



National Pg 3 Call: Mobilise people for the census



National Pg 4 Farmers complain of fertiliser price hiking



National Pg 5 Kundo challenges TCRA, TPC relationship



Govt training tour guides in post-pandemic preparedness

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

THE government has allocated 1bn/- for training of 1,600 tour guides across the country to offer quality services to tourists visiting the country's various hotspots.

This move comes as most tourist-source countries reach Covid-19 vaccination targets and skies are expected to reopen for global travel—the industry hardest hit by the pandemic.

Prof Jaffary Kidegesho, rector of the Mweka Wildlife Training Institute in Kilimanjaro Region said the training is part of government strategy to reequip local players in the tourism industry as a continuation of measures to sort out impacts of COVID-19.

“With these strategies, the government is planning to increase the number of foreign visitors to five million. We want to boost tourism revenues to \$6bn by 2026,” he stated, affirming that by a ministerial directive the college is



Tourism was seriously hit by the global pandemic as it resulted in countries imposing lockdowns

providing the training to tour guides to improve performance of the sector and boost state coffers.

Herman Batho (pictured), the northern zone top conservator for the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) said the training is offered under the rapid credit facility and the rapid financing instrument to support the government's efforts in responding to the pandemic by addressing urgent health, humanitarian and economic costs, extended last year by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Batho said the sector's contribution to the economy was enormous, but it has dropped due to the outbreak of COVID-19, whereas earlier it contributed just over 17.5 percent to the gross domestic product (GDP) and providing jobs to 1.5m people.

“Tourism was seriously hit by the global pandemic as it resulted in countries imposing lockdowns,” he said, noting that the drastic reduction in the number of tourists cut into projected government revenues.

Emmanuel Mollé, the chairman of the

TURN TO PAGE 2

US hands over 1.6m new Covid-19 doses



USAID Health Office director Ananthy Thambinayagam (R) pictured at Dar es Salaam's Julius Nyerere International Airport yesterday presenting to Dar es Salaam Regional Medical Officer Dr Rashid Mfaume 1.6 million Pfizer-make Covid-19 vaccines donated by the US government. Photo courtesy of US Embassy

By Guardian Reporter

THE government yesterday received 1.6m Pfizer BioNTech vaccine doses donated by the United States via the global COVAX vaccine sharing initiative.

Dr Rashid Mfaume, the regional medical officer for the central business district of Dar es Salaam, received the donation from Ananthy Thambinayagam, the health office director the US Agency for International Development (USAID) at a Julius Nyerere International Airport ceremony.

The US Embassy said in a statement that the donation is part of efforts by the United States to end the pandemic globally, whereby it has so far donated over 4.5m COVID-19 vaccine doses to Tanzania.

This includes over 1m doses of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine that were shipped back in July last year and over 3.5m doses of the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine shipped in three installments starting two months ago.

“These donations are indicative of the US government's strong partnership and commitment to the Tanzanian people and our shared interest in defeating COVID-19 together,” the statement intoned.

America's support for the global fight against COVID-19 includes donating 365m vaccine doses to other countries, purchasing 1bn vaccine doses to donate

Mwinyi calls on UAE to invest in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter, Abu Dhabi

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi yesterday held talks with International Holding Company (IHC) officials, after having met the UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Shakhboot Nahyan Al Nahyan.

The president traversed matters related to bilateral ties between Tanzania and UAE, like opening a UAE consulate in Zanzibar, holding talks with the key investor before ending his visit to the UAE yesterday.



About 6,000 hectares of land needs to be developed at Makurunge area which is fit for agriculture

The company is the biggest investor in the United Arab Emirates and has massive presence in western countries, assuring the visiting Zanzibar leader that it would send investors to the Isles, after President Mwinyi explained to company officials various investment opportunities arising from the blue economy strategy.

He said Zanzibar needs serious investors especially for Zanzibar's small offshore islands numbering 53, with other opportunities associated with the blue

TURN TO PAGE 2

Drought wreaks havoc: Over 62,000 cattle die

Pastoralists appeal for food aid

By Guardian Correspondent, Simanjoro

PASTORALIST communities in Simanjoro District, Manyara Region are appealing for food aid from the government after prolonged drought killed thousands of livestock in the area—their main source of food and income.



More than 62,000 head of cattle are estimated to have died so far in the district, leaving many pastoralists in poverty.

Abdallah Ulega (pictured), the deputy minister for Livestock and Fisheries, was the guest at a public meeting where this appeal was presented by Petro Alamnyaka, an elder in the Orkesumet, Naberera and Emboret wards.

Asking the deputy minister to convey to President Samia Suluhu Hassan their request for food aid, the appeal said a cow that was being sold at 1m/- can't find a buyer even for 100,000/- at present

The biggest problem facing the area is hunger, he stated, elaborating that due to poor condition of the livestock, some dying

TURN TO PAGE 2



We will continue to do all we can to build a world that is safer and more secure against the threat of infectious disease

to nearly 100 developing countries, it elaborated.

The US contributed \$4bn to GAVI, the worldwide vaccine alliance, in support of COVAX, the global initiative to equitably distribute safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines everywhere, plus delivering essential medicines, supplies and therapeutics.

It also focuses on other assistance for countries rebuild economies, overcome food shortages and strengthen health security.

US President Joe Biden (pictured) has pledged that the United States will be the world's arsenal of vaccines in the shared fight against COVID-19, the embassy recalled.

“We will continue to do all we can to build a world that is safer and more secure against the threat of infectious disease,” it added, citing remarks from the president early last year.



9 770856 542009 >



Germany's Ambassador to Tanzania, Regine Hess (C), presents a special trophy and a certificate to Children Support Tanzania executive director Noelah Msuya in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on is the French Ambassador to Tanzania, Nabil Hajiaoui. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Traffic Police plan to reduce road accidents

By Guardian Correspondent, Kongwa

THE police force in Dodoma Region has said it will start assigning its officers to escorting passenger buses leaving the main stand as part of measures to reduce road crashes that are mostly from speeding.

Dodoma Regional Police Commander, Onesmo Lyanga made the statement on Tuesday when speaking to journalists on the recent road crash that killed three people and left 11 injured at Pandambili in Kongwa district.

The accident involved a passenger bus—Baraka Classic with registration numbers T 967 DWW.

Lyanga said the move would help to control reckless drivers as well as those over speeding.

“We are planning to start escorting passenger buses; our officers will leave with the buses from the main stand. We will not allow buses leaving the main stand later to

overtake other buses that left earlier. This will control speeding and reduce accidents,” said Lyanga.

Commenting on the recent accident, the RPC said: “The road was not rough despite some rain. The accident was caused by overspending.”

He accused the bus driver and conductor of carrying passengers beyond capacity.

He said that two of the deceased bodies have been identified by their relatives and that all the bodies are preserved at the Gairo district hospital in Morogoro Region.

Those identified were Salha Mohamed, a Form Two student and her mother Joyce Nyaula, both residents of Dar es Salaam,” said Lyanga, noting that ten out of the 11 injured persons have been admitted at Kongwa district hospital, while one among them have been rushed to Benjamin Mkapa hospital for further treatment.

Mwinyi calls on UAE to invest in Zanzibar

FROM PAGE 1

economy being oil and gas drilling, deep sea fishing, construction and maintenance of deep sea fishing vessels.

All these objectives can be achieved if there are good

infrastructures in the provision of social services, he said, citing the importance of investors chipping in to assist education and health sector efforts.

Shariff Ali Shariff, the Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA) managing director, said that

despite Covid-19, the Isles received 39,512 tourists between January and December last year.

There are opportunities in the processing of ocean products, construction and repair of fishing boats as well as the Zanzibar Marina City, and assisting in seaweed

farming, he stated, affirming the need for investors to assist Zanzibar build a centre for enhancing sport talent in various fields.

About 6,000 hectares of land needs to be developed at Makurunge area which is fit for agriculture, he added.

Govt training tour guides post-pandemic readiness

FROM PAGE 1

Tanzania Tour Guides Association (TTGA), expressed the view that the training provided to guides would further improve the sector, thus boosting its contribution to the national economy.

The training sessions were beneficial in welfare terms as most tour guides and drivers are still constrained financially, finding it hard to put up with costs related to training like paying for accommodation and meals, he added.

Drought wreaks havoc: Over 62,000 cattle die

FROM PAGE 1

for lack of fodder, “we do not have money to buy maize for food for our families.”

“We do not have cattle any more, but only carcasses, because one with 100 cattle finds himself with only two or three after just a few hours,” he said, underlining that the community’s worst fear is for them to also die from hunger, as their animals continue to diminish.

Naitupwaki Molle, a resident of Naberera ward, said they have been using milk as their main food but

due to drought, cows died from lack of grazing.

Jackson Kimeso, an Emboret ward resident reiterated the community’s appeal to the president for food aid, while District Commissioner Dr Suleiman Serera said the government had understood the pastoralists’ plight and would be working on it, urging them to remain calm.

Expressing sympathy, the deputy minister said he will convey the pastoralists’ request for food aid to President Samia.

Govt to import 25 modern machines for drilling water wells and dams

By Guardian Reporter

THE government is expected to import 25 modern machines for drilling water wells and construction of dams to facilitate availability of water to majority of Tanzanians.

Speaking during a press conference yesterday, Chief Executive Officer of the Drilling and Dam Construction Agency (DDCA) under the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) Simon Ngonyani said the aim is to empower the agency with resources to improve services.

He said it is high time the public entrusted the agency in construction of dams and drilling wells because it has been given the capacity to and has experts who can do the task effectively.

“These days drilling of water wells and construction of dams has been invaded by people with no expertise, we would like to inform the general public that we are here to offer the services,” he said.

He said the agency was given the task by the ministry of water to drill 500 wells but it failed because

it had no capacity but now it has the capacity as the government has imported the machines for doing the task.

“Here in Dar es Salaam you find that wells have been constructed near sewage infrastructure and you find there are waterborne diseases which people do not understand their origin,” he said.

He said the agency will work closely with water basin authorities to identify areas suitable for construction of dams to control outbreaks of diseases.

He said costs for construction of the dams were friendly and called upon wananchi not to resist visiting the agency for more details.

“These days drilling of water wells and construction of dams has been invaded by people with no expertise, we would like to inform the general public that we are here to offer the services”



India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan (2nd-R), has a view of rangolis at the Indo-Tanzania Cultural Centre in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. This is a traditional art of decorating floor using colour powders, flower petals a common in India. It was at a competition co-organised by the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre and Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh - Tanzania on the occasion of Makara Sankranti, an Indian harvest-time festival. Photo courtesy of Indian High Commission

WHC urged to build staff houses for public servants

By Guardian Reporter

WATUMISHI Housing Company (WHC) has been challenged to look into the possibility of building houses for sale and renting to public servants in the districts and regions in need instead of giving priority to building such houses in urban areas.

Jenista Mhagama, Minister of State President's Office, Public Service Management and Good Governance made the directives shortly after inspecting the implementation of the construction of Public Servants' houses built by WHC in Gezaulole, Kigamboni in Dar es Salaam.

Jenista said there is a great need for staff houses in District Councils and Regional Secretariats especially for teachers, health sector staff, police force, and lower cadre staff, so it is good that WHC became part of the solution to the challenge.

She added that in addressing the challenge of shortage of staff houses, her office will consult with the Minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration, and Local Government (PMO-RALG) to see how best to use WHC to build staff houses.

“The government has built health facilities in each district council

and deployed staff to provide services in those facilities, so they need a house for living so that they can work efficiently,” Jenista said, calling on public servants to plan and purchase houses built by WHC as they are 10 to 30 percent cheaper than the current market prices.

The minister advised WHC to work with the council to find affordable plots that will enable them to build houses that low-income staff will be able to plan and purchase.

For his part, the WHC Chief Executive Officer Dr Fred Msemwa has assured Jenista that she

will oversee her institution in implementing the instructions it provided so that employees can benefit from affordable housing.

“I assure you Minister, I and my aides will continue to be creative and work hard to meet the government's goal of enabling Public Servants to access affordable housing,” he said.

Jenista has concluded her two-day working visit to Dar es Salaam to visit the College of Public Service and WHC with the aim of introducing herself and encouraging accountability in those institutions.



Kagera regional administrative secretary Prof Faustin Kamuzora (2nd-L) cuts ribbon at Kitunga Primary School in Muleba District earlier this week when receiving a Tanzania Commercial Bank donation of classrooms, toilets and 50 desks worth a total of over 36m/-. With him are TCB officials Adolfini William (L) and Muondakweli Kaniki (2nd-R) as well as the school's headmaster, Hashim Kibaiza. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

REFERRAL hospitals in the country are required to improve health services and have a wide concept in strengthening infrastructure to help reduce the burden borne on the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH). The remarks were made here yesterday by the Minister for Health, Ummu Mwalimu when addressing workers of curative services department from the ministry as part of her visits to various departments under her ministry. She said in order to show that the curative services department

Minister Ummu calls on referral hospitals to improve services

carries the entire ministry; it must be strengthened to answer to people's expectations as they have trust in public hospitals. "We are supposed to make sure that the provision of health services is good, hence it is time to look into challenges and work on them to remove complaints from members of the public attending these hospitals," she added. The Minister further called on the department to review guidelines in health services provision so

that services provided from the dispensary to national level are up to standard, and added that the guidelines should be able to incorporate all health services centres countrywide. She also called on workers of the Curative Services Department to work as a team and in case of challenges, it would be better to discuss them jointly with aim to improve the country's medical services.

Dr Biteko calls on traditional and religious leaders to mobilise people for the census

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

MINERALS Minister Dr Dotto Biteko has called on traditional and religious leaders to come up and become part of the mobilising force for the Population and Housing Census to be conducted in August this year. Dr Biteko was addressing leaders of the Meru clan, better known as "Washili," Maasais pastoralist Communities leaders (Alaigwani) and religious leaders from Arusha Region. "In order for the government to get statistics for the development of its people, it is essential for all Tanzanians to come up to be enumerated for the census exercise. Let us leaders be leaders in mobilising the people to emerge and be counted and should shun any propaganda," he said. Dr Biteko who was represented at

the function by his deputy, Dr Stephen Kiruswa, said the Census was essential for the country, as the government obtains basic details that would assist in the process for the 2025 National Development Vision. He said among others, the Census assists to make use of development indicators, for example individual incomes, national income, unemployment and students enrolment. "In addition, the census is used to improve community health services, education. Road infrastructures, electricity and communications. Statistics show that in 2012, the country's population was 44.9 million, 21.8 million men (48.7 per cent) and 23 million women (51.3 per cent). Out of the total population, 31.6 million (70 per cent) lived in rural areas and 13.3

million (29.6 per cent) lived in urban areas. Dr Biteko said the government has put in place its procedure to collect, analyse, assess and publish demographic, economic and social statistics in every 10 years.

LOSS OF PASSPORT



MR. FREDY ERASTO CHAVALA
Whose photo is affixed above has lost his passport No. TAE 329621 issued by the Tanzania Immigration department. If found, please report it to the nearest police station/post.
POLICE LOSS REPORT
NO.MBE/MBE/RB/579281/2021.

RALG plans to establish customer service centre across every region

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

INNOCENT Bashungwa, minister of state in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (RALG) has instructed his permanent secretary, Prof Riziki Shemdoe to put in place strategies for the establishment of customers' service centre in each region. Bashungwa issued the instruction on Tuesday this week during his visit at RALG Customer Service Centre here with the aim of seeing whether the directives had been implemented. "I am satisfied with the performance of the staff at the centre but it would be better if these centres were also available at regional level to make easy for the public to get prompt services on the spot in regard to their complaints rather than calling RALG headquarters," he said. He directed the PS to make sure he seeks financial resources and equipment to strengthen regional secretariats in the provision of better services to the people starting from the village, ward, division, district and region. He said that Regional commissioners and Regional Administrative Secretaries will be the main supervisors of the customer services centres. "This issue has kicked off well at the ministry level, hence we should strengthen it in the regions in order to assist the people, hence I direct you to make sure we have in place strategies for each region to have such a centre," he added. The supervisor of the Ministry's Customer service Centre, Antelma Mtemahanji said the aim for establishing the centre is to assist the people who have been travelling long distances from the villages for various office services. He said since its establishment in 2020, so far 125,381 telephone calls were received and worked on. He said before its establishment, the RALG office used to receive between 100 and 120 people with various complaints, but now the number has been greatly reduced.

'More Z'bar students pass in 2021 Form IV exams compared to 2020'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Ministry of Education and Vocational Training has submitted its assessment report on the 2021 Form IV examination results whereby the pass level in regard to Zanzibar schools had increased compared to the previous year. The report was given yesterday by the ministry's director for secondary

education, Asya Iddi Issa, saying a total of 24,051 candidates were registered whereby 23,557 or 97.95 per cent sat for the exam. She said on the part of Zanzibar, 15,569 candidates (66.098 per cent) passed, an increase of 8.59 per cent over the previous year. She said still more deliberate efforts are needed to make sure passes in Division 1 increase. She said the 2021 Form IV

Examination Results for Zanzibar were satisfactory due to the decrease of zeros and increase of passes at Division 1. The Director said 445 students scored Division 1 (1.89 per cent of those who sat) 1,302 Division 2 (5.53 per cent and 2,621 in Division 3 or 11.13 per cent. She added that 11,201 scored Division 4 or 47.55 per cent of those who sat and 8,111 scored zero or 34.43 per cent.



VACANCY

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (TRACKING CODE 11230)

PATH is a global nonprofit dedicated to achieving health equity. With more than 40 years of experience forging multisector partnerships, and with expertise in science, economics, technology, advocacy, and dozens of other specialties, PATH develops and scales up innovative solutions to the world's most pressing health challenges.

PATH is currently recruiting for a Business Development Officer (BDO) to support PATH's business development and partnership efforts with multiple donors, including the United States government (USAID, CDC, NIH, etc.), other governments, foundations, and the private sector. This position will focus on developing new business intelligence, new business response strategy and proposal implementation, requiring both strategic and tactical levels of support. This position is pivotal in the development of sound, responsive and compelling bids. Partnering with the PATH Tanzania country program and other PATH country and technical programs and others across the organization, the BDO will be in the center of the work, able to affect the direction of key opportunities. They will work both internally across the organization as well as externally with donors and partners, leading both large and small teams. Duties may require travel, when safe to do so, and a flexible work schedule to permit early morning or late evening calls or assignments.

Detailed job descriptions and application instructions

Please visit our website <http://www.path.org> for more details on this position. Qualified candidates should submit their resume and cover letter online to apply through our website not later than **Wednesday February 2, 2022**. We appreciate your application, but only shortlisted candidates shall be contacted.

PATH IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



PUBLIC NOTICE APPLICATION FOR LICENCES UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received applications for Licences under the converged Licensing Framework from the following applicant:-

APPLICANT NAME	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS/NATIONALITY	SHARES
OYA Fintech Limited	Application Services Licence	Rahul Sahni (indian) Saikrishna Gannevaram (indian)	70.0000000000 30.0000000000

Pursuant to section 8 of Electronic and Postal Communication Act, Cap 306 of the Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of the licences to the applicants to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration

Comments should be submitted to:

Director General
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
P.O.Box 474
14414 DAR ES SALAAM
Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2
Fax: +255 22 241 2009
Email: dg@tcra.go.tz

Minister gives 13-days to resolve mine conflict

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

DEPUTY Minister for minerals, Dr Steven Kiruswa, has given 13 days to officials of Iramba District and Singida regional mineral office to resolve existing conflict at Block No 22 by trustee members of Ukombozi mine.

Dr Kiruswa gave the directive on Tuesday this week when speaking to small miners of Ukombozi mine during his one-day official visit to inspect the ministry's projects in the mineral sector and listen to miners' challenges.

After he listened to the complaints from both sides of the conflict, he said if they will not arrive at consensus, the government can withdraw the mining licence and

give it to another investor.

Meanwhile, Kiruswa praised mining sector officials of Singida Region for bypassing revenue collection targets for the current Financial Year in which the collected 142 per cent of the set target.

Responding to a question in regard to the non-issuance of mining licences to small miners, he said the main task is to identify them, to know their number, who already have licences because, he said the government aim is to manage the mining sector and to see every miner gets a licence and equipment as requested.

The miners, among others, they asked the deputy Minister to assist them to get reliable electricity as the power they had was not reliable.

For his part, the Acting Singida Region Resident Mining Officer, Chone Malembo, speaking on the qualifications of those seeking mining licences, said Section 8 of the Mining Act says even small miners can get mining licences, so long as they are Tanzania citizens of 18 years of age and above.

He mentioned other qualifications that the applicant must not have faced criminal prosecution or declared by the court as bankrupt, must have a TIN number and an ID card including NIDA, Drivers Licence or passport. For his part, Iramba District Commissioner, Seleman Mwenda said in FY 2020/21 they produced 319,000 grams of minerals on which the government earned over 400bn/- in revenue.



Neema Rajabu (2nd-R) of Chato in Geita Region, a winner of Vodacom Tanzania's 'Show Love, Tule Shangwe' promotion raffle, shows off the smart television she was presented with at a ceremony held at Igombe Stand grounds in Mwanza city earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

RESIDENTS in Mbeya District are complaining over raising fertiliser prices, expressing worries on food security in coming months because of poor harvests especially maize crop.

They said this on Tuesday during a meeting with Mbeya Rural MP, Oran Njeza who was on a tour to visit and talk to citizens at various places within the constituency. The farmers claimed that most of them could afford to buy fertilizers, hence poor harvests.

Jailos Mwakanyamale from Iwindi Ward said they have so far failed to purchasing fertilizers for the crop's growing stage. He said the types of fertilizers required for the maize growing stage were sold at between 40,000/- and 50,000/-, but the price has increased to 105,000/-.

Mwakanyamale asked the

Mbeya residents complain about fertiliser price hiking

government to intervene in the matter to enable farmers to purchase the products, which he said were available in almost all the shops.

He said there are dangers for many people in the area to face food shortage and have their economies shrinking as they would have fewer crops to sell.

"This is a serious problem; most of us cannot afford to buy fertilizers due to its price. We can only grow crops for our families and not for business," he said.

Sajila Kilembe called upon the government to come up with a system to control the price of agricultural inputs including

fertilizers. Responding, the MP said he has started to consult some distributors and sellers to see how they can assist farmers to get fertilizers at reasonable prices. He said the government is taking measures to control raising fertilizer prices which include allowing business people to import the product.

"The rise in fertilizer prices is associated with the outbreak of COVID-19. Most producers have reduced production and some of them have closed their factories," he said, adding the government has started to revive some dead fertilizer manufacturing factories to reduce reliance on imported fertilizers.



Job Advertisement

Position: Project Officer – Human Rights Advocacy

Background	<p>Madrasa Early Childhood Programme -Zanzibar (MECP-Z) is an affiliate of The Aga Khan Foundation (AKF). For 33 years MECP-Z has been implementing Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes in Zanzibar and in 2014 started to deliver its programming in mainland Tanzania.</p> <p>Currently MECP-Z is implementing Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) project in Zanzibar aimed at airing the voices of people with disability to ensure disability issues are addressed and mainstreamed in social, economic, and political aspects and able to show everyone that disability is not inability. The project is delivered in partnership with Department of Disability Affairs (DDA) and Shirikisho la Jumuiya za Watu Wenye Ulemavu Zanzibar (SHIJUWAZA) under the support of Norwegian Association of Disabled (NAD).</p> <p>MECP-Z is looking for one committed and qualified professional to fill the above position for a duration of three years.</p>
Position 1:	Project officer: Human Rights Advocacy (HRA)
Roles and Responsibilities	<p>General:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Work as Liaison officer between SHIJUWAZA and MECP-Z in the project. Liaise closely with NAD Oslo when required, while keeping MECP-Z and other actors informed. Liaise with key CBID actors on the CBID capacity development of key government structures, which includes HRA elements, when requested. Verify/Monitor the work undertaken by the partners and service providers and reporting. Promote gender mainstreaming and inclusiveness within the project. Identify local challenges and risks that may affect the project and propose mitigation options. Ensure a harmonious relationship between the project, the communities, the government and other stakeholders. Facilitate smooth working conditions for external technical advisers on both HRA components. <p>Specific focus:</p> <p>Component 1: Capacity Building and strengthening of SHIJUWAZA</p> <p>the project, the government and other stakeholders. Lead human rights advocacy (HRA) work in Zanzibar and work closely with Federation of Disability People's organizations (SHIJUWAZA). Collaborate in building the organization capacity of SHIJUWAZA. Produce project reports including activities accomplished, targets reached, and ongoing monitoring information. Develop work plan and budget, request funds for activities and timely retirement of implemented activities.</p> <p>Component 2: Mainstreaming disability through the process of CBID</p> <p>Promote gender mainstreaming and inclusiveness in the selected districts. In collaboration with appropriate stakeholders, identify DPOs in selected area of project implementation. Maintain good communication with other NGOs and other local government officers, implementing partners and other relevant stakeholders. Follow up and observe the practice of rights of People with disability and in collaboration with DPOs take actions where needed. Identify potential success stories and learnings from the field. Identify local challenges and risks that may affect the project and propose mitigation options. Ensure a harmonious relationship between</p>
Qualification, Requirements and experiences	<p>The applicant is expected to have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> At least a Degree in Law, Social Sciences, Project Management. (Masters is an added advantage). Knowledge and/or experience working with rights based civil society organisations. Experience working as a facilitator of participatory learning and active grassroots engagement. Experience in coordinating and collaboration between several actors Social organization skills and experience in Human rights chains At least 2 years of successful work with results-based project management. Strong computer skills (Ms. Word, Excel and PowerPoint). Fluent in writing and speaking for both English and Swahili languages.
Application Process and Deadline	<p>Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and CV with the names and contact information of three referees on or before close of business 30th January 2022 to:</p> <p>Programme Director, Madrasa Early Childhood Program, Zanzibar, P. O. Box 3716 Kiponda Street Zanzibar</p> <p>All applications MUST be sent via email to: recruit.mecpz@akdn.org Applications through any other means will be disregarded.</p> <p>Please mention the Title of the Position in the subject of your Email and do not attach any document other than the CV and cover letter.</p> <p>Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Women and People with Disabilities are highly encouraged to apply. MECP-Z is an equal opportunity employer.</p>

166596



BARRICK
BULYANHULU

Advertisement

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION BUL-RFQ-22-01-01 - HDPE LINER MATERIALS

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine ("the Company"), a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Quotes from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Liner types and specifications:

- 2.0mm HDPE Smooth Geomembrane (Size 7mtrs x 110 mtrs) Qty = 35 Rolls
- 1.5mm HDPE Smooth Geomembrane (Size 7mtrs x 150 mtrs) Qty = 35 Rolls
- GSE GCL 4000g/m² (Size 6 mtrs x 60 mtrs) Qty = 100 Rolls
- GSE Hyper Net ST-E (Size 2 mtrs x 50 mtrs) Qty = 200 Rolls
- GSE 4mm Welding Rod = Qty = 1000 Kg
- Bentonite soil @ 25kg = Qty = 50 Bags

Key documents

- Clear and detailed Quotation
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- A written statement indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018;
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of dealership as required;
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner

Submission of Quotes

Please submit your quotes via email to bulytender@barrick.com. The reference "BUL-RFQ-22-01-01 - HDPE LINER MATERIALS" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a quote through this advertisement

Key Dates

- Last date to submit quotes: **28th January 2022**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited

RC directs all pupils selected to join Form One right away

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

SHINYANGA Regional Commissioner Sophia Mjema has directed all 29,757 pupils who have been selected to join Form One this year to ensure they report to school as there are more classes to accommodate them. Mjema made the remarks yesterday when he opened the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) saying the region has finalised the construction of 453 classrooms under the COVID-19 relief fund in which 393 are for secondary schools and 60 are for unregistered schools. She called upon district directors and other education authorities to follow up and trace all students who are supposed to report for classes this season and bring a report before

March 1, this year. "In Shinyanga we received 17.4bn/- and in education we received 9.1bn/- for construction of 453 classrooms which have been completed by 100-percent," she said. The RC called upon the officials to continue providing education to parents and guardians to take their children to school so that the investment on infrastructure which the government has made should be meaningful. For his part, the acting regional education officer for Shinyanga Elysalver Nkanga said the turnout for pupils who register for studies in the region has been impressive saying that the process was in progress. He said there were 26,255 pupils who were selected to start form one in the region in 2021 but only 24,226 reported



Selemani Jafo (gesturing), Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), has a word with journalists in Tanga Region shortly after visiting Amboni gorge following the recent cessation of stone quarry activities in the area. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

DEPUTY Minister for Communications and Information Technology Eng Andrew Kundo has challenged the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) and Tanzania Posts Corporation (TPC) to work closely with institutions working closely with TPC and looking at better ways to control sabotage of its services. Eng Kundo made the remarks in Arusha yesterday when speaking at the climax of celebrations to mark the Africa Post Day. The event was held at the Pan African Postal Union (PAPU) headquarters in Arusha. "May I direct all those engaging in transportation of parcels to inform their customers on what kind of services they will get at their office. I am happy to hear

Kundo challenges TCRA, TPC to forge relationships

that TPC has come up with the word 'SmartPosta', an innovation that will lead to the corporation getting more customers," said Eng Kundo. He said such technological innovations would, apart from adding the number of customers, boost government revenues. He said the government would love to get regular updates on the development of the new innovations as well as other services. The Deputy Minister noted that communications technology has been a blessing to TPC because it has been using technology to introduce new post services that are needed by customers. He said that TPC and CRA should make sure they work closely with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA)'s Customs Department, Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA), airports, aviation companies, financial services providers and other stakeholders. He said the on-going technological advancements are likely to transform TPC into a modernized services provider. He said such technological transformation cannot be reached without cooperation with other institutions. Postmaster General, Macrice Mbodo said they are determined to ensure development of the company, promising the deputy minister that TPC will collaborate with all the stakeholders towards improvement of its services.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN THE PROVISION OF CLEANING SERVICES TO SANDVIK MINING & CONSTRUCTION TANZANIA LTD

Sandvik Mining and Construction Tanzania Limited (THE COMPANY) is locally registered company located in Mwanza, on the edge of Lake Victoria.

The purpose of this EOI is to explore the market for service providers that possess the requisite skills, knowledge and capacity to provide the required cleaning and gardening services to the Company.

Pre-Qualification Criteria

1. At least one active cleaning contract, for premises covering 4000m2 or more.
2. Compliant with Local Content Regulations.
3. Demonstrated or verifiable cleaning contracts / references
4. Compliant with all required Permits, Certifications and Licenses

Scope of Work

Admin / Warehouse / Workshop / Guardhouse Buildings

1) General / Daily Cleaning

- Dusting of all furniture and fittings in all offices including main reception area
- Emptying of all waste-bins in all areas throughout the premises
- Washing, cleaning, and disinfecting of tiled floors vanity slabs, washbasins, Urinals, mirrors, taps, etc. in all toilets
- Washing and cleaning of tiled floors in all areas
- Replenish soap, paper toweling, and toilet paper in all toilets where necessary
- Report damages, leaks etc. to the Facility Manager
- Wiping of doorknobs and handles with a damp cloth
- Collecting all paper and all waste and depositing in appropriate Bins
- Emptying all Shredding Machines Twice per day
- Ensuring that the kitchen and event area is always kept clean and tidy

2) Window blinds and Glass walls and doors

- These must be dusted daily

3) Kitchens and Canteen

- Ensuring the kitchen is always clean
- Washing, drying, packing away of Cutlery, Cups, Plates and any other utensils and equipment.
- Ensuring the counter tops, tables and chairs are clean and dry
- Cleaning of the microwave, refrigerator, sink, and coffee machine once daily
- Cleaning of all floors

4) Monthly

- Washing of Windows and Glass doors
- Cleaning behind and under heavy furniture

5) Equipment and Consumables

- Sandvik will provide all equipment and consumables required.
- Storage space will be provided to keep equipment and chemicals

6) Gardening

- Maintain the Garden around the facility

Expression of Interest

If your organization meets the above pre-qualification criteria, and you would like to be invited to tender, please submit your Expression of Interest, Company Profile and evidence of the above listed pre-qualifications tenders.tanzania@sandvik.com

The Reference "SMCT/MF01/2022" must be quoted in the subject of the email

Last Date for submission: 31st January 2022



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN THE PROVISION OF GOODS TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO SANDVIK MINING & CONSTRUCTION TANZANIA LTD

Sandvik Mining and Construction Tanzania Limited (THE COMPANY) is locally registered company located in Mwanza, on the edge of Lake Victoria.

The company is in the market for a Transport Service provider to delivery Sandvik products from Mwanza to various Mines and destinations across Tanzania.

Pre-Qualification Criteria

1. At least one active transportation contract
2. Compliant with Local Content Regulations.
3. Demonstrated or verifiable transportation contracts / references
4. Compliant with all required Permits, Certifications and Licenses

Terms and Conditions

The terms, conditions, and other requirements for transportation will involve, but shall not be limited to, the following:

Transportation of Sandvik products from Mwanza to North Mara, Bulyanhulu, Geita, Shanta Gold Mines and to Dar es salaam to Mwanza . The contractor shall be in a position to provide an adequate number of roadworthy trucks having a minimum capacity of 01Ton up to 30Tons. Service Records for the fleet must be available. Trucks having a larger capacity are also acceptable. All trucks should be suitable for the transportation of all shipments and should be registered with the relevant Authorities. Trucks with open sides/flat beds or box body are acceptable. See below required route and capacity required on the table below:

ROUTE AND CAPACITY

ORIGIN	DESTINATION	TRUCKS TONNAGE
MWANZA	GEITA	1Ton , 3Ton , 7Ton , 10Ton , 30Ton
	NORTH MARA	
	BULYANHULU	
	SHANTA	
DAR ES SALAAM	MWANZA	
TOWN TRIPS WITHIN MWANZA		

- [1] A physical check of the operational fleet will be conducted prior to awarding of the contract and also at the time of the loading of shipments. Sandvik reserves the right to reject any truck that it deems to be unfit for the transportation of goods. Drivers assigned to the truck(s) should have a valid driving license authorizing the driver to drive the assigned truck.
- [2] Quotes should be per route to each destination and should be in terms of U.S. dollars or TZS.
- [3] Immediately upon accepting the commodity for transportation, the Contractor shall assume responsibility for this commodity and shall be liable for all losses and/or damages to the commodities while in the custody of the Contractor. Cost of commodities either lost and/or damaged will be repaid by the contractor or deducted from the bills of the contractor.
- [4] Contract for the transportation of commodities will be awarded on the basis of the following:
 - [a] Number of trucks owned by the contractor
 - [b] Number of trucks at the disposal of the contractor
 - [c] Condition and roadworthiness of the fleet
 - [d] Carrying capacity of the fleet
 - [e] Proven track record and past performance/experience in similar contracts
 - [f] The capacity to respond immediately with an adequate number of trucks in an emergency situation would be an added advantage.
 - [g] Driver Safety Program (including: Accident prevention, Fatigue Control and Drug and Alcohol testing.
 - [h] Accident Management System

Expression of Interest

If your organization meets the above pre-qualification criteria, and you would like to be invited to tender, please submit your Expression of interest, Company Profile, all supportive legal certificates and evidence of the above listed pre-qualifications to tenders.tanzania@sandvik.com.

The reference "SMCT/TR01/2022" must be quoted in the subject line of the email

Last Date for submission: 31st January 2022

10,000 tree seedlings to be planted in Dodoma City this year - RC Mtaka

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DODOMA regional authority has set aside 10,000 tree seedlings to be planted in different parts of the region including the government city within Dodoma City.

Speaking here recently, Regional Commissioner, Anthony Mtaka said the trees will be planted during this rainy season that has since started in several parts of the region.

"We are continuing with the campaign aimed at encouraging people to plant trees in the city and

the region at large" he said, adding that residents should prepare holes to plant trees around their residential areas.

According to the RC, the city residents are supposed to plant fruits as well as those for shade at this time while their rural-based counterparts are preparing farming fields.

Other stakeholders including private sector have in several occasions responded in the move to make Dodoma green. Among them include the Tanzania Agricultural

Development Bank (TADB) that plans to plant 4,000 trees as a way to support the government efforts in making Dodoma city green.

Speaking at the Dodoma Green awards event late last year, the TADB Manager Central Zone, Yodas Mwanakatwe said that TADB always cares for the environment as a way of achieving economic goals.

Apart from applauding the project whose chairperson is the former Prime Minister, Mizengo Pinda, Mwanakatwe said the event aimed at recognizing the contribution of

government institutions, private organisations, citizens, schools and the defense and security organs that have collaborated to ensure Dodoma becomes green by planting trees.

"Agricultural and economic development cannot be achieved if there isn't sustainable conservation of the environment, therefore we are obliged to contribute to the company like this so that our country may have good development and a conducive environment," said Mwanakatwe.

He said in doing development activities like agriculture or construction of industries the environment is highly affected therefore, the mobilization in the tree planting project will help conserve and protect the environment.

"Apart from facilitating agriculture, livestock and fishing sector, TADB also works to make sure that the environment in which these activities are taking place is

protected and conserved so that they can be used by both current and future generations," said Mwanakatwe.

Furthermore, he called upon stakeholders in the agriculture, livestock and fishing sectors to make sure that they take care of their environment which includes planting trees that will help the country become green and help reduce carbon dioxide in the world.

"There has been an increase of carbon dioxide in the world which is a result of the increase of human activities and therefore to combat the situation, it is important to initiate campaigns like these that encourage tree planting," said Mwanakatwe.

He explained that TADB will continue to play its part to the community to ensure that the plan to plant trees and make Dodoma city green is implemented through actions, noting further that Dodoma will be an example in the

implementation of planting trees countrywide.

On the side of the Project's Chairman and former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda, apart from congratulating TADB on successfully carrying out the event, he advised the government to come up with a system where every household in the Dodoma region makes sure it plants five trees to combat the drought situation of that city.

"It is essential for the government to see to it that it instigates citizens in every household to plant at least five trees and tend to them so that it may be part of giving them fresh air as well as the implementation of the project to make Dodoma green," stated Pinda.

For his part, Mtaka said that the planting of trees and environment conservation is the region's priority and stated that he has accepted the suggestion of the project's Chairperson to make sure that every household plants five trees as a way of implementing the campaign.



IOM International Organization for Migration
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

INVITATION FOR SALE OF USED VEHICLE

Date: 17th January 2022
Ref: IOM/DAR/2022/011

The International Organization for Migration Invites sealed bid document from interested bidders for the sale of the following used vehicles as described in below.

LOT NO	TYPE OF VEHICLE	ENGINE NUMBER	YEAR OF MANUFACTURE
LOT 1	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER 76 HARDTOP	1HZ0781724	Year 2014
LOT 2	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER 78 HARDTOP	1HZ0819331	Year 2015
LOT 3	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER 76 HARDTOP	1HZ0850230	Year 2016
LOT 4	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER 78 HARDTOP	1HZ0847324	Year 2016

Instruction to Bidders:

- The vehicles are being sold on the condition of "as is" and without recourse or warranties of any kind.
- Bidders may bid for a single or multiple lot.
- Interested eligible bidders are allowed to inspect the vehicles daily from 10:00AM – 11:00AM from 24th January to 4th February 2022, at the following address:

IOM Sub Office Kasulu,
Bogwe secondary road, Kasulu.

- Bid prices must be submitted separately for each Lot. IOM will not consider any lump sum offer. Any such bid shall be automatically disqualified.
- The enclosed Bid Form shall be filled and submitted separately for each Vehicle in a sealed envelope addressed to:

Procurement & Logistics Officer,
International Organization for Migration
Kasulu Sub Office
P.O. Box 303
Kasulu, Tanzania

The enclosed bids form must be delivered by hand on or before the deadline of the bid submission date. The currency of the bid and figures shall be clearly indicated in order to avoid ambiguity. Bids that do not fulfill this requirement will be disqualified.

- Interested bidders may obtain the Bid Form from the following address:
IOM Sub Office Kasulu,
Bogwe secondary road, P.O. Box 303, Kasulu.
Or on the IOM Website: <http://tanzania.iom.int/procurement>
- Bids must be accompanied with bid security of TZS 200,000.00 (Two Hundred Thousand Tanzania Shilling) for each Lot. The bid security will be returned to unsuccessful bidders after completion of the bid process.
- The vehicle will be sold to the bidder with the highest offer. In case of having more than two bidders quoting the same price, IOM will open a rebid between those who provide same quoting price.
- The deadline for submission of bids is 04:30PM (Local time) on 07th February 2022. All bids must be registered upon delivery. The outer cover shall be clearly marked "PURCHASE OF USED VEHICLES LOT NO...."
- Bids received after the closing date will not be considered.
- The successful bidder shall be notified by a letter of award and request for payment to IOM within five (5) business days. The vehicle must be removed from the premises of IOM Kasulu within three (3) business days after payment.
- If the winning bidders fail to pay the winning amount in five days, the bidder shall forfeit the entire bid security and IOM may dispose of the vehicle in any way it seems fit.
- If the winning bidder fails to remove the vehicle within the specified dates, IOM shall take appropriate action as necessary and will not be held responsible for any damage caused.
- IOM will not provide any assistance, either mechanic or manpower, for removal of the vehicle.
- The winning bidders are responsible for any statutory fees required while transferring ownership of the vehicle.
- The IOM reserves the right to accept, reject or cancel any or all bids.

International Organization for Migration,
Tanzania

166544



Liwale Zuberi Kuchauka (2nd-R, in cap), legislator for Liwale constituency in Lindi Region, participates in the construction of Kiyeegei bridge along the Lilombe-Liwale road at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

90 pc of Form One students reported to specific schools - says Mbeya REO

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MORE than 90 percent of all the students selected to join secondary school education in Mbeya this year have reported at their specific schools, the Region's Education Officer Ernest Hinju said yesterday.

He, however, noted that all the pupils registered for kindergarten and primary school education have been

able to report to their schools following completion of classroom construction.

The official was speaking during a tour by Mbeya District Commissioner, Dr Rashid Chuachua which was meant to inspect students' attendance at public schools, three days after the schools reopened for the 2022 academic year.

Dr Chuachua visited some primary and secondary schools within Mbeya city whereas he was impressed with the turnover of students at most of the schools. The District Commissioner was accompanied by members of the regional safety and security committee.

Hinju informed the DC that they are consulting all the district and council education officers to get feedback on the student's turnover this January. He said the move will help to know the available challenges and resolve them.

"All eligible students have reported at their specific schools. We are determined to ensure that no child is left behind in search of education, said Hinju, adding the good response of students follows a good relationship between officials at local government level, students, parents and school heads.

Iganzo secondary school head teacher, Cliff Gasper linked the good turn-up of students with the government's free education policy whereas parents are only buying school uniforms and stationeries for their children.

"Parents were avoiding taking students to secondary schools over fears of being ordered to pay school fees and other contributions," he added.

In late 2015, the government abolished fees for state-run secondary schools - 13 years after primary school fees were ended. The move was meant to guarantee every child in the country 11 years of free schooling.

Some costs remained - including uniforms, sports gear and learning materials such as exercise books and pens.

In a major policy shift, primary and secondary schooling is now free for all, as the government joined its East African neighbor Uganda in offering universal education free of charge.

The move to scrap fees in primary schools in 2002 helped to increase primary enrolment from 59percent of children aged seven to 13 in 2000 to 94-percent in 2011, according to UNICEF.

But parents still had to pay for extras like school books and uniforms as well as school fees for some secondary schools.

The new policy aimed to free families from any fees and contributions for 11 years of schooling.

Tanzania is on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goal on education - by enrolling more than 90-percent of children in primary schools, abolishing fees and building schools in every village.



TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH MEDIA
AROUND THE WORLD

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

BBC Media Action is the BBC's international charity. We believe in the power of media and communication to help reduce poverty and support people in understanding their rights. Our aim is to inform, connect and empower people around the world. With an expanding portfolio, we are now advertising for the following position in Tanzania:

Research Manager: We are looking for a talented and experienced Research Manager to lead innovative media and development research to support BBC Media Action's work in Tanzania.

The Research Manager will be an experienced quantitative and qualitative researcher with strong design and analytical skills. He/she will manage all aspects of audience research activities conducted to inform the strategy, content, and quality and to evaluate the impact of Media Action's media development and development communications projects in Tanzania.

Please only apply if you meet the basic criteria under the person specification which can be downloaded at:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction/jobs/research-manager-tanzania-jan-2022/>

Candidates should send their CV and a cover letter (PDF or Microsoft Word format) which outlines their experience and suitability for the role in English by email to: recruitment@tz.bbcmmediaaction.org with the title of the position applied for in the subject line by **5pm on 30th January 2022**. Please do not send certificates or other attachments. Applicants with no separate cover letter will not be considered. These are local posts applicable to people who have the legal right to live and work in Tanzania and national terms and conditions will apply. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

The role may involve working with groups of vulnerable children and adults. For the successful candidate, mandatory training will be provided on BBC Media Action's safeguarding policy and staff code of conduct. A police background check may form part of the recruitment process. BBC Media Action operates a zero-tolerance policy concerning all forms of abuse and exploitation of vulnerable people.

BBC Media Action has zero tolerance for fraud and exploitation. If you have any concerns, please share with us through whistle-blower@tz.bbcmmediaaction.org

216657901

BRAKES TANZANIA LIMITED (SYNARGE GROUP OF COMPANIES)
P.O.BOX 40144, Plot 21 Nyerere Road,
Dar es salaam - Tanzania

PUBLIC NOTICE



Brakes Tanzania Ltd (Synarge Group of Companies) hereby would like to inform the public that Mr. NASSOR SEIF SULEIMANI, is no longer our employee effective from 20-02-2021

Please take note that any dealing /transaction Concluded by him will not be recognised by the Company. Brakes Tanzania Ltd will not be liable/responsible for any Transactions made by the above mentioned.

166588



A small trader in business at a roadside open-air shop of sorts near Mbezi Mwisho bus stand in Ubungo municipality, Dar es Salaam, yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN Noelah Msuya, founder of Child Support Tanzania (CST) won the 2021 Franco-German Prize for Human Rights for her outstanding contributions that enable disadvantaged and disabled children to receive education. Msuya is among the 15 people who were presented with the award that was announced on December 10th 2021, the International Human Rights Day, according to a statement released by the Germany Embassy in Dar es Salaam yesterday. German Foreign Minister, Annalena Baerbock and French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian presented fifteen people with the Franco-German Prize for Human Rights. The award recognizes the efforts

Tanzanian wins the French-German human rights prize

of all those who work tirelessly every day to advance the causes of human rights and the rule of law. It is presented decentralized by the French and German missions in various locations around the world. Yesterday, the German and the French Ambassador to Tanzania, Regine Hess and Nabil Hajlaoui presented a certificate and a medal designed by artist Anna Martha Napp to Noelah Msuya. The medal symbolizes the active commitment to the defense of human rights and sends a clear message of appreciation. Child Support Tanzania (CST), an

NGO with a focus on education, is dedicated to providing education for disabled and other disadvantaged children. CST was founded in 2008 and has since been led by Noelah Msuya. The NGO works in Mbeya Region and supports not only disadvantaged and disabled children and young people but also women who see themselves exposed to socio-economic problems. CST works with 12 partner organizations, the government of Tanzania and the private sector (social responsibility programmes). Msuya is a trained special

education teacher. Her professional experience includes the areas of organization, development, accounting for non-profit organizations in the education sector. She was a member of the National Inclusive Education Strategy Review Committee of the Department of Science, Education and Technology. Within the framework of the UN, Germany and France are jointly committed to the right to education for people with disabilities. In Tanzania, they are equally committed to civil society and local initiatives.

64 crop seed varieties released in Tanzania within three years

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

A TOTAL of 64 varieties were released in Tanzania for the four crops between 2018 and 2020, according to a special research conducted by the African Seed Access Index (TASAI). Among the released seeds, 42 were maize varieties, three varieties for rice, 11 for bean and eight varieties were for sunflower. According to a relevant report made available to The Guardian, most of the varieties were maize, a consistent trend since 2000. "Of the 64 varieties released, 45 varieties (35 maize varieties, one rice variety, two bean varieties, and seven sunflower varieties) came from the private sector, while the remaining 19 were produced by the public institutions. This is noteworthy since most of the breeders (29 of 36) work in the public sector," the report read in part. The report suggests that one of the contribution factors to the high number of varieties released by the private sector is the collaboration between seed companies and institutions like CIMMYT for maize. Moreover, the vital research, conducted by a group high profile agro researchers, including Edward Mabaya, Firmin Mizabwa, Canuth Komba, Michael Waithaka, Mainza Muyoga, Krisztina Tihanyi and George Kanyeji depicts an increase in the number of varieties sold in the country. "A total of 61 maize varieties, 3 rice, 14 bean and eight sunflower varieties were sold in 2020. The most popular maize varieties were UH 6303, Situka, MI, UH 615 and Staha," the report depicts. According to the report, the popular rice varieties were TXD 306, which was sold by all seed companies selling rice seed, and TXD 88. "The most popular sunflower varieties in the market were Record, was sold by 68 per cent of the

companies. The second popular sunflower seed were Super Sun 66 and Super Sun 64, we're sold by 9 per cent of seed companies," the report presents. Giving more details pertaining to the performance of the country's seed industry, the report shows that, according to record from the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI), up to 2020, there were a total 218 registered seed companies in Tanzania involved in the production and marketing of seed and planting materials. "Out of these, 43 companies were involved in the production, import, export and marketing of seed of at least one of the four focus crops," according to the findings. Furthermore, the research established an impressive increase in the number of registered seed companies in the country. "In 2016, Tanzania had a total of 104 registered seed companies, whereby by 2020, the number catapults to 218, which is an increase of at least 110 percent," the report stipulates. The 25- page report indicate that, in 2020 the surveyed seed companies produced 18,432 MT of maize seed, 476 MT of rice seed, 1,499 MT of bean seed and 649 MT of sunflower seed, making a total of 21,056 MT. The research also established that competition among seed companies benefited farmers through lower prices, wider choices, increased innovation, and better customer service. "In 2020, the market share of the top four seed companies was high for maize (74pc), rice (100pc), and bean 98 percent" the report presents. "Out of these, 43 companies were involved in the production, import, export and marketing of seed of at least one of the four focus crops"

By Olivia Kageruka

Rwanda's soybean, sunflower growers call for more support

SOYBEAN and sunflower farmers have appealed for financial and technical support from the government to help boost their production and offset the high prices of cooking oil. The two crops are used as raw materials in the making of cooking oil, which continues to register a surge in prices on the Rwandan market due to a supply shortage. Soybean and sunflower farmers have argued that they could help plug the cooking oil gap by increasing the production of raw materials locally. However, in order to bolster local production of the two crops, growers need support in terms of finances and knowledge of better farming practices. According to Emmanuel Munyantwari, the president of COPROMAGI—a Gatsibo-based cooperative that groups together soybean and maize growers—they need irrigation schemes to deal with changing weather patterns. Unreliable rains and the absence of professional advice continue to undermine the quality and quantity of their output and effectively hurt their fortunes, he added. The cooperative has nine hectares, which can produce some five tonnes of soybeans in a single harvest, but they continue to struggle during the dry season owing to the lack of irrigation facilities. Experts in agriculture say that average harvests in irrigated farms are 90 per cent higher than in rain-fed farms.

Growers have also decried the low prices of soybeans, saying they do not reflect the high cost of farm inputs. Munyantwari believes that, for example, seed subsidies would help offset the discrepancies. The farm gate price for a kilogramme of soybean is between Rwf300 and Rwf500, he added. In addition, growers have asked for support in form of best agriculture practices as well as business skills. Alphonsine Nzamwita, a sunflower grower in Gatsibo District, hinted at

similar challenges, specifically financial constraints that limit their ability to produce more, appealing for support in form of improved seeds. Deputy Director General of Rwanda Agriculture Board in charge of Agriculture Development at Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB) Dr Charles Bucagu said they are working with some farmers on improving the quality of seeds. "We are working with seed multipliers to improve the quality of seeds and make them more affordable," Bucagu said.




**United Republic of Tanzania
Ministry of Water**

Belgian Development Agency

CALL FOR BIDS

Public Works Contract Enabel TAN1403211-10026

The Government of Tanzania with funding from the Kingdom of Belgium is implementing a water and sanitation programme in Kigoma region. The program is being implemented through RUWASA and through public works contracts procured through Enabel, Belgian Development Agency. The program has three specific objectives namely: 1) enhancing sustainable water supply operations and maintenance, 2) construction and rehabilitation of water supply schemes and 3) promotion of safe hygiene practices in domestic water management. Under the second result area, the programme is now seeking to engage capable construction companies for works, Enabel TAN1403211-10026 which is in two lots as below.

Lot 1: Construction of Kidyama Water Supply Scheme
This is a groundwater development project intending to serve communities in the peripheral of Kasulu Town and some parts of the urban areas. Under this contract the program seeks to construct a groundwater pumping station, riser main pipeline, a storage tank, and distribution network.

Lot 2: Construction of Nyanganga Water Supply Scheme
This project seeks to pump water from Mkuti River in Uvinza District to serve a growing population of Nyanganga village. It therefore intends to construct an intake on the river, a riser main pipeline, storage tank and gravity-flow water supply network.

More information on this contract and these lots is found on Enabel website www.enabel.be, in the Belgian Public Tender bulletin (BDA) and on the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) websites, and also on <https://btctanzania.wordpress.com/>.

Execution of these two projects under this contract has a strictly limited timeframe and therefore prospective contractors must have demonstrable requisite technical and financial capacity to implement this contract without any extension or pre-financing. The same must have a track record of being able to implement similar works within a limited time.

Interested companies are encouraged to download the tender specifications on the websites provided above and duly submit their bid on or before **Monday, February 14, 2022, at 16:00 pm East Africa Time**. All interested tenderers will be accorded a clarification meeting and a guided site tour at **9.00 am on January 20, 2022, in Kigoma**.

Any queries must be directed via email to antony.warrant@enabel.be

A PRODUCT OF
The Coca-Cola Company



PUBLIC NOTICE

BONITE BOTTLERS LTD would like to inform the general public on our compliance of the government ban on the use of **plastic seals** on all **Kilimanjaro Drinking Water** bottle caps. This is inline with adhering to the ongoing government green policy on conserving the environment.





[@kilimanjaro_drinking_water](https://www.facebook.com/kilimanjaro_drinking_water)

[kilimanjarodrinkingwater](https://www.facebook.com/kilimanjarodrinkingwater)

kdw@bbl.co.tz

+255 762628166 | +255 659785276 | +255 272754422

Inclusive green growth: For the future we want

AGRICULTURE is the foundation of life, as we know it. It is what led to our contemporary human societies. This means there is no culture without agriculture. Civilisation began when humans settled in one place and started growing crops.

We cannot live without a system that grows our food. We cannot flourish without healthy food. In Tanzania, like elsewhere in Africa, agriculture is the engine that drives growth and empowers people with food self-sufficiency, maintains stewardship over the environment and builds a sense of community belonging.

Farmers constitute 85 per cent of the country's workforce and they are the foundation of its economy, and the key to triggering its broader growth.

Research shows that increasing agricultural productivity is the most effective way to reduce poverty afflicting the majority rural dwellers in this great East African nation.

In fact, agricultural stakeholders say the sector offers the country its best opportunity to turn a vicious cycle of poverty into a virtuous cycle of development. That is why leaders, policymakers and bilateral donors support the country's initiatives aimed at boosting agriculture and food security.

Tanzania is ready to borrow a leaf from Korea's economic growth model that uses natural resources in a sustainable manner towards industrialisation with minimal environmental risks.

Korea embraced the Green Growth Initiative towards a vision

of 'Low Carbon, Green Growth' as the core of the country's new vision on the 60th anniversary of the founding nation.

Minister of State in Vice President's Office, Union Matters and Environment, January Makamba said in Dar es Salaam recently that the government will promote sectors that have the most potential for job creation and capable of addressing resource efficiency and environment. "As we move towards industrialisation within the next ten years, we'll also be in the forefront in bringing about Green Growth through resource efficiency policies and strategies," said the minister at the opening of the fourth Korean Green Growth Annual event in the city.

The initiative is currently executed jointly by the Korean Green Growth Trust Fund and the World Bank. Both partners share a common goal to reduce poverty and promote shared economic prosperity in environmentally responsible and socially inclusive way.

Indeed there is a lot to learn from Korea as the East Asian nation has become a leading global force in promoting green growth as a new development paradigm.

We should also envisage having one industry's waste becoming another's raw material.

It is equally important that the government should ensure that Green Growth catalyses investment and innovations which underpin sustainable growth and give rise to new economic opportunities while taking full account of the social consequences of greening the growth dynamic economies.

African leaders should commit to overcome malnutrition

THERE is every reason to care: poor nutrition is the main cause of death for millions of children under five. Indeed, 3 million children die every year in Africa from malnutrition. If current trends continue to 2030, Africa will have lost a mind boggling 36 million children because they didn't have enough to eat or to eat well enough.

While fortifying staple foods, such as wheat flour and salt, has become routine in urban parts of malnutrition-prone Africa, bio-fortification - the breeding of more nutritious vegetables, grains and pulses - is still a relatively new phenomenon for Africa, but it is set to explode over the next decade, say food security experts.

Depression is a symptom of some physical diseases; a side effect of some drugs and medical treatments; and a symptom of some mood disorders such as major depressive disorder or dysthymia. Physical causes are ruled out with a clinical assessment of depression that measures vitamins, minerals, electrolytes, and hormones. Management of depression may involve a number of different therapies: medications, behavior therapy, psychotherapy, and medical devices.

According to the World Health Organisation, affects over 300 million people worldwide. But why the focus on talking about depression? Unlike a gaping wound that is easily visible to all, attracting concern and action, Depression is largely hidden. It is not well understood by many and the signs and symptoms may vary. To change this prevailing situation, we need to talk about it, understand what it is, who it affects and how to overcome it.

Similar to depression, malnutrition is widespread and often hidden. Over 1.6 billion people worldwide

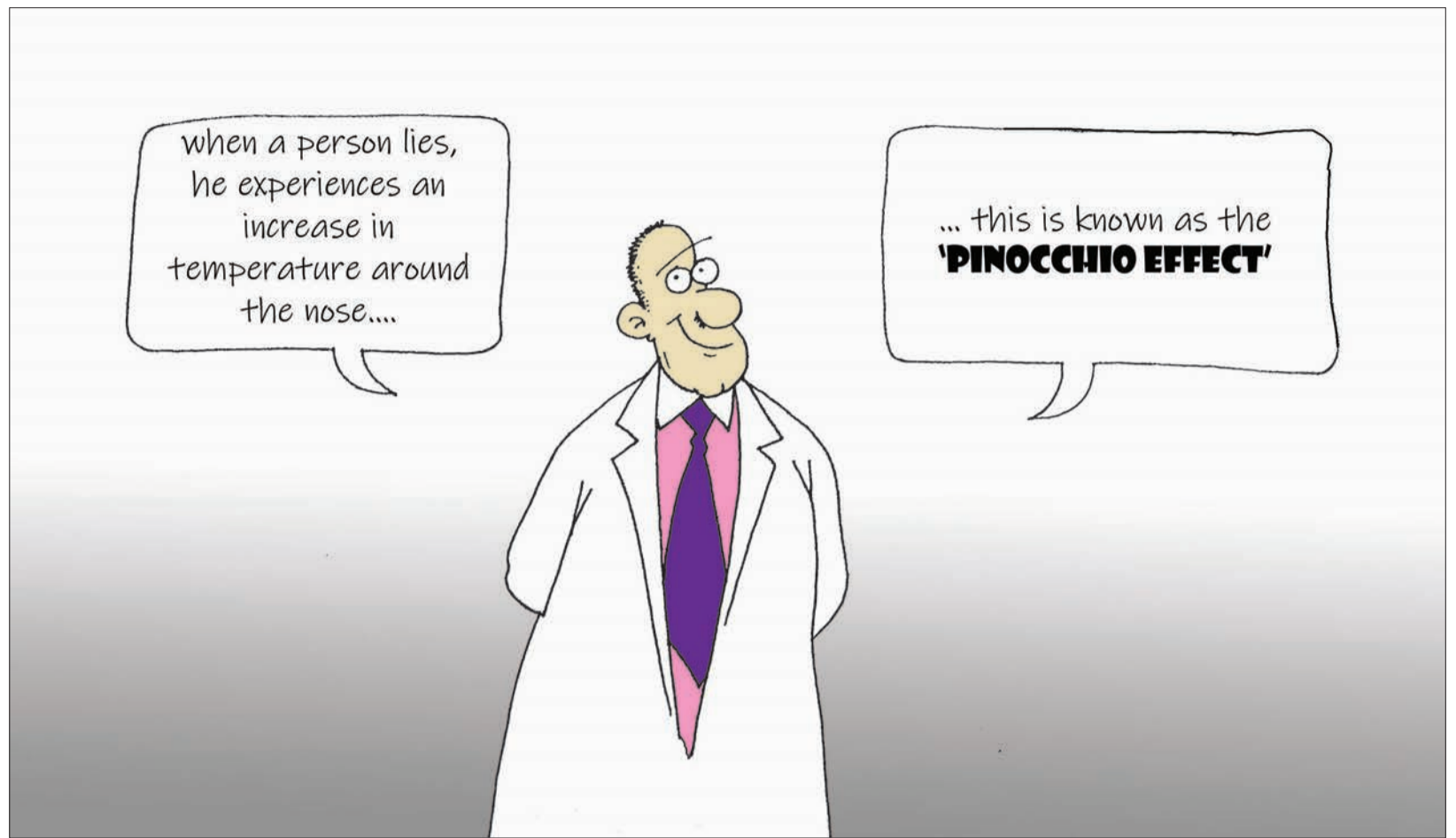
suffer from anaemia, the result of a micronutrient deficiency. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that about 795 million people of the 7.3 billion people in the world, or one in nine, were chronically undernourished in the period 2014-2016. And almost half of all child deaths are caused by poor malnutrition.

Yet only in recent years has momentum gained to address malnutrition. Evidence has shown the long-lasting and often irreversible damage caused by chronic malnutrition during the first 1000 days of life, and the resulting negative impact not just on the health and prosperity of individuals, but communities and nations. Economically, it makes excellent sense to address malnutrition. For every \$1 invested in nutrition, the data shows that there is a return of up to \$16. With this revelation, countries are now investing early in nutrition.

Progress has been slow and minimal action has been taken to address malnutrition! Why? Like depression, malnutrition is often misunderstood and symptoms may vary. "The child is full. S/he doesn't cry for food. How can s/he be malnourished?" In our society, it is a common misunderstanding that it is not sufficient to have enough food. For good nutrition, it is vital to have enough of the right kind of food taken in the right environment. For instance one may have enough nutritious food, but poor sanitation may result in diarrhea that renders the body incapable of utilising all the nutrients in the food.

There is hope, as more people become better informed, more action is being taken to eliminate malnutrition. Global leaders, including in sub-Saharan Africa, recognise the need to prioritise nutrition as critical to the continent's development.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts	Newsdesk	Advertising
Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO	News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON 0757154767 General line: 0745700710 E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz	Mobile: 0782253676 E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz Website: www.ippmedia.com epaper.ippmedia.com



To protect vital ecosystems, turn to those living in them

By Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim and

Melani Walton

AS the U.N. biodiversity conference approaches, efforts to ensure effective nature protection must include indigenous people and local communities

The world is losing its biodiversity at the fastest rate in human history. Already, human activities have significantly impacted 75 per cent of the Earth's surface, while approximately one million animal and plant species face extinction within the next few decades.

As the need to address this crisis grows ever more urgent, governments from around the world will soon convene for the United Nations Biodiversity Conference, planned in April. The most significant event of its kind for 10 years, its aim is to draft a comprehensive plan to protect biodiversity and govern our impact on natural ecosystems.

Half of the world's GDP is dependent on nature. With the health of natural ecosystems on land and in the ocean deteriorating, this is a vital moment, especially for places around the world that are the most species-rich.

How the pandemic can shake up African airlines for the better

By Daniel Odido

AS wind blows out a candle but fans a fire, this can be an opportunity. Working together and freeing up the air travel industry to reach its potential should be likened to the proverbial rising tide that lifts all boats. Some airlines may initially experience a drop in market share, but the great benefits to the industry will ensure growth of air travel across all states. A vibrant industry provides more jobs.

By embracing a single African air transport market, the continent could grow the aviation industry, create more jobs and allow people to travel regionally.

Cooperation in Africa's air travel could create at least 155,000 jobs and \$1.3 billion more in economic growth. It could also stop the situation where travelling to Europe is cheaper than travelling around the continent.

And the opportunity exists right now, as a result of COVID-19. Many airlines are grounded. Some permanently. But, as wind blows out a candle but fans a fire, this can be an opportunity.

This will give the surviving airlines a fighting chance to rebound and thrive as air travel re-opens. It will provide consumers with lower fares, higher connectivity and greater

choice. To arrest this slide and the impact it can have on the global economy, we need bold steps and transformative change - and we need it now.

This requires mobilising every sector of society in order to bring solutions to scale, pooling financial resources and direct funding in the most effective way possible, and dramatically expanding our ability to make a durable impact.

But it will also mean identifying the most impactful efforts and training our sights on the communities where support can do the most good.

Through our joint experience in conservation and environmental activism, we have found the best solutions to protect and restore our natural world are rooted in indigenous and local knowledge and lived experience that demonstrates sustained conservation outcomes, combined with the latest science and technology.

Communities that are close to the problem are also close to the solution. Investing in these local efforts that help build the connection between people and planet has the power to supercharge our efforts to meet ambitious biodiversity targets like the 30X30 goal to protect at least 30% of the land and ocean by

2030.

That's why we are proud to see the recent commitments at COP26 designed to help indigenous peoples and local communities protect land, forests, and ocean biodiversity. And it's why we are supporting The Earthshot Prize - an ambitious global prize designed to spotlight and scale the best solutions to repair and regenerate our planet.

We've already seen this approach work in projects from the 2021 Earthshot Prize winners and finalists.

In Costa Rica, the 2021 "Protect and Restore Nature" Earthshot Prize winner, the government launched a new financial mechanism paying local citizens and indigenous communities to protect forests and the country doubled the size of its rainforest, resulting in a £4 billion tourist boom.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Earthshot Prize finalist the Pole Pole Foundation leads an inspiring community-led conservation model, protecting gorillas and local livelihoods. Malnutrition is a key driver of poaching and through a low-cost farming solution, Pole Pole is providing nutritious food for the community as well as directing poachers to learn new skills.

The initiative has planted millions of new trees, creating a buffer zone between people and the nearby national park.

With nominations for the 2022 Earthshot Prize currently underway, we are seeking even more solutions that put indigenous communities at the heart of the work.

With the climate and biodiversity crisis growing daily, we must act quickly. This requires collaboration and partnerships, empowering all sectors of society to come together to protect and restore critical ecosystems upon which all life depends.

Indigenous peoples and local communities' voices will be critical in leading to solutions for the future of our planet.

The solutions to the climate and biodiversity crises are out there. We just need to learn from the leaders and communities already leading the way. There is no time to waste.

Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim is president of the Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad, a U.N. Sustainable Development Goals advocate and a member of The Earthshot Prize Council. The Rob and Melani Walton Foundation is a U.S. philanthropic organization and a founding partner of The Earthshot Prize.

as one. Europe does the same. Other African countries should follow suit. This avoids the duplication of equipment and costs, resulting in lower overflight fees and hence lower operational costs for airlines and cheaper tickets.

The second step concerns access to markets. Africa has a structural weakness where there is poor travel between countries, and a reliance on overseas airlines. During the phase of COVID-19 lockdowns, this meant many Africans were marooned in other countries.

With fewer flights, offering little intra-African travel, the airline industry has not reached its potential. This means airports and airlines need to charge more per user. It means inadequate airport infrastructure and a skills gap for both technical and management expertise.

All these are symptoms of a more malignant malaise. South African Airways has restarted operations after a hiatus of seventeen months triggered by a bankruptcy protection. Kenya Airways is heading back to nationalisation after a privatisation that was initially hailed as a great success. Doing the same thing repeatedly does not lead to different outcomes.

The proposed Single African Air Transport Market seeks to cure this by introducing a single aviation market

across the continent. This removes restrictions to market access, as well as those on airline ownership.

And the market is there. Africa has 16 per cent of the world's population but accounts for less than 4 per cent of the aviation service market.

The proposed Single African Air Transport Market seeks to cure this by introducing a single aviation market across the continent. This removes restrictions to market access, as well as those on airline ownership.

But it has run into headwinds. Ethiopia has been accused of protectionism. Uganda has expressed disquiet over potential domination of its fledgling air industry by more entrenched airlines. Other governments are also loath to set their flag carriers free because they are a source of national pride. They are also important diplomatic tools - Ethiopia used its carrier to transport tens of millions of doses of COVID-19 vaccines when other airlines were in hibernation.

Working together and freeing up the air travel industry to reach its potential should be likened to the proverbial rising tide that lifts all boats. Some airlines may initially experience a drop in market share, but the great benefits to the industry will ensure growth of air travel across all states. A vibrant industry provides more jobs.

SADC forest instruments: Tools for sustainable resource management

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

As a dominant source of fuel for cooking and heating, fodder for animals, medicine, and resource for shelter, forests remain the main source of basic needs for communities in Tanzania, Africa and the rest of the developing world.

Forests retain carbon and harness soils and as such are recognised for playing a vital role in mitigating the effects of climate change on the people and the environment.

There are national, regional and global strategies and mechanisms to promote sustainable forest management to tame deforestation and the consequent climate change.

Apart from the national efforts, Tanzania is also working with regional blocks towards achieving this goal collectively. One of such efforts is the Southern African Development Community (SADC) forest instruments which foresters are supposed to fully understand so as to operate sustainably by reducing risks of diseases and fires, among others.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with this paper in Dar es Salaam early this week during a five-day workshop meant to create awareness to foresters and other forest actors on SADC Forestry Instruments, Dr Simon Lugandu, Conservation Manager at the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), said that understanding the instruments was vital because they are used to develop forest products, especially in reducing deforestation and illegal timber trade among other forest products.

The workshop which was organised by WWF in collaboration with the government of Tanzania brought together foresters and other actors in the sector from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar.

These instruments give guiding principles to SADC member states on how to deal with the challenges faced in efforts towards attaining sustainable development of natural forest resources. They suggest better ways of developing forest resources sustainably.

According to Dr Lugandu, these instruments give guidelines to member states, help each SADC member to reduce escalation of illegal timber trade, offer an opportunity for each member state to prepare policies and laws that



Foresters and forestry stakeholders take part at a five-day sensitisation workshop on SADC forest instruments which started on Monday in Dar es Salaam. Photo/Daniel Semberya

offer better ways of developing forest resources.

"These instruments help individual countries to harmonise their current procedures and policies with the bloc's so that they don't oppose each other during implementation," he said.

Lugandu urged all SADC member states to not only observe these forestry instruments and implement them but also ensure that different stakeholders dealing with these instruments have a better understanding on how they are working for them to eventually become implementers of the instruments.

Forestry is a scientific process of planting, managing, and caring for forests. It is concerned with managing forests on a sustainable basis by balancing exploitation and conservation.

Literature indicates that in the world there are almost 40 million km² of forests with roughly half found in the tropics. Forests once covered about 60 per cent of the earth's surface but have greatly reduced by clearance for settlement and farming or during the exploita-

tion process.

Miza Suleiman Khamis, Chief Forester Officer at the Department of Forestry in Zanzibar said that forests, whether natural or man-made, are a resource, which provide commercial products, biomass and employment alongside ecosystem balance.

The potential of forest resources is however undermined by growing threats across the region that range from human activity for survival to commercial logging within SADC member states and beyond.

The direct threats facing forest resources identified by member states resembled largely those spelled out in the previous forestry strategy of 2010-2020.

These include forest fires, expansion of unsustainable small and large-scale agriculture, unsustainable and illegal harvesting of forest resources for charcoal, timber and fuel wood, pests and diseases as well as invasive alien species.

The direct threats facing forest resources are also driven by a number of factors which include political, economic, social, cultural and institutional.

In tackling these threats, member states identified several priorities which were then benchmarked against SADC criteria for regional initiatives including focus on trans-boundary biomass, geographical balance of the countries like island states, coastal areas, inland and landlocked countries.

The SADC (2020-2030) Forest Sector vision and mission states its commitments and intention for the forest sector in the region. Its vision is to have a vibrant and sustainable SADC forest sector that contributes significantly to rural development, poverty reduction, industrialization and vital environmental services for the economic development of the region.

Emmanuel Msoffe, Principal Forests Officer in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism said that the objective of the workshop was to introduce SADC forest instruments to Tanzanian foresters and other actors for familiarization and action.

He has called upon the Tanzanian foresters and other actors to understand the SADC instruments and use them to achieve objectives stated

in these instruments to manage forests sustainably.

He mentioned some of the challenges facing the forestry sector in Tanzania as expansion of farming activities in forest conserved areas, increased random over-grazing, illegal timber trade and forest fires.

Winfrida Shonde, Environmental Consultant who is also an appointed environment ambassador said the SADC forest instruments can help greatly in conserving the environment.

"If all the 16 SADC member states implement them, the environment within the bloc will be well conserved," she said.

She suggested that money allocated by companies for corporate social responsibility (CSR) should also be set aside to address environmental challenges, adding that this should be mandatory, not an option.

Dr Paul Lyimo from the Department of Ecosystems and Conservation at the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism (CFWT) of the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), mentioned a number of forestry instruments developed by SADC such as the 2002 Protocol on Forestry, SADC Forestry Strategy 2020-2030, SADC Forest Law Enforcement Governance, Trade Programme, SADC REDD Programme, and SADC Fire Management Programme to mention but a few.

He said there is a low level of awareness on these instruments and inadequate understanding of what the regional strategy means and the role of SADC Secretariat in the implementation of the instruments.

The SADC Protocol on Forestry (2002) remains the overarching policy framework for future forestry collaboration amongst member states.

The protocol lays out a number of guiding principles on how member states should cooperate to protect, manage and utilise their forests to meet both regional and national objectives.

Its specific objectives are to promote the development, conservation and sustainable management and utilisation of all types of forests and trees. To promote trade in forest products throughout the region in order to alleviate poverty and generate economic opportunities for the peoples of the region; and to achieve effective protection of the environment, and safeguard the interest of both present and future generations.

More progressive taxation needed for social progress

By Jomo Kwame Sundaram

GOVERNMENTS must innovatively develop progressive means to finance the large-scale social spending needed to improve lives and livelihoods, especially following the Covid-19 pandemic. More egalitarian tax reforms should enable governments to equitably mobilize desperately needed revenue to advance sustainable development for all.

Fiscal policy challenges

To respond to the pandemic and its economic fallout, massive resource mobilization has been necessary to protect people's health and livelihoods, stem economic decline and stagnation, and ensure sustainable progress.

Fiscal policy involves governments harnessing and deploying resources. But modes of state financing and spending impact economic inequalities. Monetary policy measures can be supportive, but they cannot replace fiscal efforts.

However, the economic slowdown requires much more state spending, largely financed by sovereign debt, i.e., government borrowing. This has undoubtedly been necessary to deal with the pandemic, but fiscal policy should be consistently countercyclical: expansionary to counter downturns and conservative in good times.

Rich countries have generally been fiscally bolder by running deficits to spend since the global financial crisis, but especially in response to the pandemic. Massive economic relief and recovery packages have tried to protect incomes and failing businesses, albeit unevenly.

Taxation regressive

Regressive colonial taxes were levied on subject populations, but tax incidence became more progressive after independence in most, though not all post-colonial societies. In the last four decades, most governments have reformed tax policies for the worse, reducing tax revenue shares and shifting the tax burden from the better off to the public at large.

Policy advice from international financial institutions and political pressure from



Jomo Kwame Sundaram

powerful elites and foreign investors have reduced taxation's progressive aspects. With Trump, laughable arguments such as Arthur Laffer's curve - without any sound theoretical or empirical bases - are still being invoked to justify regressive tax reforms.

Rich corporations and individuals paid less and less in direct taxes, as the public paid more and more in indirect taxation, typically on consumption.

Most countries still tax income, but tax rates on corporate income, high income individuals, property and inheritance have declined in most countries in recent decades.

The wealth's assets are mainly held as stocks, shares and real property. Their incomes are mainly from such assets, rather than earned as wages. Taxing excess profits and wealth can raise considerable revenue to finance development policies

and measures, besides narrowing gaps between the beneficiaries and others.

Instead, wealth is typically taxed at low rates, while huge loopholes allow such assets to be hidden, typically abroad. Many trillions are hoarded in often secret accounts in tax havens, both off- and on-shore. All this has accelerated wealth concentration and economic inequality.

Making taxation more progressive

Governments mainly get fiscal resources from tax revenue or by borrowing. Taxation is undoubtedly the most sustainable, effective and accountable means for states to raise funds. Progressive taxation and government expenditure can both reduce inequalities, albeit in different ways.

Windfall profit taxes

A few individuals and businesses are reaping huge rewards from the pandemic while most have been hurting. Many billionaires have reportedly become much more affluent, with the ten richest more than doubling their wealth from USD700 billion to USD1500 billion since March 2020!

Windfall taxes at high rates are easily justified. After all, most who have gained much owe their newfound wealth to circumstances largely not of their own making. Windfall incomes or profits during the

pandemic can be ascertained by comparing recent with previous profits. Such gains should be heavily taxed for the same reason.

Wealth taxes

Wealth taxation has diminished significantly in recent decades due to successful lobbying by the rich. The introduction or reintroduction and extension of progressive wealth taxation will raise considerable revenue if loopholes can be closed, not only domestically, but also internationally.

Perhaps even more than income taxation, wealth taxes are a progressive means to raise revenue. They also have greater potential to address other inherited privileges and inequalities, including those associated with culture, lineage, ethnicity and gender.

Conditional support

Government spending - including subsidies and relief measures - should not benefit businesses paying taxes abroad or not paying them at all. Many companies resort to tax havens and other loopholes to pay less tax where they operate and profit from.

More progressive systems

Tax systems should get much more from those most liable and able to pay. Concretely, this should include: introducing or increasing taxes on assets like real property, wealth, inheritance and investment income ('capital gains'); raising the rates and progressivity of personal and business income taxes; shifting relative reliance from indirect taxes - e.g., on value-added or sales or consumption - which tend to be regressive to more progressive direct taxation; racking down hard on tax avoidance and evasion - especially by the wealthy, however politically influential and enhancing international cooperation on taxation to enhance and distribute tax revenue progressively.

Such systemic reforms are essential for progressive fiscal redistribution, e.g., by financing sustainable development in the medium and long-term. Of course, an immediate priority in the near term is financing a forward-looking recovery from the pandemic and its aftermath.

Coordinating fiscal policy

Governments are expected to raise enough revenue to finance the services, goods, facilities and infrastructure they are supposed to provide, i.e., to fulfil public expectations of citizens' entitlements. The popular presumption is that tax incidence is not only progressive, but has also become increasingly so, although the converse is more likely to be true.



RE-ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF WIGGINS SPARES TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring Wiggins spares and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of this equipment as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01322	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF WIGGINS SPARES TO GGML

I.1 INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01322)	60%
Ability to supply OEM – Wiggins Parts	20%
Warranty terms clearly stipulated	20%
Dealership proof clearly indicated	20%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01322) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 02ND February 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

Halt all new coal plants, UN secretary-general tells World Economic Forum



Credit: Albert Gonzalez Farran / UNAMID

By Julia Evans

UN Secretary-General António Guterres said at the World Economic Forum on Monday that the targeted phase-out of coal should be a global priority and no new coal plants should be built. "The last two years have demonstrated a simple, but brutal truth – if we leave anyone behind, we leave everyone behind," he said.

For the climate, this means, "if we fail to match climate rhetoric with climate actions, we condemn ourselves to a hotter, more volatile earth, with worsening disasters and mass displacement."

Guterres's speech emphasised how it was the responsibility of developed nations to help developing nations reach the climate goals, saying, "at the core of these failures is a global inability to support developing countries in their hour of need".

Along with saying the world needed to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic with equity and fairness (citing that vaccination rates in high-income countries were seven times higher than in African countries), that the global financial system needed reform (citing that more than eight out of 10 recovery dollars were being spent in developed countries), Guterres called for global support of real climate action in developing countries.

Illustrating the severity of rising emissions and the climate crisis, Guterres said that despite needing to reduce global emissions by 45 per cent by 2030 to keep average global warming at 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels, global emissions were set to increase by 14 per cent.

"Even if all developed countries kept their promises to drastically reduce emissions by 2030 – and all developing countries achieved their Nationally Determined Contributions as written – global emissions would still be too high to keep the 1.5 degree goal within reach," said Guterres.

The Paris Agreement is an international treaty to avoid dangerous climate change. Its goal is to limit global warming to well below an increase of 2C, preferably to 1.5C, compared with pre-industrial levels.

Guterres painted a realistic but dire picture of what the present warming of 1.2C since pre-industrial levels had resulted in, such as "soaring price tags", the economic toll of climate-related disasters increasing by 82% in the past two decades and extreme weather in 2021 causing \$120-billion in insured losses and killing 10,000 people.

Guterres said what should be prioritised was a phase-out of coal and for developed nations to support developing nations in this transition. "The first priority must be a targeted phase-out of coal," said the UN secretary-general, "No new coal plants should be built."

Guterres explained that while many countries had pledged to make meaningful emissions reductions in the 2020s, others were not in a situation to take on that pledge.

"Other countries face enormous structural obstacles. They have an energy mix that relies on heavy dependence on coal. That stands in the way of progress for us all," said Guterres.

"They need assistance."

The assistance includes the creation of coalitions of countries and "public and private financial institutions, investment funds, and companies with the technological know-how to provide targeted financial and technical support for every country that needs assistance".

Developing nations have provided international assistance in the past, and Guterres noted that last week he took part in a meeting of the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero,

which mobilised more than \$130-trillion for the net-zero goals.

"The entire financial system should follow their lead," said Guterres.

Guterres also made specific mention of South Africa's recent just energy transition partnership to move beyond coal, in reference to the "watershed" deal that took place at the United Nations Climate Change Conference last year (COP26), in which the European Union, Germany, France, the UK and the US pledged R131-billion to help South Africa meet its climate action goals and transition from its heavy reliance on coal to cleaner and renewable energy sources.

The financing will take place over the next three to five years in the form of grants, concessional loans and investment and risk-sharing instruments, including mobilising private sector funding.

However, at an energy summit gala hosted by the South African Youth Economic Council on 14 January 2022, Mineral Resources and Energy Minister Gwede Mantashe said in his keynote address, "They will not give us that money.

"They will give [it to] us if we take it as a loan bearing interest rates. That is how it works, that is what the world is like."

Mantashe said that due to grid constraints in areas where renewable energy was most productive (Northern Cape), R131-billion was R50-billion short for financing the upgrade of the national grid infrastructure.

Mantashe was also very clear about the wording that came out of the Glasgow Climate Pact at COP26.

"What came out of COP26, is phase-down of unabated coal power and inefficient fossil fuel subsidies," said Mantashe, emphasising the word "down".

"It's not move out of coal... no, they say we must phase down. Meaning that we must be systematic in dealing with exit from coal."

Daily Maverick previously reported that at the end of COP26, just before the outcome text called the Glasgow Climate Pact was adopted, the Indian delegation announced a last-minute change, replacing the words "phasing out coal" with "phasing down coal".

South Africa, the most coal-reliant country in the G20, with Iran and Nigeria, agreed with the revision.

COP26 president, Britain's Alok Sharma, apologised and said that the revision was "vital to protect the package" of decisions.

Even with the change, this is the first time that nations have been called upon to phase down unabated coal power and inefficient subsidies for fossil fuels.

South Africa's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) is not in line with the Glasgow Climate Pact, the Paris Agreement, or Guterres's imperatives.

The IRP is the road map of SA's energy future, predicting how much power we will need in the next 10 to 20 years. It last came out in 2019.

The latest IRP has plans for two 750MW of new coal-fired power scheduled for 2023 and 2027 respectively.

Guterres's emphasis on developed nations' (which are without a doubt the worst contributors of greenhouse gas emissions) responsiveness to help developing nations with the transition from coal is important to consider, but what might be pertinent to remember closer to home is his final remarks.

"It is encouraging to see the private sector take the lead, but it is essential to put pressure on governments to keep up and not be left behind," he said at the conclusion of his speech.

"Many of today's policies and regulatory frameworks are still an obstacle for private sector engagement. This needs to change," said Guterres.



RE-ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MOBILE BRODERSON CRANE SPARES TO GEITA GOLD MNING LIMITED (GGML) TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of Procuring Mobile broderson crane parts and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the Supply of goods as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01170	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MOBILE BRODERSON CRANE SPARES

I.1 INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01170)	60%
Supplier must provide authorized letter from Broderson Mobile Crane OEM or dealer	15%
Essential crane components to be supplied with certificates as they lift, move & put material into place E.g. The cabin, Boom, Hoist, Hook, Wire rope & out riggers etc.	15%
Supplier must be familiar with crane parts and their functions to exercise proper crane safety.	10%
Supplier must supply Genuine parts from OEM or Dealer only, note aftermarket parts are completely prohibited	10%
All crane components such as Engine, Transmission, Transfer Gearbox, Hydraulic Pumps and Valves must be supplied with assurance of twelve (12) months warranty.	10%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01170) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 02ND February 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



RE-ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MOBILE TEREX CRANES ITEMS TO GEITA GOLD MNING LIMITED (GGML) TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of Procuring Mobile Terex Cranes Items and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the Supply of goods as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01149	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MOBILE TEREX CRANES ITEMS

I.1 INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01149)	60%
Supplier must provide authorized letter from Terex Mobile Cranes OEM or dealer	15%
Supplier must provide authorized letter from Terex Mobile Cranes OEM or dealer	15%
Essential crane components to be supplied with certificates as they lift, move & put material into place E.g. The cabin, Boom, Hoist, Hook, Wire rope & out riggers etc.	15%
Supplier must be familiar with crane parts and their functions to exercise proper crane safety.	10%
Supplier must supply Genuine parts from OEM or Dealer only, note aftermarket parts are completely prohibited	10%
All crane components such as Engine, Transmission, Transfer Gearbox, Hydraulic Pumps and Valves must be supplied with assurance of twelve (12) months warranty.	10%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01149) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 02ND February 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



Global e-commerce payment transactions to surpass \$7.5tn by the year 2026

LONDON

As omnichannel retail momentum accelerates, the value of global e-commerce payment transactions will exceed \$7.5tn by 2026, from \$4.9tn in 2021, reveals a new study from Juniper Research.

This growth rate of 55% over the next five years will be driven by retailers offering compelling omnichannel retail experiences that increase user e-commerce spend. Omnichannel retail is a model that provides end-users with the ability to access retail services, including sales and customer support, via multiple channels.

The new research, E-commerce Payments: Emerging Trends, Opportunities & Market Forecasts 2022-2026, predicts that these channels, including online, mobile and physical retail locations, will be instrumental for future success. This is because users expect the same services to be available irrespective of the channel.

Additionally, it found that there are increasing appetites for new payment methods within e-commerce checkouts, including open banking-facilitated payments and digital wallet one-click checkout buttons. Accordingly, it recommends that merchants ensure payment options match changing user expectations, or they will be rapidly left behind.

The research found that by 2026, China will account for over 37% of global e-commerce payments by transaction value, owing to its established and extensive e-commerce and payments landscape that provides greater convenience for users via easily accessible alternative payment methods.

Shelter Afrique posts modest profit of U\$1.34m and salutes shareholders for their support

By The Banker Reporter

FOR the first time since 2014, Shelter Afrique has managed to make an operating profit of U\$1.34 million and comprehensive income of U\$1.85 million in 2019 thanks to shareholders support.

In its latest annual for 2021, the Nairobi based pan African housing financial institutions said shareholders such as Tanzania which paid U\$2.7 million in September last year and an addition U\$407,284.97 in October to clear its capital requirement. The payment increased the country's shareholding from 1.54 to 1.72 percent.

"It will be noted that the critical financial highlight is that Shelter Afrique (SHAF) has, for the first time since 2014, returned and posted a positive operating profit and comprehensive income of U\$1.34 million and U\$1.85 million, respectively," the report stated.

Signed by SHAF's Board Chairman, Dr Steve Mainda, the report added that the move indicates a gradual return to financial sustainability along with enhancing shareholder value and development impact and organisational sustainability.

"Notwithstanding the challenging economic environment in 2020, it is gratifying to report that the company was successful in concluding the much-anticipated Debt Restructuring Agreement (DRA) with six Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) and two commercial banks, namely the African Development Bank, the European



Shelter Afrique's managing director cum CEO, Andrew Chemphondah.

Investment Bank, Agence Francaise du Development, KfW, West African Development Bank (BOAD), Islamic Development Bank and NCBA and Ghana International Bank," Dr Mainda said in the chairman's report.

The SHAF Board Chair further noted that the company delivered strong fi-

ancial performance and position for the year ended 31st December 2020 thanks to the completion of the DRA which signified the normal resumption of business.

"This means that the company can return to the financial markets to mobilise new resources to fund the busi-

ness," he noted while adding that despite the Covid-19 outbreak, SHAF is back to business. "I would like to express our sincere gratitude to our shareholders and lenders for their support through the continued capitalisation of the company, with U\$ 16.66 million received in 2020," Dr Mainda added.

SHAF's CEO and Managing Director, Andrew Chimphondah backed his Chairman saying there is no better time to announce that after six years of perennial losses, the company recorded a modest profit of U\$1.85 million in 2020.

"This provides a solid foundation for the company to redefine itself for the next 40 years without that albatross," Chemphondah said adding that the U\$1.85 million made in 2020 is an improvement from a loss of the U\$1.26 million recorded in 2019.

He said the company also ended the year with a high liquidity position with a cash balance of U\$47.4 million which was a solid liquidity ratio of 27 percent, 12 percentage points above the 15 percent prudential limit.

"I would like to thank the shareholders for their support manifested by their capital contributions and our esteemed lenders for signing the DRA which gave the company a new lease of life," the SHAF CEO and MD added.

Pan African venture building incubator picks four start-ups for 12 month internship

By The Banker Reporter

PAN African venture building studio, Adanian Labs has picked four local start-ups after 30 days of intensive vetting for its 2022 venture building programme.

Adanian Labs CEO, John Kamara said in Dar es Salaam mid this week that with a mission to build, incubate and launch 300 impact driven technology companies and entrepreneurs working to solve some of Africa's most pertinent challenges, his company received applications from many start-ups.

"We wish to extend our appreciation to all the startups that answered our call and further congratulate them for their transformative concepts and zeal to solve African challenges and transform their communities," Kamara said.

He said the programme which is expedited and funded to the tune

of U\$120,000 by Adanian Labs, will run annually and is aimed at supporting groundbreaking tech startups with a prototype that can be further developed.

"During the twelve-months programme, participants will have access to Adanian Labs technical support, business mentorship, access to market, partnerships and funding and also helping them apply lean principles in processes, learning, iteration and scaling of their innovations," he added.

Adanian Labs has two centers of excellence on artificial intelligence and Blockchain, AICE Africa (AI Center of Excellence Africa) and The Africa Blockchain Center (The ABC) which support its mission to actuate the tech revolution on the continent, build capacity and train young technology engineers to develop tech solutions using smart technologies.

The four startups selected for the

year long program are: Smart Darasa which is an interactive learning platform aimed at providing immersive learning experience using 3D interactive and technology to students in Tanzania; FoundHER Ventures which leverages technology to standardize and scale informal industries in Africa. Its e-commerce marketplace platform powered by an SMEERP solution back end is purposed to verify, standardize and scale female lead businesses in Africa.

The other winners are: Bizzyn which is a full featured business and financial management suite complete with tools for accounting, inventory, payroll, tax filling, invoicing, bank account tracking and reconciliation, expense management, budgeting, payment processing and accounts receivable and accounts payable management; and Chapaa which is a digital financial services platform that allows one to create more value for money from the surrounding community.

"Since our establishment in 2020, Adanian Labs has incubated 14 groundbreaking tech startups across sectors. We aim to build the next generation of socially impactful and commercially driven companies that will change the world from Africa and the venture building program is going to be a sure vehicle to strategically bring this vision to a concrete reality," Kamara noted.

The winners were picked from a pool of 15 startups that are intentionally leveraging on technology to provide optimal solutions. The screening committee comprised of a diverse panel of key players in the startups and tech ecosystem who held interviews with the short-listed candidates.



Adanian Labs CEO, John Kamara (L) talking to participants at a demonstration day event held at the company's offices in Dar es Salaam mid this week. Photo: Guardian Reporter.



PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUIREMENT TO UPGRADE ELECTRONIC FISCAL DEVICES TO ALLIGN WITH ELECTRONIC FISCAL DEVICE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Dar es Salaam, 20 January, 2022

Tanzania Revenue Authority reminds all traders who are using Electronic Fiscal Devices (EFDs) that, they are required/obliged to upgrade their devices to abide with the improvements made on EFD system, in line with "QR Code" features that allows automatic verification of receipts and invoices issued by the devices.

Thus, all taxpayers are advised to contact their respective EFD suppliers to upgrade their devices and configure them with Protocol 2.1 that is in line with current EFD communication requirements for generation of verification code for receipts and invoices.

Further, take note that this Public Notice is a reminder following an earlier Public Notice issued on 7th December, 2020, through newsletters, on the improvements made on EFDMS and the requirement to upgrade the devices within the period of thirty days (30) from the date of the advertisement. In addition to that TRA announced another 30 days for those who have not complied with the requirement to upgrade or acquire new device which align with the improvement of the EFDMS.

After the given deadline, TRA made analysis and noted that implementation of the directive to upgrade their devices to Protocol 2.1 was not effectively effected by some traders.

This notice serves as a last reminder that 28th February 2022 is the new deadline for all traders who have not yet upgraded their devices. Please also note that, failure to comply with this new deadline will compel TRA to take administrative actions including but not limited to blocking the un-upgraded devices.

"Together We Build Our Nation"

Issued by:
DIRECTOR OF TAXPAYERS SERVICE AND EDUCATION
TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

EADB reschedules debt U\$40m to assist clients navigate Covid-19 fight

By The Banker Reporter

CLIENTS of East African Development Bank had their debts valued at US\$40 million rescheduled in 2019/20 fiscal year to allow them navigate the turbulence brought about by the coronavirus pandemic.

EADB's Director General, Vivienne Yeda said in last year's annual report that the bank maintained close relationship with customers to understand their challenges and provide needed support which included moratorium in loan repayment where underlying projects were negatively impacted.

"The bank's technology facilitated remote working and ensured that service delivery was not significantly impacted. As a result, the bank managed to reschedule loans totalling above US\$40 million, which was slightly above a quarter of the whole loan portfolio," Yeda said.

She pointed out that most of the customers subsequently did very well following the flexibility provided to keep liquidity that was required to support business instead of repaying the loans. Performance of the underlying loans has remained good.

"Over the period 2016-2020, the bank's liquidity coverage ratio, which is a measure of its liquid assets relative to its liabilities, improved from 2.2 times in 2016 to 5.7 times by the end of 2020," Yeda noted while adding that the ratio for non performing loan improved from 6.9 percent in 2016 to 5.9 percent by the end of 2020 as the bank continued to pursue a prudent lending approach," the EADB chief added.



EADB's director general, Vivienne Yeda.

Yeda further explained that the outstanding portfolio size as at 31 December 2020 was US\$134.22 million compared to US\$153.25 million as at 31 December 2019 attributing the drop in the gross portfolio to slowdown in net lending following disruption of economic and business activities by the Covid-19 pandemic.

As for this year, the Kampala based bank said it shall prioritize investment in sectors of strategic significance to member countries,

especially those which maximize development outcomes while pursuing prudent lending policies supported by robust risk management.

The EADB's Chairman of the board, Keith Muhakanizi said during 2020, the bank continued to pursue its mission to promote sustainable social economic development in East Africa by providing development finance, advisory and support services.

"Despite challenges emanating

from the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of measures taken to contain it, EADB implemented activities to consolidate performance under its Strategic Plan (2016-2020)," Muhakanizi said.

He said the EADB's Strategic Plan for 2021/25 is under preparation and will be launched this year and will build on the results from the previous plan and aim at consolidating the bank's role in the development of member states.

Mozambique's credit to the economy will grow this year – government

MAPUTO

Credit to the economy is expected to grow this year, prompted by an improvement in economic activity compared to last year, increasing Covid-19 immunization both globally and nationally, and the reopening of various economic sectors.

Government forecasts based on data provided by the Bank of Mozambique and cited by 'Noticias' indicate that, last year, credit to the economy reached 288,841 million meticaís, an increase of 8.80% compared to the previous year. This year, the amount could reach 331,301 million meticaís, representing a 14.70% growth.

The government also says that, with a view to contributing to the country's macroeconomic stability, reflected by the achievement of the single-digit inflation target, the Bank of Mozambique will this year continue to prioritise the implementation of a prudent monetary policy, based on the calibration of its monetary policy, with the emphasis on the alignment of its benchmark MIMO interest rate with macroeconomic fundamentals.

In the foreign exchange market, the monetary authority will take into account the need to ensure an adequate level of gross international reserves (GRI) to cover approximately six months of imports of goods and services, as well as to limit excessive exchange rate volatility against the main and commercial currencies of the country, especially when this is not due to macroeconomic fundamentals.

With regard to the balance of payments, government forecasts point to a possible deterioration of the current account deficit, resulting from the worsening of the goods account balance. The increase in the goods account deficit is the result of the notable increase in imports, especially large projects, reflecting the implementation of the Coral Sul-FLNG project, in the Rovuma Basin.

With regard to exports, growth of around US\$1,024 million is expected, essentially reflecting the increase in large projects (US\$979 million), thanks to the gradual recovery of external demand and the prices of goods on the international market.

As for foreign direct investment (FDI), the government anticipates a net inflow of US\$3,189 million this year, a reduction of US\$535 million compared to last year's projection. The drop in FDI this year is largely explained by changes in the course of projects in the northern part of the country.

BANKING & FINANCE

Equity Bank gets Sh5.6bn for lending to enterprises

NAIROBI

Equity Bank Kenya is set to receive Sh5.66 billion (£37 million) from UK's development finance institution British International Investment (BII) - formerly known as CDC Group - for onward lending to small businesses.

UK's Minister for Africa, Vicky Ford MP said the funds will be used to help the bank serve more Kenyans, especially small businesses, to boost business prosperity and help drive Kenya's economic growth.

He did not give particular timelines as to when the bank will receive the funds. "Our economic partnership is delivering impressive results, and we have some ambitious, exciting plans for the future. Plans that will deliver for Kenya, and for the UK, long into our shared future," he said.

Mr Ford further stated that the UK will increase its support for green

manufacturing in Kenya by providing an additional Sh61 million (£400,000) to help Kenya build a green manufacturing industry, increasing its support to the Ministry of Trade and the wider Kenyan manufacturing sector in this area.

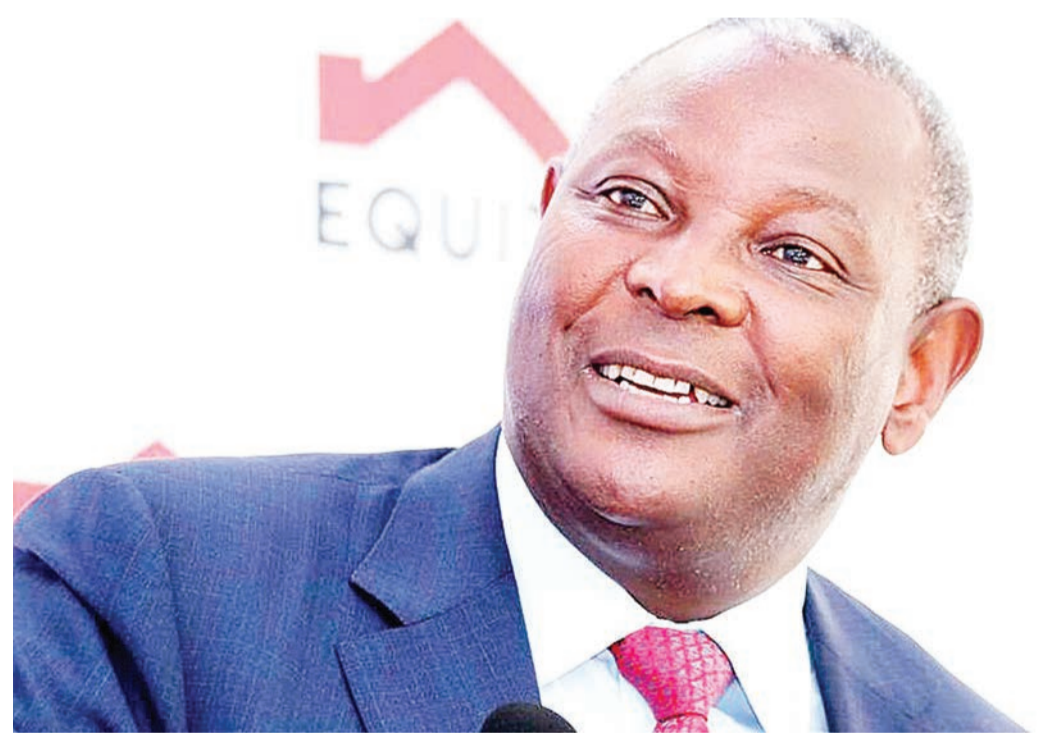
Green manufacturing was highlighted by President Kenyatta at COP26 as a key opportunity for Kenya to create new green jobs. The funding through the UK's Manufacturing Africa programme will provide expert analysis and advice on how government policy and the organised private sector can help build this industry and create new green jobs for Kenyans.

Kenya is already the third biggest portfolio for BII, with Sh42 billion investments across 83 companies. Those companies support 36,350 jobs and pay Sh2.6 billion in taxes. "This is how we will deliver world-class projects, characterised by high

standards and outstanding expertise, without forcing huge new debts onto countries such as Kenya," he said.

BII is a key part of the UK government's wider plans to mobilise up to £8 billion a year of public and private sector investment in international projects by 2025. This will include BII partnering with capital markets and sovereign wealth funds to scale up financing and help the private sector move in.

BII will prioritise sustainable infrastructure investment to provide clean, honest and reliable financing and avoid low and middle-income countries being left with bad and unsustainable debt. It builds on Prime Minister's Boris Johnson's commitments at COP26 to help developing countries take advantage of clean technology and grow their economies sustainably.



Equity Group Managing Director and CEO Dr James Mwangi at the Equity Centre in Nairobi last week.

Zimbabwe won't ease currency reins – Mangudya



Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe Governor, John Mangudya.

HARARE

Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe Governor, John Mangudya, is reluctant to act to narrow a widening gap between the national currency's official and black market rates, saying that businesses are to blame for the disparity.

While the Zimbabwe dollar has been allowed to gradually weaken from parity with the greenback in February 2019 to almost 109 to the dollar today, it trades at over 200 to the dollar on the black market, stoking inflation.

Business leaders have blamed the disparity on a lack of foreign currency supply though Mangudya says its due to many businesses of accepting payment in US dollars at the unofficial, or parallel market, rate. "We would love convergence, but it requires the business community to also walk the talk," he said Monday in an interview in the capital, Harare. "Convergence must be at a realistic exchange rate."

A weekly foreign currency auction run by the central bank resumed Tuesday after a more than month-long gap over the

Christmas holidays. "Delays only help in promoting the parallel market as a source of US dollars," the oldest brokerage in the country, Imara Asset Management Ltd., said in a note to clients this week.

Business has said it is at the receiving end of the currency rate disparity. It struggles to obtain the foreign currency which it needs to keep operations running and is forced to turn to the parallel market.

The Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, the largest business lobby group in the country, in October warned a policy response

from authorities was needed to save the local unit from collapse. "Such a gap plays havoc" for companies, John Legat, the chief executive officer of Imara, said.

To have the official rate move to match the parallel market rate is "like chasing one's tail," according to Mangudya. The unofficial rate will only surge even higher, decimate the earnings of citizens and lead to price hikes in the southern African nation, where annual inflation was 61% in December," he said. "People just want to hold US dollars," said Mangudya.

Junior Jumbo account is key to nurture saving culture among children

By Guardian Reporter

FOR her fifth birthday, Malaika John Matoke chose a unique gift, a CRDB Junior Jumbo Account. The Mbezi Beach based girl who lives with her biological parents, said she envy how her mother, who is a business woman takes her money to the bank regularly.

"I have always wanted to have a bank account and so when I was asked by the father what gift did I want for the fifth birthday, I chose a Junior Jumbo Account," said the eight year old Saint Mary's Primary School at Mbezi Beach.

Malaika who is now in grade three, said she had often accompanied her mother when she deposits money on a regular basis from the hair salon business that she runs. "The first time that I visited a bank, I admired to see my mother depositing money and often asked her why was she doing so," she narrated.

The young lass is now one of the youngest cus-

tomers of CRDB Bank Plc and she enjoys every moment of it. Since 2018, her parents have kept depositing cash in her Junior Jumbo Account which they hope will meet her future education needs.

"I had always wanted to open a bank account for her since she was four years because I realised that she had some talent at saving money," Malaika's mother, Florah Matoke said. She pointed out that her daughter often enjoyed accompanying her to the bank to deposit cash from the salon business, on a weekly basis.

"So when she chose to have a bank account opened in her name as her fifth birthday gift, we agreed with the father to do so because apart from nurturing a saving culture in her, it will also help pay for her education in future," Matoke said.

She said Malaika's father who is also a construction materials businessman, was excited to hear the girl choose such a unique birthday gift. "We were both amazed and asked her where did she get the idea?" the



CRDB Bank Plc's chief finance officer, Fredrick Nshekanabo (R) distributing gifts to Junior Jumbo account holders during an end of year party held in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo courtesy of CRDB.

mother of two said.

Although she is less than 18 years old, the mandatory age for a child to operate her own account, Malaika is conversant with almost all aspects of her Junior Jumbo Account. "Currently my account has 80,000/- and I want the amount to reach 100,000/- by mid this year," she said while extending a friendly

grin.

In order to open the Junior Jumbo Account, parents or guardians simply need the child's birth certificate, permanent resident address and 20,000/- minimum balance. Parents can also open the account in foreign currency.

CRDB Bank's Group CEO and Managing Director, Abdulmajid

Nsekela said in Dar es Salaam recently while hosting a Junior Jumbo kids and parents party that since its inception over five years ago, Junior Jumbo Account has become a popular product among customers.

Nsekela said apart from inculcating a saving culture among kids, the Junior Jumbo Account also gives parents and guardians peace of

mind when it comes to paying schools fees and other expenses for children when the new term begins. The money can also be used for treatment when need arises, he said.

"During the end of year festive season which is normally characterised by spending sprees for family get together parties, school fees and other related expenses become a headache in January when schools open," he pointed out.

He urged parents to set themselves benchmarks of regularly depositing some percentage of expenses incurred money to their children's Junior Jumbo Accounts so that they have peace of mind when school fees and other related expenses come calling.

The CRDB chief further noted that in order to reward its clients to regularly deposit money in their accounts and those of their children, the bank is currently running a 'Unachostahili ni CRDB Bank' campaign which is offering a variety of gifts.

"As a bank we take it very seriously that children be taught how to

keep money and spend sparingly so that their accounts have money at all times which then qualifies them to win cash prizes," Nsekela added.

During the 'Unachostahili ni CRDB Bank' campaign, the public will also be sensitised on financial discipline and the need to adopt a saving culture across all age groups. The grand prize for the campaign which ends in February is a paid up trip to Africa Cup of Nations finals in Cameroon for a pair.

Other benefits of the JJ Account include: payment of premium interest rate on savings; freedom and flexibility of selecting the type of currency to save which apart from the shilling also accommodate US dollars, the euro and British pound.

The account is also easily transferable once the holder turns 18 years; has free standing order; deposits can be made via different alternative channels conveniently; attract savings, withdrawals are restricted; and has no monthly and withdrawal charges.

Wealth tax on big super-rich to net Sh125bn a year

NAIROBI

A wealth tax on Kenya's super-rich and high-income earners has the potential to earn the country up to Sh125 billion in additional revenue, charity organisation Oxfam International says.

Oxfam says in a new report on inequality that a wealth tax of two percent on those with a net worth of \$5 million (Sh568 million), three percent on \$50 million (Sh5.7 billion) and above, and five percent on \$1 billion (Sh13.5 billion) would net the exchequer \$900 million (Sh102.2 billion). This is equivalent to a third of the government's total healthcare budget.

A more progressive or punitive tax regime that would raise the rate on the \$50 million wealth bracket to five percent and levy those holding \$1 billion 10 percent would net \$1.1 billion (Sh125 billion), the organisation estimates.

The Treasury has mulled introducing a wealth tax or higher top tax rates targeting the wealthy in the past in order to make the tax system more equitable but has failed to get the necessary legislative approval for such a move.

A wealth tax, Oxfam says, would first need proper enforcement of the laws that compel companies to reveal information on beneficial ownership, thus helping the taxman identify the high net worth individuals for easy administration.

"African countries, including Kenya, need more wealth taxes that are specifically geared towards distributing wealth as opposed to income," said Peter Kamalagin, the pan Africa director of Oxfam International.

"Taxes on property, ownership of land, income derived from ownership of land, personal capital income (dividends, interest and capital gains tax), inheritance and gift taxes should be targeted." Imposing a higher top tax rate on high-income earners has also been mooted as a way of ensuring that the rich pay their fair share of taxes.

In 2018, the Treasury proposed changes to the Income Tax Act to impose a higher maximum tax rate of 35 percent on an income of more than Sh9 million per annum or Sh750,000 a month. At the time, the top tax rate was 30



Peter Kamalagin, the pan Africa director of Oxfam International.

percent on all income exceeding Sh564,709 per annum or Sh47,059 a month. The proposal was, however, withdrawn, with the Treasury citing a lack of public support for it. In other jurisdictions, particularly in the West, high earners pay a significantly higher top rate of tax.

In the UK, the top individual tax rate is 45 percent on annual income above £150,000 (Sh23.3 million) while French residents pay a similar rate for earnings above €152,260 (Sh19.7 million). Japan, South Africa, China and Germany similarly levy their top earners a top tax rate of 45 percent.

American citizens and residents, who are taxed on their worldwide income, pay a top tax rate of 37 percent for earnings exceeding \$518,401 (Sh58.9 million) per annum. Neighbouring Uganda adjusted its top tax rate for annual income above 120 million Uganda shillings (Sh3.86 million) to 40 percent in 2020, from 30 percent previously. Oxfam warns, however, that adjusting top tax rates or imposing a wealth tax is not in itself the solution to the inequality problem and lack of spending on public amenities in the country, with reforms on fiscal transparency also necessary for the impact of these additional taxes to be felt.

"Simply raising taxes on the wealthy will not necessarily result in those taxes being spent on public services and social protection. There is no guarantee that increased tax revenues will be spent tackling poverty and inequality," said Mr Kamalagin. "Transparency and accountability are critical so that the public can hold their governments to account for how they spend public funds."

Rwandan company looks to extend new Pan-African payment system to region

KIGALI

RSwitch Ltd, Rwanda's e-payment operator mandated to expand the financial services ecosystem by delivering interoperable solutions, plans to take the Pan-African Payments and Settlement System (PAPSS), to countries in East, Central and Southern Africa. The system was launched last week on January 13.

The new system allows a buyer in one African country to make a payment in his or her national currency and a seller in another country receives payment in theirs, effectively eliminating the need for third party currencies such as the US dollar to complete trade within the continent.

Mathieu Rwiyerereka, the Acting Chief Executive Officer of RSwitch Limited, told The New Times that PAPSS supports safe and efficient flow of payments across Africa and that they are doing their best so as to go live in the next few months.

Rwiyerereka said: "We have full confidence it will be highly secure and reliable for consumers and, most importantly, it will facilitate intra-Africa trade. For a country like Rwanda which is in the heart of Africa, it means a lot." "We are doing our best to ensure that within two to three months we can also go live with PAPSS. In Africa, switches in two countries, Ghana and Nigeria, managed to do so."

Rwiyerereka explained that RSwitch is going to connect with PAPSS as a Technical Connectivity Provider - "meaning that commercial banks will be connecting thorough us and we will route them to PAPSS infrastructure."

And here, he meant banks within the wider region, with a primary focus on Rwanda. "Our target is to do it (connectivity) for Central Africa, Eastern Africa, and even in southern Africa within our reach."

During the system's commercial launch in Ghana last week, Mike Ogbalu, the CEO of PAPSS recalled that the jour-



Mathieu Rwiyerereka, acting CEO of RSwitch Limited.

ney started in 2016 with various engagements to understand existing regional payment systems' pros and cons and how best to approach the establishment of a continental payment infrastructure. In July 2019, African leaders endorsed PAPSS as a key instrument for the implementation of the AfCFTA agreement.

The new payment and settlement system is seen as an enabler of the AfCFTA agreement, a flagship project of the African Union's long-term development strategy for transforming the continent into a global powerhouse of the future. Theoneste Ntagengerwa, the Private Sector Federation (PSF) Spokesperson, said that they are "ready to encourage and mobilise our members to be part of this system."

He said: "I think for Rwandan business operators venturing into different businesses across the continent will hugely benefit from this system. There has been, previously, people doing business but making losses due to extra

costs associated with the existing payment systems.

"In addition to this, it will make transacting with African business partners easier thus reducing the dependency on non African partners, thus boosting intra-Africa trade just as we want."

According to Maurice Toroitich, the Chief Executive Officer of BPR, PAPSS is "something great" as it especially comes to address the problem that the continent had by not being able to do business "using our local currencies."

But, he noted, what happened last week was a mere launch and "there is still a lot of work to be done" as a local integrator, or partner, in this case RSwitch, must first come in to provide interoperability.

Rwiyerereka explained that connecting people and institutions to the PAPSS takes a technology integration and binding process. He said there is a process now being undertaken from both RSwitch and the Central Bank to be part of the pioneers of PAPSS.

RSwitch has already ratified the PAPSS participation intention and, as noted, currently, "explorations and technical integration activities kicked off" to start using the new platform by especially connecting it to banks that are already working with RSwitch.

"There is a protocol called ISO2022 (ISO standard for electronic data interchange between financial institutions) which will be used by PAPSS. This is an advanced messaging standard for exchanging financial information, and this is what PAPSS is going to use."

From 2018, the Rwanda National Digital Payment System (RNDPS) was initiated by the Central Bank to interoperate all financial service providers - banks, telcos issuing e-money, micro finance institutions, Saccos, fintechs, and others - and that system is operated by RSwitch. The good thing, Rwiyerereka noted, is that PAPSS and the RNDPS are using the same standard.

He noted that RSwitch has established connections with more than 20 financial service providers, including 14 banks, all telcos issuing e-money in Rwanda, one fintech and two microfinance institutions with RNDPS using ISO 20022.

"Financial service providers which passed our connectivity and integration tests are the institutions we will take the first front and be significantly easy to connect immediately with PAPSS." The system's management team is led by Ogbalu and his deputy, Jean Bosco Sebabi, a former deputy director general of the Rwanda Social Security Board (RSSB).

WORLD

UK PM faces 'pork pie' plot to trigger leadership challenge

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Boris Johnson was fighting to shore up his premiership yesterday amid a revolt by his own lawmakers who are angry over a series of lockdown parties in Downing Street.

Propelled into the top job to "get Brexit done", Johnson in 2019 won his party's biggest majority in more than 30 years but now faces calls to resign after a series of revelations about parties in Downing Street - the prime ministers' home and office - during COVID-19 lockdowns.

Johnson has repeatedly apologized for the parties and said that he was unaware of many of them. However, he attended what he said he thought was a work event on May 20, 2020 which revellers had been told to "bring their own booze".

To trigger a leadership challenge, 54 of the 360 Conservative MPs in parliament must write letters of no confidence to the chairman of the party's 1922 Committee.

As many as 20 Conservative lawmakers who won their seats at the last national election in 2019 plan to submit letters of no confidence in Johnson, the Telegraph reported. A handful of others have already said they had written such letters.

"Group of 2019 MPs to submit letters to try to hit threshold of 54 to trigger a contest," BBC Political Editor Laura Kuenssberg said on Twitter. "They might hit 54."

An analysis by The Times newspaper

showed that 58 Conservative lawmakers had openly criticized the prime minister.

Toppling Johnson would leave the United Kingdom in limbo for months just as the West deals with the Ukraine crisis and the world's fifth largest economy grapples with the inflationary wave triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, with UK inflation rising to the highest level in nearly 30 years.

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

Johnson on Tuesday denied an accusation by his former adviser that he had lied to parliament about a lockdown party, saying nobody had warned him the "bring your own booze" gathering might contravene COVID-19 rules.

He sidestepped questions about whether he would resign if proven he misled parliament, saying only that he wanted to wait for the outcome of an internal inquiry.

Johnson will address parliament on Wednesday after his Cabinet is expected to approve plans to end the recent restrictions imposed to tackle the spread of COVID-19 in England.

Opposition leaders have accused Johnson of being a serial liar and called on him to step down.

'Pork pie revolt'

Downing Street lockdown parties -



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson

some held when ordinary people could not bid farewell in person to dying relatives - have undermined Johnson's authority.

His own former spokeswoman resigned after she was captured laughing and joking on camera about how to cast a party if asked about it by reporters.

Such was the revelry in Downing Street at one event that staff went to a nearby supermarket to buy a suitcase of alcohol, spilled wine on carpets, and broke a swing used by the prime minister's young son.

The Mirror said staff had even bought a wine fridge for Friday gatherings, events that were regularly observed by Johnson as he walked to his apartment in the building.

Johnson has given a variety of explanations of the parties, ranging from denials that any rules were broken to expressing understanding for the public anger at apparent hypocrisy at the heart of the British state.

Opponents have called for Johnson to resign, casting him as a charlatan who demanded the British people follow some of the most onerous rules in peacetime history while his staff partied.

The latest plot was cast as the "pork

pie plot" because one alleged rebel lawmaker was from Melton, the home of the Melton Mowbray pork pie. Pork pie is also London slang for a lie.

Scandal

The rise of Alexander Boris de Pfeffel Johnson, often referred to as simply "Boris", to prime minister was the grandest move in a career that took him from journalism via TV show fame, comedy and scandal into the cauldron of the Brexit crisis - and then to the frontline of the coronavirus pandemic.

If lockdown parties sink that career, it would mark yet another extraordinary twist to nearly 12 years of tumultuous Conservative Party rule which has included Brexit, a referendum on Scottish independence and a quiver of elections.

A flamboyant figure known for his ambition, untidy blond hair, flowery oratory and cursory command of policy detail, Johnson's rise to power was all about Brexit.

But after securing Britain's exit from the European Union, Johnson was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic which has killed 152,513 people in the United Kingdom. After surviving COVID-19 in 2020, he said it nearly killed him.

Western media reports on Beijing 2022 Olympics rejected

BEIJING

WITH roughly two weeks to go before the 2022 Olympic Winter Games opens in Beijing, rumors, speculations and false claims abound. A closer look at the facts reveals that there is no truth to those claims.

The following are six news reports recently released with unjust claims, and the facts and figures behind them.

No 1: Eating Chinese meat may lead to a doping violation

The claim: An international news agency reported that Germany's Anti-Doping Agency sent a message to athletes heading to Beijing 2022 warning them not to eat Chinese meat for fear of falling foul of doping regulations, claiming that athletes may risk ingesting clenbuterol.

Fact check: Clenbuterol is used by farmers to promote growth and muscle leanness in animals but is banned in many countries, including China, because of its risks to human health.

The Beijing Organizing Committee for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (BOCOG) has established a three-tier management scheme to ensure food safety, Yu Debin, head of BOCOG's Games Service Department, told Xinhua.

Following consultation with experts, over 200 companies have been selected as raw material and food suppliers for Beijing 2022. Strict management of quality control has been applied throughout the process from planting and cultivation, producing and processing, transportation and storage, cooking, catering and garbage recycling. The whole process is traceable and verifiable, said Yu.

From the sampling survey in the past two years, 98 percent of meat in China passed safety qualifications, according to Zhu Yi, an associate professor of food safety at China Agricultural University. That means the possibility of ingesting clenbuterol is close to zero, Zhu said.

No 2: Artificial snow is fake snow and triggers environmental concerns

The claim: In an article titled "Mounting concern over the environmental cost of fake snow for Olympics" published last November, a British daily newspaper quoted a University of Strasbourg professor saying that Beijing 2022 "could be the most unsustainable Winter Olympics ever held", as artificial snow was water- and energy-intensive, damaging soil health and causing erosion.

Fact check: Artificial snow and fake snow have to be strictly separated at first, as snow is just the solid state of water. Beijing 2022 organizers have vowed to deliver a sustainable and eco-friendly Games. In line with this commitment, snowmaking at some of the Beijing 2022 venues is anything but detrimental to the environment.

Artificial snow was first used at the 1980 Lake Placid Olympic Winter Games. Around 90 percent of snow used at the Alpine skiing venue for the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympics was artificial, while man-made snow was also a feature of Vancouver 2010 and Sochi 2014.

Former International Ski Federation (FIS) freestyle coordinator Joseph Fitzgerald told Xinhua that snowmaking is a requirement by the FIS in order to hold ski competitions that can be separated in time. "If you want to wait for nature to provide you with all of the required material to ski on, you risk not being able to organize a competition."

As water occurs in three different states - liquid, solid or vapor - Fitzgerald explained that snow is just water that is in a transitional phase due to the temperatures. It can either occur naturally, or it can be man-made.

Competition snow requires a higher density than recreational snow in order to meet the requirements of the FIS and to ensure conditions are consistent and fair for each competitor.

"Fake snow is like fake news. That's interesting fake news about fake snow. It is quite comical when I read these so-called expert remarks!" Fitzgerald said.

According to Nikolai Belokrinkin, a course design expert who has helped to organize international Alpine skiing competitions since 2008, the FIS requires to have a certain number of kilograms per cubic meter of snow, and this is frozen water. "You can change the natural snow to these conditions, and it doesn't matter how you produce it, either from nature or from the snowmaking system. The conditions are the same."

"Snowmaking is not a waste of water. The water will come back to nature. It is a basic physics law that everything is a cycle. It's not going out," he commented.

A BOCOG spokesperson said that artificial snowmaking has little impact on the local water supply and ecology thanks to China's world-leading water-conserving equipment for artificial snowmaking.

During the snowmaking process for Beijing 2022 venues, the collected natural precipitation and the overland runoff will be primarily used, and an intelligent system will help decide the timing for snowmaking based on the weather conditions, the spokesperson said.

Continues tomorrow

Indonesian parliament passes law to relocate capital to Nusantara

JAKARTA

INDONESIAN lawmakers on Tuesday passed a law on the relocation of the nation's capital to the island of Kalimantan, which the country shares borders with Malaysia and Brunei, from the most populated island of Java.

The move is a step forward in one of the most ambitious projects initiated by the country's President Joko Widodo. Some former presidents have floated ideas of relocating the capital city in the past.

The president, widely known as Jokowi, three years ago vowed to relocate the capital city to the province of East Kalimantan due to a number of issues, including high population density and land subsidence in Jakarta, home to more than 10 million peo-

ple. Nusantara, which the new capital is called, will be built in two districts in East Kalimantan -- Penajam Paser Utara and Kutai Kartanegara. It is set to occupy about 256,000 hectares of land.

The name of Nusantara, which can be translated as an archipelago in English, was chosen by President Jokowi, Minister for National Development Planning Suharso Monoarfa has said.

Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous country, is home to some 270 million people, consisting of about 17,000 islands. "The national capital has a central function and serves as a symbol of a country to show the identity of the nation and state."

Minister Monoarfa explained during a meeting with



President Joko Widodo

lawmakers at the House of Representatives building on Tuesday. The ground-breaking of the construction project that is slated to cost 32 billion U.S. dollars was initially expected to be conducted in August 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic has forced the government to put it on hold.

Some of the projects on the construction of the new capital will be carried out by

public-private partnerships, and the early stage of the relocation will begin this year and is expected to end in 2024.

At this stage, the government will build a presidential palace, parliament buildings, and a housing complex in the primary zone.

The move of civil servants at the early stage must be completed before Aug. 16, 2024. Nusantara will serve as the

center of government, while Jakarta will remain the business and economic center of Indonesia, Southeast Asia's biggest economy.

A day before the lawmakers passed the bill, President Jokowi stressed that that new capital is not only about physically relocating the offices of government institutions, but also "building a new smart city."

It is reported that Nusantara will be headed by an authority chief appointed by the president and its level of position is equal to a minister.

Several former government officials which will likely become the chief include Jakarta's former governor Basuki Tjahaja Purnama and former minister for research and technology Bambang Brodjonegoro.

Xinhua

Iranian President says his visit to Moscow may become turning point in Russia-Iran ties

TEHRAN

IRANIAN President Ebrahim Raisi before departing for Moscow said that his visit may become a turning point in political, economic and trade relations between Iran and Russia, the IRNA news agency reported yesterday.

"The visit may become a

turning point in political, economic and trade relations between Iran and Russia and it may also be effective in ensuring security, economic and trade relations in the region," the news agency quoted him as telling journalists at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport.

"This trip is conducted at



the invitation of Mr. [Russian President Vladimir] Putin and during this visit efforts will be

made to promote the policy of good-neighborliness in the region," he explained.

"Interaction between Iran and Russia in the region will, undoubtedly, ensure security and prevent unilateralism. Russia and we are members of many economic and political organizations in the region, such as the Shanghai Cooper-

ation Organization, and Russia plays an important role in these organizations," the Iranian leader noted.

"Russia plays a key role in the Eurasian Economic Union, and our cooperation on this track may be effective to promote trade and economic projects," the Iranian President pointed out.

Digital yuan a new infrastructure of China in era of digital economy

A digital yuan wallet application, the e-CNY, hit major mobile phone app stores in China earlier this year.

The mobile application offers brand-new payment experiences. A swipe down on the screen would activate a QR code that enables users to receive money from others, while a swipe up wakes up a payment code which allows users to pay merchants.

Sub-wallets can be opened in the app and pushed to other apps installed on the phones of the users, including online shopping, food delivery, cab hailing and ticket booking.

After typing their phone numbers and setting usernames and personal identification number (PIN) for pay-

ment, it's all ready for users to use the e-CNY. They can open digital currency wallets on the app run by authorized operators which now include nine banks, without inputting their personal information, such as names, ID numbers or bank card numbers. These wallets can be later upgraded with real-name information according to the needs of the users.

The sub-wallets in the app connect users' wallets to different online merchant platforms, through which users can pay on these platforms with digital yuan PIN-free. They can also manage the transaction limit of each of their sub-wallets in the app.

From daily consumption to fees

and taxes payment, digital yuan has been widely applied in a variety of scenarios in people's daily lives. Student Ya Qi from the Renmin University of China in Beijing once shopped stationary with digital currency at the university's gift store, and a Shanghai citizen surnamed Wang is doing grocery shopping with digital yuan every day. In Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan province, a woman surnamed Chen is using the e-CNY to pay for the medical insurance for her mother, who lives far away from her.

Being piloted for a year and more, digital currency is seeing increasingly wider scenarios of application and improving public acceptance.

As of Oct. 22, 2021, 140 million personal wallets and 10 million enterprise wallets had been opened on the e-CNY app, making 150 million transactions totaling almost 62 billion yuan (\$9.77 billion).

Digital yuan was initially piloted in Shenzhen, Chengdu, Suzhou and Xiong'an New Area, and later expanded to Shanghai, Hainan province, Changsha, Xi'an, Qingdao and Dalian. It will also be piloted in the upcoming Winter Olympics scenarios.

Apart from daily consumption, digital yuan will also be used in government affairs and securities trading

According to a recent report by

Quartz, digital yuan has gathered tens of millions of users since it started mass testing in late 2019. The economic news site said China has been leading the race to develop a sovereign digital currency.

Dong Ximiao, chief researcher of China's Qinnong Bank and part-time researcher at Fudan University, said digital yuan is a new infrastructure of China in the era of digital economy, and will restructure the Chinese currency and payment system.

Digital yuan, issued by the central bank of China in accordance with law, possesses all the basic features of cash yuan, and functions as a value measure, a means

of circulation and a means of payment. It will better normalize money transaction, lower social cost, and make modern finance and economic activities more convenient, efficient and secure. In addition, it will also fill the digital gap brought about by mobile payment.

Dong told People's Daily that as a fiat currency, digital yuan can break payment barriers and circulate freely and smoothly among all the banks and payment tools that support it, so as to avoid extra fees generated by transactions between different platforms and means of payment, and make transactions easier.

People's Daily

N95? KF94? Which mask is best at protecting against COVID-19

THE US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has said Americans should wear the most protective mask they can, but stopped short of recommending an N95 or similar face covering.

Here are some facts to consider when choosing a mask:

WHAT ARE N95 MASKS?

These masks and their international counterparts known as KN95s and KF94s are often made of multiple layers of polypropylene, a synthetic fiber. They are designed to achieve a very snug facial fit, with straps that go around the back of the head and edges that form a tight seal around the nose and mouth.

N95 respirators worn correctly are designed to filter out at least 95 percent of particulate matter in the air, preventing anything larger than .3 microns from passing through.

KN95s and KF94s are certified in China and South Korea, respectively, and offer similar protection to N95 masks. KF stands for "Korean filter" and indicates 94 percent filtration.

"The best masks are some version of N95," said Eric Toner, senior scientist of environmental health and engineering at Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University. "N95s, KN95s and KF94s are functionally equivalent."

Masks with an exhaust valve do not prevent the spread of the virus to other people.

WHAT ABOUT FAKE MASKS?

The CDC lists manufacturers of authorized N95 masks on its agency website. Masks should have a printed logo of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and an approval number.

The CDC has warned that about 60 percent of KN95 respirators it tested in 2020 and 2021 are below standards.

WHY CHANGE MY MASK NOW?

With the Omicron variant driving CO-

VID-19 cases so high, experts said a better mask will help protect against transmission.

The CDC said a NIOSH-approved N95 provides the most protection. Well-fitting surgical masks and KN95 masks offer the next best protection, followed by cloth masks with multiple layers. Loosely woven cloth masks are the least effective but can provide an additional layer of protection when worn over a surgical mask.

Some cloth masks have built-in pockets for a filter that blocks small particles, but these are not as effective and data on their use is limited.

ARE THEY REUSABLE?

The CDC said masks are meant for single-use but can be used more than once when there is a shortage. The agency says N95s should not be used more than 5 times.

Dr Gregory Poland, infectious disease expert at the Mayo Clinic, said when a mask becomes wet from exhalation or sweat, its efficacy decreases and advised rotating masks by day.

WHEN TO WEAR AN N95?

The CDC recommends people consider wearing an N95 when caring for someone with COVID-19, if at risk for serious illness or in a high risk job, when riding on public transportation for an extended time, in crowded indoors spaces or outdoors if not up to date on vaccinations.

IS DOUBLE MASKING BETTER?

The CDC recommends that a surgical mask under a cloth mask can offer increased protection if using an N95 is not possible.

"The best possible protection is being vaccinated and boosted, wearing an N95 or KN95. If that's not possible, double the surgical mask," Poland said.

"If that's not possible, a surgical or cloth mask with a face shield. If that's not possible, then as many layers of a cloth mask as you can wear," Poland continued, adding, "If that's not possible, then you're just playing Russian roulette."

Agencies



Three pro-Trump lawyers hit with subpoenas over Jan 6 attack

WASHINGTON

THE congressional committee probing the Jan 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol issued subpoenas on Tuesday to three lawyers who joined former president Donald Trump's unsuccessful attempt to overturn his election defeat: Rudy Giuliani, Sidney Powell and Jenna Ellis.

The House of Representatives committee demanded the pro-Trump lawyers hand over documents and sit for depositions on Feb 8.

Representative Bennie Thompson, the committee's chairman, said in a statement that the panel expects the lawyers to join the nearly 400 witnesses who have spoken with the Select Committee as part of its investigation into the causes of the deadly attack by Trump supporters.

The committee also subpoenaed Boris Epshteyn, a Trump political adviser.

Robert Costello, a lawyer for Giuliani, said in an interview that the subpoena was "political theater" and that his client was constrained by the legal doctrines of attorney-client privilege and executive privilege.

"I don't think there's anything here he can testify about," Costello said.

Powell, Epshteyn, and Ellis did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

"The four individuals we've subpoenaed today advanced unsupported theories about election fraud, pushed efforts to overturn the election results, or were in direct contact with the former president



In this Jan 6, 2021 photo, then US president Donald Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani speaks to supporters from The Ellipse near the White House in Washington, DC.

about attempts to stop the counting of electoral votes," Thompson said in the statement.

Powell, Giuliani, and Ellis jointly spoke at a Trump campaign news conference on Nov 19, 2020, where they vowed to overturn President Joe Biden's election victory. Powell promised to "release the Kraken," likening their effort to a mythological sea monster.

The Trump campaign distanced itself from Powell after she claimed without evidence at the news conference that electronic voting systems had switched millions of ballots from

Trump to Biden.

Giuliani's New York law license was suspended in June, after a state appeals court found he made "demonstrably false and misleading" statements that widespread voter fraud undermined the election, won by Democrat Joe Biden.

The committee is aiming to release an interim report in the summer and a final report in the fall, a source familiar with the investigation said last month.

CNN reported on Tuesday that the committee has subpoenaed and obtained records of phone numbers associated with one of Trump's children,

Eric Trump, as well as Kimberly Guilfoyle, who is engaged to Donald Trump Jr.

The Select Committee's members have said they will consider passing along evidence of criminal conduct by Trump to the US Justice Department. Such a move, known as a criminal referral, would be largely symbolic but would increase the political pressure on Attorney General Merrick Garland to charge the former president.

Russian embassy calls on US to abandon plans to provide more weapons to Ukraine

WASHINGTON

IF the US authorities are committed to resolving Ukraine's domestic conflict through diplomatic means, they should abandon plans to provide more weapons to Ukraine, the Russian embassy in Washington said in a statement on Facebook.

"If the United States is truly committed to diplomatic efforts to resolve the intra-Ukrainian conflict, they should abandon plans to supply new batches of weapons for the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Instead, Washington should use its influence on

the Ukrainian authorities to convince them to stop sabotaging the Minsk Agreements," the statement reads.

Moscow also calls on Washington to end the hysteria around the Donbass issue, the Russian embassy said in a statement.

The embassy pointed out that on January 18, the White House, the US Department of State and high-ranking Pentagon officials had made remarks "about the absence of de-escalation steps on the Russian-Ukrainian border" and "argued that our country could invade the neighboring state at any moment, including

from the territory of Belarus."

"We stress once again: Russia is not going to attack anyone. The practice of moving troops on our own soil is a sovereign right. We call to end the hysteria and not to pile on tension around the Donbass problem.

And most importantly - not to push 'hotheads' in Kiev towards new provocations," the statement added.

CNN reported last week that the US authorities had authorized additional military aid to Ukraine worth \$200 mln. According to the report, the US intends to provide Ukraine with

small arms, ammunition, medical and radar surveillance equipment.

Meanwhile, Politico said that "the \$200 million was approved as part of President Joe Biden's drawdown authority, which empowers him to have the secretary of state ask the secretary of defense to deliver items from existing Pentagon stock to a country in peril."

Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said, commenting on those reports, that increasing weapons supplies to Ukraine were escalating tensions in the conflict zone.

Special address by president xi jinping at 2022 world economic forum virtual session -2

Fourth, we need to discard Cold War mentality and seek peaceful coexistence and win-win outcomes.

Our world today is far from being tranquil; rhetorics that stoke hatred and prejudice abound. Acts of containment, suppression or confrontation arising thereof do all harm, not the least good, to world peace and security. History has proved time and again that confrontation does not solve problems; it only invites catastrophic consequences. Protectionism and unilateralism can protect no one; they ultimately hurt the interests of others as well as one's own.

Naturally, countries have divergences and disagreements between them. Yet a zero-sum approach that enlarges one's own gain at the expense of others will not help. Acts of single-mindedly building "exclusive yards with high walls" or "parallel systems", of enthusiastically putting together exclusive small circles or blocs that polarize the world, of overstretching the concept of national security to hold back economic and technological advances of other countries, and of fanning ideological antagonism and politicizing or weaponizing economic, scientific and technological issues, will gravely undercut international efforts to tackle common challenges.

The right way forward for humanity is peaceful development and win-win cooperation. Different countries and civilizations may prosper together on the basis of respect for

each other, and seek common ground and win-win outcomes by setting aside differences.

We should follow the trend of history, work for a stable international order, advocate common values of humanity, and build a community with a shared future for mankind. We should choose dialogue over confrontation, inclusiveness over exclusion, and stand against all forms of unilateralism, protectionism, hegemony or power politics.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends,

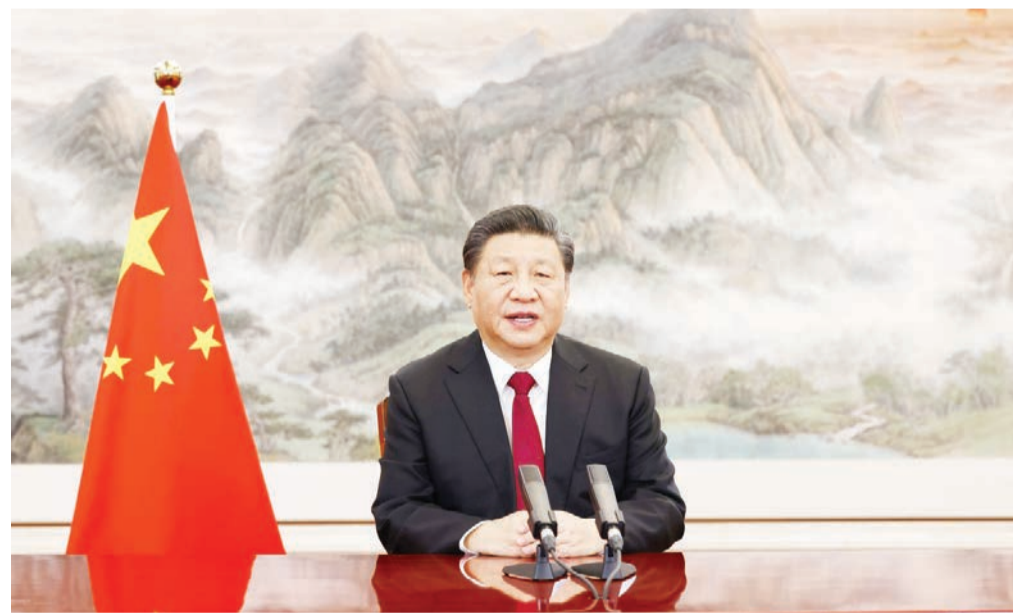
Last year, the Communist Party of China (CPC) celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding. Through a century of tenacious struggle, the CPC has rallied and led the Chinese people in accomplishing remarkable achievements in the advancement of the nation and betterment of people's lives. We have realized a moderately prosperous society in all respects and won the battle against poverty, both according to plan, and found a historic solution to ending absolute poverty. Now, China is marching on a new journey of building a modern socialist country in all respects.

- China will stay committed to pursuing high-quality development. The Chinese economy enjoys a good momentum overall. Last year, our GDP grew by around eight percent, achieving the dual target of fairly high growth and relatively low inflation. Shifts in the domestic and international economic environment have brought tremendous pressure, but the fundamentals of

the Chinese economy, characterized by strong resilience, enormous potential and long-term sustainability, remain unchanged. We have every confidence in the future of China's economy.

"The wealth of a country is measured by the abundance of its people." Thanks to considerable economic growth, the Chinese people are living much better lives. Nonetheless, we are soberly aware that to meet people's aspiration for an even better life, we still have much hard work to do in the long run. China has made it clear that we strive for more visible and substantive progress in the well-rounded development of individuals and the common prosperity of the entire population. We are working hard on all fronts to deliver this goal. The common prosperity we desire is not egalitarianism. To use an analogy, we will first make the pie bigger, and then divide it properly through reasonable institutional arrangements. As a rising tide lifts all boats, everyone will get a fair share from development, and development gains will benefit all our people in a more substantial and equitable way.

- China will stay committed to reform and opening-up. For China, reform and opening-up is always a work in process. Whatever change in the international landscape, China will always hold high the banner of reform and opening-up. China will continue to let the market play a decisive role in resource allocation, and see to it that the government better plays its role. We will be steadfast in consolidating and devel-



Chinese President Xi Jinping delivers a special address at the 2022 World Economic Forum virtual session, in Beijing on Monday. Xinhua

oping the public sector, just as we are steadfast in encouraging, supporting and guiding the development of the non-public sector. We will build a unified, open, competitive and orderly market system, where all businesses enjoy equal status before the law and have equal opportunities in the marketplace. All types of capital are welcome to operate in China in compliance with laws and regulations, and play a positive role for the development of the country.

China will continue to expand high-standard opening-up, steadily advance institutional opening-up that covers rules, management and standards, deliver national treatment for foreign businesses, and promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. With the entry into force of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP) on 1 January this year,

China will faithfully fulfill its obligations and deepen economic and trade ties with other RCEP parties. China will also continue to work for the joining of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA), with a view to further integrating into the regional and global economy and achieving mutual benefit and win-win results.

- China will stay committed to promoting ecological conservation. As I have said many times, we should never grow the economy at the cost of resource depletion and environmental degradation, which is like draining a pond to get fish; nor should we sacrifice growth to protect the environment, which is like climbing a tree to catch fish. Guided by our philosophy

that clean waters and green mountains are just as valuable as gold and silver, China has carried out holistic conservation and systematic governance of its mountains, rivers, forests, farmlands, lakes, grasslands and deserts. We do everything we can to conserve the ecological system, intensify pollution prevention and control, and improve the living and working environment for our people. China is now putting in place the world's largest national parks system. Last year, we successfully hosted COP15 to the Convention on Biological Diversity, contributing China's share to a clean and beautiful world.

Achieving carbon peak and carbon neutrality are the intrinsic requirements of China's own high-quality development and a solemn pledge to the international community. China will honor its word and keep working toward its goal. We

have unveiled an Action Plan for Carbon Dioxide Peaking Before 2030, to be followed by implementation plans for specific sectors such as energy, industry and construction.

China now has the world's biggest carbon market and biggest clean power generation system: the installed capacity of renewable energy has exceeded one billion kilowatts, and the construction of wind and photovoltaic power stations with a total installed capacity of 100 million kilowatts is well under way. Carbon peak and carbon neutrality cannot be realized overnight.

Through solid and steady steps, China will pursue an orderly phase-down of traditional energy in the course of finding reliable substitution in new energy. This approach, which combines phasing out the old and bringing in the new, will ensure steady economic and social development. China will also actively engage in international cooperation on climate and jointly work for a complete transition to a greener economy and society.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends, Davos is known as a heaven for winter sports. The Beijing Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games will open soon. We are confident that China will present a streamlined, safe and splendid Games to the world. The official motto for Beijing 2022 is "Together for a Shared Future". Indeed, let us join hands with full confidence, and work together for a shared future.

Thank you.



Emmanuel Mathias, alias 'MC Pilipili'.

Dar comedian turns to evangelism

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

TANZANIAN comedian, Emmanuel Mathias, popularly known as 'MC Pilipili' has started his church in Dar es Salaam.

The comedian-turned-pastor disclosed that he hopes to launch his church, named Love Church, on Sunday.

Mathias stated he has invited various gospel singers, including popular artist Ambwene Mwasongwe, at the launch.

"I know that a lot of people know me because of the popularity I have gained through arts, but at the moment I am a pastor of the Love Church," 'MC Pilipili' noted.

He said every person is invited to participate in the inaugural service of his church.

He was adamant his church does not

discriminate against any person, the church encourages love among the community.

"We will be holding our services every Sunday from 8 pm to 11 pm at the Kebbys Hotel, Mwenge in Dar es Salaam as we continue with strategies to build our church," he said.

He explained that although he has turned into a pastor, he will continue his artistic activities.

He pointed out that evangelism is a gift given to him by God and he will develop it as much as possible.

"Because I am already in the entertainment industry, I would not want to give up, but I am serving God as a pastor while developing arts."

"I won't give up, as it does not stop me from serving God," he said.

When Simba SC loss to Mbeya City FC looks like a league decider

By Correspondent John Kimbute

INTERMINABLE debate is raging on the way a 10-man Mbeya City FC not only held on its own against reigning champions Simba SC but also seemed to close out the league run as pacesetter Young Africans SC, nicknamed 'Yanga', retained their eight points lead on their nearest rivals.

That lead though is not as massive as it appears as Simba SC has a game in hand by comparison, and the league is only nearing the halfway mark, so there are too many matches to be played for the excited archrivals to the reigning champions to soften up.

Still, the more significant aspect about the result is that the league is more equal in its competitive ability than many of us thought it was, but at the same time, the result just signaled that Mbeya City FC is another powerhouse in the Premier League.

For that reason, some of us went back to the Premier League standing to look at its performance, along with listening to analyses by pundits.

There it was surprising to hear that the perceptibly 'lowly' Mbeya side has only had one defeat, the second match before its Simba encounter.

In that case, the Mbeya City FC defeat was only surprising because the regional side is relatively unknown in its potential and particularly so in its standing in the Premier League at the moment, where it ranks third.

The more popular sides of Azam FC and Namungo FC are ranked at seventh and eighth respectively, which implies that the Monday encounter was really top of the charts but most people did not know it, thus caught in stupefaction about Simba SC failing the test.

It on the whole means the league is a lot more competitive than we tend to think.

In that case, the loss by the reigning champions was a lesson in reality.

Still, there were rather usual features in how big sides lose games they take as casual, as



Simba SC striker, Denis Kibu (L), dribbles past Mbeya City FC defenders when the outfits locked horns in this season's NBC Premier League match which took place in Mbeya on Monday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Simba SC itself was in the view that they win the match to reduce the gap with the league leaders, which means they more or less skipped the adversary.

Their mind was elsewhere, and in addition, some keen observers present in Mbeya noticed that the visiting side wasn't keen enough in the match preparations.

One key official of the Mbeya side being interviewed said the team had a practice session only in the late evening just before the match was played, which suggests that they were not worried about the side, or careful.

Without question the opposite is what happened in the Mbeya City FC camp, that they made a thorough study of the champions' game pattern and managed to use their rough pitch and its conscience parameters to their advantage, setting the pattern of the game.

Pundits were generally agreed that the visitors walked into a pattered decided by the home side, and there were few visible remedies.

A mishandled penalty and a red card gave the usual appre-

hension of defenders meeting the champions also did not settle matters, as the hosts reinforced the rear and directed play towards the center, diminishing wing to suit the manpower.

Yet even with the more careful planning of the home side and skilful use of a bad pitch, there was no doubt which was the better team overall, though it didn't click in what it was doing.

Whether one goes for a technical explanation like a narrow pitch killing the tempo of the Simba pattern of play or prefers to allow that luck wasn't on their side, it must be admitted that there is something of extra resilience on the part of the Mbeya side, and that is also why it is third on the table.

It takes a lot to play ten against the champs and hold on, despite that mishandled penalty helping to escort the visiting side head up finally.

There were similarly some reflections on moves and tactics on the Simba technical bench, appearing to show a certain amount of confusion, panic, or desperation, as visibly nothing seemed to work

against the home side.

A few lingering questions remain in what was being said, as to the source of confusion or apparent inability to find something workable, which squares up with the view that the visitors entered into a game plan of the home side and just stuck there.

Technical appreciation of the Mbeya goal, hit by a veteran who knows a few things on how the city rival's play was there, but not why Simba failed to score.

That is why it was enlightening to hear a pundit pick a reflection from the legendary Edson Arantes do Nascimento, otherwise known as Pele, that luck plays a part in soccer.

That is indisputable, but as the league standing and the pattern of play indicate, one has to prepare to receive the luck, do everything that needs to be done, and wait for luck or otherwise hope for it.

Without these preliminaries as to where the Mbeya side stands in the league, their record of not being defeated, the skilful use of the pitch, one can't trust on luck to steer a side against the champions.

Osaka, Barty advance toward Australian Open showdown

MELBOURNE, Australia

FOR the first set, Naomi Osaka's rediscovered love of the game meant it was anything but fun for Madison Brengle in the third round of the Australian Open.

The defending champion conceded only four points in the first four games Wednesday and rifled forehand winners seemingly at will as she breezed to 6-0 in a mere 20 minutes.

The second set started with Brengle celebrating a service hold like she'd finished a long-distance race, but gradually the No. 54-ranked American ground down Osaka to a stage in the seventh game where she finally converted a break-point opportunity — after missing her first nine chances.

That triggered a change in the former No. 1-ranked Osaka, who responded by breaking back immediately and winning the last nine points to complete a 6-0, 6-4 victory.

She will next face Amanda Anisimova, a 20-year-old American who beat Olympic gold medalist Belinda Bencic

6-2, 7-5. The winner of that is likely to face top-ranked Ash Barty in the fourth round.

Osaka won the Australian Open last year, her fourth Grand Slam title, but then withdrew from the French Open and skipped Wimbledon as she took a break for her mental health. She then was ousted early at the U.S. Open.

After a long off-season to reset, she's unbeaten in five matches in Australia this year.

Asked how she rated her form, Osaka said that's not how she's approaching things.

"Honestly I'm trying not to do that," she said in an on-court TV interview. "I'm a bit of a perfectionist. If I compare myself with the past, I'll never be satisfied."

"The goal for me is just to have fun... (and) I think we're accomplishing that."

Since the draw for the first major of the year was made, a big focus has been on a potential encounter between Osaka and Barty, the 2021 Wimbledon and 2019 French Open champion who is aiming to be the



Rafael Nadal of Spain celebrates after defeating Yannick Hanfmann of Germany in their second round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, yesterday, Jan. 19, 2022. (AP Photo)

first Australian woman since 1978 to win her home championship.

Barty was front and center when the tournament celebrated its inaugural First Nations Day, albeit only for 52 minutes as she beat 142nd-ranked qualifier Lucia Bronzetti 6-1, 6-1.

"It was nice for me to be a part of it in a way that I feel most comfortable," Barty, who has Indigenous heritage, said of the day dedicated to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

of Australia. "Out on the tennis court is how I express myself as an athlete, it's how I'm able to express myself as a person as well."

"On a day we're bringing cultures together, bringing people together ... it was great for me to be able to play a small role doing what I love."

Rafael Nadal didn't get it all his own way in the subsequent match on Rod Laver Arena, needing five match points before beating 126th-ranked German qualifier Yannick

Hanfmann 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.

The sixth-seeded Nadal, aiming for a men's record 21st Grand Slam singles title, had two match points on Hanfmann's serve and two more on his own in the next game before finally clinching a spot in the third round when his rival sent a forehand long.

Nadal converted only four of his 16 break-point chances, including one of eight in the third set, but only faced two break points on his own serve and fended them both

off.

For the 35-year-old Nadal, after fatigue and injuries curtailed his 2021 season following the French Open, time on court is more important than anything else.

"I said here before the tournament started, things are not going to be perfect, but every day that I'm going to spend on court, the chances to play better are higher," he said. "After two matches is the moment to make a step forward. I'm excited about it."

Nadal shares the men's record of 20 singles titles with Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic, and he doesn't have either of them in the draw this time.

Federer is skipping the Australian Open while he continues his recovery from injury. Djokovic, a nine-time champion at Melbourne Park, was deported after an 11-day saga that he ultimately lost because he didn't meet Australia's strict COVID-19 vaccination regulations.

Miomir Kecmanovic, who was originally drawn to meet Djokovic on the opening night, advanced to the third

round with a 7-6 (7), 7-5, 7-6 (8) win over Tommy Paul of the United States.

Wimbledon finalist Matteo Berrettini and No. 23 Reilly Opelka advanced in straight sets, while No. 19 Pablo Carreno Busta beat Tallon Griekspoor 6-3, 6-7 (6), 7-6 (3), 3-6, 6-4.

In two marathon five-setters, No. 14 Denis Shapovalov held off Kwon Soon-woo 7-6 (6), 6-7 (3), 6-7 (6), 7-5, 6-2 in 4 hours, 25 minutes on Margaret Court Arena, and Sebastian Korda edged Corentin Moutet 3-6, 6-4, 6-7 (2), 7-5, 7-6 (6) in 4:47.

In the women's draw, French Open champion and fourth-seeded Barbora Krejčíková beat Wang Xiyu 6-2, 6-3 to move into a third-round match against No. 26 Jelena Ostapenko.

Eighth-seeded Paula Badosa advanced in straight sets and two-time Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka moved into a third-round match against 15th-seeded Elina Svitolina, who was leading 6-3, 5-7, 5-1 when Harmony Tan retired from their second-round match.

Ticket price hike for World Cup final in Qatar reaches 46%

DOHA

THE cost of attending the World Cup final is up to 46% higher in Qatar than the previous tournament in Russia, fans discovered Wednesday as tickets went on sale.

The steep rise in the prices for the FIFA showpiece match contrasts with the group stage seeing a reduction in the cost of some tickets, which fans can apply for online.

The most expensive tickets on general sale for the Dec. 18 final at Lusail Stadium are 5,850 Qatari riyals (\$1,607), up 46% from the \$1,100 for the 2018 final won by France.

Category-two tickets are 3,650 Qatari riyals (\$1,003), up 41% from \$710 for the final four years ago. Category-three tickets – the cheapest available for international fans – are 2,200 Qatari riyals (\$604), one-third more expensive than the \$455 last time. The category-four final tickets for local residents soars from the equivalent of \$110 in Russia to 750 Qatari riyals (\$206).

The cheapest seats on general sale internationally to watch the host nation open the World Cup on Nov. 21 soar 37% to \$302 (1,100 Qatari riyals) from \$220 in Russia. There's a rise of 13% for category-two tickets to \$440 (1,600 Qatari riyals) from \$390 and a similar jump from \$550 in Russia to \$618 (2,250 Qatari riyals) for the most expensive opening-game tickets.

For other matches in the group stage, Qatari residents can buy tickets for 40 Qatari riyals (\$11) – the cheapest for locals since the 1986 World Cup in Mexico. The cheapest tickets on international sale are the lowest prices since the 2006 World Cup in Germany at 250 Qatari riyals (\$69). Category-one tickets have risen marginally from \$210 to \$220 (800 Qatari riyals) while the category two will remain at \$165.

Supporters requesting to attend matches at the Middle East's first World Cup will only discover if they are successful based on a random draw at the conclusion of the first application phase which runs through Feb. 8.

The ticket process is beginning with only 13 of the 32 slots at the tournament filled and qualifying not concluding until the intercontinental playoffs in June. Applications in the first phase of ticket sales can be made on the FIFA website until Feb. 8 with fans notified if they have been successful in the random draw selection by March 8.

As well as applying for tickets for individual games, fans can register to follow their team throughout and to watch four matches in four different stadiums.

FIFA aims to generate \$500 million from hospitality rights and ticket sales from across the eight stadiums in Qatar which are within a 30-mile radius of Doha.

Some fans could still be deterred from flying to the World Cup after a decade of criticism of Qatar's treatment of the migrant workers, who are largely from southwest Asia and have been relied on to build up the infrastructure since winning the FIFA hosting rights in 2010.

AP

School kids in London take an avid interest in African Cup

LONDON

JUST about every schoolyard in England echoes with a semi-heated debate about which Premier League soccer team is better.

This month, with the African Cup of Nations underway in Cameroon, many students in London have plenty more to argue about.

Nathan Williams, though, didn't have to search long among the 24 teams at the tournament to pick his favorite. He's originally from Ghana, and that's who he is hoping will win the title in Yaounde on Feb. 6.

"It's just the same when everyone here was supporting England last summer," said Williams, a 17-year-old student from west London, referring to last year's European Championship. "Ghana's my country and I'm going to follow them, support them and watch their games."

The African Cup, which is always a cause of concern for European clubs because they lose some of their best players in the middle of the season, was delayed a year because of the coronavirus. It's now dealing with the spread of the omicron variant of the coronavirus. Only fully vaccinated fans with proof of negative virus tests will be allowed to watch games at the six host venues in five cities.

In Britain and other countries, the games are being shown live on television, making it easy for the students in London – a city renowned for its diversity and multiculturalism – to follow along with the tournament.

"The last tournaments were so hard to watch so I'd usually just check score updates," said 18-year-old student Philmon Teklemichael, who lives in south London and is supporting Ethiopia at the tournament. "This year, I just have to flick on my TV and it's right there. It's great."

AP

Minnnows Comoros now send Ghana crashing out of Africa Cup of Nations

YAOUNDE

FOUR-TIME champions Ghana were eliminated from the Africa Cup of Nations after crashing 3-2 to minnows Comoros in Group C on Tuesday in Garoua.

The Black Stars had captain Andre Ayew sent off after 25 minutes and, after wiping out a two-goal deficit, lost when Comoros' Ahmed Mogni scored his second goal five minutes from time.

Morocco and Gabon drew 2-2 in Yaounde in the same group to retain first and second places respectively and qualify for the round of 16, which kicks off on Sunday.

Comoros, representing a tiny island nation off the south east coast of Africa, finished third and must wait until Thursday to know if they are among the best four third-placed teams, who get last 16 spots.

"We did not back down even after Ghana equalised. We always believed we could achieve a famous victory for our nation," said Comoros coach Amir Abdou, who has been in charge since 2014.

"I sent on attacking players in the belief that we could score a third goal and my deci-



Comoros' players celebrate after scoring the opening goal of an Africa Cup of Nations Group C match in Garoua on Tuesday. (AFP)

sion paid off. Now we must wait to see if we are among the best four third-placed teams and play in the second round.

"We are satisfied with the way we played. We had a plan and stuck to it. We learnt from the mistakes we made in previous games. Obviously, I'm unhappy that we conceded three, but we will improve."

A disastrous night for Ghana started after just four minutes when Serbia-based El Fardou Ben Mohamed fired the first-time qualifiers in front.

Mogni, who plays for French third-tier club Annecy, added a second just past the hour only for 10-man Ghana to hit back through goals from Richmond Boakye and

Alexander Djiku.

- Match-winner Mogni -

Mogni struck again when he pushed a low cross from Ben Djaloud past goalkeeper Joseph Wollacott to give the islanders a stunning triumph.

Ghana had come to Cameroon confident of going far having pipped South Africa to secure a place in the final African qualifying round for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

A team coached by Serbian Milovan Rajevac included three Premier League players, Leicester City defender Daniel Amartey, Arsenal midfielder Thomas Partey and Crystal Palace forward Jordan Ayew.

Despite losing to Morocco and conceding a

late equaliser against Gabon, Black Stars' supporters were confident of beating Comoros and, at worst, qualifying as one of the best four third-placed sides.

But after falling behind so early in north-west Cameroon, disaster struck on 25 minutes when Ayew, the son of Ghana legend Abedi 'Pele' Ayew, was shown a red card.

It was harsh call as Ayew unavoidably slid into Comoros goalkeeper Ben Boina, who had let the ball slip from his grasp.

After falling further behind, Ghana exposed a Comoran weakness when defending corners and a Boakye header and a Djiku tap-in raised

hopes of a dramatic victory.

The islanders refused to panic, however, pressed forward and Mogni was among several Comorans lining up to push the cross over the goalline.

In Yaounde, Gabon led twice through Jim Allevinah and a Nayef Aguerd own-goal while Sofiane Boufal and Achraf Hakimi netted for Morocco.

Gabon had to line up without their three stars -- Arsenal forward Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Mario Lemina and Denis Bouanga from French clubs Nice and Saint-Etienne -- due to Covid-19.

Meanwhile, Rwandan Salima Mukansanga became the first woman to referee an Africa Cup of Nations match when she oversaw the Group B clash between Guinea and Zimbabwe in Yaounde on Tuesday.

On Monday, a Confederation of African Football (CAF) statement said Mukansanga would handle the match with two female assistant referees, Carine Atemzabong of Cameroon and Fatima Jermoumi of Morocco.

However, when the officials entered the pitch for the match at Stade Ahmadou Ahidjo in the

Cameroonian capital, both assistant referees were males.

CAF did not immediately explain why the assistant referees were changed. Mukansanga created history after the previous 32 editions of the flagship African tournament from 1957 were refereed exclusively by men. Previously the Rwandan was the fourth official when Guinea defeated Malawi on January 10 in Bafoussam.

"We are super proud of Salima because she has had to work exceptionally hard to be where she is today," said Confederation of African Football (CAF) referees' boss Eddy Maillet from the Seychelles.

"We know that as a woman she had to overcome serious obstacles to reach this level and she deserves a lot of credit.

"This moment is not just for Salima, but every young girl in Africa who has passion for football and who sees herself as a referee in the future."

Leaders Guinea need one point to seal a second-round place while Zimbabwe are playing for pride having been eliminated after two losses.

AFP

Dropping points becoming the new normal for Chelsea

BRIGHTON, England

HAKIM Ziyech's reaction to his goal said it all. Chelsea's standout moment on another disappointing night, which extinguishes the faintest lingering title hopes, came against the run of play midway through the first half as the Dutch-born attacker's deflected strike snuck inside Brighton & Hove Albion goalkeeper Robert Sanchez's near post.

A smile never even threatened to break across his face. Only Jorginho's embrace stopped Ziyech from walking straight back to the halfway line. Instead, his teammates ran to join in what could very loosely be described as a celebration, and a frank conversation quickly ensued between Ziyech, Mason Mount and then Marcos Alonso, which involved some urgent pointing and gesticulating.

Chelsea had been outplayed up until that moment, and after Brighton rediscovered their poise to draw level, that pattern continued in a second half that saw Adam Webster equalise and the home side spurn several promising moments to find a winner to ultimately settle for a 1-1 draw -- a familiar feeling for Graham Potter's side this season.

Blues boss Thomas Tuchel described all this as merely signs of fatigue. "We are mentally tired and physically tired and you can see it in our performance. It is as easy as that."

He was also happy to make light of Ziyech's inability to take any joy from his first league goal since Dec. 1. "Happy -- he can score 20 more and

not celebrate, I have no problem with that," he said.

As the players walked off the pitch at half-time, Ziyech and Romelu Lukaku began another exchange that can, at best, be described as a clear difference of opinion over Chelsea's method of attack. The television camera accompanying them could barely have been closer, perhaps prompting Ziyech to at least cover his mouth to conceal his part of the conversation, but Lukaku's dismay was unchecked.

"It is normal that they talk, it is normal that they are not happy and it is normal if we say that we want more from them," said Tuchel.

This is, however, in danger of becoming a worrying new normal for Chelsea.

Recent exertions are undoubtedly a mitigating factor; Brighton had an extra day to prepare for this game, itself rearranged after an original postponement due to COVID-19, and Chelsea's trip to Manchester City three days earlier will undoubtedly have left a mark given how much Pep Guardiola's side make almost every opponent chase the ball. But it was hard to escape the feeling that Chelsea's negative body language ran deeper than simple fatigue.

Their performance barely improved in the second half and the inertia seemed to even affect Tuchel, who began the first half in typically animated form, frustrated at Chelsea's error-strewn play, before retiring to his seat in the dugout for large chunks of the second half. The 48-year-



Thomas Tuchel

old has forged a reputation for game-changing substitutions and tactical alterations, but here he waited until the 80th minute to make a rare triple change, but by that stage it was already too late to reverse Brighton's momentum.

Afterwards, the usually genial Chelsea boss was abrupt in one television interview, urging the reporter repeatedly "Don't do this" when referencing a fourth consecutive league game without a

win -- incidentally, the longest run Tuchel has experienced as a manager since October 2016 at Borussia Dortmund.

The Blues last won in the Premier League on Boxing Day. Here, they barely threw a punch. Tuchel is hoping two days off triggers a revival. "[We need it] so, so badly," he said. "You can say it is an excuse or whatever but it is like this. Look at our schedule, look at the schedule when we arrived at Man

City.

"We had a Carabao Cup match in between, they did not. Now we arrive here, they had more days to prepare, they had the whole week to prepare before. We played since November, we play and play and play. We need to recharge the batteries. We need to disconnect, this is my feeling, that's why we give the players two days off."

They look pretty disconnected already, certainly from the top of

the table, where they expected to be when signing Lukaku for €115 million from Internazionale last summer.

This draw leaves Chelsea 12 points behind City having played a game more. Tottenham Hotspur are up next at Stamford Bridge on Sunday, and although they have beaten Spurs comfortably over two legs already this month in their Carabao Cup semifinal, defeat would leave them ever more vulnerable to being drawn into a top-four scrap with West Ham United and Arsenal among those closing in.

To complete a grouchy evening, Tuchel dismissed an innocuous question about Lukaku's individual display.

"I will not talk about single players today," he replied. "It is not about Romelu, too much questions about Romelu and there are too much answers about Romelu. Romelu is by far not the problem, he is part of the solution."

Tuchel needs to find that solution quickly.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Minnows Comoros now send Ghana crashing out of Africa Cup of Nations

PAGE 19



Taddeo Lwanga

Simba SC midfielder set to return to action

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC midfielder Taddeo Lwanga is expected to return to action later this month after the club changed its minds about terminating his contract.

His place at the club was in threat due to its decision to conduct trials for two defensive midfielders, Nigerian David Udoh and Sudanese Sharaf Eldin Shiboub.

The midfielders could not impress the outfit's coaches, a situation that handed Lwanga a second chance.

Lwanga suffered an injury when Simba SC took part in the 2021/22 CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round's return leg tie against Botswana's Jwaneng Galaxy FC which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last year.

Jwaneng Galaxy FC thrashed Simba SC 3-1 to make it to the Group Stage through an away goals' rule as the two clubs were locked to 3-3 draw on aggregate.

Lwanga, who joined Simba SC in December 2020, now recovering from a long-term injury, is expected to turn into a key player at the side.

Ahmed Ally, Simba SC's Head of Information and Communication Department, said: "We were ready to find a replacement for Lwanga but the doctor has assured us he will be fine by the end of this month."

Lwanga, who as well turns out for Uganda's senior national football team 'Cranes', had been released by Egyptian outfit Tanta SC before joining Simba due to his former outfit's failure to pay his salary.

The Uganda player of the year in 2021 joined Tanta SC from Uganda Premier League champions, Vipers SC, at the start of the 2019/20 season.

Before becoming popular in Tanzania, the midfielder had registered just 11 appearances during his short stint at Tanta SC.

Lwanga was Simba SC hero in the previous season's Federation Cup final against Yanga, which took place in Kigoma, after netting the only goal for his side.

Ally said Simba SC striker Kibu Dennis is fine and did not suffer an injury during the outfit's Premier League match against Mbeya City FC, which ended with Simba SC conceding a 1-0 defeat.

Ahmed said the striker is fine and was, on Wednesday, part of the squad's training along with his teammates in preparation for a Premier League match against Mtibwa Sugar which will be played at Manungu Stadium in Morogoro on Saturday.

Dar to field two Paralympic athletes in 2022 Commonwealth Games



Tanzania's Paralympic athlete, Ignas Madumla Mtweve, participates in the 2021 World Para Athletics Grand Prix's men's Shot Put, which took place in Dubai from February 6-14. PHOTO: WORLD PARAATHLETICS

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TWO Paralympic athletes will represent Tanzania in the coming Commonwealth Games scheduled for July to August in Birmingham, United Kingdom (UK).

Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) vice-president, Henry Tandau, said the two will represent the country in Powerlifting and Para-athletics.

He said the two are under the support of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) through its arm, the Games Athletes Programme (GAP).

Tandau said under the GAP support the two and two coaches will attend high-performance courses at Birmingham University and another university in South Africa.

He described the high-performance courses as good for Tanzania.

"We managed to secure the funding from GAP, which

is the arm of Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), the athletes will benefit a lot as the knowledge they will get will help the country, it will have a multiplier effect to Para sports in the country," he said.

He said the first course is expected to start in March in the UK while the dates for the South

Africa course will be announced soon.

The TOC official mentioned the two coaches as Bahati Mgunda and Nemes Chivalala.

Mgunda confirmed the development and said last week they had a zoom meeting with GAP officials.

The coach said GAP is for emerging athletes

and coaches from the Commonwealth.

It aims to support the development of inclusive sports pathways, removing barriers to participation for people with a disability and women and girls to become actively involved in sport.

"The development of coaches is fundamental, but so is tackling many

of barriers and constraints that prevent participation."

"The program involves multi-stakeholder partnerships and the building of long-term collaborations with universities, sports organizations, and government agencies," he said.

He further said through partnerships people are now shifting their mindsets and starting to have a positive influence on communities to believe that it is a fundamental human right for women, girls, and people with disabilities to be included in their sports pathways.

He mentioned the two Para athletes as Sauda Njopeka and Yohana Mwila, Sauda represented the country at the Tokyo Paralympics.

"It is true, we will attend the high-performance course in the UK and South Africa, the courses are being funded by GAP and are aimed at equipping para-athletes and coaches, the training will also help the country at large as the knowledge gained will be shared with other coaches and athletes," he said.

He said GAP is a sport for development and peace program that supports the development of inclusive sport pathways throughout the Commonwealth.

Developed by the Commonwealth Games Federation and Griffith University, it has expanded into a mutually beneficial and collaborative relationship with other partners joining on this exciting but challenging journey.

Mgunda said the expansion of the program is ongoing as they work towards bringing GAP to Africa with Stellenbosch University, Americas and Caribbean with the University of Western Ontario, and Europe with the University of Birmingham.

Oceania and Asia's expansion will be led by Griffith University.

Kisubi to miss Simba SC match against Mtibwa Sugar

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

MTIBWA Sugar goalkeeper, Jeremiah Kisubi, will not get a chance to play for the outfit against Simba SC when the two clubs meet in an NBC Premier League clash at Manungu Stadium in Morogoro on Saturday.

It has been confirmed that the goalkeeper, loaned by Simba SC to Mtibwa Sugar, will not be part of the latter's squad in the duel, given his contract does not give him a chance to be part of the game.

Simba SC's Information Officer, Ahmed Ally, said the Kisubi loan deal has a clause that prevents him from playing against his employers, who signed him earlier this season from Tanzania Prisons.

"I have seen the Kisubi contract, which has a clause barring him from playing against Simba SC, and this has become very common for a player like him who is loaned out to a club playing in the same league."

"Other loan players from our club, Said Ndemla, and Ibrahim Ame will play for Mtibwa Sugar in the clash because their contracts do not

deprive them of the opportunity to play against Simba SC."

FIFA does not provide any rule to stipulate whether loan players can play against their parent clubs.

These rules would depend on the individual leagues, such as the NBC Premier League.

In leagues where there are no rules regarding this, clubs may add a clause in the loan contract. This will prevent their loanee to play against them.

Simba SC will enter the match with eight points separating the side with NBC Premier League leader, Yanga, which is yet to lose a league game this season.

Mbeya City FC inflicted 1-0 defeat on Simba SC in the previous Premier League duel that took place at Sokoine Stadium.

Simba SC will play its match against Mtibwa Sugar at the Manungu Stadium for the first time after 21 years.

The NBC Premier League defending champion last met Mtibwa Sugar at Manungu Stadium in 2000, and the match was halted as Simba SC boycotted it.



Jeremiah Kisubi

Flexibles by David Chikoko

