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Ten Malaysian ICT firms target export openings, tech links

By Henry Mwangonde

A DELEGATION of 10 Malaysian technology companies is in the country to explore investment opportunities in the country's information and communication technology (ICT) sector.

Wan Murdan wan Mohammed, the digital industry acceleration vice-president at the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) said at the Malaysia-Tanzania technology symposium in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the visit is part of Malaysia's strategy to export its technological expertise globally.

Tanzania is one among key African countries that Malaysia is targeting for collaboration, he said, noting that Malaysian companies are particularly interested in establishing ventures in drone technology, cyber-security and the 'internet of things' innovation field.

"We aim to expand our market globally, and Tanzania stands out as a preferred destination due to its strategic geographical position and its rapidly growing economy," he said, elaborating that these factors provide the companies with an opportunity to enter the

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PM: State agencies must prepare for emergencies



Olivier Nibitanga (R), governor of Burundi's Rutana Province, guides experts on Wednesday on ways to cross one of the rivulets in the Malagarasi River zone safely. It was in the course of a tour of the area by the Joint Technical Committee for the reinforcement of the Tanzania-Burundi border. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

"The feedback gathered in this evaluation comes from stakeholders and friendly countries"

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed public institutions in the health sector to take early precautions, assess health risks and be prepared for emergencies when they occur.

Launching an evaluation report on the implementation of the universal health coverage and emergency preparedness in Dar es Salaam yesterday, he appealed to government departments and agencies to oversee the implementation of the universal health insurance law to ensure that everyone has access to healthcare services.

This determination is part of fulfilling the global resolutions made in 2020 regarding health emergencies, he said, noting that during the COVID-19 emergency, each country learned a lot from the situation as it affected society and the economy as a whole.

This was the reason the World Health Organization (WHO), at its 73rd annual meeting at the time, urged member countries to voluntarily prepare for health emergencies, he stated, underlining the need for the President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) to prepare distinct allocation needs for such situations.

They must list priority activities and submit them to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to provide a work plan and requirements to be included in the 2025/26 national budget, he said.

He similarly demanded the strengthening of cooperation between private and public institutions to obtain policy feedback, resolve existing challenges and find solutions to bottlenecks arising in taking up universal coverage policy.

The Ministry of Health needs to consult and encourage investments to identify disease pathogens, he said, underlining that public institutions need to ensure that health services are well delivered.

Estimates need to be prepared and allo-

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Tanzania tables 16 projects at COP29

Sweden expects to identify additional priority areas for collaboration with the government in due course, closely working with the Swedish Embassy in their design and implementation

By Guardian Correspondent, Baku

TANZANIA has sought funding for 16 priority projects that cover areas such as waste management for energy production, methane reduction and sustainable management of blue economy resources.

Kemilembe Mutasa, the Vice President's Office director of environment, tabled this proposal at a meeting here yesterday with Mattias Frumerie, the Swedish climate ambassador to the UN conference on climate change.

The meeting on the sidelines of the 29th conference of the parties (COP29) to the United Nations framework convention on climate change in the Azerbaijan capital. Involved other VPO officials.

The two sides discussed projects aimed at enhancing sustainable initiatives, including improving the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system, restoring degraded areas and promoting clean cooking energy.

They also discussed building capacity in carbon market non-market mechanisms, empowering youth and women to adapt to localised climate change impacts, as well as strengthening bilateral cooperation, the director noted

During the meeting, the VPO team expressed gratitude to the Swedish government for supporting various environmental

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Polls coverage: Minister rooting for media dialogue, open doors

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has reaffirmed its commitment to transparency during the civic polls and beyond, enabling journalists to perform their duties without interference.

Jerry Silaa, the Information, Communication and Information Technology minister, expressed this position while on a familiarization meeting with members of



It is crucial to express oneself and, equally, to listen

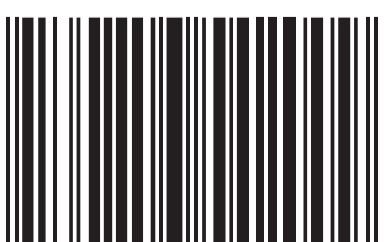
the Coalition on the Right to Information (CoRI) in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Stressing his readiness for an open-door policy, he told participants drawn from organizations such as the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT), the Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA), JamiiForums, Sikika, and the Legal and Human Rights Centre that the ministry was putting to work the vision by President Samia

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Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa launches a document on the Evaluation of Universal Health Coverage and Emergency Preparedness in Tanzania in Dar es Salaam yesterday. It was at a joint meeting of government ministers and senior World Health Organisation officials. He is with the Director of the WHO Regional Office for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti (2nd-R), Zanzibar Health minister Nassor Ahmed Mazrui (R) and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination) William Lukuvi. Photo: PMO



Tanzania tables 16 projects at COP29

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projects, while the envoy hailed government efforts in implementing diverse development initiatives.

He stressed his country's support particularly for the priority projects outlined in the 16 item proposal tabled in the wider session, linking the proposal with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which focuses on carbon market mechanisms.

Discussions were still being pursued at the conference, even as the two delegations were reaching accords on assistance for projects that empower women in tackling specific impacts of climate change.

Sweden expects to identify additional priority areas for collaboration with the government in due course, closely working with the Swedish Embassy in their design and implementation, he added.

Malaysian ICT firms target export openings, tech links

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broader East African market.

Daudi Riganda, the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) acting director for investment promotion, described Malaysia as a Global South leader in the technology sector, and Tanzania is keen to learn from its advancements.

Tanzania is focused on attracting quality investments, particularly in green technologies to ensure sustainable development, he said, explaining that quality investments are those that incorporate green technology.

"Tanzania is not just watching from the sidelines; we are taking steps to ensure we are part of global efforts toward sustainability," he declared, pointing out that the Malaysian companies, while focused on ICT, are exploring how technology can be used to boost other sectors.

These include agriculture and education, he said, commending that approach as it aligns with Tanzania's ongoing efforts to integrate technology into key areas of its economy. He further stressed the importance of green technology as it is environmentally friendly and uplifts the country's development goals.

He ventured to assert that Malaysia, once a fairly closed market, is now opening up to global business firms, creating new avenues for col-

laboration with Tanzania, meanwhile as Mulembwa Munaku, the director of ICT systems and services at the Information, Communication, and Information Technology ministry, said the companies are in the country to identify potential areas for investment in the sector.

The symposium was designed to provide information to potential investors as to available opportunities and to lay the ground for capacity building of local technology firms to serve sectors like agriculture.

The government is focusing on facilitating local tech start-ups to ensure that they can thrive and compete in the local and regional market.

Start-ups will grow by connecting them with investments that can link them with needs of other sectors, where agriculture, education and environmental sustainability are the more opportune areas, he added.



Tanzania is not just watching from the sidelines; we are taking steps to ensure we are part of global efforts toward sustainability

PM: State agencies must prepare for emergencies

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cated for disaster response, he said, stressing that the challenges identified in the current evaluation will be addressed by the government, including the financing aspect.

For the nation to succeed, the people must be healthy, he said, highlighting this as both a national and global lesson from the pandemic, pushing collaboration to implement various United Nations (UN) strategies.

"The feedback gathered in this evaluation comes from stakeholders and friendly countries," he asserted, while Dr. Matshidiso Moeti, the WHO regional director for Africa, said that Tanzania has been at the forefront in handling health emergencies successfully.

Universal health policy review will enhance cooperation with development partners, he said, inviting to the position Dr Faustine Ndugulile, a former Health deputy minister picked for the position of WHO regional director.

"I can say that Tanzania is a country of success for me. It is a teaching country, you have invested, protected yourselves, and are becoming

the first country in various areas, completing necessary evaluations," the outgoing director intoned.

Dr Erasto Silvanus, the Health ministry director of emergency and disaster services said that the initiative was initiated in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure quality healthcare services with proper guidelines.

Jenista Mhagama, the minister, said that health is a crucial issue for community welfare and national security, with current goals focused on improving telemedicine services to widen access to quality medication.

The government allocated 173bn/- this financial year for implementing universal health coverage, including treating the 26 percent of Tanzanians who cannot afford to join the system.

"For three consecutive years, health services have continued to improve, with specialized services now available in most regions. Medical equipment has increased, with digital X-rays available nationwide, the number of CT scans rising from four to 40, and ultrasounds reaching about 400," the minister underlined.

By Rahma Suleiman, Zanzibar

UNGUJA Urban West Regional Commissioner Ayoub Mohamed Mahmoud has urged residents in the region to take advantage of opportunities provided by the government to improve their incomes.

Mahmoud made the call here on Wednesday when speaking at the launch of the 'Strengthen the Economy with Mama Samia' programme for the first time in Zanzibar. The initiative aims at empowering women, youth and special groups to actively engage in national economy.

Residents asked to seize opportunities as empowerment drive enters Zanzibar

He stated that the programme offers significant benefits in strengthening the economy of low-income citizens and helping them fight against poverty.

He explained that for a long time, people have received support through various initiatives such as road construction, health, water and other infrastructure. However, the vision of President Samia Suluhu

Hassan and Zanzibar President Dr. Hassan Ali Mwinyi is to empower the economically disadvantaged citizens.

Mahmoud emphasized the importance of the empowerment process through the programme, urging the people in the region not to miss this opportunity but to embrace it.

He mentioned that the programme in the region would

involve 700 people who will help reduce the challenges faced by more than 30,000 people across Zanzibar, describing this as a kind and sincere initiative.

Beng'i Issa, National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) Executive Secretary, introduced the programme and stated that President Samia is committed to peoples' economic liberation.

She noted that the program aims

to uplift people economically, noting that many traders fail because they lack capital, so the initiative aims to elevate them to the level of economic stability.

The programme targets women, youth, the elderly, and people with disabilities, therefore, others pursuing economic independence through it must do so with professionalism.

To benefit from the programme

in Zanzibar, she emphasized the need to collaborate with the Zanzibar Economic Empowerment Agency (ZEEA) to ensure its success.

Juma Burhan, ZEEA director, stated that the agency's role is to empower citizens in the areas of loans and financing, training, markets and manufacturing.

He urged the beneficiaries of the empowerment opportunity to encourage others to join the programme, assuring them that the agency would continue to register people and recognize their businesses, thereby uplifting them economically.



Dr Jim Yonazi (C), Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament, and Coordination), checks a cheque for 20m/- Tanzania National Parks (Tanapa) presented to him yesterday as its contribution towards search and rescue operations following the recent collapse of a multi-floor building in Dar es Salaam's sprawling Kariakoo market zone. He is flanked by Tanapa Board chairman General (rtd) George Waitara (L) and conservation commissioner Musa Kuji. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

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Suluhu Hassan fostering professionalism and freedom in the media within the bounds of the law.

"My ministry operates under an open-door policy. Whether you are part of CoRI, a media institution, or an independent journalist, you are always welcome to engage with us," he stated.

Shifting to outlining the country's digital transition strategy, he pointed at efforts to enhance access to digital services, promote digital literacy and protect consumers from cyber threats.

The strategy is expected to drive economic diversification and position Tanzania as a regional hub for technological innovation, he stated,

Polls coverage: Minister rooting for media dialogue, open doors

hailing the president's move to reopen previously banned online and digital media.

He said that these media outlets have a visible role in generating employment and promoting access to information, pledging to advance the president's vision of ensuring the right to information for the public at large.

Media outlets need to maintain an open mind set, privileging dialogue and mutual understanding. "It is crucial to express oneself and, equally, to listen," he emphasised

while CoRI chairman Ernest Sungura described the meeting as an opportunity to strengthen collaboration with the government.

Media groups saw the need to engage with the minister since his appointment, and his positive response reflects a strong commitment to work with various media groups and professional organisations, he said.

"This meeting allowed us to address challenges and celebrate successes in advancing the media sector," he stated, hinting at plans for

regular working sessions with the minister "to explore opportunities for growth and development."

At a stakeholders' meeting earlier this week, the minister reiterated the government's commitment to an open media landscape, emphasizing reforms to protect journalists' rights and promote press freedom.

"These reforms are meant to ensure the freedom of expression, access to information and editorial independence without fear of criminalization," the minister had declared.



Moshi-Kibo Lions Club president Julian Jones (L) presents an air ticket in Moshi municipality on Wednesday to Devotha Chuwa, shortly before the latter left for India for heart treatment. The club's secretary, Yunas Swai (R), is meanwhile pictured handing over money to cover the costs involved - as raised by the club in collaboration with various other stakeholders, including the Chuwa family. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

NBS appeals for correct info, data to aid surveys

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

STATISTICIAN General Dr Albina Chuwa has appealed to members of the public to provide correct information and data during surveys conducted by the government to inform decision-making and spur national development.

She said National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is currently undertaking several surveys, including agriculture survey, among others across the country, stressing the need for sample households to provide rightful data to surveyors.

Speaking during an event to mark the African Statistics Day, nationally held at Chamwino in Dodoma Region on Wednesday, Dr Chuwa stated that Tanzania ranks ahead of many countries in the continent and beyond in terms of accurate statistics.

"The National Bureau of Statistics is proud to join the rest of the continent in celebrating this event under the theme 'Supporting education by modernizing the production of fit-for-purpose statistics,'" she said, adding that while the day is marked on 18th November annually, this year Tanzania marked the day on 20th November.

The event is marked in efforts to raise public awareness on the importance of statistics in all areas of social and economic life. "Without right statistics no development can be achieved and government cannot meet long term visions" she observed.

According to the statistician, the theme for this year is in line with African leaders commitment to bringing development to the people by improving education.

She urged stakeholders to continue championing data-driven decision-making, ensuring that no child is left behind in the pursuit of quality education.

Earlier, in line with this year's theme, NBS donated materials worth 4m/- to Buigiri Primary School for the Blind for construction kitchen.

Chamwino District Commissioner Janeth Mayanja who was the chief guest at the event underscored the need for correct statistics.

She said that political will of national leaders in the country ensures correct statistics for sustainable development.

African statistics community celebrates the African Statistics Day (ASD) with the aim of raising public awareness on the importance of statistics in the social and economic development of the continent.



Chief Government Statistician Dr Albina Chuwa (2nd-R) pictured yesterday handing over to Chamwino district commissioner Janeth Mayanja proof of payment of 3.9m/- for the purchase of construction materials meant for the building of a kitchen at the district's Buigiri Primary School for the Visually Impaired. It was during the commemoration of African Statistics Day. The Day is an annual event celebrated each November 18 to raise public awareness of the importance of statistics in all aspects of social and economic life. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

The decision to celebrate ASD on 18 November every year was made by the 25th session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

and the 16th meeting of African ministers responsible for economic planning and development in May 1990.

WB approves 17bn/- for TANROADS to reconstruct five bridges in Manyara

By Correspondent Jaliwason Jasson, Babati

THE World Bank has approved a 17bn/- loan for Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) in Manyara Region for reconstruction of five out of 13 bridges which were damaged by El Niño rains.

Greyson Ndyamukama, Head of the Maintenance Unit at TANROADS-Manyara, revealed this yesterday here during a Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) where he presented the agency's performance report.

Ndyamukama explained that the total budget to rebuild all 13 bridges stands at 62bn/- but due to limited budget for routine, periodic, and major maintenance, the government sought the WB's loan to address emergency projects caused by the rains.

He said the bridges set for reconstruction include Minjingu Bridge whose contract has been submitted to Attorney General for verification and Losinyai-Njoro Bridge whose tendering processes are currently underway.

Others are Katesh Bridge for which the contract was signed on November 1, this year, Dabir Small Bridge on the Dareda-Dongobesh road whose contract has already been signed and Msasani Small Bridge whose contract has also been finalised.

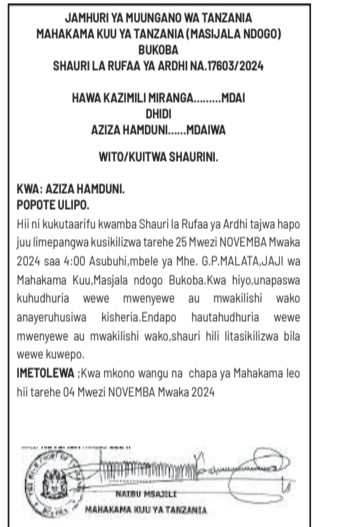
Looking ahead to the 2024/25 fiscal year, Ndyamukama shared that the government has allocated 11bn/- for special maintenance projects aimed at addressing critical sections

and 83 bridges. By September 2024, 95 percent of the projects were expected to be completed.

Key activities so far have included installing streetlights, resurfacing damaged asphalt sections, cleaning drainage systems and culverts, planting trees, clearing vegetation and the construction of Langay Bridge.

Transport stakeholder in the region John Bayo commended TANROADS for its proactive approach, noting that roads under its management remain reliable even during heavy rains, thanks to swift action to address problematic areas.

Christian Daniel, a resident of Dareda, expressed his gratitude to TANROADS for improving roads which have greatly facilitated transportation of agricultural produce from Dongobesh to markets within the region as well as Arusha and Dodoma regions.



JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA WIZARA YA FEDHA



MWALIKO WA KUSHIRIKI MKUTANO WA PILI WA JUMUIYA YA WAHASIBU WAKUU WA SERIKALI AFRIKA-AAAG

Tanzania inatarajia kuwa mwenyeji wa Mkutano Mkuu wa Wahasibu wa Serikali wa Afrika mwaka 2024 (AAAG) utakaofanyika jijini Arusha kuanzia tarehe 2 hadi 5 Desemba, 2024.

Mkutano wa pili wa Jumuiya ya Wahasibu Wakuu wa Serikali Afrika utakuwa na mada mtambuka ambazo zitasaidia watumishi wa kada mbalimbali kuwaongezea ujuzi na Maarifa.

Pia Mkutano huu utasaidia Viongozi na Watumishi wa Tanzania kupata nafasi ya kubadilishana uzoefu na kupeana fursa na Viongozi na Watumishi toka nchi nyingine za Afrika, Benki ya Dunia na IMF. Mgeni rasmi anatarajwa kuwa Mheshimiwa Dkt. Samia Suluhu Hassan, Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania.

Ada ya ushiriki ya mkutano ni **Shilingi za Kitanzania 1,300,000/=** kwa kila mshiriki. Hivyo, Mamlaka husika zinaombwa kuwaruhusu na kuwalipia Wahasibu, Wakaguzi wa Ndani, Maafisa Usimamizi wa Fedha, Maafisa TEHAMA na watumishi wa kada nyingine kuhudhuria mkutano huu.

Washiriki wote wanatakiwa kuanza kijisajili kupitia lango (portal) lifuatalo: <https://conference.aaag.org.zm> kuanzia sasa hadi tarehe 01 Disemba, 2024 na ada ya ushiriki ilipwe kupitia **akaunti namba 9924915301 yenye jina African Association of Accountants General (AAAG).**

Aidha, kwa Taasisi za Umma, Kampuni mbalimbali na watu binafsi wanaotaka kudhamini Mkutano huu kwa lengo la kujitangaza kibiashara na kufanikisha Mkutano huu; Wizara ya Fedha inawakaribisha.

Kwa mawasiliano zaidi piga Namba ya simu +255 713 525 592 barua pepe, veronica.kishala@hazina.go.tz na evans.sayile@hazina.go.tz Sanduku la Posta ni Katibu Mkuu, Wizara ya Fedha S.L.P 2802, Dodoma.

Pia kama muombaji amesahau namba ya simu, barua pepe na Sanduku la Posta anaweza kupata mawasiliano kupitia wakuu wa Hazina Ndogo waliopo kila mkoa Tanzania bara na Ofisi ya Mhasibu Mkuu wa Serikali Zanzibar.

Kwa Nakala Ngumu tafadhali wasilisha kwa anuani ifuatayo:

**Sekretariati ya Kamati ya Maandalizi Mkutano wa AAAG,
Wizara ya Fedha
Idara ya Mhasibu Mkuu wa Serikali
Jengo la Hazina (Ghorofa ya Pili),
18 Barabara ya Jakaya Kikwete,
S.L.P 2802,
DODOMA.**

Tangazo hili limetolewa na:

**KATIBU MKUU - HAZINA
Novemba, 2024**



INVITATION FOR TENDER FOR SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER SYSTEMS MAINTANANCE PROCUREMENT REFERENCE NUMBER ICAP/TZ/6/2024.

Introduction

MSPH Tanzania LLC, known as ICAP, is a non-governmental organization operating in Tanzania since 2004, with funding mainly from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). MSPH Tanzania LLC is supporting comprehensive HIV services in Geita and Mwanza regions through a five-years' PEPFAR-funded cooperative agreement and intends to procure assets for FIKIA+ project under PEPFAR/CDC awarded funding.

LOT 1

MSPH Tanzania LLC, known as ICAP invites qualified bidders to submit bids for the maintenance of solar system. The selected bidders will be responsible for ensuring optimal performance, reliability, and efficiency of the solar system through regular inspections, troubleshooting, and necessary repairs

Project Overview:

- **Project Location:** Mwanza and Geita region
- **Scope of Work:**
 - o Regular inspection and cleaning of solar panels.
 - o Maintenance and testing of inverters, charge controllers, and batteries.
 - o Replacement of inverters, Panel, charge controllers, earth rods and batteries
 - o Troubleshooting and repair of electrical connections, monitoring systems, and other components.
 - o System performance monitoring and optimization.
 - o Detailed maintenance reports after each inspection and repair session.

Bidders will be required to submit the following documentation.

Business introduction letter, Company profile, Valid business license, Tax identification number (tin), Valid tax clearance certificate, Value added tax registration certificate (if any), Certificate of incorporation (if any), Article of association (if any),

Manufacture authorization, Memorandum of association (if any), Experience justification & a recommendation letter from reputable organization.

Note

The public tender opening will be made in the presence of all bidders or their official representatives, we encourage all bidders to attend through zoom call and meeting invitation link that will be sent to all those who submitted their bids in advance of the meeting. Bids not received and opened in public at the public bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances. The tender validity period is 14 days. Selection criteria will be lowest price, technically evaluated/ acceptable based on technical specifications and other criteria described above. MSPH Tanzania LLC reserve the rights to disqualify any offer based on failure to follow solicitation instructions. MSPH reserves the rights to waive minor proposal deficiencies that cannot be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition. MSPH will be contacting all those that have submitted quotes to confirm contact person, address and if the bid was submitted for this solicitation. The evaluation of bids will be conducted as per MSPH Tanzania LLC Procurement Guidelines.

Application procedure

Interested and eligible vendors should email their electronic proposals/bids via email to procurement department at TanzaniaProcurement@cumc.columbia.edu

The Internal Tender Committee (ITC), MSPH Tanzania LLC - ICAP at Columbia University, Alfa Plaza 7th Floor - Chaburama Road, P.O Box 80214, Dar es salaam, Tanzania, all quotes must be in Tanzania Shillings. The deadline for the submission is 10:00am East Africa Time on **5th December 2024.**

Important to note

No tender fee charged for this invitation

Business management training sessions needed to bridge Dar traders' skills gap

By Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

INADEQUATE business management education has been identified as a major challenge for small-scale traders in Dar es Salaam, with authorities emphasizing the urgent need for increased training programmes.

Zephania Owigo, Development Officer responsible for loan monitoring and recovery at Kinondoni Municipal Council, made the observation in Dar es Salaam yesterday during a business management training session.

The training was organised by Kinondoni Municipal Council in partnership with Open University of Tanzania (OUT) and Inquire International Institute.

Owigo emphasized that many traders lack the necessary skills to effectively manage their ventures and utilise government-provided interest-free loans aimed at empowering youth, women and people with disabilities (PwDs).

"The training is designed to equip loan beneficiaries with the skills they need to overcome business challenges and manage their enterprises effectively for sustainable growth," he said.

Prof Joseph Magali, Head of Faculty of Business Management at OUT, highlighted the importance of adopting unique business strategies to stand out in the competitive market.

He also urged traders to engage

in the ongoing trainings to keep pace with advancements in science, technology and modern systems, including Artificial Intelligence (AI).

"Many traders fail to provide good customer service, often viewing customers as challenges. The concept that 'customer is the king' should be at the core of their operations. Poor service drives customers away and leads to business losses," he said.

Emmanuel Rusibamayila, Director of Inquire International Institute, explained that the training targeted traders from 20 wards in Kinondoni in line with the government's mission to empower women youth and PwDs.

"It's disheartening when traders fail to repay their loans due to poor management as this undermines sustainability of lending programmes. The training helps build their capacity to establish resilient businesses capable of withstanding challenges and market competition," he said.

Grace Msimbe, Chairperson of Vijimambo Group in Kigogo Ward, Kinondoni District, praised the training, noting that it provided valuable tools for running businesses effectively.

"Many traders start businesses based on emotions or imitation without researching the needs of their areas. This training emphasizes identifying local demand to create sustainable ventures," she said.

Peace corps volunteers sworn in to start service in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

TWENTY-five Americans have been sworn in as Peace Corps volunteers in Tanga Region, marking a new chapter in the long-standing partnership between the United States and Tanzania.

In a ceremony held yesterday, US Ambassador to Tanzania Michael Battle and Peace Corps Tanzania Country Director Stephanie Joseph de Goes presided over the swearing-in.

Continuing the legacy of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere and President John F. Kennedy's commitment to global peace and friendship, the 25 volunteers joined over 3,200 men and women who have served in Tanzania since the programme's inception in 1961.

After 12 weeks of intensive training which included Kiswahili lessons, intercultural competence, safety and security, health and technical training, the new volunteers were ready to begin their service in Dodoma, Iringa, Kilimanjaro and Njombe regions as well as Zanzibar.

They will work in various sectors, including secondary education, teaching Maths and Science subjects. Others will engage in community health, sustainable agriculture and climate resilience.

Over the next two years, they will live and work alongside Tanzanian communities, contributing their skills and knowledge to foster development.

In his address, Ambassador Battle told the new volunteers: "The work you do here alongside Tanzanian friends and neighbours can change lives. Dream big, but remember not to dream alone. Let your communities guide you in understanding their priorities and needs, and work together to create sustainable solutions. This is the heart of the Peace Corps' mission: development centred on community."

Peace Corps' de Goes emphasized the importance of partnership between the United States and Tanzania, stating: "Today, we stand on the foundation of a partnership that began over sixty years ago... What makes Peace Corps extraordinary is how we approach development: rooted in people, built on relationships, and driven by the needs and aspirations of communities. To our Tanzanian government partners, we extend our deepest gratitude. Your support, collaboration, and trust are what allow Peace Corps to serve effectively across this beautiful country."

Security experts discuss solutions to proliferation of small arms in Africa

NAIROBI

SECURITY specialists have met in Kenya's capital of Nairobi since Wednesday to seek solutions to the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in Africa.

The three-day forum brought together representatives from the 15 member states of the Regional Center on Small Arms (RECSA), and United Nations officials to review ways to curb the illicit flow of weapons in the region.

The RECSA's member states are Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania.

Executive Secretary at RECSA Jean Pierre Betindji said that the proliferation of weapons is a transnational issue requiring a unified response from securities agencies of affected countries.

"The menace can be controlled through improved information sharing among countries as well as enhanced capacities to monitor and detect the crime," Betindji said.

Raymond Omollo, Kenya's principal secretary in the Ministry of Interior and National Administration, noted that some of the measures required to reduce the threat of illicit arms in the region include strengthening stockpile management of arms to prevent the diversion of weapons to criminals.

Omollo added that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants and providing alternative livelihoods will improve peace and security in the region.

Susanne Dam, acting director of the United Nations Development Program Regional Hub for Arab States based in Amman, Jordan, told the forum that the region can address the illicit flow of arms through alignment with international treaties like the Arms Trade Treaty.



Ally Hassan Joho (5th-R), Kenya's Mining and Blue Economy Cabinet Secretary (Minister), presents an outstanding performance award to a mining company's representative at a national "Minerals Night" event held in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday to honour top-performing mining firms in the country. Prime Minister graced the event as chief guest. Fourth left is Minerals minister Anthony Mavunde. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Baku

Seaweed farmers record better income, conserve environment

SEAWEED farmers along Tanzania's coastline continue to benefit from the crop which has increased their incomes while contributing to environmental conservation.

Melton Kalinga, Acting Director of Environment Unit in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, highlighted this yesterday during a seaweed promotion meeting held on the sidelines of the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Kalinga noted that seaweed farming has opened up opportunities for value addition

and processing, explaining that through this, seaweed farmers on the mainland coast and Zanzibar will be empowered with the skills and strategies needed to transform the crop into a commercial venture.

Kalinga also emphasized that seaweed farming creates a new avenue for carbon trading through blue carbon: an opportunity traditionally associated only with forests, thereby contributing to community and national economic growth.

NICE CEO Salum Lupande

expressed his company's readiness to collaborate with the government to invest in seaweed farming, a move expected to accelerate its growth.

He highlighted plans to build farmers' technical and financial capacity, ensuring sustainability and profitability of seaweed farming which would ultimately improve their livelihoods.

Director of Environment in Zanzibar First Vice President's Office Farhat Ali Mbarouk called for increased investment in

seaweed farming to boost income generation.

She noted that the Zanzibar government has created an enabling investment environment, including investor-friendly regulations and guidelines to attract partners willing to collaborate with the government to grow the subsector.

Seaweed serves as a raw material for various products, including soap production and is also used as food, underscoring its versatility and economic potential.



Dr Elikana John, the Tanzania Forest Services Agency's chief conservator, makes a presentation at a side-event during the (Nov 11 to 22) 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Nebart Msokwa,

Mbeya

CCM wants members to respect opposition parties to uphold 4Rs

CCM has called on its members to respect opposition parties, noting that the institutions play a crucial role in the nation's development.

John Mongella, CCM Deputy Secretary General (Mainland) made the statement in Mbeya City yesterday during the regional launch of local government election campaigns.

He stressed that opposition parties are vital for fostering democracy in the country.

"This directive aligns with the implementation of the 4Rs framework introduced by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, which aims to ensure national stability for

accelerated development," he said.

President Samia's 4Rs philosophy stand for reconciliation, resilience, reform and rebuild.

He added that CCM remains the largest political party in Africa and plays a significant role in upholding democracy on the continent. As such, the party must continue to set an example within Tanzania.

"CCM members and supporters should wish well our opposition counterparts so that we continue working together in building our nation. Collaboration with them is essential for our country's

progress," he stated.

Mongella also noted that the party has selected candidates with qualifications to deliver development.

Patrick Mwalunenge, CCM Mbeya Regional Chairman, expressed confidence in the party's ability to win contested positions in the elections. He pointed to various development projects implemented by the government at local level which serve as a basis for promoting CCM candidates. He emphasized that the party has devised plans to ensure that elected leaders focus

on serving the people rather than pursuing personal interests.

"Our candidates have been instructed that, if elected, their primary duty is to collaborate with citizens in implementing development projects," he said.

CCM regional publicity and ideology secretary Christopher Uhagile said that the party has already secured unopposed victories in several areas. Out of 533 villages in Mbeya Region, CCM candidates were unopposed in 196 villages and in 1,606 out of 2,994 hamlets.

Farmers, herders in Simanjiro, drilled on sustainable practices

By Guardian Correspondent, Simanjiro

MORE than 8,000 farmers and livestock keepers across 10 villages in Simanjiro District, Manyara Region, have received specialised training in ecological farming methods, improved pasture management and maternal and child nutrition.

The training delivered by Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT) with funding from the World Food Programme (WFP) focused on equipping local communities with skills needed to tackle challenges posed by climate change.

Speaking here yesterday during a training session at Kiruani Village in Msitu wa Tembo Ward, SAT facilitator Yohana Malecela highlighted the success of the Ecological Agriculture Restoration Project (MUKI) in educating farmers across the district.

Malecela said that 8,618 participants have been trained so far, including 3,663 men and 4,965 women.

MUKI project which will run for one year starting in 2024/2025 season covers Kiruani, Ruvuremiti, Kandasikira, Kambi ya Chokaa, Naberera, Lemkuna, Narakauwo and Nadonjoke villages.

The project aims to empower farmers and livestock keepers with sustainable practices to help them combat the effects of climate change.

The targets include adopting ecological farming techniques, use of soil and water conservation technologies and restoration of resources that have been degraded by climate change," he said.

Malecela noted that climate change has led to erratic rainfall

patterns, reduced crop yields and a shortage of livestock fodder, all of which have severely impacted local livelihoods.

The project has already seen positive results in areas where it has been implemented, with farmers and livestock keepers adopting ecological farming techniques to achieve better outcomes.

Participants formed 221 groups to promote savings and lending initiatives while sharing knowledge they gained. To reach the goal of training 10,000 farmers and livestock keepers, SAT has trained 300 community-based facilitators.

In each village, 30 selected farmers and livestock keepers received training and currently pass on their knowledge to others.

Simanjiro District Nutrition Officer, Eshimuni Swai, emphasised the importance of ecological farming in reducing the use of chemicals in agriculture, hence minimising health risks to consumers.

"Ecological farming will help improve nutrition by providing safe, chemical-free food," Swai said.



The project aims to empower farmers and livestock keepers with sustainable practices to help them combat the effects of climate change

Rwanda marks World Children's Day with call to tackle domestic violence

KIGALI

RWANDA joined the global community in marking World Children's Day on Wednesday with a call to end domestic violence within families, which continues to threaten children's rights.

"Raising a child is an irreplaceable responsibility. To ensure their proper growth and development, we must create an environment where they can thrive and grow into good citizens of our country. We must end domestic violence within our families," said Assumpta Ingabire, director general of Rwanda National Child Development Agency (NCDA), during celebrations to mark World Children's Day in Kigali, the country's capital.

She highlighted critical issues affecting children, including child stunting and domestic violence, which often force children onto the streets. She also emphasized the importance of responsible parenting in addressing these challenges.

While acknowledging the existence of laws protecting children's rights, Ingabire noted

that violations persist. "Today serves as a reminder to be aware of children's rights. While people often talk about these rights, many lack a full understanding of them. For example, we still encounter children whose births are not registered with civil authorities, even though birth registration is an essential administrative step in protecting children's rights."

Ingabire also announced the introduction of new guidelines by the NCDA to strengthen measures aimed at better protecting children's rights.

According to the Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census 2022 report by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda, children under the age of 18 make up 44.5 percent of Rwanda's population.

The World Children's Day, celebrated on Nov. 20 each year, is a global event honouring children and their rights while promoting their welfare, according to the United Nations Children's Fund. It also serves as a day to address issues children face, such as child labour, educational inequality, and inadequate access to healthcare.

French hospitality giant partners WWF to protect world's oceans

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

THE World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and French hospitality giant Accor's flagship brands, Novotel have signed a three-year partnership to protect and restore the world's oceans—vital for the planet's climate balance.

The initiative focuses on science-based action and conservation efforts targeting three UN priority actions: reducing marine pollution and ocean acidification, combating overfishing and promoting sustainable fishing models, and enhancing scientific knowledge of ocean health.

The collaboration is part of Novotel's positive impact plan, designed to support the brand's long-standing mission of helping

guests achieve balance in their lives.

In another development, the Accor's flagship brands renowned for promoting balanced living, has extended its wings to East Africa after opening its operations in Nairobi, Kenya.

The entity reflects the brand's signature design philosophy, focusing on adaptability and sustainability, creating a comfortable and contemporary atmosphere.

"We continue to expand our presence across key markets on the continent while contributing to the wellbeing of local communities," said Paul Stevens, Chief Operating Officer Premium, Midscale & Economy Division, Middle East & Africa for Accor.



Joshua Chamwela, the National Assembly's Director of Parliamentary Affairs, represents the Clerk of the National Assembly in opening a meeting of the Workers' Council of the Parliamentary Office held in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo courtesy of National Assembly

TASUBA introduces new subjects to boost artists' negotiation skills

By Correspondent Rose Ngunangwa,

Bagamoyo

THE Bagamoyo Arts and Cultural Institute -better known by its Kiswahili acronym TASUBA-has introduced new subjects on marketing and administration to enable artists who graduate from the institute market their works and negotiate for fair compensation.

Dr Herbert Makoye, TASUBA Principal, said this here on Monday during a two-day working session conducted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and

Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in collaboration with the government.

"Artists should never accept to leave for performance without negotiating for payments. One must decide whether they want to eat their cake or not. Never allow someone to tell you 'I am going to promote you'. Some are promised accommodation and food but the question is don't they have a bed at home?" he said.

The call came in the wake of concern raised over meagre payment for artistic and cultural works by some of the promoters, a situation that has seen most artists

fail to make a meaningful income.

Meanwhile, the government is currently finalizing the national framework to safeguard intangible cultural heritage in the country. The document, the first of its kind, has been prepared with support from UNESCO.

Contributing during the validation session for the framework, Titus Lulandala, Chairperson of Cultural Officers Association in the country praised the framework, saying it will act as an important policy tool.

"We need to see how local government authorities use the

framework as a policy tool to translate their contexts in terms of by-laws," he said.

Tanzania is a signatory to the UNESCO Convention of 2003 whose goal is to safeguard practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.

The session brought together cultural and art stakeholders from the government, private sector, civil society as well as training institutions in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar.



National College of Tourism principal Dr Florian Mtey (L) and Italian Academy of Studies president Antonino Zigilo show certificates in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after they had signed an exchange of knowledge MoU. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga

TANZANIA Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) has called on candidates from all political parties to conduct campaigns that respect women's rights and dignity and avoid dehumanizing language on the campaign trail.

Anna Sangai, TGNP Training Coordinator, made the statement in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking with this paper on the forthcoming local government polls later this month and next year's General Election.

She emphasized the importance

Respect women's dignity during campaigns, political parties told

of peaceful, calm campaigns to protect human rights, especially for women who are often targeted with derogatory language during elections.

"We urge political parties to respect women's dignity in their meetings. As advocates for gender equality and human rights, we oppose humiliation of women during campaigns. We are ready to

actively participate to ensure we secure key positions," she said.

Sangai also stressed the need for political parties to allocate equal time for both men and women in presenting their promises and for law enforcement to ensure security at all campaign venues regardless of political parties involved.

"The presence of security forces

at campaign venues will help women feel confident in sharing their ideas with voters as most of the women cannot afford private security," she added.

Local government election campaigns officially began yesterday, with party leaders launching their campaigns across various regions of the country.

Liwale District eyes carbon credit cash after study visit

By Guardian Correspondent, Liwale

LIWALE District Council in Lindi Region is set to embark on a carbon trade by utilising village and district forests to enhance local revenue from forest conservation.

In 2023, the district generated 2.9bn/- from sustainable forest harvesting.

The initiative follows a study visit to Tanganyika District in Katavi Region which has successfully benefited from carbon credit revenue generated through preservation of forests.

Liwale District Natural Resources and Environment Officer Deogratias Simwanza unveiled this to reporters from the Journalists' Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) who visited the area recently to monitor a project aimed at reducing human-wildlife conflicts.

The project implemented by the German Development Agency (GIZ) on behalf of the German government is part of efforts to support sustainable environmental management.

"In addition to the sustainable harvesting that has brought in a lot of money in forest resource revenues, we have identified an opportunity to increase earnings through a carbon credit business. We now have a facilitator working on launching this initiative to help us gain more profits," he said.

He highlighted that forests are a crucial revenue source for both the villages and the district council, thanks to effective conservation and sustainable resource management.

The district which comprises 28 villages with 35 protected forests operates under a five-year participatory forest management plan and a five-year sustainable

forest harvesting plan.

"The forests technically belong to the district council but the management responsibilities have been delegated to the villages to ensure better oversight and direct benefits to the local communities," he said.

Of the 2.5bn/- collected from sustainable forest harvesting, 500m/- went to the district council while the remainder was allocated to villages for development projects and forest management.

Simwanza noted that 50 percent of the revenue remains within the villages for various development activities while 30-35 percent is reinvested into forest management efforts, including patrols to curb illegal logging. The measures have been instrumental in protecting the forests.

Liwale District Commissioner Goodluck Mlinga emphasised that the district is proud to oversee two million hectares of sustainably managed forests, including timber-yielding species due to effective conservation practices in place.

Mlinga added that the district has gained significant benefits from its forests which host a diverse range of tree species.

"Most forest product traders in our area are Tanzanians. We plan to raise awareness about the potential uses of other tree species as we have abundant trees that can serve various purposes," he said.

Regarding human-wildlife conflicts, Mlinga noted that GIZ through its project has already begun addressing the issue in 11 villages. The efforts are focused on preventing elephants from invading farmers' fields and residential areas with significant success already achieved.

Tanzania wants EAC to integrate forest products tracking systems

By Guardian Correspondent, Baku

TANZANIA has called on East African Community (EAC) member states to integrate technological systems for monitoring and tracking forest products to curb illegal logging and trade.

The country also plans to collaborate with development partners, including the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), to enhance efforts in securing financial resources and advanced tracking technologies for forest products from harvesting sites.

Dr Elikana John, Chief Conservator at the Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS), made the call yesterday during his presentation on the sidelines of the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The meeting emphasized the

role of forestry sector in reducing greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable forest management and monitoring practices across Africa.

Organized by Kenya's Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry (MECCF), the Kenya Forest Service (KFS), and JICA, the event sought to foster regional collaboration in sustainable forestry.

Dr John highlighted Tanzania's use of advanced technologies and systems to monitor forest product transportation under TFS management. The measures aim to promote sustainable harvesting, strengthen forest conservation, reduce illegal logging and boost government revenue.

The meeting brought together stakeholders from East Africa, development partners led by JICA and experts to promote stakeholder awareness and facilitate access to expertise and financial resources for sustainable forestry in the region.



Opposition National League for Democracy Secretary General Doyo Hassan Doyo (R) launches the party's campaigns to lead up to the countrywide local government election lined up for this November 27. This was at Kwedikwazu village in Handeni District. Photo: Correspondent Boniface Gideon

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

UNIVERSITY graduates across Tanzania have been called upon to uphold moral values, accountability and resilience as they enter job market to contribute to national development.

The advice comes from Prof. Joseph Kuzilwa, Chairperson of the Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP) Government Council, during the institute's 17th convocation ceremony held yesterday at its main campus at Miyuji in Dodoma.

"Tanzania and the world at large require collective efforts to address pressing issues and manage change. Rapid technological advancement and amplifying marginalized voices are essential for achieving

Don urges varsity graduates to uphold moral values, become change-makers

sustainable development," he said.

He urged the graduands to embrace their roles as agents of change and work towards creating a better future.

Prof. Kuzilwa expressed gratitude to the government and various development partners for their support. He emphasized the crucial role this support plays in enabling IRDP to deliver programmes that uplift rural communities and the nation as a whole.

IRDP Rector Prof. Hozen Mayaya highlighted the institute's significant milestones since its establishment in 1979. As it approaches its 46th anniversary in February next year, IRDP has grown from a modest

beginning of 14 staff and 13 students to over 400 staff and more than 14,500 students.

The institute has made strides in academic research, gaining recognition on platforms such as Africa Journals Online (AJOL), enhancing its global visibility and academic standing.

"We are deeply committed to professional development of our staff. Currently, 76 staff members pursue advanced qualifications, including 45 PhDs, 23 master's degrees, six bachelor's degrees and two ordinary diploma programmes," Prof. Mayaya said.

The institute has expanded its long-term academic offerings to 37

programmes, aiming to meet the evolving demands of Tanzania's job market. Short course programmes.

IRDP continues to improve its infrastructure, including construction of modern academic blocks and enhancement of IT facilities to enrich learning environment.

The convocation also celebrated 173 students who excelled in academics and extracurricular activities, 97 male and 76 female.

The event served as a precursor to IRDP's 38th graduation ceremony scheduled to take place later today at the Mwalimu Nyerere Hall in Dodoma and Kitumba grounds in Mwanza.



Residents of Nyamongo village in Tarime Rural constituency welcome Tundu Lissu (L, in khaki wear), the opposition Chadema's Vice Chairman (Mainland), shortly before he was due to launch the party's campaigns there in readiness for the impending countrywide local government election. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Africa CDC chief highlights drug manufacturing locally

LILONGWE

DIRECTOR General of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) Jean Kaseya has urged African countries to invest in local manufacturing of drugs and reduce dependence on others outside the continent.

While addressing the opening of the 52nd Board Meeting of the Global Fund on Tuesday in Lilongwe, Malawian capital, Kaseya described local manufacturing as the "second independence of Africa."

He said it is not acceptable

for Africa to "beg" for vaccines elsewhere to fight outbreaks such as COVID-19, Marburg virus disease, cholera, and mpox while the vaccine and the technology are available.

According to the Africa CDC chief, there are some countries on the continent manufacturing antiretroviral drugs while others continue to order medicine from outside Africa.

He stressed that failure to promote the continent's own drugs or vaccines is a failure to support Africa's public health agenda and Africa's peace and security.

Kaseya also called on Global Fund, a private-public partnership, to continue partnering with African countries and support them to better manage resources and be accountable.

Jerome Salomon, assistant director general of the World Health Organization (WHO), agreed with Kaseya on the need for strong partnerships between African countries and the Global Fund.

Salomon, who is also WHO's representative in the Global Fund Board, noted that with only five years to go, countries worldwide are off track regarding health

targets, especially the Target 3.3 of Sustainable Development Goals to end AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, among other diseases, by 2030.

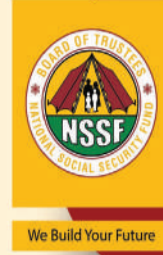
"Difficult times call for more international solidarity. We can only achieve more if we work together. So, partnerships are more important this time than ever," he said.

The two-day Global Fund board meeting, which ended Wednesday, drew over 300 delegates, including health ministers and representatives of the United Nations and other international organizations from across the globe.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

EXTENSION OF TIME BY TWO WEEKS FROM 23RD NOVEMBER TO 06TH DECEMBER 2024 TO ALLOW SUBMISSIONS FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) TO INVEST IN FUND'S LANDS

The National Social Security Fund (NSSF) is established under the National Social Security Fund Act Cap 50 R.E. 2018 having its Head office located at Benjamin William Mkapa Towers, Azikiwe Street, Dares Salaam.

- 1.0 The Fund owns parcels of land in prime areas in various regions in Tanzania which can be developed into residential, commercial, industrial and other mixed commercial uses.
- 2.0 As part of its investment strategy, the Fund is planning to develop some of these parcels of land through a Joint Venture arrangement in a form to be agreed upon between the Fund and the Investor or a Long-Term Lease.
- 3.0 The parcel of land earmarked for development through any of the above-mentioned arrangements are as tabulated hereunder:

SN.	LAND DESCRIPTION	REGION	SIZE (M ²)	*CURRENT LAND USE	LAND ATTRIBUTES
1	Plot No.1 & 2 Block D Kunduchi Beach, Kinondoni Municipality	DSM	25,036 & 37,691	Hotel	The plots are located at the Kunduchi beach area, about 1.5 km from the junction of Kunduchi Road and Ununio Road. Plots face the Indian ocean and the notable landmark is Wet & Wild Water Park
2	Plot No.40 & 41- Bahari Beach, Kinondoni Municipality	DSM	4,888 & 5,553	Residential	Plots are located along Bahari Beach Street, about 200m from the junction of Ununio Road and Bahari Beach Road. A notable landmark is the Budget Resort
9	Plot No. 284-294, 296, 298, 300 & 302 Block LL, Lubaga	Shinyanga	2234	Residential	The plots are located in the newly developed residential area of Lubaga Joshoni area about 0.8 km from Shinyanga - Mwanza Road The neighbourhood is characterized with residential plots changing to institutional and commercial uses
10	Plot No.2 Block A Ligula Road, Mtwara Municipality TANU Road, Mtwara	Mtwara	4,280	Residential	The Plot is located along Ligula Road in a residential and commercial neighbourhood about 500m from Mtwara Central Business District
11	Plot No.14- 21 & 37-41 Block I, TANU Road, Mtwara Municipality	Mtwara	5,740	Office	Plots are located along TANU Road adjacent to TICL offices Mtwara Branch and Cashewnut Board. The Neighbourhood is mainly residential, institutional and commercial buildings
12	Farm No.18168 Mtawanya, Mtwara District Council	Mtwara	2,100,320	Agriculture	The farm is located at Ziwani Village about 15km from Mtwara town center. A notable landmark is Mtawanya Water Pumping Station
13	Farm No 71, Ziwani area, Mtwara District Council	Mtwara	1,009,000	Agriculture	The farm is located at Ziwani Village, Mtwara Mikindani about 23km from Mtwara town centre
14	Mmango Beach Plots (31 plots), Lindi Town Council	Lindi	90,877	Residential, Hotel, Commercial and Housing Estates	The plots are located about 11km from Lindi town and about 2 km from Lindi - DSM Road. A notable landmark is the Resident Magistrate Court of Lindi Region
15	Mabano Beach plots (245 plots), Lindi Town Council	Lindi	220,255	Residential, Hotel, Commercial and Housing Estates	The plots are located about 13km from Lindi town and about 2 km from Lindi - Dares Salaam Road
16	Plots No.122 -131, Njiro Hill, Arusha City Council	Arusha	4,440	Residential	Plots are located about 15 km from the Arusha city center and are accessed via Faru Street which branches off Njiro road at "Njiro kwa Masister"
17	Plot No.249 Block D, Njiro Area, Arusha City Council	Arusha	39,610	Residential	The property is located at Njiro area near Ebenezer Retreat Lodge. The plot was formerly owned by the Mukidoma School

*The current use can be changed depending on the submitted concept and upon obtaining approval from relevant authorities

- 4.0 The Fund is seeking eligible, competent, and reputable investment Partner(s) who demonstrate the appropriate capabilities, expertise, and experience to invest in developing the above-mentioned parcels of land
- 5.0 The Fund invites sealed submissions for expression of interest from eligible and reputable local and international investors to formally express their interest in becoming preferred investors in developing the parcels of land through a Joint Venture or Long-Term Lease arrangement. Interested and eligible investors must provide the following information:

- 5.1 Application letter;
- 5.2 A Bankable Business Plan/ feasibility study;
- 5.3 Project proposal;
- 5.4 Concept Design;
- 5.5 Cost estimates;

- 5.6 Preferred financing arrangement;
- 5.7 Company Profile;
- 5.8 Company registration documents;
- 5.9 Audited and Financial statement for the past three years; and
- 5.10 Proposed Lease Terms in case of Long-Term Lease

- 6.0 The submitted financing arrangement must be accompanied by proof of availability of funds for the proposed project in the form of a bank statement or line of credit from a reputable financial institution or any other evidence
- 7.0 Interested eligible local and international investors may submit their expression of interest as a company or as a consortium of two or more companies
- 8.0 The companies expressing interest can be local or foreign, upon successful award in the case of foreign investors, they will be obliged to be registered by TIC and other legal relevant authorities
- 9.0 Five years (5) experience in Sub-Saharan Africa in the proposed investment will be an added advantage
- 10.0 Potential investors shall not engage in any instance of inside dealing and should be free of any conflict of interest;
- 11.0 The potential investors who wish to physically visit the parcels of land may do so from 23rd November to 06th December 2024 through the following contacts:
 - i. Dar es Salaam Plots: Contact person: Estates Management Manager, Mr. Geoffrey A. Timothy, Tel No. 0753567260;
 - ii. Bagamoyo Farm: Contact person: NSSF Coast Regional Manager, Ms. Witness Patrick, Tel No. 0746238415;
 - iii. Geita Plots: Contact person: NSSF Geita Regional Manager, Ms. Winnie Lusingu, Tel No. 0746260794;
 - iv. Shinyanga Plots: Contact person NSSF Shinyanga Regional Manager, Ms. Amina Mdabi, Tel No. 0767140926;
 - v. Mtwara Plots and Farms: Contact person: NSSF Mtwara Regional Manager, Mr. Rebutile Maila Tel No. 0756140358;
 - vi. Arusha Plots: Contact person: NSSF Arusha Regional Manager, Mr. Josephat Komba Tel No. 0756140182; and
 - vii. Lindi Plots: Contact person: NSSF Lindi Regional Manager, Mr. Juma Namuna Tel No. 0758803091.

- 12.0 Interested investors may seek clarification in writing and the same to be received at least seven (7) working days before the date of closing the Expression of Interest
- 13.0 The Fund 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-list and awarding, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected applicant
- 14.0 All applications should be submitted on or before 4:00pm on **06th December 2024**.

Further, application should be directly addressed and submitted to the Director General through the following modes:

1. **Postal address** : Director General
National Social Security Fund,
P.O.Box 1322,
Dares Salaam, Tanzania
2. **Email address** : dg@nssf.go.tz
3. **Physical address** : NSSF Headquarters,
Benjamin W. Mkapa Towers, 17th floor, Azikiwe Street, Dares salaam

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Competitive economies don't usually need education on tax

THE Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) keeps making outreach efforts primarily meant to spread detailed awareness of tax regulations - as usually the law is encapsulated in the regulations, reflecting the spirit of legislation.

The matter is especially noticeable where the spirit of resistance to compliance is particularly vivid, often tied up with countries with high taxation.

To the contrary, tax payment in zones of low taxation is more of honour on the part of taxpayers. It is seen as shameful - even an anathema - to evade taxes, whereas in high taxation states tax revenue is at times shared with collectors, via bribes.

Many African states and a wide range of developing countries are in the high taxation category, with civic readiness to pay taxes low, as their greater interest is to avoid payment so as to make a curiously fast profit.

In low taxation countries there is no visible dichotomy between paying taxes and making a profit. More noticeable tax dues are leveraged on personal incomes than on products, as here there are basic services that are already being taxed though not at a high level. Tax systems all too often duplicate taxes.

One sees commonly products being taxed at the production level, then at the wholesale level, and then at the supermarket or retail level, where the tax collectors wish to know about all that has been purchased.

Low taxation countries have fairly predictable modes of assessing shop size and annual income to obtain the right value added tax rather than a fair and non-discriminating personal taxation. They go as far as demanding that common citizens virtually stand as tax inspectors by demanding receipts on what they

buy even when many tend to be surprisingly polite.

That is why chances that students and alumni of the Institute of Tax Administration (ITA) can take a proactive role in educating the public about tax issues, as there is a significant gap in tax education.

This is what top officials at TRA wish to see being done, the problem being that paying taxes is a civic matter that finally is part of individual privacy, where one doesn't unduly delve into another person's behaviour.

The reason is that 'we wish to be friendly with all' when we enter shops, supermarkets or public offices, while inquiring on their tax habits for any reason is to infringe on their privacy - and all but showing intent to accuse them to the authorities, etc.

Strictly speaking, there is no gap in tax education among Tanzanians which there needs to be more efforts to bridge. On the contrary, there are gaps in enforceable and non-enforceable taxes.

Alternatively, there are trading or service premises where tax compliance is handy and other situations where similar levels of compliance are hard to bring about.

A major reason we need vast efforts in tax education relates to inefficiency in the public sector as it needs to be fuelled by public funds instead of adding to existing resources.

Even when they hand dividends, it is a fraction of what they obtain in subsidy and what is unseen is the capital flow blockage due to monopoly controls exercised by public firms.

As the vast presence of public commercial entities creaming off capital openings and usable surpluses is central to the public psyche, we get accustomed to high taxation and educating people on its ethics as a development need.

Bravo, Taifa Stars, as we ponder key lessons on national team organisation

THE number of people who ever considered it possible that Taifa Stars would make it to the African Nations Cup finals billed for early next year in Morocco could perhaps be counted.

In fact, not surprisingly, some say even the technical bench may not have believed it either.

Listening to head coach Hemed Suleiman 'Morocco', as if it was in his destiny to take the side to the next finals, there was room for an argument on circumstance and what can be said to be continuity - that one phase has ended and we start preparing for the next challenge.

Even with the now heroic outfit, not everyone is agreed whether it is a good team, a remark that authoritative commentators have to shrug off once its rears its head - as there is nothing like qualifying by accident.

There are however instances of qualifying by default, including by the rule where goals conceded and those scored are traded and compared with another side. Even then this goal balance isn't altogether an accident, either.

There is a different sort of default qualification under which we have twice benefited, where the 2019 finals spot was obtained as the last qualification match with Uganda was held when the latter had already qualified.

Losing by any margin was no issue to our opponents, thus the 3-0 win we obtained didn't ruffle

any feathers there as the work was done already.

The same thing occurred in the run-up to the 2023 finals as the final encounter was with the Democratic Republic of Congo, which had already qualified.

But this time around things were different. Our last-match opponents knew that they needed a positive result to get through, and it appears by some calculation it was apparent this was by and large feasible.

The spirit was different for us, as it was all-out war, where the technical bench was brooking no errors from players, etc. That is a pressure-stove kind of atmosphere but it paid dividends.

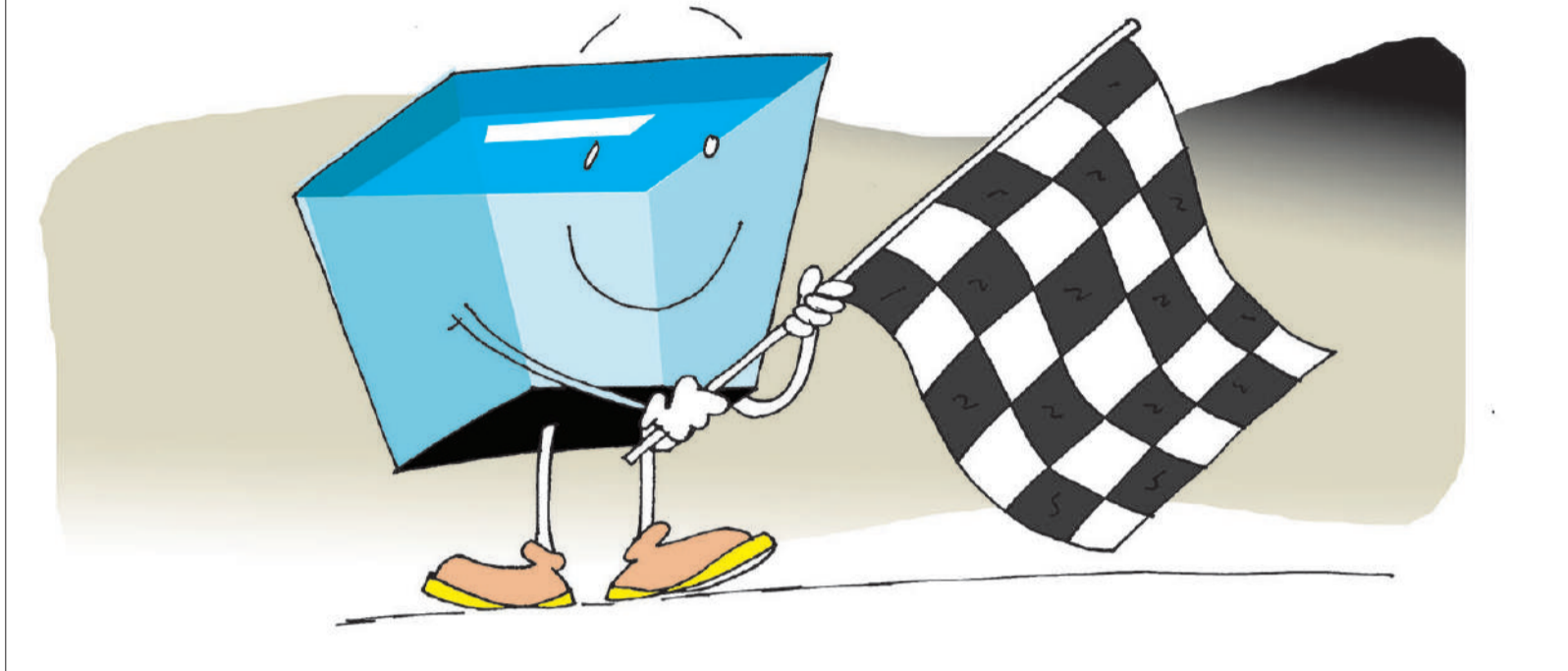
That in a sense implies that it is a first-time real qualification in a final match that was well fought out tactically and physically, with the winner having had to actually win.

As expected, views on the refereeing quality differ, but it was hard to hear much of substance from true pundits and instead the lessons were placed elsewhere.

The most obvious seemed to get over with an experimental format of the side where two veterans playing abroad and some top-rated locally placed players appearing for top sides were introduced rather belatedly.

Arguably of most importance and relevance is that now we know that Taifa Stars squad is the best player for a certain position and a likely substitute or two - not a 'project' side.

CIVIC POLLS



Let's not talk about mental illness...

By Don Akchin

WE have no problem talking about our physical health. We are happy to tell you about our new hip, our defibrillator implant, and our gym routine.

Get any two older adults together and there's a good chance of hearing what's known as an organ recital. Mental health is however another matter. We don't like to talk about it with our friends. We don't even like to talk about it with our doctors - we're far more likely to discuss physical symptoms, a key reason the data on late-life depression and anxiety are underreported.

Let's not talk about it. It makes us uncomfortable. It's embarrassing. It's something we fear. You might say it's the last major taboo.

And while we're at it, let's not talk about late-life suicide either. We don't want to give people ideas.

As long we don't talk about it, we don't have to recognize that the highest rate of suicide in the United States is among men aged 85 and up.

We can ignore the fact that older adults comprise 12 per cent of the population but account for nearly 18 per cent of suicides. And we can ignore the fact that older adults are far more likely to succeed in suicide attempts than any other group - an ironic example of the value of more life experience. Older adults plan more carefully and use deadlier methods.

And as long as we don't talk about suicide, we can avoid the whole debate over whether older adults should have the right to terminate their own lives in the face of agonising pain or unbearable loneliness - a term medical ethicists call "rational suicide".

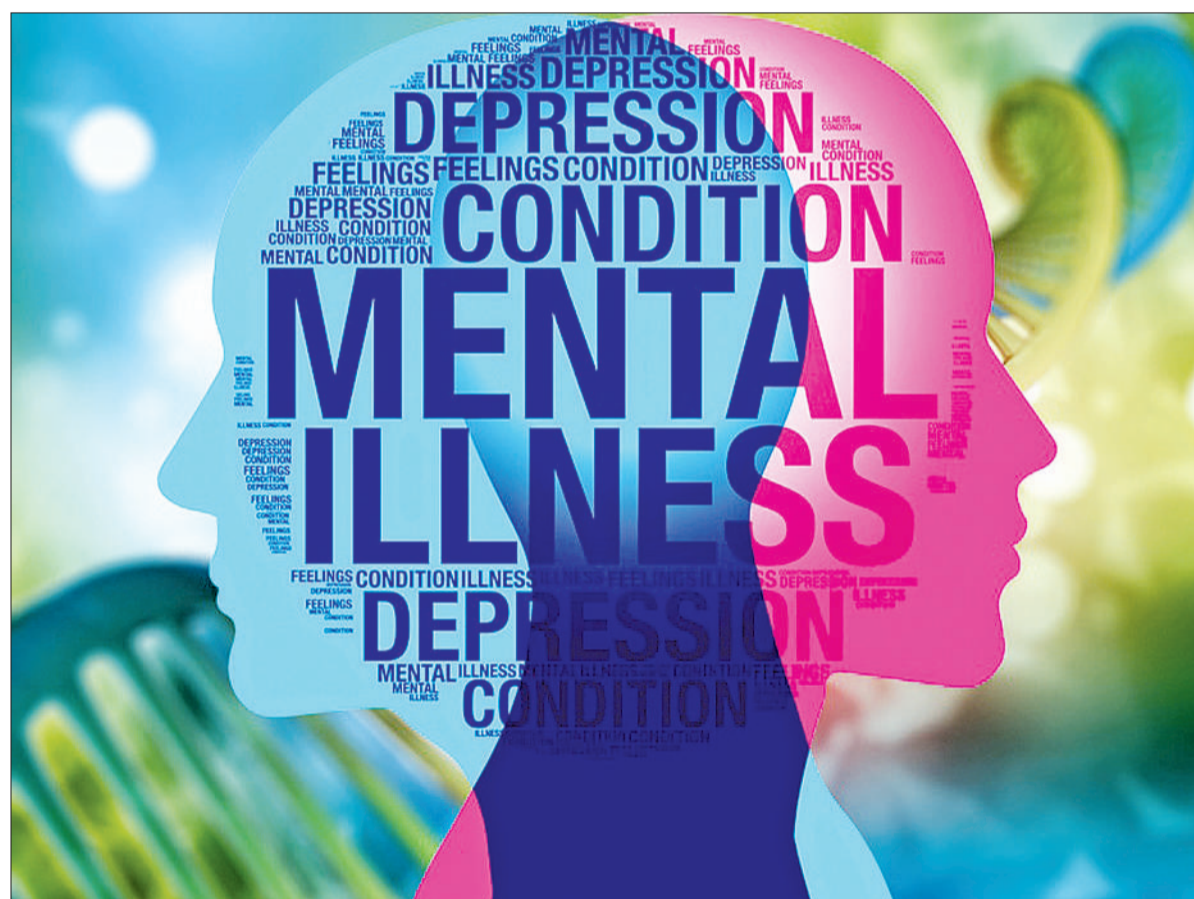
Why we hate to talk about it

We don't like to talk about it because mental illness carries a stigma. Yes, in the 21st century, in spite of celebrities opening up about their mental struggles and despite public awareness campaigns to bring mental illness into the light, the stigma remains strong.

In a British survey several years ago, people said it would be far easier for them to come out as gay than to admit publicly to mental illness.

And with reason: In another study, more than 60 per cent of employers felt they could not employ someone with a mental health problem. Admitting to mental health issues also dooms many romantic relationships.

I know something about this, as I am no stranger to mental illness myself. I have been in treatment for depression for nearly 30 years.



That hasn't kept me from being a functioning, contributing member of society, but it has cost me thousands of dollars in additional life insurance premiums.

I happen to think insurance companies, and the rest of us, should be able to make a distinction between treatable conditions like depression or anxiety on the one hand and severe conditions that lead to erratic behaviour or danger to others on the other.

But the insurers don't, and most of us don't. Our first impulse is to treat anything labelled mental illness with fear, loathing and avoidance.

But if we did talk...

Imagine what might happen if we did decide to talk openly and compassionately about mental illness - and in particular, mental illness among older adults.

One: We might combat the widespread belief that depression is a natural part of being old. However, it is not.

According to The State of Mental Health and Aging in America, only 9 per cent of adults aged 50 or older experience frequent mental distress, which can include depression, anxiety or severe cognitive impairment.

Depression is treatable in 80 per cent of cases. But because of our reticence to talk about it, depression among older adults is widely under-recognized and undertreated.

Two: We might change the fact that fewer than half of older adults who need mental health care get it. Professionals are under-trained in

treating older adults and therefore avoid treating them, says Dr Regina Koepp, a clinical psychologist and founder and CEO of the Centre for Mental Health and Aging.

[The facility is an online resource for continuing education on mental health care for older adults and caregivers. Its goal is to improve access to mental health care, destigmatise mental health and ensure that older adults get the mental health care they need.]

Insurance coverage is also spotty. Medicare does not reimburse all types of mental health providers, including counsellors.

Three: We might weaken the stigma around mental illness. Stigma comes in three flavours: public stigma is negative attitudes that others have, institutional stigma constitutes the policies in government and private organizations that limit opportunities for people with mental illness, and self-stigma - the hardest of all to crack - is the internalised shame that people with mental illness have about their own condition.

Our brains understand that mental illness is brain chemistry and no more the fault of the patient than a bad kidney. Our emotions, however, find mental illness dangerous and a mark of disfavour.

Four: We might counter the unfortunate ageist belief that the lives of older adults matter less than the lives of other adults and children.

It's that notion that undergirds, bolsters or sustains the medical community's lack of interest in

geriatric medicine and its lack of curiosity about late-life mental illness and suicide.

It's that notion that dooms many older adults to live with untreated mental illnesses that become more debilitating over time.

Five: We might be more outraged at the high numbers of suicides in nursing homes, assisted living centres and adult care homes. When frail older Americans manage to kill themselves in institutions designed to keep them safe, secure and supervised, we could ask questions about whether those institutions are paying adequate attention to mental health risk factors.

Six: We might spread the word about the new national suicide prevention hotline, launched a year ago, which links people in crisis or concerned friends, family and caregivers to counsellors providing free, unbiased, and confidential support 24/7.

Seven: We might learn the five action steps we can take if we know an older adult considering suicide. These are: ask if you can help - in a supportive and nonjudgmental way; be there, to ease feelings of isolation and to provide a sense of connection; keep them safe, that is, if they have a suicide plan in mind, try to remove the necessary tools; help them connect to support systems; follow up - that is, be sure to check in with them. Or we can just not talk about it. Ever.

• A medium.com dispatch. Don Akchin publishes *The EndGame*, a weekly newsletter and biweekly podcast for adults who are aging with joy and purpose.

Men's Day that never was: Being a man is tough, folks

By Songa wa Songa

TAKE it from me: being a man is tough. Women can speak for themselves.

Tuesday November 19 was International Men's Day. This is a global awareness day for many issues that men face, including abuse, homelessness, suicide and violence.

It is also an occasion to celebrate men's lives, achievements and contributions to the nation, society, community, family, marriage and childcare.

Yet, there were neither celebrations nor commendations. No handshakes, no pats on the back - absolutely nothing - for most of us. It was as if we don't matter; we don't exist.

As it turned out this year, just like many years gone by, no men or women are ready to invest in celebrating a man. For them all, or so it seems, it would be a waste of scarce resources.

Real man ain't supposed to cry

Despite all manner of the difficulties all of us men face, we don't complain. This is because we are programmed not to. To complain or demand a right is a woman's thing, or so we are taught from childhood.

Make no mistake, it is not African thing; it is a global reality. It is the American R&B group Public Announcement that reminded us this with their hit song "Real man ain't supposed to cry" way back in 2000.

Stressed lot

Because of the tough man, macho man programming, most of us men don't share our pains; instead, we swallow them. Consequently, we end up stressed at best or depressed at worst.

When it comes to such scary matters, we men are disadvantaged. For, biologically, women are more likely to manage stress than us.

This is because they have this magic hormone called oxytocin which lowers



blood pressure and promotes a sense of relaxation that allows them to seek out social support and form close connections with others.

Family first

Guess who I think of when I receive that nice notification message from my bank. You guessed it right: my wife and children. When I finally think of myself, that money is gone.

I am not alone. Most men I know provide for their families first. That is what being a real man means. Also, in this part of the world, the kitchen belongs to the woman. You can guess what that means.

Cheap 'mtumba' for me

When my wife is in the mood, she takes whatever emergency cash is in the house and heads to Dar es Salaam's Karume Market and picks some second-hand trousers and shirts for me. And some shoes...

I normally thank her for being so considerate. For, I have no budget for shopping and I have no time to go to that crowded place to buy clothes and shoes whose original owners I don't know. Most of my friends live like that.

Chop my money

You are a man. You have disposable cash for entertainment. Who do you call

to join you? Your boys? Reserve that correct answer for yourself.

Okay, my dear lady. You have that extra dough to chop. Who do you invite to join you in the jamboree? Your male friends? If yes, add me on that list of friends.

Silent crisis

We need to get a bit serious here because it is not about adult men but young men who need proper guidance if they have to become responsible adults.

'Mashangazi' and 'vibenten' are the new catchwords in town.

'Mashangazi' means aunties in Kiswahili but the term has acquired a new meaning recently: matured and finan-

cially stable ladies who engage in intimate relations with much younger broke adolescent boys known as 'vibenten'.

Bongo Flava artiste Beka Flavour has illustrated this well in his hit song Kibenten (singular) in which he laments the humiliation of being used as sex slave while dependent on a 'shangazi' for practically everything.

Folks who are social media savvy will tell you that broke young men, especially in Dar es Salaam city, are constantly in the hunt for a loaded 'shangazi' as a means of financial emancipation. It is reported that 'mashangazi' also love 'vibenten' because of their raw energy and loyalty.

Unfortunately, this type of marriage of convenience never lasts. In most cases, 'mashangazi' soon get tired and bored of jobless and hence broke 'vibenten' and drop them like hot potato. Back to mama's house penniless. Silent crisis, isn't it?

Men's day is also toilet day!

Let me end it in bad taste. I'm not making this up, but November 19 is also World Toilet Day. This is official United Nations international observance day meant to inspire action to tackle global sanitation crisis.

This is as 4.2 billion people live without safely managed sanitation and around 673 million practise open defecation - you see what I mean to say...

You see? Our day coincides with poop day! I don't know who conspired to render us a neglected lot and then went ahead and spoiled the day itself. What I know, though, is that our enemy is a goliath and only speaking out - and unity can pull us out of this deep, dark hole. Cheers!

• Songa wa Songa is a senior journalist with The Guardian. He can be reached at songa.songa@guardian.co.tz

By Telesphor Magobe

THE United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), which promotes inclusive and sustainable development, in its methodological document titled "UNIDO Country Classification Edition 2024" classifies Tanzania as an 'emerging industrial economy'.

This UNIDO country classification comprises 15 economies in 2024, namely Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Rwanda, Somalia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

"These economies have indeed experienced rapid progress in their industrialisation indicators... It is evident that emerging industrial economies (EIEs) have been remarkably successful at industrialising, with an average annual growth rate in manufacturing value added (MVA) per capita of 8.7 per cent in the period 2000-2022, compared to only 0.5 per cent for the rest of the world. At this pace, EIEs will reach the MVA per capita level of the rest of the world by 2028," says UNIDO in its new document. Thus, Tanzania is classified by UNIDO as an EIE and belongs to the group of middle-income industrialising economies.

The UNIDO document says UNIDO country classification "defines a relatively homogeneous set of country groups that have common features in terms of their stage of industrial development, determined by objective criteria derived from official indicators of industrial performance. It adheres to the basic principles of statistical classifications."

There are now five UNIDO country groups by stage of industrial development: High-income industrial economies: These are countries or areas that have achieved a high national income through a development path that resulted in high industrialisation levels.

High-income industrialising economies: These are countries or areas with high income levels, but with relatively low levels of industrialisation.

Medium-income industrial economies: These are countries or areas classified as medium-income economies that have already achieved significant outcomes in terms of structural change.

Medium-income industrialising economies: These are countries or areas classified as medium-income, but

UNIDO: Tanzania classified as emerging industrial economy



UNIDO headquarters in Vienna, Austria

still remain at comparatively low levels of industrialisation - these are some of the economies that could benefit the most from prioritising industrial development in their policy strategies. Tanzania belongs to this group.

Low-income economies: These are countries or areas that remain at low income levels and also underperform in industrial development indicators. According to UNIDO, these economies would greatly gain from an accelerated

structural change that could foster sustainable development.

Tanzania still belongs to the category of 45 UN least developed countries (LDCs). It qualified for inclusion in the UN LDCs category in 1971, when it was established, and is still in this category to date. The UN General Assembly formally endorsed the list of 25 LDCs in 1971 in its Resolution 2768 (XXVI), as a result of the acknowledgement by the international community

that special support measures were needed to assist the LDCs among the developing countries.

Thus, it requested the Committee for Development Planning (CDP) to review and refine the criteria used for identification. It also requested international organisations within the UN system to take into account the special needs of LDCs when formulating their programmes of activities.

The initial list of LDCs comprised 25 countries. Then, 28

other countries were added to it in subsequent years, "as countries gained independence and faced severe development challenges - in some cases compounded by the effects of independence, war and conflict - and/or faced a sustained deterioration of economic conditions," according to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).

In 2020, Tanzania achieved the status of a lower-middle income economy five years

before 2025 when it was expected. This was good news because Tanzanians came to know that their country had climbed the ladder from a low-income economy to a lower-income economy, which is an economy with a gross national income (GNI) per capita between \$1,146 and \$4,515.

According to an open online source, the World Bank assigns countries to one of four income groups based on their GNI per capita: low-income: \$1,145 or less, lower-middle-income: \$1,145-4,515, upper-middle-income: \$4,516-14,005 and high-income: greater than \$14,005. "The World Bank also defines the international poverty line (IPL) as \$2.15 per day. For lower-middle income countries, the poverty threshold is \$3.65 per day," says the source.

During a triennial review of the list of LDCs in New York on March 4-8, 2024, the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) found that "Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania had fulfilled the criteria for graduation for the first time. These countries will be considered for graduation at the next triennial review in 2027," according to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) report of May 2024.

Therefore, if Tanzania meets the criteria again after the next review in 2027, it could be recommended for graduation after the endorsement of the recommendation by the ECOSOC and the UN General Assembly and after a preparatory period.

Countries which meet the criteria for graduation from the LDCs category are required to prepare themselves for transition because there are implications for it.

Extremism, tariffs and interest rates: Political, economic challenges the Trump administration will impose on Brazil

By Guilherme Casarões

IN recent months, Brazilians have closely followed the US presidential campaign. Since 2016, whatever happens in American politics seems likely to unfold in Brazil. In many ways, the American political chasm reflects Brazil's own political polarisation.

Trump's latest win provoked immediate reactions in Brazilian politics. Former President Jair Bolsonaro and his supporters are ecstatic because they believe that the political tide will once again turn in their favour - with a little help from the White House.

The Brazilian left, for its part, is doing an examination of conscience. After suffering a major blow in the municipal elections of October 2024, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (Lula) and his allies can no longer count on the US to promote their agendas at home and abroad.

The new US government will present Brazil with several challenges. It's not just a question of recognising the vitality of the global conservative wave. We now need to understand how the concrete decisions made by Trump will affect Brazilian politics - and how to respond to them.

Will Trumpism save Bolsonaroism?

In October 2023, Brazil's Superior Electoral Court barred Bolsonaro from running for public office for eight years due to accusations of abuse of political power in his bid for re-election. The court's decision came as a shock to Bolsonaroism, which was on the verge of losing momentum and electoral appeal.

Since then, pro-Bolsonaro congressmen began discussing with their pro-Trump colleagues how they could act together to reverse Bolsonaro's ineligibility. Eduardo Bolsonaro, son of Jair, and other allies made official visits to Washington three times between November 2023 and May 2024.

The common narrative was that the Brazilian authorities were violating the fundamental rights of "conservative" activists and politicians. For the Republicans in the US, the framing of Lula's Brazil as being on the verge of a dictatorship was useful to show what could happen to the US if the Democrats remained in office. The cause of the far right gained even more momentum with the fight between Elon Musk and



On the political front, the renewal of the conservative wave caused by Trump's victory has left Bolsonaro supporters ecstatic. But the fiscal and monetary decisions that the new Republican administration will have to make could have a costly impact on the Brazilian economy

Brazil's Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes. Musk's criticism of censorship in Brazil energised Bolsonaro's supporters, who saw a path to future sanctions against Brazilian authorities should Trump return to the White House.

Now Bolsonaro and his followers are convinced that the Trump administration, with Musk as its centrepiece, will help them return to power in Brazil. Eduardo Bolsonaro was at Mar-a-Lago celebrating Trump's victory. In recent days, the former president has been giving interviews and writing op-eds as if it's only a matter of time before he takes the presidency once again.

Is Trump about to take on Brazil?

Even if the White House considers sanctioning Brazil to put pressure on the authorities to allow Bolsonaro to run, there are other ways to help Trump's staunchest ally,

Through foreign policy, the US could harm Brazil and weaken the Lula government.

President Lula, of course, doesn't want to antagonise Trump. Although he declared his support for Kamala Harris "as a safer bet for democracy", Lula was quick to congratulate the Republican candidate on his victory and said he looked forward to a good working relationship between Brazil and the US.

Lula knows that Brazil is not a priority for Trump, but he is also aware that Bolsonaro's promise of unconditional loyalty to the US president can be quite seductive.

Trump's foreign policy could threaten Brazil in at least two ways. The first concerns tariffs. Protectionist policies could jeopardise exports of Brazilian industrial products to the US. If these policies slow down the Chinese economy, Brazil's agribusiness sector will also find itself in

difficulty.

In addition, the fear of high inflation in the US will keep interest rates high in both countries, leading to less foreign direct investment in Brazil and increasing the challenges for Lula to keep the Brazilian economy stable.

The second immediate threat has to do with Trump's relationship with Argentina. Javier Milei has never hidden his antipathy towards Lula and promises to abandon long-standing commitments to Brazil, such as the South American trade bloc, Mercosur. A preferential alliance between the White House and Argentina will jeopardise Brazil's efforts to drive South American integration.

On Wednesday 13th, Trump nominated Marco Rubio to be the next Secretary of State. Rubio is a hardliner, who recently called Lula a "far-left leader" and criticised the government's decision to suspend

the social network X in Brazil.

End of democracy in Brazil? Times are tough for Brazil and the world - and they could become even more problematic if any discussions on amnesty of the January 8 rioters (which could include a pardon to Bolsonaro) even murkier.

The first task is to reinforce the basic institutional rules of Brazilian democracy. The list of possible criminal charges against Bolsonaro is long and involves planning a coup d'état, the most visible result of which was also an insurrection that took place on 8 January 2023 - and almost entirely inspired by the 6 January 2021 riots on Capitol Hill.

Despite all the enthusiasm among Brazil's far right, there are no guarantees that Bolsonaro will be able to run for office - and that he won't be convicted of crimes.

There may be pressure from the White House, but

its effects will encounter political and legal limits. A recent failed attack on the Supreme Court building by a Bolsonaro supporter will almost certainly make any discussions on amnesty of the January 8 rioters (which could include a pardon to Bolsonaro) even murkier.

In addition, Brazil can capitalise on Trump's isolationism by strengthening its leadership role on issues such as climate change, global governance reform and human rights. The current G20 presidency has allowed Brazil to find meaningful interlocutors and continue to push these agendas forward.

The tides may be turning, and the challenges are certainly increasing, but it is fundamentally up to the political actors to shape their own future. Are the Lula government and other defenders of democracy in Brazil up to the task?

Why have British farmers marched on UK's Parliament?

By Alasdair Soussi

THOUSANDS of disgruntled British farmers marched on London on Tuesday in protest at government plans to change the law regarding the amount of inheritance tax farmers should pay.

The demonstrations saw tractors driven by farmers and coach loads of other agricultural workers from the United Kingdom's four nations of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland descend on Parliament Square, to stage a large-scale protest in bitterly cold temperatures as leaders from the National Farmers' Union (NFU) met with MPs at Westminster.

One protester, Kieron Goodall-Lomax, a sheep farmer from Derbyshire, northern Midlands, told The London Standard weekly that plans to raise revenue by imposing inheritance tax changes on farming assets bore the hallmarks of an out-of-touch Labour Party government which "does not understand the countryside".

"This is just going to break up family farms and really put a lot of pressure on an industry facing quite a lot of difficulty," added Goodall-Lomax.

How is the UK government changing inheritance tax for farmers?

The new Labour-led British government, which won a landslide victory in July's UK general election, wasted little time in ringing in the changes after 14 years as the country's official opposition to the previously ruling Conservative Party.

Among the reforms announced by UK Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves in last month's budget were plans to make inheritance tax payable on farms worth more than 1 million



Children ride toy tractors in Parliament Square as demonstrators attend a farmers' rally on November 19, 2024 in London, UK.

pounds (\$1.27m).

Under the 1992 Agricultural Property Relief (APR) scheme, farms had previously been exempt from paying any inheritance tax, but, from April 2026, inherited farming assets worth more than 1 million pounds will be subject to a 20 percent tax - half the standard 40 percent inheritance tax rate applied to other land and property owned by private citizens which is worth more than 325,000 pounds (\$412,000).

Why are British farmers upset about inheritance taxes?

As English sheep farmer Goodall-Lomax suggests, agricultural workers fear govern-

ment reforms to inheritance tax could sound the death knell for many of the UK's longstanding farming communities.

They contend that many of those inheriting bequeathed agricultural assets worth more than 1 million pounds will be forced to sell their family farms in order to pay the new 20 percent levy, thus threatening Britain's food provision.

This is because while the land owned by many farming families is very valuable, they do not always earn a high income from which to pay the new inheritance taxes.

Indeed, shadow secretary of state for environment, Victoria Atkins, one of a number of Conservative politicians

supporting the stance taken by UK farmers, highlighted the precarious financial state of many farms when she told the BBC's Today programme that "farmers can be asset rich, but cash poor."

"They are not in it for the money - it's a 365-day responsibility," she added.

Why does the UK government want to tax farmers more?

The Labour government wants to generate more money for the country's cash-strapped institutions, such as the National Health Service (NHS), and estimates that up to 520 million pounds (\$660m) a year could be raised from this reform of inheritance tax.

In a joint statement, the chancellor and the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Steve Reed said: "Farmers are the backbone of Britain, and we recognise the strength of feeling expressed by farming and rural communities in recent weeks. We are steadfast in our commitment to Britain's farming industry because food security is national security."

They added: "But with public services crumbling and a £22bn [\$28bn] fiscal hole that this Government inherited, we have taken difficult decisions. The reforms to Agricultural Property Relief ensure that wealthier estates and the most valuable farms pay their fair share to invest in our schools and health services that farmers and families in rural communities rely on."

Reeves also insists that 72 percent of British farms will be unaffected by the change - but this is fiercely disputed.

Who disputes that few farmers will be affected and why?

The NFU, for one. It contends that, based on figures from the government's own Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), a full 66 percent of the UK's 209,000 farms are worth more than 1 million pounds and will therefore qualify for the tax.

According to reports, the

UK Treasury based its 72 percent figure on past claims for APR, but not on farming assets claimed under Business Property Relief (BPR) - another inheritance tax relief scheme, which, under plans by the government, will also face reform, meaning that a combined cap of 1 million pounds will apply to both initiatives.

Thus, says the NFU, the Treasury has grossly underestimated the true number of UK farms worth more than 1 million pounds, and contends that the Defra figure is the more accurate of the two.

Last week, Jeremy Moody from the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers (CAAV) wrote scathingly of government plans in a CAAV e-briefing:

"For ministers to see an APR claim as the sum total of a farm is to miss the point that APR is only about land and buildings, leaving machinery, livestock, deadstock, other farming assets and diversified activities for BPR ... The lack of data given for BPR claims is concerning when we seek an informed debate."

Despite the controversy, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, who suffered an embattled first 100 days in office, has refused to reverse the policy and, in an interview with the BBC, said he remains "very confident that the vast majority of farms will be totally unaffected".

Skin disease patients in S. Sudan find cure from Chinese medical team

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

PATIENTS with fungal skin infections in South Sudan are increasingly flocking to the Juba Teaching Hospital, drawn by the expertise of Zheng Jianfeng, a Chinese dermatologist from the 12th batch of the Chinese medical team stationed in the country.

Benson Kocho, a 32-year-old teacher at Bethel Secondary School in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, is among the patients seeking treatment from Zheng.

With a tumor on his upper lip, Kocho came to the hospital on Nov. 8 after local doctors reached their wit's end over his medical situation.

"The tumor started small but it kept on developing in late September. It grew so big that I could not close my mouth. It gave me a stigma because everybody was asking me what this is," he told Xinhua on Tuesday, adding that the condition had even forced him to wear a face mask before his students.

Kocho said he was lucky to meet Zheng, because the Chinese doctor with "a true spirit of humanity" sympathized with his condition and performed an operation on him the same day.

Following the successful operation with the laser machine introduced last year by the Chinese medical team, Kocho is now relieved and no longer bothered about the concerns of his students and onlookers.

"The wound is recovering well and I have come to see the doctor to receive my routine medicine," he said.

Zheng treats about 60 patients on a daily basis. With such a packed schedule, he sometimes has to sacrifice his

breaks.

Madaya Hassan, a Sudanese national who fled the ongoing conflict and arrived in Juba last November with her husband and two children, said the team of Chinese dermatologists has been kind to treat her son Sadiq Al-Amin, who has been suffering from chronic eczema for about eight years.

"I tried to seek medication but could not find it. Some people advised me to bring my child to the Chinese doctors. When we came here for the first time in July, my son was given medicine and the child recovered," she said.

A relapse, however, pushed Hassan to seek help from Chinese dermatologists for a second time.

"The child experiences intense itching, which forces him to scratch his rough skin until it bleeds. I sometimes had to tie the hands of the child to prevent him from scratching," Hassan said.

Zheng promptly examined the child, provided the medicine to alleviate the itching, and advised Hassan to return with her son for a follow-up in two weeks.

Joseph Kenyi Okumu, an assistant dermatologist who works with Zheng, said Chinese doctors are very dedicated and professional, adding that they have treated patients with common fungal skin diseases such as scabies, tinea, eczema and chronic dermatitis, as well as diseases like cutaneous larva migrans which occur mostly during the rainy season.

"We are giving free medication because the patients coming to us cannot afford medication outside this hospital," Kenyi said.



\$99m to finance development of rice cultivation value chains in West Africa

By Special Correspondent

THE African Development Fund (ADF) releases initial support of \$99 million to finance the development of rice cultivation value chains in West Africa.

The first stage of implementation of the Regional West Africa Rice Development project will involve Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, ECOWAS and AfricaRice. Tens of thousands of rice farmers will benefit from access to seeds, fertilizers and plant protection products.

The Board of Directors of the African Development Fund has approved initial funding of \$99.16 million to develop regional rice cultivation value chains as part of the Regional West Africa Rice Development project.

The aim of the project is to increase food security and sovereignty in West Africa by encouraging public and private investments in rice value chains to increase self-sufficiency in rice in the region by 2030.

The funding of \$99.16 million is intended for the first group of beneficiaries, which includes Gambia and Guinea-Bissau at the national level, as well as the Eco-

nommic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice) at the regional level. It will be provided in the form of separate grants of \$15.95 million, \$43.88 million and \$19.94 million from the African Development Bank Group's concessional loans window. A fourth grant from the Bank, of \$19.39 million, will come from the Transition Support Facility, a Bank mechanism aimed at supporting the resilience of the continent's most fragile countries.

In total, grants from the African Development Bank Group represent 91.2 percent of the total cost of the project. The governments of Gambia and Guinea-Bissau will each contribute 5.2 percent, with the beneficiaries contributing 1.7 percent in kind. ECOWAS and AfricaRice will contribute 1.2 percent and 0.8 percent of the total project cost respectively.

The project will help to increase production and the productivity of rice cultivation, as well as improving income generation for farmers, particularly women and young people. It will also help to increase the resilience and capacity for adaptation of rice farms and production systems in re-

sponse to climate change, as well as processing, marketing and the intraregional trade in rice.

At the national level, the project plans to develop irrigation infrastructure and to improve the sustainability of irrigation services, support the distribution of supplies and improved, climate-smart seeds, and strengthen processing units and the marketing of local rice, with a particular emphasis on skills development and access to finance for women and young people. The project also aims to strengthen agricultural cooperatives and access to mechanization, while improving farmers' capacity for adaptation and resilience in response to climate change and extreme events.

At the regional level, the first regional project, supported by AfricaRice, will provide regional technical support for encouraging innovation in rice cultivation value chains in the project's intervention countries in West Africa. This includes a needs assessment for seeds and varieties in the various countries, as well as the production and distribution of improved seeds.

The second regional project, supported by ECOWAS, will con-

centrate on regional policy and regulatory reforms and harmonizing these across the region. It will contribute to improving governance in the West African rice sector through the ECOWAS Rice Observatory, which will also be supported by the project.

The project's beneficiary countries are therefore all 15 countries in West Africa, each benefiting from the implementation of regional projects.

In Gambia, the beneficiaries will be 20,000 rice farmers, including 6,000 women and 4,000 young people; 10,000 producers, including 3,000 women and 3,000 young people who will be supported in accessing seeds, fertilizers, plant protection products, mechanization and agricultural equipment, and 40 women who will receive support for financial inclusion.

In Guinea-Bissau, 16,000 rice farmers, including 5,000 women and 3,000 young people will benefit, along with 50,000 producers, including 15,000 women and 15,000 young people, who will be supported in accessing seeds, fertilizers, plant protection products, mechanization and agricultural equipment.



China's agricultural innovation helps African farmers increase yield, income

NANJING

AFTER a short stay in China, Liu Yutao is about to return to Kenya, where he has been working as an expert for almost three years in an effort to help local farmers grow tomatoes.

"Tomato is an important vegetable in Kenya. In recent years, the country's tomato production has been threatened by diseases and pests such as bacterial wilt and leaf miners, leading to severe yield reductions, and in some areas even complete crop failure," said Liu, who is an agronomist from Nanjing Agricultural University in east China's Jiangsu Province.

China's grafting technology provides a solution for tomato farmers in Kenya. A mature, safe and time-honored agricultural technology in China, grafting is widely used in the cultivation of melons, vegetables and fruit trees.

In 2022, Nanjing Agricultural University and Egerton University in Kenya decided to introduce and promote tomato grafting technology in Kenya, with the aim to empower rural youth in Kenya through innovation of the tomato value chain. By the end of 2023, the tomato grafting program managed to secure funding from the United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development.

According to Liu, who is also the Chinese director of the Confucius Institute

at Egerton University, the tomato grafting technology has been promoted in Kenya's Nakuru County via 15 demonstration sites and more than 10 technical training classes and demonstration promotions.

"After witnessing harvests achieved at the demonstration farms, more and more local farmers have regained confidence in growing tomatoes, and are signing up for training," he added.

According to Liu Gaoqiong, another agronomist working in Kenya who is also from Nanjing Agricultural University, the tomato seedlings now planted by the farmers at the demonstration sites have strong disease resistance and growth capabilities. They bear fruit earlier, have good quality and high yield, while resulting in an increase in production of at least 50 percent.

Joshua Ogweno, the Kenyan director of the Confucius Institute at the Egerton University, said the tomato grafting technology from China is well adapted to the local environment in Kenya and has greatly improved agricultural productivity. More than 4,000 Kenyan farmers have received training in the fields of Chinese greenhouse agriculture and tomato grafting technology.

It is predicted that this technology can reduce the incidence of bacterial wilt in local tomatoes from 90 percent to below 10 percent, and increase annual yield from near total crop failure to up to 90 tonnes

per hectare, while elevating income by about 1.5 million Kenyan shillings (about 11,600 U.S. dollars) per hectare.

The work being done by Liu Yutao and his Chinese colleagues in Kenya is part of China's efforts to use advanced agricultural technologies in cooperation with African countries to promote the adoption of modern agriculture on that continent.

At a China-Africa innovation forum held earlier this month, the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) and the African Academy of Sciences initiated the China-Africa agricultural sci-tech innovation alliance.

The alliance aims to promote the development of modern agriculture in both China and Africa, with emphasis on food security, biosecurity and green development, and cooperation in fields such as sustainable development, application of remote sensing and big data, pollution control, and poverty alleviation through sci-tech empowerment.

Over the last three years, China has sent more than 500 experts to Africa and provided nearly 9,000 training opportunities to agricultural talents. By the end of 2023, China had established 24 agricultural demonstration centers in Africa, promoting more than 300 advanced technologies such as dense planting of corn, vegetable cultivation and rapid propagation of cassava - benefiting over 1 million local house-

holds.

Chinese institutions participating in China-Africa agricultural cooperation include not only local universities such as Nanjing Agricultural University, but also national institutions like the CAAS and the Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences (CATAS).

Chen Qing, a professor at the CATAS, has been focusing on green and integrated pest management for cassava in Sanya, south China's Hainan Province, for many years. One of his students, Oluwole Gregory Ijiti, comes from Nigeria, which is the world's largest cassava producer in terms of harvested area.

In a field in Sanya's Yazhou District, Ijiti accompanied Chen Qing in harvesting new varieties of cassava under the scorching sun.

"This new variety can be eaten both fresh and processed, with features of high yield, insect resistance and strong adaptability," Chen said.

Cassava is an important staple crop in Nigeria. Chen helped Ijiti establish a research direction based on the actual needs of cassava production in Nigeria and in line with Ijiti's goal of improving his technical innovation ability.

"My student is tackling *Tetranychus urticae*, a pest that heavily impacts cassava crops in his home country," Chen said. "By merging insect and pesticide resistance

studies, we aim to develop pest-resistant cassava varieties, ensuring both high yield and green approaches."

"Such collaboration is beneficial to both countries, and will lead to progress beyond national borders to alleviate poverty and hunger," Ijiti said.

Over the past decade, the CATAS has signed 19 cooperation memoranda with African institutions, promoted about 50 new varieties and technologies in Africa, and conducted 65 technology training sessions involving more than 3,000 participants.

Technology cooperation efforts include tropical crop cultivation and processing involving Rwanda, tropical crop pest and disease control in collaboration with Tanzania, and research on crops such as cassava in partnership with Nigeria, Tanzania and Cote d'Ivoire.

"China plays an important role in the modernization of agriculture in Africa," said Rahamtalla Mohamed Osman Elnor, the African Union's permanent representative in China.

He added that China's technology advantage and policy expertise combine to offer African countries experiences that are easy to understand and quick to grasp, which not only supports the sustainable development of agricultural production in Africa but also helps African farmers to increase their incomes.

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

AFRICA NEEDS \$1.4TN TO PLUG AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEFICIT

AS THE majority of African countries suffer from acute shortage of housing due to huge population growth that has been compounded by rural urban migration, studies have shown that the continent needs US\$1.4tn to plug affordable housing deficit.

Affordable housing is a pressing issue across Africa due to rapid urbanization, population growth, and inadequate infrastructure. The housing deficit in Africa is estimated at 50 million units, with the demand for affordable homes growing annually.

The annual housing investment gap stands at approximately US\$16-20 billion, with most of the shortfall concentrated in low- and middle-income housing.

For example in Tanzania, the report by Shelter Afrique shows that housing deficit is a significant challenge, driven by rapid urbanization, population growth which is estimated to more than double by 2050, and limited affordable housing.

The Tanzanian housing sector's fast-growing demand is mainly driven by strong and sustained economic growth with GDP growth averaging 6-7 percent over the past decade.

Estimates indicate that the country has a housing deficit of approximately 3 million units, with an annual demand for about 200,000 new affordable housing units annually.

"The existence of house deficit is very high with consideration of the quality of houses and congestions in line with important services like water and electricity," says Shelter Afrique.

Cities like Dar es Salaam, Arusha, and Mwanza experience high urban migration rates, exacerbating the demand for affordable housing.

The CCM 2020-25 election manifesto instructed the government to create a friendly climate to ensure citizens across the country live in modern homes.

Low- and middle-income Tanzanian households face a number of housing challenges, including insufficient housing supply, overreliance on insecure, inadequate self-build informal housing, rising building materials costs, irregular income making it harder to plan for housing-related spending and/or access housing finance, and difficulties servicing outstanding loans.

The also reports show that in Kenya, housing deficit constitutes of nearly 2 million and continues to grow at a rate of about 200,000 units a year.

There's increased proliferation of informal settlements in urban areas with a whopping 61 percent of the urban population living in slums in



Africa's annual housing investment gap stands at approximately US\$16-20 billion

overcrowded homes typically with only one room and no adequate ventilation which proves to be detrimental to the health of these people.

The Kenyan government plans to launch a low-cost housing project that will see 30,000 housing units constructed in east of Nairobi by 2020 as part of the former President Uhuru Kenyatta's develop-

ment agenda.

According to the reports, Ghana has a housing deficit of 1.7 million housing units as of 2018. To address this issue, the ministry of housing in Ghana has proposed an annual delivery of 85,000 homes over the next decade.

The government is also working towards facilitating creative financing schemes that improves overall

affordability and access to modern communities for all working-class citizens.

The Ghana government, in 2019 budget has also announced GH¢1 billion mortgage and housing finance to leverage private capital which aims to expand access to housing and deepen the local mortgage and construction finance market to help bring down the housing

deficit. Ethiopia's economic growth is accompanied by a rapid urbanization rate which has posed several socio-economic challenges which includes affordable housing. There's an estimated shortage of at least 1.2 million units in Ethiopia.

The government of Ethiopia has addressed the public's demand for residence and employing various condominium housing schemes that has largely benefited low and middle-income citizens.

Aside of government aided projects, a number of private real estate developers have been playing a pivotal role in making affordable homes a reality.

The private companies have made significant contributions in satisfying the demand of middle and low-income citizens for apartments and other high-end houses by fully funding the cost of homes and employing different mechanisms such as microfinance and low interest loans to transfer properties.

Shelter Afrique says addressing the housing deficit requires a multi-faceted approach, including improving access to affordable housing finance, revising land policies, and supporting local construction industries to lower costs.

Africa's housing market is projected to grow as governments and stakeholders focus on affordable housing solutions. Scaling up innovative technologies, promoting local manufacturing of materials, and improving financing mechanisms will be crucial to bridging the housing deficit.



Green cement incorporates industrial by-products such as fly ash, slag, or limestone as partial replacements for clinker.

Fly-ash, limestone seek to replace clinker in cement manufacturing

DUBLIN

Green Cement demand, globally, is estimated at US\$38.5 billion in 2024, up from US\$35 billion in 2023, and projected to post a CAGR of 10.1 percent between 2024 and 2030 to reach US\$68.6 billion by 2030, according to the new report by ResearchAndMarkets.com.

In contrast to conventional Portland cement, green cement employs innovative technologies and processes that lower carbon emissions and energy use.

Green cement frequently incorporates industrial by-products such as fly ash, slag, or limestone as partial replacements for clinker, which is the main component of traditional cement.

The primary goal of green cement is to lessen carbon dioxide emissions while preserving the structural integrity and performance standards necessary for construction projects.

The Green Cement market is primarily driven by several key factors, including the rising demand for sustainable construction

materials as environmental concerns intensify.

"Increasing regulatory pressures aimed at reducing carbon emissions and promoting eco-friendly practices have compelled manufacturers to innovate and adopt greener technologies," the report notes.

The growth of the construction industry, particularly in developing regions, further accelerates the need for sustainable building solutions.

Additionally, the heightened awareness among consumers and businesses regarding climate change has led to a preference for low-carbon alternatives in construction projects.

Technological advancements in production processes, which enhance the efficiency and performance of green cement, also play a crucial role in driving market growth.

Lastly, the incorporation of industrial by-products as substitutes for traditional materials not only reduces waste but also contributes to cost-effectiveness, making green cement an attractive op-

tion for builders and developers.

Fly Ash based green cement is the leading Product Type in the Green Cement market, with an estimated share of 42.3 percent in 2024, owing to its environmental benefits, cost-effectiveness, and widespread availability.

Fly ash, a byproduct of coal combustion in power plants, is repurposed in cement production, reducing the need for traditional clinker and lowering carbon emissions.

This makes it a more sustainable option compared to conventional cement, aligning with growing global efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of construction materials.

Fly Ash based green cement is also expected to record the fastest CAGR of 9.4 percent during the 2024-2030 forecast period as it exhibits improved durability, workability, and strength compared to conventional cement, making it an attractive option for various construction applications.

Furthermore, the increasing availability of

fly ash, particularly in regions with active coal industries, coupled with growing regulatory support and market demand for eco-friendly construction materials, propels its rapid adoption in the building sector.

North America region holds the dominant position in the Green Cement market, accounting for 40.4 percent in 2024, due to strong regulatory support, environmental awareness, and the region's commitment to reducing carbon emissions in construction.

The US and Canada have implemented stringent regulations on carbon emissions and are promoting sustainable building practices through incentives and green building certifications like LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

This drives the demand for eco-friendly construction materials, including green cement. The Asia-Pacific region is projected to be the fastest-growing market, with a CAGR of 11.6 percent during the forecast period 2024-2030.

Police officers receive training on cyber security

BY FRANCIS KAJUBI

TWELVE police officers from the Police Force of Tanzania headquarters have been given special training in cybercrime aiming at promoting and improving cyber security against the new wave of crime in the country.

The three-month training programme started in August and ended late last month was sponsored by a private entity-Punjab Charitable Trust.

Cybersecurity in Tanzania is gaining prominence as the country continues its digital transformation. The increasing reliance on digital platforms for commerce, banking, education, and government services has heightened the need for robust cybersecurity measures.

The Commissioner of Scientific Investigation of the Police Force CP Shabani Hiki made this observation on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam during the ceremony of handing over the certificates to the officers who successfully completed the training.

According to him, the training also involved the funding of system development for monitoring online money theft, smuggling, human trafficking, drug trafficking, infringement to personal data, planned online terrorism, and crimes related to artificial intelligence.

Gulam Punjani Director Punja-

ni Charitable Trust called upon the police officers who received the training to make good use of it so that they become productive for the nation's interest by reducing or completely eliminating the challenge of online crime.

For his part, Izack Marandu, the Project Manager of Online Security at the Tanzania Police Force said that the aim of the training is to support the government in managing online security as technology is currently developing rapidly.

One of the police officers who took part in the training, Marry Samba, said that the training will help the police officers to fulfill their duties better compared to those who previously had no training about cybercrime.

In March this year, Tanzania was recognised as the second safest country in Africa for cyber security.

Dr Nkundwe Mwasaga, Director General of the Information and Communication Technology Commission (ICTC) said in a recent interview that Tanzania's rise in cyber security is attributed to data by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) through the Global Cyber security Index.

"We are dedicated to offering opportunities for youth to create diverse ICT programmes, advancing our technology land-

scape, and positioning Tanzania as a digital frontrunner," said Dr Mwasaga.

This is the case when technology and innovation are increasingly empowering young Tanzanians to pursue self-employment opportunities.

With each passing day, these advancements are becoming vital drivers for economic independence and entrepreneurial success among the youth in Tanzania.

Data by the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Commission shows that as of March 2024 there were 21 million youth self-employed in the technology and innovation sectors particularly start-ups and online businesses.

The ICT Commission's data clarifies that youth employed in the two sectors are aged between 15 and 34 years forming 33 percent of the total country's population pegged at 61.7 million as per the 2022 National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) Census report.

The Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) current report shows that in the academic year ending 2022, a total of 2,166 higher learners graduated from the ICT field.

It states that students pursuing ICT related subjects in primary and secondary schools are approximately 12.3 million.



CLIMATE CRISIS WORSENS HOUSING SHORTAGE, UN DIRECTOR SAYS

RIO DE JANEIRO

Brazilian economist Anacláudia Rossbach (pictured), the first Latin American to serve as executive director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), warned that the world is grappling with a global housing crisis, worsened by the loss of homes due to natural disasters and conflicts.

According to Rossbach, around 1 billion people currently live in informal settlements, 2 billion lack access to drinking water, and an estimated 300 million are homeless.

To meet the targets of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Agenda—a global action plan—she emphasized the need to build 96,000 housing units per day until 2030.

"Needs are changing—habits, demographics, migration flows—and supply is not keeping up at the same pace. There's a gap. We are experiencing this global crisis. Homes are lost when people are displaced due to climate

events or conflicts. The humanitarian crisis affects existing housing," Rossbach said during her participation in the G20 Social and Urban 20 (U20) forums in Rio de Janeiro.

The UN-Habitat executive director stressed the importance of recognizing land scarcity and building societal consensus on "what we want as a society" to mitigate the housing shortage. She also called for political and social support to implement innovative solutions.

According to Rossbach, the lack of funding for housing credit in Brazil is a structural issue that demands creative approaches to diversify funding mechanisms.

"This crisis includes 1 billion people living in informal settlements, 2 billion without access to drinking water, and 300 million homeless," she said.

Rossbach said the gap between wages and housing prices has widened significantly. This has long been a structural issue in global economies and is now evident in Europe and North Amer-



ica.

Moreover, governments are struggling to provide subsidies due to fiscal constraints.

This creates limitations both in the market and in public policies, leaving supply insufficient to meet demand and address social needs.

Rossbach said needs are evolving due to changing habits, demographics, and migration flows, but supply hasn't adapted quickly enough.

"This gap is visible in cities, where homelessness and informal settlements are growing. Simultaneously, homes are lost

when people are displaced due to climate events or conflicts, worsening the humanitarian crisis," she said.

Fundamentally, she said two main issues must be addressed.

First, cities and urban planning must consider housing needs. Land scarcity and housing demand must be considered. Optimizing the built environment is also key.

"Idle spaces and buildings should be repurposed. Many cities are already pursuing these strategies. Diversifying housing models and aligning them with land-use policies is also essential. Efforts should focus on improving housing conditions," she said.

"At the World Urban Forum in Cairo, I discussed this topic with representatives from development banks and international financial institutions. For example, mortgage loans could be regulated to align with urban planning and government subsidies. Urban criteria, similar to environmental and social criteria for financial investments, could guide public

and infrastructure investments toward special interest zones (ZEIS)."

Rossbach explained that government involvement is essential.

"During my time at the World Bank, I conducted extensive calculations, and I don't see a way to bridge the supply-demand gap without subsidies. However, smaller subsidies can support incremental housing improvements, making them more affordable for households and governments alike," she asserted.

"We need to work on these options as funds become available. Sometimes subsidies are implicit, as is the case with the My Home My Life housing program. Sometimes it is implicit as interest rates or tax incentives. However, all the models created have some type of incentive subsidy, or public regulation, allowing the private or public sector to build this type of housing. In Europe, there was massive public investment through the U.S.-led Marshall Plan right after World War II, for example."



Exploration, partnerships necessary for influencing critical minerals investment

BY MARLENY ARNOLDI

As the world demands more "new" minerals such as copper, lithium and rare earths for use in smart technologies for decarbonisation and clean energy production, African countries have some key considerations to take into account to garner investment in its rich endowment of these minerals.

In a panel hosted by Creamer Media on November 20, experts in the critical mineral sector and technology sphere discussed the importance of exploration and defining what critical minerals mean for the African continent.

Council for Geoscience CEO Mosa Mabuza said a critical minerals strategy must start with understanding each country's mineral resources, how much more is left to uncover and what the country's agenda with these minerals can be in the global supply chain.

The challenge, however, is underpinning on exploration, with developed economies spending an average \$65/m² on geoscience and African countries only spending \$5 /m², yet Africa has always been a supplier of choice for minerals.

He suggested a deliberate continent-wide approach to put together surveys of all African nations to find opportunities for collaboration and investing in more critical minerals discovery in an informed manner.

"A truly integrated value chain proposition can benefit the African continent and those that consume the minerals," he said.

South Africa, for one, as a mature mining country has ample lessons to share that other countries can apply to their own mining sectors. "Our forebearers did a fantastic job of delineating mineral systems, particularly the Witwatersrand gold complex, the Bushveld Igneous Complex and the manganese fields in the Northern Cape.

"They consistently invested in geology to a certain point. There must be continuous research which will allow for some level of serendipitous discovery to happen," Mabuza said, adding that South Africa has a solid foundation on which it is able to extrapolate when it moves into this new range of minerals that is creating a lot of enthusiasm.

He continued that key considerations for African countries now are what minerals the world will demand to reach net zero by 2050, what they have to offer and what policy will be best suited in this regard.

Zambia, for example, recently undertook a national air coverage geophysics survey totalling more than \$100-million to acquire data. "Once you have taken a decision like that as a country, the rest can follow," Mabuza said.

Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) senior industry specialist Kgashane Mohale advocated for more developmental institutions to consider financing for junior miners to conduct exploration, as the IDC itself is advancing an exploration fund together with government.

The corporation is finalising a first round of R160-million of grant funding to junior mining companies, as part of a R400-million total allocation, which the corporation will recover if projects are successful on a case-by-case basis through future ownership agreements.

For more these kinds of investments to release, Hyve Group's Investing in African Mining Indaba content and strategic partnerships head Laura Nicholson said, naturally, countries' regulations have a huge role to play in how critical minerals are developed.

Minerals Council South Africa CEO Mzila Mthenjane agreed, adding that more African countries need to start positioning the mining industry as a key catalyst for economic development, with the following decisions needing to be made in support of that view.

Ecobank commences \$400m bond market at London Stock Exchange

LONDON

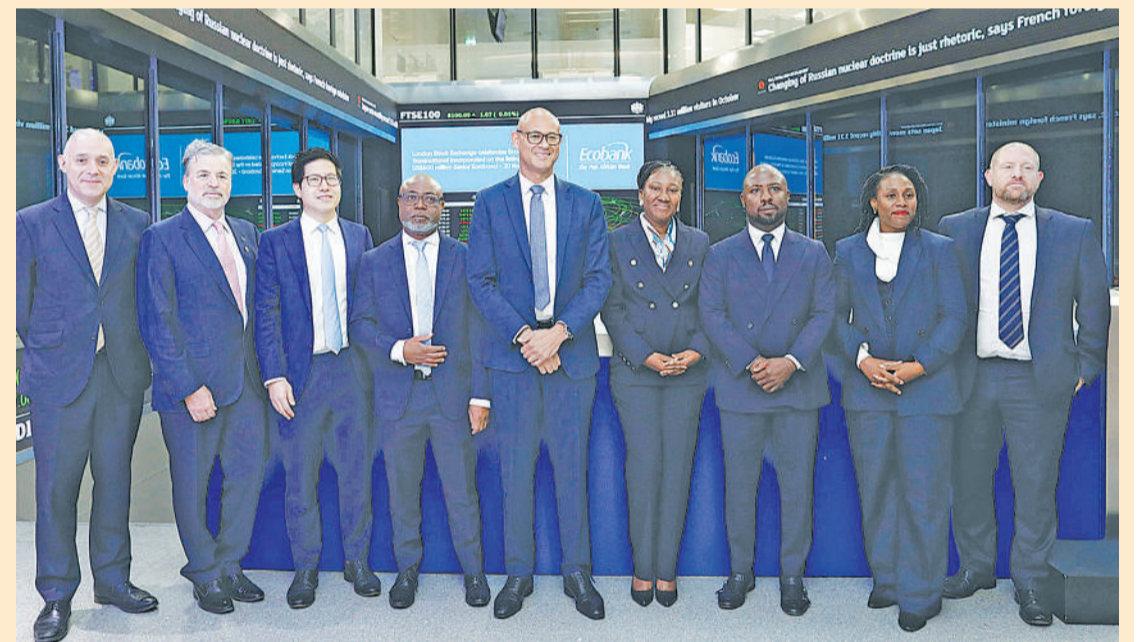
Ecobank Transnational Incorporated (ETI), parent of pan-African Ecobank Group, has opened the market at the London Stock Exchange (LSE) to celebrate the successful issuance of its US\$400 million Senior Unsecured Eurobond on the London Stock Exchange main market.

Jeremy Awori, CEO, Ecobank Group, said: "Our successful Notes issuance demonstrates how Ecobank is blazing the trail for sub-Saharan African financial institutions and corporates in accessing the international capital markets. The Notes are ETI's third issuance on the international bond markets and the first public Eurobond issuance by a financial institution in sub-Saharan Africa since 2021".

He said with the bond more than 2.1 times oversubscribed, the strong demand demonstrates international and African investors approval and trust in the progress of Ecobank's growth, transformation and returns strategy.

The Notes, which mature in October 2029, pay interest of 10.125 percent, payable semi-annually in arrears.

Ayo Adepoju, Chief Financial Officer, Ecobank Group commented: "We really appreciate



Jeremy Awori, CEO, Ecobank Group (C) poses in a group photo with other top officials at the London Stock Exchange (LSE) during the market opening for \$400m bond. Photo: Courtesy of Ecobank

the support and partnership from Absa, Africa Finance Corporation, African Export-Import Bank, Mashreq, and Standard Chartered Bank, who acted as Joint Lead Managers and Joint Bookrunners, and Renaissance Capital Africa, who served as the Financial Adviser for the transaction. We deeply value and appreciate the strong support from our Development Finance Institution partners, including the Africa Finance Corporation, Proparco,

and the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank, who helped anchor the transaction. We also thank our bond investors for their ongoing support of ETI and look forward to continuing our engagement and working together to successfully execute our business strategy."

ETI will use the net proceeds from the issuance of the Notes for general corporate purposes, including refinancing the

US\$350 million Senior Bridge-to-Bond Loan Facility entered into in March 2024. Members of the ETI board and management attended the London Stock Exchange to celebrate the successful issuance of the bond.

Present in 35 sub-Saharan African countries, as well as France, the UK, UAE and China, Ecobank is a unique pan-African platform providing a single gateway for payments, cash management, trade and investment.

Traders urged to exploit US-Africa trade opportunities

BY CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MWENDAPOLE

THE Minister for Industry and trade, Selemani Jafo, has asked Tanzanian traders to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the United States through African Growth and Opportunity (AGOA) by producing products that meet the international standards.

He said that many Tanzanian products have failed to penetrate the market due to failure to meet the criteria and conditions set.

He made the plea yesterday in Dar es Salaam during the awarding of quality awards to various companies and entrepreneurs organized by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

TBS partnered with the Tanzania Trade Development Authority (Tantrade), Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC), SIDO, Chamber of Commerce, In-

dustry and Agriculture (TCCIA), Zanzibar Bureau of Standards (ZBS) and Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF).

He said that the US government gave the opportunity as its strategy to develop African countries, but some of those countries, including Tanzania, have failed to sell many products in the market.

He urged entrepreneurs and producers in the country to produce quality products that will be able to enter large international markets such as AGOA, East and Central Africa and even the local market.

"All developed countries in the world depend on the domestic market first, we are 62 million, so if you produce products that Tanzanians will appreciate, only the domestic market can help them," he said.

He said the awards have shown great importance especially due to its participants increasing from 36 participants last year to

54 participants this year.

"In addition to this, we must understand that any product will be able to compete in the market if you continue to focus on quality. I thank TBS for being an example of quality," he said and added

"On the Africa continent, TBS has become the winner of a quality institution in Africa, therefore it is recognized as the number one in terms of quality control and the awards are very helpful in increasing the value of the company's products and the entrepreneurs," he said.

He asked Tanzanians to support their colleagues who produce various products by buying these products and abandoning the opium of seeing foreign products as better than those produced locally.

He asked Tanzanians through the Small Industries Organization (SIDO), to strengthen their businesses by getting the training provided by the organization

and later be given the free quality logo by TBS.

He said the number of youth graduates is large and the government does not have the ability to hire all, so it is important to continue to venture to the private sector.

The Chairperson of the Awards Committee, Cresensia Mbunda, said every year the Ministry of Industry and Trade through TBS and ZBS in cooperation with the private sector have been preparing quality awards.

She said they are doing so as part of encouraging the use of quality standards and competition in various sectors in the country and recognizing and appreciating the efforts of producers who performed well annually.

She said a team of seven judges from the private sector and the government reviewed 52 applications collected for the awards without any bias and based on the set criteria.

CONSTRUCTION

TRANSPORTERS BOOST GROWTH OF CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

BY FRANCIS KAJUBI

THE Minister of Industry and Trade Dr. Selemani Jafo has commended the Tanzania Tipper and Machine Owners Association (TTMOA) for playing a critical role in paving the way for the growth of the construction and logistics sector, especially in the transportation of raw materials used in various strategic development projects.

Addressing TTMOA members at the association's annual general meeting held on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam, Jafo

said that the BRT road project in Dar es Salaam is progressing well due to the owners of tippers and machinery working on the transportation of rubble and pebbles.

He said that young people graduating from universities are between 69,000 and 92,000 on an annual basis where the government's ability to employ them has not been possible anywhere in the world and therefore the transport sector has many opportunities to provide employment to graduates every year.

"The contribution of the association is seen in the creation of driving and engineering jobs. They contribute to the circulation of money through the purchase of raw materials and thus increase the income of individuals," said Jafo.

On his part, Emmanuel Moshi, TTMOA Chairperson commended the government for focusing on the issue of local content becoming a priority so that Tanzanians can benefit from the projects implemented by the government.

"The challenge that still exists is poor

management of the implementation of local content regulations which we believe should be worked on. The equipment we have and we would like to be given contracts for small projects,' he said.

He urged the owners of tippers and small machines to implement the projects offered to them in an efficient manner so that the association can be trusted and its members can benefit from the implementation of development projects.

Benard Akilimali, TTMOA General

Secretary also asked contractors to fully implement their contracts with sub-contractors because their plants have been held if contractors fail to implement projects in accordance with contracts.

"Rapid tax reforms have also been a challenge for us. This reduces the appetite to continue investing in this sector; we are an association with more than 5,000 units and so we would like to be involved in the tax reforms because we have long-term contracts," said Akilimali.



A group of people with albinism pose in group photo with Director of the Disability Department in the Prime Minister's Office Rashid Maftaha (2nd L seated), who represented Minister Ridhiwani Kikwete during the workshop for special groups held in Dodoma recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

200 people with disabilities secure mandatory jobs in various sectors

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT, DODOMA

Over 200 individuals with disabilities have been employed across various sectors in Tanzania as part of the implementation of a law mandating the government and private institutions to allocate 3 percent of job opportunities to people with disabilities.

This was revealed by the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office responsible for Labour, Youth, and People with Disabilities, Ridhiwani Kikwete in his speech read by Rashid Maftaha, the Director of the Disability Department in the Prime Minister's Office during a workshop aimed at empowering people with disabilities through training on procurement laws, opportunities for special groups, and the use of the PPRA Nest system here.

The minister highlighted that these job placements for people with disabilities include positions in education, social welfare, health, and nutrition sectors, helping them to achieve economic independence and contribute to the nation's GDP.

He added that empowering this group economically enables them to employ others and escape poverty and dependency.

Kikwete mentioned that the Prime Minister's Office has begun revising the 2004 National Policy on People with Disabilities. Progress has been made, including evaluations, and the policy is currently in draft stages for further development.

"The aim of this policy is to enhance the economic empowerment of individuals and the entire community of people

with disabilities, utilizing 30% of public procurement funds reserved for special groups, including people with disabilities," he stated.

He also noted the availability of other economic empowerment opportunities, such as the 10 percent loans from council revenues, where 2 percent is specifically reserved for people with disabilities. Kikwete commended the efforts of PPRA in supporting special groups, including people with disabilities, by building their capacity in public procurement processes. He emphasized that 30 percent of public procurement budgets are set aside for these groups, with 10 percent specifically for people with disabilities.

He applauded FDH for advocating for people with disabilities and ensuring the implementation of government policies and guidelines at the local government level.

However, Kikwete urged other institutions to collaborate with PPRA in raising awareness about opportunities in their policies related to people with disabilities, so they can benefit from these initiatives.

Maiko Salali, Director of the Foundation for Disabilities Hope, said the workshop involved over 200 participants, including individuals with albinism, visual impairments, physical disabilities, hearing impairments, and intellectual disabilities.

He thanked PPRA for prioritizing capacity building for people with disabilities through training that empowers them to secure employment or become self-reliant.

PPRA's Director Corporate Services Salmini Malole, highlighted that under

President Samia Suluhu Hassan's administration, the government has achieved significant reforms in public procurement, including the establishment of the NeST system and the enactment of the Public Procurement Act of 2023 and its 2024 regulations. These initiatives have expanded access to opportunities in a transparent and equitable manner.

Since the implementation of the NeST system on July 1, 2023, up to October 8, 2024, 210 groups have won public procurement contracts worth over 9.85bn/-.

During the 2023/24 financial year, 85 youth groups secured contracts worth over TZS 3.9 billion, creating jobs and reducing poverty. Similarly, 84 women's groups won contracts worth over TZS 4 billion, while two senior citizens' groups were awarded contracts worth TZS 78 million.

FDH Relations Officer Furahini Chemakaa outlined challenges faced by people with disabilities, such as lack of awareness and understanding by public and private institution leaders, including the inability to use sign language. This hampers the delivery of services to people with disabilities.

Another issue is the lack of enforcement of the 2010 Disability Act, particularly the provision requiring employers to allocate 3 percent of job opportunities to people with disabilities.

Dr. Henry Humba, FDH Board Chairperson, expressed gratitude to the government for its continued efforts to economically empower people with disabilities, enabling them to contribute to societal and national development.

Eighty pct of women engaged in e-commerce lack marketing skills

BY CORRESPONDENT GRACE

MWAKALINGA

Eight in ten women entrepreneurs require training and professional guidance on effective online marketing strategies to reach a wider customer base and increase their business revenues.

Challenges such as lack of capital, limited marketing skills, high business registration costs, and inadequate distribution resources have been identified as barriers preventing women entrepreneurs from achieving full success in their businesses.

This was revealed recently by Lydia Moyo, the Executive Director of Her Initiative, while presenting the findings of a study on the business environment for young women entrepreneurs at the Panda Event 2024 forum, held at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM).

Moyo noted that the study found that some entrepreneurs struggle to achieve their business goals due to a lack of knowledge about the right strategies to fully penetrate the market.

"According to the study, 75 percent of women entrepreneurs need training and expert advice on effective online marketing campaigns to reach more customers and increase their business incomes," she said.

She added that over 60 percent of young women entrepreneurs use social media platforms such as Instagram and Facebook to promote their products.

Despite the benefits of these platforms, she noted that many women face challenges such as lack of proper tools like smartphones or computers, limited digital marketing skills, and the overall high costs of advertising and internet packages, which hinder their effective use of these platforms.

She explained that these challenges affect their ability to reach more customers and grow their businesses through digital platforms.

"This highlights the importance of providing financial and technical support to these women to enhance their ability to use social media effectively. Initiatives like digital marketing training and grants for equipment can improve their efficiency and give them a better chance to compete in the modern market," Moyo stated.

She also touched on the challenges women entrepreneurs face in formalizing their businesses, noting that over 50 percent of them have not officially registered their businesses due to issues like registration costs, lack of information about the process, and time constraints.

She said this prevents them from accessing critical benefits, as unregistered businesses miss out on opportunities such as formal market access and loans for business growth.

"Formalizing businesses could enhance the potential for expansion and provide these entrepreneurs access to opportunities like loans, which are crucial for sustain-

able development. To address these challenges, there is a need to establish programs that offer education and technical assistance on business registration for women entrepreneurs," she said.

On his part, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office for Labour, Youth, Employment, and Persons with Disabilities, Ridhiwani Kikwete, stated that the government has been undertaking various efforts to empower entrepreneurs to operate efficiently.

Among these efforts is providing entrepreneurs with access to affordable loans to support their business growth, citing loans offered by local government authorities across the country.

He said that, in collaboration with stakeholders, they have been offering education to entrepreneurs to help them achieve their business goals.

"Empowering young women economically is fundamental to Tanzania's development. Through collaboration with institutions like TRA, BRELA, and TBS, we ensure that these entrepreneurs receive training on tax matters, business registration, and quality standards necessary for formalizing their businesses," Kikwete said.

Amina Mazengo, an entrepreneur, emphasized that providing digital marketing training for entrepreneurs will help them acquire the skills needed to effectively use online platforms, such as social media, to reach a larger customer base.



NIGERIAN REAL ESTATE MARKET CANNOT HIT PREDICTED \$2.42TRN VALUE

LAGOS

CURRENT economic challenges, including high inflation rate, controversial compensation payments and incessant building demolitions have been adduced among factors why Nigeria's real estate market won't achieve the predicted value of \$2.42 trillion by end of 2024.

According to experts, who spoke to Nigerian Tribune, the current economic conditions in Nigeria have become a major concern, making it difficult for businesses to operate.

The experts, comprising the Immediate Past President, Nigerian Institution of Estate

Surveyors and Valuers (NIESV), Mr Johnbull Amayaevbo; Lagos-based real estate consultant, Femi Oyedele; and former Chairman NIESV, Lagos chapter, Samuel Ukpog, pointed out that the pace of completion of ongoing projects has not been encouraging due to harsh economy.

They added that people are now more concerned about food than to complete their building projects.

Besides, they emphasised that the incessant demolition of houses in Abuja and Lagos discouraged real estate investment in Nigeria.

"Nigeria is number six in the real estate investment index from number three which it

used to be," one of the experts said.

To encourage investors at this particular period, they cautioned that demolition must stop and due process followed before demolition.

Nigeria's real estate market size was valued at \$91.1 million in 2023, and is predicted to reach \$137.8 million by 2030, at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6.1 percent from 2024 to 2030.

In Nigeria, Statista Market Forecast, a global data and business intelligence platform with an extensive collection of statistics, reports and insights, had it that the real estate market was anticipated to achieve a value of \$2.42tn by 2024.

Among the various segments within the market, it stated that residential real estate holds the largest share, with a projected market volume of \$2.08 trillion by 2024.

"Over the period of 2024-2029, the market is expected to exhibit a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 7.10 percent, resulting in a market volume of \$3.41trillion by 2029," it said, adding that the real estate market in Nigeria has been experiencing a surge in demand for luxury apartments in major cities.

Looking at the prediction and current realities, Johnbull Amayaevbo, said it's highly unlikely that the Nigerian real estate market will reach the predicted value of \$2.42 tril-

lion by the end of 2024.

"The current economic condition in Nigeria is a major concern. The country is facing a number of economic challenges, including high inflation rate

Nigeria's inflation rate has been consistently high in recent years.

"Moreover, the value of the Nigerian naira has been volatile in recent years, making it difficult for businesses to operate," he said.

According to him, these economic challenges would likely have a negative impact on the real estate market, making it even more unlikely that the market will reach a value the predicted value by 2024.

WORLD

London ranks as World's Best City for 10th consecutive year



The London Eye stands on the south bank of the river Thames, in London, March 14, 2024. AP

LONDON

LONDON has been crowned the world's best city for the 10th consecutive year in the annual World's Best Cities rankings released on Wednesday. The British capital retained its top spot, ahead of New York, Paris, and Tokyo.

The rankings, compiled by Resonance, a global advisor in real estate, tourism, and economic development, evaluate cities with populations of over 1 million. London has consistently dominated the rankings since their inception, even as the evaluation

criteria evolve each year.

The rankings underscore London's global appeal as a city that consistently combines rich cultural heritage, robust business infrastructure, and an unmatched quality of life.

This year's rankings, in partnership with leading pollster Ipsos, introduced public perception as a key metric. For the first time, insights from over 22,000 people across 30 countries were incorporated, adding perception-based data to the analysis.

The evaluation considered a wide range

of other factors, including the quality of natural and built environments, cultural vibrancy, dining and nightlife, shopping, and business infrastructure. It also assessed regional airport connectivity and the quality of universities, all of which have shown strong correlations with attracting residents aged 25 to 44.

"People are moving and migrating, a trend amplified during the pandemic as individuals sought not just affordable places but lovable places," said Chris Fair, Resonance's president and CEO. "The results show that people around the world continue to aspire to live, visit, and work in the world's largest cities."

Fair acknowledged inherent biases in the rankings due to reliance on data from platforms like TripAdvisor, which tend to favor a Western perspective.

Laura Citron OBE, CEO of London & Partners, the UK capital's growth agency, highlighted London's appeal to Chinese visitors. "We always love to see more Chinese tourists in London," she told Xinhua.

"Our iconic attractions, world-class financial sector, and fast-growing tech industry showcase our city's strength, but it's the diversity of our people and ideas that drives the innovation and opportunities shaping our future," she added.

Agencies

US vetoes Security Council resolution demanding ceasefire in Gaza

UNITED NATIONS

THE United States on Wednesday vetoed a UN Security Council draft resolution that called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, drawing harsh criticism from most of the UN members.

The draft, put forward by the council's 10 non-permanent members, demanded an immediate, unconditional and permanent ceasefire, as well as the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages.

The 15-member council voted 14-1 in favor of the resolution, and the United States used its veto as a permanent council member to block it.

Speaking after the vote, Robert Wood, deputy U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said that Washington had made clear it would only support a resolution that explicitly calls for the immediate release of hostages as part of a ceasefire.

"The resolution would have sent a dangerous message to



U.S. Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations Robert Wood (C, Front) votes against a UN Security Council draft resolution that calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza at the UN headquarters in New York, on Wednesday. Xinhua

Hamas that there was no need to come back to the negotiating table," he said.

The U.S. move to block the resolution drew harsh criticism from most of the members.

Russia's permanent representative to the United Nations, Vasily Nebenzia, said it is "shocking" that the United States vetoed an effort to save

Palestinian and Israeli lives, though "we should not be surprised."

He lamented that for months, the United States has obstructed and stood in the way of the council action to address the catastrophic situation in Gaza and played on one side of the conflict to advance its own political objectives at the expense of Pales-

tinian lives.

"It is a sad day for the Security Council, for the United Nations and the international community as a whole," Algerian Ambassador Amar Bendjama told the council members.

It has been five months since the adoption of resolution 2735, during which the Security Council remained idle and hand-tied, he added, noting that the draft resolution was far from ideal, but it represented "the bare minimum that should have united us."

"Today's message is clear to the Israeli occupying power -- you may continue your genocide ... with complete impunity. In this Chamber, you enjoy impunity," Bendjama said.

"To the Palestinian people, it is another clear message -- while the overwhelming majority of the world stands in solidarity with your plight, others remain indifferent to your suffering," he added.

Majed Bamyra, deputy permanent observer of the State of Palestine, said that there is

"no right" to the mass killing of civilians, starve an entire civilian population, forcibly displace them and annexation.

"This is what Israel is doing in Gaza. These are its war objectives. This is what the absence of a ceasefire is allowing it to continue doing," he said, calling for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire in the region.

"It is deeply regretted that due to the use of the veto this council has once again failed to uphold its responsibility to maintain international peace and security," Malta's Ambassador Vanessa Frazier said after voting.

"It represented the bare minimum of what is needed to begin to address the desperate situation on the ground," she added.

Guyana's Ambassador Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett said that the suffering of Palestinians must end, adding that her country would continue to work with fellow council members to try to achieve tomorrow what could not be achieved today.

'Moscow won't allow US to silence UNSC as Washington backs Israel'

UNITED NATIONS

MOSCOW will continue to call for an end to violence against Palestinians and will not allow the US to muzzle the UN Security Council as Washington seeks to support Israel's operation in Gaza, said Vasily Nebenzia, Russia's envoy to the UN.

"We will continue to stand firmly for ending violence against the Palestinians. Without a shadow of a doubt, we will continue to expose the abuses and sanctimony with which the US is handling the situation. We will not allow the Americans to gag the entire council with their hands in an effort to encourage further continuation of Israel's ruthless operation," he said in a speech at the Security Council.

According to Nebenzia, the Security Council should "bring peace, stability and prosperity to the Middle East."

"No one, including the United States and other indulgent representatives of the West, has the right to obstruct these legitimate aspirations," the Russian diplomat said.

Previously, the US used its veto power in the UN Security Council to block a draft resolution on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that was prepared by the council's 10 non-permanent members and demanded an immediate and unconditional ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.

This is the fifth time that the United States has blocked a resolution that calls for a Gaza ceasefire since the beginning of the escalation in October of last year. The US also blocked granting Palestine full membership in the UN.



Chinese vice premier calls for global joint efforts to build digital future

HANGZHOU

CHINESE Vice Premier Ding Xuexiang has stressed the need for the international community to jointly deal with problems such as the digital divide and a grave cybersecurity situation, and to build a better digital future.

Ding (pictured), also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, made the remarks in his keynote speech on Wednesday while attending the opening ceremony of the 2024 World Internet Conference (WIC) Wuzhen Summit.

China has been sharing the opportunities of modernization with countries around the world and injecting strong impetus into global modernization, Ding said.

He also noted that technological breakthroughs regarding the internet, big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence (AI) and blockchain are continuously emerging, empowering economic and social development.

However, the digital divide continues to widen, and the situation of cybersecurity has become more severe, Ding said, adding that the international community is in greater need than ever of jointly advancing a community with a shared future in cyberspace.

Ding made a series of proposals at the event: improving global governance and upholding true multilateralism in cyberspace; promoting cooperation in AI, big data, blockchain and other realms, while advancing collaborative efforts in basic research and cutting-edge technologies; promoting the sharing of internet development achievements around the world and assisting developing countries in advancing their informatization; and boosting the efficacy of and cooperation on cyberspace security.

Senior leaders of Honduras, Zambia and Vietnam also delivered speeches at the opening ceremony, which was attended by over 1,800 people, including representatives of domestic and foreign government officials, relevant international organizations, internet companies, as well as experts and scholars.

After the opening ceremony, Ding visited a themed internet expo and a museum for world internet sci-tech in Wuzhen, and interacted with exhibition participants.

The 2024 WIC Wuzhen Summit kicked off on Wednesday morning in the ancient water town of Wuzhen in east China's Zhejiang Province. The Summit is scheduled to close on Friday.

Xinhua



World Internet Conference

South Africa calls for diversified energy mix to meet demand at LPG conference

CAPE TOWN

IN a keynote address at a global liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) conference, South African Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources Gwede Mantashe on Wednesday emphasized the need for expansion across all energy sources to meet the growing demand.

The LPG Week 2024 conference, under the theme "Energy For All," is currently held at the Cape Town International Convention Center from Nov. 18 to 20, which brings together over 2,000 industry stakeholders and policymakers from more than 110 countries. Through

dedicated conference sessions, interactive meetings and workshops, and a prominent global exhibition, it fosters discussions on practices and strategies to increase LPG adoption to achieve widespread access to clean energy.

In his address, Mantashe acknowledged the growing global pressure to phase out fossil fuels, while emphasizing that meeting rising energy demand requires the creation of a long-term and investment-friendly environment that benefits both developed and developing nations.

"For its part, the South African government remains committed to advancing policies that endorse a di-

versified energy mix to provide reliable and efficient energy service at competitive rates and that is socially equitable through expanded access to energy at affordable tariffs, as well as the energy that is environmentally sustainable by reducing emissions and pollution," said Mantashe.

He noted that substantial progress is being made on LPG usage in South Africa, as demonstrated by the steady increase in LPG sales and demand over the past 10 years.

Highlighting the reported increase in global demand for natural gas in 2024 and the expected surge in 2025 as forecasted in the latest edition of the International Energy Agency's

Global Gas Security Review, Mantashe revealed that the South African government is currently moving swiftly to finalize the country's Gas Master Plan.

"Having addressed all stakeholder comments on the draft plan, we are now running the final model for the plan which will outline the role of natural gas within the context of our energy mix and give us indicators of the sources of gas and what infrastructure needs are there, and to be developed by when," he said.

The minister also called for greater inclusivity and the active participation of previously disadvantaged individuals in the industry.

China, Peru build model for promoting mutual appreciation among diverse cultures

CHINA and Peru, both ancient civilizations with long histories and splendid cultures, are shining gems in the history of human civilization.

During a visit to Latin America in 2014, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed hosting the 2016 China-Latin America Cultural Exchange Year and visited the National Museum of Archaeology, Anthropology and History of Peru, where he visited the exhibi-

tion "Long Distance Separates No Bosom Friends - Treasures of China".

He said we should continue to deepen cultural dialogues between China and Latin America so as to make mutual learning of civilizations become a bridge for enhancing bilateral friendship, a driving force for advancing the progress of human society and a bond of promoting world peace.

In recent years, cultural exchanges between China and Peru have become increasingly close. By jointly implementing the Global Civilizations Initiative, the two sides have elevated mutual cultural exchanges to new heights.

In the valley of Andes Mountains

in southeastern Peru, at an altitude of 3,400 meters, lies the ancient city of Cusco, the cradle of Inca civilization. Recently, an exhibition of "Light of the Sun: A Dialogue Between Ancient Shu and Inca Civilizations" is being held at the Inca Museum in the city. It featured 16 representative replicas from the Sanxingdui Museum in Guanghan and the Jinsha Site Museum in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan province, along with 3D printed artworks, as well as seven exquisite artifacts from the Inca Museum's collection.

Engineer at the Academy of Aero-

space at the exhibition hall, a vertical-eyed bronze mask unearthed at the site of Sanxingdui resonated with a large Inca Urpu vessel. There were also representative artifacts of the ancient Shu civilization such as gold items, bronze statues, jade artifacts, and wooden objects, as well as valuable relics from the Inca civilization. Visitors could closely experience the charm of the harmonious yet distinct ancient Shu and Inca civilizations, and the beauty of human civilization in unity.

Mohenir Julinho Zapata, director of the museum, expressed the hope that the exhibition will serve as a window into China's cultural heritage for the people of Cusco, and deepen exchanges and mutual understanding between the two countries.

Since 2023, 80 artifacts from

the Inca Museum have been showcased in Chinese cities like Xi'an and Chengdu, inviting Chinese audiences to engage with them.

In January this year, at the "Inca: Andean Civilization of Peru" special exhibition held in China, a golden mask from Peru's Sicán culture was displayed alongside a golden mask unearthed from the Jinsha Site in Chengdu, each radiating its unique charm.

"The lively dialogue between the ancient Shu civilization and the Inca civilization serves as a model for promoting mutual appreciation among diverse cultures, fostering closer ties between the peoples of Peru and China," said Zapata.

"We are committed to ensuring

that this connection endures, so as to allow the light of civilization to shine brightly through exchange," the director added.

People's Daily



The lively dialogue between the ancient Shu civilization and the Inca civilization serves as a model for promoting mutual appreciation among diverse cultures, fostering closer ties between the peoples of Peru and China

Putin confirms Russia's readiness to assist CAR with security challenges

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin and President of the Central African Republic (CAR) Faustin-Archange Touadera discussed in a telephone conversation the fight against terrorism, the Kremlin's press office said in a statement on Wednesday.

The Russian president also confirmed Moscow's readiness to continue assisting Bangui to strengthen security and the economy in the country.

"Both leaders exchanged views on regional issues, focusing on the fight against the terrorist threat and ensuring stability across the Central African Republic," the statement reads.

"The Russian side confirmed its willingness to continue assisting the CAR in enhancing the national economy, sovereignty, and security of the country," the statement continued.

"Faustin-Archange Touadera expressed gratitude for the comprehensive support provided by Russia," the Kremlin's press office added.

Russia has been assisting the CAR in its fight against terrorism in central Africa, including the country's participation in anti-terrorism operations. Russia also supports the development of local agriculture and manufacturing in the CAR.

Russian Ambassador to the CAR, Alexander Bikantov, told TASS earlier that Moscow and Bangui were in discussions about establishing a Russian military base in the Central African Republic.

Addressing the participants in the First Ministerial Conference of the Russia - Africa Partnership Forum on November 10 Russian President Putin



said that Russia was set to provide all possible assistance to African countries across the board, including fighting against terrorism and resolving the food crisis.

The Russian president said at that time: "I would like to confirm that our country will continue to provide all possible assistance to African friends in various spheres – in ensuring sustainable development, combating terrorism and extremism, countering epidemic diseases, solving the food problem, and overcoming the consequences of natural disasters."

Earlier in the year, Faustin-Archange Touadera thanked Putin for grain shipments at the beginning of the year.

President Putin made a decision regarding the aid provision to the CAR and other African countries during the second Russia-Africa summit, which took place in Russia's second-largest city of Saint Petersburg in 2023.

In January, Russian Ambassador to Bangui Bikantov told TASS that a shipment of 50,000 tons of food was delivered from Russia to CAR.

Agencies

UNRWA chief: Gaza has become 'graveyard' for children

GAZA

PHILIPPE Lazzarini, commissioner-general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), said on Wednesday that Gaza has become a "graveyard" for children.

"They are being killed, injured, forced to flee, and deprived of safety, education, and play," Lazzarini said in a statement marking World Children's Day, observed annually on Nov 20.

"Their childhood has been stolen, and they are on the verge of becoming a lost generation, having lost another school year," Lazzarini said.

He noted that children in the West Bank are enduring constant fear and anxiety. Since last October, more than 170 children have been killed, while many others have lost their childhood to detention in Israeli facilities.

On Wednesday, Palestinian groups called for international action to protect children in Gaza and the West Bank, highlighting the catastrophic humanitarian conditions they are enduring.

The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Af-

fairs issued a statement emphasizing that children are the most vulnerable and affected by Israeli practices, enduring dire conditions that violate their fundamental rights, including the right to life.

The ministry warned that children in Gaza face a real threat, with hundreds of thousands estimated to be suffering from severe shortages of food and clean drinking water.

The statement also emphasized that children in the West Bank are consistently subjected to the same "criminal" policies, such as arbitrary detention, and face illegal trials, which blatantly violate their rights under international agreements.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian National Council said that children in Gaza are "paying the heavy price" since October 2023, "in full view of the world, which remains unable to stop this genocide."

A statement issued by the council on the occasion noted that the bodies of Gaza's children have been exposed to various weapons, including rockets and bombs, as well as "the most horrific images of killing and destruction," with many dying from hunger, thirst, and diseases due to the siege. **Agencies**

Hezbollah chief says reviewed ceasefire proposal, awaits Israel's response

BEIRUT

HEZBOLLAH Secretary General Naim Qassem said Wednesday that Hezbollah has included its remarks on the US draft proposal for a ceasefire in Lebanon, which aligns with those of the Lebanese government, and that the decision is now in Israel's hands.

"Hezbollah has decided not to talk publicly about its notes," Qassem said in a televised speech.

However, Qassem assured that Hezbollah's conditions for reaching a ceasefire are to stop the Israeli "aggression" against Lebanon and ensure the protection of Lebanon's sovereignty.

"Israeli forces cannot enter Lebanon and kill under different pretexts, and our country must be protected," Qassem said.

The success of the ongoing US-led negotiations with Israel depends on the Israeli response and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's "seriousness," he said. "Israel cannot impose its conditions on us."

"We are working on two tracks: the battlefield and negotiations, and we will not suspend the battlefield as we wait for the negotiations," he said, noting that Hezbollah has prepared for a long war.

Hezbollah would attack central Tel

Aviv if Israel attacks Beirut, he said, adding that regarding southern Lebanon, Hezbollah will rather fight the Israeli army "after it enters."

Qassem said that following the war, Hezbollah will take part in Lebanon's reconstruction in partnership with the government and friendly countries, and will contribute to electing a new president for Lebanon.

Earlier on Wednesday, Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar said any ceasefire agreement with Hezbollah must preserve Israel's "freedom of action" in Lebanon, hours before the expected arrival of US envoy Amos Hochstein for talks aimed at ending the yearlong cross-border conflict.

Hochstein had just concluded two days of meetings in Beirut with key officials, including Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, who is endorsed by Hezbollah to negotiate on their behalf. The envoy reported "additional progress" in the talks.

"The points of contention regarding the ceasefire agreement in Lebanon cannot be disclosed publicly, but we have achieved positive progress in the negotiations with House Speaker Berri," Hochstein said following his second meeting with Berri at Lebanon's Ain el Tineh. **Agencies**

China, Brazil decide to elevate ties in Xi, Lula meeting

BRASILIA

CHINA and Brazil decided on Wednesday to elevate their ties to the community with a shared future for a more just world and a more sustainable planet.

The decision was made during a meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Brazilian counterpart, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. Xi is paying a state visit to the country after he attended the 19th G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

China and Brazil are two major developing countries in their respective hemispheres, he said, noting that in the past 50 years, they enjoyed a relationship that transcends mountains and seas, and found a right way for major developing countries to get along with each other, one that is based on mutual respect, mutual benefit and amity.

Brazil, Xi said, is the first country to establish a strategic partnership with China, and the first Latin American country to establish a comprehensive strategic partnership with China.

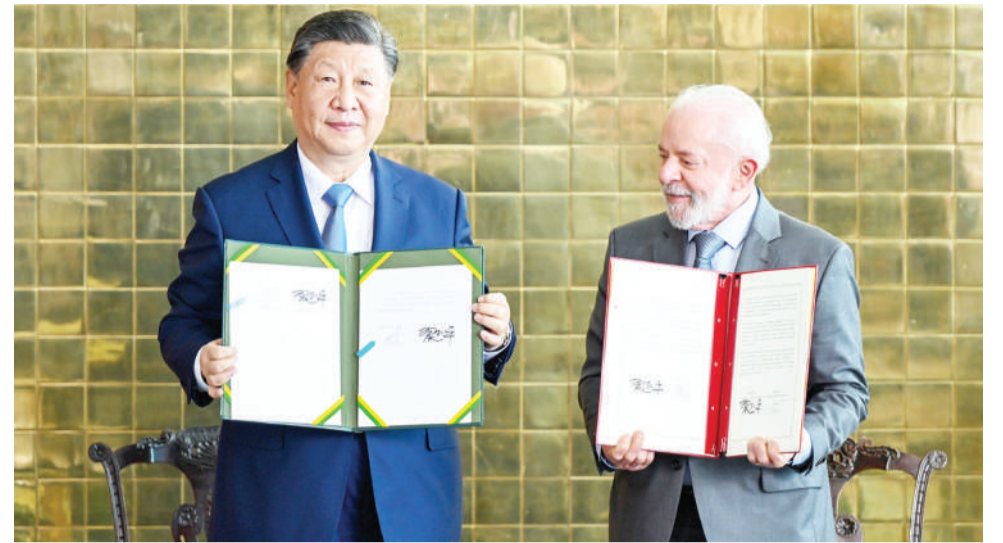
In recent years, under the joint strategic guidance of two heads of state, the two countries are increasingly becoming reliable friends with a shared future and positive forces for peace, he said.

The China-Brazil relationship is at its best in history, which has not only improved the well-being of the people of the two countries, but also defended the common interests of developing countries, enhanced the strength and voice of the Global South, and made outstanding contributions to world peace and stability, Xi added.

Xi noted that China and Brazil have also decided to establish synergies between the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Brazil's development strategies.

He hailed the decision to elevate ties and to align the two nations' development strategies as another historic moment in the development of bilateral ties, which demonstrates the global, strategic and long-term nature of China-Brazil relations, meets the expectations of both peoples, gives impetus and support to the modernization of the two countries, and demonstrates their resolve to jointly defend international fairness and justice and promote common development of the world.

China, Xi said, is ready to work with Brazil to continually enrich China-Brazil relations in the new era, be "golden partners" who help each other succeed, and keep working toward the



Chinese President Xi Jinping (L) and his Brazilian counterpart Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva sign and issue a joint statement on jointly building the China-Brazil community with a shared future for a more just world and a more sustainable planet in Brasilia, Brazil on Wednesday. XINHUA

goal of building a community with a shared future for mankind and creating a more just world and a more sustainable planet.

Together, China and Brazil will make even greater contribution to the peace and progress of humanity, he added.

For the future development of bilateral ties, Xi called on the two sides to firmly support each other on issues concerning core interests such as sovereignty, security and territorial integrity, be strategic partners of mutual trust and set a good example of solidarity, cooperation, mutual benefit and common development for countries in the Global South.

Xi also urged the two countries to strengthen people-to-people exchanges in culture, education and youth to consolidate popular support for the China-Brazil community with a shared future.

He said the two countries should deepen synergies of development strategies, urging them to seize the historic opportunity of synergizing the BRI with Brazil's development strategies, deepen cooperation in such key areas as economy and trade, infrastructure, finance, science and technology, and environmental protection, and strengthen cooperation in such fields as space, agricultural science and technology, and clean energy.

China prioritizes poverty alleviation in national governance, supports Brazil's Fome Zero (Zero Hunger) program, and stands ready to strengthen cooperation

with Brazil on poverty reduction so that the two peoples can live a better life.

Xi urged China and Brazil to demonstrate their distinctive strength in safeguarding world peace and justice. The two countries should practice genuine multilateralism, make fair remarks and take fair actions, so as to make global governance more just and equitable, he said.

Noting that China highly values Brazil's international status and influence and supports Brazil in playing a greater role on the international stage, Xi said China stands ready to strengthen communication and coordination with Brazil at the United Nations, BRICS and other multilateral mechanisms, support Brazil's presidency of BRICS next year, promote high-quality development of greater BRICS cooperation, and make BRICS voice louder on upholding multilateralism and improving global governance.

Xi also called on the two countries to make distinctive contribution to building a community with a shared future for mankind.

As major developing countries, China and Brazil should take the lead in conducting consultations, promoting global solidarity, jointly addressing global challenges concerning the future of mankind, and strengthening cooperation in such fields as green transformation, sustainable development, climate change, artificial intelligence governance, he said.

Xinhua

Airshow China mirrors new high of aviation market

THE 15th China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition, also known as Airshow China, was held in Zhuhai, south China's Guangdong province from Nov. 12 to 17. The event was joined by over 1,000 enterprises from 47 countries and regions.

From major national defense equipment to intelligent devices, and from green technologies to low-altitude economy, the 15th Airshow China showcased the technological innovations in China's aviation, aerospace, and defense sectors, building a platform for domestic and international companies to exchange and collaborate.

Around 285.6 billion yuan (about \$39.7 billion) worth of deals were signed at the exhibition, involving a record 1,195 aircraft.

At the exhibition, a large number of cutting-edge products made their debut, dazzling the audience.

China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC) brought nearly 200 technological achievements to the event, including the Change-6 lunar probe and the Long March 12 carrier rocket. Seventy-five percent of these achievements were unveiled for the first time.

In particular, a model of the world's first geostationary microwave meteorological satellite caught audience's attention. "After years of research and development, we have overcome a series of technical challenges. This satellite can achieve three-dimensional detection of clouds, rain, and atmospheric internal structures in real-time, all-weather, and high-frequency," said Yang Zhihao, deputy director of the science and technology committee of the Shanghai Academy of Spaceflight Technology, CASC.

The satellite is expected to be launched around 2026 and will play an active role in disaster prevention and reduction, Yang revealed.

Intelligent unmanned equipment of all types was a highlight at the exhibition. "The application of intelligent equipment and command control systems has equipped us with the wings of informatization, digitization, and unmanned operation," said Cheng Ziheng, a spokesperson

of China North Industries Group Corporation Limited.

Among the 67 exhibited products brought to the event by Aero Engine Corporation of China, nearly half were unveiled for the first time. Many green products of the corporation left a deep impression on the audience.

At the entrance of the exhibition hall, there were two domestically produced engines, the QJ2000 and the CJ1000A. "They are used for wide-body and single-aisle aircraft respectively, featuring low emissions, low noise, and low fuel consumption," said Yang Song, a spokesperson of Aero Engine Corporation of China.

Prior to the event, a special sea bass auction was held in Zhuhai. A drone flew to a remote sea farming platform, where it was loaded with 150 kilograms of sea bass, and returned to the auction site in just 10 minutes. Upon opening the box, the fish were still lively.

With the booming development of low-altitude economy, a low-altitude economy pavilion was set up at this year's Airshow China. In addition to showcasing new products and applications, the event also hosted various forums, performances, signings, and other activities to provide a platform for exchange and cooperation

in the development of the low-altitude economy.

As the number of low-altitude aircraft surges, how to manage them in a science-based and efficient manner has become a hot topic. Some companies provided solutions at the air show.

For example, Aviation Industry Corporation of China exhibited a series of low-altitude security equipment, which can be used to protect important facilities such as airports, warehouses, oil fields, and substations. Guangzhou Haige Communications Group launched a low-altitude flight management service platform, which can provide full-process services before, during, and after flights. China Electronics Technology Group Corporation showcased a low-altitude flight management service platform that supports real-time monitoring of more than 100,000 flight operations.

As one of the world's top five air shows, the Airshow China serves not only as a showcase for new equipment, technologies, and applications from both domestic and international participants, but also as a major stage for aviation and aerospace companies to deepen cooperation and expand their market presence.

It is reported that the number of foreign exhibitors at this year's Air-

show China increased by 104 percent compared to that in the previous edition, with countries such as Russia, France, the United States, Saudi Arabia, and Italy taking part in group displays. Leading global aviation companies like Airbus and Embraer also came to the event to seek cooperation opportunities.

Today, China is Airbus's largest single-country market. Airbus predicted that over the next 20 years, more than 20 percent of the total global demand for new passenger and cargo aircraft will come from the Chinese market.

During the air show, Airbus signed a series of cooperation agreements covering various areas such as innovative research and development and industrial collaboration.

George Xu, CEO of Airbus China, said that the company will continue to expand its presence in China, support the high-quality development of the Chinese aviation industry, and actively contribute to the global aviation sector.

This year, GE Aerospace joined the Airshow China as an independent brand for the first time. The company, together with its joint venture, has signed strategic cooperation agreements with several Chinese airlines, securing orders worth nearly \$1.9 billion. **People's Daily**



People visit a pavilion at the 15th China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition, Nov. 15, 2024. (People's Daily Online/Deng Guohui)



Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) Agency Senior Assistant Commissioner Peter Mwakosya speaks during the launch of the 2014 TFS sports bonanza in Arusha recently.

TFS sports bonanza targets to educate communities on forest conservation

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

THE Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) Agency recently organized a sports bonanza aimed at fostering teamwork, cooperation, and awareness of forest conservation among its workers.

The event, held in Arusha, brought together about 250 participants from eight forest conservation zones across the country.

Speaking at the event's launch, TFS Senior Assistant Commissioner Peter Mwakosya, on behalf of the TFS Commissioner General, highlighted the importance of sports in promoting health and morale among forest paramilitary officers.

"I urge every forest conservation zone to allocate funds annually for sports activities. These events are vital in ensuring the health and well-being of our officers," Mwakosya stated.

Participants competed in football, handball, and athletics during the bonanza, which also served as a preparatory event for the ongoing 2024 Inter-Parastatal and Non-Parastatal Sports Federation of Tanzania (SHIMMUTA) Games in Tanga.

Marcel Bitulo, Senior Conservation Officer and coordinator of the event, explained that the bonanza aimed to enhance teamwork and prepare the TFS team for competitive sporting events.

TFS Public Relations Manager Johari

Kachwamba expressed her satisfaction with the event, noting that it succeeded in uniting workers from across all eight zones, including the Iringa SAO Hill tree farm, the Southern Highland Zone, the Eastern Zone, and the Lake Zone, among others.

"This is the first time we've organized such a bonanza. Beyond building relationships, it has educated participants about forest conservation while improving their physical health," Kachwamba said.

She added that sports play a crucial role in improving health and fitness, making them an essential tool for promoting well-being.

Globally, sports are recognized for their ability to improve lives. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) Sport for Health Program, participation in sports helps achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3, which focuses on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all ages.

The WHO program aims to encourage universal health coverage, address health emergencies, and create healthier populations by fostering global participation in sports.

TFS's initiative aligns with these goals, leveraging sports to build a healthier and more cohesive workforce while promoting the critical mission of forest conservation.

Unified Sports Mini Games set for Monday in Kibaha

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THIS year's edition of the Unified Sports Mini Games, organized by Special Olympics Tanzania (SOT), is scheduled to take place next Monday at the Olympafrica Center in Kibaha, Coast Region.

SOT Director Charles Rays, speaking from Abu Dhabi, announced that preparations for the event are complete. He expressed gratitude to this year's sponsor, the German Olympic Committee, whose support stems from SOT's participation in last year's Special Olympics Summer Games held in Germany.

Rays highlighted the significance of the Unified Sports Mini Games in fostering social inclusion. These games unite individuals with and without intellectual disabilities on the same teams, promoting friendship and understanding through shared training and competition.

"Unified Sports is a fantastic way to break down stereotypes about people with intellectual disabilities while engaging everyone in fun sporting activities," said Rays. "We appreciate the generosity of the German Olympic Committee for making this year's event possible."

He further noted that Unified Sports is based on the principles of inclusive training and play. By forming teams of similar age and ability, the games en-

sure exciting and competitive experiences, helping to challenge preconceptions and build camaraderie.

The Unified Sports Mini Games reflect the broader mission of Special Olympics to promote social inclusion through sports. This year's event will be hosted at the Olympafrica Center, located within Filbert Bayi School in Kibaha.

At the German Special Olympics Summer Games in June 2023, Tanzania was represented by 20 athletes competing in mixed unified volleyball and athletics. It was the first time Germany hosted the event, which brought together over 7,000 athletes from 170 countries.

The athletes who represented Tanzania in Germany were selected from SOT subprograms and regional competitions, as well as the 2022 national championships held in Mwanza.

Tanzania's delegation to the 2023 German Special Olympics Summer Games:

Males: Sheha Hassan, Abdulrahman Salim, Neverson Minja, Herith Suleiman, Mathias Makanyange, Duncan Lucian, Luqman Salum, Ali Juma, Oswald Kipoto, Ibrahim Mabeche.

Females: Fatuma Omari, Shakira Miduma, Johari Ng'ombe, Rebecca Sumwendeti, Elizabeth Kisaka, Aziza Mtamila, Dorcas Msapu, Recho Siwambe, Maimuna Ali, Salah Bwege.

Aces A cricketers wallop Lions A in TCA Delaware Champions League

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

ABHISHEK Kumar led Aces A cricketers' ruthless bowling onslaught as they walloped Lions A by seven wickets in a 2024 Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Delaware Champions League clash last Sunday.

The Mohamed Salim-led Lions A went in to bat first in the tie at Leaders Club venue in Dar es Salaam, finishing with 90/9 in 20 overs.

Opener Kashif Ahmad and youthful cricketer Augustine Mwamele slotted in at the middle-order, made their presence count, having notched better figures.

Ahmad put his experience to use - posting 20 runs whilst nailing four fours.

His solid knocks in the early stages had seen Lions A moving to 27-1 when the cricketer got out after three overs.

Lions A's efforts to pile up more runs were dealt a huge blow thereafter, following early exits of the remaining cricketers deployed in the top order.

The other opener Ejaz Aziz, the former Aces A all-rounder, had a frustrating stint, as the performer was five runs short of two digits.

Aziz had time to crack a boundary before he was caught by Aces A's wicket-keeper Alishihab Bukhari from a Prathamesh Chavan ball.

Aces A's Kumar battled to slow Lions A's batsmen down, claiming two crucial wickets of reliable top-order batsmen Umar Shaikh and skipper Salim.



Aces A cricket team. PHOTO: COURTESY OF ACES CRICKET CLUB

The Aces A bowler bowled Salim after three knocks, with the Lions A cricketer returning with one run, and later bowled Shaikh, who got out without a run.

Mwamele stepped at the crease and offered Lions A hopes of ending with a respectable figure - posting 37 runs not out in his 43-ball stint.

It was so far the most impressive batting outing for Lions A, as Mwamele propelled the outfit to 10 runs short of triple digits once its innings had ended.

Nine extras comprising one bye and eight wides, to some extent, boosted Lions A's figure.

Kumar's four-wicket haul had Aces A bowling unit duly keeping Lions A in check.

It was the best bowling display by the Aces A cricketer, as the performer leaked 13 runs whilst posting the 3.25 econo-

my rate in his four overs.

He was ably assisted by Chavan (3-10 in four overs), making it a point to give Lions A performers no room to exhibit their batting potential.

Needing 91 runs from 20 overs to secure victory the Asif Butt-led Aces A hardly wasted time, reaching the target for the loss of three wickets in 13.2 overs.

Openers Bukhari and Butt led Aces A's batting attack and played a pivotal role in the successful chase.

Bukhari secured 26 runs, cracking three boundaries and a six, as Aces A moved to 47-1 in the sixth over when the opener was dismissed.

Fellow opener Butt put his leadership skills to work as the cricketer posted 27 runs which consisted of five boundaries.

Zimbabwean cricketer Aisah Chibanda put the game beyond Lions A's reach with his 23 runs.

Chibanda had Aces A needing a mere four runs to reach the target when he was caught by Lions A's Mwamele from Umar Shaikh's bowling halfway through the innings.

Kumar (one run not out) then partnered with another Zimbabwean cricketer, Jeremiah Makanya, who posted nine runs not out to give Aces A the much-needed victory.

Even though Umar Shaikh had a good bowling outing for Lions A having posted 2-31 in four overs, his exploits failed to bail the club out.

The TCA-organized tournament, involving Division A clubs, is one of the high-profile club events seeking to efficiently develop cricket locally.

Strikers, Pak Stars A, Delaware Upanga SC A, Aga Khan SC, Caravans, Aces A, and Lions A are the teams battling for the silverware in the 2024 TCA Delaware Champions League.

Clippers stay hot at home, hold off Magic

By Field Level Media

JAMES Harden scored 24 points and Amir Coffey added 18 as the Los Angeles Clippers extended their home winning streak to six games with a 104-93 victory over the Orlando Magic on Wednesday in Inglewood, Calif.

Ivica Zubac scored 17 points with 12 rebounds and Kevin Porter Jr. added 10 points as the Clippers won the battle of strong defensive teams by holding their second straight opponent to under 100 points.

The Clippers were without leading scorer Norman Powell (23.3 points), who suffered a left hamstring strain in their 102-99 victory over the Golden State Warriors on Monday.

Anthony Black scored 17 points and Jalen Suggs added 16 as the Magic's six-game winning streak ended. Franz Wagner scored 14 points for Orlando, which gave up 100 points for the first time in seven games.

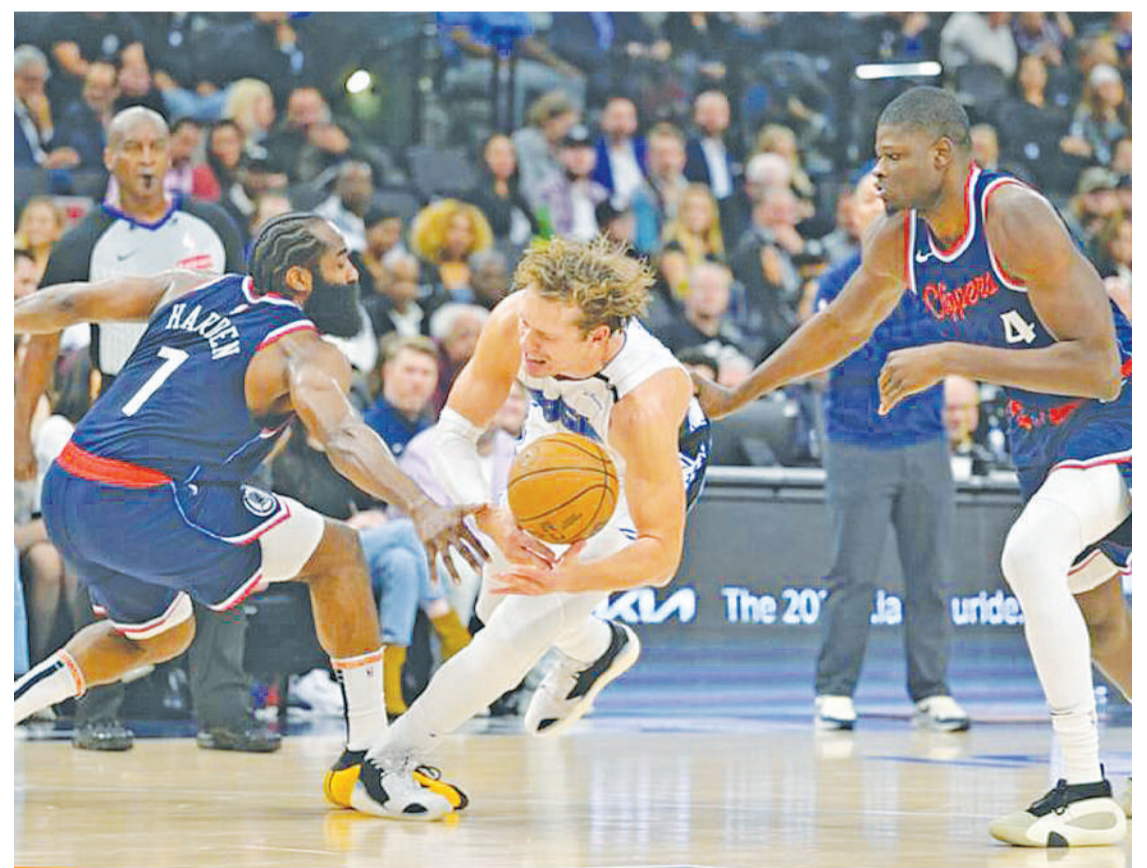
The Clippers won the rebounding battle 49-24.

The Clippers held a 62-60 lead with 9:15 remaining in the third quarter before going on a 16-4 run to take a 78-64 lead with 4:50 left in the period. Los Angeles went into the fourth quarter with an 87-75 advantage.

The Magic never threatened in the fourth quarter while losing for the first time since Nov. 6 on the road against the Indiana Pacers.

Zubac's fastbreak dunk off a pass from Kris Dunn gave the Clippers a 102-86 lead with 2:57 remaining, all but sealing the win.

Playing against his former team, the Clippers' Mo Bamba scored seven points and added four rebounds in his third game of the season after returning



Los Angeles Clippers guard James Harden (1) and center Mo Bamba (4) defend Orlando Magic center Moritz Wagner (21) in the second half at Intuit Dome in Inglewood, California, USA, Nov 20, 2024. REUTERS

from a knee injury.

The Magic continued to play without Paolo Banchero (oblique) and Wendell Carter Jr. (foot).

Orlando shot 51.4 percent from the floor and Los Angeles shot 51.3 percent in the first half as the Clippers took a 57-54 lead. Los Angeles had a 22-10 rebounding advantage before halftime.

Meanwhile, Andrew Wiggins scored a game-high 27 points, Stephen Curry added 23 and the Golden State Warriors recorded their fifth straight home win with a 120-97 romp over the Atlanta Hawks on Wednesday night in San Francisco.

Trayce Jackson-Davis had 14 points and 11 rebounds for Golden State, which bounced

back after losing Monday on the road to the Los Angeles Clippers.

The Warriors overcame a sluggish start against the Hawks, who were playing their third game in four nights, to dominate the final seven-plus minutes of the first quarter, turning a 15-14 deficit into a 41-22 advantage.

Buddy Hield came off the bench to contribute eight points to the 27-7 flurry, helping Golden State score its most points in the first quarter this season.

Down 67-42 at halftime, the Hawks made a bit of a push in the third quarter and early in the fourth, closing within 90-77 on two free throws by De'Andre Hunter with 11:02 left in the

game. But Lindy Waters III countered with a 3-pointer and Golden State kept Atlanta at bay the rest of the way.

Wiggins shot 12 of 17 from the floor and went 3-of-6 from beyond the arc. He added seven rebounds, four assists and two blocks.

Curry, who had eight assists, went 4-for-6 from 3-point range to help the Warriors shoot 14 for 40 from deep. Atlanta went 12-of-46 from beyond the arc.

Hield (11), Waters (10) and Jonathan Kuminga (10) also scored in double figures for the Warriors. Draymond Green added nine points, nine assists, seven rebounds and two blocks in the win.

A Costa Rican team threatens FIFA with legal action in bid for spot at Club World Cup

By CARLOS RODRIGUEZ

THE winningest team in Costa Rica is asking FIFA for a spot in next summer's Club World Cup and says it is willing to take legal action if denied.

Alajuelense, which has won 30 league titles, wants FIFA to enforce the rule that forbids clubs from the same ownership to participate in the tournament.

"The claim is based on the principles of eligibility set in the rules of the tournament," the club said in a press release.

Team spokesman Marco Vazquez noted that Mexican clubs Leon and Pachuca belong to the same owner, Jesus Martinez, of Grupo Pachuca.

"Those are the rules that FIFA established - there cannot be multi-ownership," Vazquez said Wednesday. "There are two Mexican clubs from the same owner and the rulebook is clear. What we are asking is to review what FIFA itself established."

The FIFA-run competition has been expanded from seven teams to 32 and will be staged in the United States from June to July next year. FIFPRO, however, said a players' strike can't be ruled out. The players' union has concerns about the physical and mental impact on players as a result of an increasingly congested schedule.

Teams that qualified expect to earn millions in FIFA prize money at the tournament.

Vazquez said Alajuelense has "hired a law firm in Spain, and they have all the details" of the team's potential legal action.

FIFA has not publicly reacted to the team's announcement and didn't immediately answer a request for comment.

Alajuelense is the best-ranked team in Central America for the CONCACAF but 40th overall in the region.

CONCACAF has four spots in the Club World Cup. The teams that qualified are: the Seattle Sounders, Monterrey, Leon and Pachuca. Lionel Messi's Inter Miami will participate as a guest of the host.

All five clubs were announced for the Dec. 5 draw in Miami.

In Mexico, besides Leon and Pachuca, there are another two companies that own two or more clubs in the first division. Grupo Caliente owns Tijuana and Queretaro, while Grupo Orlegi controls Atlas and Santos. TV Azteca owns Mazatlan and has partial ownership of Puebla.

On May 2023, the Liga MX announced that multi-ownership will be forbidden but gave owners four years to sell.

Jesus Martinez Murguia, who runs the Leon club, said they will sell part of the team to comply with the rules but will still have a partial ownership.

AP

Professional players being failed by poor application of safety standards, says study

MANCHESTER, England

PROFESSIONAL soccer is failing to apply required safety standards and so is violating legal frameworks at both a European and global level, a report published on Wednesday said.

The report by Belgian University KU Leuven was commissioned by global soccer players' union FIFPRO. It will be submitted as evidence to the joint complaint filed to European anti-trust regulators against FIFA by FIFPRO Europe, European Leagues and LaLiga.

Elite leagues accused soccer's world governing body of abuse over the impact of the expanding soccer calendar on player wellbeing, including decisions around the expanded FIFA Club World Cup next year.

"It is sometimes striking that indeed, in the world of sports in general, employment and labour standards are sometimes overlooked," Frank Hendrickx, Director of the Institute for Labour Law at KU Leuven, said on a video call on Wednesday.

"From a labour law perspective, it's the most logical conclusion to say professional football players are workers, and labour and employment standards nationally, internationally have to be applied."

The research looked at the job demands and resources in the professional game, particularly the stressors of a high-risk work environment, and examined the legal obligations around health and safety standards.

FIFPRO argues that demands such as number of matches, international travel, late night travel and sleep disruption, as well as the extensive demands during tournaments, are not taken into account when competition schedules and formats are drawn up.

REUTERS

'The second Special One' - Amorim, by those who know him best

By Neil Johnston - BBC Sport Journalist in Lisbon

"I've got a problem," Ruben Amorim replied when his friend Bruno Simao suggested fixing up a trial game at Portuguese club Belemenses so the childhood pals could be reunited.

Amorim and Simao, who had played football together since the age of nine, had gone their separate ways after being released by their hometown club Benfica in their teens.

While Simao had managed to get himself fixed up at nearby Belemenses, midfielder Amorim was struggling to come to terms with being let go by the club he had supported as a boy growing up in Lisbon.

"I said to Ruben: 'Why don't you come and play with me again at Belemenses?'" Simao tells BBC Sport. "I said I'd speak with the coach to fix up a game so he could watch him."

"Ruben replied: I cannot play, I broke my arm."

Amorim's football career looked over before it had even started, but Simao was persistent.

"I said: 'Don't worry, I'm sure the coach will see you and you will stay with us.'"

And so a trial game was arranged, with Amorim playing despite his injured arm.

"He was centre-back and the coaches told all the players: 'Take care of him because of his arm,'" recalls Simao. "He came through the game and stayed with us at Belemenses."

"That was the start of his professional playing career."

A desire to succeed and a drive to overcome setbacks are recurring themes in the story of Ruben Filipe Marques Amorim.

And it is that resilience and steely determination that has brought the 39-year-old to the point he is preparing to take charge of Manchester United for the first time - against Ipswich at Portman Road on Sunday (16:30 GMT).

"We keep in touch," says Simao of the youngest full-time United head coach since Wilf McGuinness, 31, in 1969.

"Ruben is godfather to my eldest daughter Carolina, who is 18. Even yesterday I messaged him about going to Manchester United."

"It's a good opportunity for him to go there as a coach. They are not in a good moment but it's still a top club and for Ruben it will be wonderful."

'Ruben cried after losing to Sporting'

Pedro Russiano remembers Amorim already being a passionate player by the age of seven at Benfica.

"When we lost against Sporting I remember the whole team cried a lot, including Ruben," says Russiano.

"We started to play football together 33 years ago at Benfica's school. Ruben was a very



Man United manager Ruben Amorim.

aggressive player, fighting for all the balls.

"I played on the left side of midfield and we made very good combinations. We learned a lot together. It was a good group who only thought about football."

About 10 kilometres from Benfica's Estadio da Luz, which Amorim would later call home despite the early rejection, is the beautiful district of Belem on the banks of the River Tagus and where Belemenses play in the third tier of Portuguese football.

It was here Amorim made a name for himself as a player after earning a contract despite his fractured arm.

Back in 2007, Belemenses, who were playing in the Primeira Liga, reached the Portuguese cup final, where they faced Sporting at Estadio Nacional - scene of Celtic's glorious 1967 European Cup triumph over Inter Milan.

On the walls of Belemenses' club museum is a framed team picture from that day 17 years ago. On the front row, second from right, is a kneeling Amorim with Candido Costa, the former Braga winger, to his left and Brazilian full-back Rodrigo Alvim to his right.

He was substituted after 71 minutes with the score 0-0. Sporting, whose side included former Manchester United winger Nani, won 1-0.

"Despite the result, it was a great game," says Patrick Morais de Carvalho - president of Belemenses.

"Ruben was perhaps one step ahead of the others, because he was not an exceptional player but I think he was able to assert himself by the intelligence in which he moved on the field and the way he tactically understood the game from a very young age."

In 2008, after more than 100 league and cup appearances, Amorim's dream came true when the club that had rejected him as a teenager came back to sign him.

"Ruben spent six years here but we knew that the club of his heart was Benfica," adds Morais de Carvalho.

'Learning from Mourinho & lunching with Man Utd players'

Amorim helped Benfica win three league titles during his nine years there. He played in both the Champions League and Europa League, and helped them beat Liver-

pool in 2010.

He is a week older than Cristiano Ronaldo - his Portugal teammate at the 2010 and 2014 World Cups.

While at Benfica, he had loan spells at Braga and, towards the end of his playing career, in Qatar with Al-Wakrah.

But Amorim had already developed a reputation as someone who absorbed information like a sponge, and as his playing career came to an end he turned his attention to coaching.

In 2017, aged 32, he undertook a postgraduate degree at the University of Lisbon, where Jose Mourinho - Manchester United's manager at the time - was a coordinator and lecturer on its High Performance Coaching course.

The course was conducted in English, which Amorim had learned at secondary school.

"Ruben was one of the best students and for that reason he had a one-week internship at Manchester United," says Antonio Veloso - professor at the Faculty of Human Kinetics at the University of Lisbon.

"Basically it involved following the preparation of one game."

Amorim was no stranger to some of United's players having been team-mates with Nemanja Matic and Victor Lindelof at Benfica.

"I remember talking with Matic and he was saying: 'Of course Ruben is going to be a coach,'" adds Prof Veloso. "All of Ruben's colleagues understood that he was one of those players who had a tremendous tactical knowledge and understanding of what coaching was about."

During his week in Manchester, Amorim joined Lindelof and Matic for lunch in the canteen and, after a busy day of learning, he was invited to dine with an impressed Mourinho at Juan Mata's restaurant in the city centre.

Soon afterwards, a coaching role came up at Casa Pia - a Lisbon-based club playing in the third tier at the time.

Prof Veloso added: "People in football asked me: 'Ruben did the programme with you - how do you think he will do as a coach?'"

"I said: 'He will be a top coach.'"

'He is the second Special One'

Amorim had started out as a coaching intern at Casa Pia before taking full charge and guiding them to promotion on a minimal budget.

"As a coach, the most important thing for Ruben is to get a close relationship with his players," adds Simao, who played for his friend at Casa Pia after recovering from a traffic accident in 2018 which left him in a coma.

"The accident was about the same time he was appointed coach at Casa Pia."

"Sometime later I sent him a message and said: 'Look, what do you think about having me in your team?' He said: 'Please, we cannot mix our relationship. You were in a coma four months ago, you are 33, and you are an expensive player for Casa Pia.'"

"Then, after one week, he messaged me to say: 'Look, I want you in my team. Let's make it happen.'"

It was not all plain sailing, however, and Simao remembers Amorim's reaction when things did not go to plan.

"I have seen many times him getting angry because he wants to play well and win."

One such occasion came following a defeat by Amora, managed at the time by Russiano - Amorim's friend from childhood.

"It was very good to see a good friend again," says Russiano. "We spoke and remembered the things when we were young. My team won 1-0!"

"At Casa Pia he decided to play a different system and switched to 3-4-3. They went on a run that put them in first position."

And with a nod back to Mourinho, Russiano adds: "He is the second 'Special One'."

Victor Seabra Franco, president of Casa Pia, says Amorim was paid an "insignificant" amount of money because of a tight budget and limited resources.

"I won't mention the numbers, because they're so small that it's not worth mentioning them," he adds.

"For the matches, which were at 3pm in Alentejo or Algarve, we would set off early in the morning. We trained at night. Ruben changed things and we started training in the morning."

"Sometimes there was no water, for example, but even with all the difficulties, there was a group, and Ruben - and those players liked Ruben."

"They did everything so that Casa Pia and Ruben could win."

There were tears shed among the players when Amorim announced he was leaving Casa Pia after just one season.

"That's the saddest memory of

Ruben's presence - the day he left Casa Pia," says Seabra Franco.

'He can create magic'

Amorim went on to manage Braga before setting about repairing fractured relationships between officials and fans at Sporting in 2020.

"There was a lot of instability before he took charge," explains Sporting fan Andrew Duraes. "The fanbase was not happy at all."

"Ruben was the main beacon of hope. It's going to be emotional when he leaves. There was an elderly gentleman here outside the ground who broke down in tears when it was announced he had been given permission to talk to United."

Amorim took charge of Sporting in March 2020, and within 14 months delivered a first league title in 19 years. He has since won another.

"We weren't too sure at first," Sporting fan Joao Costa says of a boyhood Benfica fan taking charge of his club.

"Now? Ruben is worthy of being in charge of any club."

But are United taking a gamble on a young coach who has not managed outside Portugal?

His countryman Mourinho, David Moyes, Louis van Gaal, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Ralf Rangnick tried and failed to revive and sustain the glory days since Sir Alex Ferguson stepped down in May 2013.

United then spent about £600m on new players for Erik ten Hag, who led them to one FA Cup and one League Cup before he was sacked last month.

Some Sporting fans have questioned whether Amorim is the right man to replace the Dutchman.

"The job is too big for him at the moment," England-based John said outside the Estadio Jose Alvalade. "I don't think Ruben has had enough years here and he's also inheriting a lot of prima donna players at Manchester United."

"He's a great coach but he hasn't got enough experience."

Yet speak to those close to Amorim and they are in no doubt he can be a success at Old Trafford.

"He uses ideas from all the top coaches that he is always observing," says Prof Veloso. "When you do that and mix it up like a very good chef - taking ideas from different recipes - you do a very good plate."

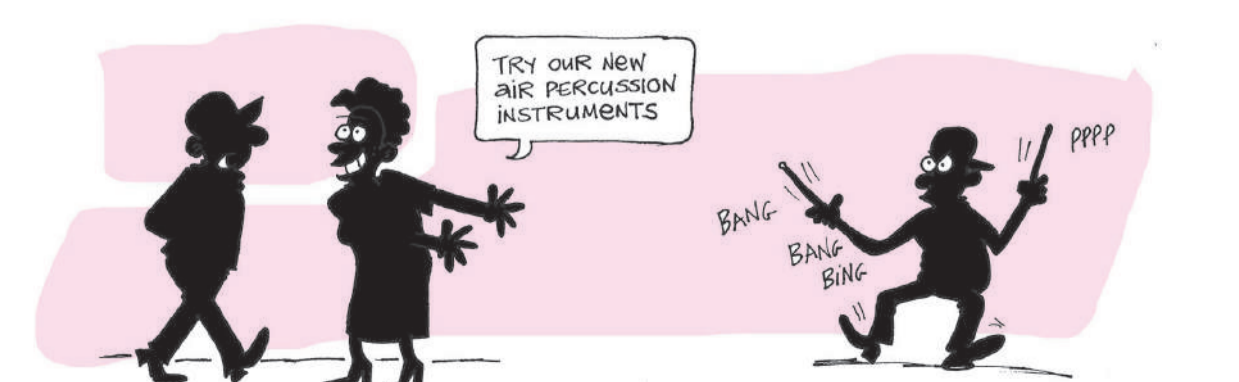
And so back to Belemenses, where it all began for Amorim in terms of his playing career taking off.

Will Amorim, who has signed a contract until June 2027, last longer than the two years and seven months Mourinho managed at United?

Morais de Carvalho says: "He does believe that in Manchester United he'll have better players, and he thinks he's smart enough and will have the capacity to adapt the games in a different way of playing, a different system and if that happens he'll be able to maybe create some magic."

'A version of this feature was first published on BBC Sport on 2 November.'

Gwiji by David Chikoko



'The second Special One' - Amorim, by those who know him best

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Simba target victory against Pamba Jiji in Premier League clash



their fans. "The players are ready for this game," Kapombe remarked. "We know that Simba fans expect happiness from us, and we are determined to ensure we fulfill their expectations."

On the opposing side, Pamba Jiji head coach, Fred Felix 'Minziro', expressed cautious optimism about his team's chances. He emphasized the importance of the adjustments made during the international break.

"I'm glad I had enough time to work with my players and make necessary adjustments," Felix said. "We will give our fans something to cheer about."

Pamba Jiji lone victory this season came in a surprising 3-1 triumph over Fountain Gate FC at Tanzania Stadium in Manyara. However, they have since struggled to maintain consistency, leaving them in a precarious position as they face one of the league's most formidable sides.

For Simba, this match also serves as an important preparatory step ahead of their upcoming CAF Confederation Cup group stage game against Angola's Bravos do Maquis, scheduled for November 27.

With continental success a priority, today's game offers Simba an opportunity to fine-tune their strategies and build momentum.

Simba's attacking unit, led by the likes of Jean Ahoua and Leonel Ateba, will be keen to exploit Pamba's defensive vulnerabilities, while their backline will aim to maintain the discipline that has characterized much of their league campaign.

Pamba Jiji, on the other hand, will rely heavily on their resilience and the support of their home fans to pose a challenge to the league leaders.

As Simba seek to consolidate their dominance at the top of the table, all eyes will be on whether Pamba Jiji can mount a credible challenge.

For Simba, anything less than a victory would be a disappointment, while for Pamba Jiji, even a draw could boost their survival hopes.

The stage is set for an exciting clash, with both teams motivated by their respective objectives. Fans can expect a competitive encounter as the Premier League resumes in full swing.



Coach Ibenge admits Yanga's coaching change complicates Al Hilal's preparations

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

AL Hilal head coach Florent Ibenge has acknowledged that the recent coaching change at Young Africans SC (Yanga) has disrupted his team's preparations for their CAF Champions League group stage clash.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam following Al Hilal's arrival, Ibenge (pictured) admitted that his tactical plans were designed to counter former Young Africans coach Miguel Ángel Gamondi.

However, the appointment of German tactician Sead Ramovi has left his team uncertain about their opponent's approach.

"We had studied Gamondi's style of play and tailored our tactics accordingly," Ibenge explained. "Now, with Ramovi at the helm, we are in the dark about his methods and systems. This makes the match even more challenging, and we must proceed cautiously."

Ibenge described Group A - featuring Young Africans, Al Hilal, MC Alger of Algeria, and TP Mazembe from the Democratic Republic of Congo - as one of the toughest in the competition.

"Every team in this group is capable of beating the other. It's very balanced, and all four teams have an equal chance of advancing to the quarterfinals," he noted. "Each match will be a battle, and no team can afford to take any opponent lightly."

To prepare, Al Hilal arrived in Dar es Salaam several days ahead of the November 26 clash at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium to acclimatize to the hot and humid conditions.

"It's hotter here than in Omdurman at this time of year. We needed to adjust to the weather and finalize our strategies. Yanga is among the strongest teams in Africa right now, so facing them under these conditions will be difficult," Ibenge said.

The match will mark Sead Ramovi's debut as head coach of Young Africans. The German tactician takes over from Gamondi, who guided Young Africans to their first CAF Champions League group stage appearance since 1998.

Despite Gamondi's success - including leading Young Africans to the CAF Champions Cup quarterfinals last season and dominating domestic football - the club opted for a coaching change last week.

Ramovi joins Young Africans from South Africa's TS Galaxy, inheriting a team eager to build on its recent continental success.

Ramovi's task is to maintain Young Africans momentum while implementing his own strategies. The stakes are high as Young Africans aim to leave a mark in Group A, competing against some of Africa's top clubs.

Gamondi's tenure at Young Africans brought them tantalizingly close to continental glory, narrowly losing to Mamelodi Sundowns on penalties in the CAF Champions Cup quarterfinals. That experience has set high expectations for Ramovi and his squad.

For Young Africans, a strong performance against Al Hilal is crucial to setting the tone for their Champions League campaign.

For Ramovi, it offers a chance to make an immediate impact and establish his credentials in African football.

The clash promises to be a thrilling encounter as both teams look to secure a vital early advantage in their quest for CAF Champions League success.

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA Sports Club will take to the pitch this afternoon at 4:15 p.m. at CCM Kumbumba Stadium in Mwanza, where they will face Pamba Jiji FC in an NBC Premier League encounter.

The Msimbazi Street-based side head into the match in excellent form, having won four of their last five league outings.

Simba currently lead the league table with 25 points, having played 10 matches, winning eight, drawing one, and losing just once. This stellar performance has placed them firmly at the top

of the standings.

In stark contrast, Pamba Jiji FC, who were promoted to the Premier League this season, are grappling with a difficult campaign. The Mwanza-based club has managed only one win in their 11 matches, drawing five and losing five.

With just eight points to their name, they find themselves in 15th place, teetering on the edge of the relegation zone.

Ahead of the match, Simba head coach Fadlu Davids (pictured) expressed confidence in his team's preparations despite the disruption posed by the international

break.

"We have prepared well for this game, and all the players are in the mood to win," Davids stated. "The FIFA calendar match schedule hasn't disrupted our preparations. Many of our players were active for their national teams, and they returned physically fit and ready for tomorrow's game against Pamba Jiji. We believe we will secure a victory."

Davids' optimism was echoed by Simba's assistant captain and right-back, Shomari Kapombe, who underscored the players' commitment to delivering joy to



Barefooted youths pictured recently during a soccer training session at the Jakaya Kikwete Sports Park in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

'Lasting legacy': Serena joins chorus marking Nadal's farewell

By Reuters

SERENA Williams said it had been an honour to witness Rafa Nadal's tennis journey and that he would leave the game a "lasting legacy" following the Spaniard's defeat in the final match of his glorious career.

Nadal, who won 22 Grand Slam titles over the course of a career spanning more than two decades, announced his retirement last month and was a surprise pick for Spain's opening singles match in

their Davis Cup quarter-final against the Netherlands.

The 38-year-old lost 6-4 6-4 to Botic van de Zandschulp and Spain eventually fell 2-1 to exit the team tournament in Malaga.

"Congratulations on a career that most won't dare to dream of," Williams said on Instagram alongside a video of her wearing Nadal-branded merchandise.

"I feel so fortunate to have been able to play when you were playing and being great. You inspired me to be bet-

ter, to play harder, to fight, to never give up, and to win more. No excuses, just play the sport.

"Your legacy will never die. Wow to see your career from the beginning to today was an honour champ! Long live Rafa!"

Nadal's Davis Cup teammate Carlos Alcaraz said Nadal had been his inspiration.

"Thanks to you I have become a professional tennis player," Alcaraz added.

"It has been a blessing to be able to live your career as

a child for whom you were an idol and then as a teammate! The best possible ambassador who leaves an eternal legacy."

World number two Iga Swiatek reacted to a video of the Spaniard tearing up with a crying emoji and said: "Too much", while American Coco Gauff added: "Today, I'm from Spain #Rafa."

Australian tennis great Rod Laver said that watching Nadal compete had been a privilege.

"Your legacy will endure as one of the greatest to ever

grace the game," Laver said.

"Thank you for the countless unforgettable moments and for setting a standard of excellence that will inspire generations to come."

German Boris Becker, a six-time Grand Slam champion, said he was crying as he typed out his message on social media.

"What an absolute icon of sport, period! There will never be another one like Rafa! Role model for so many kids all around the world!"

Flexibles by David Chikoko

