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TANZANIA

FRIDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 2021

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## AfDB issues 268bn/- to build 160-km Mtwara road

By Francis Kajubi

THE government yesterday signed a concessional loan agreement with the African Development Bank (AfDB) for \$116.34m (268.18bn/-) for financing the construction of the 160km Mniwata-Newala-Masasi road in Mtwara Region. The road is expected to unlock transport barriers in the southern regions and boost business activities with neighboring Mozambique. Upon completion, the road will link Mtwara port and Mbamba Bay port on Lake Nyasa, facilitating shipment of construction, agro-produce and manufactured goods crossing the border to trade spots in



**AfDB expects that upon completion of the project, the southern regions' contribution to the country's economy will increase by 20.6 percent. In disbursing the funds, the bank contributes to Tanzania economic developments in opening its borders for intra-regional trade**

the regions.

Treasury permanent secretary Emmanuel Tutuba said the total project cost is \$119.65m where the government contributes 1.29 percent of the cost, that is, \$3.31m. The project is in line with the five year development plan phase three for the building of a competitive industrial economy to enhance human development through

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# Samia: Low interest loans key to growth



President Samia Suluhu Hassan opens two-day 20th Financial Institutions meeting in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: State House

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

**P**RESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday directed financial institutions to provide loans at low interest rates to boost the private sector and facilitate economic growth after a serious crunch linked to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At an official opening of the 20th Conference of Financial Institutions (COFI) organized by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT), the president said that many countries face crises due to the pandemic as most economic activities were paralyzed due to lockdowns to control the spread of the virus.

"As a country, we need to come up with



**Financial institutions must come up with alternative suggestions to enable the government establish policies in the coming financial year**

measures to rescue our economy which was adversely hit by the pandemic outbreak," she affirmed, noting that economic growth dropped to 4.8 per cent from 6.8 per cent over the past five years on average.

The tourism sector was hit hard by coronavirus lockdowns, she stated, urging conference participants to come up with recommendations that would be used by the government to facilitate stronger growth.

"May I appeal to financial institutions to provide long-term loans at reduced interest rates to help revitalize the economy which has been hit hard by COVID-19. The private sector is still struggling due to lack of bank loans," she asserted.

The government has been engaging with international financial institutions for debt relief

## World Bank, CSOs praise deal on girls

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Bank and civil society organizations have welcomed the government's move to remove barriers to return to formal education for young mothers and pregnant school girls, saying it was an important decision.

The World Bank said in a statement yesterday that the decision underscores Tanzania's commitment to support girls and young women and improve their chances at receiving a better education.



**In practice, this means public schools in Tanzania must stop expelling pregnant girls and start admitting adolescents**

"More than 12,000 girls drop out of school every year in the country, while 6,500 of them because they are pregnant

or have children," the statement read in part.

It said the World Bank strongly supports policies that encourage girls' education and which make it possible for all students to stay in school. The bank looks forward to the issuance of guidelines that will enable pregnant girls and young mothers to continue their education, it said.

The bank vowed to support implementation of the new orientation through part-

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## Fuel firm sets out clean energy plans

By Francis Kajubi

FOR a month now TotalEnergies Marketing (T) Ltd has been negotiating with the Ministry of Energy on its expectation to contribute power from clean energy sources to the national grid.

The firm's corporate affairs director Getrude Mpangile said ongoing talks with the government are based on identifying current projects and the ministry's areas of priority so that proper targets can be set.

"We have seen this to be an opportunity for our business not only for the local market but also the whole region by turning Tanzania into our regional business hub," she declared

She made these remarks on Wednesday, where managing director Jean-Francois Schoepf was launching new look TotalEnergies lubricants.

He set out company ambition for net-zero emissions by 2050 in the

production process and new energy products offered to customers. It is part of the company's efforts to address the effects of climate change, he said. With vast climate change effects leading to drought especially in Africa, TotalEnergies seeks to invest in clean energy production, he stated.

This will that will guarantee sufficient power generation and supply for households and factories," he remarked, noting that the firm is ambitious as to establishing clean energy generation hubs in various regions through wind, sun and other renewable energy sources.

TotalEnergies plans to an oil and lubricant blending plant catering for the East Africa regional market, the director noted

Currently, the firm has such a plant in Dar es Salaam catering for the local

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Industry and Trade deputy minister Exaud Kigaha (R) cuts a cake in Dar es Salaam yesterday alongside Jean Francois Schoepf (2nd-R), TotalEnergies Marketing Tanzania Ltd managing director, to launch the firm's lubricants. Left is the firm's Legal and Corporate Affairs director, Getrude Mpangile. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



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## World Bank, CSOs praise deal on girls

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nership in the education sector. "Making education better, safer and more accessible is critical to advance Tanzania's social and economic development," the statement asserted.

Similarly, a joint statement by the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) and the Center for Reproductive Rights said the announcement has "finally ended the oppressive and grossly discriminatory school policy barring pregnant schoolgirls and adolescent mothers from continuing with their formal education."

The advisory said the public declaration by the Minister for Education, Science and Technology Prof Joyce Ndalichako on Wednesday, "sends a strong signal to the schoolgirls and adolescent mothers that President Samia Suluhu's administration is committed to ending the many regressive barriers that for years have undermined their fundamental rights to education, equality, non-discrimination, and freedom from inhuman and degrading treatment."

"While this verbal announcement by the Minister for Education demonstrates political goodwill towards ending systemic exclusion and discrimination of schoolgirls within Tanzania's school system, it must be backed by written policy or guidelines, if not the law," the statement affirmed, citing remarks from Fulgence Massawe, the director of advocacy and reforms at LHRC.

"In practice, this means public schools in Tanzania must stop expelling pregnant girls and start admitting adolescents," the NGOs underlined.

The unexpected development comes just days after hearings in a case brought by the Center and LHRC at the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) against Tanzania. The organizations filed this case on behalf of six Tanzanian girls who were expelled from school for being pregnant. The case challenges multiple human rights and gender equality provisions against schoolgirls, including mandatory pregnancy testing, expulsion of pregnant girls, denial of an education at post-

childbirth, illegal detention of pregnant girls, plus the lack of access to reproductive and sexual health information and services in schools.

The case is seeking lasting change in Tanzania, secured into government policy or law, the plaintiffs noted.

"Data from Tanzania's Ministry of Education and Vocational Training reveals that in 2012, 2,433 girls dropped out of primary school while 4,705 dropped out of secondary school due to pregnancy. Tanzania also has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world with 37 per cent of girls marrying before the age of 18, which automatically subjects them to school expulsions based on nationwide school policy."

Evelyne Opondo, senior regional director for Africa at the Center for Reproductive Rights said that Tanzania will be fulfilling its obligations to the multiple regional and international human rights instruments if the current administration permanently reverses oppressive and discriminatory education policies.

"While today's news is very welcome, we will continue to pursue our case until this change is lasting and permanent," she declared.

Besides the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), Tanzania has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the Maputo Protocol. All these legal instruments bind Tanzania to uphold the sanctity of all rights that pertain to women and girls.

Announcing the decision, Prof Ndalichako said pupils dropping out of school following pregnancy and childbirth will now be facilitated to resume studies in the formal school system.

The government will provide better ways on how students who dropped out of school especially for pregnancy and childbirth will go back to school, an initiative targeting primary and secondary school girls. They will be allowed to continue their studies in the formal system after giving birth, the minister intoned.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa launches this year's edition of '16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence' in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children deputy minister Mwanai Ali Khamis and right is Anna Kulaya, national coordinator of the Tanzania chapter of Law and Development in Africa (WILDFA), a pan-African network organisation strategically linking law and development for the betterment of women's lives. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Samia: Low interest loans key to growth

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as well as soliciting low interest loans to revitalize the economy, the president explained, underlining that in controlling COVID-19, the government was pursuing the vaccination drive, and many people had turned out to receive the jobs in all regions.

Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba said that more efforts are required to revitalize the economy, as measures must be taken to regain the 6.8 per cent economic growth rate. Banks and financial institutions can innovative and raise plans enabling the youth to secure

loan capital, he stated.

"Financial institutions must come up with alternative suggestions to enable the government establish policies in the coming financial year," the minister insisted, commending the president's efforts to rescue the economy, like paying arrears to suppliers and services providers, as well as withholding tax reimbursement arrears.

The minister emphasised the need for Tanzanians to build a culture of saving money through banks, noting that this would stimulate the economy.

Prof Florens Luoga, the governor of the Bank of Tanzania, said in this year's gathering financial institutions mark the 20th anniversary since the forum was inception in 1980, using the occasion to bring the gathering to a minute of silence for the memory of the previous governor, Prof. Benno Ndulu.

Financial institutions have been using the forum to exchange ideas on the development of the country's economy and the financial sector itself.

"Tanzania was not spared from the adverse effects of COVID-19 al-

though it opted not to impose a lockdown," he said, observing also that economic growth dropped to 4.8 per cent in 2020.

Revenues from the tourism sector dropped by more than half to \$714.5m last year, after a 60 per cent decrease in tourism visitations with 620,867 tourist arrivals, he said.

Lending to the private sector decreased to 4.3 per cent in the 2020/2021 financial year, compared to 8.1 per cent of all lending in 2019/2020 tied to increased non-performing loans (NPLs), he added.

## AfDB issues 268.18 bn/- to build 160-km Mtwara road

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improvement of infrastructure and sustained growth of reliable energy sources, he stated.

The disbursed loan increases the AfDB portfolio in the country from \$2.27bn to \$2.39bn, intended to enhance accessibility of the Mtwara Development Corridor, fostering regional developments through improved access to Mtwara port from the port of Mbamba Bay. Rogatus Mativila, the chief executive officer for the Tanzania Roads Agency (TanRoads) said that the first segment of the road covers Mnivata to Mitesa (100 kilometers) and the second from Mitesa to Masasi (60 kilometers). "The project will also involve construction of an 84 meter bridge at Mwit village, three bus terminals

for Mnivata, Newala and Masasi. It will also cover construction of silos for cashew nuts storage in Mtwara, two X-Ray machines for two health centers in Masasi and two ambulances and student dormitories in the areas where construction will take place, the CEO noted. AfDB East Africa Region deputy director general, Abdul Kamala said that the board of directors approved the loan on September 22, strengthening ties with Tanzania through facilitation of key development projects. "AfDB expects that upon completion of the project, the southern regions' contribution to the country's economy will increase by 20.6 percent. In disbursing the funds, the bank contributes to Tanzania economic developments in opening its borders for intra-regional trade," he added.



Finance and Planning ministry permanent secretary Emmanuel Tutuba (R) and Dr Abdul Kamara, deputy director general of the African Development Bank's East Africa zone, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday signing a 268.18bn/- soft loan agreement on the construction of the 160-km Mnivata-Newala-Masasi road in Mtwara Region. Photo: Finance ministry

## Fuel firm sets out clean energy plans

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market, she said, airing the view that massive importation of oil and lubricants for vehicles and complex factory machines plays a big part in piling up pressure on the local currency.

Industry and Trade deputy minister Exaud Kigaha commended the firm for the milestone achieved, innovation and commitment to the local market and neighboring countries with quality products and services.

TotalEnergies is one of the leading investors in the country through its network of stations, through the East African Crude Oil Pipeline and the Lubricant and Oil Blending Plant (LOBP), the largest such plant in East Africa. It specializes in lubricants, coolants and grease, providing job openings to thousands directly and indirectly

The managing director underlined that the world is facing the challenge of producing more energy and less carbon emissions, "so it is the company's responsibility to work with customers and develop low carbon emission energy solutions."

"This is why, in addition to these design developments, the lubricants division contributes to the company's ambition to offer cleaner energy," he stated, explaining that cutting the weight of cans shall prevent emission of 9,500 tonnes of CO2 each year in the region.

He said the name TotalEnergies is more than a name shift as it reflects its 2050 net zero carbon ambitions, underlining the wish to give the firm a fresh start, "by offering our customers all possible energies with a focus on renewable energy."

The company's journey in Tanzania starting more than 50 years ago has been marked by its

focus on satisfying the customer by availing quality products and services all over the country.

"These were 50 years of continuous investments in adding new service stations, strengthening logistics, developing a state-of-the-art blending plant to produce lubricants locally, and making Tanzania the regional hub to supply to seven neighboring countries," he affirmed.

"This shows our strong contribution to Tanzania's industrialization," he said, seeing the new lubricants packaging as a revolution in innovation, now being spread locally and in neighboring countries.

"The new lubricants packaging brings forth new colors and a more ergonomic design to meet our customers' needs," he elaborated.

The company is interested in clean energy as climate change

effects pose threats to hydroelectric power production across the globe, he added.

The government will continue to support the energy firm, as its endeavors complement the government's development agenda through innovation, investment and more job openings, the deputy minister affirmed, praising the name shift as reflecting commitment to the environment and lower carbon emissions.

Kigaha urged foreign investors to explore opportunities in the energy sector as the government revisits its policies to ease the doing business environment.

TotalEnergies trade director Amri Khamis said that the improved lubricants were first put on the market in 2005. The new lubricant production plant is pegged at 20,000 metric tonnes a year, he added.





Information, Communications and Information Technology deputy minister Kundo Andrea Mathew (L) inaugurates a Huawei ICT laboratory at the University of Dodoma yesterday. Looking on are the university's Prof Leonard Mselle (R) and Huawei deputy managing director Tom Tao. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Elephant tusks seized in Babati

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TWO elephant tusks have been discovered and impounded from the residence of a suspected trafficker in Babati District of Manyara Region.

The incident was reported from the Tarangire-Manyara ecological zone.

An anti-poaching squad led by the northern zone Commander, Peter Mbajoko discovered the trophies in the house of the suspected illegal wildlife trader, in the Kakoi Village in Babati District.

"The Anti-Poaching Unit, which is made up of Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) and the Tarangire National Park Rangers as well as Burunge Wildlife Management conservation institution.

However, the team claims that the culprits escaped before

the team could arrest him. Nevertheless, his wife is currently being held by security organs for further investigations.

The incident occurred just a few days after the KDU arrested another suspect with Zebra meat, Hides, tails and previously also another group of suspected poachers were nabbed with ivory.

The Chem-Chem Manager, Walter Pallangyo, said the recent series of arrests follows current efforts to reinforce and increase patrols but he pointed out that as more and more people inch close to conservation areas, such incidents become common.

"Encroachment of conservation areas is becoming notorious, it is high time that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism move to plant permanent beacons to mark and separate territories," said Pallangyo.

# Huawei donates ICT equipment to varsity

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

HUAWEI Technologies Tanzania has donated an ICT laboratory to University of Dodoma intending to spark innovative minds in Tanzania and to improve the Information and Communication Technology sector in the country.

The lab is equipped with modern and advanced infrastructures that can help students to have access to real practical skills that are required in the fourth industrial revolution.

For two years, Huawei has been partnering with UDOM

on ICT issues especially in capacity building and knowledge management as part of the company's contribution to national development.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony of the Huawei ICT lab at the University of Dodoma, the Deputy Minister for Information, Communication and Technology, Eng. Kundo Andrea, commended Huawei for the ICT lab saying that it was a game-changer towards digital transformation in the country.

He said by investing in ICT, the two partners were a driving force towards the growth

of the country's economy as investing in technical skills was vital as far as the 2025 development vision was concerned.

"Huge congratulations to Huawei for the role it has played in this country. Since its establishment in Tanzania 13 years ago, Huawei has been instrumental in training and nurturing local ICT students through its renowned program the Huawei ICT Academy established in 2018.

The Ministry will continue to collaborate with Huawei to enhance ICT awareness, set up ICT infrastructures, and

provide content and skills up to students all over the country," said Eng. Kundo.

Apart from the UDOM-Huawei ICT lab, the Deputy Minister launched the Telecommunication and mobile repair and maintenance labs respectively. He said UDOM was a clear example of institutions that had seriously invested in ICT.

On the other hand, Huawei Deputy Managing Director, Tom Tao said his company was well determined to invest in the young generation by imparting them with necessary skills that can help the coun-

try to get development through digital technology.

"Our priority is nurturing in the ICT industry which is very important to the country's economy and the young generation has proved to be an influential resource for the country," said Tao.

Commenting on the benefits of the ICT Lab donated by Huawei Technologies, The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Dr. Leonard Akwilapo urged the beneficiaries of the Lab to use it effectively for the betterment of the country.

"We are all aware of the country's goal of achieving the digital economy; in attaining that goal the country needs skilled ICT Professionals. The Lab donated by Huawei will help you to acquire the practical skills that are required in the fourth industrial revolution. I encourage all of you to use this opportunity wisely for the benefit of the country. I commend Huawei for such initiative and invite other stakeholders to do the same" said Dr. Akwilapo.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dodoma, Prof Leonard Mselle, thanked Huawei Technologies for al-

ways being in the forefront in contributing to the capacity building of the young Tanzanians.

He said that UDOM sees Huawei as a strategic partner that would assist the University in taking forward its vision.

"We are planning to put up the first-ever high-tech electronic assembly plant in the country, in an effort to complement the country's industrialization agenda," said Prof Mselle who exuded confidence that in the near future the university would have the plant in place either with or without partners.

### NOTICE OF SALE AND INVITATION OF SEALED BIDS FOR SALE OF PROPERTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT under the powers contained in the law and Mortgage Deed and other powers enabling me to do so, I MARIAM MASANDIKA of P. O. Box 34674, Dar es Salaam, duly appointed by the NCBA BANK TANZANIA LIMITED (the 'Bank') to sell the mortgaged property "as is" by sealed bids; DO HEREBY INVITES BIDS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC for the outright purchase of the property described in the table below;

Property Description	Place	Property Registered Owner	Bids Submission Date	Bids Opening Date
Mortgaged property located at Plot No. 72 held under CT. No. 87882.	Visiga, Kibaha, Pwani	Boleyn International (Tanzania) Limited of P. O. Box 7253, Dar es Salaam	By 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 at or before 10:00 Hours at the address below.	On 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 10:30 Hours at the address below.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

- Bid must be submitted in sealed envelope clearly marked "BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF BOLEYN INTERNATIONAL (TANZANIA) LIMITED PROPERTY", including full address of the bidder.
- Bid must be accompanied by Bankers Cheque worth 30% of the bid price, the balance of the bid price 70% shall be payable by the successful Bidder within 14 days from the date of the award or within such other time as I may prescribe.
- Upon successful bidder's failure to pay the agreed price timely the offer shall be revoked forthwith and the 30% down payment shall be forfeited and I reserve the right to offer the Property to the next highest or preferred bidder who meets the conditions, or cancel the sale process altogether.
- Bids must be submitted and shall be opened on the date and address described in the table above. Bidders are invited to attend opening ceremony event if they so wish.
- Bidders are advised to conduct their independent valuation and inspection of the property if they wish to do so, as all the information contained in this advertisement is free from liability.
- The successful bidder or otherwise shall be announced within a maximum of seven [7] working days after bid opening. A communication sent to bidders either to the physical address or the email submitted shall be sufficient communication.
- The Bank and I shall not be bound to accept the highest bid or any bid at all or reject any or all the bids without having to assign any reason.
- All costs regarding transfer of ownership shall be borne by the successful bidder.
- All bids should be addressed to the address below;

For further information please contact:  
**Mariam Masandika,**  
 Apex Attorneys Advocates, Tancot House, 3rd Floor,  
 Apt. 302, Plot No. 2203-5/32Pamba Road/Sokoine Drive,  
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### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE PROVISION OF FABRICATION AND SUPPLY OF DOORS REFERENCE: 0010007286

TotalEnergies East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, requires the services of an experienced and reputable contractor(s) to provide services for Fabrication and Supply of Doors to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongolemi, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 kilometers (km), of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK:**  
 EACOP requires the services of experienced and reputable manufacturer to provide services for Fabrication and Supply of Doors from selected 'Mpodo' or other approved timber species according to the standards, dimensions and descriptions mentioned below:

**STANDARDS:**

- The materials, production and assembly of timber structure shall comply with the following standards: BS 4978 – Specification for Visual Strength Grading of Softwood; BS 5268 – The Structural Use of Timber; BS 6446 – Specification for Manufacture of Glued Structural Components of Timber.
- The latest revisions as amended time to time by the British Standards Institute shall apply and the SUPPLIER shall ensure that all the latest revisions and amendments are provided to the COMPANY.

**DIMENSIONS & DESCRIPTIONS:**

- 40mm thick panel door overall size 900 x 2100mm high, comprising of 120 x 40mm thick stiles, top, intermediate and bottom rails in two number bottom and top panels with 100 x 45mm thick door frame. Complete with associated iron mongeries as manufactured by 'ASSA ABLOY' or other equal and approved to timber with matching screws (brass butt hinges, two lever mortice lock sets).
- 40mm thick panel door overall size 800 x 2100mm high, comprising of 120 x 40mm thick stiles, top, intermediate and bottom rails in two number bottom and top panels with 100 x 45mm thick door frame. Complete with associated iron mongeries as manufactured by 'ASSA ABLOY' or other equal and approved to timber with matching screws (brass butt hinges, two lever mortice lock sets).
- The SUPPLIER shall be capable of a minimum production rate of 180 doors per month to meet COMPANY timeline. COMPANY forecasts a potential of a minimum of 1500 total doors, at the above outlined rate of 180 doors per month.
- The COMPANY reserves the right to verify the fabrication of doors from 'Mpodo' or other approved timber species at the Manufacturer's premises according to the quality management system as per outlined standards.
- No material or fittings shall be used in the fabrication until prior approval for its use has been given by the COMPANY; neither shall any change in the nature, quality, kind, and type, source of supply be made without the COMPANY permission.
- On request and when applicable, the documentation of the quality of products supplied is to be submitted by the manufacturer through working certifications according to applicable Standards. All the records of the test results shall be retained by the manufacturer for future references.
- Before and after awarding the tender to the Manufacturer, the COMPANY reserves the right to inspect the testing capability and witness the tests carried out at the Manufacturer's laboratory and/or independent laboratory facility to evaluate the product quality against the applicable standards.
- The COMPANY shall appoint a representative to witness all the tests conducted at the Manufacturer's laboratory facility and the representative shall submit all the test results to the Supplier & COMPANY independently. The COMPANY reserves the right to approve the Products based on quality test reports before delivery to the site.
- All doors, hardware and fixings shall come with a materials and workmanship warranty for a period of 12 months from date of delivery.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**  
 Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to submit documentation of their:

- Experience, performance, and capacity in delivering the tasks outlined under the scope of work, at a large scale in Tanzania, in compliance with national and international standards (including International Finance Corporation Standards (IFC), with at least 10 years' experience / performance of similar services within Tanzania or internationally.
- Key suitably qualified and experienced personnel tasks outlined under the scope of work for oil and gas projects that comply with IFC requirements.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the previous financial year.
- Application for registration with the EVURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Evidence of organization QHSE policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
- Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to [ecop-tz.eoi.100001@totalenergies.com](mailto:ecop-tz.eoi.100001@totalenergies.com) (not exceeding 20Mbs) on or before 15:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 8<sup>th</sup>, December, 2021. Email subject should be 0010007286.

**Note:** The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.





Zanzibar Health, Community Development, Elderly, Gender and Children minister Nassor Ahmed Mazrui (L) has an audience in his office yesterday with representatives of India's Pushpawati Hospital. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

## Z'bar ministry joins hands with India's hospital in health sector

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

NASSOR Ahmed Mazrui, Zanzibar's Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister has said the ministry is expected to work together with Pushpawati Singhania Hospital in New Delhi, India in providing better health services to the people of Zanzibar.

He made the remarks here yesterday when he met with the hospital's delegation in his office for introduction.

He said the hospital will assist in providing the people of Zanzibar with various medical services including those in regard to heart, UTI and kidney transplant.

He said the hospital has deliberately decided to work together with Zanzibar in health services to help Zanzibar doctors get knowledge and experience via modern equipment including examination of various human diseases.

Mazrui added that the next step is to prepare documents for contract agreement be-

tween the Ministry and the Pushpawati Singhania Hospital.

For his part, Pushpawati Singhania Hospital Marketing Manager, Samoj Kumar said there was the need for bringing to Zanzibar specialist doctors to assist in health delivery services to the people.

He said the cooperation will also help reduce costs for patients travelling to India for medical treatment.

He further said Pushpawati Singhania Hospital will continue to closely work together with the Zanzibar government to ensure better health services are obtained in Zanzibar



**For his part, Pushpawati Singhania Hospital Marketing Manager, Samoj Kumar said there was the need for bringing to Zanzibar specialist doctors to assist**

## Ecobank secures €100m credit facility from EIB to fund SMEs

By Special Correspondent

ECOBANK Group, the leading pan-African banking group, has signed an agreement for a €100 million long-term credit facility over 9 years with the European Investment Bank (EIB).

The facility affirms joint Ecobank Group and EIB targeted support for business investment across Africa, with particular support for the sectors most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ecobank Group Chief Executive Officer, Ade Ayeyemi said: "At Ecobank we

are fully committed to providing a range of initiatives that support the growth and success of Africa's Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and create employment opportunities."

"This informed the credit facility that we have just secured from the EIB which we believe will deliver real impact in our joint mission to develop SMEs across Africa.

"The €100 million facility will support the recovery of African SMEs from the COVID-19 pandemic while also helping to provide them with the impetus to grasp the im-

mense growth opportunities from the African Continental Free Trade Area vast single market. We thank the EIB for its focus and commitment to the continent," he said.

European Investment Bank Vice-President, Ambroise Fayolle said: "The EIB, as part of Team Europe, works with leading banks and financial partners across Africa to enhance private sector access to finance. This latest cooperation with Ecobank Group will help companies to better tackle challenges triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, unlock economic and social opportu-

nities, especially for SMEs and women-owned and women-run enterprises, across Sub-Saharan Africa in the coming weeks."

The latest cooperation between Ecobank Group and the European Investment Bank to support private sector investment across Africa was formally agreed at the EU Delegation to Togo in Lomé, in the presence of Koen Doens, Director-General for International Cooperation and Development at the European Commission.

The announcement was made during a Team Europe

visit to Togo by EIB Vice President Ambroise Fayolle, Rémy Rioux, Chief Executive Officer of the Agence Française de Développement and Koen Doens.

The facility is split into three regional facilities: West & Central Africa, Eastern Africa, and Southern Africa. Funding will be provided through Ecobank affiliates, for investment projects undertaken by private sector companies. The EIB made the facility available through its COVID-19 Rapid Response Facility, for private sector entities active in eligible productive sectors, with

fewer than 3,000 employees.

The EIB loan will also be accompanied by technical assistance under the AWRI (African Women Rising Initiative) program of the EIB with gender finance focused training and capacity building for lending to women entrepreneurs, closely aligned with the Elevate by Ecobank initiative which supports women-focused businesses across the continent.

Ecobank Group and EIB both recognise the importance of ensuring access to finance by female-owned and female-focused businesses, in particular during

times of economic and investment uncertainty related to COVID-19. Ecobank Group and EIB are also working on a €15 million "SME Access to Finance" Risk Sharing Facility Agreement granted by the EU's European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) that will support loans to SMEs worth €95 million. This facility agreement follows on from the EIB's signing of a €12.5 million loan to Ecobank Malawi in December 2020, to improve access to finance for SMEs in Malawi's agricultural sector to expand, upgrade and modernise their equipment.



Geoffrey Mwambe (2nd-R), Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office (Investment), listens while in Shinyanga municipality yesterday as Jambo Food Products Ltd investor Salum Khamis (L) explains the operations of a food processing machine installed at the firm. Second left is Shinyanga regional commissioner Sophia Mjema and right is Shinyanga district commissioner Jasinta Mboneko. Photo: Correspondent Ramadhan Hamidu

## 'Stop holding up vehicles going to TBS destination inspectors' workshop and bonded warehouses'

By Guardian Reporter

PUBLIC and private sector leaders who discussed implementation of the resolution of the 12th Meeting of the Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC) last Friday resolved that vehicles undertaking Destination Inspection by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) should not be seized by the respective authorities.

The meeting also ordered that both pre-shipment inspection (PVOC) and destination inspection of offloaded vehicles should be adopted and honored in Tanzania. The meeting also called for improvements in machines and equipment at all inspection centres in ports and along the border.

The 12th TNBC resolution called for a comprehensive study to analyze pros and cons experienced in the two systems of inspecting vehicles being imported into Tanzania. The leaders resolved that the two systems should be adopted and remain in use. A spokesman of the meeting also said an action for implementing the Friday resolutions is being worked out.

The Public-Private Dialogic (PPD) meeting, held in the Dar es Salaam office of the Prime Minister, was called upon by TNBC Executive Secretary, Dr Godwill Wangwa, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Dotto James, the Chairman of the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation, Angelina Ngalula, the Clerk to the Cabinet, Nsubili Joshua, Director General of the TBS, Dr Athuman Ngenya and other public and private sector stakeholders.

TNBC as an institution bringing together public and private sectors has a pivotal role to play especially in ensuring that conducive and enabling environment are in place all the time to stimulate business and investment growth in Tanzania.

The institution has been all out in promoting public-private partnership dialogue as a panacea towards achieving a common goal of transforming the country's socio-economic development and growth.

## Govt vows to continue fighting against GBV

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has vowed to continue the fight against Gender Based Violence (GBV) and will never allow any forms of GBV committed by any person in the country.

The remarks were made by the Prime Minister, Kassim Majalawi yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the launching of 16 days of the fight against GBV.

He said President Samia Suluhu Hassan has already revealed her stand against the issue and stressed on the importance of changing the mindset by making all ef-

forts, by both males and females to build an equal loving, peaceful society.

"Our society must build a force to ensure every one raises his/her voice as well as taking steps to eradicate all forms of GBV especially sexual violence including sex corruption, violence among couples, rape, and child marriages," he said.

He added that GBV occur in various places from household level, work and business places, but also in schools and other places in the society.

"We all know that in addition to strict laws in place acts of GBV still continue to be great challenges hence joint efforts

are needed to reprimand these acts," he added. He added that the government will continue supporting all efforts to eradicate this vice at all levels in the society and mobilise it to change its mindset on the reasons resulting in acts of GBV.

Speaking on the 16-day campaign against GBV, he said Tanzania, in collaboration with other nations will continue to mark the annual campaign to completely eradicate the vice.

He said in achieving gender equality among Tanzanians, the government has continued building child care centres, starting gender and children's desks at

police stations saying so far there were 420 such desks countrywide, as well as the national strategy to eradicate female genital mutilation (FGM).

He called on the Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Ministry to make an assessment on the national strategy plan to eradicate GBV and child abuse.

For his part, Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Deputy Minister Mwanaidi Ali Khamis, said her ministry will continue supervising all guidelines issues by stakeholders and other groups to ensure the reduction,

if not complete eradication of all forms of gender based violence.

For his part, Country Representative from UN Women, Hodan Addou said the world has witnessed big increase of gender based humiliation, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic as many people have been online and the main victims have been women and children.

Earlier WILDAF Tanzania Coordinator, Anna Kulaya said the network hails and supports the step taken by the government to allow school girls who get pregnant while at school to continue with education after delivery.





National Assembly deputy Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (3rd-L) pictured in Mbeya city yesterday leading a charity walk meant to collect funds for an AIDS Trust Fund. The event realised a total of 130m/- in cash and pledges. Second left is the Dr Leonard Maboko, Executive Director of the Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS). Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

## EACJ engages academia, young lawyers in their role of promoting justice in the region

By Guardian Reporter

EAST African Court of Justice (EACJ) President, Justice Nestor Kayobera has called on the academia and young Lawyers to engage in promoting justice in the region as their role in the integration agenda is very critical.

This was during a one-day public conference for the University Students and young Lawyers held at Light University Bujumbura as part of the EACJ 20th Anniversary celebrations.

His Lordship commended the Management of the University for the initiative to organize the conference and being the first one to engage the academia in large numbers in 20 years of the Court.

He pointed out that "this is a result of the Court sitting in Burundi for a long period (one month), which is an opportunity to reach and sensitize the population on the Court and the disputes settled there."

This will enable the public have deeper understanding of the Court and the disputes settled as a violation of the East African Community Laws, he said.

Justice Kayobera urged the Students and Lawyers, that it is very pertinent to read and familiarize with the Treaty, Protocols, EACJ rules of procedure and Law Reports all available on the website of the Court, this will enable to grow rich knowledge in the jurisprudence of the Court and be able to practice before the EACJ.

He further added that these engagements will continue in all Partner States to ensure people are aware of the services

of the Court in protecting their rights in the integration process.

On his part, the Vice President of the Court, Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire also called on students and lawyers to be peace makers as the best approach in dispute resolution mechanism in the region. He urged Lawyers to always be prepared to argue their cases before Court properly.

Prof. Gaspard Banyankimbona, Executive Secretary for Inter-University Council for East Africa pointed out the need for curriculum harmonization for the East African Common Higher Education Area, a directive of the EAC Heads of State since May 2017 which should be implemented.

Prof. Banyankimbona said that to fast-track and facilitates free movement of labour specifically for law professionals within the Community.

He strongly indicated the need for development of a harmonized legal training and certification framework for EAC to ease mutual recognition of qualifications and professional mobility in the region.

"A lawyer who has studied and trained in any Partner State can practice in another one without any restriction," said Prof.

He called upon Partner States to take advantage of Article 126 of the Treaty in coming up with measures to harmonize legal training and certification.

The conference was attended by the students of law and communication, Directors, Deans, Lecturers of the University and Lawyers from Bujumbura, Judges and staff of the East African Court of Justice.

## Logistical challenges hamper Covid-19 vaccination drives in Africa - board

By Guardian Correspondent

MANY African nations are struggling with the logistics of accelerating their COVID-19 inoculation campaigns as deliveries of vaccines to the continent finally pick up, the head of Africa's disease control body said on Thursday.

Only 6.6 per cent of Africa's population of 1.2 billion is fully vaccinated, John

Nkengasong, head of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), told a virtual news conference.

That means Africa is far from reaching the African Union's aim of fully vaccinating 70% of people by the end of 2022, he said.

"What we are seeing now is a lot more vaccines coming in and the uptake is challenged because of the logistics and

delivery," said Nkengasong. "It's not necessarily about hesitancy, it's about moving vaccines from the airport to the arms (of people), and it's about logistics."

Africa's slow absorption of the vaccines is also affecting the health sector, where only one in four workers have been fully vaccinated, the World Health Organization's Africa office said.

"Unless our doctors, nurses

and other frontline workers get full protection, we risk a blowback in the efforts to curb this disease," Matshidiso Moeti, WHO's regional director for Africa, told a separate briefing.

Nkengasong said Democratic Republic of Congo and Cameroon faced particular logistical challenges.

Congo has administered about 168,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines, a Reu-

ters tracker showed, enough to have fully vaccinated 0.1% of the population.

In April, authorities re-allocated to other African countries most of the 1.7 million COVID-19 vaccine doses that Congo had received a month earlier from the COVAX vaccine-sharing facility because they were set to expire.

Across Africa, authorities successfully conduct rou-

time mass vaccination campaigns against diseases such as measles. But many struggled earlier in the year when COVID-19 doses arrived, citing shortages of funding, training and cold storage.

Of some 403 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines distributed to 54 African countries, 55% -- or 221 million -- have been administered.

South Africa has asked Johnson & Johnson (JNJ.N)

and Pfizer (PFE.N) to delay delivery of more COVID-19 vaccines because it now has too many in stocks. Reuters reported on Wednesday.

Namibia warned on Thursday that more than 268,000 doses of AstraZeneca (AZN.L) and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines were at risk of being destroyed, some as early as next week, due to slow uptake



EAST AFRICAN CRUDE OIL PIPELINE

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE PROVISION OF FABRICATION AND SUPPLY OF WINDOWS REFERENCE: 0010007285

TotalEnergies East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, requires the services of an experienced and reputable contractor(s) to provide services for Fabrication and Supply of windows to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 kilometers (km), of which 1147 km will be in Tanzania.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK:

EACOP requires the services of experienced and reputable manufacturer to provide services for Fabrication and Supply of Anodized Aluminium Sliding Windows and Grills according to the standards, dimensions and description mentioned below:

#### STANDARDS:

- The materials, production and assembly of Aluminium windows shall comply with the following standards: BS 4873:2009 – Aluminium Alloy Windows and Door Sets. Specification, with latest amendments thereof, unless otherwise specified

#### DIMENSIONS & DESCRIPTIONS:

- 80 x 27 x 1mm thick anodized Aluminium sliding window overall size 1200 x 1200mm high, comprising of 5mm clear glass with fibre mosquito net 0.25 x 1mm, hollow section m/s with 25 x 4mm flat bar (100x100) painted and coffee wire mesh. Complete with necessary locks, rollers on sliding shutters and any associated fittings.
- 80x 27x 1mm thick anodized Aluminium sliding window overall size 900 x 1200mm high, comprising of 5mm clear glass with fibre mosquito net 0.25 x 1mm, hollow section m/s with 25 x 4mm flat bar (100x100) painted and coffee wire mesh. Complete with necessary locks, rollers on sliding shutters and any associated fittings.
- The COMPANY reserves the right to verify the fabrication of Anodized Aluminium Sliding Windows and Grills at the Manufacturer's premises according to the quality management system as per outlined standards.
- The SUPPLIER shall be capable of a minimum production rate of 150 windows per month to meet COMPANY timeline.
- COMPANY forecasts a potential of a minimum of 1200 total windows, at the above outlined rate of 150 windows per month.
- No material or fittings shall be used in the Works until prior approval for its use has been given by the COMPANY; neither shall any change in the nature, quality, kind, and type, source of supply or manufacture be made without the COMPANY permission.
- On request and when applicable, the documentation of the quality of Products supplied is to be submitted by the manufacturer through working certifications according to applicable Standards. All the records of the test results shall be retained by the manufacturer for future references.
- Before and after awarding the tender to the Manufacturer, the COMPANY reserves the right to inspect the testing capability and witness the tests carried out at the Manufacturer's Laboratory and/or independent laboratory facility to evaluate the product quality against the applicable standards.
- The COMPANY shall appoint a representative to witness all the tests conducted at the Manufacturer's laboratory facility and the representative shall submit all the test results to the contractor & COMPANY independently. The COMPANY reserves the right to approve the Products based on quality test reports before delivery to the site.
- All windows, hardware and fixings shall come with a materials and workmanship warranty for a period of 12 months from date of delivery.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to submit documentation of their:
  - Experience, performance, and capacity in delivering the tasks outlined under the scope of work, at a large scale in Tanzania, in compliance with national and international standards (including International Finance Corporation Standards (IFC), with at least 10 years' experience / performance of similar manufacturing services within Tanzania.
  - Key suitably qualified and experienced personnel tasks outlined under the scope of work for oil and gas projects that comply with IFC requirements.
  - Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the previous financial year.
  - Application for registration with the EVURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
  - Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
  - Evidence of organization QHSE policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
  - Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
  - Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to [ecop-tz.eoi.100001@totalenergies.com](mailto:ecop-tz.eoi.100001@totalenergies.com) (not exceeding 20mbs) on or before 15:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 8<sup>th</sup>, December, 2021. Email subject should be 0010007285.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.



EAST AFRICAN CRUDE OIL PIPELINE

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE PROVISION OF SUPPLY OF SOLAR POWER KITS REFERENCE: 0010007283

TotalEnergies East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, requires the services of an experienced and reputable contractor(s) to supply solar power kits to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 kilometers (km), of which 1147 km will be in Tanzania.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK:

EACOP requires the services of experienced and reputable manufacturer/supplier to provide services for Supply of Solar Power Kits according to the standards, specifications and descriptions mentioned below:

#### STANDARDS:

- The materials, production and assembly of Solar Power kits shall comply with the following standards:

#### MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATES

- ISO 9001:2015 / Quality management system; ISO 14001:2015 / Standards for environmental management system; ISO 45001:2018 / International standards for occupational health & safety, with latest amendments thereof, unless otherwise specified.

#### PRODUCT CERTIFICATES

- IEC 61215 / IEC 61730 / CE / MCS / INVIETRO : CFC listed (US California) / FSEC (US Florida); UL 61730 / IEC 61701 / IEC 61716 / IEC 61717 Reaction to Fire: Class 1 Take-away; ISO 9001: 2015 certified; ISO 14001: 2015 certification signifying the environmental conscious ness; OHSAS 18001: 2007 certified, with latest amendments thereof, unless otherwise specified.

#### PRODUCT APPROVALS

- Conforms to IEC 60896; IEC 61427; IS 15549 & IS 16220 Conforms to JIS C 8702; IEC 62109-1/-2, IEC 62116, EN 61000-6-1/-2/-3/-4, with latest amendments thereof, unless otherwise specified.

#### SOLAR POWER KIT SHALL COMPRISE:

- 400W Premium Solar Panel.
- Corresponding Inverter with a wide voltage range and low start up voltage.
- 12V – 200 AH maintenance free battery.
- Charge controller.
- The SUPPLIER shall be capable of a minimum supply rate of 30 Solar Power Kits per month to meet COMPANY timeline. COMPANY forecasts a potential of a minimum of 220 total Solar Power Kits, at the above outlined rate of 30 Solar Power Kits per month.
- No material or fittings shall be used in the production until prior approval for its use has been given by the COMPANY; neither shall any change in the nature, quality, kind, and type, source of supply be made without the COMPANY permission.
- On request and when applicable, the documentation of the quality of products supplied is to be submitted by the manufacturer through working certifications according to applicable Standards. All the records of the test results shall be retained by the manufacturer for future references.
- Before and after awarding the tender to the Manufacturer, the COMPANY reserves the right to inspect the testing capability and witness the tests carried out at the Manufacturer's Laboratory and/or independent laboratory facility to evaluate the product quality against the applicable standards.
- The COMPANY shall appoint a representative to witness all the tests conducted at the Manufacturer's laboratory facility and the representative shall submit all the test results to the Supplier & COMPANY independently. The COMPANY reserves the right to approve the Products based on quality test reports before delivery to the site.
- All Solar Power Kits, hardware and fixings shall come with a materials and workmanship warranty for a period of 12 months from the date of delivery.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to submit documentation of their:
  - Experience, performance, and capacity in delivering the tasks outlined under the scope of work, at a large scale in Tanzania, in compliance with national and international standards (including International Finance Corporation Standards (IFC), with at least 10 years' experience / performance of similar services within Tanzania or internationally.
  - Key suitably qualified and experienced personnel tasks outlined under the scope of work for oil and gas projects that comply with IFC requirements.
  - Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the previous financial year.
  - Application for registration with the EVURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
  - Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
  - Evidence of organization QHSE policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
  - Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
  - Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to [ecop-tz.eoi.100001@totalenergies.com](mailto:ecop-tz.eoi.100001@totalenergies.com) (not exceeding 20mbs) on or before 15:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 8<sup>th</sup>, December, 2021. Email subject should be 0010007283.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.



## Higher learning students challenged to takepart in national essay contest

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

STUDENTS in higher learning institutions have been encouraged to participate in the 9th National essay writing competition which was launched by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Speaking during the launch, the TBS acting director general, Johannes Maganga, said that students in higher learning institutions play a crucial role in issues related to standards. The theme of this year's competition is: "The role of standardization in promoting African pharmaceutical and medical devices industries to attain self-reliance and resilience in combating Covid-19 and future pandemics".

Maganga said TBS believes that students are main stakeholders in standards issues; hence it was an opportunity to use them as ambassadors through essay competition to inform the public on its benefits at economy, social and environment level.

He said winners at national level will be announced during African standardization day in March next year where they will also receive their prizes includ-

ing cash and certificates.

The overall winner will also get a chance to attend ARSO conference to be held in one of the West African countries next year.

He said the competition aimed at helping youth particularly students to understand the role of standard that would enable them to reach sustainable development goals in Africa.

"We mark the Africa Standards day by organising various activities, including essay writing competitions among students from higher learning institutions as a way of creating awareness on the importance of standards," he explained.

Maganga said the bureau has been organising essay competitions using the theme of the specific year with the aim of measuring the understanding of students on issues related to standards.

The African Day of Standardisation is celebrated as a means of raising more awareness among African regulators, industry, academia, consumers, policy makers and the entire African Citizens on the benefits of Standardization to Africa's Industrialisation, Integration, Transformation and Sustainable Development.



Simanjiro district commissioner Dr Suleiman Serera (R) pictured yesterday test-riding one of six motorbikes the district council has issued on credit to a group of youths in the area. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

## Songas pays 21bn/- dividends to government-owned entities

By Guardian Reporter,

SONGAS Limited, a Tanzanian gas-to-power company, has paid the government 21.2bn/- (US\$9.2million) in dividends for the financial year 2021 due to its shareholding in the company.

Songas is a strategic partner with the government in meeting the growing energy demand since it began operations in 2004.

The company is owned by government related entities including Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) 28.69 per cent, Tanzania

Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) 9.56 per cent and Tanzania Development Finance Company Limited (TDFL) 7.65 per cent and 54.1 per cent held by Globeleq - a leading independent power producer solely focused in Africa.

In a statement, the gas company's Managing Director, Anael Samuel, said: "In 2021, TANESCO received about 4.4bn/- (US\$ 1.9 million), TPDC 11bn/- (US\$ 5.2 million), while TDFL received about 3.5bn/- (US\$ 1.5 million)." All the amounts are subject to withholding tax.

Since it began operations, the com-

pany has paid a total of 157bn/- in dividends to government-owned entities.

"The ongoing drought in the country demonstrates that an energy mix to complement hydropower is crucial to the sustainability of the energy sector in Tanzania", said Anael.

Songas Ubungu Power Plant is an efficient world-class operation generating at 109 per cent of the contracted capacity.

Songas contributes approximately 20 per cent of the country's electricity and is currently the cheapest thermal generator of electricity in East Africa.

The demand for electricity in Tanzania is estimated to be growing at 10-15 per cent per year, and the company is uniquely positioned to support the country's industrialization.

By using domestic gas instead of imported fuel, TPDC estimates that since Songas began its operations in 2004, it has saved the Tanzanian economy more than 11 trillion/-.

Songas is a leading Tanzanian gas-to-power company generating 180 MW (approximately 20 per cent) of Tanzania's electricity to the national grid and distributed by the national utility, TA-

NESCO.

It also supplies natural gas to industrial customers to use in manufacturing processes. Since 2004, Songas has been a reliable and low-cost provider of electricity to TANESCO.

Songas sells 180MW of electricity to TANESCO at an all-in tariff of 135 TZS per kWh, and TANESCO subsequently sells it to consumers at 270 TZS per kWh, including distribution costs.

Last year Songas provided 21 per cent of the grid's demand for electricity, from the 13 per cent of the generation capacity.

### EXCITING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### Tanzania Comprehensive Client-Centered Health Program (C3HP)

##### Background

Deloitte Tanzania has been awarded a contract to implement a Comprehensive Client-Centered Health Program HIV/TB LOC (C3HP) in Southern regions in Tanzania. This is a five year project (November 9, 2021 to September 30, 2026) funded by the American People through USAID aiming at supporting the Government of Tanzania's (GOT) Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Elderly and Children (MOHCDEG) and the President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG) at the central level and in target Mainland regions to deliver high quality integrated HIV and TB prevention, care and treatment services that will improve health outcomes, particularly for youth and children. The program intends to increase the demand for and use of quality integrated HIV and Tuberculosis services in Iringa, Lindi, Morogoro, Mtwara, Njombe, and Ruvuma regions by improving access to quality services in both facilities and the surrounding communities, promoting positive health seeking behaviors among Tanzania's population, and enhancing the overall policy environment for HIV & TB service delivery.

Deloitte is therefore seeking for experienced, self-motivated, highly competent individuals with exemplary ethical conduct to join the C3HP program in any of the following 25 positions:

Position Title	No of Vacancies	Position Title	No of Vacancies
Results Management Office Director	1	Grant Officers	12
Results Management Office Manager	1	Procurement Officer	1
Communications and Knowledge Management Manager	1	Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Officers	18
Regional Programme Managers	6	Financial Accountant	1
Finance Manager	1	Transport and Fleet Management Officer	1
Grants Manager	1	HR Officer	1
Procurement and Administration Manager	1	Administrative Officer	1
Enabling Environment Manager	1	Data Officer	1
Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Managers	3	Executive Assistant	1
Database Manager	1	Assistant Accountants	8
M-Health Manager	1	Zonal IT Associates	3
Assistant Manager Human Resource for Health	1	Drivers	28
Senior Grants Officer	1		

To access the detailed job descriptions and requirements, please visit <https://deloitte.co.tz/3DUxw6>. If you believe you are the right candidate for the job, submit a cover letter including your current and expected remuneration, detailed CV, copies of your academic certificates and transcripts, and three referees to [C3HP@deloitte.co.tz](mailto:C3HP@deloitte.co.tz). For your application to be considered, it MUST quote the job title and your preferred region on the email subject line. Submission deadline is **10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 4:30 p.m.** Hard copy applications will **NOT** be accepted.

All positions are on a one-year renewable contract, subject to performance and availability of funding from the donor. The job offer is conditional to successful vetting, including professional reference checks and limited lifestyle audit.

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**Deloitte.**

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Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority senior tourism officer Stephen Madenge (R, gesturing) pictured in Kigali, Rwanda, yesterday making a brief presentation on tourism sites in the country. It was during the ongoing commemoration of Rwanda Tourism Week. Among the audience are Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister Mary Masanja (2nd-L) and the Deputy CEO of the Rwanda Development Board, Zephania Niyonkuru (L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Prof Makubi in Israel to boost health sector ties

By Guardian Reporter

THE Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Prof. Abel Makubi is on a working visit to Israel to strengthen bilateral relationship between the two countries in health sector.

Prof Makubi has visited Rambam Hospital and training centre and held talks with Dr Miki Halberthal, the CEO of the hospital.

Rambam Health Care Campus is a 1000 beds capacity world-class teaching hospital, serving more than two million residents including referred cases from other parts of Israel, defense and peacekeeping forces stationed in the region.

During his tour, Prof. Makubi will also attend

training on Management of Health Care System in Time of Crisis at MASHAV International Training Centre.

Prof Makubi visit also aims at further reactivating the professional exchange program, fellowship trainings and technological skill transfer between the two countries.

Prof. Makubi will also visit Israel Ministry of Health and Shiba Tel Hashomer Medical Center.

In recent years, Israel has proven to be a hot spot for med-tech innovation. The country boasts more than 1,500 companies in the health care and life sciences sectors, roughly 70% in medical devices and digital health. More than a hundred new companies focused on medical technology launch each year.





National Electoral Commission officers sensitise residents of Obalbal-Meshili 'B' villagers in Ngorongoro District, Arusha Region, earlier this week on the need to take full part in the electoral process. Photo: Correspondent Tobias Mwanakatwe

## RC urges communities to conserve natural forests

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

MOROGORO Regional Commissioner Martine Shigella has challenged Tanzanians at large to conserve and protect natural forests, saying it plays critical roles in maintaining climate, freshwater systems, soils, and biodiversity.

Shigella said the current drought is partly contributed by destroying natural forests through induced human activities.

He made the call in Morogoro yesterday when opening the 21ST annual general meeting of Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA). He said people should conserve forests because it ensures food security and other ecological benefits.

The AGM themed, 'Let us restore and conserve natural vegetation for improve life,' brought together the network community members who conserve the natural forests from different forest belts in the country.

In a speech read on his behalf by Morogoro regional Deputy Administrative Secretary responsible for

planning and coordination Anza-Amen Ndosa, Shigella urged MJUMITA to continue conserving the forests, creating awareness and providing education to other Tanzanians especially forests on the village land.

"I am told that since you started working, you have reached more than 450 villages, this is encouraging, I therefore urge you to keep it up, reach out to all villages in the country," he said.

He said the natural forests in the Eastern Arc plays a critical role and are the habitats of rare animals which are not found in many areas and are the source of water for Morogoro and coastal regions.

He said Tanzania lose 460,000 ha annually due to shifting cultivation, wild fire, charcoal production and tree felling for logs and timber harvesting, a situation which cannot be tolerated.

"We are not saying you should not harvest logs and produce charcoal but we should find better and sustainable ways for harvesting the forest products," he said.

"If we destroy our forests, we are automatically inviting natural disasters such as floods, drought, and climate change," he added.

He commended MJUMITA for working hard to conserve the forests on the village land through community based forest management (CBFM).

MJUMITA Executive Director Rahima Njaidi the network has capacitated the villagers in terms of knowledge and skills to fruitfully conduct CBFM. Many villagers are willing to conduct patrols to protect the forests and arrest forest invaders.

"When the network community members are conducting patrols, they face different challenges but they don't give up because they consider forests as their own property that provides life," she said.

Deputy chairperson of MJUMITA board, Rehema Njelekela outlined several success stories of MJUMITA saying it has brought together more than 15,000 local community network members in more than 450 villages to conserve the forests.

## Z'bar First VP calls on govt officials to protect GNU

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR First Vice President Othman Masoud Othman has said that officials at various levels in the government have great responsibilities to protect the Government of National Unity (GNU) for the development of the nation.

The Vice President made the remarks at Wawi, in Pemba yesterday as he was addressing various government officials after his visit in which he inspected the effects of environmental degradation and inspection of health delivery services.

Othman said the current government system "should not be taken as a solely political issue as all of you have the responsibility to stand by the system in order to maintain peace and stability, the issues that can guarantee development."

He added that GNU is an important issue in pushing for true peace and prosperity in the country, the issues that attract donors and investors for Zanzibar's economic growth.

He said as for now the main task of the government is to serve its people through the correct structures that provide opportunities and justice to the people without any kind of discrimination.

In regard to the shortage of workers in various government sectors in Pemba, in particular the health sector, he said that has been contributed by the practice

of workers appointed and stationed in Pemba seeking transfer to Zanzibar in a short time.

He called on officials in various sectors in Pemba to loathe the continuation of this practice that undermines service delivery to the people of Pemba especially in the health sector.

Regarding the issue of environment, Othman called on the people to understand that the issue affects every one of them and reminded them every one was responsible in safeguarding the environment.

He called on government leaders and the people in general to jointly look for better ways to confront the environment challenge taking into consideration that Zanzibar was being submerged by the sea causing big environmental challenges.

For his part, Nassor Ahmed Mazrui, Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Minister of admitted the existence of challenges in the Zanzibar health sector including shortage of workers and that the government was working on it to make sector provide better services to the people of Zanzibar.

He said government's efforts aims to bring about big revolution in the health sector in making sure there are adequate health centres and hospitals as well as medical devices and hiring of more health workers.



### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Abt Associates**, a global leader in research and implementing technical programs in the fields of economic growth, international health, social and environmental policy, and climate change, seeks highly qualified candidates for an anticipated **USAID-funded private sector strengthening activity to increase economic opportunities for Tanzanian youth, with a particular focus on the agriculture sector.**

**Candidates should possess the following qualifications:**

- A university degree in agriculture, business administration, economics, communications, health and behavioral or social sciences or a related field is required.
- A minimum of 10 years of professional experience in one or more of the relevant technical areas listed below. USAID experience is highly preferred.

**Deputy Chief of Party - Technical** will provide strategic leadership, management, and technical direction in advancing private sector strengthening that empowers youth and will support the project team, and counterparts in the implementation of activities. The DCOP will provide managerial and technical support to the COP, assisting in areas including work planning, performance management, and strategic communications.

**Director, Finance and Operations** is responsible for the efficient and effective management of all aspects of project operations. They will provide operational and logistical leadership for functions including human resources, finance, procurement, and subcontracts.

**Director, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning** is responsible for designing and managing monitoring, evaluation, learning and knowledge management systems. They will undertake iterative learning and adaptation, including the use of real-time information and analysis to continuously assess progress and adjust interventions or approaches as necessary, including engagement with youth and agriculture value chain actors and with development partners to learn about what is working across the system.

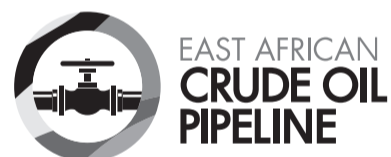
**Lead, Youth Engagement and Leadership Development** will provide subject matter expertise as necessary to identify, integrate and implement innovative youth engagement strategies to link private sector youth to critical services including business development services, financing opportunities, relevant market data, and other services that benefit private sector youth, particularly within the agriculture sector.

**Lead, Private Sector Engagement and Enabling Environment** will provide strategic leadership, management, and technical direction and support on activities which are designed to strengthen select private sector associations/organization's capacity to advocate for implementation/enforcement of policies that support youth entrepreneurs, startups, and businesses, particularly within the agriculture sector. They will work in concert with private sector partners and stakeholders to advance a series of agriculture policy and regulatory activities that improve the enabling environment and address policy bottlenecks to youth-friendly market systems development.

**Access to Finance Specialist** will build the capacity of market system actors to develop bankable business plans and improve youth access to financing. They will work with financial institutions to roll-out appropriate saving and lending products. They will identify opportunities for ICT-based solutions to improve accessibility of financial services.

Interested candidates may send a CV and cover letter to <https://tinyurl.com/4dfra8xf>. Please include the title of the technical area and "USAID/Tanzania Private Sector Youth" in the subject line of the email. One email per position application. Deadline for applications is 31 December 2021. All positions are contingent upon program award and funding. Tanzanian nationals are encouraged to apply. Only qualified candidates will be contacted.

*Abt Associates is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer committed to fostering a diverse workforce. Abt Associates provides market-competitive salaries and comprehensive employee benefits.*



### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE PROVISION OF FABRICATION AND SUPPLY OF ROOFING SHEET PROFILES REFERENCE: 0010007287

TotalEnergies East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, requires the services of an experienced and reputable contractor(s) to provide services for Fabrication and Supply of Inverted Box Rib/Corrugated Iron Sheet profiles to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 kilometers (km), of which 1147 km will be in Tanzania.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK:

EACOP requires the services of experienced and reputable manufacturer to provide services for Fabrication and Supply of Inverted Box Rib/Corrugated Iron Sheet profiles according to the standards, specifications and descriptions mentioned below:

#### STANDARDS:

- The materials, production and assembly of iron sheet shall comply with the EAS 468; 2019 East African Standard of Pre-painted metal coated steel sheets - Specifications, with latest amendments thereof, unless otherwise specified.

#### GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS OF ROOFING SHEETS

- Cylindrical Vertical Three (3) layers Vwater Tanks.
- Yield Strength of Steel: 550MPa
- Min. Aluminum-Zinc Coating on steel: AZ85
- Color Coating Mass: 19 Microns
- Requested Sheet Thickness: 28G (0.32mm)
- Profile: Inverted Box Rib
- Coverage Width: 800mm - 1100 mm
- The COMPANY reserves the right to verify the fabrication of Inverted Box Rib/Corrugated Iron Sheet profiles at the Manufacturer's premises according to the quality management system as per ISO 9001:2015.
- The SUPPLIER shall be capable of a minimum production rate of 2100 square meters of iron sheets per month to meet COMPANY timeline. COMPANY foresees a potential of a minimum of 17,000 total square meters of Iron Sheets, at the above outlined rate of 2100 square meters of roofing sheets per month.
- No material or fittings shall be used in the fabrication until prior approval for its use has been given by the COMPANY; neither shall any change in the nature, quality, kind, and type, source of supply be made without the COMPANY permission.
- On request and when applicable, the documentation of the quality of products supplied is to be submitted by the manufacturer through working certifications according to applicable Standards. All the records of the test results shall be retained by the manufacturer for future references.
- Before and after awarding the tender to the Manufacturer, the COMPANY reserves the right to inspect the testing capability and witness the tests carried out at the Manufacturer's Laboratory and/or independent laboratory facility to evaluate the product quality against the applicable standards.
- The COMPANY shall appoint a representative to witness all the tests conducted at the Manufacturer's laboratory facility and the representative shall submit all the test results to the Supplier & COMPANY independently. The COMPANY reserves the right to approve the Products based on quality test reports before delivery to the site.
- All Iron sheets, hardware and fixings shall come with a materials and workmanship warranty for a period of 12 months from date of delivery.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to submit documentation of their:
  - Experience, performance, and capacity in delivering the tasks outlined under the scope of work, at a large scale in Tanzania, in compliance with national and international standards (including International Finance Corporation Standards (IFC), with at least 10 years' experience / performance of similar services within Tanzania or internationally.
  - Key suitably qualified and experienced personnel tasks outlined under the scope of work for oil and gas projects that comply with IFC requirements.
  - Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the previous financial year.
  - Application for registration with the EVLURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
  - Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
  - Evidence of organization QHSE policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
  - Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
  - Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to [ecop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com](mailto:ecop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com) (not exceeding 20Mbs) on or before 15:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2021. Email subject should be 0010007287.

**Note:** The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.



# The Guardian

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FRIDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2021

**Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

## Scan opportunities from funds to aid indigenous communities

NOT much has been said by experts in broad daylight as to what society can expect from the use of about 3.9 trillion shillings earmarked by stakeholders on environment conservation at the global level, to assist integrative efforts for indigenous peoples to the north of the country. The idea is to fund means and ways enabling them to pursue life as they are used to, in ways that do not add pressure to critical spheres of the tourism and heritage sites ecosystem in the zone. Still there are a number of unresolved issues as to how this is done or the matter is hidden in the detail, which the government can use to definite advantage.

One such method is to read the intention of the funding as enabling indigenous peoples to adapt in ways that are agreeable to themselves but which may need optimal funding, in which case they put those funds in a surprisingly substantive manner even compared to the COVID-19 impact reduction funds. In that case innovative interpretation may include substantial payoff for communities in the marked zone to vacate so that environmental organizations take up the zones, to ensure no more encroachment occurs.

And as such organizations would be conducting tourism, research and other activities which attract investments or funding, they would be lent out from the funds to purchase the zones, repay in 20 years.

Judging by the amount of funds allocated for the purpose, it is evident that nearly all of the

surplus population within the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, who have given the government a headache as to what can be done, could be shifted with incentives from those funds. But there is a proviso in terms of the method to be used, that if such funds are distributed to public agencies in charge of the various zones where conservation is in peril (including heritage sites and water sources) chances of misusing these vast amounts rise. Loaning them to private conservation firms wishing to set up conservation inclined business activity would serve the purpose better, and as they would repay the cash gradually, it makes a difference.

With an effort, the central bank (where such funds are transmitted depending on the mode, if it is in bulk or on the basis of a certain schedule, for instance tied to performance) can stock the cash and use it as a fallback fund to enhance its low rate loans to commercial banks. The latter could use such facilities to rebuild a credible lending base that was disrupted in 2017 when fixed or long term deposits of Parastatal organizations were withdrawn, but admittedly the central bank has over the past six months sought to provide alternative facilities. It is like bond purchasing of bank assets for a while, to build their capacity.

Combining private sector based funding for conservation including habitat change for those encroaching on key zones (heritage sites, wildlife corridors, and water sources) shall meet the funding objective, and more.

## Paralegals' work not easy, as powerful stakeholders don't tolerate any spoilers

EFFORTS to beef up the work of systematic administration of justice in small urban and rural areas is continuing apace, with a plan to train a few thousand paralegals, people trained in law up to certificate level, to help in the work of magistrates especially in primary courts.

This is an issue that has had time to be discussed in the past but as with other institutional questions, there are stakes involved in the issue as well as a certain perspective on the justice system as a whole, making the plan look rosy. It definitely has beneficial areas but making it a plain substitute for more police officers, courts and prisons is mistaken.

The principal contention about the work of paralegals is the presumption that education or advisory assistance on what is right in this or that issue brought before the courts or other tribunals - notably the land tribunals apart from other issues like municipal services, legality of occupants of trade premises, fines on breaches of conservation regulations, etc. In all of these cases the rancor or anger associated with court proceedings or complaints requires that fully empowered people stand between powerful individuals troubling state agencies and the person. Such people don't stand paralegals for they aren't seeking justice.

Paralegals are traditionally more helpful when they advise individuals building a presentation for the courts, which means they can also be supplied by the courts to help them.

Similarly they can be given

duties of summing up evidence or hearings involving disputing parties pointedly not being too visible, especially in a corrupt environment. If a powerful individual sees that the magistrate is inclined to come over to his side, or some crucial investigation or prosecution official, and a paralegal tries to get the matter right, he would be in the line of fire. A social accident can be arranged, and no investigation later.

It is definitely the case that the Judiciary has experience with the use of paralegals, and magistrates also have worked with them, but at times formalities take precedence over caution.

The reason for this kind of worry is that there were apparently scores of references in remarks by the minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, about ensuring rapid 'access to justice.'

This statement of faith by the legal profession and to that extent, the public authorities as to what people go in court to do overstates the issue. We don't go to court because we are good people trying to access justice but rather because there is something either ourselves or the contending party is trying to force something unjust. Those are the ones who detest such spoilers.

Professionally speaking, justice administration and its processing needs to be done by people who are protected in what they do, for instance if one harms a police officer he doesn't get away with that unless there is a breakdown of law and order. Magistrates are also protected but scarcely the paralegals. See?

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## ZESA needs to get all its money in advance

By Special Correspondent

IT is almost impossible to believe that Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA) has allowed customers, its larger customers, to build up debts of \$15 billion, and has done little or nothing to recover these huge debts some of which must date back many months.

This is also grossly unfair. Most households and small business do not have any leeway whatsoever. They were converted to prepaid energy meters some years ago and have to pay in advance or sit in the dark.

Zesa does have a slightly complex tariff arrangement for this large group, a majority of its customers, who get cheaper electricity for the first 300 kilowatt hours a month and more expensive electricity when they go over that figure, a factor that helps Zesa as well as the customers by encouraging people to be careful how they use electricity.

In any case, when the Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority pressed for and approved this tariff arrangement, sums were done and Zesa still gets an average that equates to the standard tariff. The owner of a mansion with 10 bathrooms and 10 geysers is helping to ensure that the householders in a few dozen cottages without any geysers can afford to keep the lights on and use a hotplate.

But so far as Zesa is concerned this group cannot have a debt, and in fact the advance payments help give Zesa a pool of working capital from electricity that has been paid for but not yet delivered. Rather than anyone in this group owing Zesa any money, Zesa owes just about everyone with a prepaid meter.

Admittedly by the time these meters were finally rolled out a lot of that admin work was not being done with "estimates" dominating the monthly bills. But everything was automatically sorted out as the new meters were installed, since a final reading was taken, the debt recorded and a system put in place that saw in the early years a slice taken off every token purchase to liquidate the debts. So we all paid.

The switch to prepaid meters for households and smaller shops allowed Zesa to withdraw and redeploy a lot of staff, the people who used to have to go house to house reading meters, entering data, preparing monthly accounts, then cutting off supplies to those who forgot to pay and then finally restoring supplies.

At the time it was said that by moving all the smaller consumers into the prepaid system, Zesa would be able to deploy the required staff to read the meters of the big consumers and do all the clerical and enforcement work. But even that approach, fine a century ago but now way out of date for the third decade of the 21st century, was just a stopgap while modern technology was put into operation.

Technology has existed for some time for a similar arrangement that can ensure prepayment and automatic cut-off for larger consumers, even those



who pay on more complicated tariffs that include, or are entirely based on, their maximum demand during a month. These larger consumers are the bigger businesses and the institutional consumers. Their meters have to be more complex than the simple energy meters for households, and cost more, but obviously the savings generated will give a rapid pay back time.

The smart meters that are needed to cope with the larger consumers should have been fitted some years ago. A set of criminal and civil cases has bogged down the provision and commissioning of these meters and now, finally, acting Minister of Energy and Power Development Jenfan Muswere has given Zesa an ultimatum to lay out a programme that will see all these larger consumers on their smart meters by the end of next year.

We suspect the minister will have to keep up relentless pressure if he wants to see this. Zesa has not exactly been racing ahead to implement what everyone else would reckon was ideal.

The debt not only affects Zesa, it also affects the rest of us who pay on time, or who have to pay in advance whether we like it or not. Although inflation rates have been falling, they

are still in double figures and by delaying payment for a few months, and some consumers must be delaying a lot longer, the large consumers can pay in inflation devalued dollars.

That means Zesa either cannot afford to provide services of the required standards to the paying customers, or has to charge those who are paying more than should be paying. Either way the fully paid up customers suffer.

And we need to remember that the present load shedding that is required, largely because Zesa has skimped on some maintenance, because it did not have the cash in hand it needed and that was because a group of consumers owed it \$15 billion, is designed to keep the larger businesses and institutions operational while letting households carry the burden of the load-shedding. So we have the situation that those who do not pay on time get power while those who pay in advance are cut off for up to 12 hours at a time.

The Government has now told Zesa to start cutting off the non-paying customers. Obviously there will be a few who cannot be cut off, hospitals and water works for example, but most can be cut. In the old days this was pretty much automatic when you missed a payment but some very

bad habits crept in under the old dispensation and it seems the new way of living in Zimbabwe still has to be embraced by everyone.

There have been reports that among the bigger debtors, along with many in the private sector, are some Government institutions setting a bad example. Well except for hospitals these could also be cut off unless they pay or enter a very strict payment plan. But even the dead beats who forget to pay their bills are several steps higher on the ethical ladder than the thieves who have illegal connections and get unlimited unmetered electricity. It is fairly easy to make an illegal connection, so there is need for constant inspections.

New houses are supposed to be inspected before getting any electricity, and that inspection would surely include the meter. Admittedly a whole lot of houses were built on land-baron plots that do not exist in anyone's records, but safety considerations alone should mean Zesa checks these illegal estates.

And once there is a meter Zesa has records in a database, and can see how much people are buying each month. If a household or small business suddenly stops buying someone can investigate.



# Women who have changed gender role in forestry management

By Beatrice Philemon

**F**ORESTRY management at grassroots levels has for decades been a man's job. But that is no longer the case at Ihombwe Village in Kilosa District, Morogoro Region where a group of women is in charge of protecting a forest reserve with success rate that men envy.

When Conserving Forests Through Sustainable Forest-based Enterprises Support in Tanzania (CoForEST) project started in the village in 2012, matters conservation were men's affairs just like in other villagers surrounding it.

The project implemented by Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network, known by Kiswahili acronym MJUMITA, with funding from Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) started with training on forest conservation and management, good governance, gender equality, child rights, women's rights, financial management, Global Positioning System (GPS), how to establish and run village community banks and accountability.

Speaking during a field visit recently, Village Executive Officer for Ihombwe Vashty Chimile said 30 who took part in the sensitization never looked back. They are now involved in conservation activities by reporting forest crimes than men. They are super rangers, she said.

"In October this year for instance, the women who were in patrol arrested five encroachers with 50 sacks of charcoal within the village land forest and the criminals paid nearly 1m/- in fines," she said.

"Before the involvement of women in the Village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC), the all-men rangers earned the village only 50,000/- for three months."

Thanks to the project, transparency, accountability and integrity have increased in the village, leading to general improvement in level of development compared to other villages, Chimile said.

"I'm very glad for what has

been achieved so far; through the knowledge and skills gained, women are now very competent on forest management," she said.

"They conduct patrols inside the forest reserve alongside men and when they encounter dangerous encroachers, they can make a call and ask for reinforcement," she said.

Also, hundreds of women are aware of their rights, something which makes them actively engage in socioeconomic activities hence contribution to their household incomes.

So far, three groups that comprise of women and men engaged in sustainable charcoal production and beekeeping project have been established at Ihombwe village and women are involved in decision-making and not being informed about decisions already made as before, she said.

Among those three groups, two namely Mapambano and Singa with a total of 26 women are engaged in beekeeping projects while in charcoal making there are six women.

The women have established 10 Village Community Banks (VICOBA) with 300 members. These enable them to access financial services to operate their businesses, Chimile said.

"Before the intervention, women participation in forest management and conservation was very small and forest crime was very high. Women were only involved in farming and other domestic chores," she said.

Speaking on tax collection from sustainable charcoal production and timber harvesting since 2014, she said the village has earned a total of 253,842,400/-.

In 2014, the village earned 45,542,000/-, 2016 (16,603,000/-), 2017 (16,723,500/-), 2018 (31,369,900/-), 2019 (116,199,000/-), 2020 (12,497,800/-) and 2021 (7,890,000/-).

From this income, the village has been able to pay for Community Health Fund for 431 households, road rehabilitation, built three classrooms, water well, two pit latrines for public servants, water tank, curtains for Ihombwe dis-



The Village Executive Officer for Ihombwe, Vashty Chimile, explains how women participation in forest management has brought positive changes to the community. To her right is the village chairman Pius Mvulla and MJUMITA Advocacy Officer Elida Fundi. Photo/ Beatrice Philemon

pensary, built one health worker's house and the remained 70m/- is deposited into the village's bank account.

Pius Mvulla, Ihombwe Village Chairman said through the knowledge and skills gained from the project, the village has been able to develop land use plan and earmarked a total of 20,001 hectares of land for forest conservation.

Among those, a total of 9597 hectares have been allocated for timber harvesting, 1831 for sustainable charcoal production and 2724.5 hectares earmarked for water sources.

Also, the village has been able to develop forest management plan, formulated by-laws that prohibit anyone from cutting trees illegally inside the village forest reserve as

well as enabled the village to earn cash to implement village development projects. The village has 3,100 residents, among those 1,648 are women and 1,452 are men.

He said before the project, the village depended solely on money from Kilosa District Council to implement village development projects but that has since changed because the village has its own sources of cash to complement allocations from the district.

The Village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC) Secretary Agatha Gambi said the project has improved things tremendously but the criminals have not gone away.

"Guarding a forest is a difficult and dangerous task; because we don't have modern weapons, sometimes encroachers attack our

patrol groups and beat up them using machetes or sticks," he said.

"We call upon stakeholders interested in forestry sector to support the village with modern security tools for effective protection of this forest reserve," she said.

"We need gumboots, a tricycle for transportation of confiscated charcoal and timber and other retaliated tools."

Also she called on TFCG and MJUMITA to train new VNRC committee members on forest management and conservation because 90 per cent is not trained.

Former Chairman of Ihombwe village, Philemon Robert, noted that the Global Positioning System (GPS) technology has helped them to reduce land disputes, draw land use map that in turn has helped

the village to allocate hectares of land for different activities.

"The project has opened our eyes; women, youth and men are now competent on forest conservation after understanding the financial and environmental benefits of forests," he said.

Elida Fundi, MJUMITA Advocacy Officer, said that so far a total of 100,000 people have benefited from the project, among 99,000 of whom are from Morogoro Region and 11,000 from other districts outside the region.

She said a total of 704 people from different villages have been trained on gender equality, among them, 429 are women. Apart from that, a total of 25 local government technical staff were also trained on gender equality.

## Owning your own, knowing what you like most, discovering yourself

**R**EMEMBER the mornings you used to carry that school bag with a face full of anticipation of meeting up with schoolmates to catch up and share their imaginative opinions of the previous episode of a popular TV programme?

It was during those mornings that I planned on how I would dodge the English teacher, as homework duty was close to undoable in the then lively days. The sun would kiss hard on our foreheads as we played with marbles and cut corners with our bikes in a way one would think the devil was chasing behind. It was during these days that friendships grew primarily because of the specialized roles each of us took in the completion of the society then and in modern times.

Owning your own could sound like a paradox or a word woven within a word to sound cool or garner a fan base. What I imply by owning your own is more like getting to know what you like most. Should I take my tea or coffee with two or three sugars? This is the thought process I am encouraging you the reader to engage in. Owning your own, getting up to get what you want.

Back in my primary school days, every morning I left our homestead gate, my mind was already on the thought process that Math was a double that day, and in some mysterious way, the whole day would go down the drain. I would impose that Saturday was the best day of my week.

It was always sunny, rather a coincidence as most of them were indeed sky blue sunny. It was during these times where one could hit on your classmates with plans of meeting up after all of you were dropped off. It is rather shameful it being a memory but believe me then you would be more like Spider man or The Green Lantern, or even the famed Batman.



Then, it was easier to own your own.

Then, it was in recent time that education happened and we found ourselves on campus during the last decade. (2010-2019). It was a bit hard to really settle and secure one's own niche. It was this thought that prompted this piece.

To me, during the earlier times, it was in deed easy to plan my day and get things done. I am sure that to some, adulthood sucks. It was the other day I woke up at around 5am in the morning and realized that some woke up to go to offices at that time.

I would amicably say that it is an honorable act to wake up at this time for work. In fact, kudos to such people, they already owned their space; they specialized in what they felt appropriate to their time and expertise. Those memories of carving swords out of wood may seem a shame now, but then, that was the thought process I owned at that specific time in history.

Well, I bet by now you, the reader, are sure that owning your own is not paradox or even words woven to sound cool. In this current global hitch we have, it would be wise to own your own. It is also wise to track back your roots and discover your

true self, more like a digital footprint which I would comfortably claim to be one's own roots.



**Back in my primary school days, every morning I left our homestead gate, my mind was already on the thought process that Math was a double that day, and in some mysterious way, the whole day would go down the drain. I would impose that Saturday was the best day of my week**

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# King still bent on determining tone and character of national dialogue in Eswatini

By Liesl Louw-Vaudran and Ringisai Chikohomero

**E**SWATINI has been engulfed in escalating civil unrest and protest for the past six months. At least 46 people have died and many more injured as security forces have used live ammunition to quell the protests.

In the most recent spate in October, one person was reported killed and hundreds injured as pupils and teachers protested against the continued incarceration of civil society and opposition leaders from the June-July unrest.

The excesses and opulence of the king and his family amid abject poverty are spurring on citizens' demands for democratisation, civil liberties and greater participation in economic and political affairs of the kingdom.

With the situation deteriorating, and parties and civil society movements such as the banned People's United Democratic Movement (Pudemo) and Swaziland Multi-Stakeholders' Forum (MSF) continuing to support pro-democracy demonstrations, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has had to intervene. SADC's efforts have however yielded little. King Mswati III hasn't shown genuine

interest in engaging with his aggrieved citizens, and the pro-democracy forces are yet to consolidate and present a unified voice.

On 2 November SADC's chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, SA's President Cyril Ramaphosa, travelled to Eswatini to engage directly with the king. He'd sent an envoy to talk with the Eswatini government in October. The envoy accepted the king's call to dialogue after the failed July Sibaya, a customary dialogue forum, that turned into a monologue by the king.

The anticipation was that Ramaphosa would indulge no nonsense from the king on his November visit and return with a clear roadmap for national dialogue. It was expected that the king would have made clear concessions pointing to his readiness to engage in genuine talks.

The only significant outcome of Ramaphosa's visit, however, was that the king agreed that the SADC Secretariat "would work closely with the Government of Eswatini to draft the terms of reference for the national dialogue." This is an important initial step in setting the tone of a genuine process of dialogue that isn't dictated by the king. The dialogue process would also be broadened to include the Parliament,



Ramaphosa said.

Notwithstanding much more needs to be done and the king doesn't seem to be willing to concede further than this. Neither do the pro-democracy forces. The MSF in a detailed press statement dismisses both the Sibaya and the Parliament as appendages to the king. They say none of these platforms are credible enough for a genuine dialogue towards democracy.

They also want to see the army removed from the streets and for two jailed parliamentarians to be set free.

The king's stance on national dialogue hasn't really moved since his earlier pronouncement on the issue. He is still very much bent on setting the tone and character of the dialogue that he wants.

This doesn't engender trust and confidence in the national dialogue process on the part of the various pro-democracy movements in Eswatini. Given that civil unrest has been ongoing in Eswatini for over two dec-

ades, SADC should be taking a clear, assertive stance to define the pathway to resolve the impasse between the king and the country's citizens.

Some seasoned diplomats in the region argue that allowing the king to set his own timelines without questioning them only encourages him and shows SADC to be in a weak position. Given the gravity of the unrest and the unpredictability of events in Eswatini, SADC should insist that the dialogue takes place immediately.

Without taking this firm position, the king will probably believe he has Ramaphosa's support, and when he returns from his planned three-month retreat next year, he'll think he's off the hook. "We can't wait for January because the king will feel emboldened," says a former diplomat who requested anonymity.

Pudemo, who has mounted spirited campaigns against the monarch for over two decades, decries the lack of urgency with which SADC is treating the unrest. The party has vowed to maintain momentum with the street protests and civil unrest, expressing anger at SADC's lack of decisiveness.

The king's insistence that national dialogue takes the form of the traditional Sibaya doesn't create a conducive political context for national dialogue. The Sibaya is structured in a way that reinforces the king as the sovereign and the citizens as his subjects. Those wishing to speak up during Sibaya sessions are often scared of being targeted for doing so.

The opposition rejects this approach. The core of the pro-democracy movement in Eswatini is to redefine the relations between the king and the citizens from being subjects of the monarch to active rights-holding and -claiming citizens.

Presently the king is doing everything to emphasise his position as absolute sovereign, and SADC is tacitly complicit in this. SADC has been losing credibility with

the way it's been handling conflicts and crises in the region. While the principle of sovereignty seems to reign supreme among heads of state, the regional bloc continues to create a gap between itself and the aspirations of the region's citizenry.

The current situation in Eswatini requires SADC to be seen as an honest broker. This entails activating and setting in motion its own mechanisms created for this purpose, such as the SADC Mediation Support Unit for Eswatini. The bloc must be assertive with the king and actively participate in creating a conducive platform for national dialogue.

A credible broker who has the respect of the king would need to facilitate the mediation process. All parties must agree on clear milestones, outcomes, and success factors in a collaborative and consultative process. "Nothing should be left to chance," says the former diplomat.

Every detail should be thought through and clearly set down – from the venue to the agenda – with emphasis on neutrality and acceptability to all parties without giving in to the whims of anyone. A comprehensive and well-planned dialogue that's seen as credible by all parties in the country is the only way out of the current impasse.

D

# Kenya-China collaborative biotech research bears fruit

NAIROBI

**M**OHAMED Chungwa, a Kenyan horticulture postgraduate, always indulges himself in analyzing crop gene sequencing at a Kenya-China joint laboratory.

Chungwa hopes he can make full use of the lab to achieve his dream of breeding new varieties of arrowroot, an important source of starch, that can produce high yields with strong resistance to pests.

"This is the best laboratory of crop molecular biology in east Africa. I often use this lab. I'm optimizing regeneration of arrowroot using protoplast," Chungwa told Xinhua.

The Kenya-China Joint Laboratory for Crop Molecular Biology, based in Egerton University's Confucius Institute, was jointly built in 2016 by China's Nanjing Agricultural University and Kenya's Egerton University.

In 2019, the lab became the first batch of the Belt and Road Joint Laboratory approved by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China.

Richard Mulwa, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Egerton University, and director of the lab told Xinhua that the lab aims to increase crop yields and ease food insecurity in the continent.

Thanks to the lab, students from not only Kenya but also neighboring countries are coming to Egerton University to pursue agricultural education. Gloria Joseph Lasu, a South Sudanese student, believes that agro-tech is a promising sector for the African continent.

"China's agro-tech suits well for many African countries. I want to bring the greenhouse farming technology back to my country to help the farmers," Lasu said.

Lasu is currently doing research on okra pest control and planting. "I often go to the lab to do my research. I wish my country had this kind of joint lab," said Lasu.

Mulwa noted that China is keen on deepening agricultural cooperation with Africa through skills and technology transfer as well as funding to help the continent deal with food insecurity.

It has started testing agriculture technology for small-scale farmers who form the bulk of food producers in sub-Saharan Africa. Agricultural cooperation between Kenya and China in fact dates back much earlier.

Back in 1994, the Nanjing Agricultural University and Egerton University had jointly implemented the third phase of the Sino-Kenya Higher Education Cooperation Plan and established the Biotechnology Laboratory and Sino-Kenya Horticultural Technology Cooperation Center in Egerton University, the oldest agriculture-oriented university in the East African nation.

In 1997, Liu Gaoqiong, a professor from Nanjing Agricultural University, came to Egerton University as a visiting professor. It was the first time the Chinese expert set foot on the African continent.

The campus is about 140 km away from Kenya's capital Nairobi, and roughly 2,000 meters above sea level. Liu, now in his 50s, has devoted himself to teaching in Kenya since then.

He mainly teaches greenhouse management, crop cultivation, pest and disease control. "I witnessed the establishment of the joint lab and many other projects. I feel very delighted and proud of being a part of the China-Africa friendship," said



Liu Gaoqiong (2nd L) instructs students at a greenhouse of Egerton University in Nakuru, Kenya, June 25, 2021. The Kenya-China Joint Laboratory for Crop Molecular Biology was jointly built in 2016 by China's Nanjing Agricultural University and Kenya's Egerton University. In 2019, the lab became the first batch of the Belt and Road Joint Laboratory approved by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China. Xinhua

Liu wearing a pink shirt, baseball cap, and sneakers.

At present, more than 30 post-graduates and doctoral students are using the laboratory for agriculture-related research.

"Professor Liu is always full of energy and we love him," said Chungwa, who has become skilled in using the laboratory devices for research thanks to Liu's guidance.

"The joint lab offers every stu-

dent the platform to do research instead of relying solely on field experiments," Chungwa added.

Kenya's economy largely relies on the agriculture sector, which contributes some 30 percent to Kenya's GDP. The agriculture sector employs more than 40 percent of the total population and 70 percent of the rural population.

However, smallholder farmers continue to face challenges grow-

ing their businesses and improving the quality of agricultural goods. "Small-scale farmers form the bulk of food producers in my country. So technology transfer can really help our farmers.

When you go to China, it's impressive that even those growing wheat on a tiny piece of land are using machinery.

Now with the introduction of new technologies supported by

China, I think our agriculture can benefit," said Mulwa.

Joshua Otiemo Ogweno, director of the university's Confucius Institute, said that bilateral cooperation with China on agriculture has expanded to research, training and transfer of technologies.

"We plan to make it a model laboratory for this region so that more people can benefit from it," Ogweno said.

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Crime sees Vietnam become top destination for smuggled wildlife from Africa - agency

By Dan Southerland

THE Vietnamese government has made notable efforts to address wildlife trafficking, but the country remains the "primary destination for illegal wildlife products sourced from across Africa," an NGO that investigates environmental crime said in a report Wednesday.

Wildlife being trafficked from Africa by Vietnamese organized crime networks include pangolin meat, elephant ivory, and rhino horns, says the report by the London-based Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA).

"These networks are accelerating the decline of Africa's biodiversity and are exacerbating corruption and weak rule of law in many source and transit countries in the continent," the report said.

As is the case in China, demand for wildlife parts is based on the belief held by many wealthy and

middle-class Vietnamese that serving exotic animals at meals is a sign of their status.

Some also believe that wildlife animal "products" have medical benefits, although no scientific evidence is available to support such beliefs. And some men believe that they heighten libido, or sexual performance.

The EIA report, "Vietnam's Footprint in Africa: An analysis of the role of Vietnamese criminal groups in wildlife trafficking," says that Vietnam's wildlife crime networks have been operating on the continent for nearly two decades.

"Vietnamese crime groups are driving unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, exacerbating crime and corruption, and exploiting weak governance and local communities along the supply and transport chain in Africa," the report said.

Since 2010, the EIA says, and based solely on confirmed global



A photo released by Singapore's national parks board shows seized ivory at a holding area in Singapore, part of a haul of smuggled elephant ivory and pangolin scales from Africa destined for Vietnam

wildlife seizures, Vietnam has been implicated in the trafficking of the parts and products of at least 18,000 elephants, 111,000 pangolins, and as many as 976 rhinos.

These alarming figures represent only a fraction of the actual levels of wildlife trafficking involving Vietnam, though, because much of it takes place undetected.

African states including Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Mozambique,

Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda "are grappling with unsustainable levels of poaching and are already bearing the brunt of high levels of other forms of organized crimes, insecurity and corruption," the report said.

Paul Newman of EIA described Vietnam in a press release as "a major global hub for wildlife crime" and said that international cooperation is urgently needed to tackle the problem more effectively.

There was no immediate re-

sponse from Vietnam, whose efforts to tighten laws and enforcement were noted with approval in Wednesday's report.

While criminal gangs operate with relative impunity, "it is recognized that Vietnam has made important progress in tackling wildlife crime, both in terms of improving as well as implementing relevant national legislation," the EIA report said.

A recent report written by the scholar Mary Alice Young, an expert on transnational organized

crime at Bristol Law School at the University of the West of England, challenges the widespread view that the rhino trade in Vietnam is dominated by criminal "kingpins."

Young says that the assumption that wildlife crime is one of the most profitable organized crimes, ranking alongside drug trafficking, arms dealing, counterfeit goods, and human trafficking also has to be questioned.

When it comes to the rhino trade, she quotes sources as saying that such crimes occur as a result of "savvy and opportunistic entrepreneurs who embrace both legitimate...and illicit business options."

Young says that rhino horn consumption is more prevalent in Ho Chi Minh City, where there is a longer tradition of the use of rhino horn for medicinal purposes.

In northern Vietnam, consumption is said to be "more related to status, more nouveau riche, and more recent."

The street criminals who sell illegal wildlife products rely on the products to fund basic living expenses.

Some of Young's interviewees feel strongly that legalization is the only way to combat the illegal rhino trade.

"Legalization would work more rapidly than an education program to change the cultural beliefs of consumers—something which could take years," some said.

# Scaling up birth registration in Tanzania bears fruit - govt

By Getrude Mbago, Katavi

OVER 7 million children under the age of five have been registered and given birth registration certificates across 20 regions in mainland Tanzania since the decentralised birth registration system commenced in 2013.

Implemented by the government in collaboration with partners like UNICEF, Tigo and the Canadian government, the programme aims to reach all under-five children across the country.

Statistics show that before the commencement of the programme the certification rate was 13 per cent, but it has now risen to 65 per cent.

Speaking during the launch of the implementation of the gender responsive simplified birth registration system of the programme for Katavi and Rukwa regions, Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs Prof Palamagamba Kabudi said every child has right to be identified and registered that's why the government is determined to ensure that all births are registered.

Prof Kabudi said that over 400,000 children under the

age of five in the regions of Rukwa and Katavi will over the next two months receive birth certificates.

He said that the launch of the programme is to establish a system for registering all new births and all under-five children in the two regions.

"The system makes birth registration more accessible to the community. Before this system was introduced, registration could only take place at the district headquarter town, now registration points are established at health facilities, which provide reproductive and child health services, and at the community ward executive offices in line with the government policy of decentralization through devolution," he said.

The minister said declaring health facilities and ward executive offices registration points will enable parents in the two regions to easily access more than 478 registration points set up compared to registration points at present.

Moreover, there will be close to 1,021 trained registration assistants to support the registration process in nine local councils in Katavi and Rukwa regions.

He said the government has waived fees for registration under this programme and the first copy of the certificate is given free of charge. The programme introduces a 'one step, one visit' process and adapts an innovative way of data collection. Through the use of SMS, data will be instantly transferred and uploaded, facilitating a real-time tracking of progress.

The new birth registration system has bridged the rural-urban divide, improving access to the most marginalized communities to register their children, and continues to tackle gender-related barriers relating to birth registration. It addresses the core issues of 'accessibility' and 'affordability' which has been a major barrier in the birth registration system in Tanzania.

The Minister insisted that birth certificate is a right for every child, be a national or non-citizen.

He wanted leaders in the two regions to supervise effectively the exercise and ensure that those who are registered have required needs.

"The registration system in regions located in borders

should engage closely all security organs, so as to facilitate smooth implementation of the exercise to the targeted ones," he said.

Emmy Hudson, acting chief executive officer of the Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA) said: "We are transforming the system to make it easier for children and their families to access the entitlement of a birth certificate."

In her statement that was read on behalf by the director of legal rights at RITA Lina Msanga said the system has helped thousands of children in the regions where the decentralized system is in operation.

"We have a plan to replicate this throughout Tanzania Mainland in the shortest possible time. We are committed to ensuring that no child is left behind and, therefore, have taken extra steps focusing more on gender and equity starting with Katavi and Rukwa regions," she said.

Today, the program is being rolled out in Katavi and Rukwa, joining Arusha, Manyara, Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Ruvuma, Singida, Dodoma, Mara, Simiyu, Lindi, Mtwara, Geita, Shinyanga, Mbeya, Songwe, Mwanza,

Iringa, Njombe, Morogoro and Pwani which already have the simplified birth registration system in place through which more than seven million under-five children have been reached.

Right from the inception of the design of the innovative birth registration system, UNICEF has been working closely with the government in implementing it seamlessly one region at a time with the aim of covering the entire country by 2023.

UNICEF Chief Child protection in Tanzania, Maud Droogelever Fortuijn said: "Every child has the right to an identity. A birth certificate is a vital record that documents the birth of a child. The right to be registered immediately after birth, to have a name and acquire a nationality is every child's right, enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child - which is now over 30 years old."

She said the simplified birth registration system is reversing the low level of birth registration which means that millions of children under-five, who are "invisible" in the nation's records, will now be 'visible'. This

will help more Tanzanian children to claim their rights and be protected.

Julia Hamel, Inclusive Governance Sector Lead and Second Secretary (Development) at the High Commission of Canada in Tanzania said, "I am pleased to witness the implementation of the new birth registration system in the Katavi and Rukwa regions."

She said Canada is proud to be providing over CAD30 million in support of Tanzania's innovative under-five birth registration system.

"The collaboration between the government of Tanzania, TIGO, UNICEF and Canada on this project has resulted in over 7 million children being registered since 2013. Under its Feminist International Assistance Policy, Canada prioritizes such critical steps to ensure children, especially young women and girls, can access health services, education, and other key rights and protection," she noted.

She said the funding has facilitated the government of Tanzania to establish a sustainable model of birth registration aimed at reaching more than

seven million girls and boys under the age of five in 22 regions. The funding will significantly contribute to the development of an efficient Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System in the country.

Tigo is supporting the initiative through innovative mobile technology, which ensures that birth registration data is uploaded and sent to a central database in real time. Tigo is also using its media platforms in raising awareness about the importance of birth registration in Tanzania. In addition, Tigo is also providing 1,750 smartphones, worth 148m/-, routers and free SMS to support the initiative.

Tigo Southern Zone Director, Abbas Abdurahamani said: "As a telecom that champions digital lifestyle in Tanzania, we are supporting this noble initiative in partnership with RITA, Global Affairs Canada and UNICEF, and we are committed to improve access of birth certificates for the under-five children in Tanzania. Furthermore, this partnership underscores our commitment to empower our communities through the use of digital tools."

# 'Human population growth in Africa is harming wildlife'

By Special Correspondent

PRINCE William has suggested that an increase in human population on the African continent poses a danger to wildlife.

The Duke of Cambridge, a father of three, made the comments at a royal-backed conservation charity's awards on Monday night.

He told the Tusk Conservation Awards in London: "Africa remains on the frontline of conservation, playing host to the most awe-inspiring diversity of flora and fauna."

The Duke added: "The increasing pressure on Africa's wildlife and wild spaces as a result of human population presents a huge challenge for conservationists, as it does the world over."

"But it is imperative that the natural world is protected not only for its contribution to our economies, jobs and livelihoods, but for the health, wellbeing and future of humanity."

Africa is home to an estimated 1.3 billion people, up from around 390 million in the 1970s. A projected population boom on the continent could see its population rise to

nearly 4.5 billion by the end of the century, according to UN estimates.

Robin Maynard of the charity Population Matters said that the Duke had "rightly drawn attention to human population as a key driver of wildlife loss globally".

However, he stressed the "wider context" of "rich, developed countries like the UK driving habitat destruction as forests are cleared for crops to feed UK and European livestock".

Maynard said: "The most effective action we can take to cut our consumption [in the UK] is to choose smaller families, a choice not available to hundreds of millions of women elsewhere."

Saidu dedicated the award "to all the heroes who died protecting wildlife".

It has previously been reported that the Duke has mooted the destruction of all ivory in the royal collection over poaching concerns. Some ivory objects were removed from public display at royal palaces in 2017 to comply with laws barring "the display of unworked ivory for commercial gain".

"The number of women with



an unmet need for safe, modern contraception across sub-Saharan Africa is rising, representing a quarter of a century of failure by the international institutions supposedly addressing this basic human right and making the UK Government's slashing of overseas aid to family planning even more deplorable."

Charlie Mayhew, CEO of Tusk said: "With COP26 having recently ended in Glasgow, the

world has never been more aware of the importance of this planet's precious biodiversity.

"We are dependent on the natural world for our own survival. Conservation is not a 'nice to have'. It is a necessity."

At Monday's event, the Duke also paid tribute to those killed while protecting wildlife from poachers, speaking about the "sobering reminder of the bravery of the men and women fight-

ing to protect Africa's wildlife, and the tragic and needless human cost".

Winners at the event included Suleiman Saidu, a ranger for Yankari Game Reserve in Nigeria, who leads anti-poaching patrols to protect elephants, as well as working with local communities and elephant guardians to help mitigate human-elephant conflict.



# Islamic State insurgents could target South Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa warns during a conference in Pretoria with Kenya's Uhuru Kenyatta

By Peter Fabricius

**P**RESIDENT Cyril Ramaphosa says Islamic insurgents who have been attacking countries in Africa such as Mozambique and Uganda could find their way to South Africa too.

"But they will find us ready as well," he said, at a press conference in Pretoria with visiting Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta.

The Islamic State - to which insurgents in Mozambique, Uganda and eastern Democratic Republic of Congo are affiliated - warned last year that it would retaliate against any country which sent troops to fight the insurgency in Mozambique's northern Cabo Delgado province.

In July this year troops from South Africa and other regional states did enter Cabo Delgado to tackle the insurgency as part of a military intervention force of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Kenya has suffered several terrorist attacks on its soil in retaliation for its military intervention into Somalia to fight the Islamist insurgent group al-Shabaab after the group attacked and killed foreign tourists in Kenya.

Ramaphosa and Kenyatta agreed that the different insurgencies across the region were all working together and that the governments of the region needed to cooperate

to combat the insurgents' threat.

"The threat by insurgents should never be seen as localised, as just focusing on one country," Ramaphosa said. "They cooperate, all these groupings that come in different names. They coordinate their activities. They are in constant communication."

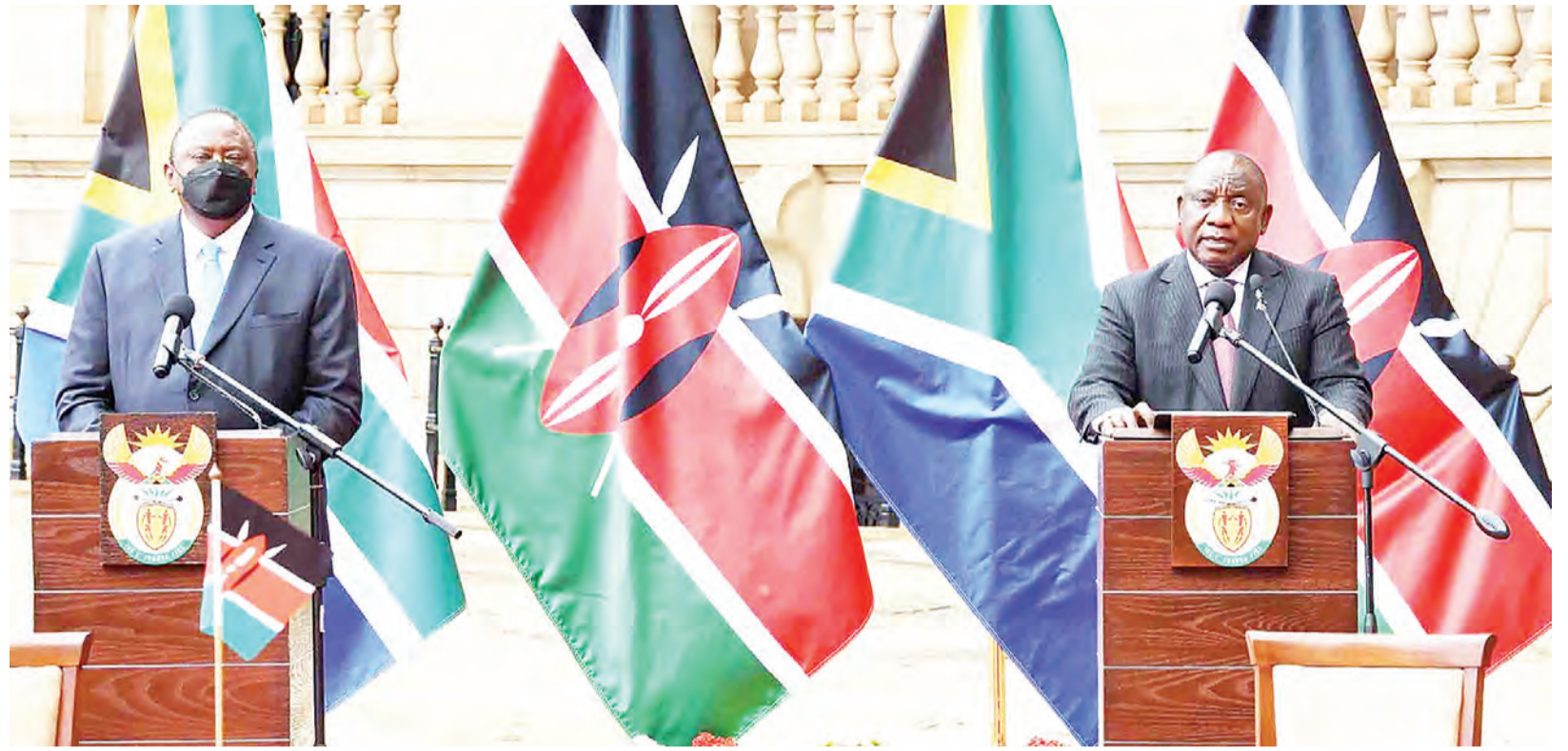
"And we therefore need to respond in a coordinated manner as the continent and as various regions on our continent... in sharing information, sharing intelligence and... working together to withstand and resist and go after them."

Ramaphosa said that the member states of SADC had already found that working together was "bearing a great deal of fruit and success in the Mozambique theatre. But that theatre can spread very quickly and easily... as Uganda is now bearing the brunt of all of this."

Ramaphosa said South Africa was cooperating closely with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni in tackling the threat and Uganda had also shared information on an ongoing basis with South Africa. "And we as South Africa and also as the SADC stand ready to give assistance as we also get assistance from friendly sister countries like Kenya, Uganda and many others."

He said insurgents would always want to flee countries where they were feeling the heat put on them by governments.

"So it is possible they will find their way to us here. But they will find us ready as well."



South African President Cyril Ramaphosa (R) and his visiting Kenyan counterpart, Uhuru Kenyatta address the media on 23 November 2021 at the Union Buildings in Tshwane, South Africa.

Kenyatta said some of the insurgents fighting in Mozambique were from Uganda or Tanzania and vice versa. Though the insurgencies had different names, they were all working together.

"And therefore we as governments need to work together, to defeat this enemy of the people," he said, noting that he and Ramapho-

sa had discussed the problem. "Today it will be Uganda, tomorrow it will be elsewhere."

Ramaphosa said at the press conference that he had raised with Kenyatta the issue of the "so-called accreditation" of Israel as an observer to the African Union (AU). This move annoyed South Africa, which had publicly expressed

its "disquiet" at the decision, as Ramaphosa put it on Tuesday.

But Kenya has close ties to Israel and is believed to have been one of the states behind the admission of Israel to the AU.

Ramaphosa said he and Kenyatta had agreed that the matter "could have been done better" and it would be fully examined and prop-

erly discussed at the next AU heads of state summit in February.

Kenyatta said it was important to carry all African states along on such an important issue.

"And, unfortunately, this didn't quite happen. It should have allowed discussion, because what we want is for Africa to speak with one voice." **DM**

## THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 167 00--

Word fit and crossword puzzle grid with clues. Clues include: 1. Selling of black Africans, 2. neither very good nor very bad, 3. sharp-tasting or sour, 4. a thick cord made of twisted fibres, 5. one of the two branches of Islam, 6. to give as a gift to charity, 7. molluscs having wormlike bodies and spiral protective shell, 8. Chief city of Sri Lanka, 9. soft, delicate, 10. to go or come in, 11. to adhere, to be attached, 12. short for amplifier, 13. fuss or difficulty.

Solutions for the crossword puzzle. Across: 1. Selling of black Africans, 2. neither very good nor very bad, 3. sharp-tasting or sour, 4. a thick cord made of twisted fibres, 5. one of the two branches of Islam, 6. to give as a gift to charity, 7. molluscs having wormlike bodies and spiral protective shell, 8. Chief city of Sri Lanka, 9. soft, delicate, 10. to go or come in, 11. to adhere, to be attached, 12. short for amplifier, 13. fuss or difficulty.

## China accelerates greenisation of courier sector

WITH the expansion of e-commerce, and to promote green packaging and avoid over-packaging in the courier sector has come under the spotlight in China in recent years.

Relevant Chinese government departments, courier companies and consumers are joining hands to accelerate the greenization of the courier sector through endeavors from reducing and reusing packaging to optimizing the logistics system.

Just a few days ago, a resident named He in Chaoyang district, Beijing, received a call from a deliveryman, who said that the fruit she bought via an e-commerce platform arrived.

After He told the deliveryman to put the package at the door of her house, the deliveryman reminded her not to throw away the insulated box in which the fruit is kept, and that he would collect it later at her convenience, He recalled.

The e-commerce platform He uses has adopted insulated boxes for years. "Salmon, codfish and lamb chops, which I often buy from the platform, are all kept in such boxes," He said, adding that deliverymen collect them for reuse every time.

Such recyclable insulated boxes represent one of the attempts of express delivery companies to explore greener packaging.

According to industry insiders, the packaging of parcels mainly fall into six categories. As regards the main packag-

ing, 10 percent is envelopes, 55 percent boxes, and 34 percent plastic bags. Besides, there are packaging fillers, tape and bags used for the transfer of packages.

Reducing packaging of parcels is an important part of promoting green packaging.

According to a warehouse manager with an express delivery company, the enterprise used more than 50,000 recyclable boxes at a warehouse per day during China's Singles' Day shopping festival this year, compared with more than 200,000 boxes and plastic packaging materials in the past.

Another courier service provider, together with an e-commerce platform, set up 60,000 sites to encourage the collection of used packaging, and 10,000 sites to pilot a project for reusing packaging in wrapping up parcels, promoting package recycling in multiple forms.

To reduce unnecessary packaging and make packaging greener and recyclable, the State Post Bureau of China (SPB) has advanced the addition of provisions on packaging governance to e-commerce law and other laws, guiding courier companies in enhancing technological innovation in key areas including green packaging.

In addition, the SPB has specified requirements for express delivery operations in many documents, steadily advancing the recycling and reusing of

packaging waste. By digitizing waybills and rectifying excessive packaging, China's courier sector has made great progress in greenization.

Last year, the express delivery industry saved 83.3 billion sheets of A4 paper by employing digital waybills. Meanwhile, it has reduced the layers of corrugated cardboard on corrugated cases from five to three and even less, the thickness of packaging bags from 0.06 mm to 0.03 mm, and tape width from 60 mm and above to 45 mm and below.

By encouraging express delivery service providers to set up standard-compliant packaging waste recycling facilities at their outlets to reuse packaging boxes and fillers in good shape and up to standard quality and motivating deliverymen to collect used boxes and fillers at consumers' houses or the outlets, the SPB is building a reverse logistics chain for packaging recycling.

Up to now, over 3.8 million recyclable packaging boxes and cases have been put into use in the industry, which has effectively helped reduce the use of packaging boxes, bags and fillers.

As consumers' habits also affect the promotion of environment-friendly packaging, an express delivery company has worked with an e-commerce platform to set up 13,000 recycling bins to encourage consumers to take part in packaging recycling.

People's Daily

RADIO One RATIBAYA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI. Monday to Sunday program schedule table with times and program names.

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One. Social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.



# EXIM BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE FIRST DRAW OF ITS 'WEKA MKWANJA TUKUTOE' DRIVE

By Guardian Reporter

**E**XIM Bank has announced the winners of the first draw of its 'Weka Mkwana Tukutoe' campaign which aims to encourage Tanzanians to have a saving culture while having the opportunity to grab various prizes including cash as well as a Toyota Vanguard car.

Announcing the winners of the first draw held today in Dar es Salaam, the Bank's Marketing and Communications Manager Mariam Mwapinga said a total of 6 winners emerged through the draw and won a total of 6m/- in cash.

"The six winners will be presented with their cash prizes at their respective branches. It should be noted that every month there will be six winners, along with a drawer that will allow them to win the grand prize of a Toyota Vanguard."

"So our current and new customers will be in a position to win these whenever they do a deposit starting 500,000/- and onwards. The bigger the deposit, the more they place themselves in a position to win big prizes" said Mariam during the draw which was also attended by a representative from the Gaming Board.

She further said the campaign

aims to bring about a change in the attitude of saving among Tanzanians from home savings and instead they keep their money through the bank for safety reasons along with many other benefits including interest.

"The goal is not just to encourage Tanzanians to create a culture of saving, what we need is to see that more Tanzanians keep their savings in a safe place to sustain economic growth, which is why we plan to encourage them to use our various accounts such as salary account which is being used for daily uses."

"Others include Mzalendo account that runs without monthly deductions, Habana Habana account and Faida account that allows them to save and earn interest. We also have Nyota account which is a special account for children without forgetting special account for SMEs," she mentioned.

For her part, an Officer from the Gaming Board Neema Tatomu congratulated the winners of the promotion while encouraging the banks customers to participate in large numbers and that they have a great chance to win many prizes in the next draw while assuring them that the Board is committed to ensuring the draws are transparently and fairly conducted in accordance with the set rules.



Exim Bank's assistant marketing and communications manager, Mariam Mwapinga (C), speaks by with one of the winners of the first draw of the bank's 'Weka Mkwana Tukutoe' Campaign which aims to encourage Tanzanians to have a saving culture while having the opportunity to grab various prizes including cash as well as a Toyota Vanguard car. Others are Officer from the Gaming Board Neema Tatomu (R) and Retail Product Officer, Callist Butinga (L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Pan African firm appoints new CEO for Raha Limited

By Guardian Reporter

A Pan-African—Liquid Intelligent Technologies has announced the appointment of Denny Marandure as a new Chief Executive Officer for Raha Limited, Tanzania.

RAHA is one of the Tanzania's leading Internet Service Providers. Denny Marandure joined Liquid in 2014 as the CEO of ZOL Zimbabwe until 2019 when he moved to Liquid South Africa as Group Executive Cloud and Digital Sales and then subsequently as Group Executive Enterprise Sales.

Adil El Youssefi, Regional CEO for Liquid Intelligent Technologies, East Africa, said in a statement that Denny is a proven senior executive who has the vision, strategic thinking, leadership and energy to successfully drive our Tanzania operations to newer heights of excellence.

"His proven track record with Liquid not only speaks of his dedication and efforts but also demonstrates his excellent management abilities to navigate through complex business ecosystems in Africa."

With over twenty-seven years of experience in finance, analytics, business development and management, Denny is a vastly experienced executive leader with wide-ranging global experience of providing value to large international global and dynamic Fortune 500 companies.

He has previously worked for multinational companies such as IBM USA, IBM South Africa, PWC (Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP), Verizon Communications LLC, ZOL Zimbabwe - the retail arm of Liquid Intelligent Technologies Zimbabwe.

Commenting on the appointment, Marandure said: "This is a really exciting time to join Raha and I am honoured to be taking on this leadership role where I can leverage my wealth of experience, expertise and knowledge that I have gained from working in dynamic markets such as the United States of America, South Africa and Zimbabwe."

He said the business landscape in Tanzania is evolving rapidly with massive digitisation opportunities on the horizon, making it the right time to focus on holistic growth and overall business development in the country.

"Raha Limited has been at the forefront of bringing ground-breaking innovation and technological solutions to the people of Tanzania, I am honoured to have the baton passed on to me and look forward to being part of the team here," he added.

Raha Limited today serves over 1500 businesses as well as a growing number of retail customers with a range of connectivity solutions, including fibre, satellite, WiMAX and Wi-Fi all over Tanzania.

# National museum to organise traditional festival for Bena tribe

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

THE Tanzania National Museum (TNM) is expected to host a week long traditional festival for Bena tribe located in Njombe Region.

The festival which is to be held next month at the Village Museum at Kijitonyama in Dar es Salaam, will include among other things, how the tribal community observe the initiation rites for the youth.

Others to be observed will be those associated with how the ethnic group conducts formal marriage negotiations and other important traditional rituals maintained by the community members.

TNM public relations manager Joyce Mkinga said the festival to be conducted under the programme dubbed "Habana Habana" will also involve traditional dances to be performed by members of the community to display its importance and values for the development of the society.

She said members of the community group are currently constructing a traditional mud house that will be thatched with grasses at a Village Museum inner compound where the event will be held.

According to Joyce, the main purpose of organizing such an event is to remind Tanzanians of the basic cultural issues and values which are still being maintained by local traditional leaders.

She noted that traditional festivals are a series of events which the TNM has been organizing as part of national cultural activities observed by over 120 eth-



nic groups in the country aimed at protecting African culture and its ways of life.

The initiation rites are preparation for the art of living in tribal communities, hence are often conceived as forms of a symbolic experience to the new and valuable life for grown up members of a particular tribe.

This form of tribal ritual is being practiced by youths in African societies and includes circumcision whereby the adolescent age groups for boys are prepared into manhood as long as they reach pu-

erty, at 14 or 15 years, at the same time girls are taken in an initiation ceremony and taught how to behave once they get married.

The significance of this in some communities provides an important platform through which programmes can reach many adolescents who are not children anymore to know the destiny of their future life.

According to various interpretations, African traditional ceremonies are events based on social, spiritual, religious or

public significance performed on special occasions for various reasons.

In some instances, they involve events or community gathering, usually staged by a local community and sometimes centres on some unique aspects of people's lives in a particular community.

A ritual is a ceremony or action performed in a traditional way for celebrating a religion or culture.

Different communities have different ritual practices, like meditation in Buddhism, or baptism in Christianity.

# AfDB approves new Water Strategy for 2021-2025

By Special Correspondent

THE Board of Directors of the African Development Bank (AfDB) has approved a new Water Strategy for 2021-2025: "Towards a Water-Secure Africa."

The five-year strategy, approved last week, aims to increase water security in Africa, and to foster its sustainable, green and inclusive socio-economic growth and development.

"This is a significant milestone for the Bank in terms of seeing water development and sanitation as key components toward improving the quality of life for the people of Africa," said Dr. Beth Dunford, the Bank's Vice President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development. She said the strategy would help the African Development

Bank Group expand its role as the continent's partner, while promoting integrated development and management of Africa's water sector.

The strategy will guide the Bank's implementation of its Policy on Water, which it approved earlier this year.

The Water Strategy's four pillars underscore the importance of water and sanitation for socio-

economic development; sustainability, resilience, and inclusivity; food production and nutrition; and hydropower.

The Strategy aligns with the Bank's High 5s, and thus contributes also to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union's Agenda 2063.

"Water is a key enabler for many of the United Nations

Sustainable Development Goals, and the Bank considers water to be essential for life, health, dignity, empowerment, environmental sustainability, peace and prosperity," said Oswald Chanda, the Bank's Director for Water Development and Sanitation.

More than 100 Bank stakeholders provided inputs to develop the Strategy, which the

Bank's Board lauded as exemplary.

Since 2010, the African Development Bank has invested an estimated \$6.2 billion in water supply and sanitation services. At the end of October 2021, the Bank's active water sector portfolio stood at \$5.02 billion, comprising 104 projects implemented in 40 countries, and five multinational projects.



# EABC, AFRIKA VEREIN TO STRENGTHEN GERMAN-EAC TRADE, INVESTMENT TIES

By Guardian Reporter

**T**HE East African Business Council (EABC) and German African Business Association (Afrika Verein) have teamed up to strengthen German-EAC trade and investment ties.

Speaking during the Afrika Verein meeting, EABC chief executive officer (CEO) John Bosco Kalisa said: "The EAC bloc is open for investments from Germany."

He explained that East African Business Council is committed to enhancing the partnership with the German African Business Association to boost trade and investment ties between the EAC bloc and Germany.

He said: "in 2020, EAC imports of goods from Germany hit US\$850million while exports to Germany hit US\$304 million, a 25 percent increase in comparison to 2019."

EABC Chairman Emeritus, Vimal Shah called for more involvement East Africa companies driving the continental and international debates and agenda such as the European Business Council for Africa and EU-Africa Union Business Forum. Chairman Vimal Shah urged for the reignition of the Memorandum of Understanding between EABC and the German African Business Association to spur trade.

Afrika-Verein Board Member, and President Region Africa of Bosch Dr. Markus Thill called for harmonized policies to support the growth of the automotive sector in the EAC and adoption of common position on Rules of Origins at the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) level. Dr. Markus urged for deeper analysis on the automotive value chains in East Africa to attract more investors into the sector.

EABC Board Director Mary Ngechu, urged for capacity building on certification



for value added products by SMEs in East Africa to ease access the German and EU market and boost manufacturing in the region.

Sarah Reynolds from Merck Group urged the EAC Partner States to forge partnerships on distribution agreements, local procurement and advance market commitments to lure investments in the vaccine industry. She explained that access to EAC Common Market of 177 million underpins the growth and sustainability of vaccine industries and investment.

Emily Waita, EABC Board Director urged for collaboration between East African and German companies on lessons & best practices on circular economy and innovative climate mitigation solutions.

John Bosco Rusagara said there is high political goodwill from the EAC Head of State to ease doing business in the region. He explained that EAC Secretariat has made remarkable progress on the admission of Democratic Republic of Congo into the EAC bloc and the EAC Common External Tariff Review process is likely finalized in the upcoming Summit

of the EAC Heads of State.

EAC's top exports to Germany include Coffee, tea, maté and spices, flowers, edible fruits, precious metals, petroleum oils and industrial or medicinal plants while imports include: machinery, vehicles, pharmaceuticals, measuring instruments and electrical parts.

EABC and German African Business Association agreed to collaborate on Manufacturing, Healthcare and Pharmaceutical, Energy, Mobility & Infrastructure and Trade Mission to East Africa and Germany.

## IFRC undertakes initiatives to tone down climate change effects on food insecurity

By Special Correspondent

THE International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) Southern Africa Cluster Delegation has officially launched the Pan African Tree Planting 'IFRC10 million Initiative' in the region.

The Tree Planting Initiative aims to contribute to the protection, management, and restoration of forests while at the same time addressing the drivers of food insecurity in southern African Communities.

Southern Africa has experienced an increase in the frequency and severity of heatwaves over the years caused by changes in regional climate patterns. The number of people suffering from climate change induced food insecurity has increased by over 45% since 2012.

Following the #COP26, the IFRC Southern Africa has developed further responses to the climate crisis through its ambitious goal to plant 10 million trees throughout southern Africa by 2030. Trees will be planted around local schools, community centres and Red Cross properties, as well as being distributed to beneficiaries, to spread the message on the importance of tree conservation while providing for communities' nutritional needs.

The official launch of the initiative took place in Daveyton, East of Johannesburg at the Heald Day Care Centre, in collaboration with South African Red Cross Society (SARCS) on Monday.

The IFRC Southern African cluster delegation made a bold pledge to plant and maintain 25 000 trees across the area as part of Phase 1, making the first contribution to the 10 million tree goal for the region.

Head of IFRC Southern Africa Cluster Delegation, Dr Michael Adekunle Charles, said: "Communities in Africa have been some of the hardest hit by the effects of climate change. As we work on the ground, we see the worsening proof as communities become more food insecure."

He said: "After COP26 we saw that many of the climate challenges faced on the continent remain unresolved. This is a huge blow to communities who urgently need change. The only way forward is for us to take this climate change bull by the horns and finally come together to tackle this fight. The IFRC has chosen to take this responsibility seriously as we roll out the first phase of our climate mitigation initiatives."

To execute this initiative, the IFRC Southern Africa Delegation chose a multiphase approach to ensure proper implementation and maintenance in each area for Phase 1, before moving on to the next location in Phase 2. The next phase will be rolled out next year in Botswana and will continue throughout Southern Africa.

# Central bank's re-opened Treasury bond auction successful

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

THE first re-opened Treasury bond auction conducted by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) on Thursday this week attracted a record-breaking 661bn/ in overall public bids being the highest amount ever tendered for a single Treasury bond auction in the country's history.

Re-opening auction is the offering of new bonds with the same maturity and coupon as an existing issue. In this context the

Treasury bond re-opened for this particular auction was originally issued for the first time on February 10, 2021.

The reopened bond has a different issue date and different purchase price based on current market yields but shares the same maturity date and coupon interest rate as the original bond.

According to the auction results issued by BoT, the auction almost five-times oversubscribed where 1341 total bids 213 were successful (14%).

Despite the high bids, BoT rejected bids that they

deemed aggressive, taking up only 129bn/- ultimately reducing borrowing cost, for the fourth auction of the 20-year bond in the calendar year.

The weighted average yield to maturity recorded was 14.7% quite lower than the bonds coupon rate of 15.4%.

According to the Zan Securities Chief Executive Officer Raphael Masumbuko, the auction results sets an overtone on investors' appetite towards Government securities as every auction dwarfs a preceding one.

Commenting on the Treasury bonds outlook,

Masumbuko said so far this year, fixed income returns have been modest and yields have fallen to historical lows to reflect the inverse relation with prices.

"The recent oversubscription of the 20 year bond will continue to put downward pressure on the long end of the yield curve and we see this having an effect on the 15 year bond as it's the next available attractive coupon," he said.

He added that with the 15 year Treasury bond being over subscribed for the first time this year in its last auction, shows a sign of invest-

mentors competing for fixed income yields as the central bank continues to employ accommodative monetary policy to increase money supply and reduce lending rates.

"Talks about a potential haircut in Treasury bond coupons will put pressure on auctions as investors want to lock themselves in against a backdrop of a potential reduction in coupons," he added.

Auctions for the long-term Treasury bonds (20 and 25) have been oversubscribed since their respective introductions in the financial markets

prompted by their attractive coupons and subsequent liquidity in the secondary markets that makes it attractive for investors.

The investor flight towards fixed income securities however comes with peril to the economy, as this crowd out much needed funds for the private sector, with a large percentage of institutional investors buying Treasury bonds and commercial banks using excess liquidity which could potentially be lent out to the private sector subsequently lowering lending rates.

# Africa poised to receive billions more in investments

By Special Correspondent

THE Africa Investment Forum's Market Days 2021, an initiative of the African Development Bank (AfDB) is poised to attract billions of dollars in investment for strategic development projects across the continent.

The annual forum has come to be an invaluable platform for attracting critical investment in the continent's infrastructure, agriculture, and health-care system needs among others - especially as Africa seeks to rebound from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The growing success of the forum makes the encouragement of the bank's president, Akinwumi Adesina, credible, who has said Africa must be respected as the world's investment frontier.

The third edition of the Africa Investment Forum Market Days will take place in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, in a hybrid format from 1 to 3 December.

Pent up investment demand is anticipated.

The 2021 edition will take place against the backdrop of the lingering pandemic, as well as recently concluded climate talks at the United Nations



Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.

Both have highlighted the urgent need to exploit Africa's challenges as investment opportunities.

Additionally, there is growing consensus that the private sector will be indispensable in providing the scale and speed needed to urgently address bottlenecks across many sectors.

Market Days 2021 will feature the forum's unique boardroom sessions, where project developers and investors will

review projects, including those in the healthcare, energy and climate, agribusiness, and the information and communication sectors.

The AfDB's Africa Investment Forum team has previewed several likely boardroom deals in investor roundtables held virtually in September, October, and November.

Market Days 2021 will showcase these investments.

One is a potential investment in the construction of a US\$45 million World Health

Organisation-prequalified vaccine production plant in East Africa.

The plant will be able to routinely produce three types of vaccine, including one for Covid-19.

Another deal, in the agribusiness sector, entails the scaling up of a dairy milk production and packaging company in southern Africa.

The project's sponsors have secured an off-take agreement with a major international food and beverage company for milk

production.

The deal, valued at US\$50.2 million, has strategic value for the host government in terms of job creation and skills development.

Boardroom sessions, where deals move toward closure, will also feature projects that are women-led, and which represent Africa's creative industries.

Over the three-day event, there will also be sessions on how to mobilise institutional finance, the role of disruptive innovations such as fintech and cryptocurrencies, and the value of women as investment champions.

Market Days 2021 will revisit the achievements and highlights from the second edition, held in Johannesburg in 2019.

Some 57 deals worth roughly US\$68 billion were discussed at the time, including a strategic liquefied natural gas development project in Mozambique, which represents Africa's largest single foreign direct investment.



## CONSTRUCTION

# ENTREPRENEUR IN DRC, ASSOCIATES BRING SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY TO DRY GOMA

## KINSHASA

**T**HE Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) holds half of the freshwater reserves of your complete African continent, based on UNICEF. However not even half of the Congolese inhabitants has entry to wash ingesting water.

Entrepreneur Jack Kahorha refused to simply accept that. So, 4 years in the past, he and two associates based a water firm, Yme Jibu, in Goma, the capital of DRC's North Kivu province.

"I instructed myself that I've to do one thing in order that Congolese get water, he instructed DW. "Even when I begin with 10,000, 20,000 or 30,000 folks - it's a starting."

**Increasing attain**

Yme Jibu serves 83,000 folks on the outskirts of Goma, a metropolis of over 1 million. Subsequent yr, the variety of locals benefiting from the clear water his firm distributes is anticipated to succeed in 140,000.

The corporate pumps water from Lake Kivu, treats it with chlorine, then passes it on to households and group taps within the metropolis districts.

There, primarily women and girls fill the water into jerrycans and carry them residence on their backs. Yme Jibu generates two-thirds of its \$400,000 (£355,000) turnover from the tap enterprise.

It is because a personal connection to the water provide prices \$860 - thought of too costly for many Congolese.

Within the Japanese a part of the nation, the inhabitants is especially poor as a result of battle and arbitrariness decelerate efforts to attain prosperity.

Traders are likely to keep away

from the area, so younger folks usually wrestle to seek out work.

**Assist for refugees**

Yme Jibu employs a workers of twenty-two and cooperates with 440 water merchants who function the taps and reservoirs within the districts.

Kahorha needed to persuade clients to pay for water. That is as a result of the corporate emerged from assist initiatives.

When the Nyiragongo volcano erupted in 2002, a Norwegian group constructed wells, taps and pipelines to provide individuals who had fled the town and misplaced their houses to the lava. After that, farmers fleeing militia fighters got here to the camps.

For greater than 15 years, assist organizations supplied free ingesting water to the refugees and residents who lived close to the camps.

However an abrupt finish loomed, Kahorha recounted: "In 2016, all donors determined to cease offering funds as a result of the emergency was declared to be over and the camps had been closed. There was the chance that folks will not have entry to ingesting water."

**Sustainability points**

Many initiatives find yourself in ruins as assist budgets dwindle.

Former diplomat and Africa professional Volker Seitz recalled conversations with worldwide donors. They estimated that solely one-fifth of the initiatives in African nations supplied the inhabitants with a long-term profit.

Statistics on this are missing as a result of the long-term influence isn't evaluated. However Kahorha's expertise confirmed issues with the sustainability of a number of water initiatives: "Many communities should



not skilled sufficient to keep up services. That's the reason they don't work in the long term. I feel the donors can be heartbroken in the event that they noticed that they'd spent thousands and thousands and had virtually nothing left behind."

Yme Jibu is a unique story. For the reason that firm acquired its services as donations from assist organizations, it has modernized and expanded infrastructure.

**Affordability**

Ingesting water is fairly reasonably priced for the poor inhabitants. A 20-liter jerrycan prices

100 francs to fill.

Households linked to the community pay 4,000 francs (\$2.00, £1.78) per cubic meter. Faculties, hospitals and orphanages pay half that quantity.

Yme Jibu earns an annual revenue of \$20,000. The corporate's earnings is adequate for operation, upkeep, water high quality management and new pumping stations and taps.

Congolese shareholders invested a complete of \$500,000.

Initially, a European investor participated. However cultural variations and disputes over the compensation phrases of the

borrowed capital led to a falling-out. Since then, Kahorha and his two Congolese companions every personal a couple of third of the corporate.

They've taken out financial institution loans for this objective.

**Good relations with assist organizations**

Kahorha described the corporate's relationships - that are quite a few in Japanese Congo - as "good".

Oxfam, for instance, is paying for the merchandising machines

from which the inhabitants will be capable of fetch water with a money card sooner or later.

Yme Jibu is negotiating with one other group to see if it may possibly assist construct new pipes and taps. It is because the Nyiragongo erupted once more in Could, prompting many residents to maneuver away from the town middle. Kahorha is due to this fact making ready for brand new clients:

"Persons are constructing like loopy within the space the place we're represented. We have to put together for a rush of potential clients."

## Banks need to proactively implement the ESG agenda

By Agatha Tlatlaa

ENVIRONMENTAL, Social and Governance (ESG) issues are now at the forefront in most organisation's agenda as they move to identify and tap into opportunities as well as address associated challenges and risks.

Banks have embraced the ESG agenda due to the influence it exerts in both financial and non-financial risks present, at varying degrees.

How an organization and particularly a bank handles its ESG agenda defines how it conducts its business sustainably.

ESG address a variety of issues. For instance, environmental aspects cover carbon emissions to land, air, water, use of water, waste management and business impact to the ecosystem among others. Social aspects cover gender equality, consumer protection; working environment for employee; approach to human rights and ethical marketing approaches. On the other hand, governance cover composition of governance teams and gender inclusion, compliance to financial reporting frameworks, Board committee structures, transparency, compliance to laws and regulations.

Banks in Tanzania have made remarkable progress in supporting communities over the years as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

Noticeable initiatives such as the 'Tigo Green for Kil' campaign of 2021 that aimed at conservation efforts for Mount Kilimanjaro and NMB Marathon campaign to support women with Fistula, went a long way in mobilising banks to address both environmental and social aspects within the ESG framework.

In June 2019, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) launched the Finance2Equal Tanzania initiative to identify means of bridging the gender gap and enhancing women's participation in the financial sector.

The IFC went ahead and published a report in June 2021 highlighting status of the initiative.

These examples show how banks have taken the ESG agenda seriously, although more need to be done to adopt the agenda within their business frameworks through a formalised ESG strategy, if they are to galvanise the gains made and tap into opportunities that ESG presents.

Why is ESG important to banks?



Climate change risks are now more noticeable than ever before. These risks have the potential of directly affecting banks customers due to depressed incomes from economic activities such as agriculture, leading to loss of revenue and credit defaults. This will ultimately impact bank's financial performance and profitability. Such an impact will adversely affect the banks reputation and financial rating and slowly but steadily render it out of business.

Furthermore, regulators and stakeholders are putting pressure on banks, calling on them to proactively adhere to global accords such as the Paris Climate Protection Agreement, United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and most recently COP26 declarations. These accords have certain regulatory

requirements which organisations must adhere to if they are to drive sustainable businesses. Stakeholders such as investors, employees and suppliers are increasingly demanding that businesses be held accountable to their ESG agenda to ensure continued relationships and guarantee investments, cost of capital, talent recruitment and retention.

Whilst implementing the ESG agenda is not a walk in the park, banks will likely face challenges on ESG reporting due to absence of standardised reporting framework. This will impact the benchmarking of the same and call for Banks to define ESG pain points uniquely until when the regulators define the specific reporting guidelines. Additionally, lack of knowledge at organisation's governance, staff and stakeholders' levels, will pose challenges at

some point.

This will likely impact ESG implementation and time to realise positive results. Another key transition challenge is change of culture which calls for structural re-alignments and proper change management to realise desired results. Lastly, data collection is likely to be another pain point. Collection of qualitative data has never been easy especially for banks which heavily rely on operating systems that are configured to collect quantitative information. This challenge extends to obtaining correct and timely ESG data from external stakeholders and the entire value chain in response to a comprehensive reporting. As such, Banks need to invest in the right systems to ensure systems and processes captures relevant and correct information timely. This will be informed by a proper definition of ESG risks and exposures.

Proposed ESG implementation road map

The journey to ESG implementation needs to start by analyzing key areas of the business and the exposures they have from an ESG perspective. This cuts across financial and non-financial risks which cover credit, market, liquidity, operational risks, strategic and business risks. This will require simulations and stress testing tools across all the pain points.

Banks will need to diagnosis their business models vis a vis their ESG objectives whilst taking into consideration the geographical locations, climate risks, culture and regulatory requirements.

Banks will also need to have

a clear strategy that has clear objectives and initiatives and aim to have the right balance between having a societal impact and driving shareholders value. An effective ESG strategy will need to touch the entire ESG chain from governance, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and reporting.

The implementation phase will entail responding to identified risks to manage the likely exposures. Having an effective governance framework that guides the implementation is necessary while ensuring that collective responsibility is assumed across the organisation.

This will likely result in changes of operational aspects like product design, delivery and distribution models, governance, HR management and rewarding in line with set goals, change of reporting systems to incorporate data collection and reporting of ESG criteria.

Subsequently, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation journey will be critical as banks will need to continuously monitor and evaluate ESG risk profile to ensure that they do not slip off from the set action points in order to realise the desired results. For this to be effective, focus should also be put on enhanced reporting dashboard on the ESG process and control owners within the bank. This will ensure that correct, timely and relevant data is captured for relevant decisions and corrective measures to be deployed.

In conclusion, proactive banks will gain a competitive advantage by leveraging on opportunities derived from their ESG agenda. ESG transparency and reporting is critical to demonstrate the risks and control measures that the bank has put in place to mitigate these risks. This will involve documentation of ESG risk points from operations describing the likely impact and the bank's response with clear corrective measures to protect the society in which it operates. This is a key as it communicates the commitment and accountability banks have over the ESG agenda.

To gain stakeholder confidence over the ESG reports, banks will need to have the reports validated by external reviewers.

**Agatha Tlatlaa (pictured) is an Audit Manager at KPMG in Tanzania (atlatlaa@kpmg.co.tz). The views and opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of KPMG.**



## WORLD

## Georgia jury convicts three white men of Arbery murder

BRUNSWICK

THREE white men were convicted of murder on Wednesday for chasing and shooting Ahmaud Arbery as the Black man ran through their neighborhood, with a Georgia jury rejecting a self-defense claim in a trial that once again probed America's divisive issues of race and guns.

The verdicts were delivered by the jury of one Black man and 11 white men and women on its second day of deliberations after about a two-week trial of Gregory McMichael, 65, his son Travis McMichael, 35, and their neighbor William "Roddie" Bryan, 52, in the coastal city of Brunswick.

The case hinged on whether the defendants under a now-repealed Georgia law permitting citizen arrests had a right to confront the unarmed 25-year-old avid jogger last year on a hunch he was fleeing a crime. Defense lawyers also argued self-defense centered upon a contested claim by Travis McMichael, who fired the fatal shots, that Arbery moments earlier had grabbed the pump-action shotgun that was used to kill him.

All three defendants were convicted of murder, aggravated assault, false imprisonment and criminal intent to commit a felony. They face a minimum sentence of life in prison with the possibility of parole. Defense lawyers said they will appeal.

President Joe Biden said the convictions showed that America's criminal justice system is "doing its job," though the killing was "a devastating reminder of how far we have to go in the fight for racial justice in this country."

"Instead, we must recommit ourselves to building a future of unity and shared strength, where no one fears violence because of the color of their skin," Biden said in a statement.

There was never any dispute that the younger McMichael fired his shotgun three times at Arbery at close range on Feb 23, 2020, in the suburban community of Satilla Shores. It was captured on a graphic cellphone video made by Bryan, stoking outrage when it emerged more than two months later and the public learned that none of the three men had been arrested.

Lawyers for the McMichaels argued that the killing was justified after Arbery ran past the McMichaels' driveway in a neighborhood that had experienced a spate of property thefts. Both McMichaels grabbed their guns and jumped in their pickup truck in pursuit, with Bryan, unarmed, joining moments later.

Prosecutors said the defendants had "assumed the worst" about a Black man out on a Sunday afternoon jog. He was chased by the defendants for about five minutes around the looping streets. A law cited by the defense had allowed anyone to make a citizen's arrest of individuals they have reasonable suspicion are fleeing a serious crime they committed.

Arbery's name was added to those invoked in nationwide anti-racism protests in 2020 that erupted after the police killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, both of whom were Black.

"It's been a long fight. It's been a hard fight. But God is good," Arbery's mother, Wanda Cooper-Jones, said outside the courthouse. "He will now rest in peace."

Earlier, her head sunk into her chest as she wept upon hearing the verdict, with civil rights activist the Rev. Al Sharpton gripping her hand. Arbery's father Marcus Arbery leapt up and cheered before sheriff's deputies told him he had to leave.

In reacting to the verdict, Marcus Arbery later told reporters, "We conquered the lynch mob."



A woman holds portraits of Ahmaud Arbery and George Floyd during an event in remembrance of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota. File photo

There was jubilation outside the courthouse when the verdicts were rendered as a crowd of more than 100 people cheered and yelled "justice," some waving flags including one for the Black Lives Matter movement.

"A jury of 11 whites and one Black stood up ... in the Deep South and said, 'Black lives do matter,'" Sharpton said.

"I'm floored" Travis McMichael, looking red-faced, turned as he stood to leave the courtroom and mouthed "love you" to his mother, Leigh.

"I'm floored, floored with a capital 'F'," Laura Hogue, one of Gregory McMichael's lawyers, said in the courtroom.

The three men face a federal trial next year on hate-crime charges, accused in an indictment of violating Arbery's civil rights by embarking on the fatal chase because of his "race and color."

Wednesday's verdict followed a jury's Nov 19 acquittal in another closely watched trial of an 18-year-old named Kyle Rittenhouse who fatally shot two men during racial justice protests in Wisconsin. Both cases highlighted the broader issue of US gun violence that Biden has called a national embarrassment. In both, defendants claimed self-defense.

Agencies

## Belt and Road Initiative transforming Kenya's development space - report

NAIROBI

THE Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), proposed by China eight years ago, is transforming Kenya's development space in a profound way, said a report released Wednesday.

According to the report by Africa Policy Institute, a pan-African think tank, since the BRI was proposed in 2013, China has supported modern infrastructure projects such as railways, roads, ports, dams, industries, digital connectivity which has injected vitality into Kenya's growth.

"In less than a decade, Kenya has a brand new 670-kilometer modern Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) connecting the port of Mombasa and the inland (dry) port of Naivasha," said the report, titled "Shared prosperity: tracking the belt and road initiative in Kenya, 2018-2021."

The report examined the real impact of the BRI through specific projects within the five connectivity themes of infrastructure development, policy

consultation, trade promotion, financial cooperation and people-to-people exchanges in Kenya.

The BRI has so far supported projects such as the construction of roads, railways and ports that cut across and connect a total of 172 countries.

According to the findings, Kenya's Chinese-built SGR has Africa's second largest underground tunnel which is a tourist attraction in its own right.

The report indicated that as a result of the BRI, Kenya has many new industries employing thousands of people and boosting the economy.

The report noted that Nairobi's skyline is changing, with some of Africa's tallest buildings emerging while thousands of students are benefiting from Chinese scholarships and training opportunities as part of people-to-people connections.

Chinese Ambassador to Kenya Zhou Pingjian said that China and Kenya are good friends, good partners and good brothers.

"Our fruitful and wide-ranging prac-

tical cooperation stands out in China-Africa cooperation," said Ambassador Zhou, noting China will work hand in hand with Kenya to take forward Belt and Road cooperation and implement the outcomes of the upcoming Eighth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) to deliver greater benefits to the people of both countries.

The diplomat also said that openness brings progress, while self-imposed isolation leaves one behind.

"Going forward, China will only become more and more open and continue to pursue the Belt and Road Initiative as a priority," said Zhou.

He observed that as China embarks on a new historic journey, it stands ready to deepen the China-Africa partnership and promote sustainable development in order to build a China-Africa community with a shared future in the new era.

Zhou said that for the BRI connectivity is vital, and the bedrock of connectivity is infrastructure.

"It is the lack of infrastructure that has held up the development of many countries. Small wonder infrastructure development has been a top priority for China-Kenya Belt and Road cooperation in recent years and remarkable progress has been made in this regard through concerted efforts," he added.

Kirimi Kaberia, the principal secretary for the Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development, said BRI "has also improved Africa's continental interconnectivity, breaking borders and catalyzing intra-continental trade."

Through BRI's formulation and implementation, in less than ten years, Kenya now has a new deep seaport in the coastal town of Lamu, the SGR which has transformed the delivery of goods, as well as thousands of kilometers of roads that have transformed logistics in the region, said Kaberia.

"These initiatives have created new centers of industrialization and development," Kaberia added.

Xinhua

## Taliban counting on Russia's support at UN, says envoy

KABUL

THE Taliban radical movement (outlawed in Russia) is banking on Russia's assistance to represent Afghanistan at the UN, Taliban spokesman, the movement's envoy to the UN

told TASS yesterday.

"We had and currently have good relations with Russian Federation, and we are expecting them to support the new government that has been formed in the result of our struggle for liberation of Afghanistan," Shaheen noted. "We also have sup-

port of the Afghan people, and hope to have friendly relations with Russia and other regional countries. Based on this, we expect Russia and other countries will support us at the Credentials Committee of the UN, because this is good for the peace in Afghanistan and in the region." On

November 16, Shaheen posted on his Twitter account that the Taliban movement had all the conditions needed for occupying Afghanistan's UN seat and hoped that "the legal requirements will supersede political preferences."

At the high-level week of the

UN General Assembly, no representative from Afghanistan has taken the floor, neither Ambassador Ghulam Isacai, who had been appointed Afghanistan's Permanent Representative to the UN by the former government, nor a Taliban representative.

Agencies

## Europe heads for 2.2m deaths, WHO warns

COPENHAGEN

COVID-19 deaths in Europe are projected to exceed 2.2 million by spring based on current trends, according to a news release by the World Health Organization's regional office on Wednesday.

The projection comes as the region remains in the grip of the coronavirus pandemic, with the number of reported deaths increasing close to 4,200 a day, up from 2,100 a day at the end of September. The cumulative number of COVID-19 related deaths has already passed the 1.5 million mark for the region's 53 countries.

"Today, COVID-19 is the number one cause of death across Europe and Central Asia," said the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, which carries out modeling for WHO Europe.

The WHO's predictions for hospitals in the region are likewise dire. It expects there will be high or extreme stress on hospital beds in 25 countries, and high or extreme stress in intensive care units in 49 out of 53 countries between now and March 1, 2022.

As explained in the news release, the current wave of infections is the result of three main factors. The first factor is that the European region is "Delta dominant", in reference to the highly transmissible Delta variant, with no country reporting more than 1 percent of any other variant.

The second factor is the recent decision by many countries in the region to relax restrictions. The third factor refers to the large number of people who are still not vaccinated or whose vaccine-induced protection has decreased.

The WHO said evidence is growing that vaccine-induced protection against infection and mild disease is declining.

In the European Union, 67.7 percent of the population are fully vaccinated. But rates vary widely among countries, with low levels in many eastern countries. Only 24.2 percent of Bulgarians are fully vaccinated, compared with 86.7 percent in Portugal.

The prospect of a winter under renewed restrictions saw Austria return to lockdown this week while Germany and the Netherlands are poised to announce new restrictions. The curbs have sparked unrest in several countries.

Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo called violence at a 35,000-strong protest in Brussels "absolutely unacceptable".

Xinhua - Agencies

## Islamist car bomb attack kills at least 8 in Somalia, officials say

MOGADISHU

AT least eight people were killed in Somalia's capital yesterday when Islamist militants launched a suicide attack on a UN security convoy using a vehicle laden with explosives, officials and witnesses said.

The Islamist group al Shabaab claimed responsibility for the huge blast which rocked Mogadishu and injured at least 23 people, including school students, sending a column of smoke above the city. Gunfire echoed around the scene, witnesses said.

It was not immediately clear if any UN personnel were among those killed or injured in the huge blast, which targeted the UN convoy as it passed near the site of a school.

UN officials did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

"We counted eight dead people and 17 others including 13 students injured," police spokesman Abdifatah Aden Hassan told reporters. He said a suicide bomber in an SUV full of explosives had targeted a UN security convoy.

Aamin Ambulance service evacuated at least 23 people who were injured in the blast, Abdikadir Abdurahman, the director of the service, told Reuters.

Abdiasis Abu Musab, al Shabaab's military operations spokesman, confirmed the Islamist group's operatives had carried out the attack and said they were targeting a UN convoy.

The blast near the K4 junction in the heart of Mogadishu was so large that walls of the nearby Mucassar primary and secondary school collapsed. Cars were mangled in the explosion.

"We were shaken by the blast pressure, then deafened by the gunfire that followed," said Mohamed Hussein, a nurse at the nearby Osman Hospital, saying he had been pulled from the rubble of a collapsed ceiling.

"Our hospital walls collapsed. Opposite us is a school that also collapsed. I do not know how many died," he said.

Al Shabaab has been fighting Somalia's central government for years, seeking to take power and impose its strict interpretation of Islam's sharia law.

The group frequently carries out bombings and gun assaults in Somalia and elsewhere in its war against the Somalia military and the African Union-mandated AMISOM force that helps protect the government. **Agencies**

## 5G energizes China's iron and steel industry

THE integration of 5G technology into the industrial Internet has helped improve the quality and efficiency of China's traditional iron and steel industry by accelerating the application of products with big data-based functions such as remote control, collaborative operation and troubleshooting in recent years.

At the steelmaking zone of a wide and heavy plate plant run by Hunan Valin Xiangtan Iron and Steel Co., Ltd. (Xiangtan Steel) in Xiangtan, central China's Hunan province, four large electromagnetic bridge cranes were busy attracting scrap steel

with a weight of several tons and then moving it accurately onto a truck.

The bridge cranes were remotely controlled by Tan Bin, who sat in a spacious central control room and accomplished loading and unloading tasks by simply pulling or pushing levers and pressing buttons in front of a screen.

"Work was so much tougher when I had to stay in the operator's cab of bridge crane before remote control was possible," Tan recalled.

"The operator's cab was noisy, and would sometimes be infiltrated by dust. So we needed to wear masks all the time in work," the operator added.

Taking advantage of the ultra-high reliability and ultra-low latency of new technologies, the plant realizes the ultra-high-speed uploading and downloading of data, thus allowing workers to control the equipment accurately and remotely, according to He Wei, deputy director of the produc-

tion equipment department of Xiangtan Steel, who said that the integration of 5G into bridge cranes has greatly improved operators' work efficiency.

Shougang Jingtang United Iron and Steel Co., Ltd. in Tangshan city, north China's Hebei province, has set up a management system that can monitor in real time the operation of the four main devices of coke ovens, an essential facility for iron and steel companies, namely coke pusher, coke bar-

rier vehicle, coke quenching vehicle and coal charging car. These machines playing different roles are closely connected with each other and form an organic and unified whole through the transmission of signals.

Besides real-time monitoring of the four main devices of coke ovens, the management system enables man-machine dialogues, allowing workers to give orders to machines.

The four devices can send their operating data to the cen-

tral control room, explained Ding Hongqi, a staff member at the coking department of the iron and steel company in Tangshan.

However, due to low bandwidth, image transmission was often troubled by network latency in the past, Ding said, adding that the problem has been solved after the company employed 5G technology.

As a typical process manufacturing industry, the steel industry is characterized by

continuous production process and requires timely transmission of large amounts of information in a complex environment, something that the company's former information system can no longer sustain. Therefore, the industry is in urgent need of intelligent transformation.

In 2019, the coking department of the company applied 5G in the remote operation of the four devices to realize their intelligent and synchronous connection, making the remote operation of the equipment more reliable, efficient and safer. **People's Daily**



# WHO: Teens at lower risk from virus, jabs should go to poor

GENEVA

AS children and adolescents are at lower risk of severe COVID-19 disease, countries should prioritize adults and sharing vaccine doses with the COVAX program to bring supplies to poorer countries, the World Health Organisation said on Wednesday.

Some rare cases of heart inflammation called myocarditis have been reported in younger men who received vaccines based on mRNA technology - Pfizer BioNTech and Moderna - but these were generally mild and responded to treatment, it said.

Although that risk had not been fully determined, it was less than the risk of myocarditis linked to SARS-CoV-2 infection, it said.

The WHO's interim guidance was issued as more regulatory agencies authorize certain vaccines for use in children, including the United States, European Union, India and Israel, and most recently Canada last week.

"As children and adolescents tend to have milder disease compared to adults, unless they are in a group at higher risk of severe COVID-19, it is less urgent to vaccinate them than older people, those with chronic health conditions and health workers," the WHO said.

Children can experience "long COVID-19" with prolonged symptoms but this was still under investigation, it said.

Several risk factors for severe COVID-19 in children have been reported including older age, obesity and pre-existing conditions including type 2 diabetes, asthma and heart disease,



This photo shows a general view of the offices of British-Swedish multinational pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical company AstraZeneca PLC in Macclesfield, Cheshire. AFP

it added.

Maintaining education for all school-aged children should be an important priority during the pandemic, although transmission mitigation measures might be needed in schools, the WHO said.

Given vaccine supply constraints, immunisation programmes should focus on protecting groups at high risk of hospitalisation and death, the WHO said.

"As many parts of the world face extreme vaccine shortages, coun-

tries with high coverage in at-risk populations should prioritize global sharing of COVID-19 vaccines before vaccinating children, adolescents," it said.

## AstraZeneca

AstraZeneca Plc will open labs for its COVID-19 products at a new UK research and development site this year as the drugmaker faces questions about the future of its vaccine in its home country.

The labs, which will be based at

the R&D hub in Cambridge, England opened Tuesday, will house a unit for vaccines and will also focus on the company's antibody cocktail, which is expected to receive US and UK authorization in the coming months.

The UK ordered 100 million doses of AstraZeneca's vaccine last year, but ultimately limited its use to people over 40 after a very rare blood clotting side effect emerged. Britain is only relying on vaccines from Pfizer Inc and Moderna Inc for

its booster program, leaving Astra on the sidelines.

AstraZeneca Chief Executive Officer Pascal Soriot said in an interview with the BBC earlier on Tuesday that its vaccine could be the reason the UK is faring better with COVID-19 hospitalizations than Europe.

Still, he acknowledged more data is needed. While the UK gave it to the elderly, many European nations limited the use of the shot initially to younger people over questions related to its efficacy. **Agencies**

# Russia approves COVID-19 vaccine for teenagers, developer says

MOSCOW

THE Sputnik M coronavirus vaccine for teenagers has been approved in Russia, Deputy Director General of the Gamaleya Research Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology Denis Logunov said at a press conference on Wednesday.

"The use of the Sputnik vaccine on children was authorized today, the vaccine was approved and we are happy to share the news," he pointed out.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Tatyana Golikova said earlier on Wednesday that a coronavirus vaccine for children would not be released for public distribution until late December 2021.

Clinical trials of the Sputnik V vaccine among children and teenagers aged twelve to 17 years kicked off in Moscow on June 5.

Gamaleya Center Director Alexander Gintsburg explained that the concentration of Sputnik V had been reduced fivefold for teenagers and tenfold for younger children.

**Agencies**

# Chinese cities improve order in transport system through innovative

MANY cities across China have adopted innovative approaches to ensure traffic and transport order, constantly improving urban governance.

Dongcheng district of Beijing has promoted methods of exemplary management of shared bikes, including using electronic fences and requiring payment inside the fences to standardize the parking of shared bikes by leveraging satellite positioning technology of the BeiDou Navigation Satellite System, Bluetooth Low Energy sniffer, and other new technologies.

North China's Tianjin municipality has piloted in some eligible areas a management model that requires people who use shared bikes to pick up and return bikes at designated sites.

Market regulator and traffic police department of east China's Zhejiang province have rolled out electric bike license plate with the bike's registration number and a QR code on it. The QR code provides access to information about traffic violations by the bike, thus bringing convenience to the traffic police.

In recent years, China's urban transport system has continuously improved and increasingly satisfied people's diverse, multi-level and individualized travel needs.

Shared bikes and electric bikes play essential roles in the country's transport system. Shared bikes have enjoyed great popularity among Chinese people, as they meet people's needs for short-distance travel, transferring between public transport means, leisure and fitness activities, and other fields. Besides, they also have great significance for promoting green travel, easing traffic congestion, and reducing air pollution.

As more and more people engage in food and express delivery services in the country, handy elec-



A designated parking zone for shared bikes in Dongcheng district, Beijing. File photo

tric bikes have also won favor with the Chinese people. Statistics suggest that the ownership of electric bikes in China is close to 300 million.

Convenient as they are, shared bikes and electric bikes have posed challenges to the management and maintenance of urban transport systems.

As the usage of shared bikes and ownership of electric bikes increase, illegal parking behavior, including parking bikes randomly on pedestrian paths, sidewalks with directional tactile pavers for vision-impaired people and vehicular lanes, has obstructed the flow of traffic and caused safety hazards to the traffic.

In addition, improper practices of bike-sharing operators, such as disorderly arrangement and random stacking of bikes, have not only crowded public spaces, but affected the appearance of cities.

Moreover, electric bike riders' improper behavior, including disobeying traffic signals, can threaten threats to road safety.

China has formulated regulations and rules to achieve long-term stable development of shared bikes and electric bikes.

Early in 2017, China's Ministry of Transport and nine other state organs jointly issued a guideline to encourage and regulate the development of shared bikes. So far, more than 70 cities across the country have released implementation regulations on the management of shared bikes.

Many Chinese cities have also made efforts to constantly improve regulations on the management of electric bikes and established rigid rules to promote the orderly development of relevant industries.

With such regulations and rules being improved constantly, it will be more convenient and safer for

people to travel in the country.

While the binding force of administrative regulations is realized through enforcement, the efficiency of urban governance increasingly depends on the application of intelligent technologies.

In recent years, many Chinese cities have continuously ramped up efforts to strengthen punishment for and rectification of relevant traffic violations and constantly innovated regulatory approaches and improved management, exploring a lot of effective management methods.

Such methods include electronic fences for shared bikes and the City Brain solution launched by Alibaba Group's cloud computing arm, Alibaba Cloud, which helps improve the dispatching and coordination in the urban transport systems.

Urban governance is a complex systematic project in which results are best reflected by the smallest details. The faster a city grows, the more it needs fine management, scientific methods, and smart technologies.

While enabling people to enjoy the convenience brought by new business models and new technologies, China has also encouraged citizens to follow relevant regulations and rules, aiming to help citizens develop good travel habits with the help of guidance and rigid constraints.

The country believes that besides the joint efforts of administrative organs and companies, it also needs the support and cooperation of citizens to foster a sound and orderly environment for public transport.

By promoting civil behavior, safe travel, and orderly parking in the use of shared bikes, China calls on citizens to take responsibility for their safety and show their civil quality.

**People's Daily**

# New Sweden PM resigns on 1st day in job, hopes for swift return

STOCKHOLM

SWEDEN'S first female prime minister, Social Democrat Magdalena Andersson, resigned on Wednesday after less than 12 hours in the top job after the Green Party quit their two-party coalition, stoking political uncertainty.

But Andersson (pictured) said she had told the speaker of parliament she hoped to be appointed prime minister again as the head of a single-party government, and the prospects of that happening appeared fairly strong given support from other parties.

The Green Party quit after parliament rejected the coalition's budget bill.

"I have asked the speaker to be relieved of my duties as prime minister," Andersson told a news conference. "I am ready to be prime minister in a single-party, Social Democrat government."

The Green Party said it would support her in any new confirmation vote in parliament, while the Centre Party promised to abstain, which in practice amounts to the same as backing her candidacy. The Left Party has also said it would back her.

While these parties were unable to agree a budget, they are united in the goal of keeping the Sweden Democrats, a populist, anti-immigration party, from having a role in government.

"The Centre Party will open the door for her (Andersson) to be prime minister," its leader, Annie Loof, said on Twitter.

"We will make sure, again, that Sweden can have a government that is not dependent on the Sweden Democrats."

The opposition right-wing Moderates and Christian Democrats are backed by the Sweden Democrats, but cannot command a majority in parliament.

## Challenges

Andersson took over as prime minister from Stefan Lofven as head of a minority two-party coalition supported by the Left and Centre parties. But that alliance collapsed when the Centre Party refused to back the new government's finance bill.

Parliament then passed spending plans on



Wednesday drawn up by three opposition parties, prompting the Green Party to quit the coalition and leaving Andersson no option but to resign.

The speaker of parliament will now decide the next step in the process of finding a new government, but will most likely put Andersson forward for a new vote in coming days.

"We expect the Left, Green and Centre parties to abstain in the upcoming vote and therefore effectively approve Andersson as Prime Minister again," banking group Nordea said in a note. "In other words, the political chaos is over as long as nothing more unexpected happens."

Whoever becomes prime minister faces major challenges, and a national election is due next September.

Gang violence and shootings blight life in many major cities.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed gaps in the much-vaunted welfare state and the government needs to speed up the shift to a green economy if it is to meet its climate change goals.

The centre-left and centre-right blocs are basically deadlocked in polls.

The fact that it has taken this long for Sweden to get a woman prime minister is embarrassing for many in a country that introduced universal suffrage 100 years ago and has long championed gender equality.

Neighboring Norway got its first woman leader 40 years ago. Sri Lanka was the first country to elect a woman premier in 1960.

**Agencies**

# Ethiopia's PM goes to battlefield as Olympians take up arms

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIA'S Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has gone to direct the war from the front lines, state-affiliated media reported on Wednesday, as two Olympian athletes announced they were enlisting in the military.

Gold medalist Haile Gebrselassie, who set 27 long distance running records, told Reuters he was joining up. So is Olympic silver medalist runner Feyisa Lelisa, local media reported.

While Abiy is away, Deputy

Prime Minister Demeke Mekonen Hassen would take charge of routine government business in his absence, government spokesman Legesse Tulu told a news conference, according to a report from Fana news outlet.

Abiy announced late on Monday he was planning to personally direct the fight against Tigrayan forces and their allies.

"Let's meet at the war front," he wrote "The time has come to lead the country with sacrifice."

Last month Tigrayan forces and

their allies threatened to march on the capital Addis Ababa. They have also been fighting fiercely to try to cut a transport corridor linking landlocked Ethiopia with the region's main port Djibouti.

On Tuesday, US Special Envoy Jeffrey Feltman said the Ethiopian military and regional militias had been able to hold back Tigrayan attempts to cut the corridor, but Tigrayan forces had been able to move south towards the capital.

Ethiopia's military spokesperson did not respond to requests for

comment.

Ethiopian police have trained around 147,000 civilians in the capital to form neighbourhood defence groups and help detect possible infiltrators, police told Reuters.

Feltman, along with former Nigerian president turned African Union envoy Olusegun Obasanjo, has been trying to broker a ceasefire between the two sides.

On Tuesday, Feltman said that nascent progress risked being overshadowed by military developments.

On Wednesday, Ethiopia expelled four of six Irish diplomats from the country because of Ireland's stance on the conflict, Irish Foreign Minister Simon Coveney said.

The Irish foreign ministry said its embassy would remain open, but that it had asked its citizens to leave by commercial means immediately, and said those planning to visit should avoid travel.

Also on Wednesday, Switzerland and Britain advised their citizens to leave Ethiopia, citing the worsening security situation. France

and the United State have already called on citizens to leave.



**Abiy announced late on Monday he was planning to personally direct the fight against Tigrayan forces and their allies**





Jolly Mutesi

## Miss East Africa pageant preparations in top gear

By Guardian Reporter

THIS year's Miss East Africa beauty pageant contestants will enter camp in Dar es Salaam this weekend.

Miss East Africa organizing committee vice-president, Jolly Mutesi, said the participants are ready for the final preparations.

Jolly noted the final of the much-anticipated pageant will be held at Mlimani City Hall, Dar es Salaam on December 17.

The vice-president said that Bongo Flava musician, Mbwana Yusuph Kilungi, alias 'Mbosso', is one of the popular local artists lined up to perform at the pageant.

Jolly revealed that the contest is expected to be watched live by millions of people in Africa through Television and the internet around the world.

Countries participating in the Miss East Africa pageant include Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan, Soma-

lia, Reunion, Ethiopia, Malawi, Burundi, and Mauritius.

Jolly revealed that the minimum entry fee for the pageant is 50,000/- for regular tickets for each person, 100,000/- each for VIP seats, and 200,000/- each for VVIP seats.

The Miss East Africa pageant is organized by Rena Events in partnership with Wasafi Media.

Jolly stated: "Tanzania will be represented by model Queen Mugesu who defeated more than 2,600 Tanzanian beauties who applied to represent the country through the internet."

"Queen Mugesu was selected in a process run by beauty experts for more than a month," she said.

The former model stated the Miss East Africa pageant, founded by Tanzanian Rena Callist in 1996, is eagerly awaited by beauty pageant lovers and is expected to be watched by over 200 million people.

## Football stakeholders salute Aucho, Mukoko's work rate at Yanga

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

A section of Tanzania's football stakeholders discloses that Yanga's midfielder, Mukoko Tonombe, needs to work hard if he wishes to regularly make it to the first team.

The advice has come about as Yanga's new midfielder, Khalid Aucho, now challenges Tonombe for an opportunity to regularly feature in the first team.

Aucho has so far clocked 360 minutes, making it difficult for Congolese Tonombe to regularly make it to the first team.

A section of football stakeholders has praised the two midfielders' competition for a spot in Yanga midfield.

In Aucho's 360 minutes, the midfielder featured in all 90 minutes of each of the NBC Premier League games he played.

The midfielder was in Yanga's squad when the squad confronted Kagera Sugar, Geita Gold FC, KMC FC, and Azam FC and, in those games, his team won.

The midfielder further coordinated well with his teammates.

The football stakeholders added that

Tonombe is much better off playing with Feisal Salum, alias 'Fei Toto'.

The duo was the team's dependable midfielders the previous season.

The stakeholders disclosed Tonombe has proved to be adept at how to get the ball back to Yanga's possession.

The stakeholders pointed out Aucho is good when the team is in possession, he executes passes well.

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Technical Director, Oscar Milambo, said: "Aucho is first an experienced player and has played a lot of competitive games. He is a player who makes play look easier due to his style of play."

Milambo disclosed: "He is a player who is a teacher on the field, he knows how to pass the ball and how long he should stay with the ball in his legs."

"Tonombe is good when the team does not have the ball but the midfielder hardly has good possession of the ball."

Former Yanga winger Akida Makunda said Aucho's success at Yanga is due to having good coordination with fellow midfielder Yanick Bangala and they seem to have great potential.

## Simba SC targets success in CAF Confederation Cup knockouts

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

SIMBA SC has disclosed that winning this season CAF Confederation Cup playoff fixture against Zambia outfit Red Arrows FC at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium Dar es Salaam on Sunday constitutes its plans.

The NBC Premier League defending champion also vowed to take revenge by beating age-old rivals Yanga during the domestic top-flight tie bringing together the clubs at the same stadium on December 11.

Simba SC sits second in this season's tournament after notching 14 points from six games, whereas Yanga leads the rest of the pack with 16 points.

Out of the six fixtures, the defending champion won four and drew two with Coastal Union and Biashara United.

Simba Chairman, Murtaza Mangungu, noted they are well prepared to take revenge after losing the Community Shield game against cross-town rivals Yanga.

The official pointed out his club moreover targets to emerge victorious when confronting Red Arrows FC of Zambia.

He said to live up to expectations, they are determined to efficiently work with Simba's coach, Pablo Franco Martin, making sure they achieve their goals this season, including winning all home tournaments' titles and doing well in Africa.

Last month Simba parted ways with coach Didier Gomes after they were knocked out of this sea-



Simba SC Chairman, Murtaza Mangungu.

son's CAF Champions League and relegated to the CAF Confederation Cup.

Coach Martin has a tough task ahead, with the Msimbazi Street side hosting Red Arrows on Sunday.

Mangungu said to show that they intend to achieve a lot this season, they brought in coach Martin whose profile and records could lead them to their long-term dream of winning a continental club showpiece's top honour.

Martin disclosed his team has players with the ability to fight all the time, a situation he believes will make it easy to achieve his goals this season.

The tactician remarks come

after witnessing Simba play a Premier League game against Ruvu Shooting and then take on Green Warriors in a friendly match.

Simba SC beat Ruvu Shooting 3-1 last week at CCM Kiumba Stadium in Mwanza, with Meddie Kagere scoring twice and Kibu Denis netting once.

In the friendly match against Green Warriors played in Dar es Salaam last weekend, Simba SC emerged with a 4-0 victory.

The Spanish coach said his players have the great footballing ability, so all he has to do is unite them and build their confidence.

Martin also expressed his

happiness at the return of the footballers that were nursing injuries, making it clear that they will do well in the upcoming CAF Confederation Cup playoff match against Red Arrows and Premier League games against Geita Gold FC and Yanga.

"I have seen almost all of the players, I keep assessing them and looking for a good connection, to be able to cope with the games ahead of us and even against Yanga."

Simba SC will confront Red Arrows from Zambia in Sunday's CAF Confederation Cup playoff stage match.

The return leg match will be played in Zambia on December 5.



Waluguru Original Music Band's drummer, Kelvin Sayona, showcases his skills at the troupe's recent show, which took place in Morogoro. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT SABATO KASIKA

## Waluguru Original Band set for show in Dodoma next month

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

MOROGORO-based dance music troupe, Waluguru Original Band, has received an invitation to participate in a special show, dubbed 'Wafia Dansi', which is expected to take place in Dodoma on December 4 this year.

The show, which will take part for the fourth time this year, will feature dance music bands, including CP Academia, Bogos from Dar es Salaam, Dodoma-based Sky Melody, and

Mjengoni Classic from Arusha.

Waluguru Original Band Director, Deogratius David, alias 'Killer Man', disclosed that he is happy to receive the invitation, claiming that it will help to promote his band in other regions.

"This will be the third time our band has participated in the show which aims to promote dance music in the country, as we first participated in May this year in Morogoro," David noted.

He said the second show was held recently in Arusha,

where the band was one of the entertainers.

The artist noted Waluguru Original Band has been using the opportunity to introduce a new album, titled 'Kikao cha Wahenga'.

The director mentioned some of the songs making the album as 'Morogoro Yetu', 'Mwanzo wa Mapeenzi', 'Cha Kupewa', 'Ngalile Mwanangu Ndole' sang in Luguru language, 'Supu' and 'Nataka Nilewe'.

"Now there is another show in Dodoma where

Waluguru Original Band has received an invitation, we will join prominent troupe, CP Academia, and the new ones Bogos, Sky Melody, and Mjengoni Classic," he said.

David said getting the opportunity to perform on the same platform with a popular band like African Stars, alias 'Twanga Pepeta', is an opportunity for Waluguru Original Band's artists to showcase their potential, and that they have been using it well whenever they get it.



## Manchester City, PSG and Real Madrid among Champions League qualifiers

LONDON

MANCHESTER City beat Paris Saint-Germain 2-1 on Wednesday but both clubs qualified for the last 16 of the Champions League, along with Real Madrid, Inter Milan and Sporting Lisbon.

Gabriel Jesus tapped in from Bernardo Silva's deft knockdown on 76 minutes to settle an absorbing match at the Etihad after Raheem Sterling had cancelled out Kylian Mbappe's goal.

Before Jesus sent the crowd wild in Manchester, Neymar shot wide to blow a golden chance to put the Parisians ahead.

Lionel Messi had a low-key game and Sergio Ramos, named among the substitutes, was not called on to make his PSG debut.

Pep Guardiola's City, the beaten finalists last season, are guaranteed of winning Group A, while PSG qualified in second place despite the defeat because RB Leipzig thrashed Club Brugge 5-0 in Belgium.

PSG coach Mauricio Pochettino, in the city where he is being linked with the vacant Manchester United job, insisted his expensively-assembled side were showing improvement.

"We have to improve," added Pochettino. "I am happy in the process. Things are better than one month ago and much better than two months ago. Little by little the team is going to improve."

About the United rumours, the former Tottenham coach said: "We are living in a business that rumours are there, sometimes positive, sometimes negative."

- Guilty verdict and a goal -

Karim Benzema scored just hours after being found guilty by a French court in a blackmail case as Real Madrid eased past Sheriff Tiraspol 3-0 to reach the knockout stage.

The French striker notched his team's third goal of a confident display in Transnistria after David Alaba's free-kick and Toni Kroos' strike as Real took revenge for their shock 2-1 loss to Sheriff in Madrid earlier this season.

Real coach Carlo Ancelotti said the court verdict, and the one-year suspended jail sentence Benzema received for his part in blackmailing former France teammate Mathieu Valbuena with a sextape, had not affected the striker.

"We have not talked about it (the court verdict), he is calm, it is a subject concerning him that we have been talking about for a long time," Ancelotti said.

The victory sent the Spanish giants back to the top of Group D, two points clear of second-placed Inter Milan, who also qualified for the last 16 after beating Shakhtar Donetsk 2-0 thanks to two Edin Dzeko goals.

AFP

## Special delivery: Ex-truck driver nets Milan winner

MADRID

A STUNNING header from Junior Messias in the dying minutes handed AC Milan a 1-0 win over Atletico Madrid and kept alive their hopes of qualifying for the last-16 in the Champions League on Wednesday.

The goal also highlights Messias' remarkable career journey that has gone from delivering fridges to scoring on his Champions League debut when the Brazilian came off the bench to net the winner.

The 30-year-old, who joined the Rossoneri from Crotone in the off-season, scored with his first attempt as a Milan player on his third appearance, and his first in Europe's elite competition.

"I dedicate it to my family and friends in Brazil. But especially to those who have believed in me and who had the faith to bring me to Milan. I have had a different path to others, so I dedicate this goal to them," Messias told Amazon Prime.

Messias moved to Italy from Brazil in 2011 and initially juggled amateur football with a job delivering fridges, before slowly climbing up the football ladder.

In 2015, he joined Casale in the fifth tier of Italian football, then rising through Serie D, C and B in subsequent years before finally making his Serie A debut last season with Crotone aged 29.

"This is the most important thing that has happened to me so far," he said. "But humility has to be a constant. You can't beat yourself up about criticism or get over-excited about compliments. You need to have the right balance."

Milan arrived in Madrid rooted to the bottom of Group B with only one point and anything but a win against Atletico would have eliminated them from this season's competition.

"It was a tough game, a tight game, with a lot of effort from the teams, trying to get an advantage in the small details. They took the chance they had, we couldn't take ours with Matheus Cunha, and the game got away from us," Atletico coach Diego Simeone said.

# Adeyemi, Antony, Yeremi among U21 stars to shine at 2022 World Cup

ESPN

THERE is now less than a year until the 2022 FIFA World Cup kicks off in Qatar on Nov. 21, with a number of teams having already confirmed their participation in the recent international break.

The World Cup often offers young players a chance to shine on the biggest stage of all and Qatar will be no different. Here's nine players under the age of 21, from some of the qualified nations, who could announce themselves next year when the action begins.

- **Dusan Vlahovic, 21, Fiorentina / Serbia**

Already an established Serie A forward with Fiorentina, the Serbia international helped fire his country to an automatic World Cup place in the 2-1 win over Portugal and, if his development continues at its current pace, the Balkan nation might even have a potential Golden Boot winner among their ranks.

Though Vlahovic's progress may have gone under the radar for a global audience, he scored 21 Serie A goals last season, has 12 in 14 games this term and has refined his game to arguably become one of the top 10 centre-forwards in European football.

On top of his excellent finishing skills, he can score from any distance or position in or around the penalty area, Vlahovic has also improved his link-up game and general involvement in the build-up phase (protecting and circulating the ball, winning free kicks when dropping deep.) His contract dispute with Fiorentina may get messy before his terms expire in 2023, but his position as the focal point of Serbia's attacks is not in doubt.

- **Karim Adeyemi, 19, FC Salzburg / Germany**

Born in Munich to Nigerian and Romanian parents, the 19-year-old is one of the most exciting young strikers in European football. Having played for a few years in the Bayern academy, he moved to fourth-tier SpVgg Unterhaching for six years and a number of clubs (including Bayern and Chelsea) missed out when he signed for Austrian side FC Salzburg in 2018.

Adeyemi possesses fine balance, finishing skills and the ability to position himself well for rebounds, but it's his remarkable pace and directness which inevitably attracts the most attention. Extremely quick off the mark, he also accelerates when he picks up the ball and almost always seems to have another gear.

With a potent left foot, quick changes of direction and calm finishing skills, the striker has every chance of making a mark in Qatar based on his 14 goals in 18 games this season. He's already



Antony

scored his first senior goal for Germany, netting on his debut in September vs. Armenia, and has plenty of top clubs watching him again.

- **Antony, 21, Ajax / Brazil**

Called up to the Brazil senior side for the first time in October following a decent showing in the Olympics and a great start to the season with Ajax, Antony is going from strength to strength.

He is a left-footed winger who usually lines up on the right side - though he does prefer cutting back on to his stronger foot - equipped with very quick feet and able to beat his full-back with his trickery and movement. Always positive in his play - either looking for quick interchanges, overlaps, flick-ons or a shot from outside the penalty area - his progression has been rapid this season.

However, he does still tend to run out of energy towards the end of matches and can struggle to align properly with his teammates for extensive periods. Brazil have plenty of attacking options, but Antony could be a superb impact player off the bench.

- **Charles De Ketelaere, 20, Club Brugge / Belgium**

Rewarded with his first start for Belgium against Estonia on Nov. 13, the multi-functional attacker cuts a somewhat atypical figure for a modern forward at 6-foot-3 tall. But once you see him move around the pitch - whether as an inverted winger on either side, a central attacking midfielder or up front - it's obvious that the 20-year-old is more about flair, intelligence and movement than protecting or heading the ball (though he can do that too.)

Despite his size, De Ketelaere has an impressive balance and command of his body, often evading challenges with quick changes of direction or a disguised flick. He's got a fine turn of pace too, especially when finding space in wide areas where he can leave full-backs trailing in his wake.

With the forward developing fast he may not be at Club Brugge by the end of January, but should play a role for Belgium next year.

- **Julian Alvarez, 21, River Plate / Argentina**

Alvarez has been considered Argentina's top attacking prospect for some time, yet it's only now that the River Plate forward is starting to produce the numbers that may see a European giant take a chance on him. Indeed, with 19 goals in 40 games this season, there's every chance that a club will pay his reported €25 million release clause in January.

Now he has moved into a more central position, Alvarez has started to score more regularly and recently found the net four times in a league match against Patronato. Aside from his technical ability, pace and powerful shot, it's his positioning, opportunism and instinctive one-touch finishing that makes Alvarez special.

A member of Argentina's Copa America-winning team, he came off the bench in the World Cup qualifier against Brazil last week and should get more chances to shine soon.

- **Rayan Cherki, 18, Lyon / France**

Although Cherki's first

priority is to claim a starting place for Lyon and the France under-21 side, based on his recent performances it may only be a matter of months or even weeks before the attacking midfielder breaks into the big time.

He's still prone to trying one flick too many and trickery that borders on showboating - which will surely need to be fixed before France coach Didier Deschamps offers him a look-in for the senior side - and it often seems that he's so full of ideas that he's left in two minds as to what to do next.

However, the ball tends to be glued to his foot and he can turn the course of a game with one decisive penetrating pass or a speedy, well-executed one-two, either cutting in from the right on his preferred left foot (though his weaker right foot is so strong that he even uses it for direct free kicks) or playing in a more central role.

A player with proper superstar potential who could be an interesting wildcard pick as France set about attempting to become the first men's

national team in 60 years to retain the World Cup.

- **Yeremi Pino, 19, Villarreal / Spain**

Another of the many young prospects like Ansu Fati, Gavi and Pedri who are the future of the Spain national team, Yeremi was given a chance to shine for Spain when some of their senior players were forced to drop out of the squad due to COVID-19 in June and made his debut in the Nations League semifinals against Italy last month.

He scored seven goals for Villarreal last season as he made the breakthrough into their first team and, unlike some of his contemporaries, the 19-year-old stands out for his practical interpretation of football. He plays with his head up, always scanning and preparing his move prior to receiving the ball, which often results in a one- or two-touch positive pass or, when needed, a quick dribble to gain space or get out of a tight spot.

Until recently Yeremi

was mainly used as an impact substitute to change the rhythm of the attack or add unpredictability, but with his defensive contribution improving he's regularly being trusted with a starting spot for the Europa League champions, where he recently signed a new contract.

- **Mohammed Daramy, 19, Ajax / Denmark**

Within the space of a year, Daramy has gone from being a work in progress at FC Copenhagen to sealing a €12m move to Ajax and making his full senior debut for Denmark in September.

Mainly operating on the left wing, he is exceptionally dangerous when space opens up in transitional situations, but he's also capable of beating a full-back from more static starting spot, either through quick body feints or simply pushing the ball in front of the defender and charging past.

Even more impressive, Daramy plays with high intensity in his game, both when attacking with the ball and looking for one-twos or combinations, while his pressing game is also good. Given his recent progression and Ajax's legacy of polishing talents, he should improve in the next year under Erik ten Haag's guidance to become even more important for Denmark in 2022.

- **Luka Sucic, 19, FC Salzburg / Croatia**

You can tell that Austria-born Luka Sucic grew up watching Croatia midfield maestro Luka Modric. Although a fair inches taller than his namesake at 6-foot-1, and left-footed, he shares the same clear ambition as Modric, who came through as a No. 10.

Sucic's positive passing game, efficient ball-carrying and the confidence with which he executes his long passes and switches of play are impressive for a 19-year-old. He's also quick on the turn, often wriggling and twisting away from his markers.

Sucic, who was brought into the Croatia senior fold for the first time in October, also boasts an excellent shooting technique. He often starts on the right side of midfield for FC Salzburg, but likely sees his future in a more central role like his idol.



Karim Adeyemi

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Adeyemi, Antony, Yermi among U21 stars to shine at 2022 World Cup**

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**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**EATV FRIDAY**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 Mid Week Movie (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 Bongo Hills  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Wakilisha (r)  
16:00 Ujenzi (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELECT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Skonga  
19:30 EATV SAA I  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Friday Night Live  
23:00 Kurasa (r)

**Friday Night Live** The Weekend begins here! Listen to upbeat mixed music by the hottest DJs. Gossip, showbiz updates and exclusive interviews with celebrities from home and abroad. Don't you dare miss this.

**eastafrika RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 Friday Night Live

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Players to undergo MRI tests in Region 5 Games

MASERU

THE boys taking part in the football competition at the Region 5 Games Maseru 2020 will undergo Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) assessments to confirm their eligibility to compete in the tournament in Lesotho.

The tests are used to ensure the players are within the required birth date range for the competition, which is January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2007, and follows the disqualification of four sides from the COSAFA Qualifiers for TOTAL U-17 AFCON, Morocco 2021 last year.

Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini and Zimbabwe were all excluded from the competition in 2020 after one or more players failed a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) assessment.

Thulani Ngwenya, who is Chief Medical Officer for the South African Football Association and has been involved in all COSAFA competitions since last year, explains the importance of the MRI tests for boys.

"MRI is a FIFA-approved method used to determine eligibility to play in the U-17 age group," Ngwenya explained.

"The images are taken on the non-dominant wrist, which is usually the left hand. The image takes about nine 'slices' of the growth plate.

"There are different stages of grading the growth plate, from 1 to 6. Grade 6 is the last stage where the growth plate is completely fused."

"For the purpose of U-17 tournaments, everyone who is a Grade 6 is therefore deemed ineligible to participate in this age group category. The Confederation of African Football introduced this method to make our sport to be a fair and a level playing field."

Ngwenya is quick to point out that a Grade 6 result does not necessarily mean a player is 'over-age'.

"This is an eligibility assessment, not an age determination assessment," he says.

There have also been questions as to why the MRI tests are conducted on boys only, and not those competitors in the girls' competitions.

"Girls have a natural situation of a menstrual cycle that really affects the development of their bones and directly affects their bone density," he explains.

The Boys' competition at the Region 5 Games Maseru 2020 kicks-off on November 30, with the final to be played on December 8.

The Girls' tournament starts on December 1, with the decider on the same day as the boys.

AGENCIES

## Northern Zone athletes should register early for 2022 Kili Marathon-call



A section of runners battle it out in recent Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, which took place in Moshi.

By Guardian Correspondent

PREPARATIONS for the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon's 20th anniversary are in top gear and organisers are now calling on participants from the Northern Zone to register on time to avoid last minute rush.

The call has come following past experience which saw most of the participants from the zone that hosts the event tend to wait until the last minute and a number of them end up being disappointed after finding out that all numbers have been sold.

"We are calling on people from Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Tanga, Manyara to register now as registration is online through [www.kilimanjaromathon.com](http://www.kilimanjaromathon.com) and via TigoPesa by dialling \*149\*20#, Aggrey Marealle, Managing Director of Executive Solutions, whose company is the National Coordinator of Kilimanjaro Premium Lager

Marathon, disclosed.

He said next year's event is expected to be much bigger as it marks the 20th anniversary hence participants need to register and ensure they have their confirmation.

"It is always sad to see people from Moshi or Arusha missing out numbers while they come from the zone where the race is being held."

"Once numbers are sold out, registration is closed on the system. There are no numbers sold at the number collection area except for the Grand Malt 5Km Fun Run if there are any left," he said.

He said registration is easy and at the moment there is a 20% discount that will run all the way to January 7, 2022 after which the registration fee

will go up.

Race Director, John Bayo, said all participants for the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42km, Tigo 21km and Grand Malt 5km Fun Run should start training early, ready for the historic 20th anniversary.

The official said: "We want it to be a memorable and competitive race hence preparation is key. It is our hope that this time round most of the prizes will remain at home and this will only be achieved through thorough preparations."

"As organisers we are doing our part and we are appealing to participants to follow the issued guidelines to make this 20th anniversary a success as we expect participants from over 55 countries and a much bigger crowd,"

he said.

Athletics Tanzania secretary general, Jackson Ndaweka, said they were satisfied with the preparations so far and they have been getting updates from the organisers.

"This is our biggest Athletics event which attracts over 12,000 participants from in and out of the country so we are working closely with the organisers to ensure it is a success as it puts Tanzania's athletics on an international stage. Besides providing a major trading ground for local athletes before competing abroad the event also earns the country a lot of foreign exchange due to the tourists who take advantage of the Marathon to visit various tourist attractions," he said.

He said they were also pleased to learn that as part of the 20th anniversary celebration, the organisers will host the first ever Kili Marathon Expo Fair.

"This will highlight a lot of things about the sponsors, the Kili Marathon journey and athletics as a whole. We will be there to support this initiative too," he said.

Sponsors of the Kili Marathon 2022 include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager-42km, Tigo-21km, Grand Malt -5km water table sponsors, Absa, Unilever, TPC Sugar, Simba Cement, Kilimanjaro Water, Kilimanjaro Leather Industries Company Limited, and

The race's official suppliers are GardaWorld Security, Keys Hotel, Kibo Palace Hotel and CMC Automobiles.

Next year's event will be held at the Moshi Cooperative University (MOCU) venue on February 27, 2022.

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon is organized by Kilimanjaro Marathon Company Limited and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.

## COSAFA Men's U-20 Championship heads to Eswatini

MBABANE

THE 2021 COSAFA Men's U-20 Championship will be staged in Eswatini from December 10-18 and feature nine sides from across the region in a fantastic festival of football to close the year.

It will be the first time the competition has been staged in Eswatini since 1993, with Mozambique seeking to retain the title they won last year when they beat Namibia in the final.

Namibia will not be back to have another go at winning the trophy, with the confirmed competing nations Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa and Zambia.

Zimbabwe, who have not won this competition since 2007, but were finalists in 2018, have also opted out, as have Angola, Madagascar and Mauritius from the COSAFA region.

The nine teams will be placed into three pools of three teams each, with that draw set to take place on Monday in Lesotho, where COSAFA is preparing to help stage the Region 5 Games Maseru 2020.

The winners of the three pools and the best placed runners-up will advance to the semi-finals.

Matches will be played at the Mavuso Stadium in Manzini and the Kalanga Stadium, which has an artificial turf.

The tournament was first played in 1983 but was a little-recognised get-together of a few of the stalwarts of the region, including Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi and Botswana.

The Apartheid practices of South Africa at the time meant they were excluded, and the country only entered the fray for the first time in 1993.

Those early years were dominated by the 'Two Zs', with Zambia winning six and Zimbabwe three



Zambia's U-20 football team celebrate one of the squad's goals in a recent COSAFA Men's U-20 Championship.

of the first nine tournaments held.

South Africa were the first team to break the mould when they triumphed in 2000, having been losing finalists in 1995 and 1999.

A year earlier, in 1999, they had taken over the hosting of the event, which before then had been spread around the region.

Each tournament up until 2009

was held in the Rainbow Nation, but the winners were less easy to predict.

Madagascar became only the fourth country to win the event when they surprisingly triumphed in 2005, beating shock finalists Lesotho 1-0 in the final.

Before Lesotho three years ago, the previous two instalments, in

2010 and 2011, were hosted by Botswana, with Zambia extending their winning streak to three with success in both.

They added an 11th title in 2016 when they romped through the competition, defeating hosts South Africa 2-1 in the final.

South Africa regained the trophy in 2017 though, after Zambia surprisingly exited in the pool stages.

And they won again in 2018, this time defeated Zimbabwe in the final after a tense penalty shoot-out.

But Zambia are always in contention, and they fairly romped to the title on home soil in 2019, defeating old enemy South Africa 3-0 in the decider to complete an excellent tournament.

Mozambique became the fifth winner with their triumph in 2020 as they beat Namibia 1-0 in the final, a richly deserved success after a number of near misses down the years.

But more than lifting the trophy, the competition is about developing the talent of tomorrow and giving young players the chance to tackle their peers in a highly competitive environment that should help to prepare them for the challenges of senior international football.

AGENCIES

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

IF YOU IMPROVE BY 1% EVERYDAY HOW MUCH WOULD YOU HAVE IMPROVED IN A YEAR?



360° DEGREES