

Our boosters decline in efficacy, and our protections weaken. They are guarding all of us from the uncertain future into which we blindly walk. We should be listening to the wise among us, not the callow, the ones who tell us what we want to hear.

But we're human. When have we ever done that?

This is the second and final part of a dispatch by Medium/Eudaïmonia & Co. We ran the first part in yesterday's issue. Umair Haque is the Director of the London-based Havas Media Lab and heads Bubblegeneration, a strategy lab that helps discover strategic innovation. - Editor.

What do most people regret at the end of their lives?

By Sara Burdick

AMERICAN journalist and author Fulton Oursler once noted: "We crucify ourselves between two thieves: regret for yesterday and fear of tomorrow."

I have been fortunate enough to work with some amazing people in my career. I don't mean nurses; I am referring to my patients.

I have been a nurse for 16 years. Working in intensive care and medical-surgical units.

I spent a lot of time with my patients and enjoyed having deep meaningful conversations in critical times of their lives.

Many of them would tell me all their friends have died and their families do not talk to them. They were seen as either a "burden or old".

This broke my heart - plus, I loved to ask them all kinds of questions about their lives. It was a walk down memory lane for them and for me it was knowledge.

We take the elderly for granted in our society when we should honour them. They have so much knowledge.

What do you regret most in your life and what would you do differently if you had the chance?

Often in my life, I have been at a crossroads. I want a new job, or to change areas in the hospital. Travel the world... How can I do this, how do I know which decision is right? So I would ask my patients these questions.

I was happy to get advice on issues that I was having in my life. It was almost like free therapy. Take a minute and sit with



older persons, ask them for their advice. I guarantee you that it will help you out.

I have had patients tell me they regretted having children! I was at a critical stage in my life, and I was conflicted whether I should have children, even though I don't want them. Thinking I was broken because I did not want them.

I never expected the answers I received. Most of them said children were the biggest mistake of my life, yea I love them, but they did not better my life.

Now they don't talk to me, I am a burden to them or they were the opposite and said the children don't leave me alone. They think I can do nothing on

my own.

The resounding answer was you need to be 100 per cent certain that you want them. If you are on the fence, do not have them because you feel obligated.

Patients regretted not doing what they wanted with their lives. They lived their lives for someone else - whether it was their spouses, their children, or their parents.

A lot of the women said they wished they stood up and divorced their husbands, but it was the 50s and life was different.

They said never settle. Do not let anyone tell you that you can't do something. Do it any-

way and learn from your own mistakes.

They regretted staying in careers that they did not enjoy instead of chasing their dreams when they had the chance.

Some wanted to pursue different careers. Their families would tell them that was not a good decision. Their friends would not support them and told them they would fail.

So they never took the new job and stayed in a career they hated until they retired. These were always my bitter old man patients and a tough nut to crack, but I have my ways and they ended up being my favourite patients.

Live a life that you want, be-

cause it will work out, or not, you have to try. If you want to change your career, do it. Do not wait, because there might never be a tomorrow.

A lot of them said they woke up one day, and they were old and dying. So, never wait to do what you want - because that day may never come.

When I was deciding to travel, I was a mess. Should I quit my job, should I leave my family and friends? Is it going to be the biggest mistake in my life?

So I did as I always did. I talked to those who are wiser and have lived - my patients. I met this guy who told me about his travels to Japan and living in Asia teaching English

for 15 years. He said it was the best experience of his life and he never regretted choosing differently.

He said his family thought he was crazy, but he did it anyway. He said you are a nurse. You will always have a job, so you have nothing to lose.

I have also had many other patients tell me this. I was obsessed with living my dream for about five years before I did it.

When I talked to my friends and family, it was a resounding "Sara you have lost your mind. Why would you leave a good job, and your friends and family to traipse around the world?"

I said because I wanted to. If you do not do it now you never will and that is the one thing you will regret. You will not regret putting your career on pause. You will gain more from travelling seeing the world. They spoke from experience.

I met women travelling in their 50-60-70s who said the only regret in life was not doing it sooner.

Life is not about money, fame or success. Life is about experiences. I don't care if your dream is to go to Niagara Falls or Iguazu Falls.

Do not put off what you want to do, because what if? What if you die tomorrow? What if you don't die and are 98 years old and the only thing in life you regret is not doing what you want?

I know what you are thinking. Not everyone can just do whatever they want at all times. You are correct in this if you believe it. I believe that I can do whatever I want and it will always work out. Why? Because it has always worked out

for me.

It may not have been the way I imagined or what I wanted but it is better. It might be what I need - instead of want.

Life has a way of changing and redirecting when you follow your genuine desires. Your intuition, your gut, that feeling that just does not go away.

Would you rather try something and fail or never try to and wonder? I would rather try to and fail than to wonder what if?

My life has not been the easiest, but that was my life path. I have overcome so many hardships and I would never change it. I like who I am. The struggles that came with living are worth it. These struggles have strengthened me today.

Do not put off something because what if. If there is something that you want to do, make it happen.

Regret is the worst feeling in the world. These are not my words, but the words of 100s of patients that I have taken care of.

One last regret from many patients is that they regret not forgiving. They regret staying angry and ruining friendships and relationships over pettiness. Sometimes the ego gets in the way and we cannot get past it. Forgiveness and gratitude are the ways forward.

Do not take the regrets above to your grave. I have never regretted my decision to quit a six-figure salary to travel the world. I would choose it again and again if I had to decide.

So what are you putting off for tomorrow? Will tomorrow ever come?

• medium.com

Reasons for optimism: Journalists and media organisations around the world

By Special Correspondent

WHY write about "reasons for optimism" when so much is going wrong in our politics, economy and environment? Optimism gives us confidence that we can make things better. As I like to say, it's another day of opportunity.

Quality journalism takes time - and is expensive. It requires a subsidy. The advertising subsidy is gone, so we have to look elsewhere.

In the world of journalism business models, where there is extreme uncertainty, we have to embrace experimentation and innovation. We need to make incremental improvements rather than looking for big major solutions. We have to keep plugging away.

That's why I am inspired by what journalists are doing around the world. Joyce Barnathan, the outgoing president of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists (ICJ), captured this spirit in her recent farewell message.

She acknowledged that things are bleak, that journalists and media organisations are under attack around the world, and that misinformation campaigns flood our news feeds.

However, she added: "I have never been one for gloom or doom. I urge us all not to give in to dark scenarios. When I look back, I also see tremendous progress."

She elaborated: "In a pandemic with rampant disinformation, often perpetuated by top leaders, many people came to appreciate trustworthy journalism, which is needed to keep us informed, to help us make smart decisions, to hold our officials to account..."

"When I look at the work of journalists in our global network, I feel optimistic. I see that investigative journalism is strong, despite dire predictions of its collapse when I first started at ICJ in 2006.

"In the US we have seen the rise of distinguished nonprofit journalism groups such as ProPublica and the Marshall Project.

"Witness, too, the phenomenal investigations by our international partners, the Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project in Eastern Europe and Connectas in Latin America, among others."



Rebuilding journalism, from the ground up

Let me add my own note of optimism. Small media startups are filling the gaps left by large media organisations that cut staff, coverage and quality to protect profit margins.

Much of the innovation in journalism has come from the bottom up. True, some established media brands have found new ways to produce quality journalism that are less dependent on advertising. But many bold innovations are percolating up from below.

I have been tracking media startups for the past decade. I have presented a paper entitled: "Collaboration, not competition: the new global business model for public-service journalism".

The paper identifies a dozen collaborative projects among 5,000 media organisations in more than 100 countries. In various ways, all of them are focused on finding new ways to achieve sustainable models for producing quality journalism.

The members of these organisations share resources for training, news production, distribution and administration. This reduces costs and accelerates innovation.

Some of the best-known of these collaborations are the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, which produced the Pandora Papers; the Institute for Nonprofit News, with 350 media members; the European Journalism Centre, with training materials in 15 languages; and the Solutions Journalism Network, with 177 members in 13 countries.

The biggest need: investment

Rasmus Kleis Nielsen is director of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, which produces the annual Digital News Report on more than 40 countries. He would be more optimistic if he saw more cash investment from the publishing industry.

In his 2022 forecast written for Nieman Lab, he pointed out that the publishing and broadcasting industries in OECD countries made pitifully small investments in research and development compared to other industries.

Invest in tools and talent, he urged, adding: "If the global newspaper industry alone invested just 5 per cent of revenues in R&D and 2 per cent in formal training, which are the industry averages for the global policy forum, that would be billions of dollars dedicated to figuring out the

future."

Realistically, the journalism industry fell so far so fast that it will take a long time for it to bounce back. The Poynter Institute's Kristen Hare has reported on hundreds of newspaper closings in the past two years. Balanced against that, she found more than 50 local newsrooms that launched during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Another nonprofit optimist

In another Nieman Lab forecast, Lenfest Institute for Journalism CEO Jim Friedlich saw signs that nonprofit journalism was "finally building scale". He cited examples of media initiatives designed to replace local coverage lost in Baltimore, Chicago, Pennsylvania and Texas.

He wrote: "In 2022 and beyond we will see more serious business fund-

ing for nonprofit news, more M&A activity, and greater use of commercial business models.

"We will see deep-pocketed funding for nonprofits - including women and enterprises led by BIPOC, meaning Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour. There will be acquisitions and alliances by nimble public radio stations. Commercial local news properties will convert to nonprofit or will seek more significant philanthropic support."

I tend to share Friedlich's optimism. Most of the grass-roots efforts get little coverage, while we see plenty written about the vulture capitalism ruining the quality of local journalism.

On the positive side, we have some recent news items, one being that the Solutions Journalism Network has launched the Advancing Democracy Project with eight reporting projects in ten newsrooms across the United States.

The Nieman Lab (thanks again) has meanwhile alerted us to how the Salt Lake Tribune went from hedge fund ownership to nonprofit status and financial stability.

Publishers have been having success in their transition to digital subscriptions and away from advertising, as reported in What's New in Publishing.

American Journalism Project and Google News Initiative announced a partnership to develop an incubation program out to support news startups.

And the tireless Damian Radcliffe studied revenue streams for media and found "50 ways to make media pay".

I confess to being optimistic, cautiously so. If we become pessimistic, we might see any of our own efforts as pointless, futile and a waste of time and energy.

So I keep looking for examples of people who are producing quality news products, in spite of all the forces deployed against them. Some people call optimists "cockeyed", but I like to think of them as visionary. I see them as future friends and collaborators.

• **This article was originally published on Entrepreneurial Journalism, and republished in What's New In Publishing (WNIP).**

Eden Twins Foundations breaking barriers, seeks out families, regions

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

BEARING twins is something that some parents often relish. However, some parents have a different perspective because of what they endure in the face of challenges they have faced after having twins or triplets, and it has even occurred that quadruples are delivered; it is taxing to the extreme.

For many parents, it is joyful and a blessing to have twins, but despite the joys of those blessings, parents and caregivers from low-income families say there are challenges in caring for such children.

That is, many families with twins are economically disadvantaged, unable to provide for their children in health, food and proper clothing, prompting them to ask for assistance from community sources, and if there are any local government arrangements to help such families cope.

At a recent twin introduction festival in Dar es Salaam, some parents and guardians appealed to the government to recognize the barriers the families face and help them as it does for other needy groups.

At the festival, organized by the Eden Twins Foundation; Dar es Salaam resident Saida Gaddafi, who is raising twins, made the request.

"My plea to the government is that it needs to recognize these families as having special needs and support them as it does for other groups, as it is no secret that many such families live in poverty," she said.

She says there are non-governmental organizations serving various groups of needy people but for families facing challenges of raising twins it is the Eden Twins Foundation alone.

"So I would like to take this opportunity to urge the government and other stakeholders to support the Eden Twins Foundation's efforts to support this group, as many families also need state

and property support," she said

Zainabu Mlanzi, a resident of Mkuranga in Coast region, who has had twins four times and triplets once, says she lives a difficult life as she is unable to provide for her children.

"I am a widow; I have been left with 10 children. I live with them alone with the help of Good Samaritans including the Eden Twins Foundation, I am pleading to my government to recognize us and support us," says Zainabu, noting that sometimes when they are sick she fails to take them to hospital.

"Sometimes you have to ask for medicines including panadol to at least take them even though it is not good to take medicine without consulting a doctor, but I have to do it due to hardships.

"The problem is also with clothing, including school uniforms and food, as I rely on help from Good Samaritans. My relatives are ordinary people without much in too spare," she said, explaining that they cannot support her as they have their own families to take care of.

Fredrick Mwansasu, a resident of Kongowe Kibaha in Coast Region, says he has triplets and is a casual labourer.

"Generally speaking, my life is a struggle, I am unable to take good care of my triplets and their two older siblings from a labourer's income only," he says, adding his voice to the view that there is a necessity for various stakeholders to be involved in providing support for people with such needs. Having twins or triplets is a community welfare matter that the government can take up to help those families, he said.

Expanding the scope of Eden activities

Diana Joy Mbena, the chairperson of the Eden Twins Foundation, says she set up the organization in May last year to help identify challenges facing families with twins or triplets all over the country.

She says that Eden has offices in a few regions including Dar es Salaam and



Eden Twins Foundation chairperson Diana Joy Mbena feeds a cake one of the twins during the festival. Photo: Sabato Kasika

Coast, and is in the process of expanding its activities, to bring hope to the many families with twins facing difficult times to raise their children.

The twins awareness festival held in Dar es Salaam was the first since Eden was established and it is now moving to the regions to introduce it to local stakeholders, she said.

The Eden Twins Foundation is still in its early stages but will strive to ensure it goes to various parts of the country, bringing aware-

ness and removing barriers faced by families with twin children, helping them to find solutions.

"We started with a festival that involved families with twins from Dar es Salaam and Coast regions. People have realized the existence of our organization, now the remaining work is to move forward," she explained.

The organization strives for the families to have access to health care, nutrition and clothing, to make them feel accepted in the

community.

"But also, I have been looking for help from my friends for commodities - be it clothes, food, and money for caring for families whose problems are more manageable," she says. She aspires to nurture talent, enable them to make positive progress, strengthen community awareness about environmental conservation "and increase awareness, recognition and promote the best interests of twins in the community," she added.

Swedish PM ousted in historic no-confidence vote

STOCKHOLM

SWEDISH Prime Minister Stefan Lofven lost a no-confidence vote on Monday after the very same issue that brought him to power led to him being the first sitting prime minister in the country's history to be ousted.

The no-confidence motion, which required 175 votes in the 349-seat parliament to pass, was supported by 181 lawmakers. Also, 109 parliamentarians voted against the motion and 51 abstained after the COVID-19 limit on the number of parliamentarians present in the chamber was temporarily lifted due to the extraordinary circumstances.

"We will now ponder which route to take," Lofven (pictured) said in a press conference following his historic loss, which due to the nature of the Swedish constitution also means the entire government was ousted.

According to the same constitution, Lofven now has one week to decide whether to call a snap election, which has to be held within three months. Should he decide not to, the parliament speaker will be tasked with finding a new government based on the election results of 2018 -- the last time he tried it took 134 days.

REASONS BEHIND

As a result of the inconclusive 2018 election outcome, the leader of the Social Democrats had to strike a deal with two minor liberal parties to secure his second consecutive term.

After four months and several attempts to form a government, the 73-point deal enabled him to form a government together with the Greens. Although a minority government, it could pass bills with the help of these minor supporting parties.

One of the concessions the Social Democrats had to make was the easing of rent control on newly built apartments.



Although no bill over the matter has yet been put forward, the issue last week led to the Left Party suggesting a no-confidence vote. This as they claimed would be the first step to an entire deregulation of rent controls.

The Left Party's demand that the government must nip the issue in the bud was ignored by Lofven, partly because the Left Party does not have enough seats in parliament to put forward a motion of no-confidence on its own.

Instead, anti-immigration party Sweden Democrats saw an opportunity to oust the government and put forward such a motion.

Even though bitterly opposed to the Sweden Democrats, the leader of the Left Party said they would support this no-confidence motion. So did the conservative parties the Moderates and the Christian Democrats even though they see rental reform as necessary to solve the country's lack of housing.

"Today's government crisis was inevitable. This government should never have taken office," Ulf Kristersson, leader of the Moderates, wrote on Facebook.

Swedish Television's political commentator Mats Knutsson said: "For a long time it looked as if the minority government would make it until the end of the term, but the built-in divisions in the government's base have finally become too big."

ROAD AHEAD

What will happen now remains to be seen, as the constitution gives Lofven a week to decide what to do.

Henrik Ekengren Oscarsson, a political science professor at Gothenburg University, told daily Aftonbladet: "There is no winner in this kind of parliamentary mess. There will be more political instability and uncertainty. But it also depends on how long the crisis lasts."

The latest development also likely means a reshape of the Swedish political map, as parties which have previously refused to negotiate with what they label as "extremist parties" now might have to consider their position, said daily Dagens Nyheter's political commentator Ewa Stenberg.

By pushing Monday's vote, the Left Party and the Sweden Democrats have definitely broken a principle that has existed since 2010 when the Sweden Democrats entered the parliament. The idea of isolating the fringes of politics has in practice fallen with the government. It does not work after this and the political landscape will not be the same again.

One such example is the Center Party, one of the parties Lofven struck the 73-point deal with. Its leader Annie Loof has repeatedly said that she will under no circumstances talk to the Left Party, even though both parties share a strong dislike of the Sweden Democrats.

Should Loof reconsider her position, the parliament speaker might even ask Lofven to try to form a new government if a snap election is not called.



Braeburn International School Arusha

Invites applications for Girls' Boarding Matron/Nurs

Braeburn Arusha wishes to invite applications for the position of the girls' boarding matron. The matron is expected to sleep in at the girls boarding house in Kisongo, five nights of the week.

Our matrons are a parental presence in each of our houses. They support the practical routine of the pupils throughout the school term. Duties include wake up call for students in the morning, support in extra-curricular activities, supervision of laundry, as well as providing appropriate emotional support. This role requires working unsociable hours and weekends.

We are looking for a caring and exemplary role model, who must have an excellent understanding of the needs of girls and boys in different developmental age groups, as well as the ability to liaise well with parents and school personnel.

Qualifications in child care and nursing will be advantageous. Duties may include assisting with pupil records, prep and household accounts. A good level of administrative skills would therefore be helpful.

The successful candidate will be dedicated to providing the highest standards in working with young people. The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

Please address your CV and letter of application to: hr@braeburn.sc.tz

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RADIO

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 UMJUAYYO 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 MATUKIYA 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

Mixed farming is new venture for young women in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

MIXED farming is a type of farming which involves both, the growing of crops and the raising of livestock. Such agriculture occurs across Asia and in countries such as India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Afghanistan, South Africa, China, Central Europe, Canada, and Russia. Though at first it mainly served domestic consumption, countries such as the United States and Japan now use it for commercial purposes.

The cultivation of crops alongside the rearing of animals for meat or eggs or milk defines mixed farming. For example, a mixed farm may grow cereal crops such as wheat or rye and also keep cattle, sheep, pigs or poultry. Often the dung from the cattle serves to fertilise the cereal crops. Before horses were commonly used for haulage, many young male cattle on such farms were often not butchered as surplus for meat but castrated and used as bullocks to haul the cart and the plough.

At the age of 21 (five years ago), Monica Mizambwa found herself fascinated by mixed farming where she grows maize and beans on her sisal farm.

Many people in the area were astonished by her being so busy in the farm despite having a good job. By her age, gender, education and occupation it's rare to find her engaged in agricultural activities.

A mother of one has been a role model in Korogwe District, Tanga Region by focusing on the agriculture that has enabled her to earn a living, as well as run a business.

She is an officer at the Agricultural Marketing Cooperatives (AMCOs) in Korogwe District. Apart from her daily office operations, Monica also uses her after-job hours to work in her four-hectare sisal farm.

It is two years since she got into mixed farming and is now enjoy-

ing her sweat due to the harvests she gets from her four-acre farm located in Mkokola village, Magunga Ward, Korogwe District.

According to Monica, she uses creativity to benefit from the land where the sisal is planted along with maize, dried beans and leguminous plants.

"When you do mixed farming on sisal plantations, you are using the land properly because the spaces of planting sisal from one square to another are four metres. And in between the sisal crops you plant seasonal crops-maize, beans or legumes."

She adds: "So, instead of leaving the land open, you use it to plant other seasonal crops while waiting for the three years of sisal to be ready for harvest."

"Beans and maize are harvested after three months. So, if you plant long-time crops it is dangerous because its roots go too far and meet the roots of the sisal which also goes away. If the roots of these crops meet in the ground, one of the plants must be affected. Sisal also does not need shade, as its fibres become lighter; it needs a lot of sunlight."

"Remember that at the end of the day what the sisal farmer sells is fibre per kilogram," she says.

The young and pioneering woman holding a diploma in agriculture, clarifies that mixed farming on sisal plantations takes place within three years after the sisal is planted, noting: "It's advisable to mix only seasonal crops such as maize, legumes and cotton, but it is important to note that such mixing should be done within the first three years after sisal is planted."

Outlining some of the mixed farming, Monica says the innovation helps the farmer to enrich the soil especially when she uses legumes as it provides minerals and nutrients necessary for the soil.

Secondly, she said: "Mixed farm-



ing helps farmers to reduce labour in weeding as leguminous plants tend to cover soil and thus inhibit weed growth.

"It also helps farmers to be food secure for the crops he grows for the three years he is waiting to place within three years after the sisal is planted, noting: "It's advisable to mix only seasonal crops such as maize, legumes and cotton, but it is important to note that such mixing should be done within the first three years after sisal is planted."

Monica, who advocates for young people to invest in sisal and mixed farming, says she started engaging in it five years ago after receiving a degree from the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI).

According to her, sisal mixed with maize gives a farmer a guarantee to harvest 20 bags of 100kgs per hectare and between 25 bags

and 30 bags per hectare.

"For sisal that is under better management, one hectare the farmer is guaranteed to get from 2m/- to 2.5m/- per hectare after all deductions. Remember sisal is harvested twice a year, every six months you harvest it. I am currently a four hectare farm of 10 acres. I started growing sisal in 2016, but I did not start by planting on all four hectares."

She says: "In 2016 I started by planting two hectares, meaning five acres. I have already started harvesting. The first harvest in 2019 I got 1.2m/- after all deductions." "These deductions are the production costs, for example in harvesting we use people, there is the cost of transporting from field to factory, cost of the processing

plant and there is the cost of the operating association because we work under the Cooperative which also has its own levies," she says.

"In the first year harvests, sisal cannot reach a height of 60 centimetres. This maximum is found in the second or third cut. In 2017 I planted one hectare and last year I finished the last planting. I continue to harvest meaning sisal harvests twice a year," she says, adding:

She adds that sisal does not need a lot of rain, however there are pests that are causing a nuisance but TARI have helped them with pesticides.

"The first year when I mixed maize, I harvested six sacks but did not use the best seeds. The second year I did not plan any

more maize, I planted beans, I got eight sacks. In 2019, I mixed maize with the best seeds; I got 15 sacks of maize. Last year I did not grow any more crops and even this year I did not mix because time was tight," she adds.

"Last year in the first 'cut' of the year I harvested two hectares of sisal and made a profit of 2.13m/-. In short, I am now confident of meeting my family needs and I have done a lot of developmental things from sisal and mixed farming," she says.

Monica, who is also involved in ginger farming, notes that she was employed as the Korogwe AMCOs Agriculture Officer in 2019. This came after volunteering for three years from 2016, assisting farmers in different corners.

TTU, Govt to solve teachers' challenges through dialogue, not strikes

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbarali

TANZANIA Teachers union (TTU) has pledged to work together with the government in finding solutions to teachers in a diplomatic way

instead of strikes as it has been the custom, saying the method was not a good one.

The remarks were made by TTU Secretary General, Deus Seif when the Union was handing over 500 bags of cement to the govern-

ment in Mbeya Region as assistance to the improvement of education infrastructures in the region.

He said for a long time teachers have been faced with various challenges but they employ strategies that

did not help to solve the challenges, at worst they were only affecting students.

"The education sector is very important and that is why we have decided to solve its problems by working together with the gov-

ernment through dialogue," Seif said.

He said the bags of cement handed over were valued at 7m/- and they handed them over in support of the government's effort to improve education infrastructures.

Speaking on behalf Mbeya Region District Executive Directors, Rungwe District Executive Director, Renatus Mchau said the handed cement bags will help in the completion some of the classrooms.

Receiving the cement on behalf of Mbeya Region Administrative Secretary Dr Angelina Lutambi, he said for a long time they had asked for the assistance from Union since before the coming of Covid-19 funds.

Tanzanians called upon to respect and safeguard children's rights

By Pauline Lugaziya, SJMC

TANZANIANS have been called to respect and safeguard children's rights, as a way to assist in eradicating sexual exploitation (sexortion) and other acts of violence.

Community Development Officer from the Kisutu Juvenile Court in Dar es Salaam, Asha Mbaruku made the call yesterday at a meeting aimed to empower stakeholders fighting for sexual exploitation on children.

The meeting was organised by the women community based organisation - "Wanawake Katika Jitihada za Maendeleo" (WAJIKI) who brought together various stakeholders including motor cycle (bodaboda) and tricycle (bajaj) drivers.

Other participants included teachers, students, Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) the police and religious leaders.

"Some of the children rights is to live, to be loved and involving them in issues concerning them, but also to be listened to. I this way we can eradicate sexual corruption and build a better society," she said.

She said in order to achieve success, joint cooperation among various stakeholders is needed and that WAJIKI is among those who show an example in the fight against sexual exploitation on students.

PCCB investigation Officer from Kinondoni district, Dorothea Mrema said no one should use his position to solicit sexual corruption on students, as by doing so they will be spoiling

their life dreams.

She said PCCB has a slogan "Break the silence, refuse sexual exploitation" and that as an institution, PCCB continues to remind the society to abide by the slogan.

For her part, WAJIKI Director, Janeth Mawinza said her organisation has been fighting against sexual corruption on girl students in collaboration with some of the drivers who have offered themselves to become ambassadors in the fight.

"As for now we have more than 3,000 drivers in Kinondoni, Ilala and Temeke districts who have formed over 108 groups," she added.

She said some of these drivers are WAJIKI ambassadors, they are mobilising the public to avoid sexual corruption, and now they have another task in mobilising the public to receive Covid-19 jabs.

Mawinza added: "Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFTT), have been sponsoring the fight so that we can expand our activities to others regions in the country."

The observation was made recently by WAJIKI in Dar es Salaam's Mwananyama, Makumbusho and Kawe Wards' schools, wherein many students admitted to have been experiencing sexual violence abuse.

According to Mawinza, research results showed that offering free transport, plus a small amount of cash were commuter bus and motor vehicle operators' approach to hook the minors.



Community development officer from Kisutu Juvenile Court in Dar es Salaam, Asha Mbaruku

She was quoted as saying: "They end up in sexual affairs which lead to an increase of early pregnancies

and school drop-outs. Again, sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS are obvious in such un-protect-

ed affairs." Globally, economic impact and cost of physical, emotional and sexual

violence against children are between three and eight per cent of a global Gross Domestic Products," she said.

The rise, fall and rise again of Boko Haram factions leading to evolving crisis in Lake Chad Basin security efforts

By Teniola Tayo

It has been two decades since Mohammed Yusuf founded the group that became known as Boko Haram, and over a decade since its violent attacks reached the scale of an insurgency.

Numerous events during this time have caused the group to evolve, including its split in 2012 and spread throughout the Lake Chad Basin (LCB) region in 2013. These changes have had varying effects on the crisis and the governments' ability to find lasting solutions.

Major developments in 2021 modified the conflict's trajectory. These included the death of Abubakar Shekau (leader of Boko Haram faction JAS – Jama'at Ahl as-Sunnah lid-Da'wah wal-Jihad), the rise of Islamic State West Africa Province (Iswap – another Boko Haram faction), and the resulting desertions of disaffected members. Analysing these trends helps anticipate how they will affect stabilisation efforts in LCB countries.

The death of Shekau, Yusuf's successor, in May 2021 should have been a celebrated end to his reign of terror in the region. However, the involvement of the rival Iswap faction only shifted the course of the insurgency.

Iswap has since consolidated its presence in the LCB by taking over former JAS-controlled territories and absorbing JAS fighters. Iswap has a stronger governance structure that includes community engagement and the leverage of local dynamics, with some support from the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria

(Isis). This makes it more strategic, better resourced, and more resilient than JAS in fulfilling its Islamic Caliphate agenda.

To address the violent and lengthy Boko Haram crisis, stakeholders have had to look at its root causes. This informed the push for stabilisation, which sees state and non-state actors working together to improve livelihoods, education, infrastructure, public services, governance and state-community relations.

Iswap's anti-state strategy that includes promoting itself as the preferred alternative to existing governments puts it in direct opposition to stabilisation efforts. In 2021 the group targeted state projects, kidnapping staff from the Borno State Ministry of Works who were supervising the construction of the road connecting Chibok and Damboa. They also ramped up attacks on security forces.

Maiduguri, considered one of the most secure cities in the LCB region, faces increasing attacks. Multiple blasts were apparently targeted at the visit of Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari in December 2021. Iswap has also attacked resettled communities, forcing displaced people to choose between living under the rule of violent extremists or facing secondary displacement.

As Iswap consolidates its influence in the region and adapts to military responses against it, more attacks will inevitably occur. And although it's been weakened, JAS is trying to survive Shekau's death with the emergence of new leaders. Another trend triggered by



Nigerian troops clear a Boko Haram militant camp in northeast Nigeria. Security efforts in the region in 2022 are likely to come under increasing strain.

Shekau's death has been the mass exodus of former Boko Haram associates from the group. Managing these large numbers is an ongoing

challenge for governments of the region, especially Nigeria and Cameroon. Close to 20,000 have left the group for various reasons, including men, women, children and families.

According to Institute for Security Studies research, rehabilitation facilities have been overwhelmed in some parts of Cameroon, leading to growing crime. LCB countries have inadequate resources and capacity for proper screening, profiling, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of former Boko Haram associates. The lack of a standard regional methodology for these activities makes things even harder.

The issue of reintegration raises the dilemma of transitional justice and reconciliation. Despite consensus that lasting peace requires the involvement of communities in the justice and reintegration process, approaches to achieving this differ and must be carefully navigated to achieve stability.

Iswap uses livelihoods as a crucial bargaining tool with communities – a trend that must be tackled in 2022. Extremists demand taxes from citizens in exchange for safe access to their farmlands and for creating markets to sell their goods. The task of bringing jobs into the region and securing farming, fishing and trading must be urgently attended to by those responsible for stabilisation.

A related question is how the private sector can help, despite the threat that the conflict poses to its operations. Rebuilding the LCB re-

gion and its economies is not a task that governments can do on their own. Incentivising the private sector to take a bigger role while finding ways to safeguard their activities are two challenges that must be handled carefully in 2022.

Recent trends also reveal other threats, such as the internationalisation of the LCB conflict. The activities of Islamic State-affiliated groups have increased in Africa, and there's been an obvious push by Isis to "remain and expand" on the continent. Solutions will lie in joint regional efforts by affected countries along with the African Union and the Global Coalition Against Daesh. Reports that Boko Haram rival faction Ansaru has reconfirmed its allegiance to al-Qaeda adds to these concerns.

The LCB's rapidly evolving crisis makes it difficult to decide on the best approaches to stabilising the region, measuring progress, and defining the desired end state. What stability will look like seems to get vaguer with each new development. The rise of Iswap makes better state visibility and state-community relations even more urgent, especially considering the many non-state actors involved.

Despite a potentially tougher security environment in 2022, efforts need to be pragmatic and innovative. Those working to stabilise the region must collaborate, monitor conflict developments to stay ahead of the violent extremists, and adapt their responses as trends change. **DM**

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 211 00--

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

3 letters RAT, EAT, BYE
4 letters MERE, MENU, OSLO, OMAN, REIN, HATE, MEED, ORES, BULL,
5 letters AMPERE, RACHIS, DINER, NOBLE
6 letters BUCKET, PLENARY, SOMALIA, TEASED
7 letters BROWSER, BULGARE, OMADHAUN
8 letters EMINENCE, DYNAMITE
9 letters CALAMITY,

CLUES: Across
1 the sixth day of the week
6 bring about or perform
7 Country of a thousand hills
10 tala
11 quite, gentle and submissive
13 Togo's Capital
15 fever marked by severe internal bleeding
17 ethnic group in Chemba district
19 move towards the land
20 hinnies
22 a light meal
23 a narrow passage of water connecting two seas
24 a stiff bristle growing from the ear or flower of barley and rye

Down:
1 a public meeting place and market square
2 angry
3 an illicit drinking place in India
4 man's wide brimmed hat
5 cannabis
8 without clothes
9 let someone do something
12 remove from a place of danger to a safer place
14 alkene
16 legal prohibitions
18 Russia's Capital
21 energy, style and enthusiasm
22 a pigsty

WORD-FIT SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

By Magzeli : 0755429240 telkumagzeli@gmail.com

RADIO One 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
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'Environmental and social impact assessment for extractive industry projects is mandatory'

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

MINING and other extractive industry projects should first undertake an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment before commencing operations because such a requirement is legally mandated.

National Environment Management Council (Nemc) director general, Dr Samuel Gwamaka said this week after inspecting activities at Nyanzaga Mine located in Sengerema district of Mwanza region which is owned by Sotta Mining Corporation that in addition, mining projects also need to put in place a strategic plan on how to recover any damages caused by their activities after closure.

"When you need to start mining activities the law require you to undergo IEA and also put a strategic plan of environmental management before you start," Dr Gwamaka said adding that

during the closure of the mine, there is a requirement to improve the environment.

The Nemc chief said mining companies whose projects started before the 2004 Environment Management Act was enacted, face various challenges in environment management against surrounding communities because there was no EIA done.

He added that the government is using a lot of money to remedy the damage caused by miners and other extractive industry players because the law is not heeded to in many cases. "Another challenge that many of the mining companies face is not having a strategic plan on how to properly close the mines through rehabilitation of the environment," he charged.

Dr Gwamaka further noted that Nemc will put in place strategies to ensure that all challenges that were caused by mining companies prior to the enactment



Nemc director general, Dr Samuel Gwamaka (C, in Kitenge shirt) with Sotta Mining Corporation officials when his delegation visited Nyanzaga Mine in Sengerema District earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

of the 2004 law, rehabilitate the environment upon closure of the projects.

Backing his boss, Nemc's Director of Law Enforcement, Engineer Redempta Samwel

commended Sotta Mining Corporation for taking deliberate steps to ensure that the

environment is properly conserved since the starting of the project.

Eng Samwel said the council is mandated to make follow up on the implementation of strategic plans of mining projects to ensure that there is no environment damage left behind when closing down the projects. "As Nemc, our doors are open to everyone who wants to avoid legal challenges," she noted.

Mean while, Nemc Lake Zone Manager, Jerome Kayombo said he had expected that Nyanzaga Mine will be a good example to other mining companies because Sotta Mining involved environmental experts from the very beginning of the project.

"We will make sure that all mining firms conduct EIA before mining activities start but also have strategic plans in place," Kayombo noted.

SA under US' radar for dumping lemon juice

JOHANNESBURG

The South African (SA) lemon juice industry recently received complaints from its United States (US) counterpart, accusing SA of dumping lemon juice at lower prices.

According to a radio interview on SAFM that was published on Money Web, the local lemon juice industry is now at risk of paying anti-dumping tariffs if investigations, which are being conducted in the US, show that SA is dumping cheaper lemon juice that unfairly benefits from higher profit margins compared to their US counterparts.

One of the companies being investigated for dumping lemon juice is Venco Food Processors. In the SAFM radio interview, Hannes de Waal, chairperson of Venco Food Processors, said the investigation came as a surprise. The company that filed a petition at the end of December is Ventura Coastal LLC.

"We received notice early in January and the team said the process (had) formally started just before the end of December," he said. "We are still investigating what was alleged at this time, and the process that we are involved in with the American trade authorities is to co-operate. The information that they've requested to date has been extremely basic, so we are still learning where it's going to



Hannes de Waal, chairperson of Venco Food Processors.

end."

De Waal explained that the lemon juice market for export is about \$130 million in total for all countries that export to the US. Argentina, Mexico, Italy, Brazil and Spain are the major competitors for SA. The lemon juice market, said De Waal, is one that is still developing for SA.

Lemons are prohibited from being exported to the US due to crop

residues of products used to contain the fungal disease, black spot, which gives SA access to exporting lemons to the European Union. Although the lemon juice export market in the US is an attractive market, it still makes up a small section of SA's lemon export market.

According to De Waal, they will lobby the industry to contest the complaint, since the local lemon industry is expanding rapidly, and access is needed to all market channels which SA can export to globally. De Waal said, "It seems to us that the cost at which we've been able to sell was substantially lower than the US cost. However, those are the same prices that we use to sell all over the world. We sell a lot of juice in Europe at those prices, and we also sell quite a bit of juice today in SA at those prices. If we look at the tariff that is being quoted, 128%, that means they want us to sell at double-plus.

"We're not selling at lower than our cost of production because that would be plain stupidity. We don't have that kind of money and, as you can imagine, shipping a container of lemon juice concentrate to the US is extremely expensive. If you look at the shipping challenges, why ship something we're not going to make pay? That would be silly," said De Waal.



Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Nape Nauye (R) addresses to Vodacom Tanzania Plc's senior management team and board members led by its chairman, retired High Court judge Thomas Mihayo (R) and managing director Sitholizwe Mdallose in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo courtesy of Vodacom

UN chief says 2022 is the year of tanking economies

NEW YORK

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has warned of "frequent debt defaults" this coming year as poor and middle-income countries are denied access to the finance and investment they need to dig themselves out of the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Addressing the UN's 193 mem-

bers on his New Year priorities, the UN chief called for more vaccine sharing, climate action and said that "record inflation, soaring energy prices and extortionate interest rates could lead to frequent debt defaults in 2022."

Six nations – Argentina, Belize, Ecuador, Lebanon, Suriname and Zambia – have defaulted on their debts since the

start of the pandemic. Mr Guterres said many more economies may follow suit and tank this year without a reboot of global finance rules.

"The divergence between developed and developing countries is becoming systemic – a recipe for instability, crisis and forced migration," Mr Guterres told the UN General Assembly in New York on Friday.

Yellen says substantial inflation slowdown expected next year

WASHINGTON DC

US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen delivered a rosy outlook for the economy, with fading inflation and the potential for higher long-term growth.

While acknowledging that price rises represent "a valid policy concern", Ms Yellen said on Friday that "it's important to note that professional forecasters think that inflation will substantially abate next year."

She made the remarks in a speech delivered by video to the

World Economic Forum's Virtual Davos Agenda. She also called the US labour market "exceptionally strong" and called forecasts for 3.3 per cent growth in 2022 a "stunning economic and policy achievement."

The Treasury secretary's remarks contrast with widespread public sentiment in the US that the economy is on the wrong track, amid worries that high inflation will continue to erode the buying power of households. While growth and employment have bounced back

strongly from the collapse in early 2020 at the outset of the coronavirus pandemic, inflation has roared to an almost 40-year peak.

Consumer prices rose 7 per cent in 2021, their biggest 12-month jump since 1982, driven by supply constraints connected to the pandemic, a trade war and government stimulus meant to support families and businesses through the economic fallout. President Joe Biden has seen his approval ratings tumble amid public dis-

satisfaction with the state of the economy.

A recent CBS News poll showed his rating for handling the economy was at 38 per cent, with two thirds of Americans thinking the president isn't focused enough on the burden of inflation. Meanwhile, the University of Michigan consumer sentiment index in November hit its lowest point in almost a decade.

Ms Yellen argued that the Biden administration was seeking to boost longer-term eco-

nomical growth through the application of what she called "modern supply-side economics", which would emphasise public investments in infrastructure and the workforce, and seek to protect the environment.

"We have a clear path forward with the recently passed infrastructure package and the proposed Build Back Better plan," she said, referring to the 10-year spending plan that's now stuck in the Senate. "Together these policies will promote a mod-

ern supply-side expansion that boosts long-term sustainable growth."

The Treasury chief also reiterated her view that, while government debt compared with gross domestic product is historically high, the low interest rates means the fiscal burden is "manageable." Ms Yellen also said that the so-called secular stagnation forces, including a surfeit of savings, that drove down rates before Covid-19 will likely continue after the pandemic.

National Tourism College gets 1.2bn/- from Treasury for capacity building of personnel



National College of Tourism CEO, Dr Shogo Mlozi speaks at a past event.

By Beatrice Philemon

IN a bid to improve service delivery in the tourism and hospitality industry, the government has given National College of Tourism 1.2bn/- to train manpower from eight regions of the country.

NCT's CEO, Dr Shogo Mlozi said in Dar es Salaam during the first convocation of the college that through Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Treasury has provided the money to build capacity of manpower in tourism value chain.

Dr Mlozi told stakeholders who included Tanzania Confederation of Tourism that the training will be offered in Mbeya, Mtwara, Njombe, Mara, Lindi, Ruvuma, Iringa and Mwanza regions. "To begin with, we will provide capacity-building training to tourism and hospitality industry in February

in all regions," she said.

The NCT chief executive noted that the training will help equip hospitality and tourism personnel with skills to provide quality high services to customers' especially foreign tourists who come to Tanzania on holiday or medical services.

"The training will also focus on how to combat the coronavirus which is still ravaging the world with adverse economic impact in many countries including Tanzania," she noted adding that the college will also expand its Arusha Campus to accommodate more students.

"With over 50 years of operations, we are committed to offer high quality training to those who wish to take up lucrative jobs in the hospitality,

travel and tourism industry," Dr Mlozi added while revealing that NCT offers Ordinary Diploma course in Travel and Tourism Operations, Hospitality Management, Event Management and Tour Guiding plus Culinary Art.

Seconding her boss, NCT's Tutor, Domina Moshi called upon students studying at the college to have passion of the job and not only think about money earned as tips from tourists because such incentives come with better service delivery.

"Here at the college, we help you to gain more skills and confidence to deliver the best in services but you need passion of the job also," Moshi advised while challenging the students to keep on learning regularly as the world of hospitality is changing rapidly.

Babati DC salutes NMB Bank for investment in community services



NMB Bank PLC's Northern Zone manager, Dismas Prosper (L), handing over building materials to Babati district commissioner Lazaro Twange (1st R) in support of construction of a dispensary at Nangara ward in the district. Photo courtesy of NMB

By Smart Money Reporter

INVESTMENT in the country's community services including health and education sectors has earned NMB Bank Plc's management praises from Babati District Commissioner, Lazaro Twange.

Twange said in Babati last week after receiving a donation of construction materials for Nangara and Maisaka health centers in the district valued at 12m/-, that NMB's investments in community projects is making significant changes.

"This donation has brought new hope to Nangara ward residents because their health center will now be completed," he said while adding that many rural based people in his district are walking long distances to seek medical services.

Babati District Council Chairman, Abdulrahman Kololi said the NMB support had come at the

right time when residents of the district are struggling to complete their health centers projects. "This is what we call giving back to the community after we supported your business activities in the district," Kololi said.

Kololi's praises were seconded by Special Seats legislator for Manyara region, Asia Halamga who said NMB is a true friend of the public. "I as a representative of youth from Manyara region have witnessed NMB donations taking place in various parts of the country and on regular basis," Halamga said.

She called upon other corporate entities to emulate the Dar es Salaam based lender's generosity because the government needs backing by stakeholders to improve education and health services. "We have many companies and banks operating in Manyara and Babati which should be supporting social services," the lawmaker charged.

NMB's Northern Zone Manager, Dismas Prosper said the bank backs state

efforts to improve education and health sectors because of the importance to economic growth. "In addition to the good work being done by the government, we as stakeholders also have a direct responsibility to invest in social services," Prosper said. The donated items included iron sheets, timber, nails and fisher-boards.



I as a representative of youth from Manyara region have witnessed NMB donations taking place in various parts of the country and on regular basis

KFC, potato lobby identify variety suitable for Kenya

NAIROBI

THE National Potato Council and KFC have identified a potato variety that Kenya farmers can now grow to supply the US-based fast-food chain to meet its French fries needs.

Days after KFC received its imported shipment of potatoes that had seen it run out of fries, Wachira Kaguongo, chief executive at National Potato Council, said they agreed in a meeting last week to have farmers plant the Markies variety to cut overreliance on imports.

He said they are now talking to a processor to put up the necessary infrastructure to support the cutting and freezing of chips before they are taken for processing at the restaurant. KFC, unlike local restaurants, only accepts potatoes that have been peeled, cut to the required and frozen size for processing as chips.

"We are now talking to processors who can freeze and take them to KFC following the move to identify the variety that can be planted," said Mr Kaguongo. The official said this requires heavy investment as the processor would need to invest in equipment such as cold rooms and refrigerated trucks for transporting the commodity.

Currently, there are no processors in Kenya producing frozen chips, forcing

the multinational franchise to import them from South Africa and Egypt. The lobby will support farmers with the right agronomic practices to produce quality potatoes.

The council will work with the Kenya Bureau of Standards to come up with the required standards, conduct training that will ensure the produce meets the expectation of the buyers. The standards will also help in the traceability of the produce, which is key in determining where the potato came from in case of a problem along the value chain.

Supply disruptions that caused a stock out of potatoes at KFC early in the year reignited the debate on why the multinational was still importing potatoes more than a decade after setting up in Nairobi.

The need to produce the required variety of potato chips in Kenya has been growing with private entities joining the enterprise. Last year, Juice maker Kevia Limited was licensed by Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organisation for the production of quality tubers to cut imports.

The licensing will see the Thika-based firm commercialise five of Kalro's high-yielding potato seed varieties on a 15-year contract to boost production of the right variety required by multinational franchises.



Wachira Kaguongo, chief executive at National Potato Council.

Uganda fintech Asaak realise US\$30m in pre-series A funding

KAMPALA

MINISTERS of agriculture of Africa and America have launched a common agenda focusing on innovation, environmental sustainability and profitability of farmers.

The two continents reached an agreement during the First High-Level Roundtable between Africa and the Americas, convened and organized by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), entitled "Building Bridges for Future Cooperation in Agrifood Systems."

IICA is the specialized agency for agriculture in the Inter-American system, with a mission to encourage, promote and support its 34 Member States in their efforts to achieve agricultural development and rural well-being through international technical cooperation of excellence.

They committed to working together to develop a cooperation agenda, and agreed that the two continents face common challenges and opportunities with respect to transforming their agrifood systems to make them more sustainable and inclusive.

To this end, they agreed to develop agendas throughout the year to link technical assistance institutions for agriculture - such as Brazil's Embrapa, Argentina's INTA and all national research organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean, which play a key role - and their scientists and professionals, in order to deepen exchanges. They also proposed holding a ministerial summit on agriculture in Africa and the Americas in the second half of 2022.

Other topics of common interest that emerged from the debate were the recovery of degraded soils, efficient water management and the promotion of more open, fairer and more transparent international food trade.

The initiative to bring the Americas and Africa closer together arose during the extensive preparatory process for the Food Systems Summit held last September, explained Agnes Kalibata, who was the main facilitator of the global event held in New York.

The Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply of Brazil, Julián Domínguez associated the sustainability of agrifood systems with the need for international agricultural trade to be transparent and fair. She was also critical of the "protectionism of developed countries, which has hindered the capacity of developing countries to consolidate more modern and dynamic food production."

SBL's agri-business project helps smallholder farmers graduate into commercial producers



SBL corporate affairs director John Wanyancha.

By Smart Money Reporter

OVER 400 smallholder cereal farmers who have been contracted by Serengeti Breweries Limited to produce commodities used as raw materials in the manufacturing of alcoholic beverages, are slowly become large scale commercial farmers.

The farmers who only a few years ago cultivated farms of less than 10 acres planting maize, sorghum and beans mainly for domestic consumption and selling, have since become big farmers cultivating more than 100 acres.

"I am very grateful to SBL for their project which has helped me increase my farm size because the company provides me with hybrid seeds and other inputs timely," said Manyara based Mvinyi Makame.

Makame whose farm size has increased from less than 100 acres over two years ago to over 500 acres, attributes his dramatic growth to the brewer support in all aspects of the cereal production value chain.

"I have increased my farm size annually because SBL provides a lucrative and reliable market," he said adding that as SBL is expanding its factories, he will increase his farm size accordingly to meet growing demand for maize, sorghum and barley used as raw materials by the Dar es Salaam based brewer.

Makame's observation was backed by Kilimanjaro based large scale

commercial farmer, Saidi Msuya who said his own dramatic growth is a result of working in partnership with SBL. "Through SBL's agri-business project, I have improved both quality and quantity of my commodities thanks to the company's consistent supply of inputs such as fertilizer, hybrid seeds, insecticides but also extension services," Msuya said.

He also concurred with his Manyara peer that the reliable market for commodities being provided by SBL is an incentive to many smallholder farmers to increase yields through enlargement of their farm sizes.

SBL's agribusiness project is indeed a game changer because so long as it needs raw materials to manufacture beers most of whose brands are popular in the market, the smallholder farmers can only hope for the best future.

"To us it's an empowerment project which aims to back government efforts to help smallholder subsistent farmers graduate into large scale commercial farmers," said SBL's Corporate Affairs Director, John Wanyancha.

Wanyancha said the more than 400 smallholder farmers from eight regions of have been contracted to cultivate cereals used to make different beer brands belonging to SBL.

He said, SBL has, over the last five years, embarked on empowering the smallholder farmers produce quality cereals in large quantities which the brewer uses as raw materials in the manufacturing of alcoholic beverages.

The SBL Corporate Affairs chief further noted that the brewer which has three factories located in Dar es Salaam, Moshi, and Mwanza, supports the entire value chain of cereals production to ensure consistency.

"To date, this project has benefited more than 400 smallholder cereal farmers across several regions including Arusha, Manyara, Mbeya, Kilimanjaro, Singida, Morogoro, Shinyanga and Dodoma who collectively cultivate around 20,000 acres," Wanyancha added.

Because of the achievement that the project has made so far, SBL plans to enrol more farmers countrywide so that the country's target of changing agriculture production from subsistence to commercial is realised by 2025.

"The main objective of this grand initiative is to work with Tanzanian farmers to help them create self-sustaining businesses and secure the local production of raw materials. The SBL agribusiness partnership

with the farmers is geared towards propping up their financial position and those of their families," he stressed.

He said as a company, SBL which obtains over 70 percent of raw materials used in alcoholic beverages production, reduces imports of raw materials hence saves the country from unnecessary expenditure of foreign currency.

"In addition to such contributions to the country's economy, SBL has also paid taxes, created hundreds of jobs both directly and indirectly but also invests comprehensively in corporate social responsibility," he noted.

When more farmers are recruited by the agribusiness project, the trickle-down effect will further boost growth of the economy but also rescue thousands of farming families from the poverty trap which is largely confined to rural areas.

"This is the fourth year that SBL has undertaken this project and so far over a million kilograms of hybrid cereal seeds have been distributed to the farmers who in turn sell their produce to the company," he underlined.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

KRA amnesty nets Sh5.8bn as tax cheats rush to comply

NAIROBI

THE taxman netted Sh5.89 billion in the first full year of an amnesty programme that cushions tax cheats from penalties and legal suits. The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) Thursday disclosed that 1,311 firms paid Sh5.76 billion by December 31, with the rest coming from individual taxpayers.

The taxman said firms and individuals declared Sh8.572 billion under the amnesty programme dubbed Voluntary Tax Disclosure Programme (VTDP) in the period under review. KRA started the three-year programme on January 1, 2021, and is betting on the amnesty to shore up revenue collections and bring more individuals and firms to the tax bracket in the war on evasion.

"Total payments received from the processed applications for the period January - December 2021 amount to Sh5.892 billion," KRA said in responses to Business Daily yesterday. KRA documents show that 711 businesses and 600 individuals applied for the amnesty last year with more expected to come forward and declare their unpaid taxes before the programme lapses in 2024. Under the programme which will run up to 2023, those who declare pending liability and pay within one year shall enjoy 100 per cent interest and penalty waiver.

Businesses and individuals who disclose and pay the pending tax liability within the second year of the programme will receive remission of 50 per cent while payments that come in the third year will have 25 per cent relief. The taxman targeted Sh5 billion in the first year of the amnesty programme that hopes to entice Kenyans to disclose undeclared taxes for the period between 2015-2020.

Businesses and individuals who are under investigation or who had cases before the tax appeals tribunal or courts before January 1 when the programme started have, however, been locked out of the amnesty window.

Individuals and firms are not eligible to apply for relief under the programme if under audit, compliance verification or investigation. They will also not be eligible if they have been served with a notice of intention to investigate or carry out an audit or compliance check for the undisclosed tax.

KRA opened the amnesty window a year after its intelligence gathering team revealed some 1,309 firms and wealthy individuals with an estimated tax loss of Sh259 billion, highlighting the dire effects of tax cheats in revenue collection.

VTDP will see businesses and individuals shielded from stiff penalties that include travel bans, collection of duty directly from their suppliers and bankers and prosecution - the penalties for tax evasion.

KRA automated the amnesty programme in July last year allowing tax defaulters seeking reprieve from heavy penalties to apply through the iTax portal. The automation ended a six-month period of a tedious manual application process that was said to be slowing down efforts to rope in more businesses and individuals.

KRA raised Sh1.67 trillion in the period ended June last year and is banking on the amnesty to collect Sh1.9 trillion in the current financial year. The amnesty programme marks KRA's latest onslaught on tax evasion, a war that is pegged on in-



KRA commissioner general, Chris Mburu.

Labat Africa ramps up cannabis retail expansion with new deals

JOHANNESBURG

LABAT Africa, which aims to be the number one healthcare company in South Africa with a focus on medicinal cannabis, is diversifying its offerings through strategic acquisitions and retail expansion.

The JSE-listed investment holding company has acquired a 100% share in Miami-owned CBD lifestyle brand Echo Life including its diverse FMCG product portfolio. In addition, Labat has obtained exclusive rights to distribute American pre-rolled hemp smokable Ace & Axle as well as the brand's other products, and will be launching Delta 8 soon.

These deals come off the back of Labat's listing on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (FSE) and an R300m cash injection from California-based GR Global Ventures in exchange for ordinary shares, funds of which will be allocated over a three-year period.

Echo Life and Ace & Axle will form part of Labat's retail portfolio that already includes Cannafica, a medicinal and luxury CBD lifestyle brand with three outlets in South Africa and an online store, and three more stores opening in the coming months. In addition, e-commerce exists for Cannafica, Echo Life and Ace & Axle, respectively.

According to Labat's group executive for business development, Herschel Maasdorp, the company's expansion presents potential investors with a unique opportunity to diversify their stock portfolios as it comes with solid growth prospects. "Labat is a first mover in the cannabis economy and a market leader. We are involved across the value chain in the cannabis industry, from farming and manufacturing to beneficiation, distribution and, more recently,

retail."

Importance of compliance

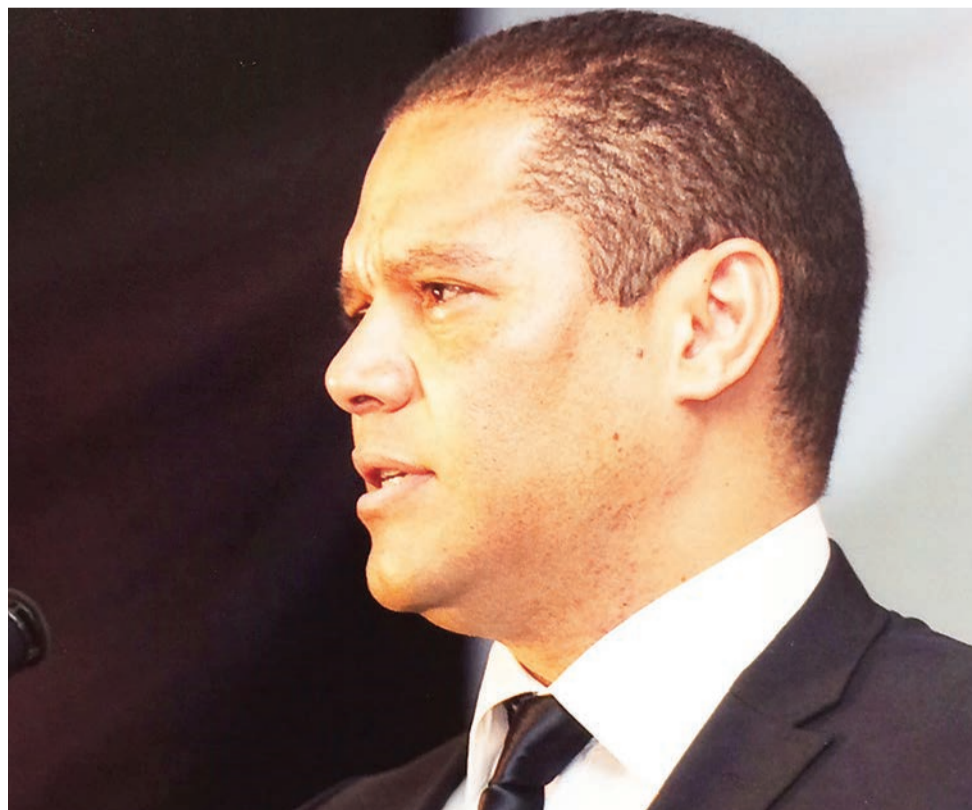
Labat notes that it's going into the market with retail products that are compliant with health regulators. Cannafica's products, which include cannabidiol medicinal drops, edibles, and supplements, are aligned to South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (Sahpra) regulations whereas Echo Life adheres to standards set out by the US Food & Drug Administration (FDA).

Labat's director of retail, David Roque, said being compliant with the respective authorities not only gives credibility to its products but also provides the consumer with peace of mind. "As with any emerging industry, there are a lot of new players, some of whom may not comply with regulations. Consumers are unaware of the contents of those products and its effects. We place great value in compliance so that the customer knows that Cannafica and Echo Life products are safe and can be trusted."

Retail foray paid off

Labat leaped into retail in the thick of the Covid-19 pandemic when it opened its first of three Cannafica stores in Cape Town in October 2020. It has since evolved the Willowbridge Cape Town store into a retail 2.0 offering, which is South Africa's first cannabis experience store and has also opened additional outlets in Johannesburg and Hartbeespoort as well as an online store.

According to Labat, Cannafica's sales activities increased during and after the hard lockdown as consumers sought ways of maintaining their health. "The pandemic placed a premium on wellness and self-care," said Maasdorp. He said the substantial evidence



Labat's group executive for business development, Herschel Maasdorp.

that supports CBD's anti-viral, anti-anxiety and anti-inflammatory properties made it highly attractive in the midst of a global pandemic.

Maasdorp however cautions against making grand claims about the product's curability. He said that education and research into the benefits of the product is still ongoing. "The most important thing for Labat Healthcare is to remain transparent and ethically accountable to ensure the company's and the industry at

large."

Springboard into Europe and US

Labat Healthcare is working to transform cannabis from a back-alley product to a sophisticated legal commodity. The company's CEO, Stanton van Rooyen, said its transition from the informal sector to a formal economy enhances Labat's retail business, while it also offers a springboard to

Europe and the USA through the FSE listing and its deals with American-based products.

"Labat's responsibility is to ensure that we take the proposition of South Africa - with its quality raw materials and processing capabilities - to the globe by being part of the largest capital markets in Europe and the USA," said Van Rooyen.

According to Statista, the USA is the globe's biggest and most sophisticated cannabis market valued at \$61bn (R927bn). Recreational cannabis alone is predicted to exceed \$40bn (R619bn) in annual sales by the year 2026.

Prohibition Partners, a cannabis market think-tank, predicted that Germany will continue to lead the European cannabis market as over a million German patients will have access to medical cannabis by 2024, and the German medical market alone will be worth €7.7bn (R135bn) by 2028.

Van Rooyen believes Labat's global footprint can be extended largely through its retail portfolio. "It is evident that for us to engage the cannabis economy on a global stage, partnering with and acquiring international retail brands remain an integral part of our strategy. This will give us the opportunity to broaden our retail reach to international consumers as well as bring quality international products to South Africa."

WORLD

Assailed by scandal, UK's Boris Johnson fights for his job



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson

Leading rivals within the Conservative Party include Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak, 41, and Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, 46.

DISCRIMINATION SCANDAL

Johnson yesterday ordered an inquiry into claims by a lawmaker who said she was fired from a ministerial job in the government partly because her Muslim faith was making colleagues uncomfortable.

Nusrat Ghani, 49, who lost her job as a junior transport minister in February 2020, told the Sunday Times that she had been told by a "whip" - an enforcer of parliamentary discipline - that her "Muslimness" had been raised as an issue in her sacking.

"The Prime Minister has asked the Cabinet Office to conduct an inquiry into the allegations made by Nusrat Ghani MP," Downing Street said. "As he said at the time, the prime minister takes

these claims very seriously."

The government's chief whip, Mark Spencer, said he was the person at the centre of Ghani's allegations. He said they were completely false and defamatory. "I have never used those words attributed to me," he said.

Johnson met Ghani to discuss the "extremely serious" claims in July 2020, a spokesperson from the prime minister's office said on Sunday.

Downing Street said that when the allegations were first made, Johnson recommended she make a formal complaint to the Conservative Campaign Headquarters. "She did not take up this offer," Downing Street said.

Ghani's allegation came after one of her Conservative colleagues said he would meet police to discuss accusations that government whips had attempted to "blackmail" lawmakers suspected of trying to force Johnson from office. Agencies

Canadian hospitals strain as Omicron hits health workers

TORONTO

THE COVID-19 pandemic and its highly contagious Omicron variant have made a challenging staffing situation in Canada's hospitals worse.

Interviews with a dozen health care workers, including eight current and former nurses, reveal a health system strained by a pandemic wave that hit at the worst possible time - sickness sidelining staff as more COVID-19 patients than ever need hospitalization, forcing health workers exhausted by two unrelenting years to take on more work.

Hospitals have been asking staff to forego holidays or take on overtime shifts.

Canadians take pride in their public health system. But by failing to adequately invest in it, critics say, governments left it vulnerable to the ravages of a years-long public health emergency. If health workers leave and are not replaced - thanks to training and certification backlogs, capped wages or the perception of a punishing profession - that could hurt health system capacity.

Job vacancies in Canada's health and social assistance sector increased by 78.8 percent between the third quarter of 2019 and the third quarter of 2021, according to Statistics Canada.

Ontario's government, which has come under fire for capping the salaries of some public employees, including nurses, before the pandemic, said in a statement it added 6,700 health care workers and staff since the pandemic began and planned to add another 6,000 by March. It did not clarify whether this was a net increase.

Public health experts say Omicron's peak may be approaching in Canada, and Ontario announced plans last week to loosen restrictions. But for now the health worker crunch remains.

Some provinces have made provisions for health care workers to return to work soon after testing positive for COVID-19; Ontario is letting internationally trained nurses, who often face hurdles and long waits before being able to practice in Canada, get on-the-job experience in hospitals.

Agencies

Russian diplomat castigates Department of State's 'strange and unwise' information agenda

MOSCOW

The US Department of State's information agenda is odd and even foolish, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova told the Ekho Moskvy (or Echo of Moscow) radio station yesterday, commenting on Russia's so-called 'disinformation' with regard to the situation around Ukraine.

"This is a question for the US as it is about how they [the Americans] form their information policy. For instance, when everyone was gearing up for the Geneva talks, they were working on the so-called Ukraine files that they released overnight about Russia's alleged disinformation attempts, so their information and political agenda is strange and unwise," Zakharova pointed out.

On January 20, the US Department of State released "examples" of Russia's alleged "disinformation" efforts and a report on the role of the RT TV channel and the Sputnik news agency in Russia's "disinformation and propaganda ecosystem."

According to the Department of State, "the Kremlin creates and spreads disinformation in an attempt to confuse and overwhelm people about Russia's real actions in Ukraine, Georgia, and elsewhere in Europe," while RT and Sputnik "play a crucial role in how Russia uses disinformation to advance its foreign policy".

UAE intercepts Houthi ballistic missile attack

DUBAI

THE United Arab Emirates intercepted and destroyed two Houthi ballistic missiles targeting the Gulf country yesterday with no casualties, its defense ministry said, following a deadly attack a week earlier.

For more than six years, the Houthis have been battling a Saudi-led coalition that includes the UAE, repeatedly carrying out cross-border missile and drone attacks on Saudi Arabia, and launching an unprecedented assault on the UAE on Jan 17.

"The remnants of the intercepted ballistic missiles fell in separate areas around Abu Dhabi," the ministry said, adding it was taking necessary protective measures against all attacks.

UAE newspaper The National cited residents reporting flashes in the sky over the capital around 4:30 am.

Yesterday's attack was the second on UAE soil since last week's strike that hit a fuel depot in Abu Dhabi, killing three people, and causing a fire near its international airport.

Houthi-run Al Masirah television said the group would announce within hours the details of a "wide military operation" against Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Agencies

Burkina Faso President Kabore detained at military camp - sources

OUAGADOUGOU

BURKINA Faso President Roch Kabore has been detained at a military camp by mutinying soldiers, four security sources and a West African diplomat said yesterday, following heavy gunfire around his residence on Sunday night in the capital Ouagadougou.

His detention comes after sustained gunfire rang out from military camps in the West African country throughout Sunday, with soldiers demanding more support for their fight against Islamist militants. The government had denied that the army had seized power heavy-gunfire-heard-military-camp-burkina-faso-capital-2022-01-23.

Kabore's exact whereabouts or situation were unknown on Monday morning, with conflicting reports circulating among security and diplomatic sources.

Several armoured vehicles of the presidential fleet, riddled with bullets, could be seen near the president's residence. One was spattered with blood. Residents of the president's neighbourhood reported heavy gunfire overnight.

Three armoured vehicles and soldiers wearing balaclavas were stationed outside the headquarters of the



Bullet holes are seen in a car that belong to presidency following heavy gunfire near the president Roch Kabore residence in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso yesterday. REUTERS

state broadcaster.

Government sources could not immediately be reached yesterday.



Kabore has faced waves of street protests in recent months as frustration has mounted over the frequent killing of civilians and soldiers by militants, some of whom have links to Islamic State and al Qaeda.

A militant attack in November on a gendarmerie post in Inata, in the northern Soum region, killed 49 military police officers and four civilians. It later emerged the forces stationed there had run out of food and been forced to slaughter animals in the vicinity for two weeks.

Protesters came out to support the mutineers on Sunday and ransacked the headquarters of Kabore's political party. The government declared a cur-

few from 2000 GMT to 0530 GMT until further notice and closed schools for two days.

The turmoil in Burkina Faso comes after successful military putsches over the past 18 months in Mali and Guinea, where the army removed President Alpha Conde last September.

The military also took over in Chad last year after President Idriss Deby died on the battlefield there.

Burkina Faso is one of the poorest countries in West Africa despite being a gold producer.

Islamist militants control swathes of the country and have forced residents in some areas to abide by their harsh version of Islamic law, while the military's struggle to quell the insurgency has drained scarce national resources.

Buffeted by street protests, Kabore had pledged in November to end "dysfunction" in the army, saying an inquiry into the Inata attack would be followed by disciplinary measures and that he would launch an anti-corruption drive.

Some of the anger in Burkina Faso late last year was also directed against former colonial ruler France, which has deployed thousands of soldiers in West Africa's Sahel region to combat the militants.

Agencies

Russia's embassy calls on London to stop dangerous provocations about Ukraine

LONDON

RUSSIA'S embassy in the UK has urged the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office to stop dangerous rhetorical provocations about Ukraine, explaining anti-Russian propaganda by the fact that London was being on the sidelines of real diplomatic processes.

"We strongly urge London to stop foolish rhetori-

cal provocations, which are very dangerous in the current overheated situation, and contribute to the real diplomatic efforts to ensure reliable guarantees for European security," the representative of the Russian diplomatic mission told TASS.

"The latest news, concerning Russia's plans to bring to power in Kiev former Verkhovna Rada deputy Yevgeny Muravev, who remains under

Moscow's sanctions as a person posing a threat to national security, is completely anecdotal," the embassy noted.

"Having found itself on the sidelines of real diplomatic processes, London views its role in the constant incitement of anti-Russian sentiment," the embassy said, castigating the UK's statements as ridiculous.

"The logic is simple - every day accuse Russia of plotting 'inevitable' invasion of Ukraine

and try to play the role of an ideological leader, defending itself from 'autocrats' and aiming to 'free the world'."

The Russian embassy also pointed to the degradation of the British expert potential in the Russian and Ukrainian direction.

"We see the true professional level of people who, along with these absurd statements, are sending deadly weapons to Ukraine, building up their own

military presence near Russian borders and encouraging Kiev to sabotage the Minsk accords," the embassy said.

Saturday, the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office stated that Moscow was planning to bring a pro-Russian government, which allegedly could be headed by former parliamentarian Yevgeny Muravev, to power in Ukraine.

Agencies

Thousands of Americans march in Washington for vaccine mandate protest amid COVID-19 surge, pandemic fatigue

WASHINGTON

THOUSANDS of Americans from across the country on Sunday gathered in the nation's capital for a march against vaccine mandates and other pandemic requirements and restrictions. Among those marching were firefighters, teachers, first responders, anti-vaccine activists and other groups.

"We are gathering together in peace and solidarity for the preservation of personal sovereignty and to STOP medical coercion, discrimination and mandates," organizers of the march said on the event's website.

The march came just a week after Washington DC's vaccine mandate, which requires patrons of indoor businesses to show proof of vaccination, took effect, in response to a surge in COVID-19 cases and the highly infectious Omicron variant.

The march also came after U.S. Supreme Court earlier this month blocked the Biden administration's vaccine-or-test mandate for large businesses amid an increasingly heated nationwide debate on anti-pandemic regulations. In a 6-3 decision, the conservative-majority

in the high court said the White House overstepped its authority by seeking to impose the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) rule requiring workers at U.S. businesses with 100 or more employees to either get vaccinated or submit a negative COVID-19 test weekly.

The court's decision came as Americans are becoming intensely divided over coronavirus-related measures, and some are fed up and frustrated by the strain the pandemic has put on daily life. At a press conference

on Wednesday, U.S. President Joe Biden acknowledged that "there's a lot of frustration and fatigue in this country" due to the pandemic.

"I know that after almost two years of physical, emotional, and psychological weight of this pandemic ... the impact it's had on everyone, for many of us, it's been too much to bear," Biden told reporters.

But Biden insisted that the United States has made great progress in the fight against pandemic, and the administration will stick with vaccination

efforts "because vaccinations work." "The bottom line on COVID-19 is that we're in a better place than we've been and have been thus far, clearly better than a year ago. We're not going back to lockdowns. We're not going back to closing schools," he said.

Nearly a quarter of eligible Americans remain unvaccinated against COVID-19, according to data of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Anthony Fauci, top U.S. infectious disease expert, said on Sunday he is confident that most states in the country

will reach a peak of Omicron infection cases by mid-February. "You never want to be overconfident when you're dealing with this virus," Fauci said in an interview with ABC.

"Things are looking good. We don't want to get overconfident, but they look like they're going in the right direction right now," he said. The recent COVID-19 surge in the United States driven by the Omicron variant is leading to record high cases, hospitalizations, and critical shortages of healthcare staffs.

Xinhua

Beijing 2022 meaningful opportunity to foster atmosphere of solidarity, resilience, international cooperation

By He Yin

As the melody of the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games' motto song, Together for a Shared Future, is known by more and more people, the Beijing 2022 inches increasingly closer.

"We are fully confident and capable of presenting to the world a fantastic, extraordinary and excellent Winter Olympics," said Chinese President Xi Jinping while inspecting the preparatory work of the sports event on Jan. 4, noting that after years of hard work, all preparatory work of the Beijing 2022 is basically completed.

Xi's remarks have fully demonstrated China's confidence in fulfilling its solemn commitment to the international community to deliver a successful Beijing 2022 and manifested the aspiration of a positive, prosperous and open China to embrace the world and create a beautiful future together with the rest of the world.

Hosting a successful 2022 Games is China's delightful promise to the world. On July 31, 2015, Beijing, together with Zhangjiakou city in north China's Hebei province, won the bid to host the 24th Olympic Winter Games, also known as the 2022 Winter Olympics, at the 128th International Olympic Committee (IOC) session.

On the same day, Xi sent a congratulatory letter to the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games bid delegation, stressing that China will strive to deliver a fantastic, extraordinary and excellent Olympics in 2022.



"We will fulfill all our commitments and witness, together with the people of all countries and the IOC, the advent of a new phase in the development of the Olympic winter sports and in the spread of the Olympi-



The first train custom-made for the Beijing Winter Olympics sets off from Qinghe Railway Station in Beijing on the high-speed railway linking Beijing and Zhangjiakou, the co-host cities of the 2022 Winter Games, Jan. 6, 2022. (Photo by Shi Wenzhe/People's Daily Online)

pic spirit," said Xi in his letter to IOC President Thomas Bach on July 31, 2015.

Over the past more than six years, China has made unremitting efforts to fulfill its solemn commitment to the international community. The country has promoted the ideas of hosting the Games in a green, sharing, open and clean manner and delivering a streamlined, safe and splendid Olympic Games.

The IOC has always made positive remarks on China's preparations for the Beijing 2022 and fully acknowledged the country's contribution to the international Olympic cause.

In October 2016, Juan Antonio Samaranch Jr., Chairman of the IOC Coordination Commission for the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games and then vice president of the IOC, praised the Beijing Organising Committee for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games for getting off to a very fast start in the preparatory work and pointed out that initial preparations were on the right track.

After visiting proposed venues for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics in Zhangjiakou and Beijing before a meeting with Xi in January 2019, Bach said he was deeply impressed with China's

pragmatic, efficient, and vitalized preparations for the Games.

"We are looking forward to successful Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 and we have great confidence, built on our experience, that we will stage safe and secure Olympic Winter Games for everybody," Bach said in his New Year's Message 2022 published on the IOC official website on Dec. 31, 2021. He believes that "these Winter Games will open a new era for winter sports globally."

In a recent interview with Chinese media, Samaranch said he believes that China will stage a splendid Olympic Games for the world.

Filled with confidence in China, the international community is eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Beijing 2022 and looks forward to new surprises Beijing has prepared for the world.

In 2008, China successfully hosted the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, which represented a perfect answer given by the country to the third of the well-known three questions raised by "Tianjin Youth" magazine in 1908: "When could China send an athlete to participate in an Olympic Games?" "When could China send a delegation to an Olympic Games?" "When could China host an Olympic Games?"

This year, the more than 1.4 billion Chinese people will embrace the Olympic Movement again. By delivering a "fantastic, extraordinary and

excellent" Olympics in 2022, China will promote the popularization and development of ice and snow sports and enhance understanding and friendship between the Chinese people and peoples of various countries around the world.

Over the past years, the Beijing-Zhangjiakou high-speed railway connecting the three competition zones of the Beijing 2022, the world's first intelligent high-speed train with a speed of 350 kilometers per hour, was officially put into operation; the National Ski Jumping Center and the National Speed Skating Oval, which are nicknamed the "Snow Ruyi" and the "Ice Ribbon" respectively, were completed; the National Aquatics Center, known as the "Water Cube", was transformed into "Ice Cube" for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games; and the country's vision of engaging 300 million people in winter sports across China has been realized ahead of schedule.

Through these achievements made during the preparations for the Beijing 2022, people around the world have witnessed how the Chinese people have worked hard for their dreams in the new era.

As the COVID-19 is still wreaking havoc worldwide, the Beijing 2022 bears the task of deepening mutual understanding and exchanges between peoples around the world through the Olympic Movement.

Technology makes Winter Games more splendid

By Ji Fang

TECHNOLOGY is profoundly changing China's winter sports, making the country from one that was absent from many events in Pyeongchang four years ago to a winter sports power that has established teams of all sports events involved in the upcoming Beijing Winter Olympics this year.

Sci-tech progress is contributing to the country's preparations for the Winter Games in almost all aspects, from specific training to physical training, and from training performance capturing to medical rehabilitation, making the work of athletes more efficient.

For instance, a training assistance system has been equipped at a new winter sports training base in Laiyuan county, north China's Hebei province to help athletes improve their performance.

After a Nordic combined athlete made a leap from a platform at the base, the speed, take-off angle, dynamic posture, and other data immediately popped up on a screen thanks to the micro wearables worn by the athlete.

The assistance system presents athletes' training performance with visuals and data, and guides their future training in a science-based way.

Technology is changing how athletes are training themselves for the games. At a national winter sports training and research center, a wind tunnel is employed to help athletes find the dynamic postures that generate the least air resistance. In Beishan Mountain, northeast China's Jilin province, an air-raid shelter is transformed into a ski resort, where athletes can go training even in the summer.

Apart from training, scientific innovation has also played a very crucial role in the construction of the venues for the Beijing Winter Olympics. It contributed to the



Photo shows the National Sliding Center near the Yanqing Winter Olympic Village for the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics. (Photo by Wang Zirui/People's Daily Online)

site selection and module building of China's first sliding track, and solved all kinds of technical problems in the construction of a series of venues, including the National Sliding Center and the National Ski Jumping Center.

The National Aquatics Center, known as "Water Cube," is the world's first venue that has shifted from a swimming center to a curling sheet. It features multi-zone climate and humidity control, and is able to adapt itself to different sports in very short period of time.

From the stage of designing and evaluation to construction and operation, scientific innovation is aiding the preparation work for the Winter Games in every aspect.

To some extent, the Olympics

wouldn't have been so popular around the world without the assistance from modern technology.

New technologies are improving the hardware to bring better safety, precision and publicity to the Olympic Games. Besides, they can also constantly renew training methods, mechanisms and other software aspects, to make athletes faster, higher, stronger - together.

Technological innovation is of high importance especially for winter sports, as winter sports athletes usually compete outdoors at high speed wearing a wide range of equipment. Therefore, China, implementing an action plan on the sci-tech innovation of the Winter Games, is sticking to independent innovation while learning

advanced technologies from winter sports powers, so as to make constant breakthroughs in its ability to run and broadcast sports events, and to ensure safety of these events.

Technologies applied in winter sports are also expected to have a spillover into relevant industries and the "white economy."

As China prepares to hold the Winter Games, a series of achievements are made by sci-tech innovation in infrastructure, green development and smart city construction. These achievements will become a treasure for the host cities, and continue to contribute to urban development, industrial vitalization and people's livelihood.

More importantly, such progress, be it the smart equipment used in the games

that are later popularized, or the experience in smart venue construction, can help sports grounds across China optimize their management and functions. Technological outcomes achieved in the Winter Games will also improve the general efficiency of China's winter sports industry, thus bringing higher quality to the rapid development of the sector.

The "Experience Beijing" test events for the Beijing Winter Olympics have concluded, and they were lauded for bringing excellent facilities, venue operations and management.

It's believed that the approaching Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics will be made a grand event powered by technology, and attract attention from all over the world.



Photo shows China's first homemade snowcat SG400 developed by Hubei Xuanhua Construction Machinery Co., Ltd (Photo/Official website of Hubei Xuanhua Construction Machinery Co., Ltd)

China realises goal of engaging 300 million people in ice and snow sports

By Chen Chenxi, Fan Jiayuan

CHINA'S goal of engaging 300 million people in winter sports has become a reality, according to a recent report.

About 346 million Chinese people have participated in winter sports activities since Beijing won the bid to host the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in 2015, accounting for 24.56 percent of China's total population, said the report, which is based on a survey that the General Administration of Sport of China (GAS) entrusted to China's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

Among the 346 million Chinese people who have participated in winter sports activities, 300 million are aged 18 and above, and the rest are under the age of 18.

About 37.27 percent of China's total population aged between 18 and 30 engaged in ice and snow sports, the most active in these sports among all age groups, pointed out the report.

Among respondents who have participated in ice



Tourists play on snow tubes at a tourist attraction in Shimenzhai township, Qinhuangdao city, north China's Hebei province, Jan. 3, 2022. (Photo by Cao Jianxiang/People's Daily Online)

and snow sports since 2015, 70.35 percent mainly want to have fun and enjoy themselves and 15.78 percent hope to keep fit and become stronger through the exercise.

The realization of the goal of involving 300 million people in ice and snow sports ahead of schedule is attributed to proper top-level policy design, said Wang Yuxiong, director of the sports economy research institute under the Central University of Finance and Economics in China, adding that the central and lo-

cal governments in China released many policy documents to promote the development of ice and snow sports.

Meanwhile, government documents and development plans related to sports consumption, sports industry, national fitness program, youth sports and competitive sports all placed ice and snow sports at a crucial position, Wang noted.

Under the guidance of the government, the public's awareness of ice and snow exercise continues to grow. The report suggested that

92.64 percent of the respondents who have participated in ice and snow sports since 2015 did so of their own accord.

China's National Public Ice and Snow Season, which was initiated in 2014, becomes an annual gala for popularizing winter sports. Thirty-one Chinese provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities have joined the National Public Ice and Snow Season, compared with merely 10 when the event was first held in 2014.

The number of participants in the National Public Ice and Snow Season rose from more than ten million to nearly 100 million during the 2020-2021 snow season, with the number of relevant activities totaling nearly 1,200.

The Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games have ushered in a new chapter for China's ice and snow sports. Residents in 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities all participated in winter sports activities more or less, and 12 provincial-level regions saw the number of



Ice hockey enthusiasts practice at a skating rink in Hohhot, north China's Inner Mongolia autonomous region, Jan. 1, 2022. (Photo by Ding Genhou/People's Daily Online)

participants in winter sports account for over 30 percent of their populations, according to the report.

Newly-built and renovated indoor ice rinks and skiing centers have made winter sports available in all seasons and turned them into an emerging lifestyle.

Data from the GAS show that by the beginning of 2021, China had built 654 standard skating rinks and 803 indoor and outdoor ski resorts, an increase of 317 percent and 41 percent, respectively, from 2015.

With continuous advances in technologies, winter sports

become less restricted by time and space.

By adopting technologies to cultivate winter sports in the non-snow season, regions across China have formed organization models for regular winter sports activities that suits all seasons and brought about a new upsurge in participation in ice and snow sports. Winter sports have turned from niche sports merely for winter to leisure-oriented exercise activities suitable for all seasons.

The realization of the goal of involving 300 million people in winter sports has not only

made ice and snow sports, which used to be participated only by a small number of people, developed in certain regions, and highly dependent on winter, more popular and available in different parts of the country and all seasons, enhanced people's sense of gain and happiness, and contributed China's experience and solutions to innovative development of world winter sports.

The Beijing 2022 has helped drive 300 million people to participate in winter sports, which marks a milestone in the development of global ice and snow sports and bears great significance for stimulating new consumption and economic growth, Wang pointed out.

The ice and snow sports market is gradually expanding in China, attracting wide attention from the world. As ice and snow sports take roots and blossom in China, their value extends far beyond sports.

SPORT



Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) vice-president, Henry Tandau.

TOC secures plots for construction of Olympic centers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) says it has secured land in Dar es Salaam and Singida to build Olympic Africa Centers.

Henry Tandau, TOC vice-president, disclosed the information recently, saying the two centers will help to promote the Olympic spirit among people in the country.

He said the two centers also constitute the current TOC leadership's Olympic legacy, which centers on sports development, business development, and lastly organizational efficiency and sustainability.

Tandau pointed out: "We have secured land in Dar es Salaam and Singida, the land will be used to build Olympic Africa Centers."

"There will be a lot of initiatives, the aim is to encourage the Olympic spirit, the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) will fund the construction," he noted.

"It is the only way we shall have a self-sustainable organization," he said.

He said Since sustainability requires both financial and human resources, a business development model will be followed.

The TOC official stated: "We want to ensure that the organization can generate additional resources to supplement what Olympic Solidarity provides." The ANOCA is an international organization that unites the 54 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) of Africa.

It is currently headquartered in Abuja, Nigeria. It serves as the successor to the Standing Committee of African Sports or Comité Permanent du sport Africain founded in 1965 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo.

It often assembles with other continental NOCs in the form of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC).

ANOCA's programs include encouraging mediation and conciliation between NOCs and governments, building the foundations of an ambitious sports policy.

The body focuses on providing young athletes with the conditions for success and promoting sports initiatives.

ANOCA further gears towards promoting Olympic ideals and values in Africa.

It pioneers taking part in the fight against doping, corruption, violence, and pandemics.

It targets to work to bring people together through sport to build a peaceful Africa.



Director of Sports Development in the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports, Yusuph Singo (2nd L), hands over a trophy to Gurpal Sandhi that won a rally, which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Others are Automobile Association of Tanzania (AAT) president, Nizar Jivani (R), and AAT Rally Coordinator, Satinder Birdi. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Dar drivers shine in rally

By Correspondent Faustine Feliciane

RALLY drivers from the AESL team yesterday emerged as the overall winners of a race held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

The drivers, Gurpal Sandhi and Dave Sihoka, emerged victorious in the race for NRC2, collecting 169 points and beating other drivers to the top honour.

Speaking at the presentation ceremony, the Director of Sports Development in the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports, Yusuph Singo, said the race had brought productivity and revitalization.

Singo also issued a warning to either individuals or institutions to opt-out of organizing such competitions without following the procedures and approval from the relevant authorities.

"Regarding the Automobile Association Tanzania (AAT)'s request to acquire land, let me ask my colleagues to continue working with the National Sports Council that will also work with other ministries to look at how to resolve your request," Singo noted.

Nizar Jivani, AAT president, congratulated all winners and participants of this year's race, as they understood the Coronavirus pandemic posed a challenge in organizing the event.

"Last year we failed to organize this competition because of Coronavirus pandemic," the AAT boss noted.

"I would like to congratulate all drivers who participated but more so the winners," Jivani said.

Mandeep Dhani from Team Hari Singh ended second in the race with 101 points.

David Matete from the Amapiano Motorsports team settled for the third spot with 104 points.

The fourth spot went to Manveer Birdi from the BRT team with 92 points.

In the awards ceremony held in the city, Arusha Motor Sports Club (AMSC) emerged as the best Club for the year 2020/21.

The club has had the achievement for the seventh consecutive season.

Morogoro's Mount Uluguru Rally Club (MURC) was voted as a club that hosted the best rally for the year 2021.

SPORTS

Paralympic Committee's annual general meeting preparations in top gear



Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) Secretary-General, Ramadhan Namkoveka.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

PREPARATIONS for Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) annual general meeting, which is scheduled for Sunday in Dar es Salaam, have reached an advanced stage.

Ramadhan Namkoveka, TPC Secretary-General, disclosed the information at the end of the TPC executive committee's meeting that took place in the city last weekend.

He said delegates for the TPC executive committee recommended many agendas which will be discussed on Sunday.

Namkoveka mentioned the agendas as the financial and executive report for last year, the report on TPC constitutional amendment, and the report from mem-

bers of the committee.

He said leaders of all national sports associations, which are members of TPC, will attend the annual general meeting.

He mentioned them as Para Athletics Association, Wheelchair Tennis Association (WTA), Para Swimming Association, Para Powerlifting Association, Amputee Football Association, and Wheelchair Basketball Association.

He stated: "Preparations for our annual general meeting are going on very well."

"Delegates who attended the executive committee meeting agreed on the agendas which will be discussed at the annual general meeting," he said.

The last Sunday's executive meeting was initially planned to be held on January 12 but it was postponed. Namkoveka told The Guardian that the meeting was postponed so that the TPC could prepare well on other logistics.

The official stated: "The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) also advised us to make some amendments on our constitution, it wants a constitution which will go in line with its constitutional vision and mission."

"We sent them the draft of our constitution for their approval."

Namkoveka said if delegates to the annual general meeting approve the amended constitution, it will be sent to the Registrar of Sports Associations and Clubs for final approval.

Alize Cornet reaches quarterfinals at her 63rd Grand Slam

MELBOURNE, Australia

ALIZE Cornet dropped to her knees on the hard blue court, clasped her hands and took a few moments to let it sink in.

In her 17th trip to the Australian Open, her 63rd run at a Grand Slam, and two days after celebrating her 32nd birthday, Cornet finally qualified for the quarterfinals at one of the four major events in tennis.

Cornet recovered after a second-set meltdown in the hot Melbourne sun on Monday to advance to the last eight at the Australian Open with a 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 win over two-time major champion Simona Halep.

"It's never too late to try again!" Cornet said in her on-court TV interview. "To be in my first quarterfinal. It's a dream come true. The journey goes on. I still can't believe it."

Cornet led by a set and 3-1 before losing five consecutive games and 16 straight points as Halep took the match to a decider.

The match was 2-2 in the third set after Cornet held a service game at love, saying "allez" after every shot she hit.

Halep got a break-point chance two games later with a forehand down the line that just caught the outside of the paint and which Cornet could barely believe. She saved it and held serve, then broke Halep's serve for a 4-3 lead that set her on course for the quarterfinals.

Cornet will next play Danielle Collins, the No. 27 seed from the United States who beat 19th-seeded Elise Mertens 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 in an almost three-hour match to open play on Rod Laver Arena. Collins was a semifinalist in Australia in 2019.

Cornet made her main draw Grand Slam singles debut as a wild-card entry at the 2005 French Open. She lost five previous fourth-round appearances but had gone close to reaching the quarterfinals before, having match points in the fourth round in Australia in 2009 before losing to eventual runner-up Dinara Safina. With a ranking of 61 – 50 lower than her career-high No. 11 – Cornet came into the 2022 season acknowledging retirement must be close and that it was now or never for a Grand Slam breakthrough.

"I don't know if it's helping," she said. "I just told myself that if it should happen, then it will happen. Maybe leave it in the hands of fate, destiny, I don't know."

The marquee men's match was on Margaret Court Arena, where U.S. Open champion Daniil Medvedev beat 70th-ranked

Maxime Cressy 6-2, 7-6 (4), 6-7 (4), 7-5.

The second-ranked Medvedev is trying to become the first man in the Open era to win his second major singles title in the next Grand Slam event. He's now potentially three wins from achieving that.

Medvedev was a runner-up in Australia last year but avenged that with a win over Novak Djokovic in the U.S. Open final. Djokovic isn't defending his Australian Open title after being deported on the eve of the year's first major for failing to meet the country's strict COVID-19 vaccination criteria.

Cressy's serve-and-volley style created some frustrations for Medvedev, who said late in the fourth set that this was the "most unlucky day I've ever had in my life." His luck changed quickly. After saving eight break-point chances in the set, Cressy was broken in that game and Medvedev served out at love.

He will next play ninth-seeded Felix Auger-Aliassime, who beat 2014 U.S. Open champion Marin Cilic 2-6, 7-6 (7), 6-2, 7-6 (4). Medvedev beat the Canadian in the semifinals at last year's U.S. Open.

No. 11 Jannik Sinner ended Australia's last hope in the men's draw when he beat No. 32 Alex de Minaur 7-6 (3), 6-3, 6-4.

The temperature hit 34 degrees Celsius (93 degrees F) on Day 8, with extra breaks allowed for players to cope with the heat.

Cornet used bags of ice to cool down her head during changeovers, and draped cold towels over her neck.

"I just stopped thinking after ... 30 minutes of playing. My brain was already like, overloaded," Cornet said. "My vision was not clear anymore. My hands were shaking."

But, she added, "I thought, on the other side of the court, she was not feeling much better than me."

Her victory over Halep, a former Wimbledon and French Open champion and runner-up in Australia, gave her a record for most appearances at a major before reaching the quarterfinals. Tamarine Tanasugarn previously held the mark at 45, set at Wimbledon in 2008.

Cornet had to do it the hard way, too. She defeated third-seeded Garbiñe Muguruza in straight sets in the second round but had to rally from 6-4, 4-1 down to beat 2021 French Open semifinalist Tamara Zidansek in the third round.

Collins hasn't had a straight-forward path, either, the 28-year-old American having to rally from a set down to win back-to-back matches at a Grand Slam tournament for the first time.



Alize Cornet of France reacts after defeating Simona Halep of Romania in their fourth round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, yesterday, Jan. 24, 2022. (AP Photo)

SPORT

Tunisia knocks Nigeria out of African Cup



Simba SC's Board of Directors' Chairman, Salim Abdallah.

Simba SC can defend Premier League silverware, says official

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA Sports Club's leadership is confident of seeing to it the outfit defends the NBC Premier League title, despite being 11 points behind the league leader, Yanga.

The points gap between the top two clubs in the NBC Premier League has come about after Simba SC failed to record maximum points in league fixtures against Mbeya City FC and Mtwara Sugar.

Simba SC went down 1-0 to Mbeya City FC at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya on January 17 and thereafter notched a 0-0 draw with Mtwara Sugar in Morogoro on Saturday.

Simba SC's Board of Directors' Chairman, Salim Abdallah, said the race for the NBC Premier League title this season is still fresh and those who take it for granted will be surprised at the end.

Abdallah said his outfit's loss to Mbeya City FC, which saw the NBC Premier League defending champion drop three points for the first time this season, has awakened the club.

The official noted Simba SC will now take every precaution so it cannot lose its title defense.

Simba SC currently holds the title for the fourth consecutive season, since the squad lifted the trophy in 2018.

If the outfit wins it again this season, it will set a record of being the first outfit to win the Premier League title for five consecutive seasons.

Yanga initially set a record by lifting the league's silverware for five consecutive seasons from 1968 to 1972.

Simba SC later repeated the feat, winning the top honour from 1976 to 1980 and the success has never been repeated.

Abdallah said his club's loss is not a big deal as it is part of football.

He insisted their goal is to defend their title for the fifth time in a row and he sees they still have such an opportunity.

"Every team has a chance to win the Premier League this season, we are prepared to make sure we win it again."

"Last season there were teams that led the standing, but we finished as champions," Abdallah said.

"We are determined to make sure we do not drop points in our matches, to achieve the goals, we believe the squad will defend again the title and produce better displays."

Simba SC, which dropped two points after posting the barren draw with Mtwara Sugar at Manungu Stadium last weekend, is positioned second behind the leader, Yanga.

The club has one match in hand against Kagera Sugar to be played at Kaitaba Stadium, in Bukoba, Kagera, on Wednesday.

Simba SC, moreover, has two matches against Tanzania Prisons and Mbeya Kwanza FC to complete the first round. Both fixtures are expected to be played next month in Dar es Salaam.

“

We are determined to make sure we do not drop points in our matches, to achieve the goals, we believe the squad will defend again the title and produce better displays

Ex-Zimbabwe captain reveals drugs, match-fixing scandal

HARARE, Zimbabwe

FORMER Zimbabwe cricket captain Brendan Taylor admitted yesterday he took money from match-fixers who tried to blackmail him into manipulating international games with a secret video of him using cocaine on a visit to India in 2019.

Taylor said that the International Cricket Council was about to impose a "multi-year ban" on him and he had decided to release his statement in advance of that.

Even though he took \$15,000 from the fixers, Taylor said he never fixed or manipulated games. The 35-year-old batsman retired from international cricket late last year.

Taylor said he was invited to India to discuss a sponsorship opportunity in October 2019.

At a dinner with businessmen, he was offered cocaine and "foolishly took the bait."

"The following morning, the same men entered my hotel room to show me a video taken of me the night before doing cocaine and told me that if I did not partake in spot fixing at international matches, the video would be released to the public," Taylor said.

Taylor said he took the \$15,000 from the men, who said it was now a "deposit" for him to fix and they promised him another \$20,000 once the fixing "job" was complete.

Taylor said that he took four months to report the incident to the ICC and accepted that was against cricket's anti-corruption rules.

He would "humbly" accept the ban from the ICC, he said, "and only hope that my story will be used as a means of encouragement for cricketers to report any illicit approaches as early as possible."

Taylor also said that he would be checking into a rehabilitation center on Tuesday "to get clean and get my life back on track."

"I owe it to myself and to my family to get clean and to put them first," he said. "I have let a substance take control of me and impair my vision, my morals and my values and it is time that I prioritise what really matters."

He said he had also been taking medication to treat mental health issues and had been experiencing "hell" for years because of his problems with "drugs and narcotics."

Taylor played 34 tests, 205 one-day internationals and 45 T20 games for Zimbabwe over a 17-year career from 2004-2021, although he took a three-year sabbatical from internationals in 2015 to play county cricket in England. He was captain from 2011 up until he left for England.

Taylor is one of Zimbabwe's best players and is fourth on the list of the country's top run-scorers in test cricket and second on Zimbabwe's ODI list.

His admission comes nearly a year after former Zimbabwe coach Heath Streak was banned from all cricket for eight years for breaching cricket's anti-corruption code.

Streak was suspended because of his relationship with an Indian businessman who sought inside information for illegal betting purposes and bribed Streak with gifts including Bitcoins and an iPhone for his wife. **AP**

Tanzanite Queens gear up for U-20 WC qualifiers reverse fixture against Ethiopia



Tanzania's national U-20 women football side 'Tanzanite Queens'.

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA Football Federation (TFF) Secretary-General, Wilfred Kidao, has unveiled the federation's plans for Tanzania's national U-20 women football side 'Tanzanite Queens' preparations for African U-20 Women's World Cup qualifiers second leg against Ethiopia U-20 squad.

The match is expected to be played in Addis Ababa on February 4, with Tanzanite Queens boasting of a 1-0 win the side recorded in the first leg against Ethiopia U-20 side played at the Amaan Stadium in Zanzibar last weekend.

Tanzanite Queens is among eight teams vying for one place to represent Africa in this year's U-20 Women's World Cup finals slated for August 10-28 in Costa Rica.

The Tanzanite Queens will head to Ethiopia on February 4, seeking to seal qualification for the fifth round of the qualifiers.

The next round is as well the last stage of the continental qualifiers.

"First of all I would like to congratulate our squad for winning

the first leg game against Ethiopia U-20, a tough and big team, to reach this point is no small feat," Kidao noted.

The TFF official revealed: "Our neighbours, Uganda, also have a big mountain to climb after suffering a 2-1 home defeat to Ghana, you can see how competitive this stage is."

"Ethiopia U-20 beat Botswana U-20 8-2 on aggregate in the previous round, we shut the former down at home is no small matter."

"The federation has planned to send Tanzanite Queens to Karatu, Arusha so that they can acclimatize to the Addis Ababa weather and climate, the move will see to it the squad will not have any challenges," Kidao added.

Despite the absence of some of the key players, who brought Tanzanite Queens to the fourth round, the side managed to beat Ethiopia U-20 which is one of the best teams on the stage.

The Tanzanite Queens' footballers that missed out on the clash against the Ethiopia U-20 women team are Joyce Lema, Aisha Masaka, and Enekiea Ka-

songa.

Tanzanite Queens' head coach, Bakari Shime, has issued injury updates on the side's three players, including striker, Aisha, Clara Luvanga, and Emiliana Mdimu.

Shime also congratulated his players, saying: "My players worked hard for the game even though they failed to take advantage of the opportunities, especially in the first half when Ethiopia U-20 was good, our defensive line was stronger and controlled them."

"Despite the strong resilience shown by our opponents, we tried to stop them and make sure we went to the next game with the advantage of good results in hand along with a clean sheet," Shime noted.

In the fourth round match between Ghana U-20 and Uganda U-20 played in Kampala, Ghana U-20 won 2-1, Morocco U-20 was held to 1-1 draw by Senegal U-20, Cameroon U-20 settled for 0-0 draw with Nigeria U-20.

The return leg fixtures of the fourth round of the qualifiers have been slated for February 4 this year.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV
TONIGHT @ 9:00
NIRVANA
TUESDAY
11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi
14:30 BBall Kings Highlights (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 5SPORTS (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 5SELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)

Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

eastafrica RADIO
06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise
88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM