



### National Pg 3 Protection of marine environment



### National Pg 4 Call for reaction during disasters



### National Pg 6 RC warns poachers and arsonists



# Govt reviews recruitment criteria for varsity staffing

## TRA directs EFDs to 9,000 traders at Kariakoo complex

By Getrude Mbago

ALL traders within the Kariakoo market complex in Dar es Salaam will from early next year start issuing receipts using electronic fiscal devices (EFDs), the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has declared.

Alex Katundu (pictured), the Kariakoo regional tax manager, told a press conference yesterday that the shift is geared to enhance revenue collection. He said the total area harbours nearly 9,000 traders who are already registered and provided with taxpayer identification numbers (TINs).

He asserted that most traders around the market complex are pocketing millions of shillings annually from their sales without paying taxes, thus "they are now obliged to contribute to the country's development through tax payments."

"We have embarked on strategies to promote patriotism and expand the tax base by formalizing businesses, registering small traders to bring them to conduct their businesses in a regulated manner, paying taxes to the government," he stated. The campaign will include registering all small-scale traders working at Kariakoo area to ensure they have TINs and use electronic fiscal devices, he elaborated, alluding to the provision of tax education to traders. They need to know the importance of being registered as well as issuing EFD receipts," he said.

They should similarly be made to understand the need to sell quality goods to protect the health of consumers, he further affirmed, raising concern that "some unfaithful traders are now turning their shops into small businesses by giving goods to petty sellers" for tax avoidance.

TRA has so far registered 5,273 small traders at the Kariakoo zone, who are now being included in the taxation framework, as "all these efforts are meant to ensure

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Vice President Dr Philip Mpango listens to local astronomer Dr Noorali Jiwaji when visiting the Open University of Tanzania premises at Kinondoni in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: VPO

By Guardian Reporter

THE government will now examine perceived abilities of applicants when conducting job interviews for academic appointments, instead of confining the criterion to the grade point average (GPA).

Prof Adolf Mkenda, the Education, Science and Technology minister made this affirmation in the presence of Vice President Dr Philip Mpango at the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) main campus at Biafra grounds in Kinondoni District in the city.

The GPA score of applicants to get the most appropriate candidates, so the ministry will add other parameters in reviewing education policies and curriculum changes, he said, vowing that "this matter will be looked at with great professionalism."

As the government increases the admission of students, it will not be ready to see the quality of teaching decreasing, he stated, affirming that the government will strengthen the criteria to become a professor, so that professors in the country have the same standards as those of other countries.

In the upcoming education sector reforms where the ministry is reviewing policies and curricula, recruitment policy for academic staff will be worked upon, he stated, highlighting that the government is building university campuses in 14 regions including Zanzibar.

These are areas that so far lack resident university teaching and learning, where students are only connected via open universities, he said, listing the regions as

Tabora, Katavi, Kigoma, Kagera, Singida, Manyara, Lindi, Rukwa, Mwanza, Simiyu, Tanga, Ruvuma, Shinyanga and Dodoma.

Most regions have learning centres of the Open University of Tanzania, he said, noting that they cater for students who are already employed and have the required qualifications for admission.

The government plans to increase the loan budget for students, with all loans given fairly within the set criteria, he said, elaborating that loans need to be directed to those in greater need.

"Anyone who makes the mistake of denying an orphan the opportunity to study just because he is flattered to give someone's

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# EU standards outfit accolades TANAPA

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE QUALITY Choice Diamond Prize for 2022 issued by the European Society for Quality Research (ESQR) has

been given to Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA).

ESQR CEO Michael Harris announced this at a gala dinner and award giving ceremony at the five star Hotel Le Plaza

in the Belgian capital of Brussels on Sunday

This is the third prize ESQR has issued to TANAPA in a row in recognition of its best practices in conservation and tourism

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## TGNP schools ten ministries in gender sensitive budgeting

By Francis Kajubi

THE Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) has organised a two-day capacity building workshop for gender focal persons from ten ministries to discuss major issues to be considered in budget drafting and development plans.

Anna Sangai, the TGNP senior program officer charged with feminist movement building, said that the workshop ending

today brought gender focal persons from Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups ministry along with Health, Education, Energy, Lands and Water.

Other targeted ministries are Livestock and Fisheries, Information and Communication Technology, Minerals and finally, Home Affairs, she explained to journalists, noting that the training sought to impart focal persons the tools to push for strategies addressing gender responsiveness in how ministries plan development projects.

"Apart from strategic goals, the session targets at holding a mutual discussion and sharing transformative feminist and gender-sensitive information to facilitate evidence-based policy engagement," the focal activist explained.

The session notably sought to broaden understanding among focal persons on gender equality conventions and national

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Assistant Inspector of Police Christopher Newton of the gender and children desk for the Kinondoni regional zone in Dar es Salaam explains the menace of sexual violence to pupils at Twiga Primary School as part of the 16 days of activism against gender based violence over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent





## EU standards outfit accolades TANAPA

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where TANAPA was represented by Beatrice Kessy, the head of its business development portfolio, and Massana Mwishawa, head of its eastern zone division.

William Mwakilema, the CEO said in a statement yesterday that the conservation agency was awarded by ESQR in its annual recognition of top companies, public administrations and organisations which excel in their services or products, pushing the limits of quality with innovations.

Award winning entities were recognized for their hard work and commitment to quality, in the presence of scores of international business representatives, selected by ESQR from ESQR polls, consumer opinion and market research, he stated.

In 2020, TANAPA bagged ESQR's best practice gold award and in 2021 it obtained the quality achievement platinum prize. The quality choice diamond accolade has now followed, he stated.

He was upbeat that TANAPA's efforts to conserve flora and fauna in 22 national parks, customized tourism services, innovation, and experience have been recognized by the international body.

"I can guarantee all tourists and nature enthusiasts that we are

devoted to ensure all 22 national parks remain wild for them to enjoy connecting with nature," he pledged.

He was of the view that the award complements efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in invigorating tourism growth to achieve five million tourists in 2025 and \$6.6bn in tourism sector earnings.

Juma Salum, acting head of mission to the European Union, Belgium and Luxembourg saluted TANAPA for a job well done, prompting recognition by the international community.

Tanzania is among the leading hunting safari destinations especially in the southern circuit, with the northern circuit hosting scenic viewing and photographic safari destinations like the Serengeti, Mount Kilimanjaro and Ngorongoro Crater.

While most tourism visitations has focused on a few game parks, eased access and modernised communications are opening up a breadth of other spots of great natural scenery with lakes atop mountains, hot springs, waterfalls and vexing stone attractions with occult enigmas.

TANAPA manages 22 national parks, covers approximately 15 percent of the country's total land area.

## TGNP schools ten ministries in gender sensitive budgeting

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instruments for their observation and mainstreaming in development projects.

TGNP urges the government to maintain the premise that women as key victims of sextortion in proposed amendments of the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) Act No. II, 2007.

"Sextortion is quite different from other kinds of corruption where people bargain. Women are forced by men into accepting sex in exchange of being employed or supported in what they are doing," she stated.

PCCB had earlier stated that proposed amendments seek to place equal punishment on women and men engaged in sextortion, to

which TGNP is raising objections, she said.

Article 25 of the Act stipulates sextortion as an economic sabotage offence that holds back the participation of competent individuals in economic activity.

Dora George, senior community development officer, said that there is a lot to learn from each other in achieving gender equality and protection of women routinely exposed to gender-based violence.

"The majority of women in rural areas are subject to repressive conditions in fetching firewood and water. It is high time for stakeholders like TGNP to sit down with government authorities to discuss how development plans and budgeting can rescue women from such situations," she added.

## TRA directs EFDs to 9,000 traders at Kariakoo complex

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that we increase collections for the country's development," he added.

All traders including tomato and vegetables sellers in the often congested area will be required to have EFD machines by early next year, he emphasised, noting that the TRA target for Kariakoo this month is set at 19.5bn/- and even expect it will be surpassed.

TRA will similarly hold sessions with the traders to educating traders and their customers on the importance of using EFDs and issuing receipts.

"We have put banners in various parts of the area to ensure that customers demand EFD receipts

after purchases," insisting that this will promote patriotism in tax payment.

The government needs more collections to support various development projects and improve the provision of social services, he said.

Traders who will be found conducting business without issuing electronic receipts will face charges in court once caught, while a customer who doesn't demand the receipt can face up to 3m/- fine in the event of being convicted of that offence in court. Traders who do not issue electronic receipts will be penalised at 5m/- or face a stiff jail term, he added.



Zanzibar Community Development, Elderly, Gender and Children minister Riziki Pembe Juma (with head scarf) and Uganda Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja look at the products of one of the entrepreneurs at the 22nd East African Association of small and time entrepreneurs exhibition known as Juakali which is ongoing in Kampala, Uganda.

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son or daughter that loan will be cursed," he declared

He said the Open University provides opportunities for many to scale up their qualifications by distance education.

The government has continued to give priority to higher education, including increasing the amount of loans for students from 464bn/- to 654bn/- this year, he said.

Addressing the gathering, the vice president challenged universities to produce graduates capable of adapting to the needs of the private sector.

## Govt reviews recruitment criteria for varsity staffing

He said the ministry has to ensure that students with special needs can learn properly, with tools of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) available to help them learn easily.

The Open University also needs to publicise its services including the

rare space education (astronomy), meanwhile as the ministry needs to prioritise payments for buildings meant for use by the Open University in Kinondoni municipality, he added.

OUT Vice Chancellor Prof Elisaf Bisanda asked the government to

support internet costs which now reach 1bn/- per year, incurred in the provision of distance education.

Challenges facing the college include the lack of buildings in some regions that require 4.5bn/- for construction, along with lack of IT equipment, he added.



CCM Zanzibar Vice Chairman President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi and his wife Mariam Mwinyi exchange greetings with various government officials and CCM leaders moments after they arrived at Maisara Suleiman grounds Unguja to attend Dr. Mwinyi's night concert to congratulate him for becoming the Vice Chairman of CCM Zanzibar over the weekend. Photo: State House

By Grtrude Mbago

## SAT staff trained on good animal welfare practices

SIXTY five staff of the Tanzania Sustainable Agriculture (SAT) have been drilled and equipped with essential skills on good animal welfare practices so as to promote production of healthy and quality livestock.

The two-day training conducted last week at SAT's Farmer Training Centre (FTC) at Vianzi village in Morogoro region, went along with practical sessions to instill the knowledge and ensure that the staff have deep understanding on the matter.

Issued by Dr Paul Ssuna from Welttierschutzstiftung (WTS) in Uganda, the training aimed

to capacitate the workers with essential skills on the rights of animals (livestock) so as to produce quality production including meat, milk and skin.

Dr Ssuna noted that enhanced animal welfare practices in cattle production chains will follow the sustainable production and higher profits.

He noted that lack of enough information and regulation about animal welfare in cattle farming practices affects the deprived animal development, resulting in low efficacy of animal production.

"Good animal welfare practices include prevention and treatment

of disease and injury; prevention and mitigation of pain, distress and other negative states; and providing diets and living conditions that are suited to the needs and nature of animals

He noted that good handling methods of animals can improve growth and reproduction by reducing the pain, fear and physiological stress reactions engendered by rough or inappropriate handling.

"Animals have the right to live, eat, space and freedom. Providing living conditions that are well suited to the animals can reduce the incidence of abnormal and injurious

behaviour. Providing adequate space can prevent crowding-related deaths and production losses," he explained.

He further said the welfare of food-producing animals depends largely on how they are managed by humans. A range of factors can impact on their welfare from housing and bedding, space and crowding, transport conditions, stunning and slaughter methods, to castration of males and tail docking.

Dr Ssuna urged the staff to be good ambassadors by educating others in pastoral communities and other areas so as to know the importance of taking good care of their animals

so as to produce quality products.

Participants on their side, hailed the organization's management for organizing the training which has broadened their understanding on the rights of animals and good livestock welfare practices to bring positive outcomes.

"I had some knowledge on animal welfare but this training has taken me far, I now have deep understanding on various things concerning welfare of animals and this will help me on my duties," said Catharine Aloyce, one of the participants

Mercy Nkya, also a participant said the training will help them

disseminate the knowledge to other people especially the pastoralists that they are working with to have more positive outcomes in the society.

SAT co-executive director, Alex Wostry said that apart from instilling the skills to the workers, the organization will ensure that the knowledge reaches more people in pastoral communities in the country so as to increase productivity in the sector.

Wostry said that SAT, through its Holistic Group Ltd, owns a dairy processing factory and they are buying milk from pastoralists, so equipping them with the essential skills on animal welfare practices is of paramount importance.





Finland ambassador to Tanzania, Theresa Zitting, (1st R), UN Women Tanzania representative, Hodan Addou (2nd R) listen to Minister of State, President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Angellah Kariuki during the launch of the project dubbed: 'Strengthening women's and girls' meaningful participation, leadership and economic rights (WLER) at the local level in Tanzania mainland yesterday funded by Finland government. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## TBS concludes campaign on products quality standards in Singida Region

By Guardian Reporter, Singida

TANZANIA Bureau of Standards has finished its campaign for educating the public in Singida, Iramba, Mkalama, Ikungi in Singida Region on the importance of reading what is written on manufactured products and to only purchase products whose quality has been certified by the Bureau.

The campaign that reached out to over 6,800 people ran

simultaneously with mobilising small entrepreneurs to certify the quality of their products and with traders required to register shops that sell foodstuff and cosmetics.

The campaign that began November 28 this year was concluded yesterday and was conducted in various areas with huge assemblies of people including markets, bus stands, auctions and other open areas.

Iramba District Executive

Director, Michael Matomora praised the Bureau for providing education to the people and advised for frequent impromptu inspections on shops especially on building materials particularly round bars and iron sheets.

For his part, TBS Inspector Magesa Mwizarubi reminded the people that the war against sub-standard goods is not reserved for the Bureau alone, but it is a national one.

He explained on the importance of having standards in their daily lives such as informing them about the Bureau's free service in regard to goods submitted to them for quality certification.

However, he called on them to be good ambassadors by mobilising for the importance of using quality products.

"For traders it is important to abide by registration procedures of their products or shops selling foodstuffs and cosmetics by visiting TBS offices nearest to them," he said.

He said the campaign is sustainable and will now continue in Mbeya Region districts.

## Govt calls for protection of marine environment

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works and Transport Dr Ally Possi calls upon the need to protect marine environment and its creatures to realise the blue economy potential.

Dr Possi made the statement yesterday when opening a regional workshop of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships organised by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in Dar es Salaam.

"If we are to benefit from the blue economy it is necessary we prevent disposal of waste carried by cargo ships in order to maintain balance," the PS said.

He said it is important for Tanzania to protect the sea by joining with the world to ratify the agreement in order to set the rules and laws that will be used to control the pollution of the sea and the creatures in the future.

"Water sources, especially the sea, govern the blue economy policy, now when the sea is polluted or destroyed, the blue economy policy becomes difficult to implement because the sea creatures will be lost and the working tools of the sea will be damaged," he said.

Dr Possi said the meeting is important because it has the goal of observing the protocol agreement to control the discharge of dirty sea water which was adopted in 2004 and started to be used in 2007 of which Tanzania is one of the members.

He said Tanzania supports the ratification of the agreement because it understands the importance of protecting the sea and the creatures in it, especially in this period in which it gives priority to the blue economy as one of the sources of income for the nation.

Kaimu Abdi Mkeyenge, Tanzania Shipping Agency Corporation (TASAC) director general said the

purpose of the workshop was to gain understanding in order to control the waste that comes with cargo ships from other countries to be poured into our sea and affect the ecology.

"The blue economy may not be achieved if these waters are not controlled, so the main goal of this workshop is to provide a broad understanding of the meaning of this international agreement so that stakeholders have a common understanding of protecting the marine environment and achieving that economy," said Kaimu.

Stella Katundu, safety and environment director in the Ministry of Works and Transport said the education that will be provided during the workshop will help preserve the marine environment against water spilled by cargo ships.

"The water that is carried in the ship contains different organisms that are not native to us, so if they are poured into our sea, those organisms can be dangerous to the organisms here, which is not right for the environment, so the education that will be provided together through the agreement to prevent such actions we will help protect our environment," she said.

Stella said that Tanzania as one of the member countries of IMO, has already started the process of reviewing the agreement and the current stage is to receive the opinions of local maritime transport stakeholders and then they will send responses to approve or disapprove.

*"Water sources, especially the sea, govern the blue economy policy, now when the sea is polluted or destroyed, the blue economy policy becomes difficult to implement because the sea creatures will be lost and the working tools of the sea will be damaged"*



### JOB OPPORTUNITY

**Job title:** Programme Manager  
**Location:** Zanzibar  
**Reporting line:** Programme Director

**The overall Purpose of the Position**

- The Programme Manager will be responsible for the coordination, quality assurance and overall implementation of Madrasa Early Childhood programmes-Zanzibar (MECPZ) in close consultation with the Programme Director and Technical leads. He/She will lead, mentor, and support a high-performing, multicultural and multidisciplinary team to coordinate the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of projects and programmes to ensure that high-quality results are delivered on time, on target and on budget. As a member of the Management team, the Programme Manager will work closely with the MECPZ Programme Director and Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) to ensure the alignment of programmes with the overall mandate, values, and standards of MECPZ and its partners.
- Build and maintain a broad network of external partnerships with the national government, parastatal, donors, private sector, civil society organisations and other partners.
- Support the development of quality learning and communications materials including policy briefs and case studies to inform policies, programs, and practices. This entails working in collaboration with project teams and the M&E team to develop a Performance Measurement Framework (PMF) for the new programme, operationalise all current PMF, ensure project implementation teams assume ownership of the PMF and enable M&E to be an integrated component of all project activities.
- Support resource mobilization efforts for MECPZ through the development of high-quality concept notes and proposals for funding in close consultation with the Programme Director.

**CORE COMPETENCIES**

- Programme Management
- Leadership and Teamwork
- Design thinking, Creativity, and Innovation
- Influence and Negotiation

**Required Experience and Skills**

- Master's degree in Education, International Development, Economics, Business Administration, Project Planning and Management, Community Development, or any other related discipline.
- Minimum of eight years' experience working with an International Organization or any highly reputable NGO in a similar context.
- Proven experience in managing complex and high-impact projects in partnerships with other organisations, including budgets, staff and partnerships management and capacity building.
- Excellent planning, conceptual and strategic thinking and problem-solving skills are required.
- Excellent knowledge and understanding of gender and social inclusion issues and proven experience in delivering programmes that explicitly address these inequalities.
- Knowledge and commitment to child and community safeguarding issues and proven experience in operationalising relevant policies and procedures.
- Excellent in communication, presentation, interpersonal skills and teamwork spirit, with a positive/growth mindset.
- Experience in managing culturally diverse teams and demonstrating non-discriminatory behaviours.
- Ability to operate with discretion and always maintain the confidentiality of information.
- Strong communication skills, written and oral, and fluency in English.
- Strong leadership skills with diverse competencies in an organisation, multi-tasking, critical thinking, and M&E.
- Strong ICT skills and experience operating with Microsoft and emerging new software.

Diversity, Inclusion, and safeguarding: Ensure MECPZ's pluralistic values are demonstrated internally, and externally, and all programming is respectful and inclusive of people from diverse backgrounds including, but not limited to, socio-economic status, religion, ethnicity, culture, gender, age, and disability.

Committed to acting ethically and upholding safeguarding standards towards all staff, volunteers, and beneficiaries of the organisation.

**How to Apply**

Interested candidates are requested to submit a cover letter, and CV including contacts of three references, by 31 December 2022. Click on the link to apply: [www.akdn.org/careers](http://www.akdn.org/careers)

MECPZ is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is Committed to Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children and Vulnerable Adults and Expects all Staff and Partners to Share this Commitment")

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### PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND DISCLOSURES OF FUNDING SOURCES FOR REPOA FROM 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

REPOA is hereby publishing the extract of its audited financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021 as approved by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 19th August 2022. The report discloses the state of the financial affairs of REPOA (the organization) for the said period. This publication is made in accordance with regulation number 13 (a) of Non-Governmental Organizations (Amendments), 2018 which obliges NGO receiving funds exceeding TZS 20 million in a year to publish its fund received and expenditure in wide circulated newspaper and other media channels which are easily accessible by targeted beneficiaries.

REPOA is a research organization established in 1994 and reregistered under the Non-Governmental Organization Act no 24 of 2002 of Tanzania with registration number DONGO/R2/00014.

REPOA's core mandate is to generate knowledge through research and to provide information and evidence needed for policy formulation, and to contribute to enhancing research capacity. The ultimate goal is to accelerate socio-economic transformation for inclusive development and for increased quality of life of Tanzanians.

During the reporting period, REPOA received funding from various sources, which includes its core partners, namely the Royal Danish Embassy, the Embassy of Sweden, the Embassy of Ireland, and the Royal Norwegian Embassy. Additional funding for specific research programmes and activities were received from other international and national collaborators. In carrying out research, capacity building, and policy related activities, REPOA engages proactively with the Government of Tanzania and collaborates with national and international research and academic institutions; development partners, private sector, and civil society organizations for knowledge exchange, research capacity building, policy dialogue, and supporting the use of research-based evidence in the formulation of policies, strategies and other development interventions. Independent Auditor's Report to the members of REPOA

**Independent Auditor's Report to the members of REPOA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	2021 (TZS)	2020 (TZS)
<b>Revenue from non-exchange transactions</b>		
Core fund contributions	5,989,688,211	4,653,581,596
Other donors	2,599,817,380	2,283,510,032
	<b>8,589,505,591</b>	<b>6,937,091,628</b>
<b>Revenue from exchange transactions</b>		
Other income	96,777,855	158,289,938
	<b>96,777,855</b>	<b>158,289,938</b>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>8,686,283,446</b>	<b>7,095,381,566</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Goal I: Undertake quality, relevant & high impact research	3,158,563,049	2,788,889,321
Goal II: Impactful capacity building	2,545,874,640	1,758,564,494
Goal III: Develop organisational model of excellence	2,079,848,369	2,097,699,924
	<b>7,784,286,058</b>	<b>6,645,153,740</b>
<b>Other gains or losses</b>		
Write off land 1 accumulated depreciation		291,012,401
(Gain)/losses on foreign exchange transaction	(30,113,265)	123,402,638
	<b>(30,113,265)</b>	<b>414,415,039</b>
<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<b>871,884,124</b>	<b>864,642,865</b>

**Independent Auditor's Report to the members of REPOA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	2021 (TZS)	2020 (TZS)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and short-term deposits	4,979,566,549	3,242,750,542
Other Receivables	198,337,547	82,888,324
	<b>5,177,904,095</b>	<b>3,325,638,866</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property and equipment	3,305,491,181	3,198,267,204
	<b>3,305,491,181</b>	<b>3,198,267,204</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>8,483,395,276</b>	<b>6,523,906,070</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	540,993,578	848,004,191
	2,307,178,619	900,562,924
	<b>2,848,172,197</b>	<b>1,748,567,115</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Capital grants	60,000,000	72,000,000
	<b>60,000,000</b>	<b>72,000,000</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,908,172,197</b>	<b>1,820,567,115</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>5,575,223,079</b>	<b>4,703,338,955</b>
<b>NET ASSETS REPRESENTED BY:</b>		
<b>Capital Contributed by:</b>		
Accumulated fund	1,549,254,936	472,017,602
Endowment fund	17	1,543,654,479
General reserve	17	794,908,389
Revaluation reserves	1,892,758,486	1,892,758,486
	<b>5,575,223,079</b>	<b>4,703,338,955</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>5,575,223,079</b>	<b>4,703,338,955</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>8,483,395,276</b>	<b>6,523,906,070</b>

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 09 May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Prof. Rwekaza Mukandala  
Chairperson

Dr. Donald Mnarri  
Executive Director

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## NMB apprenticeship scheme grooms more young bankers

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank management trainee programme has to date produced over 60 financial management experts who have helped to boost its human capital base and make the lender a top employer.

The latest batch of bankers produced by the apprenticeship scheme graduated last week in Dar es Salaam. The eight graduates pledged to repay the trust the bank has had on them and the investment it has made in their career development by working hard and diligently.

"Our dreams to become bankers have now become true. We promise to work very hard as employees of this successful banking institution in Tanzania," graduate Amanda Esako said on behalf of her colleagues.

She said the two-year grooming was no easy task but a worthy venture they are grateful to have been part of, which accords them the opportunity to serve not only the bank but the whole of Tanzania at large.

Amanda made the remarks after senior NMB leaders had called on the group to also use the privilege to develop themselves and contribute to national building efforts.

Chief Human Resources Officer Emmanuel Akonaay said he was optimistic the group will deliver and help NMB to consolidate its market leadership position.

"During the two years that they have been around, these young people have managed to mobilise deposits worth TZS 7 billion and helped to open 5,000 new accounts," Akonaay noted.

"Their commitment shows that they are the future leaders of this bank. I therefore urge them to work hard, professionally and prioritise the interests of the bank and Tanzania," he added.

According to the head of HR, Shared Services, Joseph Ngalawa, the graduation held on Thursday at NMB head office marked the end of the fourth phase of the programme.

Ngalawa told this paper that the human capital development initiative started in 2009 and most of its graduates are currently senior managers of NMB.

The graduation ceremony was graced by NMB board member Ramadhan Mwikalo who said it was such investments in grooming new and young talents that make NMB Bank top employer and leader of financial services.

Mwikalo said skilled and competent staff was the number one asset of the bank, which makes it excel in its operations. Currently NMB has more than four million workers who man its 277 branches across the country.

"Firstly, this talent nurturing and skills development programme is a worthy investment, which is supported by the board of directors. NMB being voted the best employer in 2022 means and tells a lot as a leading employer. I commend you for the achievement," Mwikalo pointed out.

"You are the future leaders of this bank," he told the graduates.

Speaking earlier, Acting Chief Executive Officer Filbert Mponzi said as new employees of the best employer in Tanzania, the group was in the right place and in very safe hands.

For them to excel, he noted, they should be result oriented which he said was the secret behind the success of people like him who joined the bank as junior officers.



**Our dreams to become bankers have now become true. We promise to work very hard as employees of this successful banking institution in Tanzania**

## CCM members hope accountability will improve with Mwinyi as vice chairman

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

MEMBERS of the ruling CCM in Zanzibar have expressed their hopes that accountability and moral conduct will greatly improve after President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi took over position as national vice chairman of the party.

Speaking to journalists yesterday here, the members said that they have great hopes that Dr Mwinyi will take the party to another level and thus bring positive outcomes in people's lives.

Soon after landing in Zanzibar, Dr Mwinyi received a grand reception from party's members who said that they have been satisfied with his leadership which supervises accountability and efficiency in the public service as well as fight against corruption and economic sabotage.

"By providing Dr Mwinyi with this position within the party, we believe it will bring a big change for Zanzibar as well as strengthening the implementation of the election manifesto," said Ame Omar Ali, a CCM member.

Ame believes that the pace of fighting corruption and embezzlement will increase with the new position as Dr Mwinyi has shown commitment to fight all forms of corruption and recklessness in the Isles.

Suleiman Omar Gazi said the move will also increase pace of development in Isles due to the execution of various mega projects.

"We are all witnesses on how good president Mwinyi is in fighting corruption and embezzlement, we have seen a number of public servants being sent to court due to various offences," he said.

He however said that there are some challenges that need to be addressed within the Zanzibar Anti-corruption and Economic Crimes Authority (ZAECA) to strengthen the fight against corruption.

Another member, Ali Othman, urged party members to break groups and focus on creating unity

to bring the party's agenda forward and thus achieve intended goals which include serving the people and preparing for the 2025 general election.

Former director of Sauti ya Tanzania Zanzibar (STZ) Omar Yussuf Chunda commended members of National Executive Committee (NEC) for electing a strong team which will push the party forward.

He hailed how the election was conducted by adhering transparency basics from branch to national level.

The members also commended former President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein for his good leadership within the party and the government that supervised peace and unity in the country.

Deputy secretary of Youth Wing (UVCCM)-Zanzibar Mussa Haji Mussa added that Dr Mwinyi's efforts to fight corruption and embezzlement are recommendable initiatives which will promote development in Isles.

He urged Zanzibar residents to continue to support Dr Mwinyi and all leaders so as to help the country achieve its intended development goals.



**We are all witnesses on how good president Mwinyi is in fighting corruption and embezzlement, we have seen a number of public servants being sent to court due to various offences**



Director for Business of Quincewood Group Ltd., which developed a digital system for the verification of agricultural inputs in the country (T-Hakiki) with the support of AGRA and the MasterCard Foundation, Fatma Fernandes (R) in a light moment with the Minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe, after a discussion on how to continue improving the availability of electronic labels for the authentication of farmers' inputs in the country in collaboration with the Tanzania Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Deputy minister stresses for formulation of strategies for quick reaction during crises

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

DEPUTY Minister for Works and Transport, Eng Godfrey Kasekenya has directed agencies and institutions under his docket to come up with strategies for quick reaction during disasters by using the available resources.

Eng Kasekenya was speaking in Mwanza yesterday at the opening of the five days training to engineers and technicians. He insisted on civil servants to fulfill their responsibilities by considering reduction of disaster indicators.

"The government will continue building the capacity of civil servants in responding to disasters

by putting in place good plans as well as reducing the disaster indicators. He said controlling disasters will give confidence to the people.

He directed the technicians and engineers to use the available resources and the skills to be gained at the training to prepare for quick response during disasters.

"It is my hope that this training will help you to recognize disaster indicators and how to conduct evaluations after disasters. It is important that you become aware of the procedures used in rescue," he said.

The deputy minister noted that disasters have been thwarting

development efforts due to destruction of infrastructures such as roads and railways which are crucial for the economy.

"Destruction of roads disrupts economic economies as people can hardly produce and transport commodities," he added, noting the ministry's works department will continue to collaborate with stakeholders in strengthening systems and institutions responsible for disaster management.

Eng Musa Kashinde Director of Safety and Environment in the Ministry of Works and Transport said the training will involve study tours. He said participants will visit ferries, roads and buildings for

purposes of learning practically.

Eng Peter Sikalumba from the airport construction department said most of the constructed infrastructures are damaged by disasters including fire, rains and cyclones.

The training has been jointly organised by the Ministry of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Coordination and Parliamentary Affairs) in collaboration with the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA), Fire and Rescue Force, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Dar es Salaam Multi-Agency Emergency Response Team (DarMAERT).



Lions Club of Dar es Salaam infinity chairperson Lion Nafisa Khanbhai (L) presents sanitary pads to one of the girls at Chalinze in Coast region over the weekend. The Club also distributed various gifts to expectant mothers admitted at Msoga Chalinze hospital in collaboration with Lions Club of Dar Mzizima and to offer eye free camp clinic. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Adopt saving and investment culture, UDSM students told

By Guardian Reporter

UNIVERSITY of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) students have been advised to maintain discipline in their financial management to enable them have savings and make various investments for extra income.

Head of the Financial Department of UDSM Business School (UDBS), Dr Tobias Swai gave the advice soon after addressing the 3rd Forum on banking, financial and investment issues organised by UDSM, saying it was important to continue educating students on financial management and investment issue that will enable them

carter for themselves even after graduation.

"Our aim is to see education on issues of finance reaches our young people and disseminate it to members of their communities in order for them to understand about financial discipline," said Dr Swai.

He said education of banking, finance and investment should continue to be given to students to make them understand that in investment one does not need to have a lot of money.

"This is the third time we conduct this forum and we are thankful to see changes in participation in every forum as students' response has been growing," he added.

He said UDSM Business Department will continue to collaborate with its stakeholders to make sure such forums continue to take place so that education on issues of finance for students' capacity building.

"We welcome various investors in the banking sector and other financial institutions to sponsor such forums to reach more students," he said.

Meanwhile, the director of Watumishi Housing Investment (WHI), Paskali Massawe, the forum's facilitator said education on finance issues and investment is supposed to be given to students to empower them with the saving culture and the

importance of making investments in the stock markets.

"WHI has come up with an investment fund that will be highly profitable to investors, hence participating in the forum is a big opportunity for students to join up and invest," he added.

Saada Ahmed Zidada, a UDSM student, expressed her pleasure by the forum saying it has opened them up on the issues of saving and the importance of investment.

"The course I study is different from finance and investment issues hence this forum has taught me many things in regard to investment and the need to have goals," she said.



# Dodoma RC hands over 14 classrooms, 9 teachers' offices to Bahi District Council

By Guardian Reporter

DODOMA Regional Commissioner Rosemary Senyamule yesterday handed over 14 classrooms and 9 teachers' offices to Bahi District Council, which have been made possible with money provided by the government.

The construction of classrooms is meant to provide the 2023 Form One students with classrooms in Bahi District Council.

Bahi District Council is among the 8 councils of Dodoma region given funds for the construction of classrooms. It received 280m/- on October 8, 2022 and has been able to be the first council to complete the construction of those rooms and hand them over on December 12, 2022, with each classroom having 40 desks.

Bahi district council executive

director Athumani Masasi said: "14 classrooms and 9 offices have been built in all 8 schools of Bahi District Council including Bahi Secondary School which was handed over with five classrooms and 2 offices, Idihwa Secondary School with one classroom and 1 office, Kigwe Secondary School with 2 classrooms and 1 office, Chikola Secondary School with one classroom and 1 office, Chipanga Secondary School with 1 classroom and 1 office, Chibebele Secondary School with one classroom and 1 office, Msisi Juu Secondary School with 2 classrooms and office 1 and Lamaiti Secondary School with 1 classroom and 1 office."

RC Senyamule congratulated the Bahi District Council and wanted it to be an example to other councils within the region, noting: "President

Samia Suluhu Hassan has a sincere desire to eliminate ignorance by strengthening the education sector where she has provided funds for construction of 8,000 classrooms across the country with Dodoma region amassing a total of 339 classrooms."

The regional chief also lauded Bahi District Council for being able to do well in the 2022 Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) and for being on the list of the top 10 schools that did well nationally for the Dodoma region being the only council able to enter the top 10.

The RC added that President Samia had implemented development projects of more than 80 percent in Dodoma Region while health centers, dispensaries, classrooms, and other services are being strengthened.



ZANZIBAR REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GENDER ELDERLY AND CHILDREN.

SMZ/H04/C/OQ/2022/2023/01

for

## Expression of Interest for Consultancy Service to Prepare Concept Note for Developing National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children (NPA -VAWC) 2023 - 2028.

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2022.

1. This invitation for expression of interest follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) which appeared in Zanzibar Leo Issue **no.6669 dated 02 August, 2022.**
2. The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar (RGoZ) has set aside funds for the operation of the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MCDGEC) during the financial year 2022 - 2023. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the contract for the Consultancy Service to Prepare Concept Note for Developing National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children (NPA -VAWC) 2023 - 2028.

The concept note serves as a starting point for developing National Plan of Action to end Violence against Women and Children 2023 - 2028 after an implementation period of NPA-VAWC (2017 - 2022) come to an end in June 2022. Its outlines key components such as background information, rationale, objectives, terms of references, tasks, deliverables and other details can be obtained on written request from the Ministry's Procurement Department.

3. The Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Children now invites eligible **Consulting Firm** to indicate their interest in providing the services which include the following summary:

<b>Title of the Program</b>	Concept Note for Developing National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children (NPA -VAWC) 2023 - 2028
<b>Time Frame</b>	November, 2022 - March, 2023
<b>Funding Source</b>	UNFPA and UNICEF
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>	Zanzibar

4. Interested **Consulting Firms** must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services by submitting consultant's profile, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc. Consultants **May** associate to enhance their qualifications.
5. A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Public Procurement Act No.11 of 2016 of Zanzibar.
6. Selection will be conducted through the **Least Cost Based** selection procedures specified in the Public Procurement Regulations.
7. Interested eligible consultants may obtain further information from the office of the PDMU Office of Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Elders, and Children- Zanzibar at Kinazini, ZSTC Building, Second Floor from **08:30hrs to 15:30hrs** local time on Monday to Friday inclusive except on public holidays.
8. Expressions of Interest (Eoi) must be delivered to the address below:

- **Electronic procurement PORTAL (Eproz) at or before 15:30hrs local time on 30th December, 2022.**

9. Late Expressions of Interest shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

**Principal Secretary**  
**Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children**  
**Kinazini, ZSTC Building.**  
**Zanzibar.**

217192601



Natural Resources and Tourism Permanent Secretary Prof Eliamani Sedoyeka displays the national flag on top of Mt. Kilimanjaro at the climax of 61st Tanganyika Independence anniversary over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

# Kichunjuu Forest is not govt owned, Zanzibar House told

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock Shamata Shaame Khamis has said the Kichunjuu Forest has not been gazetted as a national reserve and it is not government owned, but only a collection of private clove farms and grave yards.

The minister made the remarks here in the House of Representatives yesterday when responding to a question posed by Mtambile Representative, Mohamed Mgaza Jecha who wanted to know whether the forest was a national reserve.

Shamata said the ministry is not concerned with the forest and does not have reports on any revenue collection carried in the area from tourists visiting it.

Meanwhile, the minister told the House that the government has spent a lot of money to boost

irrigation farming by building water infrastructures thereof, and added that the aim is to increase crops production.

He said due to the effects of climate change resulting in long periods of unpredicted rains and shine, the government has given priority to irrigation farming as a solution to the challenge.

"Hon Speaker, in regard to this issue, the government has also implemented the infrastructure project in 1,053-hectare area in six Cheju valleys, Kilombero, Kibokwa, Chaani, Kinyasini and Mlemele," he said.

He said the project has already started to operate in the Cheju Valles of 316 hectares, Kinyasaani valley (184 hectares) and Mlemele valley (44 hectares) where 4,796 farmers have already been provided with their farms.

Meanwhile, the Zanzibar

government says it has already sold its vessel, MV Maendeleo for USD 230,000 following its being out of service for a long time due to break down.

Deputy Minister for Works, Communications and Transport, Nadil Abdullatif revealed this in the House of Representatives when responding to a question posed by Mkoani Representative, Abdallah Hussein Kombo who wanted to know how much had been realised from the sale of the vessel.

The deputy minister said before the vessel was taken to the dry-dock for repairs it was valued at USD 500,000.

He said after repairs that were incomplete due to the government decision to sell it, the vessel was valued at USD 370,000.

He added that the government spent USD 1,554,551/65 for repairs before deciding to sell it.



## Grab loan opportunities to venture into agri-business, Tanzanians told

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIANS have been challenged to grab loan opportunities and explore more in mechanized agriculture that uses modern tools, inputs and bio fortified seeds, which is the solution for increased productivity and food security.

Alex Duffar, Agricom Africa Limited, chief executive officer (CEO) threw the challenge in Dar es Salaam over the weekend in an interview with this paper.

He noted that since Tanzania is endowed with a large and beautiful fertile land suitable for agriculture, it is high time for farmers to embark on mechanized agriculture. Duffar urged Tanzanians to grab loan opportunities from the company which works closely with banks and financial institutions in provision of loans, modern agricultural equipment including the famous Swaraj tractors from India and Kubota from Japan.

He said that Tanzania has many sources of water for irrigation and commercial agriculture to enable the nation to be self-sufficient and export the surplus.

He said the only thing required is the use of the best and modern agricultural tools, bio fortified seeds, agricultural inputs and modern agricultural methods.

Duffar said they are collaborating with five banks and three financial institutions namely, TADB, CRDB, NMB, NBC and EQUITY as well as PASS, EFTA, and Maisha Finance.

He said that Agricom has recorded a number of successes which includes being the main supplier of modern agricultural tools, where last year they sold 1,400 tractors and thousands of them in 2022.

"We take immense pride in our collaboration with international brands from the world's leading manufacturers. With highly

motivated management and employees, Agricom is not only the best company in the agricultural supply chain sector but a reliable solution provider with premium products and quality services; hence becoming the first choice of our customers from the largest business groups to small scale farmers," said Duffar.

He added: "We are committed to improve the quality of living with our range of products through continuous innovation, value addition, and after-sales service."

Agricom Africa has gradually built its portfolio with a number of products and services blended with world's finest brands to serve the Tanzania agribusiness sector.

"We provide innovative solutions from farm to folk and at all levels of the agribusiness supply chain towards increased food and nutrition security," said Duffar.

Duffar said: "Our high-level experts back our innovative one-stop value chain solutions that allow farmers to sell their produce to Agricom. They are then able to purchase affordable machinery to increase their outputs further. We are increasing technological access, spreading know-how about the latest agriculture practices, and improving productivity from the ground up."

Agricom Africa Marketing Officer, Baraka Konkara said the company is proud to be the largest supplier of modern agricultural tools, thus contributing significantly to the development of the agricultural sector, especially considering that 70 percent of Tanzanians depend on agriculture.

*"We are committed to improve the quality of living with our range of products through continuous innovation, value addition, and after-sales service."*



Fruits vendor displays his merchandise at Manzeze in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

## RC warns poachers, arsonists around Mt Kili

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

KILIMANJARO Regional Commissioner, Nurdin Babu has cautioned people engaging themselves in poaching and setting fire areas around Mt Kilimanjaro that stern legal measures will be taken against them.

Babu issued the caution at the weekend when welcoming more than 200 climbers from 20 institutions from Tanzania Mainland who had scaled up the mountain to mark 61 years of Tanganyika independence.

He warned those engaged in such criminal acts to stop them at

once, saying in doing so they are sabotaging the country's natural resources and retard the country's development pace.

"I warn poachers who are sabotaging the country, they were also sabotaging President Samia Suluhu Hassan's efforts in regard to the Royal Tour film in which she starred whose aim is to bring development to all Tanzanians, we shall not rest until all such crimes are stopped and criminals brought to justice," said Babu.

Meanwhile, TANAPA Chief Conservator, Mohamed Kiganja, speaking at a dinner cautioned media people all over the country

to be patriotic when writing news about conservation.

Kiganja said the journalist's pen should be used positively while stressing on advertising tourist attractions as one mistake, its effects will be monumental and can wipe out all government efforts on wooing in tourists from various world countries.

"If the journalist's pen is used well, it will have a big contribution in spurring the country's economic strides, and can even demolish all that had been gained," he said.

He advised all climbers of Mt Kilimanjaro to be identified by name

to indicate that he/she actually climbed the tallest mountain in Africa.

Tanzania High Commissioner to UK, Dr Asha-Rose Migiro who was among the Mt Kilimanjaro climbers said as for now, envoys have learned by deeds and experience how sweet the mountain is to climb.

"We are now going to represent president Samia well in her efforts from the Royal Tour film so that we get many groups of tourists from the countries we are representing to earn more and more foreign currency for the country's development," she added.

## UN Women embarks on project to increase number of women leaders

By Beatrice Philemon

UN Women-Tanzania has launched a four-year project worth 19bn/- aiming to increase the number of women in leadership positions at local government levels and empower them economically.

The project dubbed: 'Strengthening Women's and Girls' Meaningful participation, leadership and Economic Rights (WLER) at the local level in Tanzania mainland (2022-2025) was officially launched yesterday in Dar es Salaam by the Minister of State, President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Angellah Kairuki.

Kairuki said the project will be implemented in six regions and 18 district councils in Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mtwara, Lindi, Singida and Coast by UN women in collaboration with PORLA, local government authorities in 18 district councils, civil society organisations with funding from Finland government.

The project seek to increase the number of women in decision making positions and their voices at the local government levels through promoting gender-responsive norms, behaviours, and practices, strengthening the capacities of women leaders, enhancing the collection and use of sex and disability- responsive data.

It also aims to enhance women's economic rights including by piloting gender and disability transformative innovative measures such as care services, in line with the government of Tanzania's Generation Equality Commitment as well as ensuring the inclusion of and responding to the needs and perspectives of women and girls with disabilities.

She said despite the great progress that has been made through the efforts of government and all stakeholders, there is still work to be done.

"We need more women leaders in local government in order to achieve aspirations for gender equality and equity," the minister said, calling UN women Tanzania to scale-up this project in Zanzibar to

help more women benefit from this project.

Women village chairpersons amounts to 2.1 percent, women street chairpersons 12.65 percent and women hamlets chairpersons 6.7 percent.

UN Women Tanzania Representative, Hodan Addou lauded Finland government for supporting this project.

"At UN Women, we firmly believe that by supporting greater participation of women in leadership positions, the entire country will benefit. We all know that when more women are seated at decision-making tables, policies and budgets are more gender-responsive; more resources are allocated for education, health, and community development; and the welfare of children and the elderly is prioritised," she said.

The project will partner with a widerange of stakeholders including national/local government authorities, Community Based Organisations (CBOs), Community Development Officers (CDOs), Social Welfare Officers (SWO), Village and Ward Development Officers, women's economic empowerment groups, groups and organisations of disabled persons, councillors, as well as community media.

"UN women will continue to work together with Tanzanian government and Finland government to make a transformative difference in the lives of women and girls in Tanzania," she said.

Finnish Ambassador to Tanzania, Theresa Zitting, noted: "We're pleased to work with UN women and (PO-RALG) and we have good relationship with UN women globally on gender equality issues."

Finland has been working with UN women to increase women participation in leadership, saying noting that when the capacities of women leaders in local government are strengthened and they are facilitated to understand and articulate issues, evidence has shown that they engage effectively in influencing planning, budgeting, policy decisions and practices.



Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups minister Dr Dorothy Gwajima speaks to Mafia district residents (not in the picture) over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## NMB MastaBata campaigns boost national less cash economy efforts

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is on the right track to become a less cash economy due to various initiatives being undertaken to promote digital finance in the country like the ongoing NMB Bank MastaBata digital payments campaign, a sectoral expert has said.

According to NMB's Card Business Senior Manager David Ngusa, digital transactions have increased in recent years as more people are now aware of the value of using payment cards and using less cash.

National digital finance efforts have also been boosted by the investments lenders are making in putting the requisite facilities in place such as points of sale (POS)

to facilitate digital payments, he added.

Speaking after gracing the fifth raffle of the MastaBata Kote-Kote reward campaign in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Ngusa said the promotion has greatly boosted the use of NMB MasterCard and NMB MasterCard QR amongst the lender's customers.

"The MastaBata promotion strategy has enhanced digital transactions made by our customers and other people as they have become more aware of the importance of using less cash when making payments and doing purchases," said Ngusa.

He said all these endeavours are vital in Tanzania's quest to become a less cash economy noting that

remarkable progress was being made towards that goal.

Before the fifth draw was conducted, NMB handed over monthly prizes won in the previous draw that was held in Mwanza last week. The winners, included Elihuruma Modesti Minja, who pocketed 1m/- and was also rewarded a trip ticket to Zanzibar for the Full Moon Party.

The Dar es Salaam-based clearing and forwarding agent said he will now double his digital transactions to increase chances of winning the grand prize, which is a trip to Dubai for seven NMB customers and their partners.

"So far we have rewarded winners of the fourth edition of the MastaBata promotion with prizes

worth more than 86m/-," Ngusa said before picking winners of the fifth weekly draw of the over 300m/- campaign.

In the draw, 75 customers pocketed 100,000/- each and Donald Oswald Kaaya of Loliondo in Arusha won the one Boxer motorcycle which is won every week. During monthly draws, two motorcycles are won and 49 customers pocket 1m/- each.

The fourth edition of the MastaBata reward campaign series was launched in late October and is expected to conclude next month. The lender debuted the series in 2018 seeking to promote use of its digital payment cards and reward loyal customers as part of its policy to give back to society.



# Bank wins 18 awards for market leadership, better national service

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank Plc has once again stamped its authority as market leader in the country's financial space and proved the unrivalled national lender it is after winning 18 prestigious local and international awards this year.

The bank has recently been bestowed with for among other virtues, exemplary service to the country and championing access to financial services for both ordinary folks and general enterprises (MSMEs).

Two of the new accolades have been for Chief Executive Officer Ruth Zaipuna who had already bagged another three for steering the bank into an accomplished provider of financial services and a strategic national development financier.

Commenting on the monumental development-cum-achievement, Zaipuna said the international recognitions are of utmost significance at the corporate, sectoral and national levels.

"Today we are announcing the 18 national and international awards NMB Bank has secured in various categories in recognition of its premiership and service excellence to our customers, stakeholders and all Tanzanians at large," the seasoned banker noted.

"All these 18 awards are important not only to NMB but also to the local banking sector and the whole country at large. The awards have introduced NMB to the global banking arena and in doing so they have equally exposed the sector internationally," she explained.

Speaking on the recent 10 international accolades the bank has won from global financial and development entities, Zaipuna said they include the Best Banking CEO Award in Tanzania from the World Economic Magazine and the Global Brands Magazine.

According to her, the two globally reputed publications have also honored NMB as Best Retail Bank and Best Bank in Tanzania 2022 respectively. The other awards it has also won this time around are Best Retail Bank from International Business Magazine as well as Best Innovation in Retail Banking in Tanzania and Best Private Bank in Tanzania from International Banker Awards.

In this list too, are honours for Best Agri-Business Bank from Global Brands Magazine, Platinum Winner Sustainable Bond of the Year from Global Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Finance Forum Awards and Best Retail Bank from Global Banking Finance Review.

"These and the other awards that

have made 2022 a very successful year for us recognises NMB as the leading bank in terms of efficiency, innovation and quality products and banking services and our contribution to the advancement of the banking sector in Tanzania," Zaipuna said.

"The 18 awards equally appreciate our contribution to the socio-economic development of the country as well as the qualitative soundness of our digital systems.

Most importantly, is the sustainable contribution of NMB Bank to the economic progress of our nation," she added.

Zaipuna mentioned the national awards the bank has won this year to include the three at the 2022 Tax Payers' Awards of the Tanzania Revenue Authority whereby it emerged tops by winning the Overall National Most Compliant Tax Payer Award. NMB also scooped the Most Complaint Taxpayer Award in the banking sector and was Third Winner: Outstanding Tax Contribution 2021/2022.

Other accolade the bank has won this year include African Business Leadership Commendation Award 2022 by The Africa Summit and African's Banking CEO of the Year 2022 (Tanzania) from Africa Bank 4.0 Awards. It has also been honored as Africa's First Bank to Earn an EDGE Certificate for Gender Equality, took home the Honorary Fellowship Award by the Tanzania Institute of Bankers and won Bank CEO of the Year by Financial Women Awards.

Zaipuna said being recognised locally and appreciated in international banking and financial circles proves the trust and respect NMB commands in the market in terms of its management and adherence to principle of good governance.

"The aim of this event is to thank our customers and Tanzanians for trusting us as their partners in business and life. This year we had set out to open one million new accounts but so far 1,012,344 have been opened meaning over 3,134 new accounts are being opened every day," she explained when emphasizing the trust people have on the lender.

Speaking before receiving the new awards, NMB board member Benson Mahenya said the bank has every reason to bask in glory for the awards have been deservedly won by hard work from the top management to ordinary members of staff.

The bottom line of it all, Mahenya explained, was the fact that the services NMB Bank offers in the local banking market are of international financial qualities and standards.

# Education stakeholders to organise national symposium for teachers to discuss violence against children

By Guardian Correspondent

EDUCATION stakeholders are organising a national symposium for primary and secondary school teachers from both public and private schools to discuss violence against children.

Minister in the President's Office, Region Administration and Local Government (PoRALG), Angellah Kairuki is expected to grace the event which will take place on December 15th in Dar es Salaam.

Addressing journalists yesterday, the Director and Founder of Rightway schools, Mercy Mchechu said the aim is to share the various techniques in protecting children against all forms of violence.

Mchechu, who was speaking on behalf of other school owners, said it is important to protect children when at school and home. She said the one day conference will bring together more than 500 teachers from across the country.

"We are all responsible for the upbringing and protection of our children. We need to strategize to come up with the best techniques to protect them and ensure they stay in safer environments at both

schools and home," said Mchechu.

She added: "Teachers play an important role in ending violence against children especially when they are at school. We only need to equip them with proper information and techniques. The coming conference will build their capacity to also enable them to help children to report such incidents whenever they happen."

She said that debates during the conference will be conducted by experts from HakiElimu, police officers from the gender desks and social welfare officers.

A research conducted by HakiElimu in 2020 showed that there are still many incidences of violence against children that happen in different environments.

It said that nearly 87.9 percent of all the children registered at schools experienced certain forms of violence including corporal punishment while 17 percent in public schools and 14.3 percent of those in private schools were subjected to sexual violence.

According to the report, 34.3 percent of all the pupils countrywide were physiologically harassed.



Potwe Ward residents in Muheza district, Tanga region hold tree saplings for planting to preserve the environment over the weekend. They planted 600 tree saplings to meet this year's goal of 1.5 million saplings. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

# Supervise students while returning home to avoid child abuse, school bus owners and operators told

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

OWNERS and operators of school buses services have been told to supervise students while enroute to their homes, prioritising destinations of individual students first and end with those who are in groups to avoid GBV and child abuse challenges.

The director of Multi Dome Relief Centre, Fauzi Albaggar made the remarks here yesterday as he was addressing reporters, saying students get raped or sodomised inside the buses when they are

returned to their homes and history shows that such acts take place to a child who remains in a bus last.

"The main problem is when a student remains alone in the vehicle when being returned home, hence it is better to start offloading individual students to their homes and those in groups going to one destination should be the last to disembark," he added.

Albaggar said offloading students in groups of two or three will help to reduce or eradicate acts of GBV and child abuse because they can scream to seek help whenever such

acts are about to happen.

However, he stressed upon parents to wash their children whenever they get the chance to do so as to inspect their bodies for any tell-tale signs of rape or sodomy.

He said the Multi Dome Relief Centre sponsored by the Albaggar family has 32 students while more than 20 studying in various primary and secondary schools and added that they have in place procedures to ensure children are not subjected to the vile acts.

Albaggar said that children are supposed to undergo good

upbringing from parents and guardians and treat them lovingly, else they can be hiding the vile acts subjected to them.

Meanwhile, the centre's community development officer, Salvatory Augustino said the centre has a procedure to frequently teach students and the community therein on issues of GBV and child abuse.

December 10 every year is the day that marks International Human Rights day and also marks the apex of the 16 days of the fight against GBV and child abuse.



Morogoro regional commissioner Fatuma Mwasa, receives ethics guidelines from community development assistant commissioner Baraka Makona during the wrap up session of the alternative education forum in Morogoro recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# GCLA trains 100 social welfare officers on DNA issues

By Correspondent James Kandoya

A TOTAL of 100 social welfare officers in Dar es Salaam region have benefited from the training on issues related to Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) from the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) to further boost their knowledge to handle issues legally.

Opening a one day training yesterday in Dar es Salaam, Dr Fidelice Mafumiko, Chief Government Chemist said that the aim of the training was to increase awareness about the DNA Act of 2009.

Dr Mafumiko said that social welfare officers were among "requesting authority" and therefore it was important for them to know the Act to avoid quarrels or misunderstandings in the

community, "Requesting authority" means person or authority provided for under section 27 of this Act who initiates the process of collecting DNA samples.

According to him, section 25 (1) states that the analysis of samples for human DNA shall be initiated by a written application by the requesting authority to the Human DNA Laboratory of the Government Chemist Laboratory Agency or designated laboratories for human DNA.

He said for the purpose of this act the requesting authority shall be; the court where the subject matter is in dispute between the parties; advocates of the court of law, social welfare officers and community development officers for law matters which are not in dispute

and police officer of or above the rank of inspector.

"Social welfare officers are very important stakeholders in the entire process of initiating application to request our office of DNA Laboratory of Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA)," he said.

He said social welfare officers as requesting authority are provided for under section 27 of this act who initiates the process of collecting samples for human DNA.

Both Nyamara Elisha and Joyce Makete Social Welfare Officers from Dar es Salaam region commended the GCLA for conducting the training to build the capacity of their carriers.

They said that the training is very important for them to know the laws especially when issues of

marriage disputes happen.

"The training is a great opportunity for us to improve our daily duties when serving the community according to the laws," they said.

GCLA a centre for laboratory analysis of samples/exhibits related to Forensic Sciences in order to facilitate forensic investigations and hence assurance of justice and rule of law, samples related to agricultural and industrial produce to ascertain safety and quality.

Others are samples related to paternity or sex identification in order to address society concerns and samples related to environmental and occupational health for the protection of health and the environment.



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## PCCB did well with survey, corruption perception index

UNFLATTERING reports on the conduct of the police force have just been released, where it is said to have maintained its leading citation in corruption perception, followed by courts and land service departments. This is what is seen in a new report by the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB), a kind of local version of what used to be heard from Transparency International in the past. It is unclear if this global report is still regularly issued.

Memory is still fresh in relation to remarks by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in that direction, going to the extent of recounting personal experience as to what people (motorists in particular) encounter when they meet with the police, even directing functional alterations in training, etc. So there was little to be surprised in the PCCB ranking in a report released by the President's Office on Independence Day anniversary. It hence reinforces the president's remarks on what needs to be done in that area, and indeed if anything is being done already.

A number of public institutions were on the map as perceived to be prone to corruption, which means bribes, and other features of unethical conduct. The report came out as 'National Governance and Corruption Survey' where it cites law organs first, police and courts, before pointing a finger at the health sector and the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA). That too wasn't surprising, but few expected that the report would come up with reliable improvement suggestions.

In this dimension as well most observers must have been right, as the report says that more needs to be done in the listed institutions so as to address ethical gaps in

procurement especially, to improve service delivery. There is probably no need to debate whether the positive datum that adherence to ethics in the public service stood at 75.9 (out of 100 potential scores, that is, perfection) this year, from 66.1 in 2014. Such high marks would be unlikely if the survey was conducted by Transparency International, as Tanzania never came below 100 in the list of countries with poor sensitivity to corruption, that is, tolerates it easily.

The proposals that the report brings up are somewhat bureaucratic, tied to collecting information on individual bureaucrats or civil servants, and then set up wide ranging campaigns of informing the public on the ills of corruption. It even appears that this latter aspect was the mainstay in the proposals, which is in keeping with habitual strategies that the agency has at one time or another pronounced. It stems from the idea that corruption is behaviour, not risk taking of a rational sort, of what is to be gained in the act, and if credible threats exist.

The report speaks perceptibly little in that regard, and is even forgetful as to the source of the change in index of corruption perception from two thirds of civil servants to three quarters (despite a veneer of laxity in actual reporting, as it were). From what its recommendations suggest, the change must have arisen from more acute methods of monitoring and information, as well as widening public information campaigns during that period. The facts, and they are all too well known, are that the fifth phase government heightened the threat level for those indulging in bribes, while the sixth phase is eroding bribe opportunities.

## Despite construction costs, SGR travel ought to be easy

REGULATORS are already on their feet, issuing tentative ticket prices for the anticipated launching of standard gauge railway (SGR) speed train from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma, which a range of stakeholders say the prices it is setting are too high. The Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) issued the ticket prices schedule towards the end of the week, ahead of the train ride start for Dar to Morogoro in about two months on the basis of current schedules. It is just about time the issue of tickets was solved, so that people gear up for travel, or desisting.

LATRA issued its preliminary fare schedule as 59,494 - for ordinary class (it used to be third class in the past) and 71,392/- for middle class coaches (second class or perhaps first class if there will be luxury coaches, suites for individuals or families) in the new structure. As a rapid train, it doesn't have the same needs for luxury facilities as it was the case earlier, but other distinctions can be taken into account. It is these quotations that have attracted complaints, despite that for the speed of the new means of travel, comparing them to upcountry buses is a bit inaccurate.

Critics have taken the fares as they are and compared with upcountry buses, and saw an imbalance where SGR tickets would easily on the higher side. To that extent they have a point, as higher fares leave out a portion of potential travellers from lower income sections of the population drift, at one moment or another. Yet the commentators may be underestimating the intensity of loan repayment needs and how much was already calculated into tickets for the loans to be accepted.

It doesn't make the preliminary indicative ticket prices above board, but it matters.

The sort of worries that some of the commentators made can be discounted outright, for instance the idea that the proposed ticket prices could fail to compete with buses are false. They fail to take note of the productivity gain of speed travel. So the key issue isn't really the competition with buses but whether there is a margin for scaling the fares down with intent to multiply inter-municipal business errands for many.

In that case the idea by a commentator that SGR ticket prices need to reflect actual living standards and cater for all, inclusively has a point but not really the crucial issue. The idea is that transport costs matter a lot in opening businesses or commuting to work, or freighting goods to a particular place, as all fare increase leads to price mark-up and lowers ability to compete. That builds a case not really for LATRA but the Treasury, to see how far cheap speed train can galvanise not just poor people's businesses but industrial projects, by cutting on labour costs.

Interestingly enough the matter came up when the country was rather silently marking 61 years of independence, and it didn't fall too flat out of our ears that in old days it was next to impossible to hear that one did not have train fares. It could also ease the restoration of the student use of warrants to travel, or civil servants, on condition that corruption is much lower and no false thousands of warrants are deposited with this or that ministry. It will not be easy but unquestionably low ticket prices is a good design for the economy as the margin boosts productivity



## 20 million out-of-school children in Nigeria

By Special Correspondent

IT is estimated that Nigeria now has about 20 million out-of-school children, if the latest global data on the subject by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) is anything to go by. The number, it is pertinent to point out, constitutes 10 per cent of the country's 200 million population and should not be ignored.

It is an inexorable fact that the country has a surfeit of policy measures and laws that can, on paper, ensure that no child is left behind in the education programme. Yet, the number of those children who are denied access to education for no fault of theirs, keeps swelling each year. For a long time, the number of out-of-school children in Nigeria has remained between 10.5 and 13.5 million.

Still, this latest UNESCO report comes to many as a contradiction given the fact that in most states of the federation, there is, as a policy, free and compulsory primary and junior secondary education that supposedly caters for children aged five to 14 years. It is not difficult to conjecture that either the policy is non-existent or it is not effectively and efficiently implemented.

Whichever is the case, the Universal Basic Education Act 2004,

## Youths and the 2023 General Elections in Nigeria

By Nick Dazang

YOUTHS, the world over, are noted for a plethora of positive qualities. Youths are vibrant. They are virile. They are industrious. They are zestful. They are productive. And they are patriotic. It is a measure of their inordinate energy, fervor and zeal that they are enlisted into the martial services.

They fight gallantly to defend the territory and integrity of their sovereign countries. They collect tax, excise and duties. They restrain and check the influx of unwanted immigrants. They incarcerate and deter errant citizens, especially those with a proclivity for crime.

Due to the fact that youths are not encumbered by family concerns, they can be adventurous. They can take calculated risks. And the higher the risks, the higher the returns. Also, because they are strong and not hamstrung by adult challenges, youths are productive. Their boundless energies fire our manufacturing and service industries.

Furthermore, youths can be highly imaginative and creative. Consider the shimmering careers of these geniuses: Karl

as a legal framework provides for compulsory, free and universal basic education for all children of primary and junior secondary school age in the country. There is also the Child Rights Act, which reinforces this as a basic human right by prescribing schooling up to junior secondary school.

With this in mind, it becomes necessary to try to find out how this outrageous figure of out-of-school children came about especially its implication for the security of the child and by extension, the nation. It is worrisome, in our opinion, that 20 million-out-of-school children in Nigeria might culminate into another recruiting pool for Boko Haram and their co-mischief makers if the children are not sought out and put back in school.

A lot of factors are responsible for this alarming number of out-of-school children. One of them is the neglect of public schools by government at all levels. They are mostly in deplorable state that no qualitative learning can take place in such environment. And the private schools are way out of the reach of the average Nigerians. They simply can't afford it!

Again, a simple walk to school can be extremely unsafe or intimidating for some children. Many parents are reluctant to send their children, particularly girls, to school to

Heinrich Marx, philosopher, economist, historian, sociologist, political theorist, journalist and socialist revolutionary, wrote the pathbreaking *Das Kapital* at the age of 49. Marx's intellectual accomplishments were such that by one informed account, "his name has been used as an adjective, a noun and a school of social theory."

Albert Einstein is the equivalent of scientific genius. In 1905, referred to as "the miracle year" on account of Einstein's unsurpassed achievements, he, at the age of 26, published four groundbreaking papers in the annals of physics. In the said papers, he developed the theory of relativity and quantum mechanics.

Our own Chinua Achebe wrote his magnum opus, *Things Fall Apart*, in 1958 at the age of 28. The book turned out to be a literary feat and the most widely read and translated African novel. Wole Soyinka, who won the Nobel prize for Literature in 1986, wrote *A Dance of the Forest* in 1960. A scathing criticism of Nigeria's elite, the play nonetheless won the contest as the official play for Nigeria's Independence Day on October 1 of that year. Soyinka was 26 years.

The above brilliant examples

forestall their being harassed, exploited or sexually abused. Many children in remote communities also have to make the most unimaginable and dangerous journeys every day to access education.

Some trek into the mountains for miles or cross broken bridges to be at school on time. For children living in rural or poverty-ridden areas, there is no quick solution and often it is easier to quit school. Again, with insecurity and kidnapping of school children, most parents, especially in the North, are not disposed to sending their wards to school.

It is sad, in our opinion, that both the federal and state governments seem not to be bothered about the growing number of out-of-school children, especially in the North when it is obvious that the streets are known for breeding all forms of miscreants and other social misfits who constitute the real threat to society. It is trite to point out that the greatest resource any nation has is the human resource. From available statistics, the nation has a population of about 216 million. Unfortunately, 20 million children out of this figure are already disadvantaged due to lack of access to education.

In our considered opinion, there is no way the affected children can effectively be part of nation building because they have not had the opportunity to develop their innate

capacity to the extent that they can be useful to themselves, to their families or community let alone their nation. Nigeria might have missed it when the whole world was talking of free education and education for all; and the government paid lip-service to these noble ideals. But all hope, in our view, is not lost.

The government can begin to get its priority right by taking these 20 million out-of-school children back to school. If we do not get them back to school, we are breeding a deadlier crisis than Boko Haram.

The federal government, in collaboration with the states, can work out modalities to get these children in school at least for six years. The governors, especially, need to bring a change in leadership paradigm by switching over to educational strategy capable of making successful decisions in the area of education.

The best place to start from should be a deliberate effort to drastically reduce the number of out-of-school children. However, we acknowledge that education is not the responsibility of government alone. The private sector has a key role to play, so also are parents, religious leaders and the community. Together, we can tame this monster before it develops and becomes unmanageable.

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them or address their concerns.

But the questions that must arise and arouse the interest of any student of the electoral process regarding Professor Yakubu's disclosure must be: Are Nigerian youths informed by and seized of this crucial statistic? Are they going to be guided by their new found power in the 2023 general elections?

Will they deploy this power adroitly and patriotically to engender an uplifting change in their unhappy country? Are they prepared to work in unison and across ethnic and religious divides to bring about what amounts to a generational change through the ballot box?

The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation, UNESCO, and the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Peace and Sustainable Development, MGIEP, insist that: "Youths need to have the ability to question, assess and evaluate issues to arrive at the most peaceful and optimal solutions."

For youths to accomplish this, the two organisations entuse that youths "need to be mindful of the global environment and its intercultural environment... and be equipped with the appropriate skills set for driving social, environmental and economic progress..."



By Ashley Lime

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

# 'I've been spat at in the face for the colour of my skin'

**B**ASKETBALL scout Sarah Chan's career has taken her all over the world, from Sudan to Kenya, Europe and the US - but she's had to face war, racism and gender-based violence along the way.

"I have been spat in the face for the colour of my skin," says the former professional basketball player. "I've experienced racism in more ways than I would like."

Now the first woman to manage African scouting for a team in the NBA - the world's top professional basketball league - Ms Chan is inspiring a new generation of young people to seek out opportunity in the sport.

"Basketball illuminated my way to where I am today. It is everything," says Ms Chan, who is featured in the BBC 100 Women list of inspiring and influential women this year.

She and her family lived in Khartoum during the second Sudanese Civil War. There were several attempts to arrest her father and she recalls often being woken in the night by noises outside their house.

Eventually they fled, hoping to find a safer life and better education in Kenya.

"It was the first place that we could actually enjoy the right of playing sports, because in Sudan [playing] sports and seeing a girl or woman in shorts was a taboo," says Ms Chan.

It was here that her passion for basketball would emerge. She remembers a conversation that led to her and her sister playing the sport for the first time.

"I remember being one of the tallest kids in school in Kenya and our principal approached us and asked if we could play.

"And at the time, honestly, my mind wasn't there. And so I said, with all respect I didn't want to join - and because of that, he immediately made sports mandatory."

After years of training, she went on to secure a four-year undergraduate basketball scholarship at Union University, in Jackson, Tennessee, in the US. Over a 14-year playing career, she competed professionally in Europe and across Africa.

"Through basketball you touch so many hearts. Basketball changes lives," she says.

But Ms Chan also encountered racism in the sport - including an incident she says happened when she travelled to Algiers, with her team mates and was spat at on the face by a man.

"Without the foundation of what my family instilled in me, I wouldn't have been able to withstand all of that," she says.

"Right before I left home, my dad and my mum said, 'You're beautiful just the way you are.'"

When she took her first trip back to South Sudan in 2012, Ms Chan witnessed injustices against women, including early and forced marriages.

"At the age of 18 you're expected to start looking for a mate," she says.

Girls are forced to choose whether to stay in school "or to get financial relief from the man that the family



Sarah Chan is a recruiter for the Toronto Raptors, one of the teams in the NBA

might choose for you", she explains.

"I cried for way too long.

It got to a point where I was done crying and I needed to find out what I could do to contribute towards making some things right."

And so Ms Chan started the Home At Home/Apediet Foundation, a mentoring charity to combat child marriage and advocate for education and sport.

She remembers a time she was watching a game when a girl

came to sit next to her on the bench.

"She wasn't even a basketball player, she was just a random kid that came to the court and started opening up to me and told me a gut-wrenching story of how she had got raped the night before," she says.

"And it really took me apart because I have had my own traumatic experiences with rape. And it took a long time to heal.

"In the beginning I was in denial - [I thought] that such trau-

ma and rape didn't happen to six-foot-two girls. Then anger, then grief, and it makes you feel just worthless and helpless and bitter."

For her, healing has come from doing "one of the hardest things" and forgiving the perpetrator - and also from her work with the foundation.

"I came from poverty and we figured it out," she says.

"These kids only need an opportunity because they're very gifted, smart and able.

"Somebody helped me to start playing sports, and without them doing that, I wouldn't be where I am today."

Despite being a male-dominated sport, Ms Chan thinks that the potential for women's basketball on the continent is bright.

"Sports is the future of Africa. It's the weapon of Africa, especially for the girls," she says.

She takes her mentoring work seriously, she says, "because people saw things in me that I hadn't already seen".

It was through coaching that she landed her role with the Toronto Raptors, after an NBA executive spotted her working at a basketball camp in Kenya.

Now employed by the team, which was founded in 1995 as part of the NBA's expansion into Canada, it's Ms Chan's job to spot emerging talent - both male and female - to support the players' development and create a pipeline to open up basketball opportunities for them in North America.

She recently travelled to Uganda and Tanzania to pick players for a major tournament in Rwanda next year.

"It's my hope that 'ball gets to the point where there's a WBAL, a Women Basketball African League," she says.

"That is my dream for these girls, that they're not limited by culture, they're not limited by any thinking.

"They're free and liberated truly in their minds, and can chase their dreams as human beings, not restrained or limited by being this or that gender."

Agencies

# China further optimises COVID-19 response with new measures

By Zhong Yin

**L**OCAL authorities across China have soon made specific policies to implement the 10 new prevention and control measures recently rolled out by the country on further optimizing the COVID-19 response, so as to contain the epidemic in a more science-based and targeted manner.

According to the 10 new measures, China will optimize nucleic acid testing, and quarantine measures imposed on high-risk areas must be lifted if no new infections are reported for five consecutive days. Besides, quarantine measures for COVID-19 patients and response measures at certain locations will be optimized.

The new measures ensure people's basic needs to purchase medication and underline the need to accelerate vaccination rates especially for the elderly. They will also ensure smooth logistics and enhance the efforts to protect groups at higher-risk.

Over the recent three years, China has been closely monitoring the changes in the virus and the disease, continuously optimizing the prevention and control strategy and measures based on the situation and looking for the best plan.

China has issued nine editions of COVID-19 control protocols, rolled out a series of measures to optimize pandemic control, and effectively responded to more than 100 regional outbreaks at home and five global resurgences. The country has effectively coped with the uncertain pandemic with stable strategies and flexible control measures.

China's practice fully indicates that its COVID-19 response has to a very large extent protected the lives and safety of the Chinese people and facilitated people's life, production and investment.

With the weakening pathogenicity of the Omicron, increasing uptake of vaccination and growing disease response experiences, China's COVID-19 prevention and control work is facing new situations and new tasks.

The 10 new measures represent fur-



Robotic arms weld new energy vehicle frames in an intelligent workshop of Chinese automaker Dayun in Yuncheng, north China's Shanxi province, Dec. 8, 2022. (Photo by Yan Xin/People's Daily Online)

ther optimization of the country's ninth edition of COVID-19 control protocols and part of the 20 measures announced in November this year based on the features of the virus and the development of the pandemic.

The optimized measures, which match the new COVID-19 dynamics and the features of the Omicron variant, are expected to make China's COVID-19 control more science-based and targeted. They will make more efficient use of prevention and control resources, better coordinate epidemic prevention and control with economic

and social development, and better ensure people's life and production as well as the demand for healthcare.

It must be realized that these measures are made proactively, rather than passively. The don't mean relaxation of COVID-19 control, let alone the so-called "lying flat."

China has a huge population and a large number of senior residents, as well as massive patients of chronic and underlying diseases. It doesn't have sufficient medical resources and the distribution of such resources remains uneven be-

tween regions.

The new measures target at the features of the dominant variant of the coronavirus in China as well as the epidemiological characteristics. They take into consideration the current COVID-19 dynamics and the assessment on the effectiveness of the current control measures. They also learn from the beneficial experiences accumulated across China.

The 10 new measures are exactly a concrete step taken to implement the people-centered philosophy that puts people and their lives and

health in the first place, as well as a step that further optimizes prevention and control measures.

By ramping up the vaccination drive, especially among the elderly, and preparing more medical and healthcare resources, the new measures will enhance China's capacity in pandemic prevention and control and lay a solid foundation for further optimization.

People's Daily





Wella Chidziva says she and the three families she lives with are fighting each other for firewood

# Zimbabwe power outages hit businesses and families

By Shingai Nyoka

IT is after 10 o'clock at night, and Zimbabwe's capital Harare is uncharacteristically dark. Chatter and laughter emerge from a small factory inside the Willowvale Industrial Park. Men in overalls sit around a small fire under the moonlight, waiting for the few hours of power so they can work. Outages are normal in Zimbabwe, but rarely are they this

severe. "There is no schedule - yesterday we got it at 10 past 10 but it is passed that time now," George Sadziwa told the BBC, as he walked around his power-hungry metal fabrication machines. His company Geosad Engineering has orders to make ore grinding mills, fuel and gas storage tanks, but he is worried they could fail to meet the delivery dates. "Electricity is very essential in our business... From what the government officials are saying we hope this [situation] should

turn around soon. If it doesn't it will be a disaster." A phone call to the power utility confirms that there is no schedule for the return of the electricity. He is told to expect the power between 11pm and midnight. Some of his business colleagues have started working at night too, said Mr Sadziwa. Ordinary Zimbabweans are also being forced to change their schedules, to wake up at midnight to iron their clothes, to use electric appliances and to catch up on the World Cup matches. Zimbabwe has sunk about \$2bn (£1.6bn) into power generation in the last decade. But the country still struggles with outages. The crisis came to a head in the last fortnight, when the Zambezi River Authority ordered Zimbabwe's Kariba South power station to shut due to dangerously low water levels in Lake Kariba. Experts say the country's coal-powered thermal plants are supposed to supply the baseload power, but the aged generators frequently break down. It has forced authorities to draw heavily on Kariba, exhausting the annual water allocation and eating into neighbouring Zambia's share. Water levels were already low because of successive droughts. The country is currently producing about 600 megawatts (MW) of power against a daily demand of about 2,000MW. Zimbabwe has been allowed to continue generating up to 300MW from Kariba, said Gloria Magombo, the head of the energy ministry. The river authority will review the water levels in early January following the start of the rainy season. In the crisis, locals are finding humour. In one social media post an unidentified Zimbabwean demonstrates how to iron their clothes without power - by sliding a pot of boiling water across the garment. The frustration remains. Just outside the Central Business District in the low income suburb of Mbare, 43-year-old Wella Chidziva struggles to light a fire to warm up her leftovers before the rain and darkness fall. She has gathered empty plastic packets from the street to start the fire - gas is too expensive, she says. In the last two weeks, Ms Chidziva paused her chicken-

selling business because of the outages and after 30 chickens rotted in her fridge. The electricity comes at midnight, and by 4am there will be no electricity, she told the BBC. The three different families that share the single home are fighting each other for firewood. "We now give each other chances to cook, one over there and other there," she said, pointing around the small backyard. "It's the same as not having electricity because when it comes around [midnight] the children are sleeping. Now we are in [the Christmas period] I don't know what we are going to do." Zimbabwe has spent US\$2bn investing in energy products - \$533m, financed by China's SinoHydro, to expand Kariba power station and add 300MW of capacity, and US\$1.4bn for new units at the Hwange Thermal power station, to add 600MW to the grid. Hwange however has suffered Covid-19 pandemic-related and payment delays. "We have not invested when we were supposed to," according to energy expert Victor Utedzi. He founded the solar farm Centragrid, 30km (19 miles) north-west of the capital, and is in the process of expanding it from a 2.5MW to a 25MW plant. "There is no easy and quick solution to power problems," he told the BBC. "A simple PV solar power plant [takes] three to four years [to set up]. Thermal power plants, to plan and raise financing to build, takes about a decade. A project like Batoka [Gorge Hydroelectric Power Station] - our energy regulator says to expect it in 10 to 15 years. These are the large projects you need to dent the problems we are facing. You never come out of it in a short period of time." Zimbabwe plans to import 500MW of power from neighbouring Mozambique and Zambia, but crisis-hit South Africa is also competing for the same power to shore up its shortfall. Zimbabwe has already spent over US\$1bn in imports over the last decade but financing for renewable energy remains low. "Investors are not certain they will get their money out," Mr Utedzi said. "There is a need to create conditions that have attracted financing that others

BEIJING

# Xi's trip to Middle East significant to promoting peace, cooperation

CHINESE President Xi Jinping returned to China on Saturday after attending the first China-Arab States Summit and the China-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Summit and wrapping up a state visit to Saudi Arabia. Officials and experts in some Arab countries spoke highly of Xi's visit to the region, saying the trip is of strategic significance to enhancing cooperation and development, promoting peace and security, and deepening exchanges among civilizations. The visit will inject great impetus into the development of China-Arab relations, China-GCC relations as well as China-Saudi Arabia ties, and will elevate the ties to new heights, they said. In his speech delivered at the first China-Arab States Summit, Xi said: "The Summit is a milestone in the history of China-Arab relations, and will take us to a more promising future of friendship and cooperation." As strategic partners, China and Arab states should carry forward the spirit of China-Arab friendship, strengthen solidarity and cooperation, and foster a closer China-Arab community with a shared future, Xi said. Echoing Xi's speech, Mostafa Amin, an Egyptian researcher on Arab and international affairs, hailed the summit as a historic "milestone" in China-Arab relations, expecting it to promote cooperation between the two sides, accelerate economic development and generate stronger expectations for sustainable cooperation. Calling China "an important, powerful and trusted partner in Asia," Ezzat Saad, director of the Egyptian Coun-

cil for Foreign Affairs, believed the summit will pave the way for opening a new phase in China-Arab relations. The China-Arab States Summit bore "special importance" as it was meant to promote the friendship and strategic partnership between Arab countries and China, said Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit. Hamdi al-Tabbaa, president of the Union of Arab Businessmen and the Jordanian Businessmen Association, believed that the summit will chart a path for jointly building a China-Arab community with a shared future, which will deepen their cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), offer more development opportunities, and continuously improve people's livelihood. Samer Khair Ahmed, a Jordanian writer and expert on Arab-China relations, said the summit will facilitate both sides to unleash cooperation potential, open up new prospects for building a China-Arab community with a shared future, and promote exchanges and mutual learning between Chinese and Arab civilizations. Xi also said the international community should stay firm in its commitment to the two-state solution and the principle of "land for peace," make resolute efforts to promote peace talks, provide more humanitarian and development assistance to Palestine, and strive for a just settlement of the Palestinian

issue at an early date. Abbas Zaki, a member of the Palestinian Fatah Central Committee and commissioner for relations with Arab countries and China, lauded China's fair position on international affairs as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. "The double standards of the United States and other Western countries on the Palestinian-Israeli conflicts in recent years have made the Palestinian issue gradually sidelined, while China has always stood firmly on the side of the just cause of the Palestinian people," he said. "China has always supported issues in the Arab world, especially the Palestinian cause," Saad said. In a keynote speech at the China-GCC Summit on Friday, Xi said: "China has a vast consumer market and a complete industrial system, while the GCC, with rich energy and resources, is embracing diversified economic development. This makes the two sides natural partners of cooperation." Xi proposed five priority areas for cooperation in the next three to five years, namely energy, finance and investment, innovation and new technologies, aerospace, as well as language and culture. Xi's speech clarified the key areas of future cooperation between the two sides, which will enhance the synergy of development strategies between China and GCC countries under the BRI, said al-Tabbaa. Bashar Jaber, head of Studies and



Chinese President Xi Jinping

Researches Division of the Jordanian Ministry of Industry and Trade, said Xi's speech enriched the strategic relations between China and GCC countries and will surely deliver more benefits to people in the region. Gamal Bayoumi, head of the Cairo-based Arab Investors Union, hailed the China-GCC ties as "a model of success," saying the summit will elevate the cooperation between both sides to a new level. "There is no doubt that China boosts the economic development of the GCC through the BRI, which is of strategic significance to enhancing regional development," he said, adding that China contributes to building "a modern Arab region" via taking part in major infrastructure and energy projects. Mokhtar Ghobashy, deputy chairman of the Cairo-based Arab Center for Political and Strategic Studies, said the summit will

speed up the development of the relations between China and GCC countries in economic and investment fields in particular. "Boosting ties between China and the Gulf nations will be win-win for both sides," said Ghobashy. During their talks on Thursday, Xi and leaders of Saudi Arabia agreed to jointly advance the China-Saudi Arabia comprehensive strategic partnership and achieve even greater progress. In a joint statement released Friday, the two countries expressed satisfaction with the signing of the implementation plan for synergizing the BRI and Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, and agreed to accelerate the synergy of the two countries' projects. The deep synergy between the BRI and Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 will bring advanced science, technology and ideas to the country, and boost its economic and social development, said Saudi Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources Bandar bin Ibrahim Alkhorayef. Highlighting the complementarity between the two countries in the fields of economy and trade, the Saudi minister said that while China stands at the forefront of world innovation and high-tech development, Saudi Arabia is endowed with abundant mineral resources. He expressed confidence in the broad prospects of bilateral cooperation, saying that besides the energy and mining industries, Saudi Arabia also boasts a unique geographical location and a complete infrastructure with thriving start-up businesses, which can make it an important hub for China's investment and trade in the Middle East and North Africa. Murat Tufan, an analyst with Turkish broadcaster Ekoturk, said the world will witness much more cooperation between China and Gulf countries in the future under the BRI. Their cooperation will expand further, especially in the construction sector as well as the security, energy and technology fields, he added. **Xinhua**

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Maasai warriors swap killing lions for collecting trophies in 'Olympics' designed to protect predators

KIMANA, Kenya

MAASAI warriors who traditionally killed lions to prove their prestige and protect their livestock has competed in the 5th biennial Maasai Olympics, designed to update initiation practises to conserve the predators.

Thousands of spectators in traditional red cloaks and beaded jewelry gathered to watch 160 young Maasai - 120 men and 40 women - compete in a series of events including spear and club throwing, standing Maasai high jump, and sprints.

Maasai elders and Big Life Foundation, a community conservation organisation operating in the Amboseli landscape of southern Kenya, came up with the idea as a way to remove lion killing from the Maasai warrior culture, historically one of the key threats to lions in Amboseli.

The Maasai Olympics replicates traditional warrior skills in place of the initiation practice of hunting lions as a mark of manhood, strength, and prestige. Globally, lions have lost 94% of their range since the start of the 20th century.

Today there are estimated to be 23,000 lions left: fewer than elephants, rhinos, or gorillas. The initiative is now in its 10th year and was held at Kimana Sanctuary, a Maasai-owned wildlife reserve 200km (125 miles) south of the capital, Nairobi.

Benson Leyian, CEO of Big Life Foundation, said: "Lions and the Maasai have lived in an uneasy balance for generations.

Many of our elders would have talked with pride of killing problem lions or to prove their strength. But with more live-

stock and more people, there was a risk that this culture would have wiped out lions in this landscape, which we could not let happen.

The Maasai Olympics is about provoking discussion among the warrior generation, who are the future leaders in this ecosystem, that lion-killing is no longer culturally acceptable, and that conserving our environment is how to ensure a sustainable future for these warriors and their families. The Maasai Olympics was an idea from the elders that we helped bring to life and, with other predator protection programmes, it has been extremely successful."

Research found 87% of warriors aware of the Maasai Olympics reported the event made them less interested in killing a lion and 91% said it made them more interested in lion conservation.

Another NGO, Lion Guardians, has monitored a six-fold increase in the Amboseli lion population between 2004 and 2020, making it the fastest growing lion population on community-owned land in Africa, an astonishing turnaround following near extinction at the turn of the century.

The reduction in lion killing is also the result of other programs by Big Life and others including Lion Guardians and the Born Free Foundation, including building predator-proof livestock pens, paying compensation to herders whose livestock is killed by predators to deter retaliation, and increasing the financial benefits mostly from tourism that Maasai families receive from continuing to protect wildlife on their land.

Beginning in August 2022, the four competing warrior villages of Eselenkei, Kuku,



Mbirikani, and Rombo have engaged in local and regional competitions, culminating in today's event.

Coming in the midst of a ferocious drought driven by a series of failed rainy seasons, the global effects of the war in Ukraine that has spiked food costs, and the lingering impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was a rare chance for people to celebrate.

Mbirikani village were overall winners, and were presented with a prize bull and trophies. Team captain Nickson Kupere said: "It's been a very good day

and we're very excited that so many of our team won, and that overall we were the winners. We Maasai have been living with wildlife for such a long time but we often saw them as a threat. This competition has changed that, we see wildlife now like we see our cows, and it needs to be protected because it brings us benefits like tourists who come to spend their money here. We're able to put our children through school."

Joseph Lekato, who successfully defended his title as javelin/spear throwing champion, said: "The Maasai Olym-

pics has really helped change the way that warriors and all people here think about wildlife. You won't find anyone now in all Amboseli land who wants to kill a lion."

National Geographic, the Disney Conservation Fund, Chester Zoo, Play for Nature, and Zoo Basel sponsored the Maasai Olympics. Many thanks must be given to the project coordinator, Samuel Kaanki, and the volunteer teachers, sports officials, and coaches whose tireless work has made this project such a success.

# Mohammed Hammie is changing people's lives

By Guardian Correspondent

amplify their voices and save lives.

MOHAMMED Hammie is a Human Rights, Water and Sanitation journalist and storyteller for social change based in Tanzania. His book 'Mandiga's Well' has been internationally recognised for its narrative quality and impact within rural communities, receiving an honorary award from the Tanzania Literary Fund and being one of the top five James Currey African Literature award nominees. The award ceremony was held in England at Oxford University. His book was also nominated in Nigeria for the Quramo Writers' Prize 2022.

During the Partos Innovation Festival in the Netherlands, where 'Mandiga's Well' selected in the segment of creative storytelling for social change, his unique mission to tell untold stories and impactful method to create change stood out and inspired the room. As part of the Inclusive communication community of practice, we want to dive deeper into his motivation, mission, and method to showcase his truly inclusive approach to other actors in the social change field. Are you looking for ways to improve your communication practices and mobilize people to create social change? Mohammed Hammie's stories are leading the way.

**What is your story? What has inspired you to become a change maker?**

As a journalist, I've seen that people living in rural areas are not given a platform in mainstream media to raise their voice. I quit my job in 2019 as a radio editor to change this and become a bridge between communities and political leaders. I decided to focus on water, because I believe it's the solution to many problems related to health, education, and poverty. It can even bring peace to communities.

I am passionate about doing journalism differently to help communities, but a good changemaker needs to have a tool. I first chose to work with community radios, which are very popular in regions not yet reached by social media. I established my radio program SautiYangu-means 'My Voice' in Swahili: a 30-minute unique and powerful show that aims to engage citizens, amplify their voices, and pressure the government to resolve the water crisis in rural areas.

However, I felt I could do more. Why not collect grassroots stories from these communities and write a book so that their voices can reach every corner of the globe? My father was a great author in Tanzania, so it's in my blood to write stories. But I didn't want to write popular novels, such as detectives. I wanted to tell the untold stories, so people learn from each other's experiences and change their lives.

All the cases I wrote in Mandiga's book are real. They are based on my visits of different villages and extensive engagement with the communities I write about. When I go to the villages, I don't carry food or water. I eat there and drink their water. That's my mission, to

**What is the impact you aim for by writing Mandiga's Well? What kind of world do you want to create with your stories?**

This book is educational and inspirational, reminding us that change starts with one person's courage to pursue a better future. As we say in Swahili: 'mandigaalianzishamwendonaalifanikiwakupazasautinakijijichakekupatamaji.

Mandiga—the protagonist of this story—is a woman, because in many African community's women are responsible for fetching water and they face many challenges. Therefore, I wanted to empower and increase the confidence of women to find solutions. However, if you read my book, you will realise that it's not only about water issues. I use this challenge as a way to show other hidden values that are not spoken of. I raise the issue of violence against partners, the responsibility of leaders to be transparent and accountable, and the importance of overcoming shame and fear to speak up about developmental challenges.

I believe there are many Mandiga's in the community and all they need is encouragement to create change. With this book I hope to provide them with a role model. I also believe that if you empower a woman, you empower society.

**How have you been able to reach your goals so far? Can you give an example?**

One of my goals was to distribute Mandiga's book for free to increase its outreach and impact. First, I managed to print five hundred copies by saving my own money and I distributed it to rural areas and regional libraries for students to read.

The book is also in Swahili and the language has been accredited by the Baraza la Kiswahili Taifa (BAKITA) and awarded certificate number 21/153.

After many people read the book, the demand became greater than I expected. People liked the quality of the story and the way it reflected the realities of the community members' daily lives. The news of Mandiga spread to the colleges and universities. It's now, for example, being studied, at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM).

Mandiga's Well is not just a book, but a tool to change the community and enable people to amplify their voices. When they see themselves in the stories they read, they will be inspired. Not only as change makers, but also as upcoming authors who aim to write impactful stories.

However, there are many places in Tanzania that I have not yet reached. Using different types of media can help improve our outreach. In collaboration with Simavi, Mandiga's Well has been converted into a comic. Now, I wish to make a film or radio play as well to broaden the story's impact.

**Have you encountered any difficulties?**



Mohammed Hammie

**Can you give an example?**

Originally, I wrote the book in Swahili and based the story in the village of Kikwawila. The residents are from the Wandamba tribe, one of the ethnic groups in the Morogoro region. I stayed in that village for one month to understand their lives and behaviors. In the book, I translated some words into the Ndamba language to bring the realities in that area to life. For example, waba... waba... wabambowalawang'wila, wang'wishapasi, wang'onjeka, meaning that they knocked me over and raped me. The words that Ashaneza said when she was called to the village meeting and explained the rape while she was going out to fetch water.

The most difficult part was translating the book into English. I wanted it to be done by a fellow author who knew Kiswahili and English well. Although it didn't take me long to find that person, the challenge was the translation costs. The book was translated by Richard Mabala, one of the great authors in Tanzania.

The publication was delayed, because I had to work hard to get the money.

I am determined to distribute the book for free so that its message can spread to the greater African community and other parts of the world, especially English-speaking countries. Because stories like Mandiga's are not only Tanzanian, but people from other countries can also relate. I received many comments from readers from Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, Ghana, and Nigeria, who say that the issues I wrote about in the book are similar to what is happening in their countries, especially in rural areas.

Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize to the international community the importance of funding locally owned stories. Supporting us in printing more copies and distributing to rural areas will greatly benefit these communities.

**According to you, what are the key ingredients of a good story? How can stories mobilize others to do good?**

First of all, it's about being a skilled writer so that the reader doesn't put the book down. There are many issues to write about in society and if the writer does that skillfully, the book can be good and go far. For example, a storyteller must have a straight flow and expand it as the story introduces new characters. Mandiga's book started with a woman who survived rape, then her husband came in to the picture, later on she went to the village government to report the crime, followed by the village meeting, and finally the whole community listened to her message.

Secondly, a good story touches the real lives of the community members. For example, in Tanzania, if the author writes about water challenges, he or she will touch a large group of people. Also, issues of poverty and hunger, the challenge of access work for young people who graduate from college, mother and child health, menstrual hygiene and gender issues, and poor education are important to people. By giving real examples, I build trust and encourage others that they are not alone in the challenges they face. These stories have an emotional appeal and can mobilize others to do good.

Finally, writers should know very well what message they want to convey to the readers and when. It is better to choose a message that targets a large group. If you look at the cover of Mandiga, you will see that I have used a map of Africa. Mandiga is carrying a jerry can while on the map, because I aimed for the book's message to reach the whole of Africa: a character who is experiencing challenges and finding a way out. It makes it easier for people to imitate those behaviors and continue the bravery they read in the book. I give them hope and make them feel that it is possible to succeed.

**What has been a key lesson in your own journey as a changemaker that you would like to pass on to others?**

In a globalized world, it's hard to believe that there are people whose voices are not recognized. It is important that everyone gets a chance to speak up about their own challenges.

Therefore, I believe that we need more change makers around the world who amplify these voices and it doesn't matter what method they use. It can be writing news, making films, making radio plays or programs. Towards 2030, the end of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, it is important everyone gets a chance to be heard and we don't leave anyone behind.



# The digital divide: Africa the least connected with 60 percent of the population offline

UNITED NATIONS

**T**HE digital divide - between the world's rich and poor nations - remains staggeringly wide.

For over 2.7 billion people, many of them living in developing and least developed countries (LDCs), meaningful connectivity remains elusive, according to a UN report released during the 17th Internet Governance Forum in Addis Ababa, last month.

"Bridging the gap will be a catalyst for advancing an open, free, secure and inclusive Internet, and achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) "

Africa is one of the regions which is the least connected, with 60 per cent of the population offline, due to a combination of lack of access, affordability and skills training.

Africa's burgeoning youth population, however, holds the key to transforming the region's digital future. There is immense potential in empowering youth to thrive in a digital economy and leapfrogging technologies, says the UN.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres says. "With the right policies in place, digital technology can give an unprecedented boost to sustainable development, particularly for the poorest countries".

This calls for more connectivity; and less digital fragmentation. More bridges across digital divides; and fewer barriers. Greater autonomy for ordinary people; less abuse and disinformation, he declared.

While COVID-19 accelerated digital transformation in some sectors like health and education, it also exacerbated various forms of digital inequality, running deep along social and economic lines, says the UN report.

Globally, more men use the Internet (at 62 per cent compared with 57 per cent of women). And in nearly all countries where data are available, rates of Internet use are higher for those with more education.

Besides the digital divide - between the world's "haves and have-nots" - there is also a marked increase in "gender divide". In Africa, only 21 % of women have access to the Internet. The gender divide starts early as Internet



At the 17th Internet Governance Forum (GF) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, which concluded December 2...

use is four times greater for boys than for girls. Emma Gibson, the Campaign Lead, Universal Digital Rights, for Equality Now, told IPS challenges in our digital society, including unequal access to digital technology and platforms, on-

line gender-based and sexual violence, internet shutdowns, and AI and algorithmic biases, profoundly affected those with the least power and privilege.

"Women, children, and people in other

groups facing discrimination are all disproportionately impacted", she said.

"Widespread patriarchy and misogyny found in the physical world are being replicated, exacerbated, and facilitated in the digital realm, with violence against women and children perpetrated online on a huge scale".

Offenders are rarely held to account, and this is unsurprising considering that there is currently no universal standard for ending online sexual exploitation and abuse.

"From the explosion in online violence towards women and girls to the threats posed by internet shutdowns, it is clear that there is an urgent need to bring in a new global agreement to protect our human rights in the digital world".

"All of us have a right to safety, freedom, and dignity in the digital space, and the Internet needs to work in our interests, not against them", declared Gibson.

The increase in Internet use has also paved the way for the proliferation of its dark side, with the rampant spread of misinformation, disinformation and hate speech, the regular occurrence of data breaches, and an increase in cybercrimes, according to the UN.

"Access Now and the #KeepItOn coalition documented 182 Internet shutdowns in 34 countries in 2021, an increase from 159 shutdowns recorded in 29 countries in 2020, demonstrating the power governments have in controlling information in the digital space."

The theme of Addis Ababa Forum, "Resilient Internet for

a Shared Sustainable and Common Future", called for collective actions and a shared responsibility to connect all people and safeguard human rights; avoid Internet fragmentation; govern data and protect privacy; enable safety, security and accountability; and address advanced digital technologies.

"The Internet is the platform that will accelerate progress towards the SDGs. Our collective task is to unleash the power and potential of a resilient Internet for our shared sustainable and common future," said Li Junhua, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, during the Internet Governance Forum.

Gibson of Equality Now said in developing solutions, it is important to acknowledge the continuum of injustices, power imbalances, and gendered violence that predate technology and which manifest and multiply online.

The root causes of these need to be addressed when developing and implementing policies to ensure universal, secure, and safe access for all.

"A human-centered and resilient digital future not only includes ensuring affordable access but meaningful and secure access to digital technologies."

"We need a universal approach to defining, upholding, and advancing digital rights so that everyone has universal equality of safety, freedom, and dignity in our digital future," she noted.

IPS

## THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 396 00--

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

3 letters SEE, ASS, TRI, SUE, ROT  
 4 letters RARE, ECTA, ALHA, NENE, SURE,  
 5 letters SHARE, AMUSE,  
 6 letters MEDDLE, UTOPIA, ZEALOT, YACKER  
 7 letters CENTRAL, LAICIZE, DROUGHT  
 8 letters TIGRINYA, INTRENCH, RESTRICT  
 9 letters MOUNTAINS

CLUES: Across  
 1 Evil spirits  
 5 Togo's Capital  
 6 a risky or daring journey  
 9 the size of a dose of a medicine  
 11 the person who leads  
 12 a wooden frame for holding an artist's work in progress  
 13 primeval  
 14 A very longtime  
 16 not previously known  
 18 a cereal  
 19 central  
 20 the subject of a talk

Down:  
 1 grow or cause to grow and become larger  
 2 damage property  
 3 insect infests human skin and hair  
 4 the sale of goods to the public for consumption  
 5 one of the limbs for walking on one's own  
 7 on one's own  
 8 not often  
 10 perfume  
 15 stiff hairs- like or bristle-like structure  
 16 the state of being famous  
 17 a position of an object

WORD-FIT SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

By Magenzi: 0755429240 telixmagenzi@gmail.com

# RADIO One

## RATIBA YA VIPINDI

### JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKRA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDOONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKRA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDOONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKRA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDOONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKRA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDOONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKRA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDOONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKRA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDOONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKRA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDOONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One

Radio One





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## Yetu Microfinance put under BoT administration

By Guardian Reporter

**T**HE Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has announced that it has placed the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) listed Yetu Microfinance Bank under statutory administration.

This is pursuant to powers conferred upon the BoT under Section 56 (1) (g) (i) & (iii) of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006.

It becomes the first bank to put under BoT statutory administration in post-pandemic era, as many banks have totally recovered from the impact of Covid-19.

The last such incident happened in November 2020 when BoT put China Commercial Bank Limited under its administration after failing to meet regulatory requirements regarding capital adequacy and inability to effect restoration of capital to required levels.

"The Bank of Tanzania has effective from today, (Monday, 12th December 2022), taken over and placed Yetu Microfinance Bank Plc under statutory administration," said a public notice issued by the Governor.

"The decision to take over and place Yetu Microfinance Bank Plc under statutory administration follows failure of the bank to meet regulatory requirements regarding liquidity and capital adequacy."

BoT governor noted: "To permit Yetu Microfinance Bank Plc to continue with banking operations while under the state of shortage of liquidity and undercapitalization, is detrimental to the interest of depositors and poses systemic risk to the stability of the financial system". The BoT has therefore suspended the bank's Board of Directors and Management and appointed a Statutory Manager to manage the affairs of Yetu Micro-



finance Bank Plc.

Yetu Microfinance Bank Plc will not be open for normal business for a period not exceeding 90 days, during which the BoT will determine an appropriate resolution option.

BoT has assured the public that it will continue to protect the interests of depositors and maintain stability of the banking sector.

The microfinance bank share price at the DSE closed at 510/- yesterday with the market capitalization of 6.18bn/-.

The audited financial statement for 2021 showed the microfinance total shareholders' equity closed at 7.3bn/- last year from 8.5bn/- recorded during the previous year.

Loss before tax grew to 1.4bn/- last year from a loss of 314mn/- recorded in 2020, while net cash flow before change in working capital closed at a loss of 1.2bn/- from 358mn/- respectively.

Cash or cash equivalent as at December 31 last year according to audited financial statement amounted 314mn/- from 1.5bn/- recorded during the end of 2020.

Loan impairment (charge) increased to 1.15bn/- last year from 53.2mn/- in 2020 while loan and advances slowed to 13.6bn/- from 15.4bn/- respectively.

The microfinance balance sheet shows total assets went down to 17.4bn/- last year from 19.6bn/- recorded in 2020 due to decreased cash or cash equivalent, amid increased other assets.

Customer deposits slowed to 3.6bn/- last year from 3.9bn/- in 2020 while borrowing went down to 6.1bn/- from 7bn/- respectively.

## Global shares ease as central bank rate hikes loom

LONDON

**G**LOBAL stocks fell on Monday as investors braced for the last round of transatlantic interest rate hikes this year from a trio of central banks, hoping that a hitherto hefty pace of increases in borrowing costs will finally show signs of easing.

Oil prices rose as a key pipeline supplying the United States remained shut, while Russian President Vladimir Putin threatened to cut production in retaliation for a Western price cap on its exports.

The dollar rose against the Japanese yen but eased against a basket of currencies after data on Friday showed U.S. producer prices had risen more than expected last month, pointing to persistent inflationary pressures, ahead of key U.S. consumer price index for November on Tuesday, when a slowdown in core annual inflation is anticipated.

"A heavy event risk calendar this week stands to define the core themes for 2023," ING bank said.

Market consensus was still "underappreciating" the risk of inflation staying higher longer, and "dangerously second-guessing" the Fed in terms of rate cuts in



FILE PHOTO: People pass by an electronic screen showing Japan's Nikkei share price index inside a commercial building in Tokyo

the second half of next year, ING said.

The MSCI all country stock index was down 0.3%, the benchmark having lost about 18% so far this year, wiping out all gains chalked up in 2021.

In Europe, the STOXX index of 600 companies was down 0.7%.

Economists expect the Federal Reserve on Wednesday, and the European Central Bank and Bank of England on Thursday to all raise rates by 50 basis points, still a slowing down from the 75 basis point hikes seen in recent meet-

ings. Patrick Spencer, vice chair of equities at Baird investment bank, said central banks will start taking a less aggressive stance this week, though Tuesday's CPI data will be critical.

"It's the last important week of the year, after this week you've got no real sort of catalysts. If the CPI is a muted number, we're off to the races and we'll get our year-end rally," Spencer said.

But irrespective of the CPI, deflationary pressures are increasing, with crude

oil prices down for the year, and iron ore, lumber and house prices also down, Spencer said. "All this talk of recession, I think it is certainly in the price, it's in the markets. The key about recession is generally employment, and I think employment is going to be stronger than people give it credit," Spencer said.

Both the S&P 500 futures and Nasdaq futures were little changed.

In Asia, MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan slumped 1.2%, erasing almost all of the previous

week's gains stemming from optimism that China is finally opening up its economy with the dismantling of its zero-COVID policy.

**Japan's Nikkei eased 0.2%.**

Chinese bluechips dropped 1.1%, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng index was down 2.2%, as investors' focus shifted away from crippling COVID-19 curbs to the surge in infections that is now disrupting the economy.

While the Fed is widely expected to raise rates by 50 basis points on Wednesday at its last meeting of 2022, though focus will also be on the central bank's updated economic projections and Fed Chair Jerome Powell's press conference. "We also want to understand if Jay Powell opens the door to a slowdown to a 25bp hiking pace from February - again, while in line with market pricing, this could be taken that we're closer to the end of the hiking cycle and is a modest USD negative," said Chris Weston, head of research at Pepperstone.

Kevin Cummins, chief US economist at NatWest, said any surprise in the November CPI report was unlikely to shift the Fed from a 50-basis-point rate hike, although it would play a bigger role in the policy statement and the tone of Powell's press conference.

In currency markets, the U.S. dollar eased 0.143% to 104.89, although it was not too far away from the five-month trough of 104.1 a week ago.

Sterling was flat at \$1.2259, while the Australian dollar also slipped 0.3% to \$0.6745.

Treasury yields held largely steady on Monday. The yield on benchmark 10-year Treasury notes eased to 3.5433%, compared with its U.S. close of 3.5670%. The two-year yield touched 4.3294%, down slightly from its U.S. close of 4.330%.

Brent crude futures were off 0.4% at \$75.77 a barrel while U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude was at \$70.84 a barrel, off 0.3%.

Spot gold was 0.4% lower at \$1,790 per ounce.

By Peter Nurse

## Dollar edges higher ahead of Fed meeting; UK GDP impresses

**T**HE US dollar firmed in early European trade Monday as traders started the week on a cautious note ahead of the last Federal Reserve policy-setting meeting of the year and a crucial reading of U.S. consumer inflation.

At 03:05 ET (08:05 GMT), the Dollar Index, which tracks the greenback against a basket of six other currencies, rose 0.2% to 104.695.

The US central bank ends its two-day meeting on Wednesday and is widely expected to slow down the pace of its monetary tightening to combat inflation at historic levels, by increasing interest rates by 50 basis points, instead of the 75 basis points of its last four meetings.

US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen on Sunday forecast a substantial reduction in U.S. inflation in 2023, but data on Friday showed U.S. producer

prices had risen more than expected last month, pointing to persistent inflationary pressures and a chance the Federal Reserve will keep rates higher for longer.

November's US consumer inflation figures are due on Tuesday, ahead of the Fed's final deliberations, and are expected to show the headline annual figure falling to 7.3%, while the core annual inflation is seen dropping to 6.1%.

EUR/USD traded largely flat at 1.0530, with the European Central Bank also set to deliver a 50 basis point hike later this week, after two straight 75 bps increases, slowing the pace of tightening.

Headline inflation in the Eurozone slowed in November for the first time in 18 months, raising hopes that

sky-high price growth has passed.

However, the level was at 10%, five times the ECB's inflation target, so policymakers are likely to want to sound hawkish even as the region looks set to enter recession in the new year. "Our base case is still that EUR/USD will struggle to trade sustainably above 1.0600, and is mostly facing downside risks into year-end as the dollar could regain some ground on global risk uncertainty and rebounding energy prices," said analysts at ING, in a note.

GBP/USD also drifted lower to 1.2252, supported to a degree by data showing the British economy grew for the first time in four months in October, up 0.5% from September, which was

affected by the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II.

However, GDP in the three months through October was still down 0.3% from the period through September as the U.K. slips toward recession.

The Bank of England meets on Thursday and is expected to raise its key interest rates again as it tries to combat inflation well into double digits.

USD/JPY rose 0.1% to 136.69, after data showed producer price inflation in the country rose more than expected, heralding increased pressure on the economy in the coming months.

The risk-sensitive AUD/USD fell 0.2% to 0.6778, while USD/CNY rose 0.2% to 6.9745, with the yuan weighed by a big jump in local COVID infections which could delay a broader reopening after China scaled back some restrictions last week.





# Motorbike sales rise fastest in 11 years after Covid job cuts

NAIROBI

IMPORTED motorcycles jumped 46.9 per cent or 109,260 last year as Kenyans rendered jobless in the wake of Covid-19 economic hardships sought livelihoods in the booming Boda Boda business.

Kenyans imported 342,197 motorcycles compared to 232,937 in 2020, new data from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) shows.

This was the highest jump in the number of imported motorcycles since 2011 after former President Mwai Kibaki's government zero-rated importation of motorcycles below 250cc to encourage more youth to take up employment in the transport sub-sector.

The increase in the number of imported motorcycles came a year after close to 1.7 million Kenyans lost their jobs owing to the implementation of containment measures aimed at curbing the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Several businesses—especially those in hospitality, aviation and entertainment—buckled under the weight of the pandemic, leading to massive layoffs and furloughs.

The economy, however, created the highest number of jobs in six years following the easing of measures aimed at curbing Covid-19's spread, a boost to the more than one million young people who graduate from colleges and secondary schools.

A total of 926,100 jobs were added in the formal and informal sectors last year, the highest since 2015 when 929,000



Motorbike sales rise fastest in 11 years after Covid job cuts. PHOTO | NMG

employment opportunities were created.

The growth in jobs came on the back of the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, which had led to 736,000 job losses in 2020.

The KNBS data show formal jobs created last year stood at about 173,000, signalling a resumption in hiring after economic growth rebounded from Covid-19 shocks.

But the additional salaried jobs in the formal sector fell short of the 192,400 jobs which were shed a year earlier.

Impassable roads in rural Kenya and traffic jams in urban areas have made motorcycles a popular mode of transport, with some studies estimating the earnings of the riders at around Sh1 billion in a day.

A study of the sector by listed firm Car & General (C&G), which sells motorcycles, their spare parts and other engineering equipment, shows that it also supports six million livelihoods indirectly, about 10 per cent of the country's population.

C&G estimates that each rider makes an average of Sh1,000 per day from an average of 15 rides, translating to a daily income of Sh1 billion or Sh365 billion annually for the one million of them.

The imported motorcycles in 2021 were valued at Sh20.8 billion, an increase of 52.9 per cent from Sh13.6 billion in 2020.

The government has had a love-hate relationship with the motorcycle transport business which, although blamed for all kinds of infractions including a national security threat, has also been a major source of revenue and a source of employment for the youth.

In 2009 when the then Finance minister Amos Kimunya waived excise duty on imported motorcycles, the number of motorcycles shipped into the country jumped by a staggering 207 per cent to 119,336 from 38,870 in 2008.

The following year, there was a jump of 66 per cent of imported motorcycles to 198,018 as Kenyans continued to take advantage of the tax waiver.

The steady flow of motorcycles into the country reached its peak in 2011 when an additional 122,160 were shipped into the country, the highest ever since KNBS started compiling these figures in 2007.

This pushed the number of imported motorcycles to 320,178 compared to 198,018 the previous year.

The introduction of various taxes, including excise duty and the 16 per cent value-added tax, however, saw the number of imported motorcycles plummet by slightly over half to 165,276 in 2013 from 340,697 in 2012.

In 2015, the government introduced an excise duty of Sh10,000 on every imported motorcycle, to increase revenue from the booming transport sub-sector and to discourage increased shipping of two-wheeler which a lot of Kenyans have blamed for incidents of lawlessness on the roads, including being used to rob people.

The excise duty was later increased to Sh11,608 per unit for all motorcycles other than ambulances and those that are locally assembled.

In his budget speech last year, then Cabinet Secretary for Treasury Ukur Yatani proposed to introduce a 15 per cent excise duty on motorcycle units as the government sought to have a piece of the billions being made by the sub-sector and narrow its ever-widening budget deficit.

This proposal was, however, rejected by Members of Parliament who were afraid of antagonising Boda Boda operators in an election year.

# China Nov new bank loans jump to 1.21trln yuan

BEIJING

NEW bank lending in China rebounded less than expected in November from the previous month, as the central bank seeks to bolster slowing growth in the world's second-biggest economy.

Chinese banks extended 1.21 trillion yuan (\$173.48 billion) in new yuan loans in November, nearly doubling October's 615.2 billion yuan but falling short of analysts' expectations, according to People's Bank of China (PBOC) data released on Monday.

Analysts polled by Reuters had predicted new yuan loans would jump to 1.35 trillion yuan in November.

In November last year, new loans were 1.27 trillion yuan.

"October new loans were weaker than expected due to the impact from COVID flare-ups," said Zhou Guannan, an analyst at Huachuang Securities.

Household loans, including mortgages, rose to 262.7 billion yuan in November, versus a contraction of 18 billion yuan in October. Corporate loans rose to 883.7 billion yuan from 462.2 billion yuan in October.

New loans totalled 19.91 trillion yuan in January-November, central bank data showed, compared with a record 19.95 trillion yuan in 2021.

The central bank will focus on supporting the slowing economy, PBOC Governor Yi Gang said earlier this month, adding that domestic consumer inflation is likely to stay moderate in 2023.

The central bank cut the reserve requirement ratio for banks by 25 basis points (bps) effective from Dec. 5, releasing about 500 billion yuan in long-term liquidity to prop up a faltering economy.

"COVID outbreaks and unstable



FILE PHOTO: Chinese 100 yuan banknotes are seen in a counting machine while a clerk counts them at a branch of a commercial bank in Beijing

expectations have created a continuous disturbance to credit extension," said Wen Bin, chief economist at China Minsheng Bank.

"We need to ramp up policy to consolidate the basis for economic stability and promote the steady expansion of bank lending and total social financing."

The PBOC is likely to ramp up targeted support for troubled sectors through its structural tools, policy sources and analysts have said.

In 2023, the government will focus on stabilising growth, employment and prices, while preventing and defusing major systemic risks, the Politburo, the country's top-decision making body, said last week.

China last week announced it was dropping key part of its anti-COVID regime. It has also moved to ease a funding crisis for property developers in a bid to stabilise the sector.

But economists say the road to recovery may be long and bumpy,

especially if new infections surge and global demand continues to weaken.

China's economy grew just 3% in the first three quarters of this year and the full-year expansion is expected to be around 3%, well below the official target of around 5.5.

Broad M2 money supply grew 12.4% from a year earlier, central bank data showed, above estimates of 11.7% forecast in the Reuters poll. M2 grew 11.8% in October from a year ago.

Outstanding yuan loans grew 11.0% in November from a year earlier compared with 11.1% growth in October. Analysts had expected 11.1% growth.

Growth of outstanding total social financing (TSF), a broad measure of credit and liquidity in the economy, slowed to 10.0% in November from a year earlier and from 10.3% in October.

TSF includes off-balance sheet forms of financing that exist outside the conventional bank lending system, such as initial public offerings, loans from trust companies and bond sales.

# Toyota to outline 3-year EV plan changes to suppliers

TOKYO

TOYOTA Motor Corp is expected to outline adjustments to its electric vehicle (EV) strategy to key suppliers early next year, as it races to narrow the gap on price and performance with industry leaders Tesla and BYD, two people with knowledge of the work said.

The leading Japanese automaker is expected to detail the EV plan changes through early 2026, communicating the adjustments to major suppliers, the people said on condition of anonymity as the information is confidential.

Toyota has been looking at ways to improve the competitiveness of EVs being planned for this decade, in part by speeding up the adoption of performance-boosting technologies for planned EVs, from electric drive systems - including motors - to the electronics that convert power from the grid to energy stored in batteries and more integrated heating and cooling systems, the people said.

The changes, however, might include delays to some of the EV development programmes originally planned for the three-year period, one of the people said.

The changes would be for the successors to Toyota's first two EVs for major markets, the bZ4X and the Lexus RZ, and intended to close the gap with Tesla Inc on cost and performance, the people said.

Toyota is set to convene a major powwow of suppliers in February, the first such global supplier convention since the pandemic.

Toyota said in a statement that it is "always actively discussing and working with key (suppliers and partners) on a variety of topics," to achieve carbon neutrality. But it said it had no new details to disclose on EV development projects.

Billionaire Elon Musk's Tesla made almost eight times the profit per vehicle as Toyota for the third quarter, partly because of its ability to simplify EV production and reduce cost, analysts have said.

Toyota has been reviewing a \$30-billion, three-stage plan for developing and releasing EVs it announced last year, Reuters reported in October.

It has suspended work on some battery-powered car projects announced last year, while a working group headed by former chief competitive officer Shigeki Terashi looks to improve cost performance and technology in the fast-growing market for EVs.

The working group has been charged with outlining plans to improve Toyota's EV approach, including considering a potential successor to its new EV platform, e-TNGA.

The revamp comes even as Toyota holds the view that gasoline-electric hybrids, a market it pioneered with the Prius, will remain a crucial part of the transition to carbon-neutral transport.

Most major automakers expect EVs to account for the majority of vehicle sales by 2030, and green investors and environmental groups have pushed Toyota to move faster as industry-wide EV sales exceed Toyota's earlier assumptions.

Toyota's EV strategy has focussed on the rollout of cars like the bZ4X, the first of a string of battery electric vehicles under the series name "beyond zero". The second stage of Toyota's plan covers the next several years when Toyota has models based on the e-TNGA platform in development, the company has told some suppliers. Adjustments to this phase are the changes likely to be outlined to suppliers early next year.

Now Terashi's group is considering whether to drop the three-year-old e-TNGA architecture, created by modifying a gasoline car platform, in favour of a dedicated EV platform, people with knowledge of that work have said.

e-TNGA was designed so EVs could be built on Toyota assembly lines with gasoline cars and hybrids, a compromise that limits the automaker's ability to deliver factory-floor innovations that Toyota engineers now recognise as key to Tesla's strength.

Also, Toyota designed e-TNGA on the assumption it would need to sell about 3.5 million EVs a year, about one-third of its current global volume, by 2030, sources have said, while the industry outlook is for a faster pace of growth.

Toyota has been working with two suppliers Denso and Aisin for its EV reboot.

It has been looking at whether it could expedite the adoption of a new thermal management system jointly developed by Aisin and Denso and potentially a more advanced electric powertrain, or eAxe, from Aisin.

Toyota has also been looking at whether it could introduce in some large premium EVs a just-developed silicone-carbide-based inverter from Denso that would improve charging and help lower manufacturing costs.

Denso and Aisin did not respond to requests for comment.

Terashi's role in leading Toyota's EV strategy review, after being sidelined in the company, has been seen by some as a sign the automaker is closer to a full pivot on EVs.

Terashi, 67, did not respond to a request for comment.

Over the course of his 42-year career, Terashi has been one of Toyota's top vehicle planners and a strong advocate of zero-emissions cars, including hydrogen.

He was part of the team that opened the way for Toyota's cooperation with China's BYD, the world's largest EV maker. That resulted in a soon-to-be-marketed, China-only Toyota electric sedan called the bZ3, powered by BYD batteries.



# Chinese shares close lower Monday

BEIJING

CHINESE stocks closed lower yesterday, with the benchmark Shanghai Composite Index down 0.87 percent to 3,179.04 points.

The Shenzhen Component Index closed 0.89 percent lower at 11,399.13 points.

The turnover of stocks covered by the two indices reached 909.8 billion

yuan (about 130.8 billion U.S. dollars), down from 999.6 billion yuan on the previous trading day.

Shares in the bio-medicine and electronic information sectors led the gains, while financial shares saw big losses.

The ChiNext Index, tracking China's Nasdaq-style board of growth enterprises, lost 0.79 percent to close at 2,401.52 points yesterday.



# Local investors sensitised to exploit EPZA opportunities

By Guardian Correspondent

**L**OCAL investors have been encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) through the economic zones to establish industries and contribute to economic growth.

The EPZA Principal Investment Promotion Officer, Ms Nakadongo Fares said during the 7th exhibition of the local industrial products at Saba Saba International Trade Fair along Kilwa Road that investors can invest massively through the Export Processing Zones (EPZ) and Special Economic Zones (SEZ).

"Investors stand a better chance to be successful if they invest through the EPZ and SEZ schemes due to

their efficiency in terms of facilitation and incentives package offered," she said.

She said investors to invest massively through the two schemes and stressed that the government continues creating conducive investment and business environment in the country for business to thrive and contribute to economic development.

With economic zones already providing necessary infrastructure and incentives, it is possible engage in climate-ready investments and infrastructure, supply chain resilience, technology advancements, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity.

EPZA has strengthened itself in making the investment environment in the country friendly through SEZ and EPZ programmes that affect strategic sectors such as Agriculture and Industry.

Ms Nakadongo also said that Tanzania has diverse raw materials that will enable the country build robust economy and create

more jobs if they are used appropriately.

For example, Tanzania is endowed with a huge number of animals that offer immense opportunities for investors to establish varieties of industries in the whole value chain.

"EPZA is concentrating much on the production of quality goods through the economic zones to compete and capture the global markets," she added.

Ms Fares mentioned also the opportunities in the cotton sector for which local investors can seize immense opportunities and boost their business while contributing to economic growth.

She said the clothing manufacturing industry employed the largest number of people citing the Tanzania Tooku Garments Co. Ltd located at the Benjamin Mkapa Export Processing Zone.

The Tooku factory together with the Mazava fabrics production in Morogoro offer jobs to around 5000 peoples each.

## MONEY AND SAVINGS



# Are you a money spender or a saver?

WE like to imagine that the basic rules of money management are straightforward: Spend less than you make and save some cash for the future. And yet, it is hardly ever that simple in reality. Money can be a complicated, emotional issue—and that can affect the way you save and spend.

Whether you personally identify as a spender or a saver, finding balance in your relationship with money can be key to living the life you want. So how would you answer this question: Do you tend to spend or save your money? For many of us, the answer varies depending on when we were born.

According to our most recent Couples & Money study,\* roughly 7 in 10 people say they identify as a saver, while just 3 in 10 call themselves spenders. Those numbers vary by generation.

Early in life, money can be scarce, so savings may go on the back burner. And as we continue on our money journey, we'll have more money experiences, and our views may change and shift.

"Our money mindset shifts as we get older: We are much more likely to feel less comfortable with money as young people and then we get more protective and interested in money as we get older," says Megan McCoy, PhD, a licensed marriage and family therapist, an accredited financial counselor, and a Kansas State University professor of practice in personal financial planning. Her research focuses on financial therapy, or the exploration of the relationship between

money and emotions.

Another reason for the shift toward saving may be due to a fully developed brain. "Our ability to reflect on the future consequences of our actions is dictated by our frontal lobe. Research has shown that our frontal lobe does not fully mature until we are about halfway through our 30s," McCoy says.

So is there a way to balance both savings and spending throughout your life? Yes! You can start by taking a close look at where you fall on the saving and spending spectrum.

**Savers vs. spenders: Is it all in the brain?** Having a strong tendency toward saving or spending may have a lot to do with emotions and the way your brain is wired.

"Brain studies have found that for people who identify as savers, the part of the brain that registers pain lights up more when they spend than it does for spenders. They literally hurt more from spending than other people do," McCoy says.

On the other side of the coin, research has found that people who tend to spend money don't feel as much pain or discomfort from spending. What's fascinating is that researchers have found that there is no significant difference between savers and spenders regarding materialism. It's not that spenders want more; they just hurt less when they spend.

**Why we are the way we are**

So why does that happen? How can some people, even within the same family, become

savers while others tend to spend? It actually starts when we're young.

"People experience big money moments as they're growing up and becoming an adult. Sometimes these moments are good and sometimes they're bad, but they often leave a lasting impression on our relationship with money," McCoy explains.

It could be experiencing poverty as a child or seeing your parents argue over money. Or it could be positive experiences like family budget discussions or going on a big vacation your family saved for.

"Our money experiences lead to our attempts to make sense of how money works in our lives and in the world," says McCoy.

While our early money experiences might shape us, they don't have to define us for life. Consider your upbringing and experiences and decide which money values you want to keep and which you want to ditch. "Setting these types of money intentions can be a great way of calibrating your own money mindset," says Livia Binks, a vice president at Fidelity.

**How to balance spending and saving**

If you want to cultivate new money habits, try some life hacks to bypass your usual response.

"The goal is not to make you a saver or spender—the hacks you create for your life should be around balancing your natural instinct," McCoy says.

(fidelity.com)

## Aramco partners Chinese to stabilise supply chains

RIYADH

SAUDI oil giant Aramco plans to work with Chinese partners to maintain the safety and stability of the industrial supply chains, the company's Chairman Yasir Al-Rumayyan has told Xinhua.

In a written interview with Xinhua on Friday, Al-Rumayyan said his company would cooperate with its Chinese partners also in various environmental areas, such as emission reduction. "As China's economy continues to prosper, Aramco is committed to participating in every stage of China's development."

Saudi Aramco is one of the largest oil companies in the world, with operations all over the world.

Talking about the company's relationship with China, he said that Aramco delivered its first Arabian crude to China in the early 1990s.

Since Saudi Aramco and China Petrochemical Corporation jointly established the Yanbu Aramco Sinopec Refining Company (YASREF) in 2016, YASREF has witnessed technological, commercial and investment cooperation between Saudi Arabia and China, and has become one of the finely operated projects in the region.

This cooperation has expanded to other fields over recent years, paving the way for both Saudi Arabia and China to build strong partnerships and collaborate on projects promoting economic growth, job creation and workforce upskilling.

The company has also established multi-field cooperation with Chinese universities, including joint research on technologies to convert crude oil into petrochemical products

for industrial manufacturing.

Al-Rumayyan believes that the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative is similar to Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 in many ways, which creates favorable conditions for his company to take part in China's development.

The company plans to work with Chinese partners to build more large-scale integrated downstream oil industry clusters in China, which includes providing sufficient crude oil and liquefied natural gas supplies for oil refining, petrochemical and other industries, he said.

About the fluctuations in oil markets in recent years, he said that the severe volatility in the global energy market has prompted countries to once again recognize the importance of energy security.

As a major energy importer, China's energy demand continues to grow, and Saudi Arabia is the world's largest oil exporter, the oil giant chief noted. The strong and close partnership between the two countries will help strengthen China's energy security, he said, assuring that Saudi Aramco will play an important role.

Highlighting Aramco's competitiveness of having one of the lowest upstream carbon intensities in the world, Al-Rumayyan unveiled his company's plan to leverage advanced technologies like carbon capturing, utilization and storage, and to develop low-carbon hydrogen and ammonia, and synthetic fuels.

When it comes to future cooperation with China, he said, "There are many exciting opportunities for Aramco to cooperate with China in new energy," including carbon capturing, hydrogen production and non-metallic materials.



## Microsoft to buy 4pct stake in LSE

LONDON

MICROSOFT is to take a 4 percent equity stake in London Stock Exchange Group as part of a 10-year commercial deal to migrate the exchange operator's data platform into the cloud, the British company said on Monday.

It is the latest sign of deepening ties between financial services providers and a handful of big global cloud companies such as Microsoft, Google, Amazon and IBM, which have prompted regulators to scrutinise the ties more closely.

Microsoft has longstanding links with LSEG, but the exchange group's Chief Executive David Schwimmer said that about a year ago they began talks on closer ties.

"It's a long term partnership. In terms of the products we will be building together, I would expect our customers to start to see the benefits of that 18 to 24 months out and we will continue building from there," Schwimmer told Reuters.

Regulators have expressed concern about the over-reliance of financial firms on too few cloud providers, given the disruption this could cause across the sector if a provider went down.

The European Union has just approved a law introducing safeguards on cloud providers in financial services, with Britain set to follow suit.

"You should assume we do not

like to surprise our regulators," Schwimmer said, when asked if LSEG has ensured that regulators were on board.

LSEG said the link with Microsoft was a partnership to reap the benefits of "consumption-based pricing", and not a traditional cloud deal.

"We will continue to maintain our multi-cloud strategy and working with other cloud providers," Schwimmer said.

The deal was not about savings by outsourcing activities to the cloud, but about meaningful incremental revenue growth as new products come on stream over time.

"This feels like a key milestone in LSEG's journey towards being information solutions-centric, even if 'meaningful' revenue growth specifics are lacking," analysts at Jefferies said.

As part of the deal, LSEG has made a contractual commitment for minimum cloud-related spend with Microsoft of \$2.8 billion over the term of the partnership.

Microsoft said the basis of the partnership will be the digital transformation of LSEG's technology infrastructure and Refinitiv platforms on to the Microsoft Cloud.

"The initial focus will be on delivering interoperability between LSEG Workspace and Microsoft Teams, Excel and PowerPoint with other Microsoft applications and a new version of LSEG's Workspace," the U.S. company said.

VIEW FROM THE TOP



## WORLD

## Lockerbie plane bombing suspect taken into US custody

LONDON/WASHINGTON

A LIBYAN man accused of making the bomb that killed 270 people after it blew up Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie in Scotland in 1988 is in custody in the United States, Scottish and US law enforcement officials said on Sunday.

Abu Agila Mohammad Mas'ud Kheir Al-Marimi was taken into custody about two years after former US Attorney General Bill Barr first announced the United States filed charges against him.

A Justice Department spokesperson confirmed to Reuters on Sunday that the United States has custody of the suspect. Mas'ud is expected to make his initial court appearance in a federal court in Washington.

Details about the timing of the hearing will be forthcoming, the spokesperson added.

Court documents described Mas'ud as an expert bombmaker who joined Libya's External Security Organization intelligence service in the 1970s and took part in a number of operations outside Libya, reaching the rank of colonel.

A military source in the Libyan city of Misrata said Mas'ud had been flown from the airport there. Reuters could not immediately establish when.

The families of those killed in the Lockerbie bombing have been told the suspect is in U.S. custody, a spokesperson for Scotland's Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) said on Sunday.

The BBC first reported Mas'ud's arrest. The bomb on board the Boeing 747, which was flying from London to New York City, killed all 259 people on board and 11 on the ground, the deadliest ever militant attack in Britain.

The crime scene from the attack stretched for more than 840 square miles (2,175 square km).

In 1991, two other Libyan intelligence operatives were charged in the bombing: Abdel Baset Ali al-Megrahi and Lamen Khalifa Fhimah.

At a Scottish trial before a court at Camp Zeist in The Netherlands, Megrahi was found guilty of the bombing and was jailed for life in 2001. He was later released because he was suffering from cancer and died at his home in Tripoli



Carisa Harris-Adamson, from San Francisco, carries a wreath to lay in memory of her uncle John Cummock, who was on the 1988 Pan Am flight 103 as it was bombed over Lockerbie, during a service to mark the 30th anniversary of the Lockerbie Air Disaster, at the Memorial Garden, Dryfesdale Cemetery, Lockerbie, southwestern Scotland, on December 21, 2018. File photo

in 2012. Fhimah was acquitted of all charges, but Scottish prosecutors have maintained that Megrahi did not act alone.

In 2020 the United States unsealed criminal charges against Mas'ud, a suspected third conspirator, adding he had worked as a technical expert in building explosive devices.

At the time of the bombing, US investigators uncovered evidence that one of the possible suspects went by the name of "Abu Agela Masud," but were unable to locate him, according to a sworn statement by an FBI agent in support of the government's criminal complaint.

Decades later, the FBI obtained a copy of a Sept 12, 2012, interview of Mas'ud conducted by a Libyan law enforcement officer while he was in custody there.

During the interview, Mas'ud "admitted to building the bomb that brought down Pan Am Flight 103 and to working with Megrahi and Fhimah

to execute the plot," the FBI agent's statement says.

Mas'ud also told the interviewer he was involved in other similar plots, and said the bombing was ordered by Libyan intelligence leadership.

He also said former Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, who was killed by rebels in October 2011, "thanked him and other members of the team for their successful attack on the United States." The agent who filed the statement said the FBI was able to corroborate Mas'ud's confession through the course of its investigation.

The handover of Mas'ud for trial in the West prompted fighting among Libyan politicians, who are split between a parliament based in the east of the country and a Government of National Unity in Tripoli.

Some eastern lawmakers accused Prime Minister Abdulhamd al-Dbeibah of doing Washington's bidding despite the lack of an extradition treaty.

Agencies

## Termination of diplomatic relations not in interests of Moscow, London – ambassador

MOSCOW

A TERMINATION of diplomatic relations between Russia and the United Kingdom is not in the interests of both parties, Russian Ambassador to Great Britain Andrey Kelin said yesterday in an interview with Russia's Izvestia daily.

"A severance of diplomatic relations is an extreme measure, which leaves arms dealings only," he said. "In my opinion, this is currently not in the interests of London and in our [Russian] interests."

Kelin noted that relations between the two countries started deteriorating in 2018 following the Skripals case, but business, humanitarian and economic interaction remained. However, only bilateral diplomatic relations were the only to remain after February 24, according to the ambassador.

Russian President Vladimir Putin announced on February 24 that in response to a request by the heads of the Donbass republics for assistance he had made a decision to carry out a special military operation in Ukraine.

In response to Russia's decision, the West began to impose numerous large-scale sanctions on Russia stage by stage. Along with this move, Western countries began to supply weapons and military equipment worth billions of US dollars to the Kiev regime.

## Ashes of Jiang Zemin scattered into the sea

BEIJING

THE ashes of beloved Comrade Jiang Zemin were scattered into the sea at the estuary of the Yangtze River on Sunday, in accordance with the wishes of Jiang himself and his family.

Jiang passed away in Shanghai on Nov. 30 at the age of 96. He was cremated on Dec. 5 in Beijing. Entrusted by the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, Cai Qi, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and a member of the CPC Central Committee Secretariat, and other officials, Jiang's wife Wang Yeping and other relatives escorted Jiang's ashes to the sea. This was done in the most esteemed and solemn way to express the grief and cherish the memory of Jiang.

Jiang was hailed as an outstanding leader enjoying high prestige acknowledged by the whole Party, the entire military and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups, a great Marxist, a great proletarian revolutionary, statesman, military strategist and diplomat, a long-tested communist fighter, and an outstanding leader of the great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

He was the core of the Party's third generation of central collective leadership and the principal founder of the Theory of Three Represents. As a thoroughgoing materialist, Jiang had expressed his wish of having his ashes scattered into the Yangtze River and the sea. He devoted his whole life to the motherland and the people without reservation.

On Sunday morning, the national flag was flown at half-mast in Zhongnanhai, where Jiang had worked for a long time. Inside the Laifu Hall, Jiang's cinerary casket was covered with the flag of the CPC.

A floral arrangement presented by Jiang's wife Wang Yeping and family members was placed in front of the cinerary casket. On both sides of the casket were wreaths sent by other relatives and relevant sides.

At 8:10 a.m., Cai and leading members of the office of Comrade Jiang Zemin's Funeral Committee, together with Jiang's relatives arrived at the hall to pay silent tribute. They bowed three times before Jiang's portrait.

As the hearse slowly drove out of Zhongnanhai, staff members wearing white flowers on their chests came to both sides of the road to bid farewell to Jiang. At the Xijiao Airport in western Beijing, officers and soldiers of the Air Force held their hats and watched the special plane carrying Jiang's ashes take off. The plane slowly circled over the capital city before leaving for Shanghai.

At 11:05 a.m., the plane arrived at Shanghai Hongqiao Airport. Subsequently, a hearse carried the cinerary casket to the Wusong military port.

At the wharf, the national flag was flown at half-mast. There were black banners with white characters that read "Eternal glory to Comrade Jiang Zemin" and "Comrade Jiang Zemin will live in our hearts forever."

The cinerary casket was put on top of a table. People stood in silence and bowed to pay their final respects. Jiang's relatives carried the casket on board the Yangzhou, a Navy vessel named after Jiang's hometown. When the ship set sail, all the ships in the military port sounded their horns.

The ship sailed away slowly as it bid farewell to Shanghai, a place where Jiang spent his youth and worked devotedly for a long time.

At 12:35 p.m., the ship arrived at the estuary of the Yangtze River. On the deck of the warship, Cai Qi, Jiang's wife Wang Yeping and other family members and relatives – holding back their tears – scattered the ashes and flower petals into the sea.

Xinhua

## Iran condemns Aussie sanctions as meddling in internal affairs

TEHRAN

IRAN on Saturday condemned Australia's sanctions on Iranian individuals and institutions, saying they represent the country's interference in Iran's internal affairs.

The Australian government "has for years been violating the basic rights of indigenous Australians, prisoners and refugees," said Nasser Kanaani, the foreign ministry spokesman, in a ministry statement.

"Australia has also given sanctuary to anti-Iran terrorist and separatist groups," he added.

Earlier in the day, the Australian government announced sanctions on six Iranians and Iran's morality police and Basij volunteer force over what it calls "human rights violations and abuses."

Protests have erupted in Iran after 22-year-old Mahsa

Amini died in a Tehran hospital on Sept 16, a few days after her collapse at a police station. Iran has accused the United States and some other Western countries of "inciting riots and supporting terrorists" in the country.

Also on Saturday, the Iranian Foreign Ministry summoned the British ambassador over the "meddlesome" remarks of some British officials regarding Iran's internal affairs and the imposition of sanctions against a number of Iranian nationals.

In the meeting with Simon Shercliff, the head of the third bureau of the Iranian Foreign Ministry's Western Europe condemned the continuation of the "interventionist and impolite" remarks about Iran's internal affairs by British officials and the support of the British government and media for the "riots" and acts of "terror" in the country, according to a



In this photo released on Aug 11, 2022 by the Iranian foreign ministry, ministry spokesperson Nasser Kanaani speaks in Tehran, Iran. (IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY VIA AP)

statement on the ministry's website.

The ministry also conveyed Iran's strong protest at the im-

position of the "illegitimate and hypocritical" sanctions against Iranian nationals.

In addition, the ministry strongly rejected Britain's accusation that Iran is sending drones to Russia, saying such accusations have been levelled without any document and proof.

Britain on Friday imposed sanctions on 10 Iranian officials over alleged human rights violations, particularly during the recent protests in Iran which erupted following the death of Amini.

Also on Friday, British Ambassador to the United Nations Barbara Woodward claimed that Russia seeks to get more weapons from Iran, including hundreds of ballistic missiles, and is offering Iran an "unprecedented level of military and technical support" in return.

Agencies

## Bali governor says new Indonesia laws pose no risk to tourists

JAKARTA

VISITORS to Bali will not be put at risk by Indonesia's newly ratified criminal code, the island's governor said, dismissing concerns that revised laws which include articles criminalizing sex outside marriage may scare away tourists from its shores.

Indonesia's parliament last week passed the controversial bill that also prohibits cohabitation between unmarried couples.

Seeking to reassure visitors, Bali Governor Wayan Koster in a statement on Sunday noted the new laws, which come into affect in three years,

could only be prosecuted if there was complaint by a parent, spouse or child.

Those who "visit or live in Bali would not need to worry with regard to the entry into force of the Indonesian Criminal Code", he said.

The governor said provisions in the criminal code on this issue had been altered from an earlier, stricter version so "would provide a better guarantee of everyone's privacy and comfortableness."

Bali's government would ensure "there will be no checking on marital status upon check-in at any tourism accommodation, such as hotels, villas, apartments, guest houses,



Two fishermen spread their net by a beach in Sanur near Denpasar on the Indonesian resort island of Bali on Jan 16, 2022. File photo

lodges and spas," Wayan said.

Wayan also denied what he said were "hoax" reports of cancellations of flights and hotel room bookings, adding that data from travel agents, tour and accommodation operators, as well as airlines,

showed the number of people set to visit Bali from December 2022 to March 2023 had increased.

Bali is the center of tourism in Indonesia and the tourism association is targeting foreign arrivals on the predominately

Hindu island to reach pre-pandemic levels of six million a year by 2025.

Decades in the making, legislators hailed the passage of the criminal code as a much-needed overhaul of a vestige of Dutch colonial rule. Officials say it aims to uphold "Indonesian values" in the world's largest Muslim-majority nation.

But Maulana Yusran, deputy chief of Indonesia's tourism industry board, said last week the new code was "totally counter-productive" at a time when the economy and tourism were starting to recover from the pandemic.

Agencies

## China, Saudi Arabia see constant outcomes of cooperation

AS China and Saudi Arabia synergized their Belt and Road Initiative and Saudi Vision 2030 over the recent years, the two countries' cooperation in energy, technology and infrastructure sectors have been gradually deepened and achieved constant outcomes.

The Yanbu Aramco Sinopec Refining Company in Yanbu, which sits on the west coast of Saudi Arabia, is a joint venture between Saudi Arabia's oil giant Aramco and China's largest oil refiner Sinopec. Covering an area of about 5.2 million square meters, the refinery boasts total investment of over \$8 billion. It is the largest Chinese investment project in Saudi Arabia.

The oil refinery has maintained sound operation since it was put into use. With a de-

signed refining capacity of 400,000 barrels per day, its products are sold to Europe and the Asia-Pacific region. Its profit between January and October this year set a record high since its operation.

China and Saudi Arabia have made good use of their respective strength and cooperated well in this project. The Yanbu Aramco Sinopec Refining Company has received a series of international awards in engineering construction and operation and management.

Apart from the economic benefits, the oil refinery is also a great platform for the career development of local young employees.

A 32-year-old engineer surnamed Hussein

works for the refinery's coking workshop. He came to the oil refinery in 2015 after graduating from University.

The workshop is the first coking facility introduced to Saudi Arabia, so the job was quite difficult for Hussein at first. Thanks to the assistance offered by Chinese engineers and the man's hard work, Hussein gradually acquired the skills needed for the job. Now, Hussein has been promoted to supervisor and became friends of the Chinese engineers.

At present, the oil refinery has over 1,200 employees from Saudi Arabia, who account for 87 percent of its total staff. Since its operation, the oil refinery has provided, di-

rectly and indirectly, more than 6,000 jobs for local communities. Besides, it has nurtured a batch of local managing personnel and technical workers through training and continuing education programs it launched, injecting momentum into the economic and social development of local communities.

Saudi Arabia is hot and dry. Domestic water is extremely precious in the country. Therefore, the fresh water desalinated from seawater is an important supplement to Saudi Arabia's regular water resources.

In March this year, the Saudi Arabia Rabigh Phase III seawater desalination plant was put into use. It was built by SEPCCOIII Electric Power Construction Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of

the Power Construction Corporation of China. It is the first major seawater desalination plant constructed by a Chinese firm overseas.

As an important livelihood project of Saudi Arabia, the plant produces 600,000 cubic meters of water on a daily basis and is able to supply domestic water for over 2 million households in major cities around it, including Rabigh and Mecca.

"Before the plant was built, domestic water always ran out," said a local resident surnamed Abdullah in Rabigh. People had to purchase water from supermarkets whenever their domestic water was used up, Abdullah added.

People's Daily



# A look at how Xi Jinping leads China's COVID-19 fight in 10 stories

BEIJING

FOR the past nearly three years, President Xi Jinping has been leading China in fighting the COVID-19 epidemic.

Xinhua reporters recounted some of the key moments and stories of how Xi, who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, has led the nation through the most challenging moments all the way toward victory.

## SLEEPLESS NIGHT

In early 2020, central China's Hubei Province bore the brunt of the epidemic. The provincial capital Wuhan was particularly hit hard.

On the eve of the Lunar New Year, the most important holiday for the Chinese people, Xi had a sleepless night, with COVID-19 clouding festivities.

The next day, Jan. 25, Xi convened a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee on epidemic control. He told his six colleagues on the standing committee that the situation was pressing and they needed to study the issue together. "I could not sleep well on the eve of the Lunar New Year," Xi said.

## "LET'S NOT SHAKE HANDS"

On Feb. 10, 2020, when the cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Beijing reached 342, Xi, wearing a mask, visited a residential community, a hospital and a district disease prevention and control center.

He held out his wrist to have his body temperature checked upon entering every location. Xi chatted with residents in a street, asking them about the prices of vegetables.

"Let's not shake hands at this unusual time," Xi said. "We must have confidence that we can prevail over the epidemic."

"We can absolutely beat it," the residents responded.

## ALWAYS CONCERNED ABOUT WUHAN PEOPLE

On March 10, 2020, Xi visited a residential community in Wuhan. On that day, the daily number of new confirmed cases on the mainland dropped to 24, but Wuhan still had 14,514 COVID-19 patients. The task of containment remained arduous.

Walking between apartment blocks, Xi looked up and waved to residents under lockdown who stuck their heads out of their windows and balconies to greet him.

"Let's keep it up! Hold on for a little longer!" Xi said.

Speaking at a symposium in Wuhan, he made a special request for officials to supply more fish, a favorite food of the Wuhan people.

## "I AM REALLY IMPRESSED"

In May 2020, at the annual session of the National People's Congress, Xi talked about an interview of a local hospital president that impressed him.

Luo Jie, a national lawmaker from the hard-hit Hubei, told reporters how medical workers in his hospital spent 47 days saving an 87-year-old COVID-19 patient.



Xi Jinping visits an industrial park that produces high-end auto parts and molds in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province, March 29, 2020. (Xinhua/Yan Yan)

"So many people worked together to save a single patient. This, in essence, embodies doing whatever it takes (to save lives)," Xi said. "I am really impressed."

## "MOST BEAUTIFUL ANGELS"

In March 2020, Xi lauded medical workers as "the most beautiful angels" when he inspected the command center of Huoshenshan Hospital in virus-hit Wuhan.

Xi noted that medical staff, including military medical personnel, rushed to Hubei and Wuhan without hesitation after the epidemic outbreak, and have made important contributions to curbing the epidemic.

## COORDINATING EPIDEMIC CONTROL WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Xi has been emphasizing the need to balance epidemic control and economic development over the years.

On March 29, 2020, when he inspected coastal Zhejiang Province, Xi visited Ningbo-Zhoushan Port whose throughput had recovered to normal levels due to the timely measures it adopted to resume production.

He called for efforts to blunt the adverse impact on cargo shipping brought by restrictive measures adopted by various countries to fight the coronavirus. He also urged facilitation for the country's smooth trade flow.

During the epidemic, he went to places including Zhejiang, Shaanxi and Shanxi provinces to oversee production resumption and poverty reduction.

In 2020, China was among the first countries in the world to resume work and reopen schools and businesses. In 2021, China registered a GDP growth rate of 8.1 percent, among the fastest in the world's major economies.

## HONOURING HEROES

On Sept. 8, 2020, a national meeting honoring heroes in the fight against the COVID-19 epidemic was held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

"Are you keeping well?" After having a photo taken together with the honored, Xi stood up and greeted then-84-year-old epidemiologist Zhong Nanshan.

"Great!" said Zhong, expressing his willingness to continue working at the front line of combating respiratory diseases and handling public health emergencies.

Zhong was one of those who had been awarded by Xi in person the Medal of the Republic or the title of People's Hero for rendering meritorious service and making outstanding contributions in the COVID-19 battle.

## A SLEW OF LEADERSHIP MEETINGS

Since the COVID-19 outbreak, Xi chaired more than 30 meetings of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee or of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee to discuss virus response measures.

Under Xi's leadership, the nation was quickly mobilized and took a myriad of con-

tainment measures in accordance with various epidemic situations. This made it possible for China to curb the spread of the virus and protect the lives and health of the Chinese people to the greatest extent.

## GOLD MEDAL FOR CHINA'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

When the COVID-19 pandemic continuously wreaked havoc across the world, China came into the global spotlight with the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics culminating with fruitful outcomes.

Under the leadership of Xi, China fulfilled its promise to deliver streamlined, safe and splendid Games to the world.

China's COVID-19 response policy has once again withstood the test, contributing useful experience for the world to battle the virus and host major international events, Xi said at a commendation gathering for the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics.

"As some foreign athletes said, if there were a gold medal for responding to the pandemic, then China would deserve it. I would say that this gold medal belongs to all the staff involved in hosting the Games," said Xi.

## CONTRIBUTING TO GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

In the strenuous fight against the virus, China has been committed to safeguarding people's lives and health. Meanwhile, it has taken due responsibility for the public health of the international community.

Under Xi's leadership, China initiated the country's largest global emergency humanitarian assistance since 1949. It sent medical experts and anti-virus materials around the globe. It provided over 2.2 billion doses of vaccines to more than 120 countries and international organizations.

Meeting with Xi in Beijing in February 2022, then Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan expressed gratitude to the Chinese side for helping his country fight COVID-19. "The vaccines offered by China have not only saved our people, but also our economy," he said.

Xinhua

Morocco helps negotiate release of German hostage in Mali

BERLIN

A German humanitarian worker held hostage in the Sahel for more than four-and-a-half years has been freed, his organisation said over the weekend.

Jorg Lange, 63, "can return to his family", said Bianca Kaltschmitt, director general of the NGO Help, thanking Germany's foreign ministry, criminal police and the authorities in Mali, Niger and other neighbouring countries for contributing to his release.

Lange was kidnapped by armed men riding motorcycles on April 11, 2018 near Ayorou in western Niger, in a region near the Malian border frequently hit by jihadist attacks.

His Nigerian driver was freed shortly afterwards, but according to German media Lange was sold to the Islamic State in the Greater Sahara group.

German weekly paper has reported that the Moroccan secret services' contacts with jihadist groups in the Sahel facilitated Lange's liberation, with the humanitarian worker repatriated on an army plane.

At least four Western hostages from France, the United States, Australia and Romania are still detained in the Sahel, according to a tally only covering cases made public by their entourage or governments.

Another German, priest Hans-Joachim Lohre, has been missing since late November and is widely thought to have been kidnapped, although no one has claimed responsibility.



**German weekly paper has reported that the Moroccan secret services' contacts with jihadist groups in the Sahel facilitated Lange's liberation, with the humanitarian worker repatriated on an army plane**

# WTO ruling against US tariffs lauded

By Liu Zhihua

THE World Trade Organization's ruling against the United States' Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum imports is a victory for multilateralism and shows the strong resilience of the multilateral trading system, according to experts.

The ruling, which decided that the tariffs imposed by the US do not qualify as a national security measure under WTO rules, is also of great significance in a world with growing protectionism, as some countries try to generalize the concept of national security for political purposes, they said.

In the adjudicating panel's ruling on four separate challenges released on Friday, the WTO said the US' measures were inconsistent with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 and cannot be justified under international trade rules. The challenges were made by China, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. The panel recommended that the US make its "WTO-inconsistent measures" conform with its obligations under the agreement on tariffs and trade.

The US levied duties of 25 percent on steel – 50 percent for steel imports from Turkey – and 10 percent on aluminum imports in 2018 under Section 232 of the US Trade Expansion Act of 1962, arguing that the measures were needed for national security purposes.

"Widely opposed by its trading partners, the US move, as a matter of fact, was out of unilateralism. It has set a terrible precedent of abusing the concept of national security for trade protectionism," said Zhao Hong, a professor at Pe-



Giant Juncao grass is reaped in Caomiao township, Dafeng district, Yancheng, east China's Jiangsu province. File photo

king University's Law School and former chairperson of the WTO Appellate Body.

"The WTO ruling... is a great victory against unilateralism, and can also be viewed as a special review on the abuse of national security content of WTO rules," she said.

Since 2018, a dozen cases filed for WTO dispute settlement have involved national security arguments, she said, adding that the panel reports have been crucial in clarifying national security exception provisions of WTO rules and determining the rights and obligations of WTO members in this regard.

Huo Jianguo, vice-chairman of the China Society for World Trade Organization Studies, also said the ruling was significant, adding that it reaffirmed

the authority of the organization in settling international trade disputes.

"The ruling has again showed multilateralism is still upheld by most countries. It is wrong for the US to generalize the concept of national security to disrupt normal economic activity of other countries," he said.

"Global trade rules under the multilateral trading system allow some special measures in cases of national security, but they usually refer only to wars, or other emergencies in international relations, and should not be generalized and abused," he said.

He also said the US cannot appeal the ruling to the WTO Appellate Body, due to its own actions. The US has repeatedly blocked nominations of

members to the appeals body, rendering it unable to hear any new cases.

A Ministry of Commerce spokesperson said on Saturday that China appreciates the objective and fair rulings of the WTO panel. China hopes that the US will respect the decision and WTO rules to correct its wrongful practices as soon as possible, and meet halfway with other WTO members, including China, to safeguard the multilateral trading system, the spokesperson said in a statement.

The US selectively imposed additional tariffs on steel and aluminum products from some WTO members under so-called national security concerns. The actions pursue unilateralism and protectionism, and severely damage the rules-based multilateral trading system, the spokesperson said.

Agencies

# EU fails to agree on 9th package of sanctions against Russia, says Borrell

BRUSSELS

EU members failed to agree on the ninth package of sanctions against Russia in time during a meeting in Brussels among top diplomats.

Disagreements do remain, therefore, the ministerial deliberations on the sanctions will be very difficult, EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said on Monday upon his arrival at the EU Council Meeting at the level of foreign ministers.

"This Council is going to be very long and difficult because we have on the agenda Iran, we have on the agenda sanctions against Russia, the ninth package, we are still not there, we haven't yet finished," he specified.

"When me and the President of the Commission [Ursula von der Leyen] announce the sanctions, we are just announcing proposals. We've said many times [that] it is the Council who decides, and the 27 ministers have different approaches," Borrell continued.

As for the timeframe of the decision, the top EU diplomat said that "maybe by the end of the day, but there are some questions to be still agreed [upon]". "Maybe tomorrow, but



I cannot say it will be easy," he concluded.

According to the idea of the European Commission, the ninth sanctions package should include up to 200 individuals, companies and organizations, including three banks, military-industrial complexes, in addition to energy and mining companies.

The EU also intends to prohibit the broadcasting of four Russian TV channels on its territory. The European Commission will not disclose the names of the companies until the sanctions in question are approved.

# Ugandan president says measures in place to avoid Ebola spread

KAMPALA

Ashes of Jiang Zemin scattered into the sea

BEIJING, Dec. 11 (Xinhua) -- The ashes of beloved Comrade Jiang Zemin were scattered into the sea at the estuary of the Yangtze River on Sunday, in accordance with the wishes of Jiang himself and his family.

Jiang passed away in Shanghai on Nov. 30 at the age of 96. He was cremated on Dec. 5 in Beijing. Entrusted by the

Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, Cai Qi, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and a member of the CPC Central Committee Secretariat, and other officials, Jiang's wife Wang Yeping and other relatives escorted Jiang's ashes to the sea. This was done in the most esteemed and solemn way to express the grief and cherish the memory of Jiang.

Jiang was hailed as an outstanding leader

enjoying high prestige acknowledged by the whole Party, the entire military and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups, a great Marxist, a great proletarian revolutionary, statesman, military strategist and diplomat, a long-tested communist fighter, and an outstanding leader of the great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics. He was the core of the Party's third generation of central collective leadership and the principal founder of the Theory of Three Represents. As a thor-



# SPORT



NANTES

## Tanzanian starlet Mvungi set to feature for Ligue 1 club

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA midfielder Omar Abbas Mvungi has become the first player from the East African country to sign for the Ligue 1 club after joining Nantes.

The young midfielder was snapped up by Nantes following successful trials with the club, joining from Czech second division side MFK Vyskov.

Mvungi was Tanzania's best player in their run to the Cecafta U17 final last year before losing to Uganda.

He has been compared to former Tanzania forward Kelvin John due to his wide strides and ability to take on people while possessing powerful shots.

According to information from France, the 18-year-old will be with the youth team of the squad for development.

Mvungi has expressed his happiness following the completion of the transfer by saying: "This is a very proud moment for me and my family. I am delighted to sign my first contract as a professional player with FC Nantes.

"It is a great honor to be in such a wonderful club. I want to thank everyone who has

participated to help make this happen. I am going through a long journey so far. I am eagerly waiting to start my duties."

Sports agency Rainbow Sports, which facilitated the deal, said the player has signed a long-term deal with the Canaries who had a poor first half of the season, winning just two games to sit 15th places on the Ligue 1 table with 13 points by the time the league took a break.

Mvungi is the eighth African player on the books of Nantes, joining Nigerian Moses Simon, Cameroon duo Jean-Charles Castelletto and Ignatius Ganago, Congolese Samuel Moutoussamy, Charles Traore from Mali, Egyptian Mostafa Mohamed, on loan from Galatasaray, and reserve player Adel Mahamoud from Comoros.

Nantes will return to Ligue 1 action against Lorient on December 21, but Mvungi will have to wait until January to be involved.

While in Tanzania, Mvungi was at the Cambiasso talent development centre before going to England and later to the Czech Republic where he played for MFK Vyskov, the side which many Tanzanian players have played for including Abdallah Shaibu alias 'Ninja'.

## SPORTS

## Intense battle for the title captures the imagination

By Lloyd Elipokea

IT can be rightly asserted that Young Africans (Yanga) and their formidable adversary Simba have undeniably ruled the roost in domestic football in recent seasons.

Indeed, after claiming the coveted top flight title for four straight seasons, Simba's hegemonic grip on the Premier League title was finally loosened tellingly by Yanga last season when the Jangwani street side secured the title to end their trophy drought.

Viewed against this backdrop then, it was always expected that we would witness a veritable battle royal for the league silverware between Simba and Yanga this season and this expectation has proven to be right on the money.

Excitingly though, Azam FC's recent red-hot form has also thrust the ice cream makers into the debate about which team could possibly be crowned league champions once the season has climaxed.

This means then that we are presently witnessing a ferocious three-horse race for the league crown with Simba, Yanga and Azam FC all in the running for the invaluable league trophy.

Pleasingly, this is a marked departure from the last five seasons when only the two most celebrated clubs of local football - Simba and Yanga - were calling the shots in the title race.

Indeed, it should be remembered that a more competitive national football league makes for a better national team, the Taifa Stars as a result.

Turning now to grim news, the local basketball fraternity has been plunged into mourning following the tragically



Azam FC

untimely demise of one of its most heroic figures, Saleh 'Big Zee' Zonga.

A former icon of the Pazi basketball club, Zonga's lifelong love affair with basketball saw him go on to occupy various leadership positions in the sport, including being the secretary-general of the Tanzania Basketball Federation (TBF) and the commissioner of Tanzanian basketball coaches, among others.

Indeed, the late Zonga was renowned for his tireless devotion to domestic basketball and he will be unquestionably feted for his many accomplishments forever.

Let us now switch our focus to the football World Cup in Qatar, which has reached the semi-final stage after some seemingly, thrill-a-minute quarterfinal clashes.

Indeed, in one such quarter-final face-off, Morocco upset giants Portugal 1-0 to set the pulses of African fans racing as it meant that an African team had sealed a spot in the semi-finals for the first time ever.

From an African standpoint, it seems crystal clear that one major lesson which can be drawn from the World Cup in Qatar is that, so-called immense giants can be slain with boldness, courage and of course, an iron will.

The fact that Cameroon got the better of mighty Brazil,

Tunisia edged out France, Saudi Arabia stunned Argentina and Japan upset Spain and Germany to boot, shows us that the possibilities of glorious success are endless.

In addition, these memorable giant-killing exploits clearly demonstrate that, the days of African teams quaking in their boots at the thought of facing the beautiful game's supposed juggernauts should be firmly relegated to the past.

One hopes then that African teams will be very much in the ascendency in 2026 when the World Cup will be jointly hosted by the USA, Canada and Mexico.

## TOC requests government to foot coaches' training expenses

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu, Morogoro

TANZANIA Olympic Committee (TOC) president Gulam Rashid has appealed to the government to foot expenses for local coaches' training outside the country to develop sports in the country.

Rashid stated so when he presided over the opening of the committee's Ordinary General Meeting in Morogoro last weekend.

The TOC official pointed out that Tanzania fails to stamp its authority in various international tournaments it takes part in because it lacks competent coaches.

Rashid noted sports associations and federations at the domestic level cannot meet expenses for coaches' training outside the country.

The leader, for that matter, asked the government to shoulder the costs in an effort to see to it the coaches have what it takes to competently coach teams and excel in various assignments.

Gulam pointed out that he, for instance, was sponsored by Zanzibar's government to attend football coaching training in the then East Germany.

The TOC leader revealed he later went for further training in the then West Germany, having been sponsored by his country's government.

The leader noted local outfits have lately been bringing in coaches for such sports like soccer and boxing from neighbouring countries of Burundi, Uganda, Kenya, and Rwanda because local coaches are lacking quality.

Filbert Bayi, who serves as TOC secretary-general, noted that a good number of sports federations have been wary of working hand in hand with players' commissions given the latter might demand fulfilment



Gulam Rashid

of players' rights.

Bayi moreover lamented the tendency by sports associations that have their officials participating in meetings organized by athletes' commissions instead of letting athletes turn up for the meetings.

The TOC official disclosed the recent meeting hosted by one of the athletes commissions in Morogoro, for one, had officials of the particular sport's body as participants instead of officials of the athletes' commission.

National Sports Council (NSC) secretary-general, Neema Msitha, and various officials had also attended the Ordinary General Meeting.

## Croatia v Argentina: Keys to the World Cup semi-final

DOHA, Qatar

CROATIA and Argentina face each other today at the Lusail Stadium with a place in the World Cup final at stake.

AFP Sport looks at some of the keys to the game.

### - Messi or Modric magic? -

The late-career evolution of Lionel Messi into a clever creator operating behind the front line has intensified at this World Cup.

He illustrated just how effective he can be with his superb defence-splitting pass to set up the opening goal in the quarter-final against the Netherlands.

Croatia are unlikely to put a specific man-marker on Messi, relying on what has been a solid defence and one of the best midfields in the tournament to gain the upper hand.

Marcelo Brozovic occupies the deepest defensive role in the Croat midfield trio and is likely to have the most work to do in nullifying Messi, 35, but Mateo Kovacic put in a strong defensive shift against Brazil and is likely to be asked for a repeat performance.

With the ball, Croatia have their own

diminutive veteran maestro in 37-year-old Luka Modric, whose ability to dictate the tempo, maintain possession and take his team forward into dangerous areas is fundamental for his country's hopes of reaching successive World Cup finals.

### - Croat resilience or tiredness? -

Just as four years ago in Russia, where Croatia won every knockout round game after extra-time -- twice on penalties -- before the final, Zlatko Dalic's team have shown a remarkable ability to grind out results beyond the 90 minutes.

Croatia conceded the first goal against both Japan and Brazil but came back to force the game into penalties and win.

Will that impressive mental strength prove to be decisive again or will those extended battles take a toll physically?

It will help Croatia that Argentina also had to go to penalties in their emotionally draining quarter-final win over the Netherlands and a crucial factor on Tuesday will be which team finds themselves fresher for the task.

### - Argentina's 12th man -

If there is one area in which Argentina can count on a clear advantage it is in the



Lionel Messi -



Luka Modric

stands, where more than 40,000 Argentine supporters vocally backed their team at the Lusail Stadium against the Dutch.

The atmosphere was such that the last-

eight clash was turned into a de facto home game for Argentina, with only a smattering of fans in orange in the stadium, which has a capacity of nearly 89,000.

It will almost certainly be the same story, at the same stadium, on Tuesday, with Croatia's much smaller group of followers drowned out by the songs and chants of the Argentine faithful.

Will that impact the game? Almost certainly. Plenty of studies have shown that playing in front of a supportive crowd does impact performance in a positive way.

### - A striking chance? -

With Messi in a deeper role, Argentina find themselves in the unusual position of not having an established world-class forward and that is also the case for Croatia.

Dalic started the semi-final against Brazil with Andrej Kramaric at centre-forward before Bruno Petkovic replaced him and went on to score the crucial equaliser.

Against the Dutch, Argentina started Manchester City's Julian Alvarez as their main striker with Inter Milan's Lautaro Martinez coming on for him and causing plenty of trouble in extra-time.

It will be interesting to see if either of those subs are given a start in the semi-final or whether they will again be asked to make an impact from the bench.

AFP



## After Neymar, Croatia aims to end Messi's World Cup dream

AL KHOR, Qatar

CROATIA has already ended Neymar's World Cup dream. Now it hopes to do the same to Lionel Messi.

Croatia, runner-up in 2018, is the next obstacle for Argentina to overcome today in the semifinals as Messi aims to win the one major trophy that has eluded him.

But Croatia, which lost to France in the final in Russia, is on its own mission to go one step further this time around.

"I don't think we need to fear anybody. We need to look at ourselves to play our best game," Croatia defender Josip Juranovic said Sunday. "I would say the secret of our success is our togetherness, our unity. The fact that we act and play as a family."

Neymar was left in tears after Croatia beat Brazil 4-2 on penalties following a 1-1 draw through extra time in their quarterfinal match.

Messi has been in inspired form during Argentina's run to the semifinals, scoring four goals in five games. His assist for Nahuel Molina against the Netherlands in the quarterfinals was a moment of magic from the seven-time Ballon d'Or winner.

Messi appears to have taken it on himself to lead his country to its third World Cup triumph and a first since 1986.

Argentina last reached the final in 2014 - losing 1-0 to Germany at the Maracana Stadium in Brazil. That was as close as Messi has come to lifting soccer's biggest trophy and he is just one game away from having another shot at it.

Croatia appears calm for now ahead of the game at Lusail Stadium.

"We don't have a specific plan, at least not yet, for stopping Lionel Messi," Croatia striker Bruno Petkovic said. "Usually we don't concentrate on just stopping one player but the whole team."

"The way we approach that is we need to stop them as a team. Not by man marking or some kind of similar tactics. Argentina is not only Messi."

One of Croatia's main strengths is a midfield led by Real Madrid star Luka Modric.

Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic described it as the best midfield in the world after beating Brazil, adding that it "paralyzed" Neymar and Brazil.

"I think Mateo (Kovacic), Luka (Modric) and Marcelo (Brozovic) are the best Croatian midfield in history," Juranovic added. "When you pass them the ball it's safer than having your money in the bank. Everything gets real easy when you play with them."

AP

## Argentina revel in 'home' support at World Cup

DOHA, Qatar

LIONEL Messi and Argentina's bid for a third World Cup crown is being boosted by hordes of travelling fans that have transformed each of their matches in Qatar into virtual home games.

Argentine football venues are renowned for their seething intensity - iconic Buenos Aires cauldrons such as the Bombonera or Monumental tremble with passionate ferocity.

Those kinds of scenes have been recreated regularly at Doha's Lusail Stadium, where tens of thousands of Argentine fans have created a raucous wall of blue-and-white-shirted sound.

Argentina have already played three games at the glittering 88,966-seat arena, where Messi and his team-mates will battle Croatia on Tuesday, aiming to book a place in the World Cup final.

After most Argentina games, the "Albiceleste" have lingered on the pitch long after the final whistle, sharing a moment of emotionally charged communion with their supporters.

"We like to take advantage of these moments with the people who are here and in Argentina, where everyone is euphoric," Messi said following Friday's quarterfinal win over the Netherlands.

According to the Argentine embassy in Qatar, between 35,000 and 40,000 fans have travelled to the World Cup to support the team, one of the largest contingents of overseas supporters at the tournament.

That sizeable support has been augmented by thousands of Qatar-based migrant workers from India and Bangladesh, where Messi and Argentina enjoy widespread support.

"Compared to France, Argentina aren't quite at the same level as a team - but they are a team who are benefiting from the support they have here," the Argentina-born former France striker David Trezeguet told AFP.

At the end of each of their victories at the World Cup, after joining supporters in post-match singing, Argentina's players will repeat the line that they are playing for "45 million" of their compatriots.

"What I do, I do for the 45 million. They are going through a bad

economic period. Giving people joy is the best thing that I can do at the moment," said Argentina goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez, the hero of Friday's penalty shootout won over the Netherlands.

- Economic hardships - Trezeguet believes the bond between Argentina's players and their supporters has been forged by the economic crisis battering the country, where inflation has skyrocketed.

"My first memories of the Argentina team were in Mexico in 1986. It was crazy back then, but nothing like as crazy as it is now," Trezeguet said. "The socio-economic situation in Argentina at the moment has made the support for the team more passionate than ever."

According to reports in the media, many of the fans who have travelled to Qatar have spent years saving up to make the trip, diligently converting their Argentine pesos into US dollars in order to avoid the ravages of inflation.

Others such as Beto, a fan in his 60s interviewed by AFP as he walked through Doha's Souq Waqif, have travelled to Qatar from the United States or elsewhere after emigrating overseas. The passion, however, remains as intense as ever.

"Even though I've lived in the United States for a long time, if you cut my wrist, I will bleed blue and white," Beto told AFP.

"We have an immense passion for football. We suffer a lot on a daily basis because there are problems in our country, the economy is not doing well. But football gives us this energy which allows us to go from nothing to everything."

That passion is evoked in two songs that have regularly reverberated around Qatar's stadiums when Argentina are playing - "Vamos Argentina" and "Muchachos", a de facto national anthem of the national team which name-checks Messi, Diego Maradona and the 1982 Falklands War between Argentina and Britain.

"Argentina is a complex, politically fractured country. There are few subjects that unite the country - but the Falklands and the football team do," said Edgardo Esteban, director of the Falklands Museum in Buenos Aires.

“

Even though I've lived in the United States for a long time, if you cut my wrist, I will bleed blue and white,

## Fans' wild World Cup fashion draws praise, scorn in Qatar

DOHA, Qatar

THE World Cup in Qatar has become a political lightning rod, so it comes as no surprise that soccer fans' sartorial style has sparked controversy.

Forget your classic soccer jerseys - the streets of Doha have been transformed into a chaotic runway show in terms of fashion.

Visitors from around the world are wearing revamped versions of traditional Gulf Arab headdresses and thobes. Western women have tried out hijabs. England fans have donned crusader costumes. The politically minded have made statements with rainbow accessories in Qatar, which criminalizes homosexuality.

Fan fashion has drawn everything from amusement to outrage from locals in the tiny Muslim emirate that has seen nothing remotely like the spectacle of the World Cup before.

The most popular style among foreign fans at this World Cup is the ghutra, the traditional head scarf worn by men across the Arabian Peninsula.

If photographed at a Halloween party back home in Cape Town, South Africa, 60-year-old Gavin Coetzee admits his wardrobe choice might seem ill-conceived - even cringe-worthy. He asked a tailor to stitch together four African flags into a ghutra and stereotypical Arabian thobe, the long flowing tunic that Qatari men wear in crisp white.

"I wouldn't wear this in a Western country," he said, referring to heightened cultural sensitivity there. But to his surprise, his costume has drawn elation and praise from locals in Qatar.

"It's been amazing. Everyone wants to take our photo, ask us where we're from, they're interested in why we put this outfit together," he said, alongside two friends wearing the same get-up.

The narrow alleys of Doha's central Souq Waqif teem with vendors hawkling ghutras in various national colors, from Brazil's bright blue, green and yellow to Mexico's tricolor red, white and green. The sellers iron and fold them to create a widow's peak effect, carefully fitting the cloth to fans' heads in the so-called cobra style of worn by Qataris.

"I wanted to immerse in the culture. It's fun to get to try new things," said 41-year-old Ricardo Palacios from Venezuela, wearing a red-and-white checked headdress. "Locals are in shock ... that someone wearing a Spanish shirt is wearing this."

## Modric and Croatia stand between Messi and World Cup final

AL KHOR, Qatar

LIONEL Messi and Argentina's World Cup dream remains alive but an indefatigable Croatia side inspired by the enduring brilliance of Luka Modric stands in their way in today's semi-final in Doha.

Argentina have recovered from the shock of losing their opening game in Qatar to Saudi Arabia and made the last four with an exhausting win on penalties against the Netherlands at the end of a frantic quarter-final on Friday.

Having been 2-0 up and cruising after 83 minutes, with Messi setting up one goal in sublime fashion and netting a penalty, they conceded twice late on and had to survive extra time before triumphing 4-3 in a shoot-out.

Backed by an enormous contingent of travelling supporters who have brought the passion, noise and colour of Argentina's own stadiums to this World Cup, Messi and his teammates are starting to believe this really could be their year.

"We have balls, passion, heart and we are doing this for 45 million people," said goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez, and Argentina's optimism now has only increased after seeing great rivals Brazil go out in the last round.

Now aged 35, this has been billed as Messi's last chance to win a World Cup, eight years on from Argentina's defeat in the final to Germany in Rio de Janeiro.

He is determined to seize the chance and has already scored his first two goals in the knockout rounds of any World Cup, netting



FILE - Croatia and Canada fans cheer ahead of the World Cup group F soccer match between Croatia and Canada, at the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha, Qatar, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022. At a World Cup that has become a political lightning rod, it comes as no surprise that soccer fans' sartorial style has sparked controversy. At the first World Cup in the Middle East, fans from around the world have refashioned traditional Gulf Arab headdresses and thobes. (AP photo)

Qataris' only complaint so far, Palacios added, is that "I don't know how to do it right." He said locals stop him in the street, restyling his headgear so it looks the way it should. Similar videos have been widely shared on social media.

Qatari citizen Naji al-Naimi, a board member of Majlis al-Dama, a lively hub of coffee and backgammon in Doha's outdoor marketplace, said the scores of international fans wearing his national dress don't bother him in the least. Instead, he finds the trend endearing. He compared it to citizens of the Arabian Peninsula wearing jeans or suits when traveling in Europe.

"We're always trying to adjust and appeal to the customs and traditions of the host country," he said. Among non-Muslim visitors, even the hijab, the traditional Muslim headscarf showing piety to Allah, has emerged as trendy World Cup wear. Online videos show foreign women on the streets of Doha donning colorful headscarves, exclaiming how secure and cute they feel.

Qatari-funded broadcaster Al Jazeera published a video last week showing a woman off-camera wrap hijabs around female fans she encountered in the street.

"Amazing!" shrieked one Brazil fan. Qatar's local population hasn't taken kindly to other outfits, particularly England fans' caped crusad-

er costumes. The outfits, featuring a suit of chainmail armor, plastic helmet and shield emblazoned with an upright cross, are a nod to the Christian conquests of the Holy Land from the 11th to 13th centuries that pitted European invaders against Muslims.

Footage circulating on Twitter showed Qatari security turning away fans dressed as crusaders before the England-Iran match in the tournament's group stage. Others reported they were asked to surrender their costumes before England played the United States a few days later.

"What is so painful is to see some visitors in our country praising the glories of Crusader Europe, which disgraced the honor of all Muslims," said Ashraf al-Khadeer, a 33-year-old Qatari citizen in Doha.

But the biggest flashpoint at the tournament so far has been rainbow clothing and other multicolored accessories as Qatar's criminalization of homosexuality triggered a storm of criticism. After FIFA threatened European teams wearing "One Love" armbands with in-game discipline, some fans have taken it upon themselves to show solidarity with the LGBTQ community.

Days after fans complained they were blocked from stadiums because of rainbow attire, FIFA of-

fered assurances that Qatari security would allow the items into matches. The rule has been unevenly enforced.

To avoid the hassle, a French advertising agency has promoted World Cup armbands printed with black-and-white Pantone cards that identify rainbow colors with numbers. Others have gone to extremes, such as the protester who stormed the field with a rainbow flag during the match between Portugal and Uruguay before being tackled by a steward.

More broadly, the question of what to wear at the World Cup in Qatar, a conservative Muslim emirate, has sparked anxiety for female fans long before the tournament kicked off.

Fan groups circulated advice for newcomers, discouraging women from wearing shorts and short-sleeved shirts. The government-run tourism website asks visitors to "show respect for local culture by avoiding excessively revealing clothing," and recommends men and women cover their shoulders and knees.

So when Ivana Knöll, an Instagram model and former Croatian beauty queen, showed up to stadiums this week wearing a minidress that exposed much of her chest, some feared an international incident. But Knöll said she felt comfortable and that locals assured her she could wear whatever she wanted.

AP

against Australia in the last 16 before his penalty against the Dutch.

World Cup glory would complete a wonderful career for the seven-time Ballon d'Or winner, who is possibly the greatest club player ever.

After years of being unfulfilled at international level he inspired Argentina to victory at last year's Copa America, but he knows there are no more dogged or durable opponents than Croatia.

After all, any sense of relief at avoiding having to play Brazil in the last four will be tempered by the prospect of facing a Croatian side who knocked out the favourites on penalties and never know when they are beaten.

"They are a great team who matched up to Brazil and at times were much better," admitted Messi.

"They have good players across the whole midfield and they have been working with the same coach since the last World Cup, so they all know each other very well."

- "Safer than money in the bank" -

Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni switched to a five-man defence against the Netherlands as he brought Lisandro Martinez into his line-up.

But the midfield is always key against Croatia, with Modric still controlling games at 37 and Marcelo Brozovic and Mateo Kovacic completing a formidable trio.

After reaching the final four years ago, Croatia have beaten Japan and Brazil on penalties to make the semis here.

They have gone to extra time in eight of their last nine major tournament knockout matches and the nation of just four million people has nothing to lose as they eye a place in the final against France or Morocco.

And in Modric they have a master, the 2018 Ballon d'Or winner who starred as Croatia beat Argentina 3-0 in the group stage four years ago.

"I think Mateo, Luka and Marcelo are the best midfield in history. When you pass them the ball, it is

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Modric and Croatia stand between  
Messi and World Cup final

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Center (SKLPSC) cricket squad in a group picture during a 2022 Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield showdown's previous match that took place in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: COURTESY OF GYMKHANA CLUB

## Shree Kutchi Leva cricketers compound GP's woes in 2022 Gymkhana Shield showdown

By Guardian Reporter

SHREE Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Center (SKLPSC) cricketers have expressed desire to turn into serious contenders in 2022 Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield showpiece after cruising to 83-run drubbing of GP in Group A match that took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

The match's eventual winners are, as a result, placed second in Group A trailing group leaders Caravans Cricket Club.

The top-order batsmen were in great shape when SKLPSC locked horns with GP, ensuring their outfit makes the most of its innings.

The SKLPSC went on to score 173/7 in 20 overs once the side got the chance to bat first with opening bats-

men Dinesh Rabadiya and Omary Hilal exhibiting their efficiency.

Rabadiya's aggressiveness was in view given the opener was two runs short of half-century, and fellow opener Hilal mercilessly cracked balls to notch 44 runs.

Alishihab Bukhari that is also one of reliable cricketers in the SKLPSC kept on giving the club an upper hand with his impressive batting.

The batsman, who laid his hands on the bat after 9.2 overs, put solid knocks to show to ultimately score 34 runs.

After several early dismissals which slightly affected efforts by SKLPSC to ends innings with a bigger score, experienced all-rounder Khalil Rehemtulla somewhat improved the total with his 15 runs.

Skipper Naran Vekariya was one of the victims of the early exits, having been trapped for leg before wicket by GP's Talha Sayed and leaving with a run to his name.

Sayed, Dharminder Singh, and Wahid Hussain took one wicket each when GP fielded.

Recording 174 runs from 20 overs to emerge victorious turned out to be a tall order for GP cricketers that were bowled out for 90 runs in 18.3 overs.

There were some hope in the early stages thanks to good knocks put to show by Saqib Ul Hassan and Sajjad Ali.

A batting collapse that was in view once top-order batsman Sarfaraz Tare was sent back to the pavilion later frustrated GP's chase.

Hassan was in the end the top run-getter for the GP given the cricketer made his way back to the pavilion with 31 runs.

Ali chipped in with 11 runs, exiting the crease once he was dismissed by SKLPSC's Vekariya.

Much as Tare sought to have GP keep on piling runs, his efforts ended in vain considering the cricketer ended notching 17 runs.

Vipul Pindoria and spinner Athuman Siwa deployed tricky bowling and had SKLPSC thwarting GP's chase.

Vipul had impressive bowling figure given the player had a four-wicket haul, giving away six runs in 3.3 overs.

He was ably assisted by Siwa with the latter making matters worse for GP with his three wickets in four overs.

Vipul was voted as the Player of the Match thanks to his bowling prowess which had the player ending with four wickets.

Pak Stars is lately positioned third in Group A as the team managed to notch one win and one loss.

Much as it is level with Pak Stars, as far as win and loss are concerned, Gymkhana is sitting fourth having recorded an inferior net run rate. GP and Union SC are sitting fifth and sixth respectively in the group.

The outfits battling it out in this season's Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield showdown have been placed in groups A and B.

Group A consists of Caravans Cricket Club, GP, Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Center (SKLPSC), Pak Stars, Union Sports Club, and Gymkhana Cricket Club.

Aruti Aces, Upanga Sports Club, Aga Khan SC, Annadil Burhani Club, Dar Cricket Club (DCC), and Lions Cricket Club have been put in Group B.

The 2022 edition is sponsored by Cello/Ruby's Magic and Co, as well as long-time sponsors, General Petroleum (GP). Other sponsors are Planet Fitness, Gem Point, ETG, and Pepsi.

## Yanga boss Kaze explains squad rotation in Kurugenzi win

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans (Yanga) assistant coach Cedric Kaze said he is happy to have more options after making eight changes in the 8-0 win over Kurugenzi on Sunday.

The defending champions have played three games a week for the vast majority of the 2022/23 campaign so far with largely the same group of players.

The in-form Feisal Salum, Fiston Mayeye, Aucho Khalid, Yannick Bangala, Dickson Job, Kibwana Shomari and Joyce Lomalisa were rested while Djigui Diarra and Tuisila Kisinda were both unused substitutes in their match against Kurugenzi.

Kaze (pictured) was pleased to see other squad players take their chances in the huge Federation Cup round of 64 match in order to give the club's bigger names a rest ahead of Saturday's league game at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium against Polisi Tanzania.

Kaze explained the decision after the game. He said: "We have progressed from this round, we have scored many goals. I think it is a good thing for the players to build confidence and momentum towards the next game of the second round of the league. We believe it will give us a good way to build on towards the Polisi Tanzania match in the first game of the second round on Saturday.

"We have played many matches since October. There are players who have been used a lot and we also believe that the squad players have good quality but you find that they do not get playing time, so they have had an opportunity to build their confidence for the upcoming matches. We believe they got a chance and they used it well.

"I am satisfied with the goals but I can say that our performance was not consistently good. I believe we could have played better than we did, but the important thing is that we have progressed from this round and we are going to prepare for the next matches."

Kaze also praised young striker Clement Mzize who scored four goals in the first half including two quick ones inside the opening ten minutes.

"The game had many crosses and Clement had good movements inside the box, making runs behind the defenders. He was always in the right place at the right time.

"I think he scored more than three goals, I am not sure if the second goal was awarded to him or it was an own goal. It is a good thing, it builds his confidence and also increases our options for the upcoming matches."



TO NIGHT @ 9:00

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Mpera Mpera  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
14:00 SPORTS (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
16:00 Hot Spot  
16:30 Zote Kuntu  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kali Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 MJADALA  
21:30 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa  
23:05 Club Bangers

**MJADALA** is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM

DAR ES SALAAM

## CAF Draw: Simba and Yanga discover group stage opponents



By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC and Young Africans (Yanga) have learned their CAF Champions League and Confederation Cup group stage opponents following the draw conducted in Cairo yesterday.

The CAF Champions League draw was done by Flavio Amado, who was voted best player in the Champions League in 2001 with Petro Atletico of Angola and three times winner of the same trophy with Egyptian giants Al Ahly (2005, 2006 and 2008).

Tanzanian giants Simba SC are in Group C alongside Raja Casablanca of Morocco, Horoya of Guinea and Vipers of Uganda.

Simba have never faced these opponents while the tie with Vipers represent a great trip for the supporters due to proximity between Kampala and Dar.

Group A has defending champions Wydad of Morocco, Petro de Luanda of Angola, JS Kabylie of Algeria and AS Vita of DR Congo.

Al Hilal of Sudan, Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa, Al Ahly of Egypt and Coton Sports of Cameroon are in Group B.

Group D is completed by Zamalek of Egypt, Al Merrikh of Sudan, CR Belouizdad of Algeria and Esperance of Tunisia.

Simba started their continental campaign this season with a 4-0 aggregate victory against Nyasa Big Bullets of Malawi. To book a place in the CAF Champions League Group stage, Msimbazi Reds saw off Angola's Primeiro de Agosto with a 4-1 aggregate victory.

Last season, Simba managed to reach the quarter-finals, but lost in a penalty shoot-out against Orlando Pirates of South Africa - who went all the way to the finals before losing to RS Berkane of Morocco.

On the other side, the Confederation Cup draw was conducted by former Zambian striker Christopher Katongo who won the Africa Cup of Nations with the Chipolopolo in 2012.

Young Africans - after dropping from the CAF Champions League with a 2-1 aggregate defeat against Al Hilal of Sudan - managed to see off Club Africain of Tunisia in the second preliminary round to qualify for the group stage for the first time since 2018.

They now find themselves up against TP Mazembe of DR Congo, US Monastir of Tunisia and Real Bamako of Mali in Group D.

The meeting with TP Mazembe is a rerun of 2015/16 group stage ties and presents the perfect opportunity to avenge the home and away defeat to the Congolese side.

US Monastir and Real Bamako represent first-time opponents for Young Africans.

**CAF Confederation Group A** has USM Alger (Algeria), Marumo Gallants (South Africa), Al Akhdar SC (Libya), and Éloi Lupo (DR Congo).

**Group B** has Asec Mimosas (Côte d'Ivoire), DC Motema Pembe (DR Congo), Diables Noirs (Congo), and Rivers United (Nigeria).

**Group C** has ASKO de Kara (Togo), Pyramids FC (Egypt), Future FC (Egypt) and AS-FAR Club (Morocco).

The group stage, which will start in February 2023, will be played on a home-and-away round-robin basis.

The winners and runners-up of each group will advance to the quarter-finals of the knock-out stage.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

