



PROPERTY WATCH

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2024

TANROADS SAYS JANGWANI BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION WORKS IN THE OFFING

Access Bank acquires BancaC Tanzania

ALAF introduces use of new technology for 28 grain storage facilities in Ruvuma

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US unveils project to cut post-harvest loss
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Devt partners urged to support more LDCs
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Mothers, under-fives get free health services
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US slates \$44.1m for democracy oversight



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured in New York on Wednesday participating in discussions on democracy organised by USAID. Photo: PMO

We will continue to stand for every citizen's right to speak freely and choose the future that they want for themselves and their country

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA will receive upwards of \$4.1m where \$3.5m in new support for democracy and good governance, where a \$2.4m component to engage citizens in advocacy and oversight on good public governance.

The US Embassy in Dar es Salaam said in a statement that Samantha Power, administrator of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), announced the new commitments on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly.

She said the United States and various partners are seeking to increase support for democratic progress in Tanzania, among other select countries, thus designing the "Democracy Delivers" project.

It will be carried out in partnership with the Ford Foundation, she said at a meeting convening top government officials, philanthropic partners and civil society organisations, the statement noted.

This funding will develop the capacity of citizen groups to access, analyse and communicate public financial reporting tools, building collaborative relationships between citizens, civil society, the private sector and public institutions.

This is meant to improve government effectiveness and reduce risks for corruption, while \$1.1m will be used to provide civic education, enhance local and national election observation, while supporting activities of civil society organizations in upcoming elections in Tanzania, the State Department administrator affirmed.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa joined the event alongside officials and Heads of State from countries working to deliver democratic change, listed as Armenia, Dominica, Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Malawi, the Maldives, Moldova, Nepal, Tanzania and Zambia.

Highlighting additional support and celebrating successes registered by these countries, the meeting also served as a reminder of the need for partnership for continued progress and reform, it stated.

"As Tanzania approaches local elections later this year and national elections next year, we are here to support Tanzanians to stay the democratic course. We will continue to stand for every citizen's right to speak freely and choose the future that they want for themselves and their country," she declared.

"As partners, the U.S. government recognizes that democratic journeys are never linear," she said, asserting that this is why it is committed to supporting Tanzania and other 'democracy delivers' project countries to undertake and sustain democratic reforms.

By prioritizing responsiveness to citizen needs and enhancing transparency and accountability, these commitments will strengthen government reform efforts and facilitate improvements in public services, she added.

MV Sea Falcon sinking scare passengers in ordeal recount

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

SURVIVORS of the MV Sea Falcon boat, which sank midweek with over 30 passengers on board travelling from Kirumba in Mwanza Region to Goziba Island in Kagera Region, yesterday recounted their harrowing experience.

The incident occurred Wednesday evening on Lake Victoria, about two kilometres from the shore at the Bwiru landing site in Ilemela District, where the boat began taking on water around 6pm and they were rescued sometime after ten in the night.

Convoysing at the Sekou Toure regional referral hospital where they are receiving treatment, Noris Mwene, a trader from Mbagala in the city of Dar es Salaam, shared his recollections.

"After travelling about a kilometre, the captain and his assistant informed us they needed to return to shore for something they had forgotten. However, after discussion, they decided to continue the journey, even though the boat was still filling with water."

Within a short time water filling in the boat began to sink, whereupon the crew started dumping the fuel from the barrels to help them float, owing to the lack of assistance, he said.

Samia: Govt set to deploy more game rangers to stem elephant incursions

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has assured residents of the southern regions of the government's commitment to controlling invasive wildlife, particularly elephants.

Addressing local residents at the CCM Tunduru grounds,

the president admitted the animals have been causing widespread significant disruption, affirming that efforts are underway to increase the number of game rangers conducting patrols.

This will help to check cases of the animals entering farms and houses, while drones will

be more available to redirect the large beasts back to conservation areas, she said.

This will address frequent complaints from residents, she said, expressing concern on the recurring invasions. "We are aware of the issue and are implementing various measures, including adding

more game officers," she remarked.

Local leaders had earlier said that around 400 households have been affected by elephant invasions, appealing for energetic efforts to pre-

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Amir Esmail (3rd-L, gesturing), Chairman of the Coffee Stakeholders Association in the Private Sector across 11 African countries, pictured yesterday briefing Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Doto Biteko (R) on the making of instant coffee. This was at the Tanzania TimeXpo 2024 International Industrial Exhibition in progress in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

At UN meet, Africa raises fears on malaria resistance 'perfect storm'

By Special Correspondent, New York

AFRICAN leaders have called for concerted effort to stem a "perfect storm" of converging crises threatening to derail decades of progress in the fight against malaria in Africa.

They made the call on the sidelines of the 79th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) here yesterday, at a high-level fireside chat, hosted by the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA), led by Guinea-Bissau President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, the outgoing

chairman. Stressing the urgent need for an accelerated effort to overcome these challenges and stay tuned towards malaria elimination, the leaders identified significant financial shortfalls and the impact of climate change.

This is illustrated by the growing resistance to insecticides and antimalarial drugs, while climate-induced disasters lead to increased flooding and malaria upsurges, they stated, expressing worries that the situation may worsen.

If malaria resources continue to stagnate to 2027 and 2029, there will be an estimated additional 112m malaria cases, likely to cause 280,700 more deaths, the chair-

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Dar es Salaam Regional Medical Officer Dr Mohamedi Mang'wa addresses health stakeholders at the commemoration of World Contraception Day in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The Day's theme for this year is: 'A choice for all. Freedom to plan, power to choose.' This theme highlights that every individual must be guaranteed the freedom to protect his or her reproductive health. This is meant to help reduce adolescent births, prevent maternal deaths, and further gender equality. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

Sea Falcon sinking scare survivors recount ordeal

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This situation persisted until around 10pm, when some fishermen finally arrived, where they only took their cargo, including fuel barrels and money, leaving the passengers stranded.

"The barrels kept hitting us, and we inadvertently ingested the petrol inside them," he said, while Lucia Kubagwa, a trader from Nyarugusu in Geita Region, said she and others had arrived at Kirumba dock only to find that the passenger boat they wanted to board had already left.

They were told that MV Sea Falcon was heading to the same destination, so more than 40 passengers boarded, and when the incident was noticed many of them screamed for help, but no one came.

"We started dumping the petrol and floating on the barrels while failing to breathe or swallow the petrol all around. Even now, I'm in pain from the petrol I ingested," she stated.

Joseph Masole, a witness and operator of the Bwira landing site, recalled the response once

one of the passengers reached land, affirming that there were about 60 people in need of help.

"I sent small boats to rescue them and contacted security agencies for assistance," he elaborated, while Dr Bahati Msaki, medical officer in-charge at the Sekou Toure Hospital, confirmed the body of a six-year-old boy, Kharidi Rajabu, a primary school pupil from Goziba in Muleba District, Kagera Region.

In all, 28 survivors were treated, with 22 men and eight women where by mid-afternoon yesterday, 14 had been discharged and others remained under care.

Wilbrod Mutafungwa, the regional police commander confirmed the arrest of three individuals, including boat owner Amon Lutabanzibwa, who is being charged with carrying passengers without a permit from the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC).

Robert Kabota, the captain and supervisor Salum Shaban were also arrested for suspected violation of maritime trans-

At UN meet, Africa raises fears on malaria resistance 'perfect storm'

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man noted, affirming that the financial gap poses a grave threat.

"If these gaps are not filled, we risk seeing a significant increase in malaria deaths," he said, pointing at the need for a successful Global Fund replenishment in 2025, along with prioritisation of malaria financing within global fund programmes.

This would avoid even bigger malaria upsurges, he said, underlining the need for a multi-sectoral approach, covering agriculture, environment, mining and tourism, for successful malaria elimination, pandemic preparedness and response.

The meeting raised the need to secure \$6.3bn annually to achieve malaria elimination, accelerated action, involving increasing domestic resource commitments, finding partners and integrating malaria efforts with broader initiatives.

Abderaman Koulamallah, the Chadian state minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration, appealed for taking measures encompassing programmes for combating climate change, strengthening health systems, expanding primary health care and enhancing pandemic preparedness.

The leaders highlighted the importance

of embracing innovative financing mechanisms, including tapping into the private sector and enhancing public-private partnerships. The launch of multisectoral, high-level councils for 'national end malaria' and neglected tropical diseases along with the relevant funding units enabled mobilising over \$72m within the continent.

The local private sector was keenly involved in these councils via national and community advocacy campaigns, keeping malaria and NTDs at the forefront of national development and financing agenda, he stated.

Participating UN agencies and other part-

ners urged AU member states to prioritise health, with malaria serving as a pathfinder in securing International Development Association (IDA) funding to close immediate gaps.

The gathered statesmen called for strong advocacy for sufficient global replenishments for IDA, the Global Vaccine Alliance (GAVIA) and the Global Fund against Malaria, HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis.

These resources are not only crucial for malaria elimination but also vital for strengthening overall health systems and addressing other health challenges with the NTDs list, tied up with primary healthcare,

the meeting affirmed.

The session also called for strategic information to guide decisions and the adoption of accountability mechanisms, like the use of scorecards, to ensure that every dollar is spent effectively for maximum impact, reaching the communities most in need.

Ambassador Minata Cessouma, the African Union commissioner for health, humanitarian affairs and social development explored the theme 'Africa by 2030', saying it will lay the foundation for reducing Africa's health burden and further propel achieving universal health goals.

Samia: Govt set to deploy more game rangers to stem elephant incursions

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vent the incidents.

The president said Ruvuma was mineral-rich, thus the move to establish a minerals auction market, lessening the worry of the minerals being smuggled out, meanwhile as the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) has acquired machinery for core processing of minerals.

She urged residents to choose CCM candidates in the local government polls in two months, stressing that strong leadership is essential for positive change. Young people and women need to engage actively in the electoral process, she said.

She similarly stated that Mbamba Bay will be the centre of operations for Lake Nyasa ports in Ruvuma, Njombe and Mbeya regions, namely Liuli, Manda, Kiwira, Lupingu, Itungi, Ndumbi, and Matema, as it will feature two berths for ships of up to 5,000 tonnes. There will also be a 20,000 square metre facility for 3,000 tonnes containers, she said.

The port will offer passenger services like healthcare, customs offices and a one-stop centre for the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA), positioning it as a vital trade and transport hub.

In Namtumbo, the president had appealed to voters to elect qualified local leaders while encouraging capable individuals to seek various positions.

She stopped at Litola, Rwinga and Mchomoro villages in the ongoing six-day tour of the region, inspecting progress and laying foundation stones for various development projects.

"Some people vote, while others do not, and later, when a leader is chosen, they complain that the leader is

incompetent or incapable. If you had voted, you would have selected the leader you wanted. Let's all participate in electing our leaders," she stated.

Emphasizing the importance of unity and transparency in the electoral process, Samia highlighted how fair elections foster development and community cohesion.

She explained that strong leadership is essential for positive change, urging young people and women to engage actively in the electoral process.

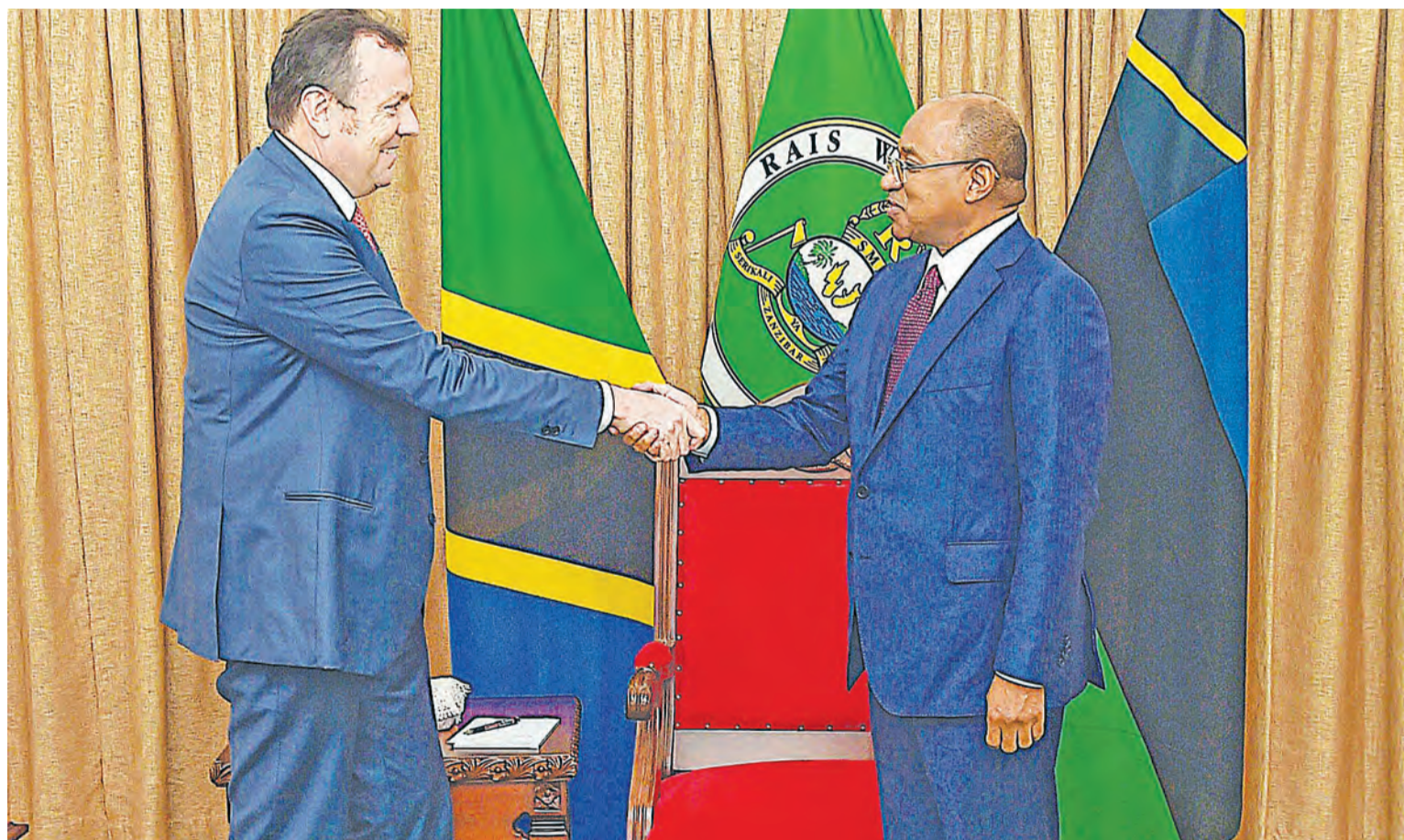
"Choose leaders who represent your interests," she said, encouraging citizens to strengthen democracy and cooperation in development initiatives.

Namtumbo MP Vita Kawawa hailed the president for allocating funds for various development projects, pointing at 13 new dispensaries, improvements to the district hospital, and acquisition of medical equipment valued at 2.5bn/-.

He similarly praised education sector efforts, citing 13bn/- allocated for building new schools, with 207 new classrooms and four new schools built, while three new primary schools, from kindergarten to seventh grade, were built.

This was done with additional funding for dormitories at the modern VETA vocational training center, taking up 553m/-.

In the water sector, 17.2bn/- had been allocated, significantly easing the burden on mothers who previously travelled long distances for water, the MP noted, as 9bn/- had been used so far. There is a need for 6bn/- to finance another water project, he added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi bids farewell to Italy's Ambassador to Tanzania, Guiseppe Sean Coppola, shortly after talks at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Photo courtesy of Zanzibar State House

Cabo Verde names ocean management top priority

UNITED NATIONS

AS an ocean nation heavily dependent on marine resources, Cabo Verde in the ocean decade focuses on local and global actions to promote sustainable ocean management, the country's President José Maria Pereira Neves, told the General Debate of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Wednesday.

"We have been focused on the importance of sustainable ocean

management, particularly for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that are very vulnerable to climate change, and the degradation of marine ecosystems," said the president.

For three consecutive years, the country has hosted international ocean conferences to foster partnerships between governments, the private sector, scientists, and civil society to advance ocean science and create innovative solutions to

ocean challenges, according to Neves.

It is important to bring together key stakeholders in order to boost collaborative solutions for the oceans, help develop research capacities to study the impact of climate change and ocean acidification, and promote knowledge sharing and technology transfer to improve ocean monitoring and observation systems, he noted.

Cabo Verde remains committed

to playing an active role within the SIDS community, said the president. In the first quarter of 2025, the country will host a High-Level Meeting for the Atlantic, Indian and South China Sea regions, aiming at establishing a coordination mechanism for the sub-region.

"It is essential that we continue to raise awareness on the need to safeguard our ecosystems, historical landmarks, traditional knowledge, and intangible cultural practices," the president added.

Amnesty wants Kenya to examine protestor killings, disappearances

NAIROBI

AMNESTY International has urged the Kenyan government to probe the deaths of dozens of protestors in demonstrations which rocked the country for months this year.

Rights groups say more than 60 people were killed during weeks of protests, with more disappearing in the weeks following the rallies.

The youth-led marches were triggered by a controversial finance bill which proposed tax hikes and new levies on an already overburdened population.

On Wednesday, Amnesty launched a petition with a dossier containing footage and interviews with eyewitnesses, lawyers and medical professionals. The organisation argues that security forces used lethal force to target the protestors. Amnesty said it identified specific rifles, submachine guns and shotguns used by police

Days ago, bereaved mothers gathered in Nairobi to demand justice for their children killed or who disappeared during the protests.

This week marks three months since the protests broke out. There has been an investigation into the conduct of security forces.

Amnesty International is an international non-governmental organization focused on human rights, with its headquarters in the United Kingdom. The organization says it has more than ten million members and supporters around the world.

The stated mission of the organization is to campaign for "a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments." The organization has played a notable role on human rights issues due to its frequent citation in the media and by world leaders.



Energy ministry permanent secretary Felchesmi Mramba (L) has an audience in Dodoma city on Wednesday with a delegation from the British High Commission in Tanzania led by Sustainable Development team leader Euan Davidson (R), chiefly of collaboration in various issues relating to the energy sector. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PS wants UK investors to eye renewable energy subsector

By Guardian Reporter

PERMANENT Secretary in the Ministry of Energy Felchesmi Mramba has welcomed and asked companies from the United Kingdom to invest in Tanzania's energy sector with a particular focus on renewable energy.

Mramba made the call in Dodoma yesterday when he met a delegation from the British High Commission in Tanzania, led by Euan Davidson, head of the sustainable development team. The meeting aimed at exploring po-

tential areas for cooperation.

During the discussions, Mramba highlighted the need for increased investment in renewable energy projects, specifically solar power initiatives for household use in off-grid areas as well as large-scale solar investments to feed the national grid.

"This initiative aligns with the government's goal to enhance the national grid with additional electricity from renewable sources," he said.

He noted that the Kishapu-Shinyanga solar project which has a ca-

capacity to produce 150 MW is already underway with plans for further investments in other regions, including Dodoma (200 MW).

In terms of wind energy, he mentioned that some regions namely Dodoma, Singida, Mbeya, Njombe (Makambako), Kilimanjaro (Same), Mara and Arusha have been identified as having significant potential for wind power production and called for investment collaboration in the areas.

"Tanzania is rich in renewable energy resources, including geothermal

potential across approximately 52 areas. If fully developed, these resources could generate more electricity than Kenya, which currently produces around 1,000 MW of geothermal power," he said.

Mramba also stated the country's commitment to clean energy sources such as blue hydrogen derived from natural gas and biogas, especially in rural areas with large livestock populations.

He informed the delegation about the government's strategy to ensure

that 80 percent of the population uses clean cooking energy by 2034 as part of the National Strategy for Clean Cooking Energy which involves both government initiatives and private sector participation.

Regarding electricity distribution, the PS said 99 percent of villages have been connected to the grid and announced that by December this year, every village in Tanzania will have access to electricity.

In his remarks, Davidson expressed appreciation for the comprehensive

information provided by the ministry which will assist the UK to identify investment opportunities in Tanzania's energy sector.

He noted the importance of the discussion, particularly as Tanzania is a priority country for the UK regarding investment and development initiatives.

The meeting also touched on the upcoming International Energy Conference set to take place in Tanzania in 2025 in which the UK has expressed interest to participate.



Chadema national Chairman Freeman Mbowe (with mobile phone) has a word with other members of the opposition party at the Kisumu Resident Magistrate's Court in Dar es Salaam yesterday. They were there for the hearing of a case involving another Chadema member, one-time Ubungu municipal mayor Boniface Jacob. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

Produce competitive products to stretch, DPM tells manufacturers

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Energy Minister Dr Doto Biteko has urged manufacturers in Tanzania to produce goods that are competitive in both local and international markets.

Dr Biteko made the call during the launch of Tanzania International Manufacturers Expo (TIMEXPO) 2024 which began yesterday at the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) grounds. He emphasized that producing high-quality industrial products will attract more customers both within Tanzania and abroad.

"The manufacturing sector in the country is growing but we need to focus on producing goods that will be popular among local and international consumers," he said.

He added that if products gain popularity among local customers, they will also attract international buyers, helping Tanzania to compete more effectively in global markets.

Dr Biteko also encouraged Tanzanians to prioritize purchasing locally made products that meet quality standards. "It won't make sense if our manufacturers produce high-quality goods but there are no buyers, especially if Tanzanians continue buying imported products. This will only harm our local industries," he said.

He also mentioned that Tanzania now has adequate electricity to support production of various industrial goods, thanks to government efforts to improve infrastructure and increase power generation. Dr Biteko explained that the country's electricity supply is now stable enough to meet both domestic and, potentially, regional demand.

"This is part of the government's initiative to

develop the country, particularly the manufacturing sector where electricity plays a crucial role," he said. Dr Biteko praised the organizers of the exhibition, Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) and Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) for creating a platform that opens up opportunities for local and international investors to showcase their products.

"I encourage industrialists to produce goods that can compete both domestically and internationally to boost our economy and support growth of our industries," he said.

In his remarks, CTI Chairman Paul Makanza highlighted the positive strides Tanzania has made in industrialisation.

He mentioned that contribution of manufacturing sector to the gross national product has increased from an average of 23 percent in 2004 to 30 percent between 2020 and 2022.

He also noted that the growth of the sector has risen from an average of 9.4 percent between 2000 and 2004 to 11.8 percent between 2020 and 2022. He further stated that export sales from the manufacturing sector have grown from \$43.1 million in 2000 to \$1.32 billion, accounting for 18.6 percent of total exports.

Makanza acknowledged that the manufacturing sector still faces various challenges, including its low contribution to national income (7.8 percent) compared to the target of 12 percent by 2025. Another challenge is the limited export of processed goods.

"This shows our dependence on raw materials but there is a huge opportunity to increase product processing to add value and enhance Tanzania's competitiveness regionally and internationally," he said.

US unveils five-year project to cut post-harvest food loss in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

THE United States Agency for International Development (USAID) yesterday reinforced its ongoing commitment to food security with the launch of the Feed the Future Tanzania Tuhifadhi Chakula (Let's Save Food) project.

The 60bn/(\$24 million), five-year initiative focuses on reducing post-harvest losses in Tanzania's horticulture and cereal value chains. It is implemented by Tanzania Horticulture Association and Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) Centre.

USAID partners, farmers, traders and processors showcased their collaborative efforts to tackle food loss and waste at the event which

was attended by Deputy Minister for Agriculture David Silinde, Hai District Commissioner Lazaro Twange and US Ambassador Michael Battle.

Silinde expressed gratitude to the U.S. government, highlighting the initiative's alignment with national policies aimed at building infrastructure such as pack houses and processing facilities to preserve high-value crops.

He emphasized the project's potential to create three million jobs for youth and women by 2030.

"Feed the Future Tanzania, Tuhifadhi Chakula Project is going to help the country and particularly farmers who have been losing their high value crops," he said.

"We celebrate partnerships today that will increase food secu-

re, boost livelihoods, create jobs and generate export opportunities especially for women and youth," said Ambassador Battle.

"Through projects like this and the newly announced Food Loss and Waste Accelerator, Tanzania is on track to reduce post-harvest losses by 50 percent in the programme's target areas. These partnerships are expected to bring up to \$20 million in investment for processing plants and innovative uses of agricultural waste."

Since being awarded in August 2023, the Feed the Future Tanzania Tuhifadhi Chakula project has made a significant impact, including in Kilimanjaro Region's banana market, ensuring 216,000 metric tonnes reached buyers, reducing post-harvest losses, and generating

nearly 400m/- in income for local farmers.

The project will engage more than 930,000 value chain actors—including farmers, processors, traders and financial institutions—across Tanzania. Running from August 2023 to July 2028, it operates in 10 regions across Tanzania (Morogoro, Njombe, Pwani, Tanga, and Zanzibar, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, and Kilimanjaro).

Dr Jacqueline Mkindi, TAHA chief executive officer, expressed deep gratitude to the US government and USAID for their pivotal role in transforming Tanzania's horticulture subsector.

"I am immensely grateful to USAID for the Feed the Future Tanzania, Tuhifadhi Chakula project and for believing in TAHA when it was

just a name," she said.

Dr Mkindi reflected on the challenges that plagued horticulture industry in 2004 when it generated a mere \$100 million and faced numerous obstacles.

The launch of the Feed the Future Tanzania Tuhifadhi Chakula project comes on the heels of September 19 announcement by Assistant to the US President for National Security Affairs Jake Sullivan and USAID Administrator and Feed the Future Coordinator Samantha Power that the United States government, working with the US Congress has committed more than \$80 million of new Feed the Future funds and supplemental resources, including \$13 million in additional support for Tanzania.

The funding supports Feed the Future Accelerator, an effort to

deepen the US government's food security partnership and focus resources on three countries in Southern and Eastern Africa.

Under the Feed the Future Accelerator, US investments will harness the region's combination of fertile land, diverse farming systems and reform-minded governments to support a regional breadbasket. This has the potential to stimulate inclusive economic growth across borders while strengthening the resilience of producers and systems to endemic shocks and stresses.

Recent research has demonstrated that increasing cereal yields by 25 percent in Eastern and Southern Africa could boost the value of agriculture production in the region by over \$24 billion by 2030 and reduce hunger for 22 million people.



Roza Nkeso (C), nurse in-charge at the Mwanza Regional Referral Hospital's men's ward, collaborates with an assistant nurse from the hospital's Quality Improvement Team yesterday in attending to a patient who sustained chest injuries in an accident involving a cargo boat. Photo: Vitus Audax

PM calls for further support to lift inclusive financial systems

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has urged development partners to continue co-operating with developing countries in supporting implementation of inclusive financial systems.

He made the appeal yesterday during a discussion on 15 years of efforts in the field of inclusive financial systems for development.

The meeting was convened by Queen Máxima of the Netherlands, the UN Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development, in New York, USA.

Majaliwa emphasized that inclusive economies are vital for executing sustainable development plans and achieving the 2030 Agenda.

"Inclusive financial services are a crucial link to economic growth, poverty reduction and overall community development," he said. The PM also commended Queen Máxima for her efforts which he said have significantly increased global access to financial services.

In the past decade, more than 50 percent of the global population has benefited from the initiative.

"The global ownership of financial accounts has risen from 51 percent in 2011 to 76 percent by 2021.

"This is a remarkable achievement, yet challenges persist, particularly for women in developing countries, many of whom remain excluded from inclusive financial systems," he noted.

Earlier, Queen Máxima expressed her satisfaction with the progress made compared to

previous years.

"When we began promoting inclusive financial systems, we had no data. We grew to 50 percent, and now we're approaching 80 percent. I recognize that 80 percent is not the same as 100 percent but I must acknowledge the work that has been done," she said.

Highlighting the ongoing challenges, Queen Máxima noted that the strategy aims to reach the 1.5 billion people still excluded from inclusive financial services.

She remarked on the positive signs of usage across different demographics in areas where financial services are available: "Grandmothers save money to educate their grandchildren while young entrepreneurs—both men and women—utilize these services to save money, access small loans and grow their capital."

In a related development, Majaliwa thanked the US government for its support to Tanzania through various partners, including USAID, Vodafone Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation and Ford Foundation particularly in areas of economic development, social issues and good governance.

He noted that President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan appreciates this support, as it aligns with the government's efforts to foster inclusivity in society for future benefits.

"Tanzania is committed to enhancing its legal systems and strengthening democracy to promote inclusivity and sustainable development," he said.

"We recognize the need to unite our efforts as we confront global challenges such as economic disparities, climate change and political unrest."

Govt for aligning of family planning with reproductive, maternal plan

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE government has suggested the need to reinvigorate family planning by ensuring that it is fully integrated into reproductive, maternal and child health services as reflected in One Plan III of 2021-2022 and 2025-2026.

Dar es Salaam Regional Medical Officer Dr Mohammed Mang'una reaffirmed the commitment in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the World Contraception Day (WCD) commemoration dubbed 'A choice for all, freedom to plan, power to choose.'

He said 21 percent of women of reproductive age have unmet need for family planning while total fertility rate stands at 4.8 children per woman, a scenario that underscores the government's efforts in empowering women and girls in making informed decisions in the use of contraceptives.

"Despite the challenges, the government is committed to ensuring women and girls have access to quality family planning services through different channels to achieve their fertility intentions as reflected in One Plan III of 2021-2022 and 2025-2026," he said.

"I urge partners and donors to continue supporting the government in sustaining family planning interventions to save women's and girls' lives and improve their health and achieve greater socio-economic transformation."

Citing Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey and Malaria Indicator Survey (2022 TDHS-MIS), he said the country has made good progress in family planning over the past three decades with 31 percent of married women of reproductive age using modern methods of contraception

which is one percent decline from 2015-2016.

Dr Katanta Lazarus, Management and Development for Health (MDH) Adolescents Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) and Safeguarding manager, underscored the need to initiate friendly family planning methods so as to increase their engagement in the process.

"Statistics show men's limited involvement due to perceived side effects of female contraceptive methods that disrupt sexual activity, and perceptions that reproductive health was a female concern. Its high time

family planning stakeholders to raise awareness to men who are seen to hardly take part in the process," said Lazarus.

Melissa Barrett, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Deputy Representative in Tanzania, said WCD came at the right time when the world is also commemorating the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) which marked a shift in how population issues were addressed by the United Nations system.

"As we celebrate the World Contraception Day, the 1994 ICPD reaf-

firms that the path to sustainable development is through equitable achievement of dignity and human rights, good health, security of place and mobility and achievements secured through good governance and accountability.

"The celebration also gives UNFPA an opportunity to ensure availability of reproductive health supplies, including voluntary family planning and life-saving maternal health medicines, and bolster logistics systems to ensure reproductive health commodities are available to the people of Tanzania wherever they live."



Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Supply of "Ground Support Products" to AUMS Geofields (T) Limited.

AUMS Geofields (T) Limited invites eligible, qualified and experienced companies that possess the requisite expertise and capacity to express their interest in the Supply of Ground Support Products to AUMS Geofields (T) Limited.

1. Schedule and deadline for submission

The contract is to be awarded through a competitive tender process. If your company wishes to be considered for pre-qualification please submit an EOI by email to ContractsTanzania@aumsg.com by not later than 16:00HRS Local Time on **11th October 2024** quoting "EOI Supply of Ground Support Products" in the subject line of your email.

Please submit an EOI on your company letterhead with the following mandatory information:

- Company Profile, directors list, number of employers with a foreign to national ratio indicated
- Valid tax Compliance, VAT registration & TIN certificates
- Certificate of Incorporation.
- Evidence of current supply contracts/agreements for the supply of Ground Support Products.
- Ability to provide technical and engineering support and advice.
- Summary of court proceedings (pending and completed), court judgements and/or insolvency/bankruptcy proceedings if any against your company or shareholders, directors and or senior management over the last three years.
- Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental compliance
- Details of key employees and management team
- Provision of financial statements for the previous two financial years
- Compliance to Tanzania's Mining Local Content Requirements as per the Mining Local Content Regulations 2018.

Any response received beyond 16:00HRS Local Time on **11th October 2024** shall not be considered.

2. Assessment criteria

The mandatory information requested at paragraph 1 will be evaluated and scored to shortlist pre-qualified companies.

The pre-qualification of any company submitting an EOI shall be at the sole discretion of AUMS Geofields (T) Limited.

The bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the companies EOI. AUMS Geofields (T) Ltd shall not be responsible or liable for any costs incurred regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process

For more information on **African Underground Mining Services** and its operations please refer to the following website www.aumsg.com.

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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR LICENCE UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received application for Licence under the Converged Licensing Framework from the following applicant: -

S/N	NAME OF APPLICANT	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS / NATIONALITY	SHARES %
1.	Satcom Networks Africa Ltd	National Network Facilities: Tier 1 Public Data Centre	Harish R. Bhatt – Tanzanian Aunali F. Rajabali – Tanzanian	50 50

Pursuant to Section 8 of Electronic and Postal Communications Act, Cap 306 of the Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of licence to the applicant to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration when the Authority considers the application.

Comments should be addressed to:

Director General
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
P. O Box 474
14414 DAR ES SALAAM
Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2
Fax: +255 22 2412009
E-mail: dg@tcra.go.tz

Issued on **26th September 2024**.

Dr. Jabiri K. Bakari
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Mawasiliano Towers, 20 Sam Nujoma Road, P.O Box 474, 14414 DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA.
Phone: +255 22 2199760-9 / +255 22 2412011-2 / +255 784558270-1 Fax: +255 22 2412009-10
Email: barua@tcra.go.tz, dg@tcra.go.tz, Website: www.tcra.go.tz

Almost 30,000 suspected mpox cases in Africa so far, says WHO

LONDON

NEARLY 30,000 suspected mpox cases have been reported in Africa so far this year, most of them in Democratic Republic of Congo where tests have run out, the World Health Organization said this week.

More than 800 people died of suspected mpox across the continent in that time, the U.N. health body said in its report. Congo's central African neighbour Burundi has also been hit by a growing outbreak, it added.

Mpox can spread through close contact. Usually mild, it is fatal in rare cases. It typically causes flu-like symptoms and pus-filled lesions on the body.

The WHO statement did not give comparative figures from previous years. The African Union's public health agency has said 14,957 cases and 739 deaths were reported from seven affected states in 2023 - a 78.5 percent increase in new cases from 2022.

There were 29,342 suspected cases and 812 deaths across Africa from

January to Sept. 15 this year, according to the WHO report.

A total of 2,082 confirmed cases were reported across the world in August alone, the highest since November 2022, the WHO said.

On Saturday, the World Bank's pandemic fund said it would give \$128.89 million to ten African countries to help fight the outbreak.



Mpox can spread through close contact. Usually mild, it is fatal in rare cases. It typically causes flu-like symptoms and pus-filled lesions on the body



Airtel Tanzania managing director Dinesh Balsingh (R) presents a gift to NMB Bank CEO Ruth Zaipuna, who led the bank's delegation on a visit to the mobile phone service provider's headquarters in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

New York meeting seeks unified method to Sudan's ongoing crisis

NEW YORK

AMID the ongoing war in Sudan and the escalating hunger crisis, UN agencies and member states meeting at the General Assembly in New York on Wednesday geared up to issue a renewed plea for swift action to ensure the safety of the country's citizens.

Joyce Msuya, Acting Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, called on Member States to exert all possible influence to end the crisis in Sudan.

"We urge member states to use all their leverage to bring the horrific violations of international humanitarian law and the abuses of human rights law to an end," she said.

Msuya called on member states to back initiatives aimed at increasing the volume of assistance through the crossing and to prolong this vital support beyond the initial three-month timeframe, without introducing new procedures that could hinder operations.

"We need a concerted diplomatic push for a step change in humanitarian access, for the safe, streamlined and swift delivery of aid through all possible routes, both cross border and cross line, and for the facilitation of the day-to-day life-saving work of humanitarian organizations on the ground," she added.

On September 25, alongside the UN High-Level General Assembly Debate, a high-level ministerial meeting took place, organized by the Kingdom of Saudi Ara-

bia, the United States, the European Union, and the United Nations, to enhance humanitarian assistance in Sudan and the region.

The US Ambassador, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, pointed out the urgent need for the warring sides to implement humanitarian pauses in El Fasher, Khartoum, and other vulnerable locations to permit the flow of aid and provide a safe exit for civilians.

"And let me be clear that the RSF must immediately halt its deadly assault on El Fasher. But both parties are responsible. Both parties must eliminate barriers to humanitarian access along all routes..." she said.

Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield also revealed that the United States is providing

an extra \$424 million for the emergency humanitarian efforts in Sudan and its neighbouring countries.

This funding is included in the total of \$2 billion that the US has donated since the conflict began.

Sudan is facing a severe humanitarian crisis nearly eighteen months after the conflict began.

Currently, half of the population requires humanitarian aid, and over 10 million individuals have been forced to flee their homes, either within Sudan or to neighbouring countries.

A significant hunger crisis is underway, with almost 26 million people experiencing acute food insecurity, and famine conditions have been confirmed in northern Darfur.

The conflict has inflicted significant suffering on civilians, raising alarms about the safety of women and girls, with numerous reports of sexual violence linked to the conflict, as well as widespread violations of international humanitarian law and human rights.

Essential services have been critically disrupted, impacting the livelihoods of millions.

The event is titled "The Cost of Inaction: Urgent and Collective Support to Scale Up the Humanitarian Response in Sudan and the region."

Speaking at the ministerial side event in New York, African Union's senior official Minata Samate Cessouma appealed to the parties in Sudan, stating: "there can be no winners in this war."



Vendors hunt for customers for their ripe bananas along a Temeke municipality stretch of Dar es Salaam's Mandela Road yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Russia supports Africa's Security Council seat bid

NEW YORK

RUSSIA will back Africa's bid for a United Nations security Council seat.

Speaking to Russian media on the eve of the UN General Assembly, Moscow's foreign affairs minister Sergei Lavrov called Africa's desire for a permanent seat on the UN's top organ 'legitimate'.

He said Russia also supports the aspirations of India and Brazil.

Lavrov said that the admission of Africa to the Security Council would help elevate the voices of developing countries, an argument long made by African nations.

Last week, the United States said it supported Africa's bid to join the Security Council but without veto power, drawing condemnation.

In 2005, African leaders adopted a consensus expressing Africa's desire to be fully represented in all decision-making organs of the UN, particularly in the Security Council.

But the campaign has stalled in part due to opposition from the current permanent members of the Security Council.

Report: Increasing women's taking part in workforce could boost Africa's GDP

By Special Correspondent

A REPORT commissioned by the Mastercard Foundation has found that increasing women's participation in Africa's formal workforce could boost the continent's economy by approximately \$287 billion by 2030, increasing GDP by 5 percent.

The report, Young Women in Africa: Agents of Economic Growth and Transformation by 2030, was conducted in collaboration with the McKinsey & Company consulting firm. Released last week, it examines the impact, challenges and contributions of women in the African labour force.

The report says young women are important contributors to the African economy, yet their role has been trending downward. Women's contribution to Africa's GDP declined from 18 percent in 2000 to just 11 percent in 2022, the report says.

Marguerita Bagulo is one of the millions of women employed in and contributing to the

growth of African economies. She works as a customer service representative for a company in Ghana. She says her company promotes gender equality and that women fight for their jobs.

"I was lucky to be in a place where your gender is not really a problem," Bagulo said. "And it's great, because we are given the same opportunity that our male counterparts are being given, and that, in turn, gives us the opportunity to stand up for ourselves and better ourselves in order to compete on the same level as our male counterparts."

In Namibia, despite government policies aimed at increasing women's participation in the economic sector, their participation rate has risen only 2 percentage points, to 42 percent, over five years, according to the report.

The report notes 10 countries, most from eastern and western Africa, have the potential to achieve faster economic growth if they prioritize gender equality.

However, persistent obstacles continue to

keep many women out of the labour force.

Wacu Mureithi, an entrepreneur in Kenya, says she could not continue with her hair product business because of family commitments.

"Business is hard for everyone, man and woman, but I think a woman has a bigger challenge, because sometimes, looking for business opportunities, you are trading for sexual favours instead of doing the work," Mureithi says. "But my biggest problem has been balancing trying to be mum and dad and at the same time being an entrepreneur. I felt I was losing on parenting, because I was busy with meetings all the time."

Mureithi has returned to a university to pursue further studies to better her life and that of her family.

Samuel Nyandemo, a lecturer on economics at the University of Nairobi, says more girls and women are enrolling in universities to increase their chances of joining the labour force, which is dominated by men.

"What they are mostly doing, they are in the hospitality industry, and some are in the managerial sector," he says. "In any case, you can see now when it comes to enrollment in universities, the number is now increasing, which means that in terms of job skills, they are acquiring a lot of job skills that are empowering them to spearhead most of the management positions within African economies."

The Mastercard Foundation says private sector-led approaches, such as investing in after-school care led by young women, could create 3.2 million jobs. The researchers say women also need government-funded initiatives to expand centers to improve child care initiatives, while the private sector can help by offering technical support, resources and low-interest loans.

At least 26 percent of girls complete their secondary education, but unpaid care work keeps 35 percent to 40 percent of women from employment, the report notes.

It says that in 2021, 66 percent of women

lacked access to a bank account, while 13 percent had access to formal credit, versus 16 percent for men.

Lower access to financial services for women is blamed on the types of businesses run by women, which are seen as paying less and lacking income stability.

Nyandemo says governments need to create programs that make it easier for women to participate in the economic sector.

"There should be affirmative action that spearheads the aspect of gender equality," he says. "Create more opportunities for women and empower them both economically and politically, and more so, invest heavily in training them in various small-scale business enterprises. Equip them with entrepreneurial skills and management skills."

The Mastercard Foundation plans to invest \$360 million to help more than 70,000 young women and girls complete their education, start businesses and find job opportunities.



Dodoma City Council election supervisor Dr Federick Sagamiko has an audience in the city yesterday with representatives of political parties and members of the coordinating team of the upcoming (Nov 27) local government elections. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

Expectant mothers, under-fives get free health services - official

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

AUTHORITIES in Makambako Town Council in Njombe Region have assured residents that all public health facilities in the area provide free health services to pregnant women and children under the age of five.

Joseph Andrew, acting medical officer for Makambako Town Council, made the assurance yesterday during a public meeting convened by Makambako MP, Deo Sanga.

During the meeting, residents sought clarification on the government's policy regarding medical costs exemptions for pregnant women and children under five.

"As stipulated in government guidelines, once a pregnant woman visits a health facility and is registered, she receives a clinic card. From that point on, all services related to her pregnancy—including delivery and child care for children up to the age of five—are offered at no cost," he said.

He emphasized the importance of residents retaining

receipts for any services they receive, which can aid in identifying any violations of the policy.

"We must track the instances to ensure that our policies are being implemented to the letter," he added.

In addition to addressing the concerns about health services, Andrew announced that for this 2024/2025 fiscal year, the council allocated 763m/- for significant improvements at Mlowa Town Hospital.

The funding will be directed towards completing construction of a new general surgery building, a mortuary and additional patient wards as well as acquiring essential medical equipment for dispensaries.

Residents had previously raised complaints about being charged for medication, despite the government's promise that services would be free for the two groups.

Andrew's clarifications sought to restore confidence in the healthcare system and ensure that all eligible residents can access the services they need without financial barriers.

Kenya reintroduces broad bean growing to boost food security

NAIROBI

KENYA has reintroduced abandoned broad bean farming in a bid to boost food and nutritional security for communities and their livestock, senior officials said yesterday.

Benson Muturi, a fodder crops researcher and livestock nutritionist at Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), said the government has partnered with private researchers to sell the seedlings to farmers for propagation.

The composite seeds are sold at KALRO centers, according to Muturi, adding that researchers have been disseminating information on broad bean growing to farmers while offering guidance on its proper husbandry for maximum yield.

"We sensitize farmers on the bean's benefits during Agricultural Society of Kenya shows alongside farmers' field days and through visits to farmers during their Self Help Groups and cooperative society meetings all over Kenya," said Muturi.

Social media platforms are among other platforms being used to reach out to growers, especially the young farmers, Muturi said.

The exotic leguminous plant, whose botanical name is *Vicia faba*, had been introduced by European settlers before the 1960s but was later abandoned by Kenyan farmers despite its high nutritional value.

According to Muturi, the broad beans have undergone field trials and have been confirmed to do well across different altitudes in the country, with researchers say-

ing they have performed well in almost all regions in the country.

The leguminous plant, a good source of fibre and plant proteins, is planted with one seed per hole and gets to the flowering stage in three months, the best stage for fodder harvesting.

It can give a herbage yield of six metric tons per hectare. The protein-rich herbage is mixed with energy crops like maize silage and Napier grass and fed to dairy cows or dairy goats to boost milk production.

While the herbage has a crude

protein of between 24 to 26 percent, the seeds' is even higher, standing at 32 to 36 percent, making it ideal for making animal feeds.

Due to its richness in protein, calcium, phosphorus, magnesium and zinc, the plant also improves milk quality and enhances animals' fertility and heart signs as well as conception, according to the nutritionist. Magnesium and zinc boost immunity and memory in humans.

Broad beans regenerate after harvesting and so can be harvested for fodder severally per year.

The plant is for dual purpose

and can also be consumed by human beings, Muturi said, noting that pods can be harvested while green in early stages and eaten raw as salads.

While dry, the beans can be milled and mixed with wheat flour at a ratio of 1:3 to make wheat products like cakes and buns. It can also be mixed in the same ration with maize flour to increase protein levels in the food.

On environmental matters, the broad bean plant is essential in nitrogen-fixing in the soil, just like other leguminous plants.

NOTICE OF FINAL MEETING

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT there shall be the Final Meeting of Members for the purposes of laying down the accounts and giving any explanations thereof for the winding up of the company registration number 121399, **GRAVITA VENTURES LIMITED**, 14 days after the publication of this notice. The meeting shall be held at 10am through Teleconference on the working day which falls 14 days after the publication of the notice. The agenda of the meeting will be laying of the accounts and giving explanations thereof on closure of the Company.

If anyone has any interest, they are advised to contact the company at the below address within 30 days of this notice.

Karimjee Attorneys
P.O. Box 76421
Dar es Salaam

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
JUDICIARY
IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA
MBEYA-SUB REGISTRY
AT MBEYA
PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION CAUSE NO.1106 OF 2024
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE
FRANK LEO MNYEMA
AND
IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION FOR LETTERS OF
ADMINISTRATION BY:
FORTUNATUS SYLVESTER MPIGAUZI.....PETITIONER
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION
GENERAL CITATION
(Rule 75 of probate and Administration of Estate Act)
ALL PERSONS claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the above named deceased are hereby cited to come and see the proceedings if they think fit before the grant of probate (or letters of Administration) is made to the above named petitioner.
Objections to the grant should be filed on or before 28th day of November, 2024.
Dated at MBEYA this 25th day of September, 2024.
A.E. Temu
Deputy Registrar

'China's 75th anniversary: Tanzania greatly inspired'

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has lauded China on the upcoming 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) which falls on October 1 each year.

"Indeed, this is a reflection on the journey that brought us here and a reminder of our shared history, friendship, as well as the aspirations that continue to define our diplomatic relations," said Prof

Palamagamba Kabudi, Minister for Constitutional and legal affairs.

Speaking at a reception party to celebrate the anniversary at the Chinese embassy in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Kabudi said Tanzania is inspired by the modernisation of China and its significant transformations on the global stage.

Since its founding in 1949, the PRC has undergone profound economic, social, and political changes, moving from an agrarian

society to one of the world's leading industrial and technological powers, said the minister.


"Over the past 75 years, China has made tremendous achievements in economic growth, poverty reduction, urbanization, and infrastructure as well as in space and science," Kabudi told diplomats from various countries and senior government officials invited to the reception.

He reiterated the Tanzanian government's commitment to

strengthening relations with China in all aspects and supporting China on various issues of common interest at bilateral and multilateral levels, aiming to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

"Tanzania will continue to take dedicated practical steps to reflect the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership status of our relations," said Kabudi.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL
AT DAR ES SALAAM

APPEAL NO. 7 OF 2024

BETWEEN

HELEN MARK TEMU APPELLANT

AND

TANZANIA ELECTRIC
SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED 1ST RESPONDENT

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES
REGULATORY AUTHORITY 2ND RESPONDENT

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

TAKE NOTICE THAT an appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) dated 28th June 2024 in which EWURA found the 1st Respondent's act of disconnecting power to the Appellant's premises unjustifiable and awarded the Appellant general damages amounting to TZS 2,000,000/-.

The appeal is based on the grounds, among others, that EWURA erred in law and fact in not awarding specific damages as sought; in awarding unreasonable quantum as general damages and in disregarding secondary evidence adduced before it and gathered during site visit. Thus, the Appellant prays for orders of payment of specific damages amounting to TZS 717,325,000/-, general damages amounting to TZS 500,000,000/-, interest at the commercial rate of 30% and costs of the appeal.

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

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the Tribunal this 25th September 2024.

REGISTRAR

ELÉANOR INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED
P.O BOX 90289
DAR ES SALAAM TANZANIA
COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 154853189

AT THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF ELÉANOR INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED HELD AT THE REGISTERED OFFICES OF THE COMPANY ON THE 01ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2024 THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS WERE DULY PASSED.

- It was resolved that the company be wound up voluntarily effective from 1st Day of September 2024.
- That NURU ABDALLAH KONDO, Director and company secretary be appointed as the liquidator for the purpose of winding up the company with immediate effect.

We, the undersigned authorized representatives of the shareholders of the company hereby certify the foregoing to be true and bona fide resolution passed by the Company on the 1st September of 2024.

NURU ABDALLAH KONDO
Director/Secretary

JOHN GONZAGA NDIRALEMA,
Director

WOMEN'S LEGAL AID CENTRE (WLAC)

Publication of Bi-annually Income and Expenditure

In accordance with Non-Government Organization Amendment Regulation 2018 WLAC is pleased to publish its Bi-annual Income and Expenditure report for a period between Jan - June 2024.

Women's Legal Aid Centre Bi-Annual Income and Expenditure Report for the period from January - June 2024		
	Jan- June 2024 TZS	Jan- June 2023 TZS
Income		
Receipts from Donors	216,997,546	234,816,157
Total Income	216,997,546	234,816,157
Expenditure:		
Legal Empowerment and Advocacy for reforms	105,865,013	140,934,693
Community awareness engagement in civic and socio-economic rights	14,765,750	23,961,430
Institutional capacity and sustainability of WLAC	96,366,783	69,920,034
Total Expenditure	216,997,546	234,816,157
Surplus (deficit) of Income over expenditure	0	0

WLAC House, Kinondoni, Hanasif Area,
Ujifaa Street, Block No. 40, House No. 184,
P. O. Box 79212
Dar es Salaam

E-mail : wlac@wlac.or.tz
Website: www.wlac.or.tz
Telephone : +255222664051
Facebook : Women's Legal Aid Centre (WLAC)

Kenya reintroduces broad bean growing to boost food security

NAIROBI

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The composite seeds are sold at KALRO centers, according to Muturi, adding that researchers have been disseminating information on broad bean growing to farmers while offering guidance on its proper husbandry for maximum yield.

"We sensitize farmers on the bean's benefits during Agricultural Society of Kenya shows alongside farmers' field days and through visits to farmers during their Self Help Groups and cooperative society meetings all over Kenya," said Muturi.

Social media platforms are among other platforms being used to reach out to growers, especially the young farmers, Muturi said.

The exotic leguminous plant, whose botanical name is *Vicia faba*, had been introduced by European settlers before the 1960s but was later abandoned by Kenyan farmers despite its high nutritional value.

According to Muturi, the broad beans have undergone field trials and have been confirmed to do well across different altitudes in the country, with researchers saying they have performed well in almost all regions in the country.

The leguminous plant, a good source of fibre and plant proteins, is planted with one seed per hole and gets to the flowering stage in three months, the best stage for fodder harvesting.

It can give a herbage yield of six metric tons per hectare. The protein-rich herbage is mixed with energy crops like maize silage and Napier grass and fed to dairy cows or dairy goats to boost milk production.

Company NO. 154853189
(VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

NOTICE OF FINAL MEETING.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT pursuant to section 345 of the Companies Act 2002, the meeting of the members for the purposes of laying down the accounts and giving any explanation thereof with the respect to the voluntary winding up of **ELÉANOR INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED** (the "Company") will be held on 28th OCTOBER 2024.

The meeting will be held at 09:00 am at the registered office of the company at Plot number 127, Block number 127, House number 15, Mwingozi Street, Ubungo Road, Ubungo Postal code 16103, Dar Es Salaam. P.O. Box 90289.

The agenda of the meeting will be laying of the accounts of winding up of the Company and giving any explanation thereof on closure of the Company.



NURU ABDALLAH KONDO,
LIQUIDATOR.
Plot number 127, Block number 127, House number 15, Mwingozi Street, Ubungo Road, Ubungo Postal code 16103, Dar Es Salaam. P.O. Box 90289.

Three succumb to anthrax in Uganda as 43 cases reported

KAMPALA

AN anthrax outbreak in the south-western Ugandan district of Kanungu has so far killed three people, local authorities said on Tuesday.

District Veterinary Officer Aloysius Tumwesigye said that three people had died of the disease while 43 cases have been reported, with some individuals hospitalized and others discharged.

Tumwesigye said livestock deaths have also been registered, including 65 heads of cattle, 10 goats and three sheep.

He said a mass vaccination of livestock in the district has been launched to curb the spread of the disease.

Tumwesigye said the district has informed the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries about the outbreak in the area, urging the ministry to send a team of experts to help control the situation.

He said a quarantine on the sale of livestock, including cattle, goats, sheep, pigs and related products, has been imposed in Kanungu since the outbreak of anthrax in the district was announced on Sept. 17.

Charlotte Kemigisha, spokesper-

son for the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries said that the situation is being handled.

Anthrax is caused by a bacterium called bacillus anthracis and primarily affects herbivorous animals, although other mammals and some birds can also contract it. Humans generally acquire the disease through contact with infected animals or exposure to contaminated animal products, according to the World Health Organization.



Anthrax is caused by a bacterium called bacillus anthracis and primarily affects herbivorous animals, although other mammals and some birds can also contract it. Humans generally acquire the disease through contact with



Zanzibar's Lands and Urban Development minister, Rahma Kassim Ali (R), and deputy minister Salha Mohamed Mwinjuma – and not Tabia Maulid Mwita as appears in the photo – consult during one of yesterday's sessions of the Zanzibar House of Representatives. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

Global initiative to end energy poverty, drive transition starts

NEW YORK

SUSTAINABLE Energy for All (SEforALL) has hosted a special event in New York, United States, focusing on global strategies to eliminate energy poverty, combat climate change and empower livelihoods through a just energy transition.

Dubbed: 'Raising Ambition on SDG7, and organised in partnership with Africa50 and Enel Corporation, the event was held on the sidelines of the 79th UN General Assembly.

A statement availed to the media yesterday stated that the event highlighted innovative solutions for achieving an equitable energy transition, unveiling two significant global initiatives aimed at mobilising finance and promoting distributed renewable energy.

The initiatives are crucial for eradicating energy poverty and enabling emerging and developing countries to transition their energy systems effectively and fairly.

Key leaders participated in the

event include Amina Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General; Biram Souleye Diop, Senegal's Minister of Energy, Oil and Mines; Ambassador André Aranha Corrêa do Lago, Brazil's Secretary for Climate, Energy and Environment; and Damilola Ogunbiyi, CEO and Special Representative to the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy. They collectively urged global leaders to amplify their commitment to sustainable energy investments and projects.

Ambassador Corrêa do Lago also

announced the SEforALL Global Forum, scheduled for 12-13 March 2025 in Barbados, marking the first official milestone on the road to COP30.

The event also emphasised the pivotal role of Energy Compacts in advancing global energy transitions. It showcased Brazil's initiatives to establish voluntary principles for a just and equitable energy transition, encouraging both governments and non-state actors to translate these principles into actionable strategies.

The principles will be encapsu-

lated in the G20 Just Energy Transition Compact, spearheaded by Brazil and the G20, with support from SEforALL, representing a crucial step toward a sustainable and inclusive energy future.

Additionally, the ambitious partnership between the World Bank Group and the African Development Bank was highlighted, aiming to provide electricity to 300 million people in Africa by 2030. SEforALL is one of three implementing partners in this initiative, dubbed Mission 300, which

focuses on targeted investments and scalable energy solutions in underserved areas.

The event also explored innovative approaches to bridge energy access gaps beyond traditional power grids. It showcased practical strategies for scaling up distributed renewable energy (DRE) systems through public-private collaborations and financial frameworks designed to attract private capital from diverse investors.

Looking ahead, SEforALL will maintain its focus on Africa as it co-



Shinyanga regional commissioner Anamringi Macha (L) addresses a meeting in Shinyanga municipality yesterday, the thrust being on the importance of those eligible to take full part in the countrywide local government elections scheduled for this November 27. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

US pledges to counter and adapt to threats of increases in sea levels

NEW YORK

THE United States has expressed its commitment towards countering the rising sea levels that pose an existential threat to many coastal communities around the world.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken made the commitment on Wednesday when speaking at a meeting at the UN General Assembly to address concerns about the impact of climate change on oceans and seas.

He said: "Climate change is melting glaciers. It's causing sea levels to rise. It's fuelling extreme weather like storms, which have become even more devastating when combined with higher seas. Already, in so many of our countries, these patterns are upending lives and livelihoods."

"Based on current trends, by 2050, sea-level rise could displace tens of millions of people," Blinken said. "We can still prevent this, but the time to act is running out."

Blinken also said that while working to counter the phenomenon the Biden administration would oppose any effort to limit or curtail the rights of any countries affected by it.

"Our position is that sea-level rise should not diminish a country's maritime zones, including the fishing grounds and resources under a nation's jurisdiction," he said. "And no country should lose its statehood or membership in the United Nations or other international organizations because of sea-level rise."

Namibia drills further boreholes to save lives of stranded hippos

WINDHOEK

ABOUT 130 hippopotamuses are stranded in the mud in northeastern Namibia, as water levels continue to drop due to severe drought, a government official said on Wednesday.

To address this urgent situ-

ation, Namibia's Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism is drilling boreholes to pump water into the Munambeza Pond in the Zambezi Region, spokesperson Romeo Muyunda told Xinhua.

According to Muyunda, this is the second borehole drilled this year; the first was at Lu-

gala in the Zambezi Region, where the water supply has improved conditions for the 135 hippos that were previously trapped in June.

Following the completion of the borehole at Munambeza, the team will move on to a third location called Sinda, which is also nearby,

Muyunda said.

"The situation is caused by the drought we find ourselves in as a country, leading to water ponds drying out and hippopotamuses being stranded in some of these ponds," he said. "The ponds we know of so far are three on the eastern side of the Zambezi Region.

In one pond we visited on Tuesday, Munambeza, water levels continue to go down," he added.

According to Muyunda, these ponds not only sustain the hippopotamuses but also provide drinking water for other wild animals and livestock from neighbouring

communities.

"So this intervention is going to serve several purposes," he added.

Muyunda also warned of a potential rise in human-wildlife conflict, as the current situation may lead to competition for water resources.

"We want to urge the pub-

lic to remain cautious at all times. If the situation calls for it, please contact the ministry to intervene if any wildlife comes into your area," he said. Muyunda said the ministry is committed to wildlife conservation and is focused on saving lives rather than resorting to lethal measures.

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2024

**Taking A New Look
At The News
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Citibank project financing praise testifies to 'new era'

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has openly applauded a major private bank in the United States, a flag bearer among multinational corporations, for its instrumental role in driving global economic development.

Some observers may view this gesture of engagement as somewhat particularly in that the government has often been at ease engaging with regional branches of major UK and US banks, not the main banks directly.

For instance, back in 2005 then Finance minister Zakia Hamdani Meghji arranged a 350bn/- syndicated loan for the Tanzania Electric Supply Co. where the lead bank was the South African Stanbic Bank.

This bank trades differently for strategic reasons while being a member of the Standard Group, which includes flagship multinational Standard Chartered. With this, talking directly with Citibank is worth special mention.

The need for having inputs from the biggest commercial banks in Western countries has always been there, but the government has been at pains to seek concessional loans from multilateral financial organisations, especially the World Bank.

Yet, as President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been cautioning in recent months, the fact that Tanzania is now ranked a lower middle income economy implies that the number and frequency these concessional deals will be diminishing.

There will be need for greater openings to multinational banks in the likes of Citibank, having perhaps sought out middle-level banks for a while.

That was the case in the years that the standard gauge railway (SGR) was being rolled out, as the

government placed core financing on the table, then sought out Turkish and Portuguese banks.

It was in part by lending to Turkish and Egyptian lead contractors for the railway and Nyerere hydropower strategic projects.

With the liquefied natural gas plant taking shape at the contractual level and the country increasingly being noticed as a rare metals exploration hub, it is evident that major banks may start being interested. Additionally, local affiliates of the UK bank group lead in collecting large deposits locally.

There was a significant remark when Prime Minister Majaliwa held talks with the Citibank board chairman, citing the provision of financial advice via our central bank.

One would have to be an insider to be actually privy to such consultations, which would largely be low-key. It is thus easy to see that times have changed, and the government is listening to major banks as it explores opportunities, while clearly being mindful of our rising external debt, etc.

Supporting companies involved in constructing SGR or financing a segment of the railway and the development of Pemba Airport don't appear to be especially large projects in Citibank's portfolio.

But any loan extension stands as an expression of confidence in the borrower, and the government can have other ideas - among them PPP projects with US-based Diaspora taking the lead, etc.

It may be still early days in the growing circle of major bank influence, but this effort needs some structural reform to yield more local stakeholders in key sectors of economy, not just lending to public sector projects.

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Meeting preparation that drives results

By Noa Ganot

WHY do some leaders leave meetings with clarity and momentum while others leave with frustration? The answer lies in the task of preparation. Here's a guide to mastering this art.

Product people attend meetings day in and day out. But many approach meetings passively - attending because it's expected, sharing updates or responding to questions.

However, effective meetings are far from spontaneous. A well-prepared leader uses every meeting as a strategic tool to influence outcomes, build momentum and clarify direction.

If you follow our time-management advice, you know we have a method of managing yourself in one-week sprints.

The method is simple: just like you manage engineering sprints by running a backlog and delivering it piece by piece, run your own backlog and select three things you want to achieve each week.

These three things need not be random; rather, you need to select them carefully with the following criteria in mind: they need to be achievable within the week and if with everything you have to do, you will only get to do them, you'll still be happy at the end of the week.

This method forces you to own your time and confront the load upfront: you have to choose what you do and what you don't do in advance, and not after the fact as is usually the case.

We have been practising this method for years. It brings peace of mind into our hectic lives and allows us to make progress in the areas that are important to us even in busy times.

When we started, we moved from practising it at a weekly pace to a daily one: every day we would ask ourselves what the three things we wanted to accomplish that day were.

Some of the days it made perfect sense: we had no meetings and were able to achieve meaningful progress on a variety of topics. But on other days, when our schedules were full with back-to-back meetings, we knew that the meetings would set the agenda for the day.

We still wanted to stick to the method, so when we asked ourselves what we wanted to achieve in a day that was full of meetings, we ended up telling ourselves that we wanted to have good meetings with X, Y and Z.

But that didn't feel right. It was like telling the company that your strategy is to be the leader in everything you do. It could be a goal, but it would likely be a very generic one that says almost nothing in practice.

So we started asking ourselves what would make these meetings good. We ended up with a list of questions that we answered for every meeting and helped us prepare.

Not only did it clarify what would count as a good meeting, but it also allowed us to navigate there safely.

We have numerous examples of meetings that we managed very differently than we originally planned after having gone through this checklist.

Nowadays we help our clients do the same and prepare for important meetings they need to run - meetings with potential customers, with the board, roadmap presentations, budget decisions, organisation structure brainstorming sessions, and almost any other topic you can think of.

The difference between what they had in mind before and after the preparation session is immense and makes a huge difference in the eventual outcome.

To be an effective leader, meetings are a critical tool you need to master. There are various issues you need to address to make each meeting as powerful as it can be in driving you towards your own goals.

Meeting goal

The first thing you need to clarify to yourself before any meeting is the purpose of the meeting. Beyond just asking why you want this meeting, classify it further: Is it to make a decision, brainstorm ideas, share information or synchronise efforts? Each type of meeting demands a different approach and preparation schedule.

Once you have identified the meeting type, define what specific success looks like. For a decision-making meeting, success might be reaching a consensus on a particular issue.

For a brainstorming session, meanwhile, it could be generating a certain number of viable ideas. For a status update, it could be alignment on upcoming risks and mitigation tactics.

Whatever the goal, ensure that it is achievable within the allotted time and with the participants present. Setting a clear, realistic goal will allow you to prepare and lead confidently to your desired outcome.

Meeting audience

Now that the goal is clear, carefully consider who needs to be present to achieve it. Do you have everyone you need? Are there people who could interfere and are optional?

Specifically, if a decision needs to be made, ensure the relevant decision makers are not only invited but are also planning on showing up.

Once you have identified the ideal participants, assess whether they can give you what you want. Do they have the authority? Do they have the willingness? Do they know what they need to know?

If you assume certain background knowledge, do they all

have it? If you rely on previous decisions, are they all aware of it?

Address any gaps in the audience attendance and knowledge beforehand to have an effective meeting. If the gaps are too significant, consider adding sessions to close these gaps and create alignment.

Obstacles and objections

Put yourself in the shoes of your audience and consider: What concerns might they bring to the table? What aspects of your proposal or discussion could make them uncomfortable or hesitant? Perhaps there are budget constraints, resource limitations or strategic misalignments that could become sticking points.

Think about the personalities and priorities of the participants - what objections are likely to arise based on their roles or perspectives? Are there any trust issues? These are often overlooked and remain unspoken but are driving simpler, more tangible objections.

Consider external factors (e.g. everyone agrees that you should do this, but there is a major constraint that wins this over) or worst-case scenarios that could derail your objectives.

By proactively identifying these potential obstacles and objections, you position yourself to address them more effectively.

Remember, acknowledging potential issues doesn't weaken your position; rather, it demonstrates thorough preparation and a realistic approach, which can enhance your credibility and increase the likelihood of a productive meeting.

Mitigation

Once you have identified potential obstacles and objections, it is time to develop strategies to address them proactively.

Consider what information, assurances or perspectives you can offer to alleviate concerns and build trust. This might involve presenting data supporting your position, sharing success stories from similar initiatives, or demonstrating how your proposal aligns with broader organisational goals.

Think creatively about solutions - if budget is an issue, can you propose a phased approach or identify potential cost savings elsewhere? If resources are a concern, consider how you might leverage existing assets or propose innovative collaborations.

Don't limit yourself to purely realistic solutions at this stage. Imagine that you have a magical fairy granting you unlimited resources or capabilities - what would you ask for?

This type of thinking can often uncover the core issues you need to tackle and lead to innovative

approaches you might not have considered otherwise.

By preparing thoughtful mitigations, you show that you have considered the bigger picture and are committed to finding win-win solutions.

This preparation not only helps you navigate potential roadblocks during the meeting but also positions you as a strategic thinker who can anticipate and address challenges effectively.

Remember that the goal is not just to counter objections but to transform them into opportunities for collaboration and shared success.

Agenda and flow

With a clear understanding of your meeting goals, audience needs, potential obstacles and mitigation strategies, you are now adequately equipped to craft a purposeful agenda.

This isn't merely a list of topics; it's a strategic roadmap designed to guide your audience towards your desired outcome. Structure your agenda in a logical flow that builds understanding and momentum.

Consider starting with context-setting or a brief recap of previous discussions to ensure that everyone is on the same page. Then, sequence your topics in a way that naturally leads to your main objective.

For instance, if you are seeking approval for a new initiative, you might begin with market analysis, move to potential impact, address concerns, and then present your proposal.

Be mindful of the emotional journey as well - consider how to build enthusiasm or create a sense of urgency at key points.

Allocate time thoughtfully, ensuring that crucial topics aren't rushed and less critical items don't dominate the discussion. Remember to build in time for questions and discussion, as these often lead to valuable insights and buy-in.

By crafting a well-structured agenda, you're not just organising a meeting; you're choreographing an experience that guides participants towards your desired conclusion.

Next, get detailed and write your talking points for each topic. If you need to build a presentation, it's an easy task now, since your story is already written.

Remember that meetings are a strategic tool you have as a product leader. Take full ownership and lead to the outcomes you want. Luckily, now you know what they are.

• Noa Ganot is a writer for Product Coalition, which helps product executives and their companies grow.

Thefts of equipment in construction works exhibit underlying instability

APPEALS to local residents to desist from stealing construction equipment or sabotaging the work while are routinely heard with regard to various strategic projects.

It was earlier with the standard gauge railway, which traverses a long stretch of territory, while the Nyerere hydropower project has less of that problem.

The latter's project area is far smaller and, with a dense ecosystem, not too friendly for sporadic 'jobs' that wayward youths are likely to be fond of in their acts of sabotage.

Airport projects have also been fairly exposed, with Msalato International Airport in Dodoma Region somewhat under siege and contractors demanding a solid fence there.

While criminality as such is an individual failing, tied to the situation in which one has grown up and more so these days, the systematic disposition to steal is a cultural failing.

Pulling pipes, timber or other building materials whenever the guard is lowered is typical of what happens in the countryside, though it varies in terms of intensity.

The North Mara goldmine has perhaps been the most blatant expression, where tension induced by invasions has simmered for long years between the mining firm and the police on the one hand and local youths on the other.

What is surprising is that in the Msalato case the local residents may just be chipping while the main sabotage work is conducted from within the project's premises, though it wasn't clear what layer of 'workers' make it necessary to build a perimeter wall.

The contractor has been asking authorities there to expedite the building of such a wall around the site to prevent thefts of equipment, including by dishonest workers.

One needs to make a quick scan of the area to figure out if it casual labourers or proper employees, or it applies both ways, in how this 'dishonesty' is often expressed - whether it is through agency or simple grab.

Agency theft is often known as white-collar crime, though its actual model is theft in purchases or billing, while lifting poorly guarded building materials is plain theft.

While concerns about equipment thefts by individuals lacking integrity and patriotism elicited a visit there by the area district commissioner (DC), the right contact to answer questions appears to be the company charged with security, unless there is indirect connivance.

There seems to be gaps in authority between the Chinese firms engaged in the construction, local site managers and the specific client - that is the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads).

On a wider note, the area is still relatively undeveloped, with the visiting DC noting that building the fence would serve as a safeguard against thefts, prevent livestock grazing in the area and stop illegal tree felling for charcoal production and other purposes.

With that litany of challenges, the area certainly needs a wall, and authorities will have to work hard to prevent cement thefts stalling the wall building from being completed as planned.

Universal clean water access seen boosting gender equality, economic empowerment

By Adonis Byemelwa

TANZANIA is poised to make history by ensuring that every village in the country has access to piped water by the end of 2025. This ambitious project, spearheaded by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, promises to alleviate one of the country's longest-standing burdens—the daily struggle of fetching water, primarily carried out by women and girls.

Access to clean water is not only crucial for public health but also a key step toward gender equality and economic empowerment, allowing women to dedicate more time to education and income-generating activities.

In July 2024, residents of Mwamboku village in Kashishi Ward made a powerful appeal to their local MP, Iddi Kassim Iddi, by presenting him with the contaminated water they shared with their livestock. This dramatic act highlighted the severe water shortage and the health risks associated with using unsafe water.

"We know you are hardworking, but we are deeply concerned," said Diana Dalali, a villager. "If you help us access clean water, it will mean everything to us."

In response, MP Iddi contacted the Ruwasa Manager in Kahama District, who assured him that water pipes would be installed within two weeks. While this provided some hope, it underscored the broader issues many rural communities face in Tanzania, where infrastructure and access to clean water remain limited.

"I urge you to be patient," MP Iddi advised the villagers. "You heard the manager; work will begin soon, and local leaders need to keep me informed of any challenges."

This water scarcity issue is widespread. In Wami Sokoine village, also struggling with water shortages, residents often rely on dirty water shared with livestock and are forced to buy clean water at high prices—1,500 Tanzanian shillings for a 20-liter jerrycan.

"During the dry season, it becomes nearly impossible for us to get clean water," explained Mashishanga Mayunga, a villager. "We depend on dirty water, and when it rains, we collect rainwater from shallow wells, which we share with animals."

Another resident, Prisca Masunga,



expressed her concern about the health risks. "The water is infested with both visible and invisible organisms. We try to boil and filter it, but we still get sick. It's a constant danger to our health."

The Tanzanian government has acknowledged the gravity of the situation and has committed to addressing it on a national scale. In June 2024, President Samia Suluhu Hassan laid the foundation stone for a new water project in Madaba District, Ruvuma Region.

The project, valued at 5.5 billion Tanzanian shillings, is expected to provide clean water to three villages and is part of the broader national effort to expand water access across the country. This move aligns with the president's 2020 election campaign promise to "take the bucket off a woman's head," a symbolic pledge to ease the burden of water collection on women and girls.

"We want to ensure that no woman or girl in Tanzania has to spend hours every day fetching water," President Hassan emphasized. "Water access is not just about convenience; it is about health, dignity, and economic empowerment."

The president's commitment extends beyond infrastructure development; she also calls for active community involvement in preserving and

protecting water sources. During her visit to the Matogoro B Mountains, President Hassan urged local communities to safeguard the Mtichi River, a vital resource for the surrounding villages.

"It is not only the responsibility of water authorities to ensure access to clean water, but also the responsibility of the community to protect these natural resources," she stressed. "Water is a lifeline, not just for human consumption but for agriculture and livestock, the pillars of our rural economy."

The government's ambitious target is supported by numerous water projects already underway across the country. In the Ruvuma Region alone, President Hassan laid the foundation stone for 30 water projects, including the Mtyangimbole initiative, which officials say is already halfway completed.

Once operational, the project will draw 1.6 million liters of water per day, providing clean water to over 14,000 residents across four villages. This project, which includes the installation of a network of pipelines and water tanks, will address the water demands of local communities and improve public health outcomes.

Mwajuma Waziri, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Water, recently provided updates on the progress of

the Mtyangimbole project. "One water tank with a capacity of 150,000 liters has already been completed and is supplying 16 water collection points," Waziri said. "A second tank, holding 200,000 liters, is expected to serve the villages of Luhimba and Likarangi, with the entire network covering over 50 kilometers and providing 40 collection points. Once fully operational, this system will supply over 1.9 million liters of water per day, exceeding the current demand of 634,000 liters."

Despite these promising developments, Tanzania still faces significant challenges in ensuring universal access to clean water. Minister of Water, Juma Aweso, recently acknowledged the frustration many Tanzanians feel regarding water shortages.

He noted that although over 10,000 villages now have access to clean water, there are still 2,000 more that need to be reached. To address this, the government has secured 53 billion shillings to finance water projects and plans to drill 900 new wells in the first phase of the initiative.

Tanzania's water scarcity is particularly perplexing given its wealth of natural water bodies, including lakes, rivers, and springs. However, the lack of adequate infrastructure, poor governance, and underinvestment have left

millions of Tanzanians without access to safe drinking water. This situation is not unique to Tanzania but is a common challenge across much of sub-Saharan Africa, where waterborne diseases like cholera, dysentery, and typhoid remain prevalent due to contaminated water sources.

Looking beyond Tanzania's borders, desert countries like Israel and the United Arab Emirates offer valuable lessons in water management. Israel, a global leader in water technology, has developed extensive desalination plants that convert seawater into drinkable water through reverse osmosis.

These plants now supply 85% of the country's domestic water needs. The Sorek desalination plant, one of the largest in the world, produces 600 million cubic meters of potable water annually and costs approximately \$1 billion to build.

Similarly, the United Arab Emirates, where water scarcity is a critical issue, has invested over \$6 billion in desalination projects to ensure a sustainable water supply for its growing population. These countries have proven that with strategic investment and the use of innovative technologies, it is possible to turn even saline water into a usable resource.

For Tanzania, desalination could be a long-term solution, particularly in coastal areas where saline water is abundant. While the initial costs of desalination plants are high, the potential for transforming Tanzania's water supply landscape is immense. In the meantime, rainwater harvesting presents a much cheaper and immediate alternative.

Tanzania, which experiences seasonal rains, could implement simple and affordable rainwater harvesting systems in rural areas. By collecting and storing rainwater, communities could mitigate the effects of water shortages during dry seasons and reduce reliance on distant and contaminated water sources.

The path to universal water access in Tanzania is undoubtedly challenging, but the progress made so far is promising. With continued investment in infrastructure, strategic partnerships, and community involvement, the government is well on its way to achieving its 2025 target.

For women and girls, who have borne the brunt of water scarcity for decades, this initiative represents more than just the installation of pipelines—it symbolizes a future of empowerment, health, and opportunity. As President Hassan's administration continues to push forward, the vision of a water-secure Tanzania is gradually becoming a reality.

By Guardian Reporter, Namtumbo

DESPITE remarkable successes recorded in Namtumbo District, Ruvuma Region in reducing Human Wildlife Conflicts (HWC), the influx of livestock in protected forest areas is said to contribute to wild animals moving into human settlement and farms.

The number of livestock keepers from across the country who are relocating to the district is on the rise, thus posing a threat to on-going conservation activities. The presence of livestock in forest forces wildlife to go outside the park as the two can hardly stay together due to a number of reasons.

When in big numbers, livestock can alter the behaviour of some wild species and lead to their extinction by changing the vegetation structure. The new environmental conditions that livestock generate could, nevertheless, favour some species.

Authorities in the district have been working closely with stakeholders including the German Development Agency (GIZ) which is implementing the Mitigation of Human Wildlife Conflict in Tanzania project in the Ruvuma Landscape on behalf of Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Data from the office of Namtumbo District Game Warden shows that with the on-going interventions by the government and stakeholders, they have managed to reduce the effects of elephants' destruction into farms whereas Mtelamwahi village had 15 acres of crops destroyed between July 2021 and June 2022. The village recorded zero incidents from July 2022 to April 2024.

In Ligunga village, 12 acres of crops were destroyed between July 2021 and June 2022 while the number increased to 39.5 acres in a period between July 2022 and June 2023.

Livestock influx threatens conservation efforts in Namtumbo as government, GIZ work to curb HWC



Gravas Mwalyombo, Namtumbo District Forest Officer

However, following efforts by stakeholders and the government, Ligunga village recorded no case of crop razing by elephants from July 2023 to July 2024.

In Mtelamwahi, the Village Executive Officer, Joseph Haule told a team of journalists from the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) that they are working on a plan to provide livestock keepers with a specific grazing land.

"We have a good number of livestock keepers who are illegally relocating to our village in search of greener pastures. They are humans, we cannot restrict them from entering our village,

but we want them to conduct their activities at specific areas without disturbing wild animals.

Livestock can be a risk to natural regeneration, posing challenges to the long-term sustainability of forests," he stated, adding Ligunga is one of the seven villages that forms the Kimbanda Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Others are Lusewa, Milonji, Matepewende, Msisima, Mnalawi and Malalawima.

He said: "We need government support to remove herders from the village forest. We have been educating them, but they are unwilling to move to other areas."

He commended the GIZ through its

Mitigation of Human Wildlife Conflicts in Tanzania project for training them on how to scare the big animals using smelly repellent fences; the village had witnessed a tremendous drop of crop razing cases.

Haule added: "We are thankful to GIZ for interventions; they have also assisted us in forming groups and supported establishment of vegetable gardens where we generate a good income."

Juma Kihindo, the Secretary of Kimbanda WMA said they are facing three major conservation challenges—mining activities, agriculture and livestock keeping.

"There are livestock keepers inside our forests; their pastoral activities contribute to destruction of the ecosystem, which is important for wildlife. They are coming from different parts of the country," said Kihindo, adding they usually conduct patrols two times a month, but the challenge continues.

Gravas Mwalyombo, the District Forest Officer said they are aware of the challenge, suggesting proper implementation of land use plans to control livestock keepers from grazing in forest and protect areas.

GIZ Technical Advisor in Namtumbo, Chrian Zimbaiya, acknowledged the presence of livestock keepers in forests, adding most of them migrate from with big herds of cattle—especially the Sukuma and Mang'ati communities.

"The project we are implementing does not deal with livestock issues; however, district policy does not promote livestock activities since Namtumbo is primarily an agricultural district,"

said Zimbaiya, noting that livestock farming contributes significantly to making the big animals leave the park to villages.

He suggested for the government to look at the matter closely, noting that conservation organizations and agencies should conduct patrols to relocate livestock keepers to designated grazing areas. The district can set aside a special area for grazing; it's not something to be entirely prohibited, he added.

According to him, some of the things that make elephants leave the park are the chemicals used for cattle dipping, as they have a strong scent. "When elephants encounter the smell of these chemicals, they opt to go to other areas, thus finding themselves in villages," explained Zimbaiya.

The mitigation of Human-Wildlife Conflicts (HWC) project in the Ruvuma Landscape, implemented by GIZ, aims to address challenges between local communities and wildlife, particularly in areas where agricultural activities and wildlife habitats overlap.

The Ruvuma Landscape is rich in biodiversity, with several protected areas including the Selous-Niassa Wildlife Corridor that connects Nyere National Park and Mozambique's Niassa Reserve. GIZ works with local communities whereas it trains village game scouts (VGS) on a number of techniques that could be used to scare away elephants.

Some of the methods that VGS are trained to use include setting up barriers using smelly repellent fences and planting crops that are less attractive to wildlife. Through the project villagers are also provided with education on wildlife behaviour, conservation, and sustainable ways to coexist with animals.

As logging intensifies fire in forested areas, Wet'suwet'en fight to conserve old growth

By Erica Gies

THE pilot flew over squares of clear-cuts and tree plantations, then rolled the helicopter around Hudson Bay Mountain in north-central British Columbia. We were following directions from David de Wit, the acting director of the Office of Wet'suwet'en, who was navigating from a map of traditional trails in their territory.

On the ground, the trails are marked by culturally modified trees, circles carved into bark, proof of the Wet'suwet'en Nation's history in this area. As we approached Caas T'laat Kwah (aka Serb Creek), a 1,600-hectare (3,900-acre) watershed that has not yet been logged or mined, the forest stitched together in a blanket of deep green, cleaved only by yellow-green wetlands threaded with glacial blue streams.

"We want to conserve it for future generations," says Charlotte Euverman, the Wet'suwet'en woman leading a fight to save this area, which includes a traditional gathering and feasting site. "We have to leave them something."

Like most First Nations here, the Wet'suwet'en never signed treaties with Canada or the province. Nevertheless, the latter took the land and leased forested areas to logging companies. Today just 20 percent of British Columbia's old-growth forests remain.

In 2020, after decades of activist pressure, the province released its Old Growth Strategic Review, a report that identified about a quarter of the remaining old growth as high risk for logging and recommended a pause while land use decisions were made. Yet four years on, logging has been deferred in less than half of the high-risk area.

First Nations and an array of species have paid dearly for the wide-scale logging, and now some forestry experts say its effects are being felt farther afield too.

Scientists are finding that industrial logging can contribute to the intensity and frequency of forest fires because it dries out the land. In summer 2023, more than 150,000 square kilometers (58,000 square miles) burned across Canada, an all-time record, carrying smoke across the continent and air pollution all the way to Europe and China.

Despite promises from the province's Ministry of Forests, environmental activists say that classic "talk and log" delay tactics continue. Independent analysis by the Wilderness Committee, Sierra Club BC and Stand.earth found that 50,000-100,000 hectares (123,000-247,000 acres) of the at-risk forests have been logged or approved for logging in British Columbia since the province's 2020 report.

"With so little old growth left, it is crucial [for the province] to step up to the plate for watersheds like Serb Creek and offer nations every support needed for long-term solutions," says Jens Wieting, senior forest and climate campaigner with Sierra Club BC.

Before boarding the helicopter, de Wit led us in a ceremony, inviting us to rub charcoal on our cheeks. It's a sign to their ancestors that we're coming with respect, he explains, acknowledging that they reside on the land and that alpine places are sacred. Because the area is not yet accessible by road, nation members Caroline Muir and Sandra Harris were seeing it for the first time.

After 30 minutes of flying, the pilot waggled the helicopter down, setting it upon a boggy meadow. As we stepped out, Muir took a moment, eyes closed, hand on her heart. Harris stooped to examine the plants: low cedar (*Diphysastrum complanatum*), Labrador tea (*Ledum groenlandicum* Oeder), frilly white bogbean (*Menthanthes trifoliata*) flowers.

Harris' great-grandfather and Muir's great-uncle, Jack Joseph, had a cabin here. It's gone now, but we followed de Wit through the trees to a newer cabin. He opened his backpack and pulled out a framed photo of Joseph and nailed it to the wall in a place of pride.

Harris explained the significance of this moment for her. "We have a lot of stress in our lives with racism, working with colonial systems that are so unkind to our ways." The land is healing, she says.

"Today, we can feel our ancestors. We remember our stories when we are able to put our feet on the land," Harris says. "My spirit needs that. ... There's lots of good medicine there for us."

Where there's logging, there's fire
Canadian governments' commitments



Scientists have shown that industrial logging can increase fire intensity in forests by drying out the land. Conserving remaining intact forests such as Caas T'laat Kwah can prevent fires from getting even worse.

to reconciliation with First Nations and to biodiversity conservation might lead the Ministry of Forests to spare some of the remaining old growth. But the rise in extreme fires does not appear to factor into its calculus, says Torrance Coste, associate director for the Wilderness Committee. The link between logging and fires is "absolutely not" acknowledged by the province, he says.

Yet Coste says that industry lobby groups use the threat of wildfire to argue for more logging, saying, "We need to log these areas so they don't burn." That argument is driven by the conventional wisdom that increased fire severity is due not just to climate change but also fire suppression that created "fuel loading" – dense growth.

The Ministry of Forests would not make someone available for an interview. But a spokesperson wrote in an email that their approach to reducing wildfire severity is thinning (some logging) and prescribed burns.

Dominick DellaSala, chief scientist for Wild Heritage, says thinning forests only reduces fire severity in narrow circumstances. "It's critical to leave large, fire-resistant trees in place," he says, and not to remove too much of the forest canopy, which dries out plants and soil and allows winds to blow fires longer distances. Even if done right, benefits last only about a decade, he says, and only thwart fire when the weather isn't too hot or dry.

Susan Prichard, a fire ecologist at the University of Washington, says thinning can be a helpful step before prescribed burns in certain ecosystems, such as interior Douglas fir and ponderosa pine forests that Indigenous peoples used to burn regularly. Outlawing the practice has led to overgrowth. Caas T'laat Kwah, on the other hand, contains interior cedar hemlock and Engelmann spruce sub-alpine fir ecosystems, with trees up to 350 years old. Prichard says thinning or prescribed burns in these types of forests would not reduce fire severity.

DellaSala and other scientists say the focus on fuel loading and thinning fails to recognize the way in which industrial logging increases fire severity: It kills complex communities of life that stabilize the water cycle, leading to much drier landscapes.

One paper that DellaSala co-authored looked at the severity of 1,500 fires in Western U.S. states over 30 years and found that protected forests, with higher levels of biomass [plants] and fuel loading, actually had lower fire severity than intensively managed areas of commercial logging. Another from 2018 found that "intensive plantation forestry characterized by young forests and spatially homogenized fuels, rather than pre-fire biomass, were significant drivers of wildfire severity." Another from 2022 found that clear-cutting was a key factor leading to "frequent, high-

severity fire."

Other studies suggest that old growth reduces fire severity by retaining moisture and helping to generate rain. In an intact forest, dense, layered canopies of multiple species slow rain when it falls, and roots provide pathways for water to move underground. From there, it filters into creeks, wetlands and rivers over weeks and months. As trees photosynthesize, they release water vapour into the air, forming clouds.

They also release particles of microbes and fungi that help vapour coalesce into rain. Their rough surface slows wind, keeping moisture in the area. Old trees transpire more water, even through the dry season, because their roots tap groundwater from deep below. This phenomenon, called hydraulic lift, also distributes water to seedlings and weaker trees through the soil and mycorrhizal networks, keeping the whole forest moist, says University of British Columbia forest ecologist Suzanne Simard, author of *Finding the Mother Tree*.

Damp soil, plant litter and woody debris are filled with living beings – fungi, microbes, insects and other animals – that hold onto water for a long time and "really help with fire resistance," Simard says.

For example, wild forests can hold more than 10 times the species of mycorrhizal fungi than young plantations. Trees feed the fungi via their own photosynthesis. After clear-cutting, the few species that survive are not ones seen in old growth that are "big and fat and that really take up water and move it around the ecosystem," Simard says.

Although British Columbia requires logging companies to replant after cutting, typically they install just a few marketable species. Deciduous trees such as maples, aspen and birch are less flammable; their stands create fire breaks in natural landscapes. But they are also less marketable, so standard operating practice is to kill their sprouts with herbicide, Simard says. Herbicides can also kill living matter in the soil, making it far less able to absorb water, contributing to drought and landslides.

These differences are obvious even to laypeople, Coste says.

"The forest floor is spongy and, if you dug in your hands, would have moisture, whereas the cut blocks are crispy and dry," he says. And the lack of shade and evaporative cooling means that "walking from a standing forest into a clear-cut, the temperature can go up 15°."

Harris has observed this too. "The soil health is a concern. Walking on our territory, it's crunchy." And because water isn't filtering underground as much, "We used to have springs to drink from. And those are drying up."

A plan to save Caas T'laat Kwah

From the province's perspective, Caas T'laat Kwah is the jurisdiction of British Columbia Timber Supply (BCTS), a commercial arm of the Ministry of Forests. Under the Old Growth Strategic Review, the Wet'suwet'en notified BCTS that they support a logging deferral, which the Ministry of Forests acknowledged in 2023.

BCTS had proposed a 10-kilometer (6.2-mile) road and logging in the area, which Sierra Club BC verified by accessing recent planning maps. But the Ministry of Forests spokesperson wrote in an email, "Deferrals will remain in place until a long-term forest management approach is implemented."

Wet'suwet'en Nation is composed of five clans, each made up of several houses. To the Wet'suwet'en, Caas T'laat Kwah is the jurisdiction of Kwen Bea Yex (House Beside the Fire) of the Laksilyu (Small Frog Clan). Euverman is one of the members of Kwen Bea Yex. Sitting above the rushing Bulkley River, cottonwood fluff drifting like snow, she explains her motivation to protect Caas T'laat Kwah from logging.

"Coastal tailed frog is my biggest reason. The frog is on our crest," she said.

A species of special concern under Canada's Species at Risk Act, the frog is ancient. It is one of just two tailed frogs in the world and significantly different from other frogs. It doesn't vocalize, and its "tail" is actually used for making more frogs. Other species that survive in the Caas T'laat Kwah watershed include wolverine, grizzly, wolf, mountain goat, moose, bull trout, cutthroat trout, Western red cedar, whitebark pine and arboreal lichen, which feed endangered caribou.

The frogs are "very sensitive to their surroundings being disturbed," Euverman says, adding that noise prevents them from breeding. "They're important, and so are all the other animals." If BCTS goes against Wet'suwet'en desires to protect the watershed, "we'll fight to the end to keep them out," she says.

Wet'suwet'en played an outsized role in getting the province and Canada to engage with First Nations in land use decisions. It was one of two nations to bring the precedent-setting 1997 case in which the Supreme Court of Canada acknowledged that First Nations have collective property rights and their oral histories are valid. However, the ruling didn't actually grant nations property rights, leaving details vague. Canadian governments since have frequently delayed and disassembled.

In recent years, British Columbia and Canada have both passed into law the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). That requires colonial governments to engage in "free, prior and informed consent" with First Nations. However, Canadian and provin-

vincial governments do not give nations veto power over development projects within their territories. Wet'suwet'en activists experienced this firsthand: They waged a decade-long effort to prevent the Coastal GasLink pipeline from bifurcating their territory – and lost.

An uncertain future

Ultimately, BCTS could decide to log Caas T'laat Kwah. The spokesperson for the Ministry of Forests writes, "If the temporary deferral is lifted for areas within the Serb Creek watershed, BC Timber Sales will continue to work with First Nations, biologists, ecologists and other professionals to plan any potential future harvest [logging] in a way that would preserve the area's biodiversity, wildlife, cultural values and recreational opportunities."

Coste, with the Wilderness Committee, is skeptical. "The whole structure of government is built around the prioritization of timber and its extraction," he says.

"So, these other values, like conservation or protecting forests for cultural value ... it's hard to do."

Near the cabin flows Serb Creek. Its aqua blue color is created by "glacial flour," fine silt and clay that floats suspended in the water, the particles absorbing purple and blue light. Copyright: Michael Kawerninski.

One of the most challenging aspects, Harris says, is that provincial rules change every couple of years, with each new government. In fact, British Columbia is holding an election in October, which could change priorities yet again. Wet'suwet'en laws, on the other hand, are unchanging; gifts from their ancestors and the Creator, Harris says, "Our stories help us learn our laws, what our responsibilities are. That doesn't change."

Wieting says he's familiar with this issue. "We've seen countless examples in this province. A nation is successful at opposing logging, only to confront the same struggle a few years later – and sometimes losing that battle."

Besides the old-growth program, Caas T'laat Kwah could be protected as a park or as part of a carbon storage or biodiversity conservation program.

But de Wit dismisses those approaches. "All those Western tools are the Western system realizing that they made a mistake. I wouldn't say that they are the instrument for protection."

Another possibility is a recent movement in which First Nations declare places Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas. But Wieting says, "We have not seen examples of colonial governments quickly respecting unilaterally declared Indigenous protected areas."

Instead, de Wit wants Wet'suwet'en to protect it entirely according to its own governance traditions. That requires members of Kwen Bea Yex to decide that Caas T'laat Kwah is needed for cultural and ecological purposes and off-limits to commercial logging, he says. The house would then secure agreement from its clan followed by all the clans. Then they'd have a feast, which ratifies the agreement.

"The feast hall is the site of the Wet'suwet'en Parliament," Dewit says.

The B.C. Supreme Court previously upheld Wet'suwet'en governance to prevent logging in another culturally important place.

Harris works on the nation's watershed planning committee and is a member of Ginehklaiyex (House of Many Eyes), which is also part of Laksilyu Clan. "Serb Creek is of interest for the whole nation," she says. "The houses support keeping it in a pristine state."

Meanwhile, the fires continue. In August, 353 fires were burning across British Columbia, including a "wildfire of note" just outside of Witsset, a Wet'suwet'en reserve. Racism and colonialism have left deep wounds, Harris says. But de Wit sounds an optimistic note, saying, "When we heal the land, we will heal the people."

African leaders voice collective demand for more space of development at UN session

UNITED NATIONS

AFRICAN heads of state and government have addressed the General Debate of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, expressing a common wish that their countries proceed faster and safer along the paths of sound development while expecting the world body to spare no effort to help them overcome current obstacles and better prepare for the future.

Ghana's President Nana Akufo-Addo said that "Africa is not a continent of despair. She is full of great possibilities. She is required, however, to chart a new course of development. Our young population is filled with energy, creativity and ambition ... The people of Africa are not asking for handouts -- they are demanding opportunities in a new global architecture so they can have access to education, healthcare and jobs, to be able to build better lives for themselves, their families and their descendants."

"It is impossible to address the challenges of today without speaking of the contradictions that exist within this global institution," he noted. "African nations must take ownership of their security, and the African Union needs to strengthen itself to be able to respond swiftly to threats," the president said.

Liberian President Joseph Boakai said that innate greed, insensitivity to the poor, the international drug epidemic, money laundering, dynamics of climate change and the impact of social media "must compel us to rethink our approach to global peace and security."

"Our vulnerabilities are evident, and we need to use our collective knowledge to find solutions that will preserve the planet for future generations," the president said.

"The threat of conflicts to our shared world underscores the importance of collaborative efforts to foster regional and global stability and peace," he noted, adding that the member countries must support all the UN's efforts to address peace and security issues worldwide. "Liberia is concerned about the escalating security challenges in the West African region, including terrorism and economic and political instability."

With the recognition and the urgency for profound global transformation as the core of the Pact for the Future which was passed on Sunday at the Summit of the Future, the world body's member states strive to rebuild trust in multilateralism with a legitimate demand to be recognized as equal partners, said



Bola Ahmed Tunubu, Nigerian President

President of Namibia Nangolo Mbumba. Such partners mean those who can be trusted in the fight against war, poverty, global injustice and inequality.

The theme for this General Debate -- "Leaving no one behind: acting together for the advancement of peace, sustainable development, and human dignity for present and future generations" -- "aligns perfectly with our shared aspirations for effective international cooperation," he noted. "Namibia is working to develop a sustainable energy mix to support its ambitious industrialization agenda and to contribute to the world's efforts to combat climate change."

ACHIEVEMENTS

As an ocean nation heavily dependent on marine resources, Cabo Verde in the ocean decade focuses on local and global actions to promote sustainable ocean

management, said José Maria Pereira Neves, president of Cabo Verde, adding that "we have been focused on the importance of sustainable ocean management, particularly for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that are very vulnerable to climate change, and the degradation of marine ecosystems."

For three consecutive years, the country has hosted international ocean conferences to foster partnerships between governments, the private sector, scientists, and civil society to advance ocean science and create innovative solutions to ocean challenges. It is important to bring together key stakeholders in order to boost collaborative solutions for the oceans, help develop research capacities to study the impact of climate change and ocean acidification, and promote knowledge sharing and technology transfer to improve ocean monitoring

and observation systems, he noted.

The African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA) has made significant progress in a very difficult world environment, and endeavored to garner support to replenish the Global Fund, said Umaro Sissoco Embaló, president of Guinea-Bissau. "We worked with the private sector to promote the production of drugs and nets to combat malaria," said Embaló, also serving as ALMA President.

"We encouraged the transfer of technologies to African companies. We launched End Malaria Councils and Funds and supported youth movements against malaria," he said. Despite all the progress achieved, challenges persist. "Global warming and rains associated with climate change are expanding the geographic reach of mosquitos, thus exposing more than 170 million people to the threat of malaria in the African con-

continent," he noted.

The international community cannot hope to advance sustainable development when some race ahead while others are left to struggle. In other words, no one should be left behind, said Seychelles' President Wavel Ramkalawan. "Words are nothing without deeds and we have to act urgently, in unity, to make the necessary transition to a more sustainable future."

Except for combating climate change and military expenditure rise, "it is time to move beyond discussion and implement real reforms in the international financial system to address the preclusion of some vulnerable countries, regardless of income status, from opportunities to meet development needs," he said. "The multilateral system remains our best hope for addressing the challenges we face."

WISH AND CAUTION

Philemon Yang, president of the 79th Session of the UNGA, told the opening of the General Debate on Tuesday that "this will be a priority for my presidency. Africa is one of the priorities of the United Nations. We must support Africa."

The African Union's Agenda 2063 presents a bold and transformative vision for the continent. Africa currently has the youngest population in the world. And by 2063, one in four people will be African. The generation of resources for the wellbeing of these people has been much slower than the population growth.

"We must not let Africa's potential to go unrealized. In fact, to truly unlock Africa's vast potential, we must ac-

tively cultivate global partnerships that align with the continent's aspirations and drive its success. In this endeavor, I look forward to working with all Member States of the United Nations this year on keeping Africa at the heart of our agenda," he noted.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, sensitive to the global changes, warned to the assembly that "a powder keg risks engulfing the world," while urging country leaders, including those from Africa, to come together to find solutions.

Remarking against a cascade of crises and conflicts, he said that "our world in a whirlwind. We are edging towards the unimaginable ... We see this age of impunity everywhere -- in the Middle East, in the heart of Europe, in the Horn of Africa, and beyond." He drew comparisons between the Cold War and current conflicts in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan and Myanmar, saying that they all lacked guardrails and red lines.

Calling the current state of the world "unsustainable," Guterres said that "we can't go on like this," but he also expressed hope, telling world leaders that "the challenges we face are solvable."

The only path forward requires action, like overhauling international institutions such as the Security Council and the World Bank to better reflect the realities and needs of today's world, and for countries to come together and cooperate around a common purpose, he said. "It is in all our interests to manage the epic transformations underway, to choose the future we want and guide our world toward it."

Kenya rallying Africa to unlock opportunities in digital economy

NAIROBI

KENYAN Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has emphasized the urgent need to unlock the vast opportunities presented by the digital economy for African countries, highlighting its potential to create jobs and enhance service delivery.

Speaking at the 41st edition of the International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP) World Conference in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, Gachagua urged Africa to leverage its demographic dividend and implement smart policies to achieve a digital and resilient future.

"Our continent has potential to become a global technology powerhouse by tapping into the innovations and entrepreneurial spirit of the youth. This demographic is powering transition to a knowledge-based economy," Gachagua said.

The 41st IASP conference, held from Sept. 24 to 27, focuses on the theme "Demographics, Entrepreneurship and Technology: Defining the Frontiers of Future Economies." It has brought together over 1,500 delegates from 50 countries, including policymakers, industry executives, innovators, regulators, and scholars, to discuss how emerging technologies can transform economies, promote climate action, and achieve the United Nations 2030 goals.

Kenya is the second African nation, after South Africa, to host this global summit which centers on creating a robust innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem, enhanc-

ing the digital skills of youth, and strengthening the fintech sector.

Gachagua highlighted Kenya's commitment to supporting Africa's digital transformation, aiming for inclusive growth and the climate-proofing of critical sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, health, transport, and tourism.

He pointed to the installation of 100,000 km of fiber optic cable and the establishment of digital hubs in 1,400 wards across Kenya as key steps toward transitioning to a knowledge-based economy, with benefits expected to resonate across the continent.

He called on African countries to accelerate the adoption of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), Blockchain, cloud computing, and the Internet of Things, which have the potential to reshape economies and enhance workplace productivity.

"With artificial intelligence estimated to contribute 15.7 trillion U.S. dollars to the global economy by 2030, Kenya and Africa must have a bite of this technology," said Gachagua, stressing the essential need for strategic investments in research and development, training, as well as infrastructure.

By developing robust science, technology, and innovation hubs, Gachagua believes Africa will be better positioned to address endemic issues such as poverty, hunger, youth unemployment, disease, and environmental crises.

IASP Chief Executive Officer Ebba Lund said leveraging digital tools could enable African countries to leapfrog into a prosperous, inclusive, and resilient future.

Nduva seeks law changes to end trade spats in EAC

By Special Correspondent

BILATERAL agreements Uganda to resolve contentious trade disputes within the East African Community Common Market have not always been successful, prompting the Secretariat to step in to legally resolve them as they hurt intra-regional trade and integration.

The EAC has been unable to eliminate non-tariff barriers (NTBs), with 10 still pending and resolution of others at different levels.

Cumulatively, 274 NTBs have been resolved since 2007, but the trading in milk, poultry, cereals (maize), juice and other agricultural products has remained contentious in the past 10 years, often making a mockery of both the Customs Union and the Common Market protocols.

This has partly been blamed on the lack of operationalisation of the EAC Trade Remedies Committee, which has remained dormant for more than seven years now.

Denis Karera, vice-chair of the East Africa Business Council, told The EastAfrican that, over the past seven years, every time the discussion on trade remedies comes up, it dies immediately -- "meaning there are parties within us who have no interest in seeing trade remedies implemented."

Trade remedy laws, which are domestic or international, seek to prevent



EAC Secretary-General Veronica Nduva

bad trade practices among countries. They range from anti-dumping to countervailing and safeguard measures.

Adrian Njau, acting CEO of the EABC, said that the lobby has been pushing the amendment of Article 24 of the EAC Customs Union Protocol, which provides for the establishment of the East African Community Committee on Trade Remedies, to constitute the team.

"The Protocol provides that the Committee on Trade Remedies shall be composed of nine members who are competent in matters of trade, customs and law, and that each partner state shall nominate three members to the Committee," Mr Njau said.

But only Burundi has responded, much to the frustration of the Secretariat.

EAC Secretary-General Veronica Nduva said they had asked each partner

step," the EAC boss said.

The Secretariat is also working towards establishing the Competition Regulations and Dispute Settlement Mechanism, and Nduva expects it to be finalized by the end of the year.

The Brookside row and the longstanding dispute between Kenya and Tanzania over maize imports have re-energised the push for the formulation of an Act to end trade disputes.

Read: Brookside, traders claim bias in issuance of Uganda dairy import permits

Uganda has lately faced difficulty in exporting its agricultural products to Kenya.

In 2023, Kampala reached a significant milestone in its dairy industry, with milk production surpassing the three-billion-litre mark for the first time. According to data from the Dairy Development Authority (DDA), the country produced 3.85 billion litres of milk in the financial year 2022/23, representing a 37 percent increase, compared with the 2.81 billion litres produced in the previous financial year.

Despite a surplus in milk supply, efforts by Uganda to export milk to Kenya have always been marred by blockages and frustrations. At the centre of it, Brookside is the Kenya Dairy Board (KDB), accused of selectively allowing milk imports from Ugandan processors while locking out

state to produce the report by June this year, but by September only Gitega had ratified the article that would bring to effect the Trade Remedies Committee.

She cited the Brookside milk saga between Kenya and Uganda blaming it on the lack of the trade remedies mechanism.

Nduva is looking to fast track the Trade Remedy Committees to resolve the outstanding trade disputes.

"We have had the Brookside milk saga for so long now. If we had the Trade Remedies Committee, this matter would not be with us," she said.

"One of the commitments I would like to make is that I will be directly engaging with the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee, the Secretariat Council, and bring to their attention that there are a number of things that are not moving because they are stuck at their door-

Brookside, which has operations in both countries.

According to the private sector in Uganda, trade relations between the two countries continue to hurt Ugandan dairy farmers through continuous bans and denial of export permits for Uganda dairy products as well as poultry, sugar and other agricultural products.

This is despite efforts by President Yoweri Museveni, during his state visit to Kenya in May, signing a memorandum with Kenya's William Ruto to facilitate trade between the two partner states.

Simon Kaheru, EABC Uganda chapter vice-chair, says that a section of traders have not resumed exports to a level that can comfortably confirm that the situation is back to normal.

"The processes involved in trade are not the simple switch-on-switch-off. Everybody is being cautious, because of the bad experiences that keep recurring. This is why we must discourage trade disruptions of any kind," Kaheru said.

Brookside Ltd, owned by the family of former president Uhuru Kenyatta, says it has been hard hit in the ongoing NTBs.

"Trade is about trust, and it is like a mirror: once a mirror is broken, it does not matter how much you glue the pieces back together, it is difficult to use for a long time after that," Mr Kaheru told The EastAfrican.

By Francis Kokutse

Donor funding falls short for Africa's digital health

AS African countries struggle with overburdened healthcare systems, limited resources, and an increasing prevalence of chronic diseases such as cancer, digital health innovations are essential.

However, relying on donor funding alone is not enough to support these developments. So says Kwasi Boahene, director of health systems at PharmAccess, an entrepreneurial non-profit organisation that seeks to improve access to quality healthcare in Africa.

In an interview, Boahene explains how digital health can transform healthcare delivery, making it more equitable and efficient - and why public-private partnerships are critical to achieving this.

What exactly is meant by digital health?

Digital health refers to the integration of technology and data analytics into healthcare systems to improve efficiency, access and patient outcomes.

In Africa, where healthcare budgets are stretched thin and the disease burden is high, particularly from non-communicable diseases - such as hypertension [high blood pressure] and diabetes - digital health can be a game-changer.

"While donor funding is important, it is not sustainable for long-term healthcare needs."

These diseases account for 37 per cent of all deaths in Africa, yet attract only two per cent of global health investments.

By adopting digital solutions, African healthcare systems can bridge this gap, ensuring more equitable access to quality healthcare.

Digital health plays a key role in supporting the Universal Health Coverage declaration that most African countries have adopted.

What are the various forms of digital health?

Digital health encompasses a wide array of tools and applications, ranging from mobile health solutions and remote patient monitoring to mobile health wallets and digital platforms.

It also includes health data systems, data analytics, predictive analytics,



Cell phones and other digital devices are important in the delivery of health care. Digital health can transform healthcare delivery, making it more equitable and efficient.

and artificial intelligence. These technologies can significantly expand access to healthcare, especially in underserved areas, and support data-driven decision-making by health providers.

The data generated by these systems is crucial for improving the value of healthcare for patients, providers, and payers. Ultimately, digital health not only improves access but also enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of care.

What is digital health's role in healthcare delivery?

Africa has already demonstrated its ability to innovate in the

digital space, particularly in mobile finance and commerce. Mobile payments contribute around ten per cent of Africa's GDP, compared to just two per cent in Europe and the US, despite 57 per cent of Africans lacking a bank account. Building on this success, digital health can bring similar innovations to healthcare, tackling the continent's unique challenges.

Take the growing burden of non-communicable diseases - Africa needs more efficient health solutions to manage these conditions. Digital health can optimise resources, improve disease management, and enhance

patient outcomes.

For instance, in Ghana, a partnership involving PharmAccess, the Dutch digital provider Lusicii, and local healthcare providers implemented digital remote monitoring for non-communicable diseases.

This initiative led to a 20 per cent increase in patient compliance and a 15 per cent reduction in healthcare costs for patients, demonstrating the potential of digital health to transform care delivery.

Moreover, data is critical to building trust in health systems, ensuring privacy and security, and promoting patient engage-

ment.

Can African countries afford to roll out digital health?

Africa's success with mobile technology offers valuable lessons for digital health. A phased approach, starting with manageable investments and scaling up based on results, can minimise risks and optimise resources.

Digital health technologies, when implemented thoughtfully, can reduce both initial and operational costs.

Collaboration between governments and private sector players is key. These partnerships provide technical expertise, funding, and innovative solutions, reducing the financial burden on individual countries.

By leveraging each partner's strengths, such collaborations can accelerate the rollout of digital health solutions, ensuring that access is more equitable and widespread.

Since many African countries rely on donor funding for their health programmes, can digital health be sustained?

While donor funding is important, it is not sustainable for long-term healthcare needs.

Blended financing is a more viable solution. That's why PharmAccess established the Medical

Credit Fund, which offers business training, financing, and technical assistance to entrepreneurs in the healthcare sector.

By combining domestic financing with private investment, this approach creates greater value and sustainability.

Donor funding, when used strategically, can serve as a risk mitigator, particularly in high-risk environments, helping to catalyse larger investments from the private sector.

Do you have success stories of digital health initiatives in Africa?

Yes, there are several success stories. In Kenya, PharmAccess partnered with CarePay International, a Dutch-Kenyan social enterprise, to develop a mobile health payment platform.

This platform enables millions of Kenyans to access affordable healthcare via their phones.

Today, the platform serves 4.7 million people and is used in 5,000 healthcare facilities, generating critical data to improve healthcare for patients, providers, and governments.

In Ghana, we supported the National Health Insurance Authority in launching the CLAIM-it App, which simplifies claims processing, reduces costs, and minimises fraud.

The data collected from this app has been instrumental in shaping policy towards value-based care for non-communicable diseases, now being piloted in partnership with CHAG, a network of more than 300 health facilities and training institutions.

By Ismail Einashe

Toiling on a flower farm in Kenya to send fresh roses to European markets

ON a moonless night in the Kenyan lakeside town of Naivasha, Anne sits inside a makeshift, two-room house, exhausted after a gruelling shift picking and sorting roses.

Anne (not her real name) is a single mother and one of thousands of the predominantly female workers in Kenya's flower industry, harvesting and categorising blooms in one of the many greenhouse complexes around the edge of the picturesque Lake Naivasha, about 90km (56 miles) north-west of the capital, Nairobi.

Inside endless rows of the temperature-controlled greenhouses the size of tennis courts, workers like Anne harvest a huge variety of flowers that grow profusely in the rich Kenyan soil.

There are carnations, chrysanthemums, and an abundance of roses in almost every hue. The majority of these blooms are destined for Europe.

Anne has spent over 15 years working in Kenya's burgeoning flower industry, one of the largest employers in the country.

Estimates suggest it employs more than 150,000 people and earns the country around \$1bn (£760m) annually in foreign exchange.

Despite dedicating her working life to the industry, she says her monthly pay of just over \$100 has barely changed in years.

It is not enough to contend with the worsening cost-of-living crisis in Kenya, which has pushed up the prices of essential household goods such as maize, wheat, rice and sugar.

At the end of each month, Anne does not have enough to eat and often has to skip meals.

"You have to enter into debt to survive," she says, pointing out that she had to take out a loan to help her 23-year-old son attend university in Nairobi.

Each sunrise Anne queues with hundreds of other workers to



catch one of the company buses that takes them to the farms, as the gentle fog lingers over the hills before being evaporated by the blazing mid-morning sun.

Anne starts work at 07:30, six days a week. On Sunday, she goes to church.

The working day at her flower farm is meant to be eight hours, but she explains that she often feels obliged to work an extra three hours, for which she does not receive overtime pay.

She used to work inside the pack house, where the flowers were cleaned, bunched, and sorted into stems.

She recounts that the conditions there were

harsh.

The flower company gave her stringent daily targets, which the managers pressured the workers to meet.

"We had to grade 3,700 stems a day," she says.

Anne feels these targets were unrealistic, but she says workers like her had no choice but to deliver, or the farm managers would sanction them.

If she missed her daily target, she had to write a statement to her manager explaining the reasons for falling short.

"If you don't achieve it, maybe you can be thrown out," she says.

In early 2023, Anne fell ill with a blood condition,

which, if untreated, could be deadly.

She felt weak and suffered shortness of breath, which made working extremely difficult.

She went to see a nurse at the farm who gave her medicine and allowed her to rest for a few hours, after which he told her to return to work.

"I told him: 'You know, I'm too sick to work,'" Anne recounts.

Anne says it was tough to convince the nurse she was genuinely ill, but he eventually agreed to refer her to an off-farm doctor.

She was allowed only one day off, despite still feeling weak and being treated for a serious illness.

at the home of a colleague after dark, in their tiny dwelling not far from the shores of Lake Naivasha.

She is afraid to speak out for fear of retribution from the flower industry, and says their influence is everywhere in Naivasha. "Nobody cares," she adds.

A report in September 2023 by the Nairobi-based NGO, Route To Food Initiative, showed that highly hazardous pesticides are routinely used in Kenyan farming, some known to cause cancer.

Margaret says she has repeatedly approached her bosses about her concerns.

"They shout to the men, they shout to the women," she says. "They shout to everybody. They don't care, and they are Kenyans."

She says women can also face sexual harassment from male workers - the industry has been marred with complaints.

We put the allegations of sexual harassment, unpaid overtime, harsh working conditions, and lack of protective gear on some flower farms in Naivasha to both the Kenya Flower Council and the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), the government agency responsible for monitoring the industry, but neither got back to us.

Kenya's flower business also has a significant cost for the environment at

large.

The production of flowers requires a great deal of water, and to feed the European appetite for cheap cut flowers, the blooms are transported refrigerated in long-haul, gas-guzzling jets, wrapped in single-use plastic, and are usually arranged in toxic floral foam to keep them fresh.

Kenya supplies more than 40% of the flower market in Europe, with the vast majority of blooms destined for the Netherlands, the hub for the European cut flower industry.

Flowers arrive daily by plane and are taken to the huge, frenetic flower market in the picturesque town of Aalsmeer, where they are bought and distributed to suppliers across Europe.

Here lorries arrive by the minute and tourists gaze down from walkways as huge trolleys of flowers of all colours are moved around at speed, as far as the eye can see.

In supermarkets and florists across Europe, consumers buy the cheap flowers to mark important events like marriages and birthdays, with no way of tracing their provenance or hearing the experiences of those like Anne and Margaret that have toiled, thousands of kilometres away, to produce them.

As a single mother with a son who needs her support, Anne feels she has no choice but to continue to work in the flower industry. There are few other opportunities in Naivasha and she is afraid to be left with no income at all.

"If God helps me," Anne says, "I will move on."

TANROADS SAYS JANGWANI BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION WORKS IN THE OFFING

By Francis Kajubi

THE Tanzania National Roads Agency (TanRoads) has revealed that a contract for the construction of the 390 meter long and 15 meter high Jangwani bridge project in Dar es Salaam city is expected to be signed next month.

The contract whose preparations have been completed will be constructed for 24 months stretching from the central business district of Kariakoo to Magomeni suburb which will be known as the Jangwani bridge.

Ephatar Mlavi, TanRoads Acting Chief Executive Officer said yesterday that the cost of the project will be made public when the contract is signed.

"The preparation of the contract for the construction of this bridge has been completed and we expect it to be signed next month and immediately start its implementation," said Mlavi.

Speaking in Parliament three weeks ago, the Minister for Works Innocent Bashungwa, said that the project is financed by concessional loan secured from the World Bank where the procurement procedures to hire a contractor for the construction of the bridge are in the final stages.

The minister promised in parliament that the contract will be signed before the end of this month (September 2024).

"We are collaborating with the President's Office through the Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Develop-



Proposed Jangwani bridge in Dar es Salaam. File Photo

ment Project in the construction of this bridge particularly in construction of the banks of the Msimbazi River and in compensation," said Bashungwa.

Explaining TanRoads success for the past three years, Mlavi said the agency oversees the construction, repair and maintenance of roads and bridges on a road network with a total length of 37,225.71 kilometers.

He said that of the total network, the earth road network has increased to 12,028.65 kilometers and gravel roads covering 25,197.06 kilometers and a total of 9,563 bridges.

Mlavi said that between the financial years 2019/20 and

2022/23, the average number of contracts signed by TanRoads with local contractors per year for road maintenance was pegged at 1,067.

He said the average cost spent on road construction per year is 411.18bn/-. In order to build the capacity of local contractors, TanRoads has been allocating ten percent of the annual development budget for practical training projects.

It has been allocating at least 30 percent of the development budget in favor of local contractors alongside allocating at least five percent of the budget for development projects for special groups.

Following the effects of the El-Nino rains that damaged the roads this year, TanRoads has been working to restore the infrastructure to good condition.

Until the end of August this year, a total of 15,343.88 kilometers have been at various stages of construction. 1,198.50 kilometers have been completed at earth road level.

2,031.11 kilometers are under construction at the earth road level. A total of 2,052.94 kilometers and two bridges have been completed with feasibility studies ready to be constructed at the tarmac level.

"A total of 4,734.43 kilometers and 10 bridges are at the feasi-

bility study stage. Road projects covering 5,326.90 kilometers and seven bridges are at the feasibility study and detailed design stage in preparation for the construction of tarmac roads," said Mlavi.

With regard to roads construction projects targeting at equipping people's economic activities, earlier this month Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) said that a total of 19 tenders for issuing of contracts for the building of tarmac roads have been floated by the Agency for the second phase of the Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Development Project (DMDP).

Victor Seif, the TARURA chief executive officer, said that ten contracts are in final approval stages by the TARURA procurement board, with nine contracts being evaluated.

The second phase of DMDP is billed at \$438m and implemented over a period of six years in the five districts of Dar es Salaam city, to build tarmac roads covering 250 kilometers.

It also involves constructing storm water canals stretching a total of 90 kilometers, nine commuter bus stations, 18 markets and three landfills, which he said will benefit 3.98m city residents.

Markets listed for improvement are those of Tegeta Nyuki, Sinza, Msumi and three fish markets in Mbweni suburb, with the landfills slated for Kigamboni, Ilala and Mabwepande. Commuter bus stations are scheduled for Tegeta

Nyuki and Kigamboni, he said.

The project, 'roads to inclusion and socioeconomic opportunities' is funded by the World Bank, intended for improving rural roads to uplift economic opportunities, increasing job openings in the various districts.

The overall project costs 823bn/- (\$350m), where 705bn/- is a concessional loan from World Bank-IDA and 118bn/- is co-financing by the government, he stated.

Total road stretches for the phases relate to tarmac roads covering 535km where 400km of the roads fall within TARURA and 135km under the Tanzania Roads Agency (TanRoads).

The loan agreement was signed in August 2021 and implemented three months later, in November, where two earth roads in Iringa were taken up, covering 33km and Wenda-Mgama, stretching 19 kilometers, he said.

Mitili to Ifyagi road improvement covering 14km in Iringa and Mufindi districts has 60 percent completion so far, he said, highlighting that during the fiscal 2022/23 and 2023/24 TARURA finished the construction of a 12.8km tarmac road and a rain[1] water drainage canal in Mbweni suburb of the city.

Steel bridges linking Kihansi and Mlimba plus Ruipa and Kilombero in Morogoro Region were built, among eight strategic projects implemented during the two fiscal years, he added.

Access Bank acquires BancABC Tanzania

By Property Watch Correspondent

ACCESS Bank has successfully fulfilled all legal and regulatory requirements to complete its acquisition of African Banking Corporation (Tanzania) Limited ("BancABC Tanzania").

With the acquisition now finalised, the entity will operate under the name Access Bank Tanzania Limited, further consolidating Access Bank's presence in the East African region.

This milestone builds on Access Bank's recent acquisition of the consumer, private, and business banking operations of Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania.

Seyi Kumapayi, Executive Director of African Subsidiaries at Access Bank said the newly formed Access Bank Tanzania will leverage its inherent strengths and those of its parent company to offer a comprehensive suite of financial solutions aimed at fostering economic growth in Tanzania.

"This milestone is a crucial step in our East African growth strategy, re-

inforcing our commitment to Tanzania's economic development."

He added: "By integrating BancABC Tanzania into the Access Bank Group, we will enhance our ability to provide diverse and innovative financial solutions that meet the evolving needs of our customers. Our goal is to facilitate greater inter- and intra-African trade while empowering local communities, particularly women and youth, through improved access to banking services and financial opportunities."

John Imani, Access Bank Tanzania Managing Director said: "This marks a new era for the bank's operation as itwe combines the strengths of both institutions to create a stronger and more competitive bank that serves the needs of our customers. Our shared commitment to delivering excellent service and driving financial inclusion will guide us as we integrate and grow in Tanzania."

With the acquisition complete, customers of Access Bank Tanzania will benefit from banking with

an institution that boasts a world-class payments gateway and is supported by a dynamic ecosystem of local and international partnerships.

Access Bank's international expansion and its enhanced presence in key trading corridors across Africa enable it to effectively bridge the gap between cross-border and domestic transfers, catering to all business segments while efficiently managing global payments and remittances.

Access Bank is committed to making a lasting positive impact on the communities it serves. The bank brings its proven track record of enhancing communities and preserving the environment from its operations across various countries to Tanzania, ensuring that its growth supports not only economic progress but also environmental sustainability and community development.

Through the efforts, Access Bank Tanzania aims to contribute to a more sustainable future for the nation.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan unveils the foundation stone for the construction of 28 modern grain storage facilities at Luhimba-Madaba in Songea district. Looking on is the minister for agriculture Hussein Bashe. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

duction stone for the construction of the facilities in Luhimba-Madaba, Songea ALAF Limited Tanzania Project Manager Julius Nalitolela commended the Ministry of Agriculture for the initiative, saying the company was implementing the project using modern construction technology.

Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan was accompanied by the Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe and other officials of Ruvuma region during the laying of the foundation stone.

"This technology is being used for the very first time and we, as ALAF Limited Tanzania, implementing this project under the Ministry of Agriculture, are sure that this is a permanent solution because the focus is on high quality," he said.

He asserted that the roofs of the warehouses would be constructed using saflok, a product that does not allow any leakage especially during the rainy season.

Another product used in this project is a light gauge which will be used for the construction of offices and toilets. "It is light, easy to transport, computer fabricated, does not produce waste in the working area, is resistant to termites, rust-free and safe due to its design and its construction is quick," he said.

National Food Storage Agency (NFRA) Project Manager Engineer Iman Nzobonaliba said after project completion the newly constructed facilities would be able to store more than 28,000 tonnes of grain.

"After completion, this project, which is of high quality, will be the solution to the shortage of grain storage facilities in Ruvuma Region," he said.

He asserted that the project had been completed by 90 per cent and was expected to be completed by November this year.

ALAF Limited Tanzania is a leading company for manufacturing iron sheets in the country. The company, which was founded in 1960, continues to be a key stakeholder in the development of the country's construction industry.

ALAF has fully-integrated operations, not only for making steel, but also for producing materials used in various roofing activities. It manufactures a variety of steel products for various home roofing applications.



Seyi Kumapayi, Executive Director of African Subsidiaries at Access Bank, shares a word with business partners and Access Bank staff on the full acquisition of the African Banking Corporation (Tanzania) Limited. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ALAF introduces use of new technology for 28 grain storage facilities in Ruvuma

By Property Watch Correspondent

ALAF Limited Tanzania has assured Ruvuma residents that the new technology that it is using to construct 28 grain storage

facilities in the region will ensure maximum quality and that there will be no more shortage of these facilities.

Speaking after President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan laid the foun-

FIRMS JOIN FORCES TO ADVANCE CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION, DIGITAL LITERACY



Elias Patrick (R), executive director of Techforward Tanzania, and Kiiya Joel chief executive officer of C-Sema Tanzania, sign MoU ahead of the implementation of foster child online protection and promoting digital literacy across Tanzania. Photo: Valentine Oforo.

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

THE Dar es Salaam-based Techforward Tanzania, a leading organization in digital literacy and technological innovation, has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with C-Sema Tanzania with an eye to foster child online protection and promote digital literacy across Tanzania.

Through the partnership, Techforward Tanzania will work in sync with C-Sema Tanzania, a renowned child protection organization, to create safer digital spaces for children and equipping communities with the necessary knowledge and tools to navigate the rapidly evolving digital landscape.

The MOU was signed in the country's Business Capital of Dar es Salaam City by Elias Patrick, the Executive Director (ED) of Techforward Tanzania and Kiiya Joel, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of C-Sema Tanzania.

Speaking shortly after signing the crucial pact, Patrick expressed: "This partnership with C-Sema is a significant step toward addressing one of the most press-

ing challenges of our time—ensuring the safety and well-being of children in the digital world. Together, we will work to empower youth with the skills they need for a successful future while creating an online environment where they can thrive safely."

Joel, for his side, emphasized the importance of the initiative, saying in today's increasingly connected world, children are exposed to both opportunities and risks online.

And he added: "Through this collaboration, we will amplify efforts to protect children while helping them harness the potential of technology for learning and personal development."

Detailing more over the MoU, he expressed that the implementation of the partnership will incorporate several areas including efforts to launch awareness campaigns on safe online practices for children, parents, and educators.

The other initiatives to be executive throughout the joint venture, according to Joel, will see development of educational programs to improve digital literacy among young people, as well as

to advocate for policies and initiatives that enhance online child protection across Tanzania.

"Both organizations bring unique strengths to this collaboration. Techforward Tanzania is recognized for its innovative approach to digital education and tech solutions, while C-Sema has been at the forefront of child advocacy and protection for many years," he expressed.

Techforward Tanzania is an organization dedicated to advancing digital literacy, technological solutions, and online safety in Tanzania. By using innovation and technology, Techforward Tanzania aims to empower individuals and communities with the tools they need to thrive in a digital world.

About C-Sema Tanzania C-Sema Tanzania is a child protection organization committed to ensuring the welfare and rights of children across Tanzania. Through advocacy, outreach, and support, C-Sema empowers children and families to create safe and nurturing environments for young people to grow and thrive.

EU subsidy probe a betrayal of commitment

BARCELONA

By launching an anti-subsidy investigation into Chinese-made electric vehicles (EVs) in the name of mitigating the risks highly subsidized EVs pose to European automakers, the European Commission has not only deviated from global trade norms but also betrayed the European Union's solemn pledge to promote free and fair trade. China does not want another tariff war but is not afraid to take on the EU if the latter launches one.

China's anti-subsidy and anti-dumping investigations on EU dairy products, pork, brandy, and other agricultural products were initiated in response to applications from domestic industries, rather than as retaliatory trade measures against the EU. However, these measures can help the EU and its member states deeply realize the essence of the complementary and mutually beneficial nature of China-EU economic and trade relations.

The EU's anti-subsidy investigation, launched in October 2023, without receiving any complaints from EU automakers or EU member state governments, violates Article II of the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. But instead of stopping the investigation, the EU released the draft of its final decision on Aug 20, 2024, further breaching global economic and trade rules and practices.

China has always abided by international norms while the EU has been trampling on international trade rules and practices that have developed in the more than seven decades since the end of World War II. Incidentally, these rules and practices were established by European and American leaders.

For years, the EU has been slowly but surely resorting to protectionism, earning the nickname "Fortress Europe". Its economic policy is marked by increasing regulations which hinder innovation, which has led to its declining economic vitality and global influence.

This is not to deny European countries' significant contributions to trade liberalization and the multilateral trading system. Europe's contribution to global trade can be gauged from the fact that all the directors-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (the precursor to the WTO) were Europeans – Eric Wyndham-White, Olivier Long, Arthur Dunkel and Peter Sutherland. Also, three of the seven directors-general of the WTO were Europeans: Peter Sutherland, Renato Ruggiero and Pascal Lamy.

Notably, the EU's predecessor, the European Community, was founded with the explicit aim of fostering economic growth by eliminating trade barriers on the continent. This spirit of cooperation and openness led to significant tariff reductions and facilitated trade, which in turn fueled Europe's economic growth.

Evidently, the EU's stance toward China, characterized by protectionism and restrictive measures, represents a significant deviation from its original commitment to free and fair trade, and this could lead to painful consequences. Europe's share of the global economy has been shrinking over the years. In 1990, the 12-member European Community accounted for 29.6 percent of global GDP and 31.2 percent of global exports. But in 2023, the 20-member eurozone accounted for only 14.7 percent of global GDP and 24.7 percent of global exports. Even if the United Kingdom were added to the EU, the figures would increase to just 17.9 percent and 26.9 percent.

Kigaha encourages business owners to seek more gains from trade expos

By Correspondent Zuweni Shama

The Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Exhau Kigaha, has stressed the need of using trade exhibitions as they can serve as crucial platforms for partnering with key stakeholders in investment and ultimately promoting trade and development in Tanzania.

Kigaha made the remarks yesterday in Dar es Salaam during ongoing 8th Power and Energy Africa International Trade Exhibition 2024 at the Diamond Jubilee Hall, where leading power and energy companies and trade organizations from around the world participated. The event is organized by ExpoGroup.

Kigaha highlighted that Tanzania, as an industrial nation, needs to ensure a sufficient energy supply, especially electricity, to attract investors through such exhibitions, the country can learn about various issues and better plan its investment strategies to promote business and large-scale investments.

"You cannot progress without sufficient energy, particularly electricity to attract investors. Furthermore, there are companies interested in investing in energy and electricity production in the country. Therefore, the exhibition provides an opportunity and a unique platform to meet and partner with potential investors so that, as a government, we can strategize on how to attract these investors," said Kigaha. He added that investors also meet with local stakeholders who are essential for their investment.

Kigaha also emphasized that Tanzania is focused on strengthening its energy sector, ensuring the completion of local projects like the Nyerere Hydro Power Project through the exhibition, the government gains insights and explores various opportunities to attract capital from abroad, which will help boost electricity production in the country.

He said that Tanzania is a country with immense potential and opportuni-



Exhau Kigaha, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade. File Photo.

ties for trade and investment, one of the fastest-growing economies in Africa and a member of the East African Community where the energy sector is undergoing significant transformation, driven by a mix of traditional and renewable energy sources.

"There is a great opportunity for investment in the energy sector as it is pushing the agenda of industrialization which is a very significant investment. A lot of efforts are being made in energy infrastructure including implementation of various policies and regulations to support the energy sector" added Kigaha mentioning some of policies and regulations to support the energy sectors including the Electricity Act, the Rural Energy Act, and the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) frameworks.

Kigaha mentioned some of the local energy projects such as the construction of new power plants and the expansion of the electricity grid, the Mwalimu Nyerere Hydro Power Plant new Likongomchinga Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)

plant and the Kakonko Hydropower Project are set to boost energy capacity.

He added that the government is also making efforts to increase electricity access across the country so as to achieve universal access to electricity for domestic use by 2030, with a focus on rural electrification and provide the manufacturing with reliable and cost effective electricity.

He said that the Tanzania's energy sector is poised for substantial growth, with a strong emphasis on sustainability and increased access to clean energy as the president Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan is championing the clean energy where by the progress is expected to drive economic development and improve the quality of life for Tanzanians and also reduce the environmental pollution all over the country.

"That is why events like this exhibition are crucial for promoting trade and development in Tanzania and the region. You can meet major Tanzanian companies here and interact with leading in-

dustry associations," he said.

He mentioned some of the leading industry association which are available at the exhibition and can support investment in the country as Tanzania Trade Development Authority (Tantrade), Export Processing Zones Authority, Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC), Tanzania Chamber Of Commerce & Industry - TC-CIA, Tanzania Electricity Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) and National Commercial Directory.

Duncan Njage, Regional Marketing Director for Expogroup, said that the three day event is the ideal place because it brings together decision makers and influencers as well as technical experts and professionals from leading companies involved in power and energy generation, transmission and distribution sector within Africa and around the globe.

"It is also a platform to explore new energy and power technologies across the globe. Because it allows foreign exhibitors to showcase their products and services to the industry's largest gathering of qualified decision-makers and experts in the region. The event focus is not only on Tanzania but the entire East African Region making it a key gateway event to explore the market," said Njage.

Njage said that Tanzania has a population of about 58 million people and a gross domestic product (GDP) of about \$63 billion hence the energy sector is an emerging and diversified sector, with a mix of renewable and non-renewable sources, such as hydro, natural gas, coal, wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, and uranium.

He said that the event has brought together ambassadors, high commissioners and trade counselors with industry leading companies from various countries such as China, India, Germany, France, UAE, South Africa, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Zambia and Kenya.

Firm launches campaign to enhance financial inclusion

By Henry Mwangonde

A local telecom firm has expressed its commitment to innovating products that promote financial services accessibility for the majority of Tanzanians.

To kick off this initiative, the company has launched a campaign aimed at rewarding customers for using mobile money transactions.

The Airtel Money 'jboost' campaign is

designed to reach 14 million customers and will run for three months, according to Jackson Mbandi, Public Relations and Corporate Communications Manager at Airtel Tanzania.

"This promotion aims to reward customers for incorporating mobile money transactions into their daily lives, whether it's buying airtime, purchasing bundles, or other transactions," he said.

As part of the campaign, custom-

ers will receive an immediate bonus of 20,000/- upon completing a transaction.

Last month, Tanzania introduced its National Financial Inclusion Framework for 2023-2028, which aims to enhance access to and usage of affordable, high-quality financial products and services.

The country has seen significant success under the previous framework, with the percentage of adults accessing

formal financial services increasing from 86 percent in 2017 to 89 percent in 2023.

Additionally, the usage of formal financial services has grown from 65 percent in 2017 to 76 percent in 2023.

The increase is largely attributed to the widespread adoption of digital financial services, heightened awareness of available products, and robust collaboration among public and private stakeholders in financial inclusion.

CONSTRUCTION

ENHANCED SCRUTINY, TECH TO PROTECT CULTURAL RELICS

BEIJING

China's continued efforts in safeguarding its cultural relics have achieved fruitful results, thanks to coordinated measures adopted by various departments.

In the past two years, the country has successfully solved over 1,200 cases of cultural heritage crimes and apprehended more than 3,500 criminal suspects, according to a news conference held on Wednesday by the State Council Information Office.

More than 3,100 "precious cultural relics" – those rated as national first-, second- and third-grade relics – and over 470,000 other cultural relics have been recovered during the same period, it said.

Guan Qiang, deputy director of the National Cultural Heritage Administration, said a special action plan to combat and prevent cultural heritage crimes was implemented in September 2022 following the National Interministerial Joint



Meeting on the Safety of Cultural Relics. The action plan is effective for three years.

"We will further intensify scrutiny on crimes involving cultural relics by taking decisive action against major instances of such violations and safety incidents, reinforcing disciplinary accountability, and encouraging local authorities to ef-

fectively fulfill their obligations," he said.

Remote-sensing satellites, big data analysis and other advanced technologies will be more widely used to promptly detect illegal activities, thereby ensuring the effective preservation of cultural relics, Guan said.

For example, remote-sensing sat-

ellites have been used this year to monitor all UNESCO World Heritage Sites and national-level cultural heritage sites under key protection in China.

China is home to 767,000 immovable cultural relics, such as ancient architecture, historical monuments and archaeological sites, and about 108 million State-owned movable

cultural relics such as artifacts curated by museums, according to the third national census on cultural relics, which was completed in 2011.

Guan said the fourth national census, which started in November, has rechecked about one-third of these registered immovable relics, and as of last week, around 18,000 such relics have been newly discovered.

More than 5,000 well-equipped teams comprising 45,000 well-trained personnel have been mobilized to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the census. "Various academic programs can be launched thanks to this large-scale investigation," Guan said.

As heritage architecture makes up about 53 percent of China's immovable cultural relics, Deng Chao, director of the heritage administration's department of cultural relics and historical sites, said that meticulous preservation of such architecture is among the priorities in the ongoing endeavor to safeguard cultural relics.

The huge number and rich variety of heritage architecture in China presents challenges for conservators.

Deng said that improving the surrounding environment is an essential step in conservation efforts, as it enhances the high-quality development of local communities and contributes to rural vitalization.

Concerted efforts have been made in recent years to establish a system to prevent and mitigate the impact of natural disasters on heritage architecture.

Since 2012, the fiscal expenditure of the central government has been used for the renovation of about 1,000 heritage structures that were registered as national-level cultural heritage sites under key protection.

In addition, special public welfare funds and bonds, among other measures, have been initiated by the central government to ensure upkeep of heritage structures with lower protection levels.

Kapital raises over Rs 500 crore for its maiden fund

BANDRA

Mt. K Kapital has raised over Rs 500 crore for its maiden fund (Mt. K Resi Development Fund Category II SEBI registered Alternative Investment Fund) from marquee investors like SBI, ICICI Bank, Famy Care and other HNs. Over Rs 300 crore of the funds raised to date have already been committed towards 5 projects in some of Mumbai's prime locations. The fund is now exercising its green shoe option and is targeting to do a final close shortly.

The identified projects include The Panorama (Pali Hill, Bandra West), Ocean Vista (Versova Beach, Andheri West), Cliff Tower (Mt Mary Road, Bandra West), Dhuruvadi (Prabhadevi) and Crescent (Pali Hill, Bandra West). Both Panorama and Ocean Vista have received the necessary approvals, with construction in progress and active upward sales. The fund's unique investment structure allows investors to capitalise on its strong performance. Furthermore, favourable macroeconomic conditions are likely to strengthen the real estate market and potentially drive expected IRRs beyond 25 percent.



Mt. K Kapital's core strategy targets quick turnaround residential projects with low equity investments and gives investors a share of project profits from redevelopment assets across Mumbai. Led by Binitha Dalal and Abdeali Tambawala, the team has over five decades of combined experience in real estate and fund management. Mt. K Resi Development Fund, an ESG Impact Development Fund plans to invest in 10-12 projects across the MMR, focusing on redevelopment with the Rustomjee Group.

Boman Irani, CMD, Rustomjee Group, said, "The Mt. K platform is built on the principles of transparency and alignment of interest between the investor and the developers. We believe that our

structure will offer value to investors looking to capitalise on the growth of real estate as an asset class. Backing this platform aligns with our philosophy of value creation for all stakeholders."

Binitha Dalal, founder and managing partner, Mt. K Kapital, said, "With a distinct market advantage, we are committed to channelling the right capital into the real estate sector and remain bullish on investment opportunities in the MMR. The current performance of our investments and the selection of strategic locations for our projects have reaffirmed our investment thesis. We are evaluating a robust pipeline of similar projects along with deal sizes between Rs 60-90 crore to strengthen our portfolio."

Sattva Group unveils 2 massive projects in northern Bengaluru

BENGALURU

Sattva Songbird: Situated off Budigere Road, Sattva Songbird offers 12 acres of carefully designed homes that combine the buzz of urban life with the calm of nature. Located just 20 kilometres from Kempegowda International Airport and near National Highway 75, Songbird is perfectly placed to offer both convenience

and retreat. With over 1300 apartments and 58 luxury row houses, Songbird provides homes that fit all stages of life—from cozy studios to spacious 1, 2, and 3 BHK residences. A 58,000 sq. ft. clubhouse, alongside extensive amenities, fosters a sense of community and encourages relaxation in a setting defined by lush green landscapes.

Sattva Lumina: On the Yelahanka-Doddaballapur Main Road,

Sattva Lumina spans 13 acres and redefines modern luxury living. With an elevation that houses studio, 1, 2, and 3 BHK homes in G+29 high-rise towers, Lumina brings together functionality, comfort, and thoughtful design. The development is anchored by a 25,000 sq. ft. retail mall offering boutique shopping, vibrant cafés, and fine dining, turning everyday errands into moments of joy.

Shivam Agarwal, VP - strategic growth at Sattva Group, said, "For us, Sattva Songbird isn't just another project. It's about creating spaces where life can unfold naturally—where families grow, friendships are formed, and everyday moments feel special. Budigere Road is transforming into something truly exciting, and we want to be right at the heart of that change. Our goal with Songbird was simple: build homes that people can genuinely feel connected to, where they can build a life they love, without having to choose between the energy of the city and the peace of nature."

These two launches are part of Sattva Group's broader vision of shaping the future of urban living in Bengaluru and beyond. In 2024 alone, Sattva has rolled out five major residential projects, offering homes that cater to different life stages, from first-time buyers to long-term investors.

Looking to the future, Sattva Group plans to launch over 18 million square feet of residential space across Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Mumbai by the end of this fiscal year.

As Bengaluru's real estate market continues to thrive, the Group remains focused on being a long-term partner for its customers.



Two flagship residential projects—Sattva Songbird and Sattva Lumina.

State seeks Korean firm for its Sh7.3bn Nairobi BRT project

NAIROBI

The Kenya Urban Roads Authority (Kura) is seeking a Korean firm to build a Sh7.3 billion Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Line 5 on Outer Ring Road to enhance Nairobi's transit network.

Kura has imposed a tender condition favouring Korean firms after receiving a Sh7.6 billion loan with a quid pro quo (something for something) from the Export-Import Bank of Korea toward establishing the special rapid bus route.

On Tuesday, the authority invited bids from eligible bidders for the project, stating that bidding is "restricted to firms from the Republic of Korea only" and will be conducted in line with the Economic Development Cooperation Fund guidelines.

Bidders who wish to participate must collect and review the bidding documents from the agency's director general's office at Barabara Plaza in Nairobi.

"A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested bidder on the submission of a written application and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sh50,000," Kura said in a notice.

A pre-bidding meeting is scheduled for October 15 at the agency's offices, followed by a required site visit to the proposed BRT corridor and depot construction site.

Bidders must have completed at least two similar projects within the last ten years and show adequate financial capacity to qualify.

"Net worth for the last three years shall be positive respectively," Kura said.

Those seeking prequalification as a project contractor, manager or subcontractor should have handled at least two construction sites in the last decade, with each of the projects having been completed with a value of not less than Sh2.6 billion.

Applicants are also required to demonstrate sufficient financial capacity, including liquid and real assets and credit lines, to meet a cash flow requirement of Sh650 million.

The BRT Line 5 project, scheduled to commence in January 2025, involves the construction of a two-lane BRT line along a 10.4-kilometre stretch.

It will also involve constructing three river bridges and two overpass bridges, measuring approximately 1,024 metres and 323 metres, respectively.

The project will create 13 BRT stations, new and upgraded footbridges, and electromechanical installations, along with a drainage system, street lighting, landscaping, and other ap-

proved enhancements.

A 1,365-square-metre BRT depot will be constructed, serving as the operational hub with parking, access roads, fencing, and electromechanical works.

The plan also includes electric vehicles with charging stations, and the buses will feature advanced technologies like vehicle tracking and surveillance systems.

In 2022, Kura signed a Sh583 million consultancy contract with the Korean Consortium, led by Kunhwa Engineering & Consulting Co. Ltd., for the establishment of the line, dubbed Nyati.

This line runs from the site of the demolished Taj Mall on North Airport Road to the GSU headquarters in Ruaraka, off Thika Road.

The Kenya Urban Roads Authority (Kura) is planning a Sh7.3 billion Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Line 5 along Outer Ring Road to enhance Nairobi's transit network.

Funded by a loan from the Korean Exim Bank, the project features dedicated lanes, five bridges, an underpass, and 10 BRT stations.

Kura Director General Silas Kinoti noted that the project aims to provide an efficient and affordable mode of transport for Nairobi residents.

"Once implemented, the project will provide an efficient, environmentally friendly, and affordable mode of transport for Eastland's residents commuting from Taj Mall all the way to Allspots connecting Thika Road," Kinoti stated.

He added that advertisements for the construction tender for the 10.4-kilometre stretch will be closed by the end of this October, and construction will begin in January 2025.

Advanced infrastructure will also feature on Line 5 of the BRT, including traffic management systems, efficient passenger information, amenities such as bus depots, and vehicle charging centres for electric vehicles.

These will be fitted with "advanced technology, including vehicle location tracking/surveillance systems and fare collection equipment."

Kura emphasised that the BRT Line 5 is specially designed to tackle the most serious concerns over traffic congestion and high carbon emissions while improving mobility and safety.

"The project is designed to address some of the key challenges Nairobi faces, including traffic congestion and high carbon emissions, while also improving mobility accessibility and safety for citizens," Mr Kinoti stated.

Moreover, the project aims to reduce travel times, making the system "attractive for daily commuters who need a fast and reliable way to navigate the city".

WORLD

UN chief urges drastic action to tackle existential threats posed by sea-level rise

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday urged "drastic action" on addressing the existential threats posed by sea-level rise.

"Only drastic action to reduce emissions can limit sea level rise. And only drastic action to adapt can keep people safe from rising waters," said Guterres in his remarks at the UN General Assembly plenary meeting on addressing the existential threats posed by sea-level rise.

"Everyone must be protected by an alert system by 2027 - in line with our Early Warnings for All initiative. And all countries must deliver new national climate action plans - or Nationally De-

termined Contributions - well ahead of COP30 next year," he said.

"Our world is in dangerous waters," Guterres said. "Scientists tell us that the global sea level is now rising faster than at any time in the last 3,000 years, and accelerating - the rate of increase has more than doubled since the 1990s."

"They tell us the cause is clear: greenhouse gases - overwhelmingly from burning fossil fuels - are heating our planet, expanding seawater and melting ice. But they cannot tell us where this will end.

"That is down to world leaders today. Their choices will determine the scale, pace and impact of future sea-level rise," he said.



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres speaks during a UN Security Council meeting on the theme of "Leadership for Peace" at the United Nations headquarters in New York City on Wednesday. AFP

Temperature increases over 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels could take the world past dangerous tipping points - potentially leading to long-term, irreversible collapse of the Greenland and West Antarctica ice sheets, said Guterres. "In the worst-case scenario, people alive today could witness sea levels rise by meters."

"We made real progress at the Summit of the Future. We must keep driving that forward - including at the World Summit for Social Development and the Financing for Development conference next year," said Guterres. "We must also address gaps in our international legal framework concerning sea-level rise: to ensure continuing access to resources, while protecting existing maritime bound-

aries; as well as to protect affected persons and - in extreme scenarios - to address the implications related to statehood."

"We cannot leave the hopes and aspirations of billions of people dead in the water. We cannot allow the wholesale destruction of countries and communities. It's time to turn the tide. And save ourselves from rising seas," he said.

According to a study cited by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, five nations - the Maldives, Tuvalu, the Marshall Islands, Nauru and Kiribati - may become uninhabitable by 2100, which will create 600,000 stateless climate refugees.

Agencies

Russia calls for halt to escalating violence in Middle East - senior diplomat

UNITED NATIONS

RUSSIA calls for putting an immediate end to escalating the situation in the Middle East lest things spiral out of control in the region, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Vershinin said as he addressed a UN Security Council meeting on the Middle East.

"The developments in the region show once again that solutions to resolve devastating crises, including in Lebanon, can only be found through dialogue," the senior Russian diplomat said.

"The spiral of violence should be stopped immediately to keep the situation from veering out of control. We call for putting an immediate end to hostilities which would prevent more bloodshed and create conditions to put the settlement process back on political and diplomatic tracks," he added.

Vershinin also cautioned against "reckless rhetoric" as he referred to a recent remark by Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Galant who warned that the Israelis are capable of sending Lebanon back to the Stone Age. "We are confident that in an extremely tense atmo-



sphere it is especially important to show maximum restraint and avoid provocations that seek to add more fire to the conflict," he concluded.

Tensions between Israel and Hezbollah escalated further after a wave of wireless communication devices explosions rocked Lebanon on September 17 and 18.

Agencies

G20 foreign ministers meet at UN headquarters on reform of global governance

UNITED NATIONS

FOREIGN ministers of the Group of 20 (G20) members gathered at the UN headquarters for the first time on Wednesday, on the sidelines of the General Debate of the 79th Session of the UN General Assembly, focusing on the theme "Building a just world and a sustainable planet."

The meeting, chaired by Brazil and open to all UN member states, focused on debates on the reform of global governance, and discussed global measures to tackle hunger and poverty, promote sustainable development and a just energy transition, and other issues. In opening remarks at the meet-

ing, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called on global institutions to work together, "not on parallel or conflicting tracks," to tackle the many challenges facing the world today - inequality, financing for development, the climate crisis, the impact of new technologies.

"In all these areas, progress is slipping out of reach as our world becomes more unsustainable, unequal and unpredictable," the UN chief said, warning that conflicts are raging, the climate crisis is accelerating, inequalities are growing, and new technologies have unprecedented potential for good - and bad.

Guterres stressed that G20 members can act in three spe-

cific areas: finance; climate; and strong, inclusive, legitimate global institutions and tools to tackle the challenges of today and tomorrow.

He noted that the international community needs to reform the international financial architecture to make it fully representative of today's global economy, so it can provide strong support to implement the Sustainable Development Goals.

"We are at a critical moment: a battle to prevent temperatures from rising above the agreed limit of 1.5 degrees," said the UN chief, while urging strong engagement of G20 countries, including in reforms of United Nations bodies. Phi-

lémon Yang, president of the UN General Assembly, said the G20 remains a critical platform for addressing global economic challenges, fostering international cooperation, and driving sustainable development.

The G20 foreign ministers' meeting took place "at a critical moment" when the world is uniting around the urgent need to revitalize the multilateral architecture, ensuring it is fit for addressing today's challenging problems, said Yang, calling on the G20 to take decisive steps in advancing the outcomes of the Summit of the Future, particularly in reforming the international financial architecture to make it more equitable and effective for all nations.

G20 countries, representing approximately 60 percent of the global population and contributing around 85 percent of the world's GDP, bear the responsibility of leading the charge in realizing the ambitious goals set out in the Pact for the Future, said Yang.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, whose country holds the G20 presidency for 2024, said the G20 cannot shirk their responsibilities in the face of the serious crises generated by climate change, and demanded effective actions from the group in the fight against hunger and in reforming the management of major multilateral institutions.

Xinhua

Somalia, UN call for swift action to avert looming drought

MOGADISHU

SOMALIA and the United Nations agencies have called for urgent measures to help communities prepare for and adapt to the anticipated reduced rainfall season in the country.

The Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA) in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said that early action can significantly reduce the human and economic costs of drought, potentially saving lives and livelihoods.

Etienne Peterschmitt, FAO representative in Somalia, said investing in preparedness is not only cost-effective but also essential for safeguarding lives. "We urge the international community to support this critical initiative, ensuring that Somali communities are resilient and better equipped to face future challenges," Peterschmitt said in a joint statement released on Tuesday evening.

This call to action coincided with the launch of a 30-million-U.S. dollar plan aimed at protecting vulnerable communities from the expected impacts of drought. The plan focuses on early interventions to alleviate the effects of drought, thereby reducing the need for large-scale humanitarian assistance in the future.

The initiative responds to forecasts from the FAO's Somalia Water and Land Information Management Project, which indicates a 70 percent probability of La Nina conditions, typically associated with below-average rainfall and higher temperatures across Somalia.

According to SoDMA, this initiative prioritizes timely action to save lives and protect livelihoods, especially given the severe drought conditions expected to follow the devastating floods of late 2023.

The urgency of anticipatory action is underscored by experiences, such as the delayed response during the 2021-2022 drought, which resulted in the displacement of 1.4 million people and 43,000 deaths. SoDMA Commissioner Mahamuud Moallim noted that this initiative marks a critical shift from reactive to proactive disaster management.

"Anticipatory action can significantly reduce the human and economic costs associated with drought, potentially saving lives and livelihoods," Moallim said. UNICEF Representative in Somalia Wafaa Saeed expressed concern over the predicted below-average rainfall, highlighting its potential negative impact on communities still recovering from previous droughts and floods.

"By joining hands with SoDMA and FAO now, we are taking early and preparatory action to mitigate suffering before the crisis fully unfolds," Saeed said. According to UN projections, the likelihood of below-normal rainfall and above-normal temperatures could lead to severe soil moisture loss, resulting in poor crop and fodder productivity and worsening food insecurity across vulnerable communities.

South Korea offers incentives, adoptions ahead of ban on farming dogs for food

SEOUL

SOUTH Korea will help rehome almost half a million dogs bred for food and give dog farmers subsidies and incentives to help them prepare for a ban on the practice set to take effect in early 2027, the agriculture ministry said yesterday.

In January, parliament passed a bill to ban the eating and selling of dog meat, ending the controversial centuries-old tradition in a country that has seen growing support for animal welfare and a waning appetite for the food.

Park Beom-su, vice agriculture minister, said the government would spend about 100 billion won (\$75 million) on incentives for dog breeders, farmers and restaurants to encourage them to shut their businesses.

Farmers can also get up to 600,000 won (\$452) for each dog they surrender, and the authorities will try and get as many of these animals adopted, or rehomed in shelters, he added.

"Although many are concerned the remaining dogs might be euthanized or a lot of them could be processed for consumption over the next three years, I can certainly say, that is not our plan," Park said.

Eating dog meat was once seen as a way to improve stamina in the humid Korean summer, but the practice has become rare as more Koreans consider dogs as pets and as criticism of how the dogs are slaughtered has grown.

South Korea has more than 1,500 dog breeding farms and more than 200 dog slaughter houses, which takes effect in February 2027, has grown under President Yoon Suk Yeol, an animal lover who owns six dogs and eight cats with First Lady Kim Keon Hee, who is also a vocal critic of eating dog meat.

Agencies

WASHINGTON

THE US Congress passed a stopgap bill on Wednesday to avert a partial government shutdown beginning next week, even as a large number of House Republicans revolted against their leadership for failing to achieve new federal spending cuts.

The Democratic-majority Senate passed the bill by a margin of 78-18, hours after the House of Representatives approved it. The measure will maintain the government's current level of roughly \$1.2 trillion in annual discretionary funding through Dec 20, avoiding the furloughing of thousands of federal workers and shutdown of a wide swath of government services just weeks before the Nov 5 election.

Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson was forced to use

US Congress passes stopgap spending bill to avert govt shutdown

a parliamentary maneuver to bypass the House Rules Committee to overcome opposition within his own Republican Party, which holds a 220-212 majority in the chamber. The measure passed the House 341-82, with all "no" votes were cast by Republicans.

The bill now goes to President Joe Biden to sign into law before current funding expires at midnight Monday.

The timeline is unusually truncated for Congress, as members moved quickly in order to get back to campaigning in their districts ahead of the election.

A significant number of House Republicans defied their leader and voted against the measure, after Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump earlier



A US Capitol Police officer stands watch as lawmakers leave the House of Representatives after voting on an interim spending bill to avoid a government shutdown next week, at the Capitol in Washington on Wednesday. AP

spoke in favor of a shutdown unless controversial legislation was attached to the spending bill that outlawed non-citizens voting in federal elections, something that already is illegal.

Hard-right House Republicans had been pushing for a six-month stopgap measure with the election piece attached, but last week failed to pass that bill, which would have been lost in the Senate anyway.

Nonetheless, some of the most conservative Republicans thought Johnson and all rank-and-file Republicans should have fought harder against a Democratic victory, even if it meant a shutdown.

The Moody's credit ratings agency warned this week that it expects the polarized US po-

litical environment to cause the federal government's fiscal health to deteriorate. The last of the three major rating agencies to maintain a top rating for the US government in November 2024 lowered its credit outlook on the US to "negative".

Johnson has repeatedly had to bypass his own restive caucus to pass critical legislation. In March, the House passed the current funding bill despite 112 Republican "no" votes.

April brought the passage of nearly \$61 billion in new aid for Ukraine. Again, 112 Republicans voted against Johnson's effort.

Johnson's predecessor, then-speaker Kevin McCarthy, was ousted by hard-line Republicans in a historic vote, as they punished him for reaching a bipartisan spending and debt ceiling deal with Biden.

Agencies

Works of French photographer Marc Riboud on display in central China

CHANGSHA

FROM a wedding held in a textile factory in the 1950s to a man in a suit speaking on a brick phone in the 1990s, a new exhibition featuring the works of French photographer Marc Riboud offers precious glimpses of a fast-changing China over a period of half a century.

The exhibition named, "West Meets East: Retrospective Exhibition of Marc Riboud's Photography," opened yesterday at the Hunan Museum in Changsha, capital of central China's Hunan Province, and features 148 photos taken by Riboud -- 67 of which he shot in China between 1957 and 2010.

About 10 works are being exhibited in China for the first time, including a color photo showing a couple carrying a television on a street in Beijing in 1980, shortly after the country launched its reform and opening-up drive.

The late photographer was best known for his extensive reports on China and Asia.

"Marc Riboud had a keen eye for Chinese society. His works, which have a unique visual rhythm and are deeply humanistic, show different sides of the changing life in China," said Huang Lei, curator of the exhibition, noting that Riboud held a special place in cultural exchanges between China and France.

Co-organized by the Hunan Museum and France's Guimet National Museum of Asian Arts, the exhibition is part of this year's Croisements Festival, which marks 60 years of diplomatic ties between China and France.

The dauntless visitor from Russia

FOR several days the port of Dar es Salaam hosted two Russian military ships, most notably, the "Neustrashimy" (literally translated as "dauntless" or "fearless"). The "Neustrashimy" is a patrol ship (a frigate by NATO classification) of Russia's Baltic Fleet and is designed for searching, detecting, tracking, and destroying enemy submarines, providing anti-ship and anti submarine defense for combat ships and vessels at sea, striking underwater and surface ships and vessel at sea and in bases, supporting ground forces in combat operations, ensuring landing operations, covering the movement of naval landing forces, and performing other tasks.

Originally built as a fast, high-tech oceanic hunter for nuclear submarines, its distinctive feature is its powerful anti-submarine armament: the "Vodapad-NK" missile-torpedo system and a Ka-27 helicopter for searching, detecting, and engaging submarines. The "Neustrashimy" can also provide air defense for other combat ships at sea or during amphibious operations.

The ship has participated in various exercises. In 2003, during an official visit by Russian President Vladimir Putin to London, it provided security from the Russian side.

A number of international treaties had been signed by the President on board the "Neustrashimy". Over its rich history, the ship has not only participated



in activities directly tied to its purpose, but also historic and cultural events, even making appearance in several films.

Being a part of the Baltic Fleet has not stopped the "Neustrashimy" from carrying out operations in other parts of the world.

It is worth mentioning that in 2008 the ship was sent to Somalia to ensure the safety of peaceful vessels from Somalia pirates. In 2008, Somali pirates captured over 30 ships under various flags, some of which were released after large ransoms were paid.

On October 27, 2008, the "Neustrashimy", accompanied

by the tanker "Yelnya", arrived in the area of the Horn of Africa and joined other countries' warships near the Somali coast. On November 12, "Neustrashimy" repelled a pirate attack on the Danish ship "Powerful", in cooperation with the British frigate "Cumberland".

Early on January 1, 2009, the patrol ship also engaged in a New Year's skirmish with a pirate vessel while escorting the tanker "Yelnya". A Somali pirate boat was captured by the crew of the Baltic Fleet's patrol ship and handed over to the proper authorities.

Now, after visiting Cuba, together with replenishment oiler "Academic Pashin". The patrol

ship paid a visit to the Dar es Salaam port, adding its brightly lit silhouette to the city's night-scape.

An official Tanzanian delegation led by Commodore FJ Mwasikolile, Deputy Commander of the Tanzanian Navy, visited the ship and was given an exclusive tour. Also, the Russian sailors participated in joint sports activities with their Tanzania counterparts, visited places of interest in Dar es Salaam.

Regular friendly visits of the Russian Navy to Dar es Salaam will continue as a part of traditionally close military cooperation between Russia and Tanzania. **Agencies**

Japanese man acquitted of 1966 murders after 45 years on death row

TOKYO

A Japanese man said to have spent the world's longest time on death row was acquitted of murder yesterday, broadcaster NHK said, ending his family's search for justice after a wrongful conviction for crimes committed nearly 60 years ago.

The Shizuoka district court cleared Iwao Hakamada, 88, in a retrial of the murders of four people in the central Japanese region in 1966, NHK said.

Hakamada spent 45 years on death row before a court ordered his release and a retrial in 2014 amid doubts about the evidence that formed the basis for his conviction.

The former boxer was accused of stabbing to death his former boss and family before burning down their home.

Though he briefly admitted to the killings, he retracted the confession and pleaded innocent during his trial, but was never



Iwao Hakamada (left), 88-year-old former boxer who has been on death row for nearly six decades after his murder conviction that his lawyers said was based on forced confession and fabricated evidence, is helped by a supporter as he goes for a walk in Hamamatsu, Shizuoka prefecture, central Japan, on Wednesday. AP

theless sentenced to death in 1968, a penalty upheld by Japan's Supreme Court in 1980.

Norimichi Kumamoto, one of the three judges at the Shizuoka court who had sentenced Haka-

mada to death, petitioned the Supreme Court for a retrial in 2008, but the plea was rejected.

Hakamada's lawyers had argued that DNA tests on blood-stained clothing said to be their client's showed the blood was not his.

Since his release, Hakamada has lived with his older sister Hideko, who battled for decades to clear his name.

Rights group Amnesty International hailed the exoneration as a "pivotal moment for justice" and urged Japan to scrap the death penalty.

"After enduring almost half a century of wrongful imprisonment and a further 10 years waiting for his retrial, this verdict is an important recognition of the profound injustice he endured for most of his life," Amnesty said.

"It ends an inspiring fight to clear his name," it added in a statement.

EAM Jaishankar highlights India's commitment to UN's sustainable development goals during US visit

NEW YORK

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister, who is on a US visit, participated in a discussion yesterday, where he emphasised the importance of democratising the economy, enhancing mobility, imparting skills, and building connectivity to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Jaishankar (pictured) participated in a discussion organised by Observer Research Foundation (ORF) titled "Tiger's Tale: Crafting a New Development Paradigm."

The event brought together foreign ministers from various countries, which includes Latvia Foreign Affairs Minister, Baiba Braze, Guyana Foreign Minister High Hilton Todd.

Jaishankar also met with Group Chairman and CEO of DP World, Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem and President of the World Economic Forum, Borge Brende.

"Joined FM @Braze_Baiba of Latvia, FM High Hilton Todd of Guyana, @ssulayem and @borgebrende for an engaging discussion by @orfonline on "Tiger's Tale: Crafting a New Development Paradigm," Jaishankar wrote on X.

"As Pact of the Future comes into force and global economy continues to face challenges, democratizing economy, enhancing mobility, imparting skilling and building connectivity are going to be key movers for achieving the SDGs," he added.

The SDGs were adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 to end poverty, reduce inequality and build more peaceful, prosperous societies by 2030. Also known as the Global Goals, the SDGs call for a world where no one is left behind.

On 22 September, world leaders unanimously adopted the 'Pact for the Future', at UN Headquarters in New York, which includes a Global Digital Compact and a Declaration on Future Generations, marking a significant step



in adapting international cooperation to address contemporary challenges, per a UN press release.

The Pact, seen as the most comprehensive international agreement in decades, aims to ensure that global institutions remain effective in a rapidly changing world.

UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres emphasised the need to move beyond outdated systems, stating, "We cannot create a future fit for our grandchildren with a system built by our grandparents."

In his opening remarks at the Summit of the Future, Guterres noted that the Pact and its annexes provide "new opportunities and untapped possibilities".

The UN Secretary-General made these remarks during his address at the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Tuesday.

Further, General Assembly president Dennis Francis echoed this, affirming that the Pact would "lay the foundations for a sustainable, just, and peaceful global order -- for all peoples and nations." Overall, the agreement of the Pact is a strong statement of countries' commitment to the United Nations, the international system and international law. **ANI**

China, US are partners, not rivals -- Chinese FM

NEW YORK

THE most important lesson from the China-U.S. relationship is that the two countries should be partners, not rivals, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said here on Wednesday.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, made the remarks when meeting U.S. representatives from the National Committee on United States-China Relations, the U.S.-China Business Council, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Aspen Institute, the Asia Society, and the Council on Foreign Relations on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York.

The U.S. side needs to recognize

that China also has the right to develop, Wang said, adding that China's development is an opportunity, not a challenge, for the United States and the world.

As permanent members of the UN Security Council and the world's two largest economies, China and the United States should strive for a stable, healthy, and sustainable development of their relationship and work with the international community to address the numerous global challenges facing today's world, Wang said.

He expressed hope that the United States will adopt an objective and rational understanding of China to enhance mutual understanding and trust. **Xinhua**



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, meets with U.S. representatives from the National Committee on United States-China Relations, the U.S.-China Business Council, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Aspen Institute, the Asia Society, and the Council on Foreign Relations on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York on Wednesday. Xinhua

China's listed firms sustain recovery momentum as policy support builds up

BEIJING

CHINA'S listed companies have seen improvement in performance quarter by quarter since the beginning of this year, with service consumption, export growth and new economic drivers contributing to the recovery trend.

A total of 5,104 companies listed on the Shanghai and Shenzhen bourses saw their combined profits decrease by only 0.4 percent from a year earlier in the second quarter, significantly improving from a drop of 4.5 percent in the first quarter, according to their latest half-year financial reports.

Listed firms have seen narrowing declines in prof-

its and a drop in the proportion of loss-making companies, their reports showed. Nearly 80 percent of the listed firms reported profits while around 50 percent of the companies experienced profit growth in the first half.

Experts held that Chinese listed firms, whose revenue accounted for 56.5 percent of the country's GDP in the first six months, serve as a window to observe new trends in the country's economic development.

RECOVERY IN CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS

Despite rising challenges from home and abroad, China's economy expanded 5 percent year on year in

the first half, putting the country on track to hit its full-year economic growth target of around 5 percent. During this period, service consumption has continued to recover, supported by robust travel and tourism growth.

Airport companies reported a year-on-year rise of 20.7 percent in revenue. Commodity consumption has also seen positive signs, with net profits of listed companies in sectors such as food and beverage, consumer electronics and automobile rising by 14.1 percent, 24.4 percent and 22.7 percent, respectively.

Moreover, listed companies have increasingly tapped into international

markets, with improving competitiveness in overseas markets. In the first six months, China's exports in goods rose 6.9 percent year on year, while the overseas revenue of listed companies surged by 13.4 percent. Companies in the electronics, household appliances and automobile industries reported rises of 17.6 percent, 13.8 percent and 10.7 percent respectively in overseas revenue.

Huang Wentao, chief economist at China Securities, said that China's trade structure has shown continuous improvement, signaling the strengthening global competitiveness of the country's economy.

NEW GROWTH DRIVERS

China's manufacturing companies, which account for nearly 70 percent of the total number of the listed firms, demonstrated resilience in the first half, underpinning the foundation for the country's high-quality economic development.

Listed companies in high-tech manufacturing sectors, including electronics, automobile and communication equipment, stood out with net profits up 39.6 percent, 22.7 percent and 17.6 percent respectively.

During this period, investment in research and development (R&D) for listed companies reached 709.46 billion yuan (about 100.84 billion U.S. dollars), marking

a 5.1-percent increase from the previous year.

The R&D intensity, measured as a percentage of revenue, rose to 2.3 percent, up from 2.2 percent in the same period last year.

Li Zhan, chief economist at China Merchant Fund, said that with the accumulation of positive factors in China's economy, there is a solid foundation for the country to realize this year's growth target.

China has rolled out an array of measures to boost growth this year, including a program that promotes large-scale equipment upgrades and consumer goods trade-ins, and the issuance of ultra-long special treasury bonds, among others.

In the latest move, China announced a raft of monetary stimulus, property market support and capital market strengthening measures earlier this week to shore up the economy.

The country will cut the reserve requirement ratio, lower mortgage rates on existing home loans and create new monetary policy tools to support the stock market, and encourage medium and long-term funds to enter the capital market.

Experts consider the release of the new batch of policies a positive signal of strengthening policy coordination and efforts to boost the vitality and resilience of the Chinese economy.



FILE - Sean "P. Diddy" Combs directs photographers as they sing "Happy Birthday," to him as his date Kim Porter, left, listens, after Combs arrived for his 35th birthday celebration at Cipriani on Wall Street in New York, Nov. 4, 2004. (AP Photo)

Kim Porter's children say she didn't write bestselling memoir about Diddy

NEW YORK

ALTHOUGH it's a bestseller on Amazon, the late Kim Porter did not write a tell-all memoir detailing an abusive relationship with her longtime partner Sean "Diddy" Combs, her children said in a statement Tuesday.

"Kim's Lost Words: A journey for justice, from the other side..." was independently published on Amazon in early September, over a week prior to Combs' arrest in New York and the unsealing of an indictment against him. It's alleged to be based on Porter's diary and notes.

Porter's children, Quincy, Christian, Jessie and D'Lila, denounced the book as a complete fabrication in a collective statement on Instagram late Tuesday.

"Claims that our mom wrote a book are simply untrue. She did not, and anyone claiming to have a manuscript is misrepresenting themselves," the statement read. "Any so-called 'friend' speaking on behalf of our mom or her family is not a friend, nor do they have her best interests at heart."

Christian, Jessie and D'Lila are Porter and Combs' children, and Quincy is Porter's son from a previous relationship, but he was largely raised by Combs. Their statement is the first they've made since Combs was arrested, and they don't directly address the criminal case against him.

Likely in response to the book's alleged details of violence Combs committed against Porter, the children said the volume of "hurtful and false rumors" circulating about their parents' relationship compelled them to speak out.

Porter died from pneumonia in November 2018 at age 47, according to her autopsy report, which determined she died of natural causes. At the time of her death, Combs' said he and the former model and actor were "more than best friends" and "more than soul mates."

The book contends in its "disclaim-

ers" section that foul play is responsible for Porter's death. Her children said they are "deeply saddened that the world has made a spectacle of what has been the most tragic event of our lives," noting that her cause of death has been established for years and that there wasn't any foul play.

Riddled with typos and errors, a preview for the short book details physical abuse, sexual coercion and other acts of violence Combs allegedly committed. The \$22 paperback had a quiet release on Amazon, but skyrocketed after the news of Combs' arrest and the shocking details of the indictment. It reached the No. 1 spot on Amazon's bestseller's list, but has since dropped down in the rankings.

The author of the book is listed as Jamal T. Millwood, writing "for Kimberly A. Porter." The author behind the book is Todd Christopher Guzze, who goes by the name Chris Todd and defines his occupation as an "investigative producer, author and journalist."

In a phone interview with The Associated Press Wednesday, Todd said he was approached by people "very close to Kim and Sean Combs" who provided him with a "flash drive, documents and tapes" from Porter that he eventually pieced together to create the memoir in a months-long process.

In response to Porter's children's statement, Todd said his "door is open" for any family members to communicate directly with him.

Todd urged skeptics to "do some homework on who I am" and look at prior cases he's worked on.

Regarding the use of the pseudonym of Millwood - a name conspiracy theorists believe the late rapper Tupac Shakur is using as an alias after his 1996 shooting death was allegedly staged - Todd said his sources requested he use the name specifically for its connection to Shakur.

Rolling Stone was the first to report Todd's identity behind the pseudonym.

AP

Taifa Stars opponents DR Congo name star-studded squad for key AFCON qualifiers

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S national soccer team, Taifa Stars, will face DR Congo in next month's pivotal 2025 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) Qualifiers, with their opponents announcing a 25-man squad for the doubleheader.

These two crucial matches will take place following Tanzania's four-point haul during the last FIFA international break, with a goalless home draw against Ethiopia and a 2-1 victory over Guinea.

The Taifa Stars will first travel to DR Congo on October 10, before hosting them in Dar es Salaam five days later.

DR Congo head coach Sebastien Desabre has placed his faith in the same squad he used in September against Guinea and Ethiopia, making only two changes due to injuries.

Yoane Wissa and Ngal'ayel Mukau were replaced by Silas Katompa and William Balikwisha, who return to the na-



tional team.

Former Young Africans and Simba SC stars, striker Fiston Mayeye (pictured) and center-back Inonga Baka, have been called up, highlighting a squad composed entirely of foreign-based players.

This star-studded lineup reflects DR Congo's determination to secure their place in the AFCON tournament.

Tanzania and DR Congo are no strangers to one another, having shared a group in the last AFCON finals earlier this year. The teams will also compete against each other in the upcoming 2026 World Cup

Qualifiers, adding even more significance to these encounters.

Taifa Stars will wrap up their AFCON qualifying campaign in November. They will first travel to Ethiopia on November 11 to face the Wallia, before concluding their group stage matches at home against Guinea on November 15.

Tanzania aims to qualify for back-to-back AFCON finals for the first time in their history, having appeared in Ivory Coast.

The 2025 AFCON will take place in Morocco, marking the second time the country has hosted the tournament, the last being in 1988. Matches will be held across six cities, including Casablanca, Rabat, and Marrakech.

Morocco was selected after Guinea was stripped of its hosting rights due to a lack of preparation.

The DR Congo full squad:
Goalkeepers: Dimitry Bertaud (Montpellier, France), Timothy Fayulu (Sion, Switzerland) and Lionel Mpsai

(Rodez, France).

Defenders: Gedeon Kalulu (Lorient, France), Axel Tuanzebe (Ipswich Town, England), Joris Kayembe (Genk, Belgium), Arthur Masuaku (Besiktas, Turkey), Dylan Batubinsika (Saint-Etienne, France), Rocky Bushiri (Hibernian, Scotland), Inonga Baka (FAR Rabat, Morocco) and Chancel Mbemba (Olympique Marseille, France)

Midfielders: Edo Kayembe (Watford, England), Charles Pickel (Cremonese, Italy), Samuel Moutoussamy (Sivasspor, Turkey), Noah Sadiki (Union Saint-Gilloise, Belgium), William Balikwisha (OH Leuven, Belgium), Gael Kakuta (Esteghlal, Iran), Theo Bongonda (Spartak Moscow, Russia), Nathanaël Mbuku (Dinamo Zagreb, Croatia), Chadrac Akolo (St Gallen, Switzerland) and Meschack Elia (Young Boys, Switzerland).

Forwards: Simon Banza (Trabzonspor, Turkey), Samuel Essende (Augsburg, Germany), Silas Katompa (Red Belgrade, Serbia), Kalala Mayeye (Pyramids, Egypt).



Oysterbay's Don Bosco Veterans team striker Khalidi Kajuna (R) fights for the ball with UN Veterans defender Edsone Justine during a friendly match played on Tuesday at the Leaders Club grounds in Dar es Salaam. Don Bosco Veterans won 2-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Katie Gornall

Can women's football become big business?

THE financial landscape of women's football is changing.

More money is coming into the game and investors and sponsors are taking note.

With the top two tiers of English women's football under new leadership, the sport is at a crossroads.

So what could the financial future hold? And can women's football become big business?

***How financially healthy is the game?**

Women's Super League (WSL) clubs generated £48m in revenue in the 2022-23 season - a rise of 50% on the previous season, according to Deloitte, external.

This week, a new £45m deal for Barclays to remain title sponsors of the league was agreed.

It is double the previous deal and is the first to be signed by the WSL's new company, Women's Professional Leagues Limited (WPLL), which has taken over the running of the WSL and Women's Championship from the Football

Association.

But this is an industry still in the early stages of growth, as Dr Christina Philippou - a women's football finance expert - explained.

"We're seeing profits continuously drop across clubs and more spending on predominantly player wages. That's a good and bad thing," said Philippou.

"It's a good thing for players and for the game, because it's showcasing exactly how much it's moving. The bad news is, obviously that's costing clubs more money.

"So even though their revenues are going up, so are their costs, and their costs are going up by more than their revenues."

Philippou says start-up projects "tend to make losses" which is something that is "normal" in football, but not self-sustaining.

There are reasons to be cautious though, epitomised by former WSL club Reading who dropped to the fifth tier from the Women's

Championship this season because of financial concerns.

***What are the different types of ownership?**

Men's clubs worldwide have now woken up to women's football and their women's teams are increasingly dominating the sport.

Out of the 23 clubs in the WSL and Women's Championship, all but two are affiliated with men's sides.

Clubs like Arsenal, Tottenham and Manchester United own both men's and women's teams.

But there are others trying to forge their own path.

Durham WFC and London City Lionesses are both independently owned and do not have the backing of a men's side.

While Durham stand alone, London City is part of a women's-only multi-club model, owned by American businesswoman Michele Kang, which also owns

Washington Spirit and Lyon.

Meanwhile, an investment group has emerged with a sole focus on women's football.

Mercury/13, co-founded by entrepreneurs Victoire Cogevina Reynal and Mario Malave, have promised to invest more than £80m in clubs across Europe.

The group recently purchased FC Como Women in Italy's Serie A Femminile and say investment in English women's football is their "number one strategic priority".

***What are pros and cons of different types of ownership?**

Part of the reason revenues are soaring in the WSL is because of the money and resources men's football provides to its women's clubs, allowing them to grow quicker.

Philippou uses Arsenal as an example. The women's team regularly plays home matches at Emirates Stadium and has access to the same marketing resources as it's

men's team.

"Their income has massively increased and a huge part of that is their matchday income, which is having games at the Emirates - you can't do [that] if you're not affiliated [to a men's club]," she added.

But progress can come at a price. Even though all clubs are growing, there remains a significant gap in resources across the league.

Reading's demise has led to growing concerns that the women's game could be too reliant on men's football.

Maggie Murphy, former chief executive officer of Lewes FC, said: "If the men's side of the club chooses to go a different way, or they have an ownership crisis or get relegated, the women's team is still a dependent and will suffer as a result."

Another option is multi-club ownership, something that has

been normalised in the men's game.

London City Lionesses owner Kang has been revolutionary in the women's game, with her approach and investment receiving widespread praise.

"London City don't have to go through long negotiations on the men's side in order to access, facilities," says Murphy.

"They have just bought their own training facilities, they are looking to buy their own ground and Kang has a huge focus on sports science and female physiology - [they are] game changers. It is really, really important in the overall health of the ecosystem."

While Kang has her own source of wealth, Mercury/13 and it's investors aim to make money as they build their own empire.

Their model relies on commercialising clubs, building partnerships and bringing in various sponsors. By their own admission it's "risky", and only time will tell if their ambition matches the reality.

BBC

Trossard red card against Man City correct, says panel

By Nick Mashiter

REFEREE Michael Oliver was right to send off Leandro Trossard in Arsenal's dramatic 2-2 draw at Manchester City, the Key Match Incidents panel has said.

The midfielder was dismissed in first-half injury time after kicking the ball away following a foul on Bernardo Silva on Sunday.

It was the second time the Gunners have had a player dismissed for delaying the restart after Declan Rice was sent off in the 1-1 draw against Brighton this month.

The panel, which reviews all key refereeing decisions in the Premier League each week, wrote: "Trossard clearly delays the restart by kicking the ball away."

It was not unanimous though, and one panelist thought the "split-second nature of the kick away was enough of a mitigating factor".

Arsenal were 2-1 ahead at Etihad Stadium at the time, but John Stones rescued a point for City in the 98th minute of second-half stoppage time to move them back to the top of the Premier League.

*Martinez decision backed despite 'ridiculous' tackle

The KMI panel is independent and made up of three former players or coaches, one Premier League representative and one from referees' body Professional Game Match Officials Limited (PGMOL).

According to the panel, referee David Coote was also correct not to send off Manchester United's Lisandro Martinez.

The defender was booked for his tackle on Daichi Kamada in Saturday's 0-0 draw at Crystal Palace.

The centre-back left the ground with both feet, but despite VAR Chris Kavanagh checking the challenge, Coote was not sent to review his decision on the pitchside monitor.

Both the on-pitch and VAR decisions were backed 5-0 in the panel's report of last weekend's games, seen by BBC Sport.

"The action viewed in isolation is a ridiculous challenge. Martinez is so fortunate that he doesn't contact Kamada," the panel wrote.

But the panel agreed the on-field decision was correct "on the basis that the action by Martinez had been completed and no contact was made", yet it felt "the challenge has no place on the pitch".

*Gibbs-White sending off splits panel

The decision to send off Morgan Gibbs-White in Nottingham Forest's 2-2 draw at Brighton was split 3-2, with the majority believing official Robert Jones was wrong to dismiss the midfielder.

BBC

Lewandowski scores his 7th goal to give Barcelona its 7th straight win in Spanish league

MADRID

WITH Robert Lewandowski on target again, Barcelona extended its perfect start to the Spanish league season.

Lewandowski scored his seventh goal in as many matches and Barcelona won its seventh in a row in the league by defeating Getafe 1-0 at home on Wednesday.

The triumph gives Barcelona its second-best league start ever, equaling the seven victories it also earned at the start of the 2017-18 season. The Catalan club won eight straight to start the 2013-14 season.

"I'm really proud about my team. They fight 90 minutes or 95 minutes," Barcelona coach Hansi Flick said. "But also I'm very proud because the fans they realized that we needed them and they give everything. It's a good connection at the moment and I'm really happy about that."

Barcelona has outscored its opponents 23-5 in its first seven games this season. It has a four-point lead over defending champion Real Madrid, which on Tuesday beat Alaves 3-2.

Lewandowski got his league-leading seventh goal from close range in the 19th minute. He picked up a loose ball inside the area after Getafe goalkeeper David Soria couldn't hold on to a high cross into the area.

The Poland striker, who had scored twice in a 5-1 rout of Villarreal on Sunday, was replaced by Pedri in the 77th.

Lewandowski's goal was Barcelona's 6,500 in 3,035 league matches, according to the club.

Iñaki Peña started in goal in place of Marc-André ter Stegen, who sustained a serious knee injury in the team's previous league match.

Barcelona players entered the field with a T-shirt with words of support for Ter Stegen, who is one of the team's captains.

Getafe, which nearly equalized with Borja Mayoral from close range in stoppage time, remains winless and in second-to-last place.

AP

Ethan Nwaneri, 17, scores twice for Arsenal in 5-1 rout of Bolton and Liverpool beats West Ham 5-1

LONDON

ARSENAL teenager Ethan Nwaneri scored twice in a 5-1 win over third-division Bolton in the English League Cup on Wednesday.

The 17-year-old Nwaneri made a statement in his first senior start, while new signing Raheem Sterling also scored his first goal since joining from Chelsea.

On a night when some of Arsenal's next generation showcased their talent, goalkeeper Jack Porter became the youngest player to start for the London club aged 16 years, 72 days. Porter broke the record of club icon, Cesc Fabregas, who was 16 years, 177 days when he made his first start.

But Nwaneri holds the record as the youngest player to appear for Arsenal's first team, having come on as a substitute aged 15 years, 181 days in September 2022.

He registered his first se-



Ethan Nwaneri shoots with his left foot during Arsenal's game with Bolton. AP

nior goal in the 37th minute at the Emirates Stadium after Declan Rice had given Arsenal the lead in the 16th.

Nwaneri struck his second four minutes into the second half.

Aaron Collins pulled a goal back for Bolton in the 53rd, but Sterling struck in the 64th and Kai

Havertz completed the rout in the 77th.

*Liverpool rout

Liverpool got its defense of the League Cup off to a flying start with a 5-1 rout of West Ham.

But Arne Slot's team had to come from behind after Jarell Quansah's own goal in the 21st at Anfield. It didn't take long, though. Diogo

Jota scored four minutes later. He added his second four minutes after the break.

Mohamed Salah made it 3-1 in the 74th and West Ham's task was made even more difficult when Edson Alvarez was sent off two minutes later.

Cody Gakpo sealed an emphatic win with goals in the 90th and then the third minute of stoppage time.

*Fourth-round draw

Manchester City was drawn away to Tottenham in the pick of the fourth-round ties, while Liverpool also faces Premier League opposition with a trip to Brighton.

Arsenal travels to second-division Preston and Manchester United is at home against Leicester.

Newcastle will host Chelsea if it overcomes AFC Wimbledon.

Aston Villa vs. Crystal Palace is another all-top flight match. Brentford hosts Sheffield Wednesday and Southampton is at home against Stoke.

AP

Man United stunned 1-1 by Dutch club Twente in revamped Europa League

MANCHESTER, England

MANCHESTER United manager Erik ten Hag questioned his players' killer instinct after they were held to a 1-1 draw by his old club FC Twente in the revamped Europa League on Wednesday.

Sam Lammers capitalized on a mistake by Christian Eriksen in the second half at Old Trafford and raced away to fire an equalizer for the Dutch underdog.

"You saw that was the game of their life. They fought for every yard and we didn't," Ten Hag said. "99% is not enough. You have to give 100%. You have to kill the game. You have to finish it off."

Eriksen had put United ahead with a stunning first-half strike but was caught in possession by Lammers, whose goal secured an unexpected point for the visitors.

Ten Hag had spoken before the game of his affection for the team he supported as a boy in the Netherlands and represented as a player. He said it was "not nice to have to hurt something you love."

Instead it was United fans left in pain, despite Eriksen seemingly putting the home team on course for victory.

United has won just three of seven games in all competitions this season and Wednesday's draw came after a 0-0 draw at Crystal Palace in the Premier League on Saturday.

Eriksen swept United ahead in the 35th with a first-time shot into the top corner. Connecting with a loose ball just inside the box, the playmaker didn't break stride as he whipped his effort past past Twente goalkeeper Lars Unnerstall with power and precision.

With one fist clenched, he ran to the corner to celebrate in front of the home fans.

But it was Twente's supporters left cheering



Twente's Sam Lammers, centre, scores his side's equalising goal against Manchester United. Agencies



the loudest after Lammers' goal in the 68th when beating Andre Onana at his near post.

"There's a lot of football (still to play) when you (are) one up and the game takes more than 90 minutes," Ten Hag said. "And you have to fight until the end and score the second goal."

Like the Champions League, the second-tier Europa League has a new format and 36 teams instead of 32. It features a league system in which each team plays eight games against different opponents through January, replacing the old group stage.

*Lazio cruises, Osimhen assists

In a clash between the Turkish and Greek champions, Galatasaray beat PAOK 3-1. Victor Osimhen, who moved from Napoli to Galatasaray earlier in September, made his presence felt. The Nigeria striker's goalbound header was deflected by defender Abdul Rahman Baba into his own net early in the second half. Giannis Konstantelias equalized on a rebound before Osimhen set up Yunus Akgün to net the winner. Mauro Icardi added a

stoppage-time goal.

Lazio cruised past Dynamo Kyiv 3-0. Boulaye Dia struck twice and Fisayo Dele-Bashiru added one. Both teams ended the game with 10 men.

Real Sociedad, struggling in La Liga, got a goal from Ander Barrenetxea at Nice but the home team salvaged a 1-1 draw thanks to Pablo Rosario's goal late in the first half.

Another team struggling domestically, Bundesliga's Hoffenheim took home a point from Denmark in a 1-1 draw with Danish Superliga's leader Midtjylland. Dario Osorio put the hosts ahead late in the first half before substitute Max Moerstedt leveled it in the final minute.

In Brussels, Anderlecht struck twice in the span of five minutes in the second half on the way to a 2-1 victory over Ferencváros. Yari

Verschaeren scored on the hour and Kasper Dolberg added the second from the spot.

Slavia Prague scored in each half for a 2-0 win at Bulgaria's Ludogorets.

*Early wins

Norwegian club Bodø/Glimt and Dutch side AZ Alkmaar became the first teams to claim victories earlier on Wednesday.

Jens Petter Hauge's two goals guided 10-man Bodø/Glimt from a goal down to a 3-2 win over Porto while Troy Parrott netted the winner from the penalty spot for Alkmaar to beat Sweden's Elfsborg 3-2.

Porto, a two-time champion in Europe's second-tier league, got an early goal from Samu. Kasper Høgh's equalized and Hauge netted twice for a 3-1 lead. Porto reduce the deficit to one in the final

minute through substitute Deniz Güll.

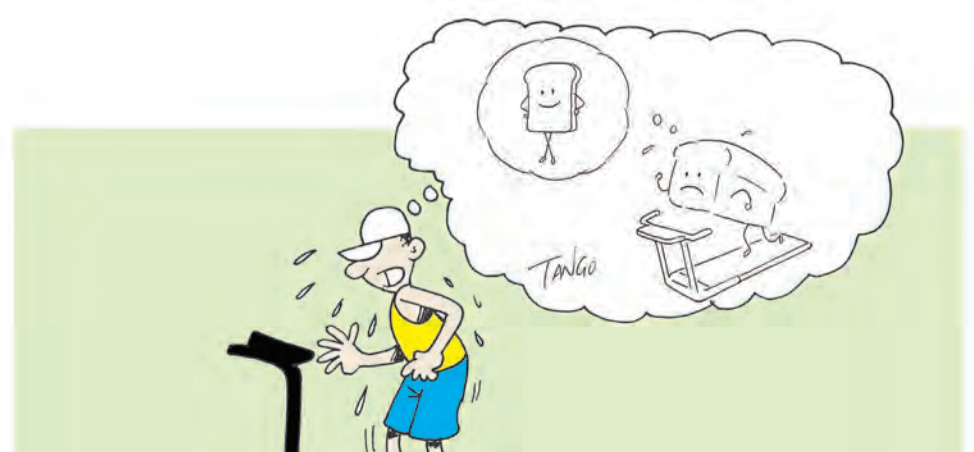
Alkmaar answered Timothy Ouoma's opener with two goals from Ruben van Bommel on both sides of the interval. Simon Hedlund made it 2-2 before Parrott's late penalty.

Ahead of a late game between Dynamo Kyiv and Lazio, a group of about 60 Lazio fans were stopped by German authorities in Hamburg after attempting to avoid a police escort and were found to be carrying knives, clubs and other weapons. Fans who were held overnight were banned from attending Wednesday's game but there were no arrests.

Dynamo plays its home Europa League games in Hamburg because of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Ethan Nwaneri, 17, scores twice for Arsenal in 5-1 rout of Bolton and Liverpool beats West Ham 5-1

PAGE 19

Miguel Gamondi pleased with Yanga's game management in Ken Gold victory

two more to be more comfortable," Gamondi said.

"I told the players at halftime that one goal is a small margin. I want to congratulate Ken Gold because they played with a lot of energy and commitment. They showed great character, but we managed them well in the second half with our experience. We should have scored another goal or two."

Reflecting on a late scare in the closing minutes, Gamondi acknowledged the unpredictability of football: "We almost conceded in the last two or three minutes, but that was the only real threat. This is football; sometimes it can be cruel."

"I'm happy because, after our performance in Zanzibar and the travel here, we knew it would be difficult. But the three points are what matter

most."

The victory moved Young Africans up to seventh place in the Premier League table, with six points from their two opening games.

They are currently six points behind table leaders Singida Black Stars, who have played two more matches.

Young Africans will next face city rivals KMC in their upcoming Premier League fixture on Sunday.



Young Africans defender Ibrahim Hamad 'Bacca' scores his side's winning goal during their Premier League match against Ken Gold held on Wednesday at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya. Photo: Courtesy of YASAC

Fountain Gate target table-topping victory over Kagera Sugar

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SECOND-PLACED Fountain Gate have the opportunity to climb to the top of the Mainland Premier League table when they host Kagera Sugar at Kwaraa Stadium this afternoon, with kick-off scheduled for 4 PM.

This marks Fountain Gate's sixth league game of the season.

The Manyara-based side secured their third win in five matches last weekend, defeating Tabora United 3-1. This victory brought their points tally to ten from a possible fifteen, keeping them within striking distance of the league summit.

Fountain Gate's Premier League campaign started with a heavy 4-0 loss against title contenders Simba. However, they quickly rebounded with a 2-0 win away to Namungo, followed by a 2-1 home victory against newly-promoted Ken Gold.

A thrilling 2-2 home draw against Dodoma Jiji added to their points tally before their latest victory over Tabora United extended their unbeaten streak to four games.

A win today against Kagera Sugar will see Fountain Gate overtake current table-toppers Singida Black Stars by one point.

Kagera Sugar, meanwhile, come into the match on the back of their first league win of the season, having defeated Ken Gold 2-0 at home last Friday.

Paul Nkata's team has struggled in the early stages of the season, collecting just four points from five matches. Currently sitting 13th in the table, they are only one point above the relegation zone.

Kagera Sugar's offensive struggles have been apparent, with just two goals scored in five games. They have yet to win on the road this season, and if they are to secure back-to-back victories, a player will need to step up and find the net.

In head-to-head encounters, Fountain Gate and Kagera Sugar have met just four times in top-flight league competition, with each team claiming two victories.

Last season, Kagera Sugar completed a league double over Fountain Gate, winning 1-0 in Bukoba in February and 3-2 in Mwanza in the season finale in May.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans head coach Miguel Gamondi expressed satisfaction with his team's overall performance following their 1-0 victory over Ken Gold on Wednesday.

A first-half header from Ibrahim Hamad 'Bacca' proved to be the decisive moment, extending Young Africans' unbeaten streak to 21 matches across all competitions, consisting of 18 wins and three draws.

The Premier League defending champions' strong defensive display in the second half secured their sixth consecutive clean sheet and the 19th clean sheet in their impressive run.

Despite creating several opportunities, including shots from Pacome Zouzoua, Maxi Nzegeli, and Stephen Aziz Ki, Young Africans were denied by Ken Gold's goalkeeper Costa Mhagama, who made several outstanding saves.

Gamondi praised his team's game management, particularly in the second half, crediting their tactical approach to overcoming a determined Ken Gold side.

"We came here to get three points. It was tough. I think we had complete control of the game. We tactically dominated throughout. We missed big chances in the first half and should have scored one or

...calls for Yanga's improvement despite victory

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

YOUNG Africans SC secured their second consecutive victory in the NBC Premier League, moving from 13th to 7th place, thanks to a crucial header by central defender Ibrahim Hamad 'Bacca' in the 13th minute.

Bacca's goal at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya not only sealed the win but also marked Young Africans' eighth consecutive victory across all competitions this season, with a tally of 25 goals scored and only one conceded. Despite expectations of a high-scoring game against Ken Gold FC, a newly promoted team, Young Africans struggled to break down their disciplined and well-organized opponents.

Ken Gold, who had lost all five of their previous league's matches while conceding nine goals and scoring only two, put up an unexpectedly strong defensive performance.

Young Africans fans had anticipated an easy win, given Ken Gold's poor form. However, the Mbeya-based side showed resilience, holding the defending champions to just one goal despite being dominated for most of the match.

After the game, Young Africans' head coach, Miguel Gamondi, acknowledged the challenge Ken Gold posed and praised his players, particularly Shadrack Boka, who was named Man of the Match.

"Boka was excellent, just like in our last match in Zanzibar. His attacking play and defensive work were exceptional. We never faced serious danger at the back, and I'm happy with how the team showed character today," Gamondi said.

Gamondi fielded a lineup similar to the one that thrashed Ethiopia's CBE SA 6-0 in the CAF Champions League preliminary round in Zanzi-

bar but made a few key changes.

Khalid Aucho and Dube Abuya returned to the starting XI, while Jonas Mkude and Mudathir Yahya were rested. Despite their changes, Ken Gold remained disciplined and focused throughout.

The match's only goal came early in the 13th minute from a set piece. After a foul by a Ken Gold defender, Young Africans midfielder Stephane Aziz Ki delivered a well-placed free kick that Bacca headed past goalkeeper Castor Mhagama to give Young Africans the lead.

Young Africans created numerous chances but were unable to extend their lead, with several players missing key opportunities. Bacca's goal was his first of the season, while Aziz Ki recorded his second assist in the league.

Despite Young Africans' dominance, Ken Gold nearly found a

way back into the game in the dying minutes. One of their attackers hit a shot that clipped the post and rolled along the goal line, while another Young Africans' effort was cleared off the line by Charles Masai after Ken Gold's goalkeeper Mhagama misjudged the ball.

Young Africans goalkeeper Diarra Djigui had a relatively quiet game but made two crucial saves late on to preserve his clean sheet. Djigui has now kept two clean sheets in the league this season, completing 540 minutes of football without conceding across all competitions.

With this win, Young Africans return to Dar es Salaam to prepare for their next Premier League match against KMC FC. Ken Gold, still searching for their first points of the campaign, will face Tabora United at Sokoine Stadium in their next fixture.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

SPORTS

EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Zote Kuntu
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michzo
14:00 SKONGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Akili & Me
15:55 Dondoo Za Michzo
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo Za Michzo
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 SSPORTS
22:00 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA1 (r)

SSports
The week's local and international sporting events as well as indepth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on SSports.

eastafrika RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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DAR ES SALAAM

Flexibles by David Chikoko

WHY DID YOU JUMP TO PLAN Z WHEN PLANA FLOPPED?

IT WAS THE LAST RESORT

