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**Guardian BUSINESS** Intra-African trade up by 7.2pc in 2023, report finds

**Figure 6.1: Contribution of the five regions to intra-African trade (%)**

Source: International Monetary Fund, Director of Trade Statistics, AfriForum Research

**TGNP crusading for gender-based budget**

**Activated cable boosts Tanzania's internet speed**

**Foreigners record 0.5bn/- weekly net outflows on DSE**

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# Tourism levy: RAS takes up consultations



By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

**D**EMANDS to restructure the tourism service levy imposed by local authorities took a turn at the weekend with a meeting between the Tanzania Tour Operators Association (TATO) and the regional authorities.

TATO members are calling for the service levy to be collected net of third party payments, which TATO's lawyer Mwasiti Mshahara, explained that it largely comprises payments to the government.

David Lyamongi, the acting Arusha regional administrative secretary, chaired a meeting that was earlier postponed between the two sides, where TATO demanded that he issue an immediate notice suspending the collection of the contentious service levy until an accord is reached.

In response, the regional administrator promised to consult the regional leadership on the matter as well as ministerial authorities and deliver the response or result accordingly.

The call for centralising the payments mode for levies brought TATO members over the weekend to attend a shelved meeting with the regional secretariat to discuss the issue.

While the promise issued by the acting RAS implied that the government had taken

L-R (front row): Head of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Tanzania, Shabnam Mallick; Culture, Arts and Sports ministry permanent secretary Gerson Msigwa; and India's Deputy High Commissioner to Tanzania, Manoj B. Verma take part in an International Yoga Day (June 21) commemorative event in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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## Guinea-Bissau leader inspects major garments supplier for US

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Umaro Sissoco Embaló of Guinea Bissau, on the last stages of his three day official visit, at the weekend visited the jeans factory operated by an Asian firm, the Tanzania Tooku Garments, part of Roo Hsing Co., Ltd. a Taiwan-based firm exporting garments to the United States.

The visiting leader inspected activities of the firm, being briefed on its sales business and expressing satisfaction with its level of efficiency.

"This gives the message that Africa can achieve its goals through EPZ and SEZ programmes," he said, accompanied by EPZA director general Charles Itembe, who said export processing

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## Father, three children die in Arusha inferno

By Marc Nkwame, Arusha

A father and his three children have died following a fire that erupted at their house at Sakina in this city at dawn on Saturday.

Zuberi Hassan Msemo, an employee of Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), died alongside his two daughters and a son after a notebook computer which was reportedly left connected to a socket for charging overnight exploded.

Police said that the TANAPA official was rushed to Mount Meru regional hospital after the incident but lost his life hours later, while medical experts say the cause of death was suffocation from thick smoke.

It spread out from the fire outbreak enveloping the

house as occupants of the house were fast asleep, with residents attributing the fire to switching power on and off intermittently, bringing about a short circuit disaster.

A fire and rescue force team arrived late on the scene, and helped to evacuate people from the house to take them to hospital, while the police and neighbours identified the dead as daughters Mariam and Salma, as well as son Bisma, apart from their father.

Police said that there were 11 people in the house, with eight others badly injured with burns, including the mother of the children, Jasmin Khatibu Msuya and her baby, Firdaus, admitted to hospital.

Others are Mariam Mussa Zerawanga, who is late Zuberi's mother, as well as his

brother Musa and sister Mwanaidi. There was also Abdulkarim Ramadhan Mrindoko, a nephew and Esther, the house servant.

A lady in the neighbourhood said she took the first child to Levolosi Hospital but the medical staff failed to provide first aid to the youngsters as they could not identify them and place their cases on a register.

The neighbour was not familiar with the names of the children and thus could not register their names, she said, wondering why they couldn't just attend to them and save lives.

"Names aren't important in such situations," the neighbour emphasized, meanwhile at the patients were referred to the regional hospital for urgent care.

## CCM, CPC see brighter Sino-Tanzania relations

By Henry Mwangonde

CCM and the Communist Party of China (CPC) have expressed optimism about the future of Sino-Tanzania ties amidst global changes, with intent to elevate bilateral cooperation to new heights.

Dr Emmanuel Nchimbi,

the party secretary general, exhibited this optimism after exchange of views with Tang Dengjie, a CPC central committee member who paid him a courtesy call at the CCM sub-headquarters in Dar es Salaam at the weekend.

Underscoring enduring and mutually beneficial relation-

ship between the two parties, the meeting was a notable event in the CCM calendar with an official three-day visit by the senior Chinese official, the party secretary for the northern Shanxi Province,

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**AIRTEL TANZANIA TRANSFORMS CONNECTIVITY WITH THE 2AFRICA CABLE**

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, with the Group CEO of Airtel Africa Segun Ogunsumay (second left), during the launch of 2Africa Cable Landing Station. With H.E. Minister for Information, Communication, and Information Technology Hon. Nape Nnauye.

Airtel Tanzania has unveiled the largest submarine cable to deliver high-speed internet, low latency, and expanded bandwidth internet services across the country.

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## CCM, CPC see brighter Sino-Tanzania relations

FROM PAGE 1

and chairman of China Atomic Energy Authority, who lately led a delegation to the 61st International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) general conference held in the Austrian capital of Vienna.

While China has significant investments in the country with an estimated 260 projects in various sectors and arguably the biggest source of substantial foreign investments, the visit indicates interest in the country's emerging critical minerals sub-sector, observers noted.

China is a leading source of critical minerals and leads the major economies in exports of batteries, in which case Tanzania has something to learn from its experience, especially in the area of adding value to minerals, a key policy orientation, they said.

Dr Nchimbi lauded the long-standing friendship between Tanzania and China, underpinned by revolutionary traditions of CCM and CPC, enabling the strategic ties to be strengthened across six decades of diplomatic relations.

He referred to ideological, political, economic and social principles guiding this partnership, seeing it as a role model across Africa and in the wider world.

"CCM and CPC share a fraternal friendship that has evolved into a solid foundation for fostering economic interaction and investment openings thus enhancing the welfare of our people," he stated.

The meeting was a continuation of discussions since high-level engagements arising from the visit to China by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in November 2022, where 15 agreements were signed in vari-

ous spheres of cooperation.

At that time the bilateral relationship was elevated to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership, a situation indicated by the fact that when President Xi Jinping took office early 2013, Tanzania was the first country he visited, and when he was sworn in again late 2022, President Samia was the first foreign leader to make a state visit after inauguration.

Successful collaboration is visible in construction, health, tourism, agriculture, medicine, trade and private investments, with Chinese investments widening in the country's burgeoning markets and regional trade regimes.

In response, the visiting central committee member reaffirmed China's commitment to deepening bilateral ties and supporting initiatives that benefit both countries and their people.

"The 60 years of diplomatic relations between China and Tanzania stand as a testament to our enduring friendship and mutual respect," he said, pointing at the robust economic cooperation between the two countries, as China has been Tanzania's top trading partner for eight consecutive years.

In 2023, bilateral trade stood at \$8.78 billion, a 5.66 percent increase from the preceding year, he said, pointing at the historical context of the Tanzania-Zambia Railway (TAZARA).

It is a symbol of enduring Sino-African friendship, highlighting its role in enhancing connectivity of independent states in the 1970s and regional development as a whole, he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa and Zanzibar Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdullah (2nd-R) pictured in Dar es Salaam on Saturday pressing remote controls to launch the 2022 Demographic, Social, Economic and Environment Reports as well as the Building Report. The reports are based on Tanzania's sixth post-independence Population and Housing Census held in August 2022. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

## Guinea-Bissau leader inspects major garments supplier for US

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zones business had attracted 5.2trn/- (\$2bn) capital during the past ten years.

It has registered an accumulated 6.5trn/- (\$2.5bn) in export earnings, with the work being housed mainly at the Benjamin William Mkaapa Special Economic Zone (BWM-SEZ).

"The EPZA success story in attracting capital and increased export earnings is largely due to the government's efforts to create an

enabling investment environment," he stated.

EPZA has registered more than 250 factories in different sectors, creating upwards of 60,000 direct jobs and an estimated 100,000 indirect jobs in agriculture, mineral processing, packaging, meat and wood products, he said.

The area has 21 buildings all being used by processors, with more than 4,500 local people directly employed while 8,600 are indirectly employed.

BWM-SEZ has attracted

\$51.9m in capital, exported \$160.8m worth of goods and procured goods and services worth \$82.9m in the local market, with agro processing, smart cards, coffee and textile being the main beneficiaries, he elaborated.

EPZA focuses at attracting investments through setting up public and private sector zones, featuring amenities required by potential investors, creating a promising environment for enterprise growth and prosperity, he said.

BWM-SEZ is among key

government initiatives to make the country attain semi-industrialised status, with the main activities being garments, agro-processing, engineering and technology investments he further noted.

He explained to the visiting leader that the overall industrial development strategy is to leverage the natural advantage of being a maritime nation having a strategic geo-location as a natural international trade gateway for several hinterland countries.

"EPZA is well placed to offer a wide range of investor support services under one roof in the one stop service centre, he said, highlighting that it provides services such as investment guidance and comprehensive information on such zones.

BWM-SEZ facilitates investors to get factory space or serviced land within or outside existing industrial/commercial parks, as well as company registration, administrative procedures for tax incentives, visas and work permits, he added.



Bank of Tanzania governor Emmanuel Tutuba (C) has an audience with Oluseyi Kumapayi (L), Executive Director of the African subsidiaries of Nigeria-based Access Bank, at the BoT offices in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. With them is one of the central bank's deputy governors, Sauda Kassim Msemu. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## UN official warns of escalating refugee crisis in the Horn of Africa amid Sudan conflict

JUBA

THE United Nations refugee agency on Thursday warned that the conflict raging in Sudan is likely to worsen the refugee crisis in the Horn of Africa region.

The fight between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has pushed refugees to as far as Kenya and Uganda, said Mamadou Dian Balde, regional director for the East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes region at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Now some of the refugees are passing through South Sudan and going up to Uganda, and some refugees are even reaching Europe, Balde said.

He called for an end to the protracted conflict in Sudan and the restoration of regional stability, noting that the conflict has led to nearly 10 million refugees and internally displaced persons.

In addition, the UN official said that around two million Sudanese

citizens are being hosted in neighboring countries including South Sudan, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, the Central African Republic, Libya, and Uganda.

"In South Sudan, we have 700,000 people who have come up here; of these, 550,000 are South Sudanese citizens who had been living in Sudan, and about 150,000 are Sudanese who have come here, and there are already a large number of refugees who were here prior to this conflict," Balde said.

He added that during his two-day visit to the Renk transit center in Upper Nile State and to a refugee camp in South Sudan, he came across newly arriving refugees and South Sudanese who were returning home.

A lot of support is required for their reintegration, including the improvement of access to basic amenities like health services, education, and water for the returnees in South Sudan so that they may integrate themselves into society, Balde said.

## Tourism levy: RAS takes up consultations

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up the tour operators' plea there was no indication of readiness for policy review at the regional or ministerial level as yet that had come to the notice of the petitioners of other stakeholders.

Tour operators had on April 4 notified the regional authorities of their intention to cease collecting tourist entry and concession fees for district authorities, citing equity and procedural concerns.

This initiative arose from mounting frustration over what they perceive to be an excessive service levy pegged at 0.3 percent of annual turnover, stifling the tour operators' profit margin.

"To address this injustice, TATO members have decided that for a more efficient approach from 1st July the major tourism agencies of TANAPA, NCAA and TAWA directly collect payments from the tourists," the letter had stated, asking a wide section of the

public.

"By doing so, we can streamline the process and reduce this administrative burden on TATO members," they suggested, affirming that if the government does not address this issue, TATO members will simply cease to collect entry fees for the district authorities.

TATO is acting as the tourism high season commences, asking the regional authorities to instruct local authorities to cease collecting the service levies on tour vehicles until

a mutual agreement can be reached.

Wilbard Chambulo, the TATO chairman, raised the matter with the Regional Administration and Local Governments ministry in the President's Office (PO-RALG) to issue such directive, but it appears the matter was still being handled at the regional level.

Tour operators say that local authorities in northern Tanzania com-

pete with one another in placing barriers for charging tourist vehicles on their way to Manyara, Tarangire and Serengeti national parks, plus the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

Tour vans in the northern tourism circuit stop at each barrier, paying service levies at multiple points while on transit, to which operators are crying foul. They assert that they are unfairly charged and numerous barriers along the way

discourage visitations as they unfairly rob the tourists of vital game viewing time.

"Imagine, from the Kilimanjaro International Airport, we have been compelled to pay service levies to district councils of Hai, Meru, Arusha, Arusha City, Monduli, Longido, Karatu, Ngorongoro and Serengeti," he stated.

The 300 plus TATO members advocate streamlining service levy collection to save time, contesting the decentralized approach where each dis-

trict collects taxes by methods it designs.

Instead, they want tax collection by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) through the regional secretariat directly, not numerous transit barriers.

This harmonized approach would alleviate stress for the industry, sparing it from inconveniences from officials who lack tourism customer care requirements, apart from the transaction counts in their annual turnover, he added.



## Its 'historic moment' for TPA as huge ship docks at Dar port

By Guardian Reporter

THE Port of Dar es Salaam yesterday received a cargo vessel with length of 294.1 metres and capable of carrying 4,000 containers, describing it as a historic moment for the port after huge investment in its infrastructure.

General Cargo Manager at the port Gallus Abed told reporters that the arrival of the cargo ship MSC ADU -V was a testimony that the investment injected into the port has started to pay off since big vessels now access it easily.

"The last big cargo vessel we received had the length of 267 metres," he said.

According to him, the Port of Dar es Salaam was capable of receiving ships with length of more than 305 metres, thanks to recent expansion works.

Before expansion, the port's depth was between 8 and 12.7 metres but now it has been increased to 14.5 metres. This depth allows any vessel with length of 305 to docks," he said. He commended steps being taken by the government to improve the port infrastructure, including the increase of depth. He said one of the advantages of receiving big cargo vessels is reduced costs of transporting cargo which gives relief to importers hence making the port competitive.

"Unloading containers from the ship has been improved steadily whereby 800 containers can be handled in 24 hours. We expect the arrived ship will unload cargo and leave our port in only five days," he said.

Abed said the port is among six ports under TPA whereby 95 percent of cargo passes through it and the remaining five percent is shared by other ports.

"We are now improving infrastructure of Mtwara and Tanga ports, including purchase of new and modern equipment to support the Port of Dar es Salaam.

DP World operates berths 4, 5, 6 and 7. TPA and DP World jointly operate berths 1, 2 and 3. Adani International Ports Holding Limited from India operates berths 8, 9, 10 and 11. It operates berths that were formerly operated by Tanzania International Containers Services (TICTS) whose contract expired.



Minerals minister Antony Mavunde addresses artisanal miners at Wisolele village in Msalala council, Kahama District, on Saturday. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

## Alarm as pesticide-resistant pests wreak havoc on farms

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AGRICULTURE experts have raised alarm that most harmful insects and pests affecting crops in the country have developed resistance to pesticides.

Prof Andrew Temu, Board Chairman of the Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticides Authority (TPHPA) said here at the weekend that there has also been resurgence of new types of mites, aphids, scale insects

and caterpillars that have developed new coats against chemicals.

"We believe that this resistance is brought about by excessive use or misuse of pesticides by farmers," he said while addressing the first plant health and pesticides stakeholders meeting in the Ngaramtoni section of Arumeru.

Prof Temu pointed out that this new negative development was threatening food security and cash crop production in the country,

thus calling for rapid intervention.

Most agriculture experts attending the meeting proposed the use of organic fertilizers and plant-based environmental-friendly insecticides.

Meanwhile, Tanzania mulls the deployment of artificial intelligence in the country's farming sector to execute what is being described as 'precise agriculture.' "We may use artificial intelligence in churning out big data examinations, plant DNA identification and accurate weather

prediction which includes capturing satellite images and digital analysis," said the TPHPA official.

Prof Joseph Ndunguru, Director General of Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticides Authority, said that there are no substitute inputs to replace the banned pesticides and this vacuum created a loophole for emerging pests and insects.

Prof Nduguru also said that the influx of substandard and counterfeit agricultural inputs such as seeds, pes-

ticides and fertilizers, including those that have long expired, were among the problems facing agriculture in Tanzania.

"We are thus compelled to conduct regular trainings and awareness raising sessions among farmers on how they can identify such harmful products," he said.

Arumeru District Commissioner Emanuella Kaganda who represented Minister for Agriculture directed crop and soil experts to convene and

find solutions to emerging challenges facing agriculture sector in Tanzania.

She pointed out that by the year 2030, Tanzania will need more than 20 million tonnes of food for the country's population, a noticeable increase from the current 16 million tonnes.

Operating from Arusha, TPHPA complies with requirements of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) on sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

## Balloon safari flights start at Tarangire National Park

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

SERENGETI Balloon Safaris has performed its inaugural flight over the Tarangire National Park, marking the rollout of its services at the park.

The maiden voyage delighted 22 guests as they soared in two balloons from the launch site at the northwestern corner of the Silale swamp, traversed the ridge and glided over the verdant Tarangire valley.

"The experience culminated in a "Out of Africa" breakfast elegantly served under an acacia tree" said one of tourists, Claire Warner.

Renowned for its diverse wildlife and exceptional birdlife, Tarangire National Park presents an enticing alternative to the Serengeti.

This first flight showcased the park's unique charm and potential as a premier balloon safari destination.

"Climbing to approximately 800 feet, our guests enjoyed sweeping views over the woodland expanse while our team scouted potential landing zones," said Paschal kirigiti, one of the organizers.

On descent over the western side of the ridge, tourists had sightings as they drifted into the open areas near the Tarangire River. Wildlife sightings included elephants, buffalo, porcupines, waterbucks, bushbucks, white-headed vultures, hornbills, African green parrots and reedbucks, Kirigiti said.

Both balloons touched down at a serene open area adorned with baobab trees near the river, navigating a smooth 2-knot landing.

Guests were treated to a breakfast beneath a tree to the east of the river, following a celebratory champagne toast near the landing site. "The new route over Tarangire highlights our commitment to innovation. This addition marks the fourth national park in our flight repertoire, joining Serengeti year-round across the park following migration patterns, NCA from December to March and Ruaha from June to October," he said.

With the increasing number of safari-goers focusing their explorations around Tarangire, Manyara and Ngorongoro, guests can now seamlessly include a magical balloon safari within Tarangire.



Waziri Nyoni, Director of the John Hopkins Centre for Communication Programmes, makes a presentation at a conference for health ministers from East, Central and southern African countries held in Arusha at the weekend. Participants underscored the need to direct resources into efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Majaliwa unveils analysed basic demographic results

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has launched the third phase of the Publication on Basic Demographic and Socio-economic Profile report comprising six analysed, published and disseminated results.

The documents launched are the Tanzania Basic Demographic, Socioeconomic Profile, Tanzania Building Census

2022, policy briefs and brochures.

Speaking at the launch in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, the PM said the launch makes a total of 17 reports launched so far.

During the event, the premier issued six directives to ministries, local government authorities and other organisations to use the reports in their development planning.

"Census report is a basic requirement especially in this era where there are a number of emerging development matters aimed at responding to needs," he said.

He said the analysed, published and disseminated results should be used effectively to solve challenges affecting communities in various areas, calling on civil society organisations to also use the results

in their strategic plans.

He called on the academia and researchers in the country to use the results when making publications, adding that the public reports are important for creating awareness to the society.

Citing one of the recorded successes, Majaliwa said there is increase in the number of households using clean cooking energy from 0.9 percent in

2012 to 9.4 percent in 2022 and the drop of number of those using firewood from 68.5 percent in 2012 to 55.5 percent in 2022.

Hemed Suleiman Abdulla, Second Vice President of Zanzibar, said the results will give solutions to several development issues in the country and help reduce the loss of revenues to the government.

Zanzibar Finance and Plan-

ning Minister Dr Saada Mkuya assured the public that property tax collected through electricity bill will not be a problem.

"We have improved database of properties across the country to enable the government to collect taxes without disturbance to payers," she said.

Mark Schreiner, United Nations Population Fund (UNF-

PA) Country Representative and UN Resident Coordinator, said the importance of sharing census results with the public is not complete until the data collected is published, disseminated and made available to potential users.

He said that population data and projections are critical in guiding government investment and planning.



# Dodoma to host NaneNane for three consecutive years

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DODOMA is schedule to host the national farmers, livestock keepers, and fishermen's exhibition (NaneNane) for three consecutive years, starting this year.

Dodoma district commissioner Jabir Shekimwari made the remarks here yesterday, saying preparations to host the annual event for that period are at high levels.

Speaking on behalf of Regional Commissioner Rosemary Senyamule at the Chinangali Park during Public Service Week, he thanked the government for the decision, terming it a

great honour to residents.

In June this year, the Ministry of Agriculture announced that Dodoma would host the 2024 event, emphasizing the importance of the event in promoting agricultural development and fostering regional cooperation.

Speaking to journalists in Dodoma, Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe said that this year's exhibition will maintain its international status, with several neighbouring countries having already confirmed their participation.

Various companies involved in the purchase and sale of agricultural products will participate in the seven designated zones.

They are the Southern Highlands in Mbeya at John Mwakangale grounds, the Eastern Zone in Morogoro at Julius Kambarage Nyerere grounds, the Southern Zone in Lindi at Ngongo grounds, the Lake Western Zone in Mwanza at Nyamhongolo grounds, the Lake Eastern Zone in Simiyu at Nyakabindi grounds, the Northern Zone in Arusha at Themti grounds, and the Western Zone in Tabora at Fatma Mwasa grounds.

Moreover, the government has commenced the construction of a modern exhibition ground in Dodoma. The first

phase of the project will cost 7.5bn/-.

This initiative underscores the government's commitment to providing high-quality facilities for the NaneNane exhibition, ensuring it meets international standards.

Minister Bashe also said that the tender process for the construction of the John Mwakangale grounds in Mbeya has already been announced.

The construction work will include the development of internal roads, erection of a perimeter wall, creation of special exhibition areas, conference halls, water sys-


tems, and demonstration farms that will be used throughout the year.

The opening ceremony on August 1 is expected to be graced by Vice President Dr Philip Mpango.

The climax of the event on August 8, 2024 is scheduled to be officiated by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The NaneNane exhibition provides a unique platform for farmers, livestock keepers and fishermen to learn about the latest technologies and practices, exchange ideas and network with stakeholders from across the region.

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**



**IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL  
AT DAR ES SALAAM**

**APPEAL NO. 4 OF 2024**

**BETWEEN**

**FLEXON LAUNO** ..... **APPELLANT**

**AND**

**TANZANIA ELECTRIC SUPPLY  
COMPANY LIMITED** ..... **1ST RESPONDENT**

**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES  
REGULATORY AUTHORITY** ..... **2ND RESPONDENT**

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

**TAKE NOTICE THAT** an appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) dated 3rd April, 2024 in which EWURA dismissed appellant's complaint, claiming for compensation of TZS 126,795,000, for failing to discharge the burden of proof on the balance of probabilities that the fire which burnt his house and destroyed household items was caused by an electrical fault in the 1st respondent's infrastructure.

The appeal is based on the grounds, among others, that EWURA erred in law and facts by giving the award which was against the weight of evidence and evidence tendered; relying on exhibit "C2" that had no probative value in evidence and failing to properly address the issue of the source of fire. Thus, the Appellant prays for orders to nullify the award and set aside the decision with costs.

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

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL** of the Tribunal this 21st June, 2024.

**REGISTRAR**



Ridhiwani Kikwete (C), Deputy Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), pictured at the weekend bidding farewell to staff at one of the pavilions at a Public Service Week anniversary exhibition held in Dodoma city. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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# Over 10,000 delegates to gather in Arusha for world beekeeping forum

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

MORE than 10,000 stakeholders in the world's apiculture sector are expected in Tanzania to take part in beekeeping forum slated for September 2027 in Arusha City.

The event organized by the International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations (APIMONDIA) is expected to bring to Arusha a mixture of beekeeping stakeholders from at least 133 countries across the globe.

The population will include the world's high-profile beekeepers, honey processors, aggregators, api-scientists, honey traders as well as large consumers.

In her remarks recently when gracing the Tanzania Honey Show Exhibitions 2024 in Dar es Salaam, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Angellah Kairuki said the event will play major role in opening new opportunities for Tanzania's beekeeping sector.

She added that the event is projected to play significant role in helping spur performance of the country's tourism sector due to the big number of delegates expected.

"Being the host of the world's biggest beekeeping gala means a lot to Tanzania's economy," she said.

She challenged traders from different business engagements and levels to prepare effectively by being more creative in identifying and tapping the numerous economic opportunities likely to prop-up due to the event.

"The Tanzania Forest Service and other stakeholders in the private sector are currently planning and working on several initiatives to ensure the event is hosted professionally," she said.

Tanzania was chosen to host the event because its beekeepers have perfected the art of honey harvesting, employing techniques that not only ensure bountiful harvest but also prioritize safety of bees.

Other reasons are good hive management, beekeeping training and education, beehive construction and creating harmony where beekeepers and conservationists unite for a greener Tanzania.

The event aims at facilitating exchange of information and discussions by organizing congresses and symposia where beekeepers, scientists, honey-traders and agents, technicians and legislators meet to listen, discuss and learn from one another.

Tanzania is 14th country for beekeeping in the world and 2nd in Africa with most of the country's produced honey and beeswax often exported to Germany, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Oman, USA, Japan, Botswana, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, DRC, Somali and Kenya.

## Embrace financial discipline to expand businesses, traders told

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) has urged young women, youth and special need groups to adopt a culture of financial discipline to grow their businesses and participate fully in the national economy.

Beng'i Issa, NEEC Executive Secretary, made the call here at the weekend when the council introduced the 'Strengthening the economy with Mama Samia' programme in Dodoma Region.

She said financial discipline is of paramount importance since it helps increase capital and profit.

"Saving money in a bank account is much safer than keeping money in small containers called kibubu which are prone to loss theft," she said.

"Saving money in the bank creates an opportunity to get loans and increase your capital."

She also said that the groups need to have long-term and short-term business goals because a business needs a vision and strategy to be implemented so that money can be generated.

Dodoma Regional Commissioner Rosemary Senyamule said region received the programme and its objectives, promising through disseminate information about it to the target groups so that they can participate.

"I need you to be excited about the opportunities available in our region by starting businesses because this year national Nanenane celebration will be held in our region; use this opportunity," she said.

She said during Nanenane, farmers will have an opportunity to sell crops, food and various products as people from other regions will participate to showcase their undertakings in farming, breeding and fishing.

Joha Mtamba, Chairperson of Women's Economic Forum in Dodoma District said innovative businesspeople can liberate themselves through empowerment from the programme.

Zainabu Harabu, a resident of Dodoma who is a vegetable vendor, said through the programme she was able to learn how banks provide loans and how to get health insurance.

"This enables traders to get an opportunity to expand their businesses because of loans."

The programme provides empowerment information in collaboration with financial institutions to enable citizens strengthen their businesses.



**I need you to be excited about the opportunities available in our region by starting businesses because this year national Nanenane celebration will be held in our region; use this opportunity**



National Economic Empowerment Council executive secretary Beng'i Issa pictured in Dodoma city addressing representatives of women, youth and special groups on the implementation of the council's economic empowerment programmes. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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## THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF HALOPESA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	NOTE	2023 (TZS)	2022 (TZS)
Operating expenses	6	(19,719,264)	(19,252,292.00)
Operating loss		(19,719,264)	(19,252,292.00)
Finance income	7	4,077,451,943	3,150,701,194.00
Finance costs	7	(3,653,388,279)	(2,843,996,200.00)
<b>Profit before tax</b>		<b>404,344,400</b>	<b>287,452,702.00</b>
Income tax expense	8	(404,344,400)	(287,452,702.00)
<b>Loss for the year/period</b>		<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
Other comprehensive income		—	—
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year/period, net of tax</b>		<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	NOTE	2023 (TZS)	2022 (TZS)
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and bank balances	9	110,959,347,606	114,400,588,199
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>110,959,347,606</b>	<b>114,400,588,199</b>
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Equity</b>			
Accumulated profit		—	—
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Amounts due to customers	10	110,947,443,606	114,388,934,749
Other liabilities	11	11,904,000	11,653,450
<b>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>		<b>110,959,347,606</b>	<b>114,400,588,199</b>

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	NOTE	2023 (TZS)	2022 (TZS)
<b>Operating activities</b>			
Profit before tax	8	404,344,400	287,452,702
<b>Working capital changes</b>			
Increase in amounts due to clients		(3,441,491,143)	47,398,212,104
Increase in other liabilities		250,550	(22,977,056)
Increase in restricted bank balances		3,441,240,593	(47,375,235,048)
Income tax paid		(404,344,400)	(287,452,702)
<b>Net cash flows used in operating activities</b>		<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year/period		—	—
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>	9	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

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## African health ministers pledge more resources to address drug resistance

By Guardian Correspondent

HEALTH Ministers from the East, Central and Southern Africa countries have resolved to commit more resources in ensuring national plans in addressing antimicrobial resistance (AMR) are effectively implemented since the problem now claims over 5 million lives on the continent.

This was among the main resolutions reached during the 73rd East, Central and Southern Africa Health Ministers' Conference held in Arusha at the weekend.

Dr Martin Matu, Director of Programmes and Projects at East Central and Southern Africa Health Community, said the ministers adopted five resolutions, including that on strengthening campaigns against irrational use of medicines.

"Ministers from the nine ECSA member states have been impressed by the approach being used by Tanzania through its Holela-Holela Itakukosti (Recklessness is costly) campaign and many want to borrow the leaf and use it in their own countries," he said.

Holela-Holela Itakukosti is an art-meets-science campaign against antimicrobial resistance which was

launched recently and being coordinated by the Office of the Prime Minister in collaboration with ministries of health, livestock and fisheries and the Vice President's Office (Environment) with financial support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through Breakthrough ACTION project.

Minister for Health Ummy Mwalimu said the rise of antimicrobial resistance is becoming costly in Tanzania as patients are forced to spend more time in hospitals undergoing treatment.

"People have been under-dosing themselves when it comes to drug usage because most of them stop taking medicine once they feel relief and as result, diseases develop resistance," she said.

The minister said other than patients incurring more expenses, AMR has been causing deaths and that is why Tanzania came up with the campaign.

Waziri Nyoni, Director of Johns Hopkins Centre for Communication Programmes said the campaign inspired action to rapid change of behaviour, working through the mass media, community leaders, health workers and religious leaders.



Dr Befrina Igulu, a manager with the National Environment Council's Environmental, Health and Pollution Management Project, pictured in Dodoma city on Saturday addressing members of the Federation of Miners' Associations of Tanzania (FEMATA) on the harm the use of mercury can inflict on humans and the environment. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

## NEMC for safe alternatives to help gold miners abandon mercury use

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC) plans to introduce mercury-free technology to small-scale gold miners in the country for gold processing.

The plan is part of NEMC's Environmental Health and Pollution Management Project (EHPMP) meant to address effects of mercury to humans and the environ-

ment.

As per the World Health Organisation (WHO), mercury stands among 10 leading sources of human health risks, if not handled professionally.

Speaking here at the weekend, Dr Befrina Igulu, EHPMP Project Manager, said studies have established that most of small scale gold miners across the country are prone to severe health effects due to improper use of mercury.

"Most small-scale gold miners in the country operate under risk conditions as they're not adhering to required standards," she said.

"For instance, during pre-processing of gold which is often done by hand, most miners do not wear hand-gloves, which is very risky."

She spoke during a workshop to educate members of the Federation of Miner's Association of Tanzania (FEMATA).

Dr Igulu mentioned diseases

likely to affect miners due to the situation as kidney complications, nervous system issues, memory loss, stress and anxiety, loss of eyesight, shaking hands, erectile dysfunction, miscarriage and children born with cerebral palsy.

To address the situation, she said NEMC and the office of Chief Government Chemist have decided to initiate EHPMP.

She said that the project which is funded by the World Bank is meant

to reduce harmful effects of unprofessional handling of mercury by small-scale miners.

"Available records show that Tanzania imports and uses between 18 and 21 metric tonnes of mercury annually," she said.

The leading regions in the use of mercury are Geita, Shinyanga, Mara, Tabora, Singida, Katavi, Lindi Songwe and Dodoma, she said.

"We plan to introduce safe technologies to help miners stop using

mercury to protect their health and conserve our environment," she said. The goal of the project is to ensure that miners completely stop mercury use by 2030 to comply with Minamata Convention on Mercury.

In October 2020, the government of Tanzania signed the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the most recent global agreement on environment and health adopted in 2013.



Selemani Bishagazi, an official with Dar es Salaam-based CSO Kipunguni Community Voice Centre, leads discussions involving students from various schools in High District at the commemoration of International Day of the African Child. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Ivory Coast opens mobile enrolment centres for universal health coverage

ABIDJAN

IVORY Coast has launched mobile enrolment centres for the country's universal health coverage programme which has been criticised since its inception in 2019 over difficulties in accessing benefits.

Samuel Touffet who came to the mobile centre at the weekend to get updated under the programme, was disappointed.

"I'm not too happy with the card. There are so many pharmacies where if we go with the card, it doesn't work. Also, when we go to the hospital with the card, they say it doesn't work. So we don't know what this card is even worth," he said.

Bruno Agnissan already has a universal health card but came to a mobile enrolment centre in Abidjan to find information on how it could be used but he was also uncertified.

"When we went to the pharmacy and I presented the voucher, the pharmacy said that 'no, this is only for civil servants.' That it won't work for us individuals," he said.

He said that treating his son for a simple case of malaria became a struggle under the programme, as the hospital ran out of one of the medicines needed for the treatment.

He was told to find the medicine at a local pharmacy and given a voucher that should have covered the cost, but said he was unable to find a pharmacy that would accept the voucher.

Despite the issues facing the programme, Health Minister Pierre Dimba hopes that it can become a basic insurance that covers every Ivorian citizen, with private insurance used only as a supplement.

"We are currently considering the possibility of making this card usable in private establishments. And ultimately, it's a unique platform of health coverage that we will have in our country, that if you are privately insured, you will be on the same platform as the universal health coverage, which will be the basic insurance. Other insurance will be just complementary," he said.

The universal health coverage, known locally by its French acronym CMU, is meant to cover 70 percent of people's healthcare costs for 1,000 West African CFA francs (\$1.65).

## EABC conference on regional progress kicks off in Somalia

By Guardian Correspondent

THE East African Business Council (EABC) has organised a regional conference aimed at promoting understanding of the East African Community (EAC)'s role in development as well as highlighting economic, social, and environmental benefits of integration.

In a statement issued yesterday, participants from the partner states will also discuss the future of agriculture, food security and trade within the EAC to foster academic collaboration and improve higher education

standards, address challenges and opportunities in banking, security, migration policies and enhance cross-border trade and investment opportunities.

John Bosco Kalisa, EABC Executive Director will share insights on the council's efforts to enhance cross-border trade and investment opportunities and discuss EABC's strategic initiatives aimed at fostering a conducive business environment across East Africa.

Kicking off today in Mogadishu, Somalia, the event will convene 500 high-level policy-

makers, business leaders and scholars from the region to discuss the impacts and opportunities of EAC regional integration. The President of the Federal Republic of Somalia, Dr Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, is scheduled to officiate the conference.

The conference sessions and discussions will include the impact of EAC Common Market on Somalia's agriculture and future of food security, presented by Briandt Gokah, Regional Food Trade Programme Officer, West Africa at Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and understanding

rules of origin and the Customs Union by Dr Idd Ramadhani Mandi, Member of the Committee to Draft the Constitution of the East African Confederation. Dr Mohamed Ibrahim Nor will discuss strengthening regional economic integration in the EAC and its implications for Somalia's banking sector.

Abdirahman Aynte, Former Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of Somalia, will address the development of a common EAC security and stabilization policy while Prof Khoti Chilomba Kamanga will explore migration in the EAC as a multi-

faceted phenomenon. Jacinta Kiruthi, CEO of In Trade Africa, will speak on the EAC's role in combatting climate change and protecting the environment.

Prof. Dr. Idris Ahmada Rai, Deputy Executive Secretary of IUCEA, will discuss EAC as a common higher education area, highlighting the opportunities and challenges for higher education institutions in the region. Mustaf Ishak will explore Somalia's potential economic growth, focusing on the role of agriculture post-integration with the EAC.

Other keynote speakers are Dr Abdikarim



MONDAY 24 JUNE 2024

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
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## Regional rapid response to infectious disease outbreaks crucial for logistics

THERE have lately been noticeable regional advances in e-integration with the holding of East African Community (EAC) table-top simulation exercises.

Relevant partner states and other technical partners successfully tested the activation of a regional rapidly deployable expert pool.

The simulation operation was part of a three-day workshop where the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and the World Health Organisation regional office for Africa (WHO Afro) collaborated with the EAC secretariat. A senior EAC official said that the simulation exercise was using previously made recommendations and lessons already learnt, placing the region in a better mood in case of outbreaks of epidemics or pandemics in the near future.

There is a catch to that, though, as every model or framework of preparedness has a disaster or epidemic scenario in mind whose reaction is in the form of responses linked to prerogatives it seeks to satisfy.

It is unclear how a skeleton epidemic reaction roadmap can include the various scenarios of an epidemic outbreak, and indeed whether it will even be a regional issue to start with. Officials said that the operation was intended to identify strengths, areas of improvement for collaboration and coordination at national, regional and continental level in an outbreak scenario.

This would lead to the drawing up of a roadmap, including recommendations on how to integrate the EAC zone in a rapidly deployable expert pool to allow for joint planning, deployments and capacity development. A write-up said that experts had discussions in a low-stress environment where participants assessed their roles in a tentative emergency. They were likely to have taken note of the gap between an

integrated emergency reaction approach at the expert level and actual territory-specific mobilisation.

Africa is more an aid scenario than inward looking when it comes to reaction to epidemics - as different from administrative regulations mostly tied to individual states.

Coordinated response has usually been the case with the Desert Locust Control Organisation for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA). This is explicitly from the fact that the objects at hand are common pests and have little to do with setting out controls on exits and departures as in the case of infectious diseases. Experts could still have tested the various reaction scenarios hyped on regional threats, as a theme.

As is often the case with EAC joint projects, they are joint in the sense of taking place at the same time, and in a definite synchrony of needs and means, as usually regionally coordinated projects have a heavy dose of donor financing. It is usually straightforward to practise, evaluate and identify areas for improvement in their respective responses to a particular scenario. It is presumed that it would be a regional outbreak, not various isolated outbreaks. Another gap would relate to the level of readiness for epidemics, as with respect to crimes or war. While local experts and multilateral agencies had long practised on the HIV/AIDS pandemic, two decades ago the Ebola pandemic came around, altering most rules that earlier epidemics showed, despite its clear reticence to spread out. The Covid-19 pandemic had no prior response scenario, while furtive cholera epidemics don't have the cross-border threats underlining response coordination.

So, it remains a learning scenario for coordinated responses - with logistics largely as important for each country as the regulatory scenario of cross-border threats.

## Interesting link between IMF support pledge and govt's readiness on execution of reforms

THE International Monetary Fund has just announced a loan and budgetary support arrangement for Tanzania, under which US\$935.6 million (2.45trn/-) in concessional lending has been approved for climate change mitigation.

Analysts see this as especially timely as it comes at a time of intense and at times passionate exchanges among our lawmakers, with rising debt commonly attracting resonating voices of concern in civil society, chiefly research groups.

The parliamentary dimension is a sort of spillover as MPs are more concerned with rising taxes, various price hikes, etc.

An IMF statement towards the end of the week showed that US\$786.2m (2.06trn/-) in the package will be channelled into climate action while US\$149.4m (392.17bn/-) is intended for budget support.

Chances are that these expectations were already embedded in the latest government estimates for the new (2024/2025) financial year, and was thus only confirmatory of the realism of government proposals. There has at times been significant gaps in budgetary projections and disbursements.

What accompanied the IMF's loan and budget support statement was a laudatory assessment of the country's fiscal policy and investment climate generally.

There was substantive acknowledgement of commitment to climate action and economic stability, while the whole issue of strengthening resilience to climate change challenges was at best an affirmation about opportunity,

etc. In that case, it is unclear just where the balance or emphasis stands - between supporting ambitious reform efforts and implementing climate policy.

That is why there should be few surprises if commentators take note of initiatives addressing risks and challenges associated with climate change to enhance the resilience of the Tanzanian economy.

When this is taken up without considering economic reform and stability or growth restoration, the key to this facilitation move is missed out.

IMF isn't just financing climate change risk mitigation but this is located within a wider reform effort. Those familiar with World Bank/IMF language will not be surprised that reform is tacked underneath.

There was an affirmation given in global media, definitely sourced from an executive summary or overall assessment, but it singularly lacked in domestic reporting on the statement as well as the facility.

It was the idea that Tanzania had met a number of critical benchmarks to facilitate the issuance of a climate risk facility or, more accurately, the Resilience and Sustainability Facility.

This component, billed at roughly US\$786m, will support efforts to build resilience to climate change, tied up with an observation that the government is committed to implementing reforms to ensure macro-financial stability. Of course, this is already in place.

Definitely, yes, but how stable is it, and to what extent does the debt buildup enhance inbuilt risks with more loans and slow reforms?

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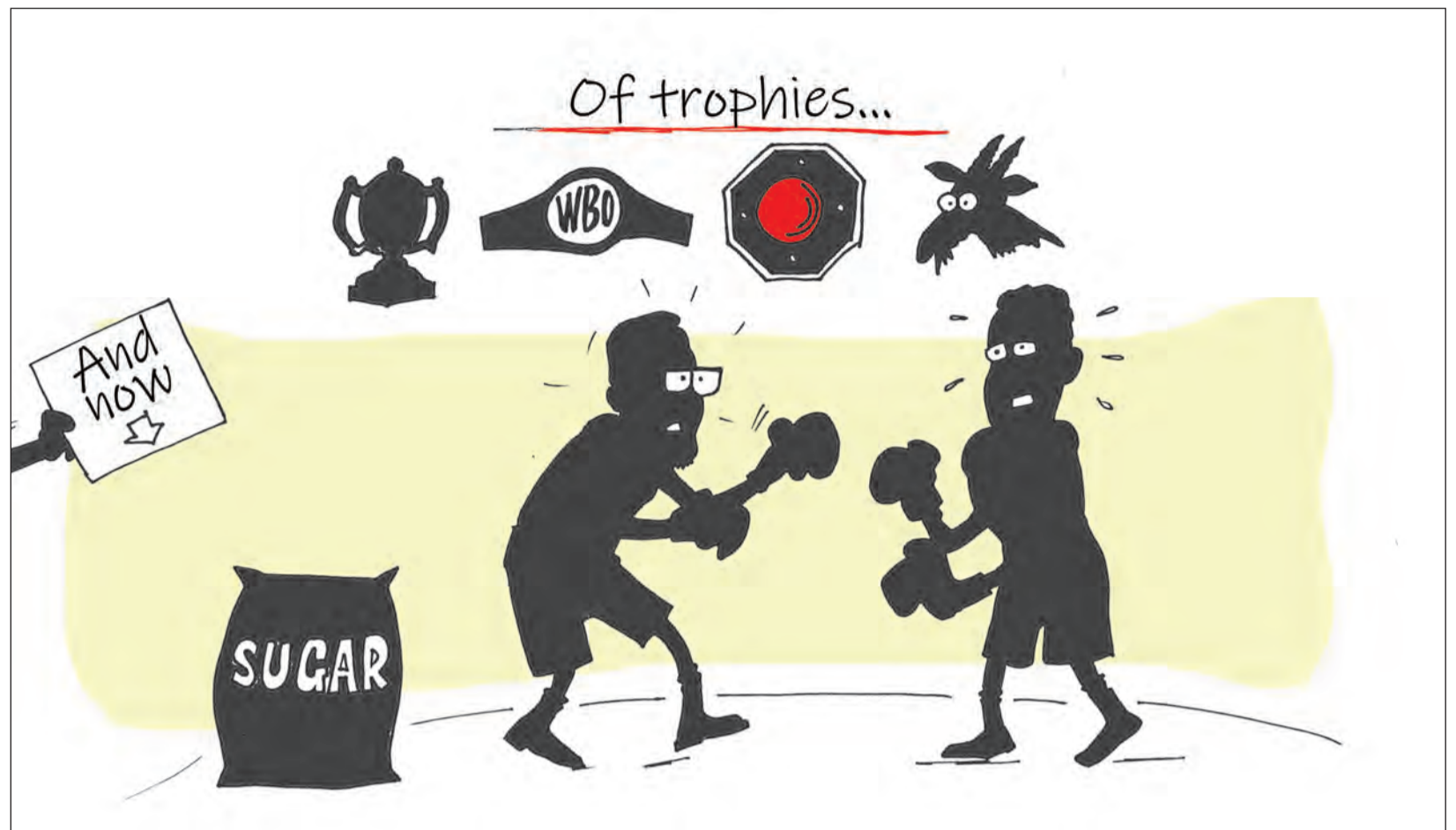
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## Free speech under siege across West Africa

LAGOS

AUTHORITARIAN overreach is redefining itself across West Africa, fuelled by armed conflicts, military coups, and electoral manipulation and violence, as the region experiences a decline in democracy.

Notably, repressive governments are increasingly turning to content moderation laws as the newest tools for gagging the press and stifling free speech on the internet. The internet means many different things to many people. For some, it means a free space to express themselves and ventilate their thoughts without fear of retribution, silencing or coercion.

For politicians, it is a powerful tool to recruit supporters and disseminate campaign messages. For activists, it is a platform to build solidarity, draw attention to social causes, and foster accountability for governments and corporations.

For the media, the internet has revolutionised operations by providing innovative and creative ways for news production, audience engagement, information gathering and dissemination.

For smaller media houses, which otherwise would have struggled with visibility and the costs associated with physical newsroom operations and news production, the internet has offered smarter and cheaper ways to amplify their work.

But the internet's many successes in facilitating access to critical information and spaces for raising citizens' concerns have not come without its downsides. The digital revolution has, unfortunately, also provided a platform for widespread misinformation and disinformation, posing a real threat to national security, public order and democratic governance - a paradigm that is particularly troubling for developing democracies like those in West Africa.

Although the challenge of misinformation is not new, the wide scope of manipulation and the multiplicity of techniques and platforms to disseminate information, enabled by evolving technology, have placed the issue in a very unique and unprecedented context.

### Ample room for misuse and misinterpretation

In response, state authorities have implemented several technological measures to counter this threat, including the introduction of content moderation laws. These laws, presented as genuine efforts to combat the spread of false information and maintain social order, often end up clashing with already existing laws that guarantee freedom of expression.

In particular, the vague and broad wording of these laws leaves room for misapplication and executive overreach, providing state actors with the impetus to regulate the press or severely punish journalists they con-



sider 'stubborn'.

Adeboye Adegoke, a digital rights expert and senior manager at Paradigm Initiative, says that 'content moderation through executive fiat is very common, in which case the governments can take down "offending" content as they choose.'

That is the major problem when content moderation laws are not made in consideration of existing laws. This issue is exemplified in Mali, where stakeholders denounced the new Suppression of Cybercrime Law, stating that its provisions affecting online press freedom were inconsistent with constitutional laws protecting the press.

While physical harm and overt legal actions are already problematic, the widespread press suppression through legal actions has led to a climate of fear among journalists.

The implementation of these content moderation laws has had a deleterious effect on press freedom across the region. Under the provisions of these laws, journalists have been subjected to harassment, intimidation and legal action.

Nigeria, for example, has passed and implemented a Cybercrimes Act, originally developed as a tool to curb internet-related offenses. Section 24 of the Act, which criminalises the dissemination of offensive, false or menacing messages, has been particularly contentious.

The case of Agba Jalingo, a journalist accused of treasonable felony, terrorism and an attempt to topple the Cross River State Government, has become emblematic of the government's relentless pursuit of dissident journalists.

Similarly, since taking over power in 2022, Burkina Faso's junta-led government has overseen the suspension of various media outlets in the country. The country has amended its penal code to criminalise the reporting of terrorist attacks or security issues that could 'undermine public order' or 'demoralise security and defence forces'.

Such offenses can lead to im-

prisonment for up to 10 years as well as hefty fines. Similar legislation has been enacted in other West African countries like Ghana, Senegal, Togo, Sierra Leone and others.

### Self-censorship

While physical harm and overt legal actions are already problematic, the widespread press suppression through legal actions, also known as Strategic lawsuits against public participation, or SLAPP suits, has also led to a climate of fear among journalists, who now resort to self-censorship to avoid punitive measures. In turn, journalists are increasingly afraid to report on sensitive issues.

Blessing Oladunjoye, a Nigerian journalist and publisher of BONews Service, is currently being prosecuted under the Cybercrimes Act for an undercover investigation on fertility clinics and surrogacy in Nigeria.

She expressed the effect of this legal action on her work as follows: 'After I was served those papers, I started asking myself, what kind of stories am I supposed to do now that I am sure will not provoke anybody? It was terrifying. It has affected the kind of stories I want to pursue.'

In environments where content moderation laws are harshly enforced, journalists may choose to avoid reporting on government corruption, human rights abuses or social unrest. An anonymous Nigerian journalist from a government-owned media house explained that they often had to gauge the government's stance before publishing stories:

'Sometimes, you need to feel the pulse of the government. It determines what you write. For instance, with any content that goes against the interest of my principal, you have to think about it beforehand. Personally, I had to be transferred to another state as a result of a story that I wrote that was not in the interest of the government.'

**In a true democracy, the press does not live in fear.**

But the campaign of calumny against journalists is not only championed by governments; Non-state actors have also taken a page from the authoritarian playbook now, as seen in the case of Oladunjoye. 'Non-state actors are emboldened to commit attacks against journalists because state actors do it with impunity and, of course, no one holds them accountable for it', she laments.

Democratic governance in West Africa has been extremely challenging, especially in the last decade, and the suppression of press freedom through content moderation laws poses a significant threat to democratic stability in the region. A free and empowered press - free from any form of control and censorship - is essential for any functional democracy.

The press acts as a check on governments and powerful entities, uncovering corruption, human rights violations, abuse of power and other breaches of social contracts. When journalists are silenced, either through direct legal action or self-censorship, these critical functions are compromised.

As West Africa continues to grapple with these challenges, the path forward requires a nuanced approach that respects the freedoms of the press while addressing the real dangers posed by digital misinformation.

While misinformation and disinformation may have become more prevalent with the rise of digital technologies, content moderation laws must be narrowly tailored to target genuine threats to public order and national security without being used as tools of repression.

The implications of content moderation on journalists can only be mitigated if content moderation laws are developed in the context of existing constitutional laws and with strict legal guidelines applied to protect journalists and ensure that their rights to free expression and access to information are upheld. In a true democracy, the press does not live in fear.

Sefa Ikpa is a social justice advocate and a development communications expert. She works for the inclusion of marginalised groups and voices in governance processes in Nigeria and the protection of civil liberties. She is an electrical and electronics engineer with a passion to enhance digital access and close the gender gap in STEM education, safeguard the civic space in West Africa and promote women's involvement in governance processes.



# Tensions bubble as Sudanese refugees feeling resentment from Chadian hosts

By Mat Nashed

A group of village elders huddle in the sparse shade of a tree to discuss the influx of Sudanese refugees that threatens to overwhelm them. They are worried.

This is Metche, Chad, about 30 kilometres (19 miles) from Sudan's war-torn region of Darfur, where a refugee camp has sprung up and thousands of people have sought safety.

The camp sprawls near the village - makeshift shelters of straw, cloth, tree branches and tarps separated by narrow, crowded tracks where cattle and motorbikes jostle with people on foot.

About 600,000 people have fled violence and famine to seek refuge in Chad since the Sudanese civil war broke out in April 2023, but their presence has fanned tensions as local resentment builds.

Many were relocated to six refugee camps, including the one near Metche, in areas where a few thousand rural Chadian farmers and pastoralists live.

United Nations agencies built the refugee camp, two men from Metche said, but they put it on a large swath of farmland they need for growing food and accessing water.

After taking their farmland and making it difficult for them to support themselves, they add, these same agencies are not giving their community enough food rations to survive.

"We were farmers before the refugee crisis, but now the refugees are the ones that work our land," Adam Abdallah Suliman, a local community leader, said.

The UN refugee agency's representative in Chad, Jerome Merlin, said the camps were only set up after obtaining permission from community leaders and determining that there would be enough water and farmland for refugees and the local population.

"There are some tensions because ... Chad received more than 600,000 people in one year. Can you imagine?" he said over the phone.

## Fighting over resources

Suliman, a slim Chadian man wearing a white gallabia and imma (traditional kaftan and turban worn in the region), was starting to open up about tensions between his community and refugees in the nearby camp when rain started pelting down.

Journalists and aid workers run to their vehicles and drive off before the roads flood, while Chadian women get ready to head to the wadis to fetch water.

Before it poured, Suliman had told Al Jazeera that this hot, dusty region is prone to flash floods that fill the surrounding wadis, or gullies, to the brim during the rainy season.

But "the [refugees] also take water from the wadis when it rains," he said. "There's hardly any water for us."

On the other hand, Sudanese refugees say they are often attacked by Chadians when they leave their refugee camp to find water or gather firewood for cooking fires in the camp, according to Salwa Malik, 27, who lives in the Metche refugee camp.

She is drinking traditional Sudanese coffee - made with ample sugar and ginger - as she tells of the challenges of day-to-day life in exile.

"I personally know at least three cases of women who have been raped," she says. "We're now sending much older women out of the camp to get firewood, hoping they won't be attacked."

Malik adds that armed "strangers" often enter the camp and that local men with guns intimidate refugees and sometimes attack young Sudanese men.

"I know at least two people who have been murdered by intruders in the camp," she says.

## Lack of resources, lack of funding

The war has put an enormous strain on host communities already suffering some of the highest levels of food insecurity globally, according to the World Food Programme (WFP).

But food assistance for Sudanese refugees and host communities in Chad is chronically underfunded, with only 19 percent of WFP's requested budget covered by donors.

"Now elders in the local community are coming back to ask us for food because they're really in need, but the majority of the funds are dedicated to the refugees and not to the host community," Vanessa Boi, WFP emergency coordinator for Chad, said.

WFP's deputy country director, Koffi Akakpo, explained that the organisation cut off food aid to host communities, rather than reduce rations to refugees and Chadians living near the camps, because donors "earmark" a lot of relief assistance exclusively for refugees.

"We cannot direct money stipulated to refugees for other priorities unless we get the OK from the governments that give us the money," Akakpo said. "What we need is ... flexibility from donors in order to also prioritise local communities."

Food assistance, he added, will resume to some host communities for June, July and August.

The only way to ease tensions between refugees and locals is to shift from an emergency response to a development response - building schools and hospitals, cultivating more farmland and improving access to drinking water, aid groups said.

Adre, where new arrivals from Darfur come before they are relocated to camps, is more hectic as it hosts 185,000 refugees, compared with a local population of about 40,000.

## The Catholic Diocese of Mbulu Development Department(DMDD)

DMDD - P.O. Box 179 - Mbulu - Tanzania

Phone: Mbulu 2533113 or Direct 00871-782 146 095  
Fax : 2533114  
E-mail : dmddmbulu@yahoo.com



## TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES

### 1. BACKGROUND

The Catholic Diocese of Mbulu is a faith based organisation providing evangelical services through the Pastoral department and social services through its Development Department (DMDD). Since its inception in 1995 the DMDD has partnered with different International donors as well as with the local government authorities in its area of jurisdiction to support various community projects for human development and self-reliance. These include improving health, overcoming illiteracy, reducing environmental damage, gender, entrepreneurship skills training, and child protection, conserving cultural identity and providing training for better agricultural practices etc. With funds from Caritas Australia (CA) DMDD has implemented the 1st phase of the Integrated Community Development program (A+ Program -7 yrs) in Mangola division of Karatu district in Arusha region. In July 2023, Caritas Australia approved funds to DMDD to implement A+ successor project phase 2 in the same Mangola division but different villages.

A+ successor Program is being implemented in the Catholic Diocese of Mbulu by Diocese of Mbulu Development Department (DMDD) and will complete its 1st year of the project implementation on 30th June 2024. The project aims at improving the livelihoods of marginalised rural communities.

### Objective of the Audit;

The objective of the audit of DMDD's project financial statements is to enable the auditors to express an independent professional opinion on the financial position of DMDD A+ project and to ensure that the funds utilized for project activities have been used for their intended purposes.

### 1. SCOPE OF THE AUDIT

- 2.1 The Audit Firm 'The Auditor' will provide Financial Assurance and Audit Services based on Agreed Upon Procedures for and on behalf of DMDD by reviewing the financial transactions undertaken by the Catholic Diocese of Mbulu Development Department (DMDD) for all operational and program related activities, and a review of the underlying systems, manuals, key written policies and processes and other guidelines of DMDD and ensure they have been complied with during the period under review. Assess the reasonableness of expenditures, ascertain there was no double funding and report whether value for money has been achieved. This audit should provide assurance of the information included in the performance and funding acquittal reports submitted to Caritas Australia by DMDD. The Auditor will provide DMDD with a Special Purpose Financial Statement and a Management Letter outlining the audit findings and recommendations to address any issues identified.

The Audit has to be undertaken for the A+ Successor Program, -Year 1 project.

- 2.2 The Financial Period to be audited shall be 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

- The budget for the organisation (DMDD) for FY 2023/24 for the A + Successor project implementation is (Year 1 Project): 214,881 AUD

- 2.2 The Auditor will be required to work to the standards and guidelines set out by the Government of Tanzania. In addition, the work of the Auditor must fully adhere to the standards and guidelines of the professional practice of financial audit as set out by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), and International Financial Reporting Standards.

- 2.3 The audit requires the examination and report on the compliance to sound financial management practices, with regard to the following but not limited to:

- Whether the DMDD applied sound financial management practises including accounting systems with associated internal controls.
- whether the financial transactions reflected in the reports are in Accordance with financial regulations and procedures, budgetary provisions and other applicable directives.
- Whether the financial transactions recorded have

supporting documentation.

- Whether the finance system is maintained accurately and is adequate for the operational purpose or the organisation.
- Whether program reports submitted to Caritas Australia represent adequate and accurate disclosure of income and expenditure information to enable monitoring and final determination.
- Whether bank reconciliation including accounting for tranche payments is complete and accurate, and completed on a monthly basis with proper authorisation and verification.
- Whether internal policies exist and compliance to policy is evident in the application of the operational transactions.
- Whether internal controls support a sound financial management framework.
- whether the balance sheet accounts are reconciled monthly and provide a true representation of the financial health of the DMDD
- Whether any taxes that are due and statutory payments are made in a timely manner in accordance with the local regulations.
- Whether the assets register is accurately maintained and reflects the fair value of all assets.
- Any other tasks that the Auditor deems necessary to complete the assurance process.

### 2.4 Period of Contract

The period is to be no more than agreed number of days as per the engagement letter - from the start of the audit to the final report compilation and submission to management.

### 2.5 Location of Audit

The audit will be conducted at the offices of the Catholic Diocese of Mbulu Development Department (DMDD) located in Mbulu town. For the purpose of the audit, the Auditor will consult with the DMDD Coordinator, A+ project manager, Finance Officer and other staff members of the DMDD.

### 2. REPORTING

The draft report will be submitted to DMDD within ten working days of completion of the audit.

The Auditor will submit draft audit report including financial statements and management letters to Diocese of Mbulu Development Department (DMDD) for management comments. Comments and concerns raised by DMDD will be incorporated into the final report. The final report will then be submitted to the Diocesan senior management for endorsement. An authorised officer/team of DMDD will review the draft and provide any comments within 10 days of receiving the draft report.

The Auditor's management letter must include comments on the quality of financial management of the program and any implications including recommendations for improvement.

The Final reports will be submitted to Caritas Australia within ten working days after being signed by DMDD.

The final report will include comments on the quality of financial management of the program, any implications and clear recommendations for improvement in the financial management of the program. In addition to the audit report the Auditor shall bring to the Development Directors attention any other matters that the auditors consider pertinent.

All reports or documentations produced both electronically or printed during the course of or as a consequence of the contract will remain the property of the Catholic Diocese of Mbulu.

### 3. WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Interested audit firms shall submit their Expression of Interest detailing the Scope of Services (technical proposal) and a financial proposal to the Diocese of Mbulu Development Department DMDD by close of business the **28<sup>th</sup> June, 2024**.

Expressions of interest should be sent by email to Diocese of Mbulu email .

**dmddmbulu@yahoo.com** and copied to **mrtnmandi@gmail.com**.





### RE - ADVERTISEMENT

## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - PREQUALIFICATION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR SPECIALISED ENGINEERING STUDIES TO CONFORM WITH GLOBAL INDUSTRY STANDARD ON TAILINGS MANAGEMENT (GISTM)

### I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company"), a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti ("AGA") is in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5 km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of prequalifying service providers for Specialised Engineering Studies to Conform with GISTM and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible applicants to submit Expressions of Interest for this study as detailed below.

**NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE. SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECT TO ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.**

### Scope of Service:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01853	SPECIALISED ENGINEERING STUDIES TO CONFORM WITH GLOBAL INDUSTRY STANDARD ON TAILINGS MANAGEMENT (GISTM)

### II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

#### PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

##### COMMERCIAL

Company Profile and Updated Organogram  
 Company Code of Conduct and Ethics  
 Copy of Current Business License  
 Copy of Certificate of Incorporation, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA Application of Annual Return.  
 Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VRN certificate  
 Copy of Workers' Compensation Fund Certificate  
 Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association  
 Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.

##### FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE

Applicants audited financial statements for most recent three years.  
 All bank statements of the Applicants active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date

##### SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

OSHA Compliance Certificate  
 Environmental compliance certificate  
 Safety and Environmental policy

##### OTHER POLICIES

Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure  
 Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor  
 Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment  
 Grievance Procedure  
 Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program

##### PAST EXPERIENCE

At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years  
 Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients

##### TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01853)

Experience in conducting detailed dam breach assessments in alignment with the Canadian Dam Association Tailings Dam Breach Analysis Guidelines as well as GISTM Requirements.  
 Conducting Risks Assessments Specifically Probable Failure Modes Analysis (PFMA) and Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA).  
 Hydrological modelling experience.  
 Experience in compiling Design Basis Reports and Deviance Accountability Reports.  
 Geotechnical in situ and laboratory test analyses and interpretation and detailed stability analyses.  
 Experience in compiling Closure Plans as per the GISTM Requirements.

Interested Applicants must quote **"GGME01853 - ENGINEERING SPECIALISED STUDIES REQUIRED TO CONFORM WITH GLOBAL INDUSTRY STANDARD ON TAILINGS MANAGEMENT (GISTM)"** on the subject of the email for submission of Letters of Interest ("LOI"). Letters of Interest must indicate Applicant's full name, contact details and name of the principal contact. The LOI signed by an authorized representative must outline what the Applicant has to offer and how the skills and experience are valuable to the Company.

All LOIs and supporting documentation (in PDF format) must be submitted to the Company's via e-mail at **geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com** without copying any individual from the Company. Submission must not be later than **8.30AM 01ST JULY 2024**. (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 150MB per email. In case the size of the email with attachments exceeds 150MB, applicants must split the submissions into multiple email.

Shortlisted Applicants will be notified within forty-five (45) calendar days from the submission deadline. Applicants not contacted within the forty-five (45) calendar days should consider themselves unsuccessful.

**=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=**

### NATIONAL HOUSING CORPORATION



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

### TO INVEST ON NHC PLOTS THROUGH JOINT VENTURE ARRANGEMENTS

- National Housing Corporation (NHC) was reconstituted through the Act of Parliament No. 2 of 1990, in order to carry out the role of providing and facilitating the provision of housing and other buildings in Tanzania. This Act was amended through Written Laws (Misc. Amendments) Act No. 2 of 2005 to enable the Corporation conduct its business on sound commercial principles.
- Consistent with its objectives, NHC is seeking to develop some of its plots in various regions on Joint Venture arrangement, using any of the following models:-
  - Land as Equity Contribution;
  - Land and Finance as Equity Contribution;
  - Revenue Sharing Model; or
  - Long Term Lease.
- NHC owns a number of plots in prime areas in various regions in Tanzania, which are planned to be re-developed into residential, commercial and mixed use properties through joint venture arrangements with the private and/or public sector as tabled hereunder;

Sn	PLOT	PLOT SIZE (M <sup>2</sup> )
1	Plot No. 2 Block 6 Msimbazi Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	262.08
2	Plot No. 1 Block 33 & 2 Block 33 Mkunguni/Nyamwezi Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	720
3	Plot No. 4 Block 33 Mkunguni/Swahili Street, Dar es Salaam	457.08
4	Plot No. 1/Block 40, 2 Block 40 & 3 Block 40 Pemba/ Swahili /Mkunguni Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	753.68
5	Plot No. 19 Block 53, 21 Block 53 & 23 Block 53 Uhuru Road Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	912.68
6	Plot No. 5 Block 45 & 7 Block 45 Uhuru Road, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	708.85
7	Plot No. 6 Block 1 Msimbazi/Mafia Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	289.49
8	Plot No. 13 Block 20 Uhuru Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	278.71
9	Plot No. 13 Block 45 Uhuru/Sikukuu Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	321.54
10	Plot No. 1 Block 45 Uhuru/Swahili Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	278.71
11	Plot No. 1 Block 46 Uhuru/Swahili Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	247.12
12	Plot No. 17 Block 54, 19 Block 54 & 21 Block 54 Uhuru Road, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	753.68
13	Plot No. 5 Block 46, 6 Block 46 & 7 Block 46 Uhuru Road, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	791.35
14	Plot No. 25-26 Gerezani Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	743.2
15	Plot No. 36-37 Gerezani Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	743.22
16	Plot No. 72-73, Gerezani Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	743
17	Plot No. 61-62, Gerezani Road, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	743.22
18	Plot No. 8 Block 9 Tandanti Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	218.7
19	Plot No. 22 Block 55 Livingstone/Mchikichi Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	265
20	Plot No. 17 Block 31 Tandanti Street, Kariakoo, Dar es Salaam	251
21	Plots Nos. 154/102, 299/102, and 303/102 India/ Samora Street, Dar es Salaam	895
22	Plots Nos. 725-726 Block 11 Mkwepu/ Makunganya, Street, Dar es Salaam	1,796.00
23	Plot No. 243 Vikawe, Regent Estate, Dar es Salaam	1,814.40
24	Plot No. 58, Uporoto, Regent Estate, Dar es Salaam	3,333.36
25	Plot No. 10/47 Kisutu, Dar es Salaam	697
26	Plot No. 8 Block K, Posta Road, Mwanza	1,102.76
27	Plots Nos. 150 & 151, Kenyatta Street, Mwanza	834.09
28	Plot No. 10/T Nyerere, Mwanza	652
29	Plots No. 6/R Nyerere & Liberty Street, Mwanza	482
30	Plot No. 50/E Joel Maeda India Street, Arusha	694
31	Plot No. 20 Block LDA, Uzunguni, Arusha	3,690.94
32	Plots No. 4 Block E, Sekou Toure, Moshi	3,716.12
33	Plot No. 97/01/Block A Market Road, Moshi	1,982.55
34	Plot No. 53 Kingo (358 Block U), Sabasaba Street, Morogoro	7,890.00
35	Plot No. 6 & 7/C AND 9/C Fundogoro Street, Morogoro	1,456.00
36	Plot No. 66/II Old Dar es Salaam Road, Morogoro	2,241.00
37	Plot No. 48/II Old Dar es Salaam Road, Morogoro	2,241.00
38	Plot No. 10/II & 10A/II Station Road, Morogoro	5,761.00
39	Plot No. 16/A Nyamwezi Street, Tabora	1,841.00
40	Plot No. 109-115 Fundikira Street, Tabora	4,233.00
41	Plot No. 4 Block 29 Bombo Street, Tanga	1,611.00
42	Plot No. 55 A & B Mkwakwani Stadium, Tanga	3,749.00
43	Plot No. 4A Zone 2 Uhuru Street, Iringa	1,961.28
44	Plot No. 4B Zone 2 Uhuru Street, Iringa	3,926.18
45	Plot No. 17 Block M, Bukoba Street, Dodoma	581
46	Plot No. 11 Block M, Lindi Street, Dodoma	432.93
47	Plot No. 2, Block F, Mpwapwa Street, Dodoma	390.19
48	Plot No. 1 Block F, Lumumba Street, Singida	250.84
49	Plot No. 3 Block G, Nyerere Street, Singida	250.84
50	Plot No. 17 Block A, Mwenge Street, Singida	250.84
51	Plot No. 35 Block A Uhuru Street, Shinyanga	2,108.90
52	Plot No. 35 Block D Uhuru Street, Shinyanga	855.36
53	Plot No. 23-25/2 Karume Street, Mbeya	1,000.00
54	Plots Nos. 1B/3 & 2/3 Lupaway/ Karume Street, Mbeya	2,511.00
55	Plot No. 18 Block A, Kivukoni Street, Musoma, Mara	541.62
56	Plots Nos. 1-4 Block E, Nyerere/ Gandhi Street, Musoma, Mara	1,829.08
57	Plot No. 15 Block B, Azimio/Amani Street, Lindi	739.69
58	Plot No. 16 Block B, Karume/ Amani/Azimio Street, Lindi	742.57
59	Plot No. 49/D Block C, Eliet Street, Lindi	2,322.58
60	Plot No. 51 & 52 Block I, Viwandani Street, Mtwara	1,393.45
61	Plot No. 216 Block H, Rahaleo Street, Mtwara	4,120.00
62	Plot No. 13B Kashozi Street, Bukoba, Kagera	436.64
63	Plot No. 5 Customs Street, Bukoba, Kagera	1,445.57
64	Plot No. 189 Lumumba Street, Kigoma	1,358.70
65	Plot No. 190 Lumumba Street, Kigoma	1,038.69
66	Plot No. 353 Block FF Ilemba Street, Mpanda, Katavi	5,701.00
67	Plot No. 356 Block FF Ilemba Street, Mpanda, Katavi	5,735.00
68	Plot No. 3 & 4 Block B Samora Street, Songea, Ruvuma	1,200.00
69	Plot No. 6 Block B Samora Street, Songea, Ruvuma	600

- NHC is seeking for eligible, competent and reputable Joint Venture Partner(s) who can demonstrate the appropriate capabilities, expertise and experience to invest in the development of the above-listed plots.
- NHC now invites sealed submissions for Expression of Interest (EOI) from eligible and reputable local and international investors to formally express their interest in becoming preferred investors in the development of the listed plots through Joint Venture.
- Interested and eligible prospective investors must provide the following information:
  - Company Profile
  - Company Registration Documents
  - Demonstration of the ability to mobilize resources in undertaking real estate development projects
  - Audited financial reports for the past three years
  - Demonstration of relevant expertise, skills and experience in undertaking real estate and related development projects.
- Interested eligible local and international investors may submit their expression of interest as company or as a consortium of two or more companies.
- The submitted Expression of Interest must be enclosed with a Feasibility Study Report or Project Proposal, Concept Designs for the proposed project/s costs estimates and financing arrangements.
- The submitted financing arrangement must be accompanied with a proof of availability of funds for the proposed project in the form of bank statement or line of credit from a reputable financial institution or any other evidence.
- Interested local and international investors may seek clarification in writing and the same to be received at least seven (7) working days before the date of closing of the EOI.
- NHC reserves the right to accept or reject any submission and to annul the Expression of Interest process and reject all submissions at any time prior to short listing and awarding, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected applicant/s.
- All applications should be submitted before 8th July 2024. The application should be addressed and submitted to:

**Director General**  
**National Housing Corporation,**  
**1 Ufukoni Road,**  
**P.O. Box 2977,**  
**Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**  
**Or:**  
**dg@nhc.co.tz**



# Magufuli Bridge: New lifeline for Tanzanian communities and economy

MWANZA

**P**ETER Ngonyani, a 35-year-old resident of Kigongo, near the Kigongo-Busisi ferry on Lake Victoria in Tanzania's northwestern Mwanza region, is all smiles.

As a father of three, he has lived in the area for over 20 years and is excited to see the completion of the Kigongo-Busisi Bridge across Lake Victoria by China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) and China Railway.

"This bridge is a savior to people on both sides of the lake. It is a savior to our lives and businesses," said Ngonyani, referring to the 3.2-km-long, 28-meter-wide bridge named the Magufuli Bridge after former President John Pombe Magufuli, who initiated its construction.

Ngonyani said that before the bridge's construction, residents relied on an unreliable ferry to cross Lake Victoria, the largest freshwater lake in Africa.

"The ferry took more than two hours to commute on both sides of the lake. But now it takes less than five minutes to drive through the bridge," he said.

He recounted the tragic situations where pregnant women and other sick individuals, particularly from Busisi, died while waiting for the ferry to take them to Bugando Referral Hospital in Mwanza city.

When the ferry was out of service for repairs, sometimes for over a week, local businesses suffered significant losses as farm crops could not reach markets on time. "Depending on the ferry to travel was a nightmare I will never forget," Ngonyani noted.

The bridge, which connects Misingwi and Sengerema districts in the Mwanza region, also provides a crucial link between the region and neighboring countries Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda.

"The bridge will indeed be a catalyst for reducing poverty and spur-

ring economic growth in a larger area of the country," Ngonyani said.

"The project has created jobs for over 1,200 local engineers and skilled workers ... Before I started working here, I knew nothing about building bridges, but I am lucky to have met Chinese experts who, alongside local experts, taught me how this job is done," said Samir Ramadhani, a surveyor employed by CCECC in 2020. Through his job, Ramadhani has been able to provide necessities for his family.

Qin Rong, vice project manager of the bridge construction, said that the project is currently 90 percent complete.

In September 2023, a team of Tanzanian parliamentarians inspected the construction site of the Magufuli Bridge and praised such projects under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) for helping advance the country's economy.

Geoffrey Mwambe, leader of the Tanzania-China Parliamentary Friendship Group, said these projects support Tanzania's social and economic development by creating employment for locals and transferring technology to local engineers, noting that the BRI projects align well with Tanzania's development visions.

Upon completion, the Magufuli Bridge would be the only extra-dosed cable-stayed bridge in the Lake Victoria region and the longest of its kind in Africa, said Zhang Junle, managing director of CCECC in Tanzania.



**The ferry took more than two hours to commute on both sides of the lake. But now it takes less than five minutes to drive through the bridge**



Tanzanian builders work at the construction site of the Magufuli Bridge in Mwanza on May 2, 2024. Xinhua



An aerial drone photo taken on April 11, 2024 shows the construction site of the Magufuli Bridge in Mwanza. Xinhua

## Transforming African food systems from the ground up

PRETORIA

All news is local, they say. The same is true of innovations—those many new technologies, policies, and practices that steadily stream from research to enhance our lives.

It is in specific regions, cultures, and locales across the Global South that innovations for agricultural development first get taken up and adapted to meet people's needs. Or not. Only by understanding that all innovations are local can innovators meet the diverse needs of diverse peoples.

From the library and laboratory to the farm and kitchen

Acknowledging that dreaming up innovative solutions is the easy part, and that delivering innovations to real people facing real problems is the hard part, CGIAR—the world's largest publicly funded agrifood research network—put "innovation scaling" at the heart of its Regional Integrated Initiatives (RIIs).

CGIAR's six RIIs are operating in six regions: Latin America, West and Central Africa, East and Southern Africa, Central and West Asia and North Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Asian Mega Deltas. Commencing in 2022 and operating through 2024, these RIIs are working with over 750 local public and private partners and research centres to help transform these regions' agrifood systems. Serving as CGIAR's "living labs", the RIIs support more local organizations to adapt, apply, validate, and scale solutions from many disciplines and to integrate these into local programs and platforms. By building local capacities, the RIIs are empowering "last-mile stakeholders" to apply, adapt, and use the innovations, to take ownership of them, and to lead the innovation process as it evolves over time.

With a strong foundation laid in their first two years of operation,

these RIIs offer big opportunities for upscaling engagement in more local food systems, crowding in investments, and uniting efforts in specific locales. With a wealth of local partners offering local experience, these initiatives provide granular insights that can help to transform conventional "hit-and-run" agrifood systems projects into enduring solutions to specific high-order problems. For example, through technical and business support from CGIAR's Food Systems Accelerator, Zambian fruit processing company Forest Africa has developed a non-dairy milk from the fruit of the baobab tree that provides economic benefits to local communities while helping to avoid deforestation.

In particular, the six RIIs and their partners are maximizing impact by focusing on innovations at mature levels of readiness, employing digital agroclimatic advisory tools and services, strengthening local capacity in agrifood system development, and providing relevant policies and regulations with evidenced-based recommendations. For example, by partnering with the popular "Shamba Shape Up" farm makeover reality TV show in Kenya, CGIAR has helped bring proven innovations to more than eight million viewers every week.

In 2023 alone, these RIIs enhanced regional and local agrifood systems with 577 reports and papers, 341 products and events strengthening local agrifood system capacities, 198 new innovations, and 31 policy changes.

### The Ukama Ustawi Initiative

With a new CGIAR portfolio (2025-2030) now under development, CGIAR's RII on Diversification in East and Southern Africa, led by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and co-implemented with 154 other partners, is a model for how CGIAR and its many part-

ners can play a larger role in scaling as well as developing agrifood innovations for the continent.

Given the byname Ukama Ustawi (a blending respectively of Southern Africa's Shona word for "partnership" with East Africa's Swahili word for "well-being"), this Initiative works in a dozen African countries with local food producers and agribusiness dealers, innovators, and influencers. Our partners are invaluable in helping us both to overcome obstacles to scaling research-based innovations and to avoid any unintended consequences of their adoption.

### Innovating the "how"

Part of what makes Ukama Ustawi unique are the ever evolving and participatory ways in which it works.

A regular series of vibrant rural share fairs and virtual field trips allows for the exchange of knowledge, ideas, experiences and expertise—flowing not only from farmer to farmer but also, importantly, from farmer to village elders, to scientists, to government officials, and to donor agents.

These deliberately "immersive" physical fairs and virtual field trips not only accelerate and widen farmer-farmer learning, but also bring the world of smallholder farming to decision-makers, who meet the farmers, hear their stories, and experience their challenges—directly and in real time.

Innovations are also being accelerated through award competitions promoting "scaling-ready" agricultural innovations in the region.

Through the CGIAR Food System Accelerator, Ukama Ustawi supports innovation scaling through agribusinesses that receive substantial support to help them diversify their maize cropping into more nutritious agricultural products and systems.

**NMB**  
Close to you

## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) CREATION OF A MARKET-PLACE PLATFORM

- NMB Bank Plc is the largest commercial bank in Tanzania with vast branch network in all parts of the country, providing banking services to individuals, small and medium size corporate clients, as well as large businesses.
- NMB Bank Plc now invites applications for submission of information from all eligible vendors for **Creation of a Market Place Platform**.
- This RFI is issued for the purpose of obtaining information concerning market conditions and vendor's capability. The Bank does not intend to award a contract on the basis of this solicitation or to otherwise pay for the information solicited. The Bank reserves the right to defer or cancel the RFI without penalty.
- NMB Bank Plc is expecting to receive technical information, which showcase both high level functional and non-functional system capabilities.
- The Selection and shortlisting of vendors for future RFP process will be conducted through the Open Competitive Tendering as specified in the NMB Bank Plc Procurement Policy and Procedures. After receiving the information through proposals from interested vendors, the Bank will review and invite the selected vendors to showcase/present what their system has to offer.
- RFI document shall be obtained from our website [www.nmbbank.co.tz/tenders](http://www.nmbbank.co.tz/tenders) and request for clarifications sent to the office of Secretary, Management Tender Committee at [procurement@nmbbank.co.tz](mailto:procurement@nmbbank.co.tz) not later than **Wednesday 03<sup>rd</sup> July 2024**.
- The deadline for submission of the applications will be on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 15H00 EA Time**. Applications received will be opened promptly thereafter and in the presence of vendor's representatives who will choose to attend in the opening ceremony at NMB Bank Plc Head Office on the first floor at **15H00 EA Time on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024**.

The application shall be addressed to Secretary NMB Bank Plc, Management Tender Committee and clearly marked on the envelope/email: **RFI for Creation of a Market Place Platform Not to be opened before 15H00 on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024** and delivered in the following ways: -

- In a sealed envelope hand delivered or couriered to **NMB Bank Plc Head Office Ohio Street/Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road, P O Box 9213, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania** at the ground floor.
- Via email to [tenderssubmission@nmbbank.co.tz](mailto:tenderssubmission@nmbbank.co.tz) (maximum 25MB).

The Chief Executive Officer, NMB Bank Plc  
P.O. Box 9213, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, East Africa  
NMB Head Office Ohio/Ali Hassan Mwinyi Street

[www.nmbbank.co.tz](http://www.nmbbank.co.tz)



# Forest conservation: Villagers in Tunduru District benefit from selling carbon credits

By Felister Peter

THE government launched the National Carbon Trading Guidelines in 2022 aimed to guide international, regional and national stakeholders engaging in carbon trading projects.

About 35 applications for carbon trade projects were received in the country by the end of December 2023, according to data from the Ministry of State in the Vice President's Office responsible for Union and Environment.

As carbon credit trade thrives, villagers in many parts of the country have been motivated to venture into the business by deliberately deciding to allocate village forests that are fully protected. One of these villages is in Tunduru District, Ruvuma Region with 11 village forests measuring 97,200 hectares.

The forests are owned by villagers in respective villages whereas the district council supports them through provision of forest conservation education, and protection of natural resources. The district authority helps the villagers to ensure protection as well as harvesting of forest products are conducted in accordance with the country laws.

So far, 11 villages in Tunduru District have started to benefit from carbon credit trade after entering into a contract with an investor—Carbon Tanzania and others.

The villages have also established Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) to ensure they reap more benefits from forest conservation activities. The villages are, Marumba, Molandi, Misyaji, Mpanji, Mkandu, Machemba, Legeza Mwendo, Chajila, Nampungu, Kitalo and Mbatamila.

Tunduru Acting District Executive Director, Bosco Mwingira said villagers started to engage in carbon credit trade during the 2023/2024 financial year and have already started to benefit from business whereas the district received 44m/- which was allocated for implementation of projects such as improvement of road infrastructures and education

"We have just started to engage villagers in carbon trade; the monies received were also given to involved villages. We appreciate the investor—Carbon Tanza-



Tunduru's acting District Executive Director, Bosco Mwingira

nia as they have signed contracts with the two WMAs in 23 villages," said Mwingira, adding the district continues to provide environmental and forest conservation education to the villagers.

Tunduru District Forest Officer, Abdallah Khamis said the district works closely with stakeholders including non-governmental organizations in promoting conservation whereas villagers are also assisted to allocate and manage the forests.

Khamis said that all the forests in Tunduru district are protected and located from human settlements, something which reduces encroachment.

"These villages have their committees that are responsible for management of natural resources. Through the committee, villagers conduct patrols to ensure no illegal human activities conducted in the forests," he added.

On carbon trade, the officer told the Guardian that most of the villages are yet to get investors, leaving alone those who have formed Wildlife Management Areas.

He however explained that other villages are getting interested with the trade as they have so far received some requests from a number of villages that want to formally allocate village forests to start benefiting from carbon trade.

He said villages such as Majimaji and Chalinze have finalized all the processes and that they are waiting for further actions from district authorities.

Acting Chairman, Machemba village, Mohamed Lilundu said that in 2022 villagers resolved to establish the Chingoli WMA to further benefit from the various forest products including the carbon credit trade.

Lilundu said: "We are now seeing the benefits of forest conservation; we have received 4m/- from the investor. We used the money to improve the learning environment at our primary school. We constructed a classroom and bought desks, some funds were directed towards construction of the village office building."

Villagers are in support of forest conservation activities because they are seeing the benefits, he added, noting that in the past two years they also harvested some forest products whereas the funds were directed on development projects.

"We used the funds to purchase desks and construct pit latrines at Machemba primary school," said the acting village chairman, expressing optimism that more funds of up to 200m/- will be received at the village in coming years.

He said Machemba village has allocated some 4,612 hectares, equivalent to 10 percent of the village area as a village forest.

Chairman of Liwangua village, Ausi Ching'andilo said the village forest in his area measures 6,420 hectares, and harvesting is done in accordance with the set laws and regulations.

Anafi Ally is the Chairman of Mkandu village, he said the village signed a contract with the investor—Carbon Tanzania.

He said they have joined the Chingoli WMA to ensure they reap more from both carbon credit trade and harvesting of forest products. He said the village

got 1m/- from selling forest products which have been used to make bricks for construction of a village market.

"Through carbon trade, we received 3m/- this year of which 1.6m/- was used to purchase 30 desks for Mkandu primary school while the remaining 1.4m/- was used to complete construction of the village dispensary building," said Ally, noting that the central government has also provided them with 50m/- for roofing of the building.

John Chikomo, Executive Director, Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) commended the villagers for establishing WMAs, saying they will in future reap more money from various tourism activities. He was concerned that villagers in northern regions are already benefiting from tourism activities through establishment of WMAs.

"Tanganyika District in Katavi Region is getting a lot of funds from carbon trade. I am happy that you resolved to preserve your forests because the benefits are immense," he stated.

Chikomo added that support like interventions by the German Development Agency (GIZ) through the German Government (BMZ) through its Mitigation of Human Wildlife Conflict in Tanzania project also helps in enhancing conservation activities in the Ruvuma landscape.

Recently, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office responsible for Union and Environment, Dr Selemani Jafo said the government is now eyeing to register carbon trade projects worth \$1 billion (2.4trn/-). About 35 applications for carbon trade projects have been received by the end of December 2023.

Jafo said the government received 32bn/- between 2018 and 2022 from carbon trade projects implemented in different local councils.

In the carbon trade, the payment is made after carbon credits accumulated from forestry protection have been sold to the voluntary carbon market.

High-quality certified carbon credits are generated by protecting the forest reserves with the expertise and support of an investor who normally enters into contracts with village governments.

The contract requires the village communities to engage with the company in protecting their forests. By stopping deforestation, the communities are contributing to the global fight against climate change.

When forests are cut down, carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere, but on the contrary, prevention measures result in emission reductions measured as carbon credits. The company then sells the credits on the voluntary carbon market, therefore providing communities with access to the global financial system.

Globally, carbon credits are issued and regulated by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, a UN body set up in 1992 to catalyse the global response to threats brought about by climate change.

## THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS/WORD FIT-19

1 Down: 1 the basic cause, source, or origin

2 5th letter of the Greek alphabet (E, e), transliterated as 'e'

3 a single step taken when walking or running

4 a South American plant related to wood sorrel, cultivated in Peru

5 Modern name of Malawi

6 Capital city of Poland

8 eirenic

13 person's long flowing hair

14 the place where one lives

15 goose native to Hawaii

Across:

1 a car or other item which has been repossessed

5 unfamiliar

7 the condition of being opaque

9 the nickname for a gold statuette given as an Academy award

10 open space above surface

ARENA SNAIL NYALA  
 MELTER AERO DANTEAN  
 ASANTE SEA ALTERNATE  
 ROYAL BRAMBLING EROSION  
 BONDAGE OOSE LEA, TOE  
 ANS

Yesterday's solution

FRIEND A LOVEDUP  
 ANUCAS AMIDPA  
 MALAIKAT VICEROY  
 MAMENDA ETALON  
 NAIBUAN NRWAS  
 ELDERA DRIEDP  
 GROMEYE AISTE  
 HARSH ERATS EA  
 M OCEANS ESTER

**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
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# Intra-African trade up by 7.2pc in 2023, report finds

By Guardian Reporter

Intra-African trade increased by 7.2 percent in 2023, reaching \$192 billion, according to a report released by the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) last week.

The report, titled "African Trade Report 2024: Climate Implications of the AfCFTA Implementation," highlighted that intra-regional trade accounted for 15 percent of Africa's total trade last year, up from 13.6 percent in 2022.

However, this increase reveals major disparities between the continent's sub-regions. With 41.4 percent, Southern Africa remains the main driver of trade between African countries, compared with 25.7 percent for West Africa, 14.1 percent for East Africa, 12.4 percent for North Africa and 6.6 percent for Central Africa.

However, the report noted a 6.3 percent decrease in the overall value of Africa's intra-regional and extra-regional trade in 2023, totaling approximately \$1.3 trillion.

This decline was attributed to several factors, including global demand for raw materials slowing down due to geopolitical tensions from the prolonged war in Ukraine and the Middle East conflict, persistent high interest rates, and economic slowdowns in China and other developed nations.

Oil, which makes up over 36 percent of Africa's total exports, saw price volatility negatively affecting the continent's trade performance.

The average price of crude oil fell to \$82.62 per barrel in 2023, down from around \$99.82 per barrel in 2022.

Major oil exporters like Nigeria, Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Libya were significantly impacted.

For instance, Nigeria experienced a 19.08 percent drop in its total trade with the rest of the world in 2023.

The report also highlighted shifting trade partnerships for Africa as emerging Asian economies become significant sources of demand and growth.

The European Union's share in Africa's exports declined from an average of 47.8 percent in the 1990s to 26.8 percent during the decade from 2014 to 2023. Conversely, Asia's share rose from 4.5 percent in

the 1990s to 26 percent in the last decade.

"The AfCFTA is a powerful tool for mitigating carbon emissions and climate change, promoting sustainable economic development, and enhancing industrial transformation across the continent," said Professor Benedict O. Oramah, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors, The African Export-Import Bank.

Given the challenging operating environment, Africa recorded a growth rate of 3.2 percent in 2023.

This was below the 4 percent growth of the previous year and the 5 percent average growth achieved between 2011 and 2019. This growth per-

formance reflects several factors, including weather shocks, the general global economic slowdown, domestic supply bottlenecks, high costs of living that constrained consumption expenditure growth, debt accumulation and repayment burdens, high interest rates and cost of finance that contributed to narrowing the fiscal space, and heightening political instability and domestic and intra-regional conflicts in some parts of the region.

The performance of the region also reflected output deceleration in the region's three largest economies, including Egypt, Nigeria, and South Africa.

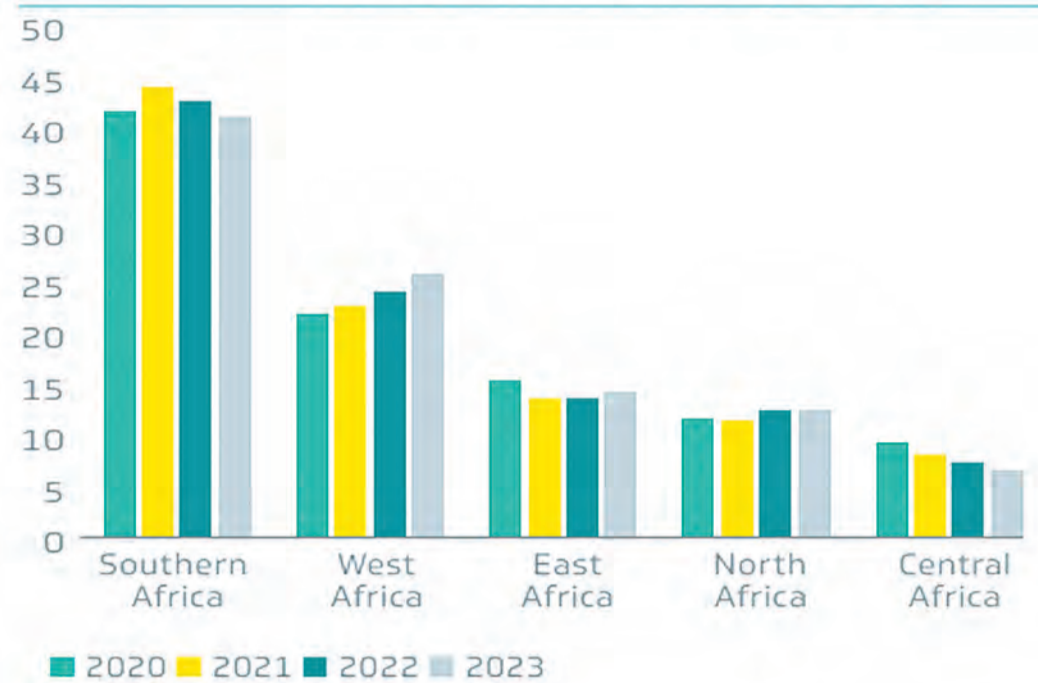
Nevertheless, despite

slower growth in the region in line with declining global growth trends, output on the African continent expanded above the world average reflecting the continent's continuous resilience.

Notwithstanding the slowdown in global economic activity, global financial markets witnessed some recovery in 2023, with equity valuations attaining pre-pandemic levels.

Global financing conditions, however, remained tight in 2023, driven largely by the tight monetary policy stances adopted by most countries aimed at tackling persistently high inflation in many countries.

Figure 6.1: Contribution of the five regions to Intra-African trade (%)



Sources: International Monetary Fund, Direction of Trade Statistics, Afreximbank Research.



Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba

## TGNP crusading for gender-based budget

By Francis Kajubi

THE Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) has said that the proposed government budget for 2024/25 that was recently tabled in the National Assembly does not entail gender-related issues, as it has not clearly identified strategies to address challenges faced by women and children.

Gema Akilimali, TGNP's Chairperson made the remarks at the end last week at a dialogue with gender activists and stakeholders to discuss the proposed government's budget for 2024/25.

She said that she could expect the budget to touch deeply on issues such as the safety of women and children in the fields of easy access to social services like, reproductive health, especially for rural women and the fight against gender violence.

"We need some improvements to be made before the budget is passed, including specifying how much is going to be used to improve health and reproductive services and the fight against gender violence," she said.

Akilimali was surprised by the Minister of Finance, Dr. Mwigulu Nchemba, to spend a lot of time praising the President, instead of the citizens whose taxes are used in the implementation of the budget, something she described as campaigning for her.

"Because when you praise the president without explaining local issues that touch directly the interests of taxpayers you are making them feel like the gov-

ernment doesn't care much about their welfare," she said.

Lilian Liundi, TGNP's Executive Director said that the budget has been different from the expectations of the institution in that it does not specify how reproductive services shall be financed, rural water and the fight against gender violence.

She said that the budget should be classified in terms of how it will reduce the burden of women's responsibilities, such as reducing taxes on the import and production of sanitary pads and baby diapers, but this has not been the case.

She wanted the budget to clearly identify how strategic projects such as the Mwalimu Nyerere Hydropower project and the standard gauge railway (SGR) will benefit low-income people such as women and youth by creating a conducive environment for them in activities to increase their income.

Anna Sangai, TGNP's Acting Head of Training and Education, said the next budget should identify strategies for the improvement of the agricultural sector to benefit farmers who are mostly women by improving the modern technology of tractors to raise them economically.

She advised the parliamentarians who are currently debating the budget to advise the government to look at how it will empower women farmers with modern agricultural equipment to combat the challenges that weaken food production, including climate change threats.

## Activated cable boosts Tanzania's internet speed

By Guardian Reporter

The 2Africa Submarine Cable system, spanning 45,000 kilometers connecting three continents including Africa has been activated.

The cable connects Tanzania to 43 locations globally serving over 3 billion people and fostering crucial international connectivity for digital and fintech entrepreneurs.

Managed by the local telecom company, the state-of-the-art sub-sea cable positions Tanzania at the forefront of digital transformation, catering to the burgeoning demands of the country's data-driven economy.

It has begun to serve technology companies that obtain their capacities through the landing station.

The new cable has increased submarine cable protection for the country.

The launch comes at the right time, especially with the recent

multiple submarine cable cuts that affected parts of East Africa, including Tanzania.

The activated cable has 10 times increase capacity and will help support the establishment of high-capacity data centres, essential for managing the surge in digital activities across the country.

It is laid on both coasts of East and West Africa.

The activation of the 2Africa cable brings unparalleled benefits to Tanzania's digital landscape.

It enhances the internet experience through local hosting and content transfer, ensuring superior 4G and 5G speeds for consumers.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan inaugurated the cable landing station at Mbezi Beach suburb in Dar es Salaam, where she also launched the cable hosting telecom firm's 5G network. "Inaugurating the 2Africa Subsea Cable Station marks a significant milestone for our country's digital

future. This infrastructure will not only revolutionize communication services but also accelerate economic growth through enhanced connectivity," President Samia remarked.

The 2Africa cable station is pivotal in bridging the digital divide across Africa, aligning with Tanzania's ambitions to advance e-commerce and digital governance.

The cable station supports the Ministry of Information, Communication, and Information Technology's initiatives, including plans for an artificial intelligence laboratory and robotic technologies.

Dinesh Balsingh, Airtel Tanzania Managing Director, highlighted that the licenses and regulatory framework enabled the launch of the cable landing station ahead of many other countries.

"The 2Africa Submarine Cable positions Tanzania as a global digital gateway, fostering economic opportunities and technological

advancements," he detailed.

On his part, Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) Director General Dr Jabiri Bakari, said that the new cable is a game-changer in improving efficient internet connectivity.

"Noting that the new cable supports bandwidth demands in Tanzania's fast-growing data economy, which doubles every two years," said Dr. Bakari.

During his address at the launch of the 2Africa Subsea Cable, Minister Nnauye said the cable will provide advanced international connectivity for digital and fintech entrepreneurs, and it will act as a platform created to host a more mature e-government and e-commerce ecosystem.

According to projections by RTI International, the 2Africa Submarine Cable is expected to generate between US\$26.4 billion and US\$36.9 billion in economic benefits across Africa within the initial years of operation.

## Foreigners record 0.5bn/- weekly net outflows on DSE

By Guardian Reporter

Foreign investors recorded net outflows amounting to 555.51m/- on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) last week, after selling shares valued 693.74m/- against 138.23m/- purchases.

According to the market report, the selling transactions were conducted on Tuesday and Wednesday involving the banking counters including CRDB and NMB.

During Tuesday, the report shows that foreign investors sold shares valued 199.52m/-, which was equivalent to 62.17 percent of

total value of shares sold, of which were all bought by local investors.

On Wednesday, foreign investors also appeared on the market by selling shares valued at 494.22m/- which was equivalent to 75.67 percent of total value of shares sold. CRDB Bank dominated the market, after recording the transactions of 1.26 million shares valued 628m/-, of which 998,430 were sold through block trade pre-arranged market board.

On Thursday, the market report showed foreign investors conducted the purchase of shares valued at 108.27m/-, which was

equivalent to 41.24 percent of total value of shares bought, while on Friday, they purchased shares valued at 28.91m/- from local investors.

Analysts expect increased involvement of foreign investors in both buying and selling shares in future, due to enhanced business environment and good performance of the economy.

The market reports show that foreign investors have so far recorded a net outflows amounting to 4.2bn/- since the start of the current quarter, although local investors remain dominant in both selling and buying

activities.

Top gainers during the week were self-listed DSE, which opened the week at 1,980/- per share before closing the week at 2,120/-, NMB counter, which its share appreciated to 5,200/- at the end of the week from 5,100/- during the week's opening and NICO, which closed at 800/- from 780/- respectively.

Meanwhile, TCCIA Investment Limited (TICL) has changed its name to Afriprise Investment Public Limited Company.

The statement issued last week by Peter Kifungomali, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), said rebranding will not im-

pact product and service delivery, whether domestically or internationally.

"This change represents our commitment to growth and our dedication to providing exceptional services to all our stakeholders. There will be no changes to the existing terms and conditions of any contract previously established under TCCIA Investment Plc," he said.

The company started to trade on DSE under the new name on Thursday last week, with its share price remaining unchanged at 110/- per share.



# Proposed solutions to water woes in Dar, Coast regions

By Francis Kajubi

**A**MIDST pressing water concerns, residents in Dar es Salaam and the Coast region have made a pivotal call to the City's Clean Water and Environmental Sanitation Authority (DAWASA), imploring for a strategic focus on substantial infrastructure investments to stem water loss and steadfastly ensure a reliable supply of clean, safe water for both households and industries.

However, they are pleading with DAWASA to elevate the establishment of cutting-edge sewage treatment facilities as a top priority.

This strategic initiative would pave the way for the assimilation of purified sewage water into the urban water distribution system, effectively alleviating the pressing issue of inadequate access to clean and potable water.

Moreover, some residents went far to blame DAWASA for the long delay in completion of the Kidunda dam in Morogoro region that is meant for addressing the water crisis in Dar es Salaam and in the districts of Bagamoyo and Kibaha.

In a survey conducted by this reporter since mid-April this year, community members in Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo district and Kibaha district expressed their diverse viewpoints on tackling the prevailing water supply dilemma.

This publication, dated April 10, 2024, released an in-depth exposé shedding light on the obstacles confronting residents in their quest for reliable access to uncontaminated water sources within the urban landscape.

The dire scarcity of hygienic and secure water resources has forced a significant segment of the mentioned three towns' inhabitants to rely on boreholes, rivers, and canals, notwithstanding the exorbitant expenses and potential health hazards involved.

The recently released Water Utilities Performance Review report for the financial year 2022/23, compiled by the esteemed Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA), reveals a concerning uptick in water loss.

The report discloses that the percentage of water loss concerning water production has surged to 37.2 percent in 2022/23, a noticeable escalation from the previous year's 35.5 percent.

This heightened water loss trend is particularly prevalent in Dar es Salaam city and across the other 84 Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities (WSSA) scrutinized within the comprehensive report.

Nevertheless, as elucidated in the meticulously detailed Controller and Auditor General (CAG) report for the financial year 2021/22, which surfaced in March 2023, there are indications of a modest decline in water loss within the three towns served by DAWASA.

The report says that in 2018/19 the water loss in DAWASA served towns was 49.20 percent, in 2019/20 it was 41.25 percent, in 2020/21 it was 38.89 percent and in 2021/22 it was 39.03 percent which is 3.53 percent more than the percentage of water loss as stipulated in the current EWURA's report.

EWURA's water loss data is similar to that of the parliamentary Public Investment Committee (PIC) statement issued by Chairperson Deus Sangu on March 20, 2024 which states that annual water loss at DAWASA stands at 37 percent, above the International Water Association (IWA) benchmark which requires annual water loss not to exceed 20 percent.

Sangu said that DAWASA's customers have increased to 432,000 in March 2024 from an estimated 200,000 customers in March 2021.

According to DAWASA's website, the authority collectively serves Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo district council and Kibaha district council in the Coast region.

The remaining seven districts of the Coast region are served by five Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities (WSSAs).

The five WSSAs are Chalinz Water Supply and Sanitation Author-



**Kiula Kingu, DAWASA's acting chief executive officer. Photo: File.**

ity, Kilindoni Water Supply and Sanitation Authority in Mafia, Kisarawe Water Supply and Sanitation Authority, Mkuranga Water Supply and Sanitation Authority and Uteete Water Supply and Sanitation Authority in Rufiji district council.

The 2022 Population and Housing Census report by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) states that Dar es Salaam has 5,383,728 inhabitants.

As a result of that Census, Bagamoyo has 204,478 inhabitants while Kibaha has 128,488 inhabitants. Summing up Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo and Kibaha residents, DAWASA serves a total of 5,717,694 customers.

With these figures, it means that DAWASA has managed to reach only 7.56 percent of the population of the three towns serving only 432,000 customers as per PIC chairperson.

But, Kiula Kingu, DAWASA's Acting Chief Executive Officer said that the authority in the year 2022/23 completed the construction of 10 clean and safe water projects worth 219.4bn/- in the region of Dar es Salaam and the districts of Bagamoyo and Kibaha.

He said that currently the projects serve 722,308 residents in the three towns.

Juma Hashim (42), Matosa street resident in Dar es Salaam, said that if DAWASA succeeded in controlling water loss, the lost water could be used to fix the scarcity.

"To address the shortage of clean and safe water in Dar es Salaam, I suggest that DAWASA invest more in the control of water loss," said Hashim.

Everlasting Lyaro, DAWASA's Acting Head of Communication Department said that as of last Thursday the author-

ity's water production is 590 million cubic meters per day while the demand is 585 million cubic meters per day, an excess of five million cubic meters.

She said that collectively DAWASA currently serves 93 percent of Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo and Kibaha residents.

Breaking down this daily water production means that DAWASA produces an average of 215.350 billion cubic meters per year.

Considering the water loss of 37 by DAWASA, it means that it loses 218.30 million cubic meters every day and loses 79.68 billion cubic meters for 365 days of the year.

However, the figures provided by Lyaro contradict data by EWURA's Water Utilities Performance Review report for financial year 2022/23.

The EWURA's report shows that as water loss at DAWASA remains to be higher than the 20 percent IWA recommended benchmark as water demand in the three towns turns low compared to production capacity.

The report shows that in the financial year 2020/21 water demand by DAWASA was 237.14 million cubic meters while installed production capacity stood at 185.73 million cubic meters.

In 2021/22 the demand was 257.62 million cubic meters while production was also 185.73 million cubic meters and in 2022/23 the demand was 241.24 million cubic meters while production was 191.31 million cubic meters.

Mwantumu Idrisa (32) Kibungo resident in Kigamboni district of Dar es Salaam was suspicious that shortage of clean and safe water in the city might be caused by industrial water consumption in

the city and in Bagamoyo and Kibaha district councils that DAWASA serves.

In her response, DAWASA's acting communication chief Everlasting Lyaro rejected the argument that the use of water in factories to produce soft drinks, alcohol and for cooling machines consumes a huge amount of water supplied by the authority.

"The use of water in factories of Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo and Kibaha is less than 50 million cubic meters per day," she said.

She further said that in controlling water loss the authority had invested 48.9bn/- in setting up a water loss controlling station in Dar es Salaam that will be completed before the end of this month.

Janevive Samson (26) Mikocheni resident in the city said that she is okay with DAWASA's water production capacity as she is not subjected to water scarcity woes that residents of other parts of the city incur.

"For me, DAWASA is definitely playing its role in supplying the city residents with clean and safe water. I cannot remember when was the last time I experienced water rationing," she said.

Engineer Herbert Kashililah, Chairperson Tanzania Water and Sanitary Network (TAWASANET) recommended that sewage treatment could serve better in bridging water scarcity in DAWASA's served towns.

"Dar es Salaam generates thousands of liters of sewage on a daily basis. We should have started seeing the impact of sewage treatment plants that the city has already set up. The sewage is largely disposed of into the Indian ocean thus spoiling its

waters," said Kashililah.

In that regard, the EWURA's report shows that DAWASA recorded 18.82 million cubic meters of sewage generated in 2020/21.

In 2021/22 it recorded 17.40 million cubic meters while in 2022/23 it recorded 18.22 million cubic meters.

Of these volumes, the report does not show the amount of sewage treated a year. However, it does not show the number of sewage treatment plants currently operated by DAWASA.

On the other hand, the report shows that the volume of fecal sludge dumped at DAWASA treatment facilities had steadily increased in the past three years.

In 2020/21 dumped sludge volume at DAWASA treatment facilities was 602,933 cubic meters, in 2021/22 was 698,378 cubic meters and in 2022/23 there was 825,310 cubic meters.

The EWURA report shows that total capacity of fecal sludge treatment facilities was 53,196 cubic meters in 2020/21 while in 2021/22 it was 819 cubic meters and in 2022/23 it was 53,246 cubic meters. DAWASA has since July 2017 planned to construct three Decentralized Wastewater Treatment System (DEWATS) facilities in Dar es Salaam from the concessional loan acquired from the World Bank.

The three plants are Jangwani with a capacity of treating 200,000 cubic meters per day, Kurasini with a capacity of treating 11,000 cubic meters per day and Mbezi Beach with 16,000 cubic meters a day.

In response, Kingu said that construction of the Mbezi Beach plant has started where 132.3bn/- has been allocated for the project construction works.

He further pointed out that another 25.7bn/- has in the financial year 2023/24 allocated for treating sewage for producing biogas and fertilizers, for irrigation and for mechanical purposes.

The funds will also cover construction of 30 modern public toilets. The initiative is expected to benefit 1.8 million people from DAWASA's served towns.

"We have also invented simple sewage treatment systems and installed small scale sewage treatment plants where more than 780,000 liters of sewage will be treated on a daily basis," said Kingu.

Rajabu Makongo (38) resident of Kerenge village in Bagamoyo district blamed the delay in completion of Kidunda dam project which is expected to produce water for Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo and Kibaha residents.

"I first heard about the project in 2012 but to date there are no signs of its accomplishment. I wonder what is holding back the implementation of the project," said Makongo.

He doubted the willingness of the government in addressing water

woes facing people residing in towns served by DAWASA.

In response to that argument, Kingu said that in the financial year 2023/24 DAWASA has implemented seven water distribution strategic projects including the Kidunda dam project.

"These projects are valued at 425.9bn/- and aim to increase the amount of water produced by DAWASA, increase the water storage capacity, strengthen the water distribution system and strengthen water services in areas that are yet to be reached by the authority's water pipes," said Kingu.

During his onsite inspection on the implementation of the Kidunda dam project held on May 15, 2024, Kingu said that the dam construction works had been accomplished by 22 percent.

He said the project commenced in June 2023 and it is expected to be completed in June 2026 fetching a budget worth 329.47bn/-.

The writer of this article has learned from budget speeches by the Ministry of Water that the dam is meant to flow water into the Ruwu River throughout the year which shall be extended to the upper and lower Ruwu water pumping plants.

The dam will have a capacity of pumping 190 million cubic meters of water on a daily basis.

Shufah Gego (46) resident of Kilangalanga village in Kibaha district council said that she fetches water from streams.

The mother of five children said that things are even worse during the dry season mostly between July and September when usually wakes up at 6am to camp for water from drying up streams.

"It seems like DAWASA cares the most about Dar es Salaam residents than the rest of us living in rural areas. I call it inequality in service offering," said Gego.

She said the daily struggle for clean and safe water also affects academic performances of pupils and students in primary and secondary schools as they are sometimes forced to stay at home and assist their mothers to find water in ponds for household consumption.

In response, Engineer Mwajuma Waziri, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Water said that in addressing the challenge, the ministry had in July 2022 launched the third phase of the Water Sector Development Programme (WSDP) which targets at strengthening institutions for integrated water resource management, increasing water supply, sanitation and hygiene services.

However, she said that with support from the World Bank the ministry is initiating water and sanitation projects in schools and rural communities through the Sustainable Rural Water Supply and Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) project.

She noted that the USD 352 million funded project has so far played a crucial role in boosting investments in the water sector, resource mobilization, and capacity building.

The project, implemented in 25 regions (excluding Dar es Salaam) since 2019, is expected to achieve further milestones as at the end of next year.

PS Waziri asserted that the project compliments the National Development Vision 2025 and is in line with the implementation of the Five-Year Development Plan 2021/22 to 2025/26 with a great focus on increasing access to water, hygiene and sanitation in rural areas to over 95 percent.

"The project has been of positive benefits for students especially teenage girls and the host communities of the over 1,300 schools that have been covered so far out of the targeted over 1,800 schools," said Engineer Waziri.

The unequal access to water by rural residents which Gego condemns jeopardizes Sustainable Development Goal 6 which targets at ensuring access to clean safe water and sanitation for all.

"Access to clean safe water, sanitation and hygiene is the most basic human need for health and well-being.

Billions of people will lack access to these basic services in 2030 unless efforts by governments and development stakeholders link," reads the United Nations goal in part.



**Women camp for stream water on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam. File photo**



# Mobile cash transfers ease TASAF grant delivery

By Francis Kajubi

THE use of mobile money transfer by the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) has cut down time and cost spent in delivering grants to beneficiaries to one day, from previous 26 days.

Japhet Boaz, TASAF's Director of Knowledge Management and Advocacy said last Friday during the Public Service Week held at Chinangali park grounds in Dodoma city that beneficiaries are now not obligated to wait for their cash to be physically delivered.

"Most of our beneficiaries are in remote areas. Mobile cash transfer has not only helped them to timely receive their grants but even for us to save costs in delivering the grants physically," said Boaz.

According to him, currently TASAF serves 1.3 million households of which 500,000 are placed under evaluation to verify if they can graduate from receiving monthly grants.

This year's Public Service Week is themed: "Empowering Public Servants an Inclusive and Prosperous 21st Century Africa: A Journey of Learning and Technological Change."

Established in 2000 as part of the government's National Development Vision 2025 in



The Minister of State in the President's Office Public Service Management and Good Governance George Simbachawene signs visitors' books at the TASAF booth during the Public Service Week exhibitions held at Chinangali park grounds in Dodoma city last Friday. Photo courtesy of TASAF

reduce abject poverty, TASAF's journey has been fighting poverty in phases, where in the first one (2000-2005) focused on improving social service de-

livery; capacity enhancement for communities, including overseeing 1,704 community-run sub-projects such as construction and rehabilitation of

health care facilities, schools and other small-scale infrastructure; and a Public Works Program (PWP) component with 113,646 direct beneficiar-

ies. The second Phase (2005-2013) expanded the first stage commitments to address a shortage of social services, ca-

capacity enhancement (including 12,347 community sub-projects) and income poverty, including a pilot of community-based conditional cash transfers (CCT) reaching 11,576 households in communities that were strengthened during the first phase.

The third phase of TASAF, the PSSN, supported the national social protection programme aimed at putting in place the building blocks of a permanent national social safety system.

Key elements of this Project are the CCT programme complemented with public works and livelihoods enhancement.

The programme provided cash transfers to poor and vulnerable households in Tanzania conditional on their use of health and education services along with opportunities to earn additional income through public works and livelihood.

The objectives of the PSSN included: increase consumption of the extremely poor on a permanent basis; smooth consumption during lean seasons and shocks; invest in human capital; strengthen links with income generating activities, and increase access to improved social services.

It aims to improve consumption and human capital ac-

cumulation and to reduce the poverty headcount and poverty gap by 5 per cent and 30 per cent, respectively.

In 2015, TASAF successfully implemented a massive scale-up of the PSSN from 250,000 households to 1.1 million households (10.5 per cent of the population) in Tanzania.

TASAF beneficiaries are identified through Village General Meetings and in the streets in urban areas, and thereafter assess their living conditions in terms of the energy they use, types of houses they have, land ownership, size of the family and livestock owned among others.

These figures are processed in a special App by using Proxy Means Testing (PMT) and that also determines a household's eligibility to benefit from basic cash transfer.

The programme is called Conditional Cash Transfer because there are conditions for additional cash if a child attends school and clinic. Beneficiaries get training in Community Sessions done during subsidy payment.

These trainings aim at empowering them with different skills such as business, savings and agriculture among others and connecting them with extension services, and help them form saving groups.

## Tanga city youths, women soon likely to acquire skills in e-bikes assembling

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

Tanzania Open Innovation Organization (TOIO) is expected to empower Tanga city residents economically by opening opportunities to youth and women to grab free of charge training on how to maintain, assemble as well as making electric tricycle, bicycle and motorcycles to be issued this week.

TOIO's executive director, Shaukatali Hussein, said the two-day training targets to impart skills to the targeted groups that will enable them to possess electric bike, motorcycle and tricycle workshops to uplift them economically.

He said that, through its community developing lead initiatives that targets to empower the people with relevant training and expertise into various sectors of interest towards the successful establishment of cooperatives, by starting will run training on how to assemble electric tricycles, bicycles as well as motorcycle spare parts.

"At TOIO it is all about creating a better environment for youth engaging in technologies and building a brighter future for youth and country at large" he said.

"Between June 26 to 27, our training will focus on how to assemble electric bikes, tricycles (Bajaj) as well as motorcycles, it will be four-hour workshops," he said.

"We believe that this two-day workshop will provide bright light for beneficiaries to see economic opportunities in that informal sector that employed many youth as well as few women who perform tax rides (bodaboda)," pointed out Hussein.

He, however, argued youth should effectively use digital tools to make connections with other people in and outside the country to participate in economic activities rather than using them into criminal doings.

"The world is now on the transitions to digital generations with every activity passes into digital channels; your ICT tools will be a platform to learn and extend the skills you obtain aims to stay update"

Apart from electric equipment, TOIO is also dealing with imparting skills and knowledge on other economic sectors of interests including education, agriculture, health and lighting.



TOIO executive director Shaukatali Hussein demonstrates how to assemble a tricycle (Bajaj) before journalists at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Cheji Bakari



### ITV PGM SCHEDULE

<b>SATURDAY 22 June</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Ai Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	9:00 Shika Bamba 5	10:00 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo	12:30 Shamba lulu	13:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love	14:20 Igizo: Haikufuma	15:00 Meza Huru	16:00 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Soap rpt: Laws of love	18:00 Hapa na Pale	18:15 Mapiashi	18:30 Hapa na Pale	19:00 Hapa na Pale	19:10 Igizo: Haikufuma	19:30 Jungu Kuu	19:30 Mjuzi Zaidi	19:30 Art and Lifestyle	19:30 Shika Bamba 5	20:00 Habari	21:05 Igizo: Haikufuma	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Art and Lifestyle	22:15 ITV Top 10	23:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo	23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:30 Ai Jazeera			
<b>SUNDAY 23 June</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Ai Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	9:00 Shika Bamba 5	10:00 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo	12:30 Shamba lulu	13:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love	14:20 Igizo: Haikufuma	15:00 Meza Huru	16:00 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Soap rpt: Laws of love	18:00 Hapa na Pale	18:15 Mapiashi	18:30 Hapa na Pale	19:00 Hapa na Pale	19:10 Igizo: Haikufuma	19:30 Jungu Kuu	19:30 Mjuzi Zaidi	19:30 Art and Lifestyle	19:30 Shika Bamba 5	20:00 Habari	21:05 Igizo: Haikufuma	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Art and Lifestyle	22:15 ITV Top 10	23:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo	23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:30 Ai Jazeera			
<b>MONDAY 24 June</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha	7:00 HABARI	8:00 KumeKucha Michozo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 KumeKucha Michozo	9:30 Soap rpt: Uzalo	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Soap rpt: Uzalo	11:00 DWTV	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Ai Jazeera	12:30 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	13:00 Soap: Uzalo	13:30 Jiji letu	14:00 Soap: The Base	14:40 Mapiashi	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Music: The Base	17:30 Hapa na Pale	18:15 Maji Kilimanjaro	18:30 Jarida la wanawake	19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT	19:30 Soap: Laws of love	20:00 Habari	21:05 Albu Yako	21:20 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing	21:50 Ripoti maalum	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 Jiji letu	23:30 Music: The Base	00:30 Ai Jazeera
<b>TUESDAY 25 June</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 KumeKucha Michozo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 KumeKucha Michozo	9:30 Soap: Laws of love	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Soap: Uzalo	11:00 DWTV	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Ai Jazeera	12:30 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	13:00 Soap: Uzalo	13:30 Jiji letu	14:00 Soap: The Base	14:40 Mapiashi	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Music: The Base	17:30 Hapa na Pale	18:15 Maji Kilimanjaro	18:30 Jarida la wanawake	19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT	19:30 Soap: Laws of love	20:00 Habari	21:05 Albu Yako	21:20 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing	21:50 Ripoti maalum	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 Jiji letu	23:30 Music: The Base	00:30 Ai Jazeera
<b>WEDNESDAY 26 June</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 KumeKucha Michozo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 KumeKucha Michozo	9:30 Soap: Laws of love	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Soap: Uzalo	11:00 DWTV	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Ai Jazeera	12:30 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	13:00 Soap: Uzalo	13:30 Jiji letu	14:00 Soap: The Base	14:40 Mapiashi	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Music: The Base	17:30 Hapa na Pale	18:15 Mapiashi	18:30 Hapa na Pale	19:00 Kipindi maalum: TMDA	19:30 Soap: Laws of love	20:00 Habari	21:05 Albu Yako	21:20 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing	21:50 Ripoti maalum	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 Jiji letu	23:30 Music: The Base	00:30 Ai Jazeera
<b>THURSDAY 27 June</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 KumeKucha Michozo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 KumeKucha Michozo	9:30 Soap: Laws of love	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Soap: Uzalo	11:00 DWTV	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Ai Jazeera	12:30 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	13:00 Soap: Uzalo	13:30 Jiji letu	14:00 Soap: The Base	14:40 Mapiashi	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Music: The Base	17:30 Hapa na Pale	18:15 Mapiashi	18:30 Hapa na Pale	19:00 Kipindi maalum: TMDA	19:30 Soap: Laws of love	20:00 Habari	21:05 Albu Yako	21:20 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing	21:50 Ripoti maalum	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 Jiji letu	23:30 Music: The Base	00:30 Ai Jazeera
<b>FRIDAY 28 June</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 KumeKucha Michozo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 KumeKucha Michozo	9:30 Soap: Laws of love	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Soap: Uzalo	11:00 DWTV	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Ai Jazeera	12:30 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	13:00 Soap: Uzalo	13:30 Jiji letu	14:00 Soap: The Base	14:40 Mapiashi	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Music: The Base	17:30 Hapa na Pale	18:15 Mapiashi	18:30 Hapa na Pale	19:00 Kipindi maalum: TMDA	19:30 Soap: Laws of love	20:00 Habari	21:05 Albu Yako	21:20 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing	21:50 Ripoti maalum	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 Jiji letu	23:30 Music: The Base	00:30 Ai Jazeera
<b>SATURDAY 29 June</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Ai Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	9:00 Shika Bamba 5	10:00 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo	12:30 Shamba lulu	13:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love	14:20 Igizo: Haikufuma	15:00 Meza Huru	16:00 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Soap rpt: Laws of love	18:00 Hapa na Pale	18:15 Mapiashi	18:30 Hapa na Pale	19:00 Hapa na Pale	19:10 Igizo: Haikufuma	19:30 Jungu Kuu	19:30 Mjuzi Zaidi	19:30 Art and Lifestyle	19:30 Shika Bamba 5	20:00 Habari	21:05 Igizo: Haikufuma	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Art and Lifestyle	22:15 ITV Top 10	23:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo	23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:30 Ai Jazeera			
<b>SUNDAY 30 June</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Ai Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	9:00 Shika Bamba 5	10:00 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo	12:30 Shamba lulu	13:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love	14:20 Igizo: Haikufuma	15:00 Meza Huru	16:00 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Soap rpt: Laws of love	18:00 Hapa na Pale	18:15 Mapiashi	18:30 Hapa na Pale	19:00 Hapa na Pale	19:10 Igizo: Haikufuma	19:30 Jungu Kuu	19:30 Mjuzi Zaidi	19:30 Art and Lifestyle	19:30 Shika Bamba 5	20:00 Habari	21:05 Igizo: Haikufuma	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Art and Lifestyle	22:15 ITV Top 10	23:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo	23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:30 Ai Jazeera			

9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo	21:50 Chetu ni chetu	13:30 Art and Lifestyle	10:05 Shika Bamba 5	19:30 The Decor	15:00 Shamba Lulu	12:30 Decor
9:30 Soap: Laws of love rpt	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	13:55 Habari za saa	10:35 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	19:30 The Decor	15:30 Bundesliga Kick off	13:00 Telenovela In Love With Ramon
9:55 Habari za saa	23:00 Jiji letu	14:00 Shamsam za Pwani rpt	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	20:00 Ripoti Maalum	16:00 Culinary Delights Rpt	13:00 Culinary rpt
10:00 Watoto wetu	23:30 Music: The Base	14:55 Habari za saa	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo	20:30 Tomorrow Today	16:30 Capchat rpt	14:00 Culinary rpt
10:55 Habari za saa	00:30 Ai Jazeera	15:00 Meza Huru	12:50 Art and Lifestyle	21:00 Out n' About	17:30 Meza Huru	14:30 Ripoti Maalum
11:00 ITV Top Ten rpt		15:30 Watoto wetu	13:20 Shamba lulu	21:30 Capchat Rpt	19:00 Innovation	15:00 DW 45 rpt
11:55 Habari za saa		16:00 Hapa na Pale	13:50 Soap rpt: Laws of love	23:00 Our Earth	19:30 Our Earth	16:00 Dw News Africa rpt
12:00 Ai Jazeera		16:10 Mapiashi	14:00 Soap: Laws of love	01:00 Ai Jazeera	20:00 Dcor Rpt	16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt
12:30 Jungu Kuu		16:10 Igizo: Haikufuma	16:10 Soap: Laws of love	20:45 Telenovela: In Love With Ramon	21:30 Capital Prime News	17:30 Meza Huru
13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi		16:10 Soap: Laws of love	17:00 Shamsam za Pwani	21:30 Capital Prime News	22:00 Out & About Rpt	19:00 Rev
13:00 Art and Lifestyle		17:00 Soap: Laws of love	18:00 Hapa na Pale	22:00 Jajina rpt	22:00 Albu Yako	19:00 Out & About Rpt
13:40 Art and Lifestyle		18:00 Habari za saa	18:10 ITV Top 10 rpt	09:00 In good shape	22:00 EcoAfrica	20:00 Albu Yako
13:55 Habari za saa		18:30 Usafiri wako	19:00 Jungu kuu	10:00 Capchat rpt	23:00 Ai Jazeera	20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition
14:00 Art and Lifestyle		19:00 Kipindi maalum: TMDA	19:30 Shika Bamba	11:00 Sports Gazette rpt		20:45 Telenovela: In Love With Ramon
14:20 Soap rpt: Haikufuma		19:30 Soap: Laws of love	20:00 Habari	12:30 DW		21:30 Capital Prime News
14:55 Habari za saa		20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	15:15 Albu yako		22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt
15:00 Meza Huru		21:05 Malumbano ya hoja	20:00 Habari	15:30 Rev rpt		00:00 Ai Jazeera
16:00 Watoto Wetu		23:00 Music: The Base	21:05 Igizo: Haikufuma	16:00 Daikika 45 rpt		
16:30 Soap: Uzalo		00:30 Ai Jazeera	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	16:45 Mizengwe rpt		
17:00 Soap: The Base			Min Jackpot	17:00 The Decor rpt		
17:30 Hapa na Pale			21:45 Art and Lifestyle	17:30 The Decor rpt		
18:00 Hapa na Pale			22:15 ITV Top 10	17:30 Meza Huru		
18:15 Mapiashi			23:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo	17:30 EcoAfrica		
18:30 DW: Afrimax			23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt	18:00 Innovation rpt		
18:40 Hapa na Pale			00:30 Ai Jazeera	18:30 Culinary delight rpt		
19:00 ITV Top 10 rpt				18:45 Mizengwe rpt		
19:00 Jungu kuu				19:00 Innovation rpt		
19:30 Shika Bamba				20:30 Out & About rpt		
20:00 Habari				21:00 Dw News Africa		
21:05 Igizo: Haikufuma				21:30 Capchat live		
21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa				22:15 Telenovela: In Love With Ramon		
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23:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo						
23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt						
00:30 Ai Jazeera						

9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo	21:50 Chetu ni chetu	13:30 Art and Lifestyle	10:05 Shika Bamba 5	19:30 The Decor	15:00 Shamba Lulu	12:30 Decor
9:30 Soap: Laws of love rpt	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	13:55 Habari za saa	10:35 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	19:30 The Decor	15:30 Bundesliga Kick off	13:00 Telenovela In Love With Ramon
9:55 Habari za saa	23:00 Jiji letu	14:00 Shamsam za Pwani rpt	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	20:00 Ripoti Maalum	16:00 Culinary Delights Rpt	13:00 Culinary rpt
10:00 Watoto wetu	23:30 Music: The Base	14:55 Habari za saa	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo	20:30 Tomorrow Today	16:30 Capchat rpt	14:00 Culinary rpt
10:55 Habari za saa	00:30 Ai Jazeera	15:00 Meza Huru	12:50 Art and Lifestyle	21:00 Out n' About	17:30 Meza Huru	14:30 Ripoti Maalum
11:00 ITV Top Ten rpt		15:30 Watoto wetu	13:20 Shamba lulu	21:30 Capchat Rpt	19:00 Innovation	15:00 DW 45 rpt
11:55 Habari za saa		16:00 Hapa na Pale	13:50 Soap rpt: Laws of love	23:00 Our Earth	19:30 Our Earth	16:00 Dw News Africa rpt
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13:00 Art and Lifestyle		17:00 Soap: Laws of love	18:00 Hapa na Pale	22:00 Jajina rpt	22:00 Albu Yako	19:00 Out & About Rpt
13:40 Art and Lifestyle		18:00 Habari za saa				



## WORLD

# Campaigns begin ahead of presidential, legislative polls in Rwanda

KIGALI

CAMPAIGNING started on Saturday in Rwanda ahead of next month's presidential and legislative elections.

Three presidential candidates are in the race including incumbent President Paul Kagame of the ruling Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF), Frank Habineza of the opposition Democratic Green Party of Rwanda and Philippe Mpayimana, an independent candidate.

Kagame, who has been in power since 2000, launched his campaign in Musanze district, northern Province, where he

told a huge rally that the RPF politics is about ensuring the development of all Rwandans without leaving anyone behind.

"Democracy is about personal choice of what you want and freedom of choice. In (a) democracy no one chooses for you, and that should be clear...that choice depends on Rwanda's uniqueness," he said to applause from the crowd. "We overcame a lot together, and so much more will be achieved," Kagame told thousands of supporters dressed in party colors.

The RPF candidate will address rallies



President Paul Kagame

at 19 campaign sites during the three-week campaign trail. RPF's manifesto for the next five years unveiled earlier this year will be to build on what has been achieved so far toward the country's national Vision 2050 which aims at achieving sustainable development and better quality of life for every Rwandan, according to the party's chairperson.

Kagame, 66, has accused Western countries of adopting "double standards" on democracy, following criticism about his long stay in power.

He won the last election in 2017 for a seven-year term with 98.63 percent of the vote, according to official data.

Kagame is seeking reelection following a 2015 constitutional amendment that allowed him to run for three more terms.

The constitutional changes allowed

Kagame to run for a seven-year third term in 2017. The amended constitution, however, reduced the presidential term limits to five years from 2024.

Habineza on his part began his campaign in the Gasabo District of Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, where he addressed supporters while Mpayimana launched his campaign in eastern Rwanda's Kirehe District.

Meanwhile, campaigns were launched in different parts of the country for more than 500 parliamentary candidates contesting for 80 seats in the lower chamber of parliament. The presidential and parliamentary elections will be conducted on July 15. About 9.5 million Rwandans are eligible to vote, according to the National Election Commission.

Xinhua

## DR Congo president lays foundation stone for Chinese-built ring roads

KINSHASA

THE President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Felix Tshisekedi on Saturday laid the foundation stone for the construction of Kinshasa's ring roads project, one of the priority infrastructure projects within the cooperation package of "resource for projects" between the DRC and China.

During the ceremony, attended by high-ranking personalities, including Prime Minister Judith Tuluza Suminwa, President Tshisekedi, driving a wheel loader himself, personally launched the project's construction. He said he was "reassured" by the Chinese techniques while wishing for a more diverse and deeper cooperation between the two countries.

For Alexis Gisaro Muvuni, minister of State for Infrastructure and Public Works, this project marks "a new stage" for DRC-China cooperation which strengthens DRC's road interconnectivity with various infrastructure projects.

This project will cross four communes of Kinshasa, home to more than 17 million residents, with nine penetrating roads connected by four interchanges, which would help relieve traffic congestion.

Zhao Bin, Chinese ambassador to the DRC, expressing his gratitude for DRC's support for the "resource for projects" cooperation package, described this project



President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Felix Tshisekedi (L) waves to the crowd in DRC's capital Kinshasa on Saturday. The President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Felix Tshisekedi on Saturday laid the foundation stone for the construction of Kinshasa's ring roads project, one of the priority infrastructure projects within the cooperation package of "resource for projects" between the DRC and China. Xinhua

as Kinshasa's "new landmark" and a "new symbol" of China-DRC cooperation in terms of infrastructure. Several projects, including

the partial rehabilitation of the national road NI, also within the "resource for projects" cooperation package, will be launched to

push forward socioeconomic development, highlighted Zhao.

Since Tshisekedi's state visit to China in May 2023, bilateral economic and commercial cooperation has been accelerating on all fronts, stressed the Chinese ambassador, citing the soon completion of the work of the Central African Cultural and Arts Center, a donation from the Chinese government, as well as an investment forum planned for August. An amendment to the "resource for projects" cooperation agreement was signed in March between the group of Chinese companies and the DRC government, which provides for an investment of some 7 billion dollars mainly intended for the DRC infrastructure construction and the SICOMINES, a joint venture created in 2008 by the DRC public mining company and a group of Chinese companies.

Xinhua

## AU seeks phased withdrawal of troops from Somalia to seal security gaps

MOGADISHU

THE African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) has called for a phased approach to the withdrawal of peacekeepers from Somalia to avoid a potential security vacuum.

The AUPSC strongly backed Somalia's request made in May for a phased approach to the Phase 3 drawdown of the African

Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) to enable Mogadishu to maintain half of the troops that were expected to withdraw by the end of June.

"The AUPSC notes that the exit of AU Transition Mission in Somalia needs to be carefully harmonized with the follow-on mission that replaces it, including the harmonization of Troop Contribution Countries (TCCs),

to ensure that there is no security gap between Dec. 31, 2024 and Jan. 1, 2025," AUPSC said in a communique released by ATMIS Saturday.

During its meeting, the AUPSC said the ongoing offensive operations against the al-Shabab terror group and the full implementation of the Phase 3 drawdown could lead to capability gaps that may have significant im-

plications for the security of Somalia and the wider region.

The AUPSC, which is the AU's decision-making organ for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, expects the withdrawal of 4,000 ATMIS personnel to be divided into two tranches, namely 2,000 by the end of June and 2,000 by the end of September.

ATMIS withdrew 5,000

troops from Somalia and handed over 17 military bases to the Somali Security Forces during the first and second phases of the drawdown concluded in 2023.

The AU organ called for enhanced capacity of the national security sector, including systematic but rapid generation of forces, as the Somalia National Army continues to assume security responsibilities.

## Russia to take measures to prevent Kiev's attacks on energy facilities – foreign ministry

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will take all measures to deprive the Kiev government of the opportunity to deliver strikes on energy facilities, the Russian foreign ministry's official spokeswoman, Maria Zakharova, said, commenting on latest Ukrainian attacks on the city of Energodar.

"The systematic nature of Ukrainian attacks on the Zaporozhye nuclear power plant and other Russian energy facilities exposes a fairly established and deliberate tendency, aimed at inflicting irreparable damage to the Russian economy and creating the risk of a man-made disaster that will put security of the entire European continent at risk," she said.

"Realizing how untrustworthy the regime of [Ukrainian President Vladimir] Zelensky is, our country will take all necessary measures in his regard, in order to deprive the Kiev regime of the opportunity to perform attacks of this kind."

"It is not the first time that the Zelensky regime is showing its total disregard for questions of security of civil nuclear facilities. This is manifested, among other things, in their persistence to create risks for ZNPP staff fulfilling their duties, and in attempts to exert external influence on decision-making by the power plant's personnel," she continued.

Zakharova went on to say that Moscow has been doing its best to ensure proper working atmosphere for the power plant's personnel, including through improving social and economic conditions in the adjacent city of Energodar, and repairing infrastructure.

"We are doing everything possible to cater for all needs of the population there and also to protect the people from the Kiev junta and its wicked provocative acts," the spokeswoman added.

"Nevertheless, we have to admit that ZNPP personnel and their family members, including children, continue to receive threats from Ukrainian special services. Apparently, the Kiev regime has no plans of abandoning its policy of intimidating the power plant's personnel through blackmail and intense psychological pressure," she said.

The armed forces of Ukraine attacked Energodar's energy infrastructure on June 19 and 21.

On June 19, four Ukrainian drones destroyed the Luch substation, which triggered energy and water supply outages in the city lasting several hours. On June 21, IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi said that the damage sustained by the Luch substation had a direct impact on nuclear safety and security.

Agencies

## Egypt cracks down on travel agencies over Hajj trip frauds

CAIRO

THE Egyptian government is set to ban the operation of 16 travel agencies for arranging "fraudulent" Hajj trips to Saudi Arabia for unregistered pilgrims.

At a Hajj deaths crisis unit meeting held on Saturday, Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly said he has ordered the license of these agencies to be revoked and those involved persons and entities transferred to public prosecution, according to an Egyptian cabinet statement.

The statement did not detail which agencies or concerned persons were behind organizing such trips through fraudulence or other illicit means for unregistered pilgrims to Mecca.

Madbouly updated that among more than 50,000 registered Egyptian pilgrims, a total of 31 people with "chronic diseases" were confirmed dead.

The move came amid media reports of over 600 deaths among unregistered Egyptian pilgrims during their performance of Hajj over the past week under the extreme heatwaves in the Saudi city.

The temperatures there at times hit 51 degrees Celsius. Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry told the meeting that the crisis was most deadly to unregistered pilgrims, claiming that the tourism companies transporting them "did not provide any services."

"He noted that his ministry would continue to coordinate with the Saudi authorities to find missing Egyptian pilgrims as soon as possible and ensure the home return of all Egyptian pilgrims. Hajj, a pillar of Islam, is annually performed in Mecca by crowds of pilgrims from all over the world.

The number of pilgrims has exceeded 1.8 million this year, according to Saudi authorities.

## How the Gulf became integral part of India's 'extended neighbourhood' under PM Modi

NEW DELHI

THE Gulf region has become an increasingly important strategic partner of India and an integral part of its 'extended neighbourhood' under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a report by the Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI) stated.

PM Modi's second-last visit before the Lok Sabha elections was to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar.

India's relationship with the Gulf states has transformed ever since PM Modi assumed office in 2014. The Gulf has become a foreign and security-policy priority for India, in which New Delhi

too has increasing interests and influence, writes Viraj Solanki, a Research Fellow for South and Central Asian Defence, Strategy and Diplomacy, ISS in the report for the ISPI.

Earlier, the relationship was focused only on energy, trade and Indian expatriates, the relationship evolved into a new framework encompassing political relations, investment, and defence and security cooperation.

Today, India's priorities include attracting investments to increase economic growth, addressing regional security concerns (including in the Arabian Sea and the Gulf), and enhancing its regional

presence and influence.

Prime Minister Modi's visit to UAE in 2015 was the first by an Indian prime minister to the UAE in 34 years, while his August 2019 visit to Bahrain was the first ever made by an Indian prime minister. His recent UAE visit was his seventh to the Gulf nation.

India has a large stake in Gulf stability given that approximately 8.8 million Indian nationals reside in the region.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is India's largest regional bloc trading partner. Trade with the GCC comprised 15.8 per cent of India's total trade in FY2022-23, compared to 11.6 per cent of



total trade with the European Union.

The UAE has consistently been India's principal trading partner within the Gulf and is India's third-largest trading partner overall, with Saudi Arabia in fourth place.

India's growing strategic and economic interests in the Gulf region have resulted in a new framework for India-Gulf ties based on investment, po-

litical relations, and defence and security cooperation.

The increased Gulf investments in India have also increased economic cooperation between India and the Gulf. Most notably, with India becoming an increasingly attractive economic market, Saudi Arabia and the UAE had announced investment targets in India of USD 100 billion and USD 75 billion, respectively.

The UAE is the seventh largest source of foreign direct investment (FDI) in India, currently at USD 15.3 billion. Saudi Arabia had invested USD 3.2 billion as of March 2022, while Qatar invested over USD 1.5 billion last year.

In August 2023, the Qatar Investment Authority also announced an investment of USD 1 billion in Reliance Retail Ventures. Additionally, in February 2024, Saudi Aramco stated that there were serious discussions with Indian companies to enhance the company's downstream investments in India.

Moreover, in September 2023, Modi and Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman signed an agreement to set up a joint task force to fast-track the project in Ratnagiri.

India engaged with the I2U2 grouping and joined the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC). During PM Modi's visit to the

UAE in February, India and the UAE counterparts also signed an inter-governmental framework agreement on IMEC.

The ISPI report further emphasised that personal relations between Prime Minister Modi and Gulf leaders, including with the UAE's President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, have deepened India's political relationships with those countries, building trust and a willingness to work together on sensitive issues. This has also resulted in increased defence and security cooperation, including counter-terrorism, maritime security and naval cooperation.

ANI



## Russian ambassador says Washington's sanctions benefit firms working for US

WASHINGTON

THE sanctions on Kaspersky Lab show that the United States is seeking to help its own corporations working for American intelligence, Russian Ambassador to Washington Anatoly Antonov said, commenting on the US move to blacklist the Russian cybersecurity company's executives.

"This yet another politicized step by the [US] administration is an attempt to present the situation as if any business activity in Russia is 'under the hood of the special services'.

To try to scare away businesses from normal mutually beneficial interaction, and consumers from purchasing Kaspersky products," the Russian Embassy quoted Antonov as saying on its Telegram channel.

"In reality, we witness desire to use dishonest methods to strengthen the capabilities of their own corporations. Many of which are not ashamed to admit that for the sake of



government contracts they work in close cooperation with American intelligence," the diplomat added.

According to him, "the leading positions

of our company in many countries have long aroused outright envy of the American authorities." "They don't want to admit that our specialists can provide more than worthy competition to local programmers. The mentioned company met one barrier by the US officialdom after another since 2017," he maintained.

Kaspersky Lab dismissed the latest restrictions as unjustified as it said they would not affect its sustainability and pledged to continue its mission.

The US authorities announced a full ban on Kaspersky software in the country the day before, citing the alleged threat to data safety as they also imposed export restrictions. Personal sanctions against a number of top managers at Kaspersky Lab were introduced on Friday.

Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov criticized the export restrictions as Washington's "signature move" for unfair competition.

Agencies



## Medvedev cites facts of Zelensky usurping power

MOSCOW

VLADIMIR Zelensky has been usurping power long before his presidential authority expired on May 21, 2024 by committing a number of political crimes, Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev said.

"The talentless buffoon and his clique of gangsters had long before stopped giving a damn to the Constitution of their own state, and began joyfully, nostrils flared in drug-induced excitement, greedily grab the power," Medvedev wrote on his VKontakte page.

He explained that in 1999, the Constitutional Court of Ukraine stated that the aim of the functional division of state power into legislative, executive and judicial (see Article 6 of the Constitution of Ukraine) was to prevent any of the branches from fully assuming the state power.

Article 75 of the Ukrainian Constitution says that the sole body of legislative power in Ukraine is the Parliament – the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

"Article 106 of the said Constitution states that the head of the state 'signs laws adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine,' and 'has the right to veto laws adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with their subsequent return for repeat consideration by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine,'" Medvedev noted, pointing out that, according to the Ukrainian Constitution, the president may not sign a law only when he used his veto right and returned it to the Parliament for reconsideration.

"However, to the head thug of a criminal community zelensky the Base Law is null and void. As his country's president, he neither signed nor 'returned for repeat consideration' (did not veto) as many as 32 laws, adopted by the Verkhovna Rada! Just think: he simply hid them in his drawer thus depriving

the people of regulating a huge number of issues. He began doing it occasionally back in 2020, and then systematically, since February 2022, as Russia started fighting against the Bandera regime," Medvedev stressed.

"In this way, the head of the now dying state has emphatically dashed the constitutional status of the Verkhovna Rada as the sole representative and legislative body," the Russian Security Council deputy chairman noted.

Medvedev pointed out that in 2019, Zelensky "assigned control over preparation of proposals on signing or vetoing laws – all on the sly and by an arbitrary edict – to the head of his so-called office, a weird character surnamed Yermak who de-facto became the second (or the first?) person of the country 404.

To put it plainly, established a criminal conspiracy with him in order to usurp power."

"The conclusion is simple: these operetta characters turned into criminals back in 2020. Their goal is plain: to establish dictatorship of their own.

The fact that their unlawful actions weren't met with due response in Ukraine eventually led to the special military operation," the Russian official said.

In his opinion, "hiding behind a sham declaration of presidential elections cancellation, the Kiev camarilla hopes to profit from the war till the very last day and fight till the very last Ukrainian."

"The only possible way to treat zelensky and his accomplices is as criminals who committed a felony under the Criminal Code of Ukraine (Article 109).

The decrees they issue are illegitimate and cannot be executed. The officials they appoint are not authorities. They are impostors and have no right to issue edicts," Medvedev concluded.

Agencies

## Middle Eastern refugees yearn for peace, reunion amid prolonged wars

CAIRO

IT'S a scorching afternoon in Cairo's bustling Khan el-Khalili market. Sara Ahmad, draped in a black abaya and clutching a folio of intricate tattoo designs, weaves through the crowd, peddling Henna tattoos, a hand-drawn form of body art, to passersby.

If lucky, she might attract one or two customers a day, earning 300 Egyptian pounds (about 6 U.S. dollars), which, however, is far from enough to support her and her four children.

For Sara and thousands of Sudanese refugees like her, begging has become a primary means of making ends meet, in addition to engaging in regular business activities.

Life is harsh. Yet compared to her compatriots lost in wars back in Sudan, Sara considers herself fortunate. In April 2023, armed conflict erupted in Sudan, prompting Sara, her family, and over 2 million Sudanese to flee their homeland for foreign shores to survive.

Sudan's surging refugee numbers epitomize the growing global refugee crisis in recent years. According to a June report from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), global refugee numbers have consistently risen to unprecedented levels, with tens of millions displaced.

Middle Eastern countries are the major source of the newly displaced people. While escalating wars and conflicts plague the region, these struggling refugees, dispersed and destitute, are eagerly awaiting a chance to reunite with loved ones in their homeland.

UNPRECEDENTED SCALE

For 45-year-old Gaza resident Samer Awad, being labeled a "refugee" is a challenging thing to come to terms with. "A year ago, I was celebrating Eid al-Fitr with my family," Awad told Xinhua. "Overnight,



Palestinians walk in a market of the Jabalia refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip, on June 20, 2024. Xinhua

we have become displaced people who (seem to) have no hope of surviving this deadly war."

On Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas launched a surprise attack on Israel, igniting a fresh round of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Israel responded with a massive military operation in Gaza, resulting in over 37,000 Palestinian deaths and displacing more than 2 million Gazans, including Awad and his family.

Beyond Gaza, regional conflicts in Yemen, Syria, Sudan, and recent flooding in Afghanistan have displaced millions across the Middle East. In Sudan alone, since violence erupted between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces in April 2023, over 71 million people had been compelled to leave their homes as of May, with an additional 1.9 million seeking refuge in neighboring countries.

In recent years, there have been setbacks in global efforts to address the refugee crisis. UNHCR's recent report shows that by the

end of 2023, an estimated 117.3 million people worldwide were displaced, which marked an increase of 8 percent or 8.8 million more people compared to the end of 2022, continuing a trend of annual increases over the past 12 years.

Globally, one in 69 people, or 1.5 percent of the world's population, were forcibly displaced, a figure nearly double that of a decade ago when it was one in 125 people.

The UN refugee agency estimates that forced displacement continued to increase in the first four months of 2024 and by the end of April is likely to exceed 120 million.

GROWING SPILLOVER

The continuous increase of refugees is evolving into a global crisis with extensive social, economic, and security ramifications, especially in developing countries.

According to the UNHCR, 75 percent of the global refugees were hosted by low- and middle-income countries. "Low-income

countries continued to host a disproportionately large share of the world's displaced people," the agency said in its June report, stressing that these countries, which make up just 9 percent of the global population and contribute only 0.5 percent to global GDP, nevertheless hosted 17 percent of the world's displaced persons.

Due to their weak economic foundations, insufficient job opportunities, and inadequate infrastructure, these low- and middle-income countries often struggle to provide resources for the refugees that flood in.

Many of the refugees are forced to rely on begging and other desperate measures to survive, placing a significant social strain on the host countries.

Take Lebanon, for instance, where an estimated 1.5 million Syrian refugees reside among a total population of slightly over 5.3 million, making it one of the countries with the highest proportion of refugees worldwide.

## Great potential seen in China-Europe EV cooperation towards energy transition

BRUSSELS

IN a move towards a sustainable future, Chinese electric vehicle (EV) manufacturers are contributing to Europe's green transformation, as revealed in a groundbreaking new report.

Unveiled in Brussels on Wednesday, the "Report on the Development of Chinese NEV Manufacturers in Europe" showcases the synergy between China and the European Union (EU) in their shared quest for carbon neutrality.

Chinese EV manufacturers are translating their expertise into tangible progress for Europe's green transportation sector through equipment and technological support. By offering mature products and solutions, they act as catalysts for the development of local green travel systems.

FRONTRUNNER IN GREEN DRIVE

With cutting-edge technology and robust products, Chinese EV companies are not just participating but are pivotal in driving Europe's green transportation revolution, highlighted by agreements such as BYD's deal with Swedish public transport leader Transdev AB.

In February 2023, the Chinese carmaker secured their largest ever order with Transdev AB for the supply of 52 electric buses. Since 2015, BYD's electric buses have been deployed in over 100 major cities across 20 European countries, making a significant contribution to sustainable public transportation, said the report.

European consumers are also showing a growing interest in Chinese EVs, attracted by their affordability, technological innovation, and extensive features. European sales of Chinese EVs jumped by 23 percent in the first four months this year compared to the same period in 2023. "We must commend China for its leadership in decarbonization industries. It is an inspiration and a path



Staff members work at the NIO Power Europe Plant in Biatortbagy, Hungary, March 18, 2024. Xinhua

that we must follow," former Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations Brice Lalonde said in his opening remarks at the release.

The integration of Chinese EVs into the European market holds promise for both economic and environmental gains. Economically, competitively priced Chinese EVs could drive down costs, making electric cars more accessible to a broader range of consumers. This price competition could stimulate the market, encourage innovation among European automakers, and potentially lead to job creation in related sectors such as EV maintenance, charging infrastructure,

and renewable energy.

Environmentally, the widespread adoption of EVs is critical for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector, one of the largest sources of carbon emissions in Europe. Chinese EVs, known for their advanced battery technology and energy efficiency, could significantly contribute to lowering emissions. This shift would be instrumental in helping European countries meet their climate goals.

TARIFFS MAY BACKFIRE

Earlier this month, the European Commission announced provisional duties

ranging from 17.4 percent to 38.1 percent to be levied on EVs imported from China. Such a move smacks of protectionism and serves no one's interests.

The report found that 73 percent of over 30 EV firms surveyed suffered a decline in sales in the European market due to the EU-launched anti-subsidy investigation. More than 80 percent of the respondents said the probe had eroded their confidence in investing in Europe in the near future, and reported concerns from their European partners, resulting in collaboration delays and less cooperation. The uncertainty also impacted employee morale, with 72 percent of those firms reporting worries among their local European staff about job prospects.

Despite these challenges, over 60 percent of these businesses believe the European market remains critical to their global strategies. They intend to expand their presence in Europe by establishing factories for EV production within the next five years. This expansion is expected to create new job opportunities, with some companies planning to hire more than 200 people locally in 2024.

"Tariffs are usually not the best way to handle trade tensions, and these particular tariffs seem counterproductive for many within the EU," said Eric De Keuleener, executive director of the Brussels-based University Foundation.

"Consumers will have to pay them, and

many EU automobile manufacturers' EV imports from China are thereby discouraged," he said.

The investigation has led to opposition from European automakers. They argued that after decades of collaboration and competition, the global automotive industry has become highly integrated. An investigation of this nature could disrupt established supply chains and hinder joint research and development efforts, ultimately harming both European and Chinese automotive industries.

ROAD AHEAD

The European green transition is a complex and multifaceted endeavor, requiring concerted efforts across various sectors. The integration of Chinese EVs into the European market represents a significant step forward, and offers endless opportunities.

"The last thing we need is a trade war with escalating tariffs. In my view, engaging in bilateral discussions to address the complexity of issues is preferable," said Lalonde.

Dick Roche, former Irish minister for European affairs, agreed. Roche considered technological change a key driver of the green and digital transition in Europe, saying China is a leader in vital technologies that fuel Europe's progress towards carbon neutrality.

Xinhua





Duane "Keffe D" Davis, who is accused of orchestrating the 1996 slaying of hip-hop icon Tupac Shakur, is led into the courtroom during a status hearing at the Regional Justice Center, on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, in Las Vegas. Davis will ask a judge this week on June 24, to let him out of jail pending trial on a murder charge. AP

## Ex-gang leader facing trial in Tupac Shakur killing seeking release from Vegas jail on \$750K bail

LAS VEGAS

A FORMER Los Angeles-area gang leader accused of killing hip-hop music legend Tupac Shakur in 1996 in Las Vegas will ask a judge next week to let him out of jail to prepare for his trial on a murder charge.

Duane "Keffe D" Davis' attorney filed documents Thursday and a judge scheduled a hearing Tuesday at which Davis will ask permission to post \$750,000 bond to be freed to house arrest with electronic monitoring.

Davis' defense attorney, Carl Arnold, and a spokesperson did not immediately respond Friday to email and telephone messages about the court filing.

Davis has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder and has remained jailed at the Clark County Detention Center in Las Vegas since his arrest last Sept. 29. His trial is scheduled Nov. 4. If convicted, he could spend the rest of his life in prison.

Prosecutors asked Clark County District Court Judge Carli Kierny to require a "source hearing" for Davis to demonstrate that any funds used to secure his release are obtained legally.

Representatives at Crum & Forster Insurance and North River Insurance Co., the Morristown, New Jersey-based backer of the bond identified in the court filing, did not respond Friday to telephone messages.

Davis is originally from Compton, California, but has lived in recent years with his wife and son in Henderson, a Las Vegas suburb.

He and prosecutors say he is the only person still alive among four

people who were in a car from which shots were fired in the September 1996 shooting that killed Shakur and wounded rap mogul Marion "Suge" Knight at an intersection just off the Las Vegas Strip. Knight is serving 28 years in a California prison for an unrelated case, the use of a vehicle to kill a Los Angeles-area man in 2015.

In the 27 years since the Shakur killing, Davis has publicly described himself as the orchestrator of the shooting, but not the gunman. A renewed push by Las Vegas police to solve the case led to a search warrant and raid at his Henderson home last July.

Prosecutors say they have strong evidence that Davis incriminated himself during police and media interviews since 2008, and in a 2019 tell-all memoir of his life leading a Compton street gang.

In the book, Davis wrote that he was promised immunity when he told authorities in Los Angeles what he knew about the fatal shootings of Shakur and rival rapper Christopher Wallace six months later in Los Angeles. Wallace was known as The Notorious B.I.G. or Biggie Smalls.

Arnold maintains that Davis' word can't be trusted and his accounts were told so he could make money. "He himself is giving different stories," Arnold told reporters outside a courtroom in April.

Arnold has said he does not expect Davis will testify at trial, but he intends to call Knight to testify. The defense attorney said police and prosecutors lack proof Davis was in Las Vegas at the time of Shakur's killing and don't have key evidence including the gun or car used during the shooting. AP

## Golf tournament slated for next month

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIANS have been asked to come out in large numbers to witness golf talents displayed at the Golf tournament slated for July 5-7 at the Lugalo Golf Club in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam recently, Lugalo Golf Club chairman Michael Luwongo said that the showdown will be one of its kind due to the improvements made.

He also said that the tournament would involve various clubs in Tanzania and outfits from outside the country, pointing out that there would be three categories - youths, children, and adults.

"The tournament will be one of its kind due to the preparations made by our sponsors, network service provider Vodacom Tanzania," Luwongo noted.

Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) president Gilman Kasiga said golfers who

will do well in the tournament will have the opportunity to participate in various popular showdowns.

"I call on the players to compete, knowing that the winner will have the opportunity to participate in the World Championships," Kasiga appealed.

He congratulated Vodacom Tanzania for sponsoring the tournament and promised to cooperate with the company to promote the game of golf.

Representative of the sponsor of the tournament, Aileen Meena, said they will continue cooperating with the club.

"Despite sponsoring the showdown, we will be providing technology services that will help players see what they are doing through various social networks," Aileen revealed.

She said the winners will get cash prizes and trophies, adding the prizes have been significantly improved.

# Organisers partner with TRC to transport Dodoma Marathon participants

By Guardian Correspondent

IN a move that promises to make the upcoming Dodoma Marathon more accessible, organisers have teamed up with the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) to offer high-speed train transportation for participants.

Through a strategic agreement, over 1,000 runners from Dar es Salaam and Morogoro will have the opportunity to experience the comfort and convenience of Tanzania's modern high-speed train, the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), as they make their way to the city of Dodoma.

The signing ceremony, held at the TRC Head Offices in Dar es Salaam over the weekend saw the director-general of TRC, Masanja Kadogosa, and the representative of the organisers, Waziri Barnabas, sealing this transformative partnership.

But the journey to this milestone began earlier, as the stakeholders, including officials, sponsors and select runners, embarked on a trial run from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro and back, allowing them to experience the comfort and convenience of the SGR train.

"To gain experience and witness the quality of this train transportation for the participants of our marathon who will use it in a few days, we, as the bank and other stakeholders including sponsors, have



Stakeholders, including runners from Dar es Salaam, during the trial run from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro and back after TRC and the organisers of the Dodoma Marathon signed the partnership agreement enabling TRC to provide high-speed SGR train transportation for participants of the race from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma and back. The event took place over the weekend. The marathon is scheduled for July 28 at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma. Photo: Correspondent

used this transportation today, and the truth is that it has impressed us greatly," Barnabas expressed.

The Dodoma Marathon season five, scheduled for July 28 at the Jamhuri Stadium, is more than just a sports event - it is a powerful platform to raise funds for the fight against cervical cancer and provide educational sponsorships for midwives, ultimately improving the health of mothers and infants in the country.

"This partnership, along with providing an opportunity for participants of our marathon from Dar es Salaam and Morogoro to travel to Dodoma, also

aims to demonstrate our institution's commitment to supporting the significant effort made by the government to realize this large and modern project," Barnabas explained.

In addition to the train option, participants from Dar es Salaam will also have the choice to travel by bus, private car, or plane to the marathon in Dodoma.

"However, the participants who have the opportunity to use this SGR train will be guaranteed various forms of entertainment throughout the journey in specially arranged compartments for them," Barnabas added, further highlight-

ing the thoughtful touches that will make this journey truly remarkable, unique and memorable experience for the participants.

This innovative approach not only enhances the overall experience but also provides a more environmentally friendly and efficient mode of transportation.

Speaking earlier at the event, Kadogosa assured the participants of the marathon that they will receive unique services and experiences, especially considering that the journey will be one of the first trips of the SGR train from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma.

"It is my hope that the participants of the Dodoma Marathon will have a travel experience they have never had before. So, I highly encourage the residents of Dar es Salaam and Morogoro to register in large numbers to participate in the noble cause because the distance from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma is no longer a challenge through this SGR train," said Kadogosa.

Regarding participation in the marathon, the chairperson of the organizing committee, Tasiana Masimba, said interested participants can register for the event through the website [www.events.nbc.co.tz](http://www.events.nbc.co.tz), with individual registration fees of TZS 35,000 and group registration (minimum 25 people) of Tsh 25,000.



Gerson Msigwa, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports (1st L), and Manoj Verma, Charge d'Affaires at the High Commission of India (1st R) and other people practice yoga exercises at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club's football ground to celebrate the 10th International Day of Yoga yesterday. Photo: Correspondent

## Ministry lines up program for yoga and football exercises

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

THE Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports in collaboration with the Ministry of Health will soon come up with a new comprehensive program aimed at helping Tanzanians participate in yoga and football exercises to curb many health problems, reduce medical costs and improve mental health.

Gerson Msigwa, the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports Permanent Secretary revealed when he graced the celebration of the 10th International Day of Yoga at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) football ground yesterday.

Some Indian diaspora, Vietnamese, and Tanzanians including students from universities, primary, and secondary schools

took part in the celebrations.

"Right now, we are in discussion to find out how we will implement the program," Msigwa said.

He called on Tanzanians nationwide to exercise yoga to improve their health and minimize medical expenses.

"Yoga exercises can be done everywhere at any time, they help us manage stress, improve our flexibility and strength, and boost our immune system, they can be a valuable resource for staying healthy," he said.

He called on Tanzanians and foreigners living in the country to support his ministry once it begins implementing the program.

Manoj Verma, Charge d'Affaires at India's High Commission to Tanzania, added that

the Indian diaspora - both young and elderly - had joined Tanzanians to celebrate the 10th International Day of Yoga to raise awareness of the many benefits of yoga for physical well-being and mental health.

Verma revealed: "This year the International Day of Yoga carries a unique theme: 'Yoga for Self and Society' and, during the event, participants practiced various yoga poses involving patterned breathing, joints, and muscle loosening."

"They moreover did exercises for neck, shoulders, hands, and legs, standing postures, sitting postures, crocodile postures, rabbit postures, bridge postures, and medication," he said.

According to Verma, yoga promotes physical well-being, has mental health benefits for indi-

viduals, and fosters peace and harmony.

He lauded everyone who turned up for the occasion for being part of the event that helped people transform their minds, soul, humanity, and well-being.

"This year, we moreover have cultural performance that includes dance and music to promote cultural relations between Tanzania and India," he said.

He asked people to practice yoga to improve flexibility, have good health, and bolster well-being.

Verma pointed out that yoga is practiced by millions of people and is increasingly gaining popularity, therefore, it is time for Tanzanians to practice it because India has yoga experts who can train them.



## Last-chance miss denies Georgia its first win in draw with Czech Republic at Euro 2024

HAMBURG, Germany

GEORGIA earned its first ever point at a major tournament after drawing with the Czech Republic 1-1 at the European Championship on Saturday. It was nearly a win.

Midfielder Saba Lobjanidze fired his shot narrowly over the bar with the last kick of the game as Georgia's promising three-on-one counterattack came to nothing.

Lobjanidze – who plays for Atlanta United in the U.S. state of Georgia – seemed to be in tears after the final whistle and was comforted by coach Willy Sagnol.

"As I tried to tell him, the ones who never tried, they will never miss. And the best way to miss is to try," Sagnol said.

"Some mixed feelings after the match in the locker room. For the first minutes I think the players were a bit disappointed because of this massive opportunity but I hope they will quickly get the fact that they got their first ever point in a major tournament."

There was a big mismatch in experience, with the Czech team playing in its eighth consecutive European Championship and Georgia, which was once part of the Soviet Union, making its debut as an independent nation.

Earlier, video reviews were in the spotlight.

The Czechs dominated the opening stages and celebrated the opening goal in the 23rd minute when Adam Hlozek bundled the ball into the net at the far post off a long throw.

Replays, however, showed Hlozek's shot bounced back off goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili and in off the Czech forward's face and arm.

The situation was reversed when Georgia defender Guram Kashia shot straight at the goalkeeper just before halftime. Georgia fans rued the missed chance but celebrated when a video review found the ball came off Czech defender Robin Hranac's arm a couple of seconds earlier.

Georgia, the only team making its debut at Euro 2024, then took the lead with a Georges Mikautadze penalty given for handball by Czech defender Robin Hranac.

The Czechs got back into the game when a header rebounded off the post and Patrik Schick scored with his chest for his sixth career goal at the European Championships, ranking him joint sixth on the all-time list.

Schick limped off soon after and applied ice to his calf, potentially a major concern for the Czech Republic given the Bayer Leverkusen striker's importance to the team and his long record of previous injuries. "It's no good," Schick told Czech public TV about the injury.

VAR didn't intervene later when the Czechs appealed for players being pushed by Georgia defenders in the penalty area, perhaps because the contact on both occasions was relatively slight.

AP

## Southgate and England team under fire after lackluster display at Euro

GELSENKIRCHEN, Germany

GARETH Southgate said he knew it was coming. He was right.

Negativity surrounds the England team – despite leading its group after two games at Euro 2024 and likely to advance to the knockout phase.

After Thursday's uninspiring 1-1 draw with Denmark, the coach acknowledged "we understand what that will mean for the next few days."

Indeed, it has fueled concern among fans, English media and former players.

"We have to reflect the mood of the nation," former England captain Gary Lineker said on his podcast, *The Rest is Football*. "I can't imagine anybody, who is English, that would have enjoyed England's performance because it was lethargic, it was dour..."

"You can think of all sorts of words and expletives if you like," he added, before using one himself.

Lineker's political opinions have upset the U.K. government in the recent past – now he has delivered a brutal assessment of the England team.

His comments about England appear to have summed up the mood of many fans.

Southgate's team was a pre-tournament favorite and a beaten finalist at the last Euros.

BBC pundit Alan Shearer described the second half against Denmark as "awful."

Southgate's handling of a squad that includes Harry Kane, Jude Bellingham and Phil Foden has been brought into question.

"We have world class players so it's the manager's job to get the best out of those players," said Shearer, a former England striker.

Southgate has transformed England's fortunes since he was appointed in 2016 – leading the country to the semifinals of the World Cup in 2018.

England missed out on a first trophy since winning the 1966 World Cup when it lost on penalties to Italy in the final of the last Euros three years ago

AP

# De Bruyne crowns Belgium's 2-0 win over Romania to get Euro 2024 campaign on track

COLOGNE, Germany

IN front of Belgium's royal family, King Kev sealed the win.

Belgium shook off the shock of losing to Slovakia in its opening game of the European Championship by beating Romania 2-0 on Saturday.

Kevin De Bruyne's second-half goal completed the win after Youri Tielemans scored in the second minute at Cologne Stadium.

Watching on were Belgium's King Philippe and Queen Mathilde.

"We knew what we needed to do. We needed to win otherwise we were going home," De Bruyne said. "I will do everything I can to keep the lads on track."

This was just what Belgium needed after the Slovakia stunner, which raised the prospect of another early exit from a major tournament after being eliminated at the group stage of the 2022 World Cup.

Tielemans gave the No.



Kevin De Bruyne strikes a pose after scoring his team's second goal. Agencies

3-ranked team in the world a flying start with a goal from the edge of the area. De Bruyne converted direct from Belgium goalkeeper Koen Casteels' long kick in the 80th.

The result means all four teams in Group E have three points and there is all to play for in the final round of games on Wednesday, when Belgium plays Ukraine and Romania

takes on Slovakia.

"I'm very relieved we won the game. It was very important to get the three points," Belgium coach Domenico Tedesco said.

While Belgium won, there was more frustration for Romelu Lukaku, who had a third goal ruled out by VAR at these Euros.

Still, he was at the center of his team's great start when laying the ball off for Tielemans to drive in low from the edge of the box.

Belgium has been criticized for failing to live up to expectations in the past, and its opening defeat would not have helped the confidence among the squad going into Saturday's game.

Tielemans' goal seemed to lift the pressure, and Belgium ruled the rest of the half with 67% of possession.

Lukaku thought he scored after the break, but VAR said he strayed offside before firing past Romania keeper Florin Nita.

The longer the game went on without Belgium scoring a second, the more the tension rose.

Dennis Man could have evened the score when running through on goal, but was denied by Casteels.

The keeper then turned provider with a long punt upfield, which De Bruyne raced on to and fired home.

Tedesco thought his team took too long to seal the win.

"Scoring four or five goals tonight was possible," he said. "It is important to create chances, but you have to kill the game earlier for sure."

Under former Belgium coach Roberto Martinez, Portugal advanced to the knockout phase after a 3-0 win against Turkey in Group F. Georgia picked up its first ever point at a major tournament after a drawing the Czech Republic 1-1 and still has hopes of advancing.

AP

## No goals but lots of selfie-seekers for Ronaldo in chaotic Portugal win over Turkey at Euro 2024

DORTMUND, Germany

BY the end, it was hard to know what Cristiano Ronaldo was more frustrated about.

Failing to score for the second straight game at the European Championship or having to fend off repeated attempts for selfies by his adoring fans.

In what proved to be a wild and potentially dangerous match for the five-time world player of the year, Ronaldo had no goals, one assist and no less than four selfie-seeking field invaders for company in Portugal's chaotic 3-0 win over Turkey that secured his team a spot in Euro 2024's round of 16 on Saturday.

Ronaldo, one of the world's most popular and well-known sport stars, was the center of attention as always at Westfalenstadion.

Just not how he might have expected.

"That's the price you pay for being so recognized in the world of football," said Bernardo Silva, Ronaldo's Portugal teammate.

Making a record 27th appearance at the Euros, Ronaldo did get his first goal involvement of this tournament when he set up the third by Bruno Fernandes in the 55th minute with an unselfish pass across the face of the six-yard box after being played clean through.

Ronaldo, the most prolific scorer ever in men's international soccer with 130 goals, rarely passes up such opportunities to add to his remarkable tally.

Perhaps he just wanted another record. This was his eighth assist at a European Championship, more than anyone else.

"It was a pure moment of Portuguese football," Portugal coach Roberto Martinez said in praise of Ronaldo, his captain. "It should be shown in



A young pitch invader takes a selfie with Cristiano Ronaldo. AFP

every academy in Portugal and world football, because it showed that the team is the most important thing."

Then things got a bit silly – and potentially unsafe – for the former Real Madrid, Manchester United and Juventus striker. Ronaldo was fine posing for a photograph with a young boy who evaded stewards to get on the field in the 69th minute and whipped out his cell phone. That fan sprinted off before finally being grabbed and escorted away by security.

However, Ronaldo certainly wasn't amused when two other fans with phones at the ready tried the same trick in the final few minutes of a game that flew out of control. He threw his arms up in disgust the first time and appeared to actively try to avoid the next one as he defended a corner.

It wasn't clear if those fans got their wish before being taken away.

After the final whistle, there were more security breaches as a fan wearing a red Portugal jersey attempted to get close to Ronaldo while holding a phone. He was soon tackled to the

ground. Then two more supporters were prevented from confronting Ronaldo as Portugal's players walked off the field, having just come from saluting their law-abiding fans in the stands. "It's a concern," Martinez said, "because today we were lucky that

the intentions of the fans were good.

"If those intentions are wrong, the players are exposed. I don't think that should happen on a football pitch."

Ronaldo missed out on a chance to score a record-extending 15th European Championship

goal against a Turkey team that was its own worst enemy at times.

Not least in the 28th minute when, trailing 1-0 to Silva's strike seven minutes earlier, Turkey center back Samet Akaydin delivered a back-pass that rolled to the side of his goalkeeper and straight into the net. Remarkably, it was a sixth own-goal already at these Euros – and certainly the most embarrassing, with Akaydin later being taken off injured to complete a miserable evening for the defender.

Portugal backed up its opening 2-1 victory over the Czech Republic and has qualified with a game to spare from Group F, guaranteeing a last-16 match in Frankfurt on July 1. Martinez may choose to rest Ronaldo and more of his key players for Portugal's final group match, against Georgia in Gelsenkirchen on Wednesday.

Turkey stayed on the three points it had from beating Georgia 3-1 in their first game, but the pressure has been firmly ramped up on coach Vincenzo Montella, who faced intense questioning of his tactics from his country's media after the match.

"We were punished harshly tonight," Montella said.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

De Bruyne crowns Belgium's 2-0 win over Romania to get Euro 2024 campaign on track

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Winger Ayoub Lyanga. Agencies

## Azam release four players in squad shake up

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM have parted ways with four players as they seek to take a new direction in the upcoming 2024/25 season.

The four players, namely defender Malickou Ndoye, midfielder Issah Ndala, defender Edward Manyama and winger Ayoub Lyanga, have been let go.

All four players are out of contract at Azam and the club have confirmed they are no longer part of the team.

In a statement released yesterday, Azam said: "Thank you very much for your contribution to fighting for our club's logo for the entire period you were with us."

"We wish you all the best wherever you go on your next football journey."

Ndoye and Ndala joined Azam in 2022. The duo found playing time a scarce commodity due to a combination of injury and form in the two years with Azam.

Ndala, a Nigerian youth international, was loaned out to KMC at the start of last season. While Ndoye was retained for the 2023/24 campaign, he still found himself down the pecking order.

The Senegalese defender sat out most of the 2022/23 campaign through injury but was surprisingly rewarded a one-year contract extension.

Lyanga, the longest serving player among the four, joined Azam from Coastal Union in 2020 and has experienced both highs and lows in the four years at Chamazi.

Manyama has, on the other hand, been sparingly used as a third choice centre-back following the arrival of Colombian defender Yeison Fuentes.

The released players will hope to get some new teams in this transfer window to continue with their careers.

Lyanga and Manyama are said to have agreed terms with Singida Black Stars.

Azam are shaping their squad ahead of a busy season that will also include participation in the CAF Champions League.

To date, Azam have parted ways with five players to make way for new players who will be coming in next season. The first player to leave was Daniel Amoah.

As they look to build a team ready to challenge for the league title, they moved early in the transfer market to sign four players.

The new arrivals are the Ivorian duo of attacking midfielder Franck Tiesse and defender Yoro Mamadou Diaby, Colombian midfielder Ever Meza from Leones and another Colombian striker Jhonier Blanco.

# Simba make strategic signings of Okejepha and Omary ahead of new season



Rivers United midfielder Augustine Okejepha. Agencies

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

**S**IMBA are making significant strides as they gear up for the upcoming season, with the club finalizing the signing of 20-year-old defensive midfielder Augustine Okejepha from Rivers United in Nigeria.

Okejepha, who has been a standout player for Rivers United, is set to sign a three-year contract with Simba, according to multiple sports media sources.

This signing marks a notable addition to Simba's roster as the club aims to strengthen its squad for the new season.

The player is said to have already said yes and ready for the move and both parties now are working to conclude the deal.

Okejepha will become the fourth Nigerian player to join Simba in recent years, following in the footsteps of Nelson Okwa, Victor Akpan, and Junior Lokosa.

However, unlike his predecessors who struggled to make a significant impact, Okejepha arrives with high expectations after a stellar season with Rivers United, where he was a key player.

In addition to Okejepha, Simba are said to have also secured the services of Omary Omary from Mashujaa

FC. Omary, a promising midfielder, has agreed to a two-year contract with the Msimbazi Street-based side.

The 24-year-old had an impressive stint with Mashujaa FC last season, scoring four goals and providing two assists, showcasing his potential to be a valuable asset for Simba.

Simba's recent signings reflect the club's strategy

of investing in young, local talent. The club has focused on players under the age of 25, aligning with its long-term goals. Omary will join a new generation of Simba stars, including Ali Salim, Israel Mwenda, Hussein Kazi, Lameck Lawi, Ladark Chasambi, Edwin Balua, and Saleh Karabaka, as the club looks to build a formidable team for the future.

This week is expected to be a busy period for Simba as they complete all registration processes ahead of their pre-season preparations. The team is set to travel to the Egyptian city of Ismailia at the beginning of July 2024 for a pre-season camp.

This camp will be crucial for the squad's preparation, especially amid the significant changes and

high aspirations for a stronger performance in the upcoming season.

Simba's preparations come on the heels of a season marked by instability and transition. The club ended the last season under the guidance of acting head coach Juma Mgunda, who stepped in following the departure of Abdelhak Benchika due to family reasons.

Mgunda managed to steer the team through the remainder of the season but is set to join Coastal Union FC for the upcoming season, leaving Simba in need of a new head coach.

The appointment of a new head coach is eagerly anticipated as the club aims to solidify its leadership and strategy.

The roster overhaul at Simba has also seen the departure of several key players, including Shabani Chilunda, Luis Jose Miquessonne, Kennedy Juma, Saïdo Ntibanzokiza, and long-time captain John Bocco.

These moves indicate the club's intention to refresh its squad and inject new talent, a strategy aimed at bolstering the team's competitiveness.

As Simba head into the pre-season, the club's management, led by the technical bench and the yet-to-be-announced head coach, will work on integrating the new signings and refining the team's tactics.

The pre-season camp in Ismailia will provide an opportunity for the players to build chemistry and for the coaching staff to assess the squad's readiness.

Simba's fans are hopeful that the club's recent signings and strategic changes will translate into a successful season.

With the addition of promising talents like Okejepha and Omary, coupled with a focused pre-season training program, Simba are poised to make a strong showing in the upcoming season.

## ..warn Coastal Union over potential sale of Lawi

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA Sports Club's Board of Directors member, Crescentine Magori, has issued a stern warning to Coastal Union, threatening that they will take legal action through FIFA if Coastal Union proceed with the sale of defender Lameck Lawi to another club.

Magori asserts that Simba followed all required procedures to register Lawi, despite claims from Coastal Union's leadership to the contrary.

He explained that Simba had paid the first installment of the transfer fee and was scheduled to complete the payment by May 31, this year.

According to Magori, Coastal Union failed to issue a 10-day notice if they believed Simba were late in completing the payment, which would have been the appropriate protocol.

"This matter falls under FIFA's jurisdiction, not the Tanzania Foot-

ball Federation (TFF). Coastal Union are disappointed because the player chose to join us. Now, if they attempt to sell him, we will sue Coastal Union and any club that tries to buy him," Magori stated firmly.

Reports indicate that Simba made a public announcement about signing Lawi after Coastal Union returned the initial payment. This move was made because Simba had received information suggesting Coastal Union were planning to sell the defender to an overseas club.

Simba's hastened introduction of Lawi, despite the absence of official preparations for his unveiling, was a strategic response to these developments.

Coastal Union, on their part, have halted the transaction with Simba, citing violations of the agreement.

Coastal Union claim that Simba were supposed to pay the full amount for Lawi by May 14, 2024, and failed to do so. The second part

of the agreement required Simba to finalize the payment by May 31, 2024, which Coastal Union allege did not happen either.

Simba assert that they completed the payment on June 10, albeit slightly delayed. They argue that since most of the payment had been made, Coastal Union should return the money if they decide to terminate the contract. This has led to further complications between the two clubs.

The dispute has also reportedly caused internal disagreement within Coastal Union's leadership, with claims that some officials were not involved in the initial deal and thus were unaware of the specifics. This lack of communication has only added to the complexity of the situation.

Ayoub Omar, the Coastal Union general secretary, spoke on the matter, saying: "There was an agreement, and there are aspects of it that

remain confidential. It suffices to say that while we had the intention of conducting business with Simba, certain actions taken by them were incorrect. Hence, we have decided to halt the process."

Omar hinted at the possibility of selling Lawi but confirmed that, for the moment, the dealings with Simba were over.

"We cannot state that Lawi will not be sold, but as it stands, the agreement between us and Simba has ended here. We have returned their money, and we will retain our player," he added.

The escalating tension between Simba and Coastal Union is poised to draw significant attention from the football community. If unresolved, this dispute could set a precedent for how transfer disagreements are handled in the future, potentially involving FIFA's intervention to mediate and adjudicate.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

