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NARCO urged to give land for meat firm

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Experts happy with EACOP implementation

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**School buses: Beef up surveillance, says VP**  
By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has urged the police, specifically the traffic unit, to tighten control over school buses. Officiating at the national observance week for road safety and 50 years of the National Road Safety Council, he said that many of the buses do not meet road safety standards and are operated by unqualified drivers. The police need to step up regulatory controls on school buses as many are not fit for road use, he elaborated, specifying that many such buses carry more passengers than their capacity, and the drivers lack proper qualifications. He cited the case of an accident last April 12 in Arusha, where seven children died from driver negligence, saying that the police need to ensure that all drivers, especially those with licences, observe

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## Alcohol imports: ZRA found 'net zero' for tax compliance



Orthopaedic surgeons from Muhimbili National Hospital's Mloganzila campus perform knee surgery on a patient. The hospital has lined itself up to perform 30 hip and knee surgeries at an August 25 to 30 hip and knee replacement surgery camp in collaboration with India-based specialist Dr Venuthuria Ram Mohan Reddy. Photo courtesy of MNH-Mloganzila

*Their sales do not provide appropriate receipts since purchases are not recorded with VFMS receipts, implying a high probability of deliberate tax evasion by such firms*

**By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar**

NEWLY licensed importers' tax payments are reportedly below ten percent of projected revenue collections in that area, the Zanzibar Revenue Authority (ZRA) has affirmed in a recent report. The ZRA report was yesterday circulated to major news outlets without a formal press conference, where it stated among many other things that numerous bars and nightclubs were accepting smuggled alcohol. The alcohol consignments are not VAT-registered and thus don't require electronic receipt issuance tied to the virtual fiscal management system (VFMS) that ZRA applies, in which case they are inapplicable for assessing value added tax (VAT) input. The report stated that no smuggled alcohol seizures by the anti-smuggling have anywhere been reported in the first six months of 2024, despite that there are fairly numerous reports of seizures relating to cooking oil, rice and sugar in particular. There is similarly no stable supply of alcohol to tourist hotels due to the lack of electronic receipts and some traders are unable to stock the commodity sufficiently, it said. It referred to poor controls at Malindi port, with an investigation indicating that only one customs officer supervises inspections early in the morning when ships arrive. Imported beer containers are likely to be part of the smuggling racket, unloading into trucks carrying food products from Dar es Salaam, "making it difficult to inspect the trucks due

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**SPORTS**

**SIMBA'S DOMINANT 4-0 VICTORY OVER FOUNTAIN GATE BOOSTS CONFIDENCE AHEAD OF CAF CONFEDERATION CUP**

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## Biteko hails TAZAMA for 4.35bn/- dividend cheque

**By Guardian Reporter**

Dr Doto Biteko, the Energy minister and deputy prime minister, received a dummy cheque for that amount in Dar es Salaam yesterday, recalling that during the visit, the president emphasised effective project management to deliver tangible results and enhance people's lives in the two countries. Officials from Zambia were present at the ceremony, with the minister noting that it is the first dividend payment since 2019. He praised TAZAMA board members and Energy ministry officials for enabling this achievement. "It reflects the positive outcomes of

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**MADUEKE NETS HAT TRICK FOR CHELSEA AFTER BOOS OVER INSTAGRAM POST AND SLOT GETS WIN IN ANFIELD DEBUT**

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NMB Bank's Bancassurance head Martin Massawe (with microphone) briefs Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (L) at the bank's booth at the launch of National Road Safety Week activities in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: VPO

## DCEA burns 1,165 acres cannabis farms at Mikumi

**By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro**

THE Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA), in collaboration with the public and security agencies, has destroyed 1,165 acres of cannabis plantations and seized 102 kilograms of cannabis seeds. Aretas Lyimo, the DCEA commissioner general, made this affirmation at a press conference here yesterday that the plantations were located along the banks of Mbakana, Misigiri and Mgeta rivers within Mikumi National Park. The nine-day operation targeted Nyarutanga, Lujenge and Mafumbo villages in the Morogoro Rural and Kilosa districts, he said, noting that six individuals were arrested at Nyarutanga village with 342 kilograms of cannabis. They are now awaiting legal proceedings, he said, pointing at significant environmental damage in the area, with trees cut down to make way for cannabis cultivation, hence diminishing the sustainability of natural vegetation, he said. The damage in the park is disrupting the

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By Telesphor Magobe

# Intercultural education as lifelong learning to promote unity in diversity

In a world in which people from different cultures and nationalities live, work and interact together must develop skills and competences that promote their coexistence and interdependence. The kind of education that can help us learn to live together in our diversity is intercultural or multicultural education.

The spirit behind intercultural or multicultural education is to promote cultural diversity and see others not as a threat, but as fellow global citizens. It is about cultivating in us positive attitudes about people of cultures and nationalities and going beyond personal limitations that make people turn inwards and reserved to the extent of failing to appreciate others and reach out to them.

If these skills and competencies are not cultivated from childhood people may learn them at a later stage, but they might have harboured cultural prejudices which may be difficult or may take a long time to overcome. Exposure to other cultures may help individuals perceive others more positively than when they don't have such an opportunity. Thus, we can say that we are all challenged to be open to other people lest we turn inwards and develop negative attitudes and tendencies towards others.

Nowadays people speak of how the world has become like one village and have become global citizens who are open to cultural differences and people from other nationalities. In many parts of the world in general, and in Africa in particular, trading markets such as East African Community (EAC), Southern African Development Community (SADC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CENSAD), Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) promote cross-border trade and the movement of people, goods and services. Regional grouping or integration is a form of multiculturalism.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (EAC) report of 2019 titled "Assessing Regional Integration in Africa (ARIA): Next Steps for the African Continental Free Trade Area" says AfCFTA aspires towards deepening the integration of the African continent beyond merely a free trade area. Its objectives, among other things, are to create a liberalised market...through... negotiations, to lay the ground for the establishment of a Continental Customs Union and to contribute to the movement of capital and natural persons.

Agenda 63: The Africa We Want under aspiration 3.2.4: A peaceful and secure Africa it is states that "Under this aspiration, Africa is envisaged to emerge as a conflict-free continent with harmony among communities at the grassroots level and inter-state and intra-state wars eliminated and mechanisms put in place to prevent and/ resolve conflicts. Diversity (ethnic,



religious, economic, cultural, etc) would be a source of wealth and accelerated economic growth rather than a source of conflict."

Młynarczuk-Sokolowska (2013) in her article titled "Intercultural Education: from Theory to Practice" observes that "diversity in a multicultural society is often perceived as a threat, which leads to hostility and discrimination. In an intercultural society, on the other hand, interactions establish and regulate social relations and consequently intercultural communication." The author suggests that intercultural competence includes knowledge, skills and attitudes that facilitate establishing friendly relations with people from different cultural backgrounds and nationalities.

Essentially, seeds of inculturalism or multiculturalism are already there what is needed is to let them

sprout, failure of which we are sure of being xenophobic.

Xenophobic tendencies in society are a result of people who perceive themselves as having more rights than others due to lack of exposure and openness to others. According to Peter Ottuh (2020), it involves attitudes of fear, jealousy, hatred, negative perceptions, distrust, and manifestation through acts of violence or discrimination.

As human beings, we should bear each other and see each other interdependent. When people start perceiving others as a threat to them, it means they are not open to others. They can be violent to others because they perceive them as a threat to them and so they can easily abuse them and wrongly justify it. Mlambo (2019) as quoted in Peter Ottuh (2020)'s article titled "Xeno-

phobia in Africa: origins and manifestations" suggests that "the manifestation of xenophobia undermines social cohesion, peaceful co-existence, and good governance as well as constituting a violation of human rights."

Hussein Solomon and Hitomi Kosaka (2014) in their article titled "Xenophobia in South Africa: Reflections, Narratives and Recommendations" express similar views as those of Peter Ottuh (2020). Thus, it is good to do something about xenophobia, lest it overtakes us and turns us into violent persons.

Through intercultural education learners come to respect and celebrate diversity, promote equality and challenge any form of discrimination. This is the direction of our education we must take if we really want to live as global citizens, otherwise we won't be positive about other people and this negative attitude will make

## Zanzibar slave market: A legacy of painful sufferings and resilience

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

THE history of the African slave trade is a well-documented chapter of human suffering and humiliation. Among the most notorious centres of this trade was Zanzibar—an island that served as a significant transit point in East Africa for centuries.

Not only was Zanzibar the fulcrum of political and economic power along the eastern coast of Africa, but it also housed one of the largest slave markets in the region.

Slaves, captured from the mainland, were brought to Zanzibar in chains to be sold to different countries around the globe. Slaves endured gruelling journeys spanning thousands of miles from the hinterlands, often suffering horrific hardships.

Due to its central location, Zanzibar played a crucial role in the abolition of slavery, influencing illegal human trafficking practices both in Africa and globally. The East African slave market, infamous in the region, was ultimately closed by order of the Sultan in 1873.

In 1879, the Anglican Cathedral of Christ's Church was constructed on the exact spot where the slave trade had operated. Its altar was placed precisely where slaves were once whipped and then displayed for sale.

The church stands as a symbolic monument to emancipation from the oppressive rule of Arab traders along the eastern coast, who inflicted severe injuries and suffering on Africans. Its design holds immense cultural, historical, and moral significance, not only for East Africa but also on an international scale.

Today, visitors walking through the narrow, winding streets toward the former marketplace in Mkunazini, located on the eastern side of Old Stone Town in Zanzibar, will eventually come upon the historic church. This church, the first of its kind constructed in East Africa, stands as a testament to the resilience of those who suffered under Muslim-Arab dominance.

The church, towering and brownish in colour, was erected under the orders of Sultan Sayyid Majid. Designers placed the altar at the exact location where slaves were displayed for sale and whipped to test their physical strength.

As recounted by Salim Othman Juma, a tour guide at the site, slaves were lined up in order of size, tied to a tree, and whipped with a stinging branch to gauge their resilience. Those who did not cry or faint fetched higher prices at the market.

Such stories serve as a poignant reminder of the cruelty faced by marginalized Africans, leaving a lasting impression on the consciousness of those who hear them.

The former whipping tree is marked by a white marble circle at the altar, surrounded by red marks symbolizing the bloodshed of slaves. Slaves were transported aboard dhows from the mainland, packed so tightly that many fell ill and died or were thrown overboard during transit. Many more perished from severe beatings, com-



Three of the five statues chained around their necks to symbolize the brutality endured by Africans during the slave trade period in Zanzibar.

pounded by the lack of proper nourishment to make them appear strong. They were often forced to trek long distances, carrying heavy loads of ivory tusks from countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, and Mozambique.

Adjacent to the church is the exhibition of the slave market of Eastern Africa, which displays photographs and historical information about the trade. There is also an underground tunnel where newly arrived slaves were kept, often in darkness and without adequate food for days, leading many to die of starvation and suffocation.

The church, now 145 years old, is notable for its Saracenic architectural design, with construction methods that pushed the limits of local coral stone techniques. Black cobblestones on the floor of the

church serve as a somber reminder of the dungeons once used to imprison slaves.

Edward Steere, the first bishop of the church and a significant figure in Zanzibar history, wrote a Swahili handbook in 1885. He was born in England in 1829 and passed away in 1882. He is buried behind the high altar inside the cathedral.

A visit to the site reveals a stone monument created by Scottish artist Clara Solnas in 1997. The monument depicts five Africans chained by their necks, representing the severe betrayal and suffering of those sold into slavery.

Today, the location of the former slave market is one of the most popular sites in Old Stone Town, which was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000. The place attracts over 100,000 visitors annually.

The legacy of the slave trade in Zanzibar is commemorated each year on the UN International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the African Slave Trade, observed in March.

A section of Old Stone Town has been set aside for this remembrance, marking it as a site of African suffering. The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar has preserved this area to remind the world of the darkest chapters in history, where the dignity and respect of Africans were brutally stripped away. In May of this year, a foundation stone was installed by President Hussein Ally Mwinyi as a symbol of reconciliation and remembrance.

The city's slave trade, driven by Europeans, Indians, Arabs, and local leaders, eventually came to an end. Zanzibar became a focal point in the campaign

against slavery, led by Scottish explorer David Livingstone and other activists in the late 19th century.

From the end of the 15th century, the Portuguese controlled Zanzibar for nearly two centuries until they were expelled, and the island became part of the Oman Sultanate in 1698. Under Omani control, the trade of slaves, ivory, and spices flourished.

By the 19th century, the Zanzibar Sultanate had emerged as the primary slave market in Eastern Africa, thanks to its strategic location in the Indian Ocean. It is estimated that between 1830 and 1873, approximately 600,000 people were sold as slaves, with many more dying in the process.

By Bernardo Araujo

# Rio's grassroots agroforestry sustains various birds, bees and communities

I DIDN'T know what to expect when I arrived at Cocotá. The large plaza, 11 hectares (27 acres) snatched from the sea by land reclamation more than five decades ago, was all too familiar. Everything in it was more or less as I remembered, from the skate tracks and sport courts to the concrete benches and walkways. Everything, save for the small, curious cluster of trees I'd come to visit, which looked more like a small forest than just another garden built by the city administration.

Cocotá is a neighborhood of Governor's Island (or Ilha do Governador), a 39-square-kilometer (15-square-mile) island in the northeastern part of Rio de Janeiro. A large section of the island is occupied by the Brazilian Air Force and Rio's international airport, leaving roughly half of its area to the more than 200,000 residents. Not long ago, I used to be one of them, which made the object of my visit all the more surprising: I would never expect an agroforest – where useful trees, shrubs and annual plants are grown together in a system that provides fruits, vegetables and habitat for animals – to take root here, in the middle of my city.

My hosts for the evening were enjoying the shade of the miniature "food forest," as agroforestry plots are often called. Victor Huggo, a local architect, rose from his seat at the roots of a jambolan tree (*Malabar plum*, *Syzygium cumini*) to greet me. Across from him was Lucas Marques, a geography student at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), who extended his hand. Both young men had lived on Governor's Island for many years, and neither were people you'd expect to be tending an agroforestry plot in a public square. But this is the point of the whole initiative.

The Cocotá Agroforest was born of the will of a few community members, and for seven years it has been growing out of initially poor soil without any kind of governmental or corporate support, amid the concrete jungle of Brazil's second largest city. This unusual idea is now spreading, too, inspiring more than a dozen other agroforests and agroecology-based gardens across the island, but its genesis is perhaps its most surprising aspect.

Vegetables and sunflower seeds

In 2017, TV Globo, Brazil's largest media company, promoted an event on Governor's Island seeking to integrate local artists and stimulate further cultural projects there. Dancers, musicians, yoga teachers, theater groups, martial artists and more gathered at Cocotá for the festival, and among the scheduled activities was the creation of a small community garden led by an organic farmer named Pedro Vettorazzo but handled by the community itself.

"I think I was passing by with my mother, and then we got involved and started digging," says Paulo Randall, a local skateboarder who used to hang around the plaza. "The earth there was really, really hard."

By the end of that day, lettuces, parsley, chives and kale were planted, but Globo's involvement with the garden ended as soon as the festivities were over, leaving its fate in the hands of residents.

Randall was one of the first community members to start acting on behalf of the plot and add to it. Finding himself with a few too many germinated sunflower seeds at home – leftovers from a healthy diet – he decided to plant them in the garden.

The flowers took well to their new environment and started drawing the attention of community members, especially older folks. Seeing Randall taking daily care of the new, colorful garden, people started offering him more plants.

Soon, other locals, such as Victor Huggo (who goes by his compound name) and Marques also became involved with planting, pruning and watering. Their care followed no real method at first, however, and the poor, reclaimed soil of the plaza proved a barrier to their efforts.

But as they studied more and eventually came into contact with UFRJ students participating in agroecological projects at the university, a very specific kind of agriculture started to take shape.

An urban agroforest blooms

Agroforestry is an agroecology practice that integrates trees – often the fruit- or medicine-producing kind – with crops or livestock. It draws knowledge directly from forestry and ecological succession theory, which pays attention to how plant communities change over time; or, more to the point, how certain species, when colonizing a new area, transform local conditions in ways that allow other species to survive there.

In 2017, none of the people who now invited me into the heart of their community project knew exactly what an agroforest was or how they were supposed to function.

"As we worked, each of us studied individually," remembers Victor Huggo. Slowly, they learned a bit more from books, movies, articles and from their own practice.

"The plot was like a school," says Marques, who also



Building a pergola at the entrance to the Cocotá Agro-forest in 2023

had the opportunity to interact with agroforestry projects.

Now, seven years later, these self-taught agroforesters were educating me – someone who has dedicated more than a decade to ecological studies – on how to use chayas (*Cnidioscolus aconitifolius*), tree marigolds (*Tithonia diversifolia*) and pigeon peas (*Cajanus cajan*) as green manure. These plants help build up the organic matter and structure of the soil and also enrich it with nitrogen. Also, chopping down banana trees after they fruit is a technique that helps maintain local humidity, and adding other pruned plant matter to the mix helps enrich the soil for fruit trees.

Today, bananas, jambolan plums, Barbados cherries (*Malpighia emarginata*), lemon vines (*Pereskia aculeata*) and much more grow in an area of about 558 square meters (6,000 square feet). But even as its methods became more sophisticated, the initiative never abandoned its ideological roots.

Every community member is welcome to get their hands dirty, to learn how agroforestry works, and, perhaps most importantly, to benefit from what's being produced. Anyone can help themselves to the food and medicinal plants in the plot, and throughout the year, people – particularly those in need – collect locally grown pigeon peas, avocados, graviolas and more.

"We see people coming here and consuming things on a daily basis," Victor Huggo says.

Spreading roots

"Everything germinated here," says Jefferson José Nogueira, locally known as Jack, referring to the Cocotá Agroforest as we walked from it to a Brazilian public emergency care unit (UPA) just 200 meters (600 feet) away, sited between the plaza and Guanabara Bay. He has been involved with the initiative since its early months and, around three years ago, took the lead in one of its many resulting outgrowths.

"When we started here, everything was overgrown with weeds," he says. In 2021, he led an effort to start another agroforest right on UPA land about the same size as the original plot in Cocotá.

Looking around, it seemed incredible that it started only three years ago: bananas, passion fruits, papayas, guavas, achiote (*Bixa orellana*) and moringa (*Moringa oleifera*) were already growing well in the care center's plot. Thanks to its easy access to freshwater via the center – a privilege the original forest didn't have – the yard contains a vertical vegetable farm and a nursery. There are also chairs and a table by the bay so that UPA employees can enjoy their lunch breaks outside, surrounded by the sea and trees. Soon, when the yard has a bit more shade and a richer soil, Nogueira wants

to plant cacao and jussara palms (*Euterpe edulis*).

As with the Cocotá plaza, Nogueira started planting in the UPA without any support, but recently, after a change in the care center's administration, the new director fell in love with the initiative, hiring Nogueira to take care of it.

And now, two more agroforests – also "children" of the university and Cocotá initiatives – are being tended by a UPA worker in a different Governor's Island neighborhood, called Ribeira. A long-time contributor to the agroecological initiative, Alexandre Henrique decided to replicate everything he learned from Cocotá in his own backyard there.

"There was a time in my life when things weren't going so well, and I would come [to Cocotá] and eat Barbados cherries and lemon vine leaves from the garden, and I was able to get through the morning," he says. The memory compelled him to start a new plot in an abandoned lot in front of his house.

"When we had our first pigeon pea plant [in Cocotá], we saw a family harvesting it, saying that it was what had fed them in northern Brazil," he says. According to him, everyone should have access to food grown in the streets.

"I don't harvest anything I grow in front of my house. I plant there so that people can learn to pass by, look and take what's ripe," Henrique says.

Other effects of these initiatives have also reached local schools. In 2019, at Sun Yat Sen, a public school located in the neighborhood of Tauá, the pedagogical coordinator Gabriela Sinhorelo started another agroforestry endeavor together with UFRJ students participating in Capim Limão, one of the university's own agroecological projects. According to her, they "have been

doing ecological literacy work."

Over the last five years, the children have taken part in the creation of a hanging garden, an herb spiral, a small orchard and in the planting of different nonconventional food plants (so-called plantas alimentícias não convencionais, or PANCs). Sinhorelo says the plants have already ameliorated the heat in some parts of the school, but adds that agroecology has changed more than the local climate and landscape: It has changed the minds and perspectives of everyone taking part in the project.

Rewilding the urban landscape

Isabela Maciel is the only active member of the Cocotá initiative with formal academic ties, and she is trying to understand how bee diversity responds to changes in the urban landscape.

"We want to know how the landscape affects biodiversity in these agrosystems," she says. Her master's research mapped 18 different agroecological plots on Governor's Island, mostly in schools and public spaces.

Maciel had become involved with the initiative in 2018, while still an undergrad. Her past work had looked into the relationship between bee and coffee plants in two other municipalities of Rio de Janeiro state, but her work on the island is still just beginning.

Her personal experience with the agroforest drove her scientific curiosity. "As we planted, we started seeing different bee species appearing along the years," she says, and birds too. "When I started here, there weren't many trees, so birds didn't hang around much. But as the trees grew, [we] started seeing pionus parrots (*Pionus* sp.), waxbills (*Estrilda astrild*),

fork-tailed flycatchers (*Tyrannus savana*) and more."

Maciel isn't alone in her observations. According to geography student Marques, especially throughout the first years of the Cocotá Agroforest, a succession of insect species followed the growing number of plants they cultivated.

"In the beginning, leafcutter ants dominate because they love degraded soil," he says. "However, as the soil improves, the leafcutter ants can no longer survive, and new species of ants, including some carnivorous ones, start to appear."

But ants weren't the only newcomers. "When transforming a garden into an agroforestry system, you see different creatures appearing in cycles. There was a time when spiders, colorful grasshoppers, many birds and cicadas appeared. It's fascinating to see this diversity and how each one contributes to the balance," Marques says.

The day fireflies appeared was truly magical, because it's something very rare here in the city," he says.

Similar experiences seem to come with every agroecological plot. During my short visit to the UPA clinic, Nogueira also mentioned that after the planted trees grew a bit, many birds started to visit the care center's yard every morning. Bees are now frequent visitors too, and he took the opportunity to show me some of the traps Maciel had set up in the area. At Sun Yat Sen, according to teacher Sinhorelo, ladybugs are the stars of the show.

"In certain seasons, when the pigeon pea blooms, we have all kinds of bees and ladybugs," she says. "It's the most beautiful thing. The children walk around with ladybugs in their hands."

**CAPITAL RADIO**

**RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



**CAPITAL RADIO**

## Food vendors drilled on better ways to use clean cooking energy gadgets

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

**F**IFTY food vendors in Morogoro Region have been provided with essential training and clean cooking energy tools to promote sustainable practices.

This is part of Taifa Gas Company's initiative to support President Samia Suluhu Hassan's ongoing drive to promote clean energy across Tanzania.

During the handover event, the traders received gas stoves, cylinders, and fuel under soft conditions.

Angellah Bhoke, Taifa Gas corporate affairs manager said the initiative is designed to help the entrepreneurs adopt clean energy solutions in their businesses, contributing to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future.

"This initiative is part of Taifa Gas's broader effort to reduce reliance on traditional cooking fuels such as charcoal and firewood, which are harmful to health and the environment. By facilitating the transition to LPG, we aim to set an example of how young people can engage in sus-

tainable practices while running their businesses," she explained.

The food vendors received complete 38kg LPG sets and stoves in July 2023, under a flexible payment plan from Taifa Gas.

"Through this innovative credit programme, Taifa Gas is not only empowering the youth of Morogoro but also setting an example of how businesses can contribute to sustainable development and environmental conservation while enhancing the livelihoods of local communities," Bhoke added.

One year on, the beneficiaries are completing their payments with a changed perspective on clean energy use.

"I don't think any of us would want to return to using firewood or charcoal after this transformation. For me, it's been a year of significant change. I used to spend between 70,000/- and 75,000/- on charcoal, but now almost 90 percent of my cooking is done with gas," said 31-year-old Issa Sudi, a beneficiary at the Msamvu market in Morogoro.

Sudi, who has been a food vendor at the Msamvu market for



One of the small food business owners at the Msamvu market in Morogoro, Halima Kimairo, one of the beneficiaries of a 50 cooking gas cylinders credit programme continues with her business at the market over the weekend in the municipality. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.Mauritania.

nearly 9 years, views the push towards clean energy as a positive step.

He is joined by fellow young food vendors like Neema Mnoke-la, Shadrack Michael, Mawazo Cosmas, and Sharia Mpishi, who have become role models in their

community by embracing clean energy solutions.

"The use of LPG has made meal preparation more efficient, significantly reducing cooking times and operational costs. Additionally, this shift has decreased our exposure to harmful smoke and

fumes from traditional fuels, improving our health," said Mnoke-la.

Since the launch of the clean cooking agenda by President Samia in 2022, Taifa Gas has invested an estimated 2bn/-under its Corporate Social Investment

programme to support the campaign's sustainability.

The company has also expanded its network of depots across the country and maintained a robust transport system to ensure LPG reaches all regions.

## Woman entrepreneur finds niche by leveraging traditional cuisine in Namibia

WINDHOEK

**I**N an informal settlement about 10 km from the city center of Windhoek, the Namibian capital, a local woman entrepreneur is leveraging traditional food to transform the business scene in the area and has achieved success via catering business.

Saima Mukwilongo, the owner of Sai's Kitchen, said she established the eatery in 2017 in the informal settlement popularly known as Havana, to redefine the often overlooked local cuisine and create employment, which is a challenge in Namibia.

According to the Namibia Statistics Agency, the country's unemployment rate stands at 33.4 percent.

The food outlet, which is named after the first three letters of the founder's name, offers traditional meals using indigenous ingredients. The menu includes dishes made with spinach, peas, tripe, marula oil, chicken, mahangu (pearl millet), maize porridge, and various types of meat. It provides a range of services, including sit-down dining, takeout, delivery, and event catering.

"It is also about taking people back to their cultural roots and making traditional food easily accessible in an urban setting," she said in a recent interview.

Mukwilongo developed her culinary skills while working at a restaurant in Windhoek during her second year of studies at the International University of Management, where she was pursuing a degree in HIV/AIDS management.

"While I wanted to earn money to offset costs, it sparked my interest in food, something I was not



An employee serves traditional dish at Sai's Kitchen, an eatery in the informal settlement popularly known as Havana, in Windhoek, Namibia

really good at. Growing up here, I played more with my boy siblings as I am the only girl child," she said.

According to the 30-year-old mother, her other goal was to redefine business models in informal settlements, which are dominated by informal and unregistered businesses.

"While the outlet architecture is still corrugated iron to create an essence of belonging, the business model is formal and friendly, which is our niche," she said.

Over the years, Mukwilongo has managed to attract new clientele by highlighting the value of

tradition through aggressive social media marketing.

According to her, many people are surprised to find a food enterprise like hers in an informal settlement. Eight years on, the establishment has served nearly 10,000 clients who seek to immerse themselves in traditional food. Sai's Kitchen has also become a hub for socialization.

"Therefore, we have not only attracted people to dine but also to visit Havana's informal settlement for the first time, promoting diversity and exposure," she said.

To sustain the business, proceeds are rein-

vested along with continued robust marketing strategies. From initially starting as a one-person operation, the outlet now employs ten staff members.

Meanwhile, Sai's Kitchen has made a significant impact on the local community since its opening.

The catering enterprise also sources ingredients from local vendors and entrepreneurs, positively aiding the local economy. "I grew up here in Havana, and I'm a firm believer in starting where you are, which, in my case, is at home," Mukwilongo said.

For Windhoek-based vendors like Selma David, this creates a value chain that aids the growth of informal trade at the grassroots.

In addition, locals have resonated with the eatery's meals and broader contribution to shifting business norms in informal settlements.

Apollo Shigwedha, 34, who works at a government agency, has lived in Windhoek for over 11 years. He said he learned about Sai's Kitchen from social media, where he got the chance to immerse himself more by socializing in informal settlements. The visits broadened his perspective and helped him embrace multiculturalism through the cuisine offered at the catering outlet.

The outlet is also a popular spot for those seeking natural options and the health benefits of traditional foods. "We have also received tourists keen for a true township experience," Mukwilongo said.

As part of its business growth strategy, the enterprise has expanded, opening another branch in the Windhoek Ausspannplatz suburb, a walking distance from the Windhoek city center.

Despite this, some challenges persist. These include scaling the business in the face of uncertain client numbers and the high cost of living affecting ingredient prices, according to Mukwilongo.

Mukwilongo said she hopes to diversify the food menu of her catering business by including other African cuisines. It has also tailored the menu to incorporate traditional food with contemporary drinks to meet the demand for inclusivity.

"While expanding to open similar branches is also on the horizon, our primary focus remains on bringing hope to our community," she said.

## Sudanese turn to home farming for survival, livelihood amid war

KHARTOUM

AHMED Al-Nour Al-Haj, a resident from Omdurman, a populous city north of Sudan's capital Khartoum, turned his home into a small farm where he grows vegetables, fruits, and other agricultural products.

"I grow essential vegetables such as onions, okra, eggplant, mallow, and pumpkin, along with fruits such as lemon and mango, and various types of dates," Al-Haj told Xinhua.

"The war has pushed us to resort to this means to obtain food and achieve self-sufficiency," he added.

Since April 15, 2023, Sudan has been embroiled in a deadly conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, resulting in the loss

of at least 16,650 lives. An estimated 10.7 million people are now internally displaced in Sudan, with approximately 2.2 million others seeking refuge in neighboring countries, according to the latest UN data.

A recent report from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) showed that about 25.6 million people -- more than half of the population of Sudan -- face acute hunger, including more than 755,000 people on the brink of famine.

The risk of famine is particularly severe in 14 areas across the country, including some hotspots in Khartoum, the OCHA report showed.

Al-Haj was not the only one in adapting to the challenges of life in the State of Khartoum. The war has led to severe food short-



ages and high commodity prices, forcing thousands of families in the state to turn to home farming, or indoor farming, to secure their food supply.

"I sought a way to help my family and decided to farm inside our home in Omdurman," said Nadia Ezz El-Din, a university student from Omdurman.

"I cultivate various crops and vegetables that we need on a daily basis,

including tomatoes, peppers, and hot peppers," she said. In Ezz El-Din's view, home farming has enabled thousands of families to provide their daily sustenance under harsh conditions of the war.

For others, it has become a livelihood source, with families earning income by selling their homegrown agricultural products.

Zahra Saleh, who runs a small greengrocer near her home in Omdurman's Karari neighbourhood, views home farming as "a job opportunity and a daily source of income."

"All the vegetables I sell were grown at home," Saleh told Xinhua.

Salahuddin Idris, a Sudanese agricultural expert, explained that home farming was possible for Khartoum residents due to the area's fertile lands, favourable climate, and abundant water resources.

With home farming gaining popularity in the State of Khartoum, the local government plans to offer support to productive families.

"We are seeking to localize vegetable production in Khartoum State and working to provide certain types of seeds," Acting Minister of Social Development of Khartoum State Siddiq Hassan Freini said.

By Farai Matiashe

# 'They give me hope': Beating HIV stigma with community support in Zimbabwe

WHEN Wonder Mwatamawenyu tested positive for HIV as a young man more than two decades ago, he thought he had signed his death warrant.

His society told him that HIV and AIDS, which were spreading rapidly in Zimbabwe in the 1980s and 1990s, had no treatment.

Mwatamawenyu tested HIV-positive in 2003 after going to donate blood at a health facility near his house in Matika village, just outside Mutare in eastern Zimbabwe. "I was shocked. I did not believe it," the 51-year-old father of six said.

"I later got sick and health workers encouraged me to take antiretroviral therapy (ART) medicine which I have been taking since 2004," the tall, wiry man said, referring to the standard HIV treatment that was first rolled out in the country that same year.

Mwatamawenyu is one of about 1.3 million people living with HIV in Zimbabwe today. In the 20 years since he was diagnosed, much has changed.

When ART was first introduced around the world, patients used to take a combination of many drugs, but the treatment is now available in fixed-dose combinations that allow people to take just one or two pills. Taken every day for the rest of a person's life, ART remains the most accessible HIV treatment globally because it is effective in stopping the virus from replicating in the body and is cost-effective, particularly in low-income communities.

Though ART does not cure HIV and AIDS - there is no cure - it helps patients' immune systems and reduces mortality and morbidity. The disease is also no longer a death sentence, despite its seriousness.

AIDS-related deaths peaked in Zimbabwe in the early 2000s when Mwatamawenyu was diagnosed. But the figures have declined over the years because of interventions like ART, and awareness campaigns on preventing mother-to-child transmission.

For those living with the disease, many say the sense of community they have managed to build has been a lifeline - more than just the medical care.

Stigma Mwatamawenyu, who speaks at a million miles a minute, is the preacher of a small religious group. He said that when news reached his congregants that he had HIV, most left him.

They thought I was dying. About 70 percent left. They thought I could transmit HIV to them just through a handshake."

People became aware of his health status because of his frequent visits to the local clinic, walking distance from his home, to collect his medication and for routine checkups, Mwatamawenyu said.



Mwatamawenyu fetches water in a well in a garden in Matika village

He had also lost his father to AIDS in the mid-1990s. While his congregants were afraid, his family was always supportive, particularly his mother.

"She encouraged me to take ART," he said, also adding that his wife was HIV-negative but passed away in 2007 from an unrelated illness.

Born and raised in Chimanimani, some 150km from Mutare, Mwatamawenyu shares his story with others who are part of a group of people living with HIV from their village.

Group member Ruth Mlambo, a mother of four, tested HIV-positive in 2002 when a doctor revealed that her husband was positive and had been taking ART medicine.

"He hid it away from me. It was painful," the 53-year-old former book-keeper and healthcare worker said, recounting the distressing memories.

Mlambo said they kept the diagnosis a secret from the community at the request of her shy husband until he passed away in 2004. When she finally revealed she had HIV, she faced stigma and discrimination.

"My late husband's relatives did not know that he died from AIDS, so they accused me of cheating following his death," said Mlambo.

Newly widowed and left to look after her school-aged children while struggling with her health, she was helpless and the future was uncertain, she recalled.

She has carried her scars since. 95-95-95

Last year Zimbabwe reached the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) target dubbed 95-95-95, whereby 95 percent of people living with HIV should be diagnosed while 95 percent of those living with HIV should be on ART medication and 95 percent of those should achieve viral suppression.

This helps in reducing HIV transmission and mortality as the 95-95-95 target results in 85 percent of all people living with HIV with viral load suppression, according to UNAIDS.

More than 1.2 million out of 1.3 million people living with HIV in Zimbabwe are on medication, according to government officials. About 97 percent of those have achieved viral suppression.

Over the years, the numbers of people dying from AIDS have also been declining. In 2002, 130,000 AIDS-related deaths were recorded compared with 20,200 in 2021, according to a report from the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Behind these strides in HIV prevention and treatment are men and women like Mwatamawenyu and Mlambo who fought hard to change their predicament.

Two years ago, there was a successful campaign to remove a law criminalising the wilful transmission of HIV, because research showed that women were being charged for this crime when venturing out in search of healthcare.

Recently the government tried to sneak it back into law, but lawmakers resisted and it was removed.

Daniel Molokele, chairperson for the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Health said they spoke strongly against it. The Ministry of Justice was trying to get it re-criminalised to protect minors, but gender activists said criminalising sexually transmitted infections violates human rights and increases stigma.

"We hope that in the updated version of the bill that clause around wilful transmission will be totally re-

moved," Molokele said.

Evellyn Chamisa, the national co-ordinator for the Network of Zimbabwe Positive Women, an activist group, said involving all stakeholders - especially policymakers and beneficiaries in everything from prevention and treatment to awareness - made successful strides in achieving the UNAIDS target.

"Letting the people own the epidemic and put them in front in programming is important," she said.

Community support

Community health groups like the one Mwatamawenyu belongs to create a platform for people living with HIV to get counselling, financial resources and other social support.

Back in 2004, he said the odds seemed impossible, but discovering there were many like him was a huge relief.

"I joined some groups of people living with HIV and this was a boost. I had developed low self-esteem. They gave me hope," said Mwatamawenyu, his smile bright.

Looking at ease, Mlambo said she started taking ART medication in 2014 after falling sick, but HIV and AIDS-related awareness campaigns on radio and in the community changed her life.

She also took on entrepreneurship projects and started attending counselling sessions, she said, adding that the idea was to keep herself busy so that she did not stress.

Groups of people living with HIV share an unbreakable bond and where there is a bond there is hope, said Mlambo.

A devout Christian who goes to the Anglican Church, she is also popular in her village, having appeared on national TV talk shows, in church and on different platforms, inspiring many with her journey.

Martha Tolana, an HIV/AIDS activist, said while there has been great political will in the fight against the disease in Zimbabwe, HIV support groups provide a haven for people living with it.

"Providing peer counselling, advice and support on appropriate nutrition, treatment and adherence support, dealing with stigma and discrimination, as well as livelihoods support has been a game changer," she said.

"Home-based care also started in the support groups," Tolana said, referring to psychosocial support given to people living with HIV in their homes by informal or formal caregivers.

Zimbabwe has also been making progress in reducing mother-to-child transmission. It is mandatory for pregnant mothers to get tested for HIV and if they are positive, they get medication to prevent transmission to their unborn baby.

Though the current mother-to-child transmission rate is eight percent, which is still high, it has declined from 30 percent in 2004, according to UNICEF.

## THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 161 -

Crossword grid with clues for 1-24. Clues include: 1. Water in Swahili, 5. moving at a low speed, 8. become more successful than, 10. a person or thing that loses, 11. a friendly form of address in India, 12. a pioneer of the American animation, 14. icon, 17. at a lower level than, 21. on a line at right angles to a ship's or an aircraft's length, 22. her mother city is called Mexicocity, 23. Steal in Swahili, 24. a south American plant related to wood sorrel, cultivated in Peru for its edible tubers.

Word list for the crossword puzzle: DEPORTEE, ENROL, DLEATE, OLIVE, OYO : SEE, TIPSTER, HOT: USE, VOTE, HERERO, HOME, UTTERER, EVE, HOD: SLY, ASTERN, TREYS. Includes 'Yesterday's solution' grid.

- ACROSS: 1. Water in Swahili, 5. moving at a low speed, 8. become more successful than, 10. a person or thing that loses, 11. a friendly form of address in India, 12. a pioneer of the American animation, 13. a yob, 15. originally called, 16. Chief city of Italy, 18. secular, 19. beg in Swahili, 20. ax, 21. take action

RADIO One RAFIKA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI. A detailed radio schedule for Monday through Sunday, listing programs like 'Hali ya Hewa', 'Amika na BBC', 'Nipashe', 'Matangazo', 'News Bulletin', 'Spoti Leo', 'Dunya BBC', 'Dunya Muziki', 'Mchanganiko', etc., with their respective start and end times.

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



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## Multi-faceted approach needed to enhance sexual and reproductive health rights in Africa

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## Qatar Airways offers ticket discount for visa card holders

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# Transaction costs obstruct Tanzania's digital payment adoptions

By Guardian Correspondent

AS the country is gearing towards cashless economy, specifically payments of goods and services, the new report by Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has revealed that the transaction costs have been cited as among the factors obstructing the usage of digital payment systems.

"The increase in cost to consumers deters not only the adoption of digital payments but also the actual usage," says the National Payment Systems annual report 2023.

This limitation obstructs the importance and uptake of digital payments in facilitating financial transactions in comparison to other payment channels.

BoT is therefore advocates for the affordability of payment system products and services to consumers to attain the cash-lite agenda by promoting the adoption and usage of digital payments.

The Bank in collaboration with stakeholders, conducted a market study to explore the pricing structure of digital products encompassing operational, regulatory, commission, interoperable cost elements and the policy compliance in order to tackle the prevalent challenge of high transaction fees on money transfer to banks and mobile money operators.

Emmanuel Tutuba, governor of the BoT says efforts to create a conducive environment for digital payments included reduction of fees and

charges, reduction of transaction levies for digital transactions, strengthening of risk management systems for non-bank PSPs, and increasing use cases in digital products.

Additionally, TANQR was implemented to enable merchants to receive payments from various networks via a standardized quick response code.

Measures were also taken to minimize losses from cyber-attacks, including revising contactless card limits, alerting the public on financial scam messages, and developing cloud computing guidelines.

In addition, the governor explains that TANQR Guidelines were published to facilitate seamless adoption of the standards.

In 2023, the payment systems, including TISS, TACH, and TIPS, demonstrated strong performance in electronic fund transfers processing.

The report says, digital merchant payments surged during last year, partly due to supportive regulatory reforms and the elimination of transaction levies.

In 2023, cross-border transactions processed through SWIFT decreased while fund transfers through EMIs in the EAC and SADC regions recorded impressive growth, resulting in a positive net transfer.

In addition, mobile payments rebounded, driven by the uptake of person-to-person transactions as BoT implemented TANQR and reduced fees on digital payments to foster usage.

The report shows during last year year, there was a notable surge in the adoption of digital payments, both retail and large-value payment platforms, through our Systemically Important Payment Systems (SIPS) and regional payment systems, namely the East African Payment System (EAPS) and



the SADCRTGS.

"Through close collaboration with payment system stakeholders, the Bank continued to implement initiatives to foster a cash-lite agenda," said Tutuba.

This included encouraging the widespread adoption of digital payment solutions, particularly for merchant collections and disbursements.

"This momentum in digitalization was underpinned by the safety, reliability and efficiency of the payment systems. In a bid to ensure accessibility and affordability of payment services, the BoT in collaboration with stakeholders provided guidelines on fees and charges for digital transactions involving both retail and large-value transactions," he said.

These measures aim to increase usage of digital payments, promote financial inclusion and support the transition towards a more inclusive and efficient payment ecosystem in the country.

Tutuba said the BoT continued to uphold a

robust supervisory framework to safeguard the payment systems against potential risks, thereby maintaining trust through their reliability, efficiency, security, and inclusiveness.

"Our strategic priorities remain centered around key objectives, including enhancing public awareness, fortifying consumer protection measures, fostering innovation in adaptation of digital products, preserving the affordability of payment systems, and adhering to compliance standards," he notes.

"These initiatives collectively aim to reinforce the resilience and efficiency of the payment infrastructures while promoting broader objectives of financial inclusion, digital transformation, financial stability and economic growth in general."

During 2023, POS increased by 18.25 per cent to 8,652 from 7,317 reported in 2022. Both local and foreign transaction volumes increased by 46.95 and 43.72 percent, respectively.

The value of local transactions grew by 43.04

percent to 1,922.2bn/- in 2023 from 1,343.8bn/- processed in 2022.

The report shows that mobile payment transactions also increased by 41 percent to 5,061.2 million from 3,595.04 million, recorded in 2022.

Mobile transaction value rebounded from the negative growth of 0.79 percent in 2022 to attain an overall growth rate of 35.33 percent. In terms of value, mobile payments increased to 154,705.7bn/- in 2023 compared to 114,315.98bn/-, recorded in a similar period in 2022.

The growth in both volume and value was partly explained by the reduction of the transaction levy and exemption from the transactions levy of all digital government transactions and merchant transactions related to the purchase and sale of goods.

The government was among the key players facilitating the high adoption and usage of mobile payments in Tanzania.

The digitalization of government payments such as salaries, social benefits, and tax payments all fueled the usage of mobile payments.

Payment to Business (P2B) indicated an exponential growth rate of 71.41 percent and 68.68 percent in volume and value. The number of P2B transactions was 1,350.84 million and the value was 18,250.3bn/- . Payment to business reflects the merchant adoption of digital payments.

Merchant payments experienced significant adoption, with the number of merchants increasing by 68 percent to 657,346.

## LEARNING THROUGH LENDING:

## China-Africa economic engagement through FOCACs past, present

By Lucas Engel

AS the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) approaches, it is warranted to look back at the trajectory of China-African economic engagement and assess its current state.

For China, FOCAC, in its early years, provided a platform for assembling the ideological foundation of its growing ties with Africa while promoting policies that matched China's needs as a growing economy with opportunities in Africa.

However, pledges and rhetoric at the last two FOCACs reflect the realization that Chinese and African needs and objectives do not reach perfect equilibrium without intervention and correction.

Chinese and African officials have identified fundamental deficiencies in their previous modes of economic engagement, and actions taken in recent years exemplify the political will necessary to implement changes.

However, it remains to be seen whether China can match political will with financial means to bring about real change.

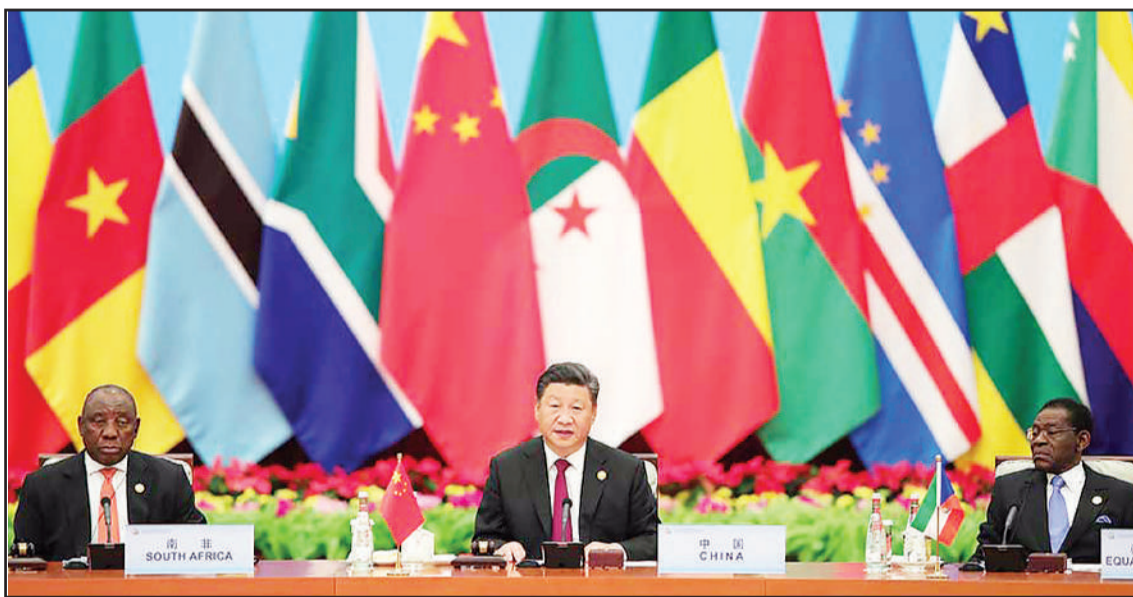
A return to the infrastructure lending that characterized past China-Africa economic engagement is not realistic, and yet the recent focus on industrialization cannot succeed without infrastructure. FOCAC 2024 will indicate how, if at all, China and Africa might resolve this dilemma.

Economic interaction at the first FOCACs in the 2000s sought to lay the groundwork for trade relationships that would allow African exporters of primary commodities to benefit from a Chinese economy with double-digit growth and an insatiable appetite for raw resources. China-Africa trade grew from \$11.67 billion in 2000 to \$257.67 billion in 2022.

As China's current account balance ballooned after accession to the World Trade Organization in 2000, dollar reserves turned from FOCAC lending pledges to Chinese-built infrastructure in Africa.

Between 2000-2022, Chinese lenders provided approximately \$170.08 billion in sovereign loans to Africa, around 64 percent of the total amount committed by the World Bank during the same period.

Chinese loans to Africa not only narrowed



Chinese President Xi Jinping (C) with South African President Cyril Ramaphosa (L) and Equatorial Guinea President Theodoro Nguema during previous FOCAC meeting. File Photo

the infrastructure gap left by traditional donors who shifted emphasis from hard to soft infrastructure in Africa and elsewhere but also allowed Chinese contractors and heavy industry to expand to new markets as the Chinese market became increasingly saturated and competitive. The scaling down of financial pledges at the 2018 FOCAC and the complete absence of the word "infrastructure" from Chinese leader Xi Jinping's keynote are often attributed to Africa's debt troubles and China's growing aversion to credit risks associated with African countries.

While these factors undoubtedly contributed to a general scaling down of financial pledges, they cannot fully explain the qualitative shift in rhetoric and pledges that reflect a growing awareness that more of the same will not fix fundamental deficiencies in China-Africa economic engagement. In this context, interaction at the 2018 and 2021 FOCACs can be viewed as a renegotiation of the basic tenets of China-Africa economic engagement.

African observers have expressed concern over the growing trade deficit and a disappointingly familiar pattern of the exchange of raw African resources for manufactured goods from China. Indeed, from 2000-2022, extractives comprised 89 percent of all African exports to China.

Consequently, the commodity price crash of 2014-15 and sustained low prices contributed to a widening trade deficit with China that reached 2.6 percent of Africa's gross domestic product in 2022.

To that end, China's recent focus on lending to small- and medium-sized enterprises and trade finance support indicate Beijing's willingness to follow through on corrective measures and exemplify China's sincerity when it

comes to laying the groundwork for more diversified and sustainable trade with Africa.

However, quality without quantity will not be enough to turn lessons learned into tangible results. Effective support for industrialization and value-added industries will depend on China's ability to integrate elements of its previous engagement strategy, especially infrastructure funding, into its new approach to Africa.

Energy infrastructure, in particular, will be key to realizing the potential of Sino-African collaboration on value-added industries associated with transition minerals. Yet Africa's ability to absorb debt and China's willingness to provide the level of loan finance that drove infrastructure development in the past represent hurdles that will be difficult to overcome.

A renewed focus on infrastructure would have to rely on Chinese investment, a dubious economic prospect, as past Chinese investments in Africa focused largely on mining and manufacturing, not infrastructure. Public-private partnerships (PPPs) represent a promising avenue for risk-sharing that could attract Chinese firms to infrastructure investment, but the expansion of Sino-African PPPs is hampered by several factors. First, PPPs are relatively new to Africa.

African governments are still in the process of rolling out the legislation and building the expertise that will allow them to negotiate, design, and implement PPP projects. Second, Chinese companies that are used to execute engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contracts in Africa will be wary of the higher risks and longer horizons associated with PPPs. Getting the incentives right will be difficult.

## Tazama pipeline swings back into business, issues 4.3bn/- dividend

By Francis Kajubi

DEPUTY Prime Minister Dr Doto Biteko has commended the Tanzania-Zambia Pipelines Limited (TAZAMA) for making a rebound in its operations that has led it to dishing 4.35bn/- in dividends to the treasury from its 2023 profits.

Addressing governments' delegates from the two countries in Dar es Salaam yesterday at TAZAMA's dividend declaration event, Dr Biteko who also doubles as the Energy Minister, said that the government is reconsidering more lucrative investments in the joint venture project as it sees changes reflecting in its financial books.

He said the last time the company declared dividends was in 2019.

According to him, TAZAMA board of directors and management has really taken good care of shareholders' interests with registration of lucrative profit that has resulted for them the government to earn the cited dividend.

Dr Biteko said the declaration of the dividends has been made possible after the convention of the TAZAMA pipeline.

"The pipeline is however facing security threats such as vandalism of the pipe and destruction of the underlying floor. The security risks should be vigilantly worked on with wider interest of the people from our two nations," said Dr Biteko.

He said TAZAMA is considering the construction of a pipeline which will deliver five million metric tons per annum.

On his part, Peter Mumba, the company's board chairperson said the past financial year has been one of remarkable achievements for the company.

"Despite numerous challenges that the company had experienced before, convention of the

pipeline from commingled feed stock to low Sulphur gasoil we have managed to maintain operation efficiency and improve our service delivery," said Mumba.

The efforts, he said, have not only strengthened the company's market position but also enhanced financial performance.

Nehemiah Mchechu, Treasury Registrar said that TAZAMA was established in 1966 and in this year marks 58 years. He said that in the past five years shareholders had never received but due to reforms initiated by the sixth government, finally light at the end of the tunnel is to be realized.

He commended TAZAMA's management for successfully recording a 52.24bn/- profit after tax in last year's operations.

"This is an incredible rebound in profit generation and dividend disbursement since 2019. The dividend amount dished brings a hope that TAZAMA is going to perform well going forward," said Mchechu.

He said for the new business direction the company has converted its pipeline from pumping crude oil to pumping finished products.

In the new plans of operations expansion, he said, the company is looking forward at maximizing its profits. He said the good results registered so far are a result of focus, determination and discipline in execution of the company's functions.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, Planning and Investment Minister in the President's Office said that the dividend is a testimony that state-owned enterprises can perform even better if the government instruments decide so.

"TAZAMA has been turned from a drying entity to a green entity with an anticipated brighter future. Zambia has been a good and beneficial friend for Tanzania through socioeconomic bilateral relations for decades now and the spirit should be maintained," said Prof Mkumbo.

TAZAMA is a government parastatal, with Zambia holding 67 percent of the shares and Tanzania holding the remaining 33 percent. End.

MONEY, BUT NOT FROM BANKS:

# Stablecoins and capital adequacy

By Lewis McLellan

ONE of the most interesting consequences of the arrival of blockchain and the cryptoasset market is that it has once again become fashionable to ask questions like 'what is money?' Generally speaking, the definition includes reference to the terms 'medium of exchange', 'store of value' and 'unit of account'. That triumvirate disqualifies most pretenders from the cryptoasset or commodities worlds.

Until recently, the only things that qualified for all three categories were issued either by central banks (cash, central bank reserves, central bank digital currencies) or by banks.

Then stablecoins appeared, arising organically as a service for the cryptoasset industry. And suddenly a much bigger group of people could feasibly create money, or at least something that looks like and can be used as money.

This may be no bad thing. Transaction services businesses like PayPal have shown us for years that payment services need not be provided only by banks. It's not obvious that the issuance of money should be different. Perhaps unbundling money from the business of mortgage lending and so forth is a healthy evolution. But, like it or not, it's here. Ultimately, the criterion that matters is acceptance, and with a daily volume of \$64bn, stablecoins are certainly accepted.

## Just like banks

The model for stablecoins' creation of 'money' is broadly the same as that of banks. Both take deposits and invest them to cover the costs of providing payments infrastructure. In exchange, depositors get a form of money: either deposits that they can spend with their cards or stablecoins that they can exchange with people or merchants (often, but not always, for cryptoassets like bitcoin). You can withdraw your bank deposit as cash or redeem your stablecoin token for a commercial bank deposit.

The rules governing money creation are important. Not just anyone can create money. If they could, it wouldn't be trustworthy. That's why I can't go into a shop and pay with a piece of paper on which I have written the words 'pay the bearer £10'. The rules we have are remarkably effective. We can pay with debit cards (commercial bank money) with no discounting of the value of our currency to account for the credit risk that commercial bank money entails.

If we want stablecoins to be a real, safe form of money, they need their own rules. Banks have a complex array of prudential rules governing how they invest your money and under what circumstances the state will protect depositors. At present, stablecoin issuers do not have to obey the former, and stablecoin holders do not benefit from the latter.



Nevertheless, if stablecoins are to become a systemically important form of money - which might happen whether we want it to or not - then rules to prevent runs and protect users are vital.

## Not like banks at all

One simple solution would be to make a law that requires all money issuers to have a banking licence and to obey the same rules as banks. But although the model for stablecoin money creation is similar to that of banking, there are some key differences.

For one thing, stablecoins do not engage in fractional reserve banking. They aim to maintain reserves of at least the value of the coins in circulation. That alone suggests different rules are in order. A paper from Gordon Liao, Dan Fishman and Jeremy Fox-Green at Circle examines how to begin thinking about these rules and how they should differ from the rules applied to banks.

They point out the fundamental difference between stablecoin issuers and banks' business models: '[Stablecoins] aim to maintain at least a one-to-one value between the value of the reserve assets and the quantity of circulating tokens. This is distinct from a bank's balance sheet, which is designed to intermediate credit and other market risks for its customers, including maturity transformation and other asset-liability mismatches.'

They highlight a number of other features that suggest that ensuring stablecoins are adequately capitalised must be approached differently to how we treat banks.

The first difference is that commercial bank deposits basically always trade at par. When you attempt to pay with HSBC bank money, a seller will not discount your HSBC money to 90 or 80 pence in the pound because it has doubts about the integrity of HSBC's balance sheet. That is precisely what happens with stablecoins. You can look up the secondary market value of Circle or Tether on major crypto exchanges. If all is well, it will be very close to a dollar. If, as was the case during the run on Silicon Valley Bank in 2023, which held much of USDC's reserves, there are concerns about the issuer's ability to honour redemptions, it might fall well below a dollar.

This is not really the same thing as 'breaking the peg'. At no time did anyone redeem their USDC with Circle at less than par. Indeed, anyone who bought at the

2023 low of around \$0.97 would have made a tidy profit by redeeming at par.

Nevertheless, this transparency of the expression of negative sentiment might result in a run. Runs can be damaging to even well-capitalised providers, since some of the assets in which they are invested might be illiquid. A run could force them to sell at a loss, damaging their ability to meet redemptions. Banks get around this issue by borrowing from central banks against their illiquid assets. Stablecoins do not have this option. Liao, Fishman and Fox-Green point out that stablecoins should therefore be required to hold more highly liquid assets than banks. That means fewer long-term loans.

On the other hand, the fact that banks' make long-dated loans means that deposits need to be offset by capital buffers. That is, if the loans go bad, they need to have set capital aside to protect depositors. Stablecoins, with their more limited exposure to credit, would need smaller capital buffers.

Liao, Fishman and Fox-Green also point out that stablecoins differ from bank deposits in the underlying technology they use. In some respects, the transparency, immutability and core cryptography that blockchain offers might reduce the operational risks relative to those that banks face, but the authors argue this depends on how the technology is implemented and that it is difficult to generalise. This difference in operational risk profile is an important input into stablecoin capitalisation rules but whether it should make them more or less stringent will depend on the particular case.

## The regulatory response

Policy-makers can say: 'stablecoins are not really money. If stablecoin issuers want to issue money, they can apply for a banking licence' and refuse to supervise their activities. Governments can ban them, and money issuance will remain the preserve of the banks.

But the stablecoin business model arose organically to serve a need. Perhaps a new business model for money provision will allow money to meet needs that banks struggle to, improving financial inclusion or delivering new functionality. Stamping out the model might rob us of potentially valuable innovation.

More importantly, stablecoins are already here. They arose outside of the regulatory perimeter and, short of a comprehensive global enforcement operation, could continue to operate there. At present, stablecoins have a 24-hour trading volume of \$64bn. That's \$64bn of money spent each day where the issuers are not under prudential supervision, and where users' holdings have no state insurance.

Whether we like it or not, money has broken out of banks. It still needs rules.

**Lewis McLellan (pictured) is the Editor of the Digital Monetary Institute, OMFIF.**

## Multi-faceted approach needed to strengthen sexual and reproductive health rights in Africa

By Professor Myriam Sidibe

IN Africa, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) challenges exist within a complex cultural ecosystem involving family, friends, sexual partners, government, private and social sectors, all of which are sculpted by gender and social norms.

These relationships and perceived roles lay the foundation for the day-to-day realities of Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW), as well as influence the experiences of men, boys and more marginalised communities invisibilised by societies.

The reality is that conversations on sexual and reproductive health can be uncomfortable, controversial and at times dangerous, particularly on the African continent. Since early 2023, the Africa Voices Project has been working in this sensitive spot aiming to subvert norms and tackle these issues with a fresh approach.

According to project lead Dr Ekua



Yankah, African Voices keeps conversations on sexual and reproductive health and rights alive, using unique and innovative ways. First, unlike the traditional norm where such conversations tend to be held at the highest levels with policy makers, government and UN agencies, it is really important

to consider the voices that young people listen to and that are influential in this time and age within their homes.

The African Voices advocacy kicked off in 2023 with three high-profile trips to Namibia, Niger and Cape Verde taken by a team led by Professor Myriam Sidibe, Founder and Chief Mission Officer of Brands on a Mission, and supported by her father - renowned public health expert and Senior Advisor of the African Voices project - Dr Michel Sidibe.

Professor Sidibe adds that their unique positioning as father-daughter relationship emphasises the importance of

intergenerational dialogue in African communities and the crucial role men and boys play in championing equitable sexual and reproductive health as both gatekeepers and service-users.

Professor Sidibe and Dr Sidibe's unique dynamic modelled positive inter-generational engagement to wide ranging audiences including First Ladies, Community-Based Organisations and the media.

These in-country visits, in addition to the project's successful International Women's Day campaigns in Kenya focused on Menstrual Health and ending Gender-based Violence (inspired by the recent #EndFemicideKE Movement), connected multi-sectoral players resulting in engagement and advocacy at the highest levels of government, including with The Organization of African First Ladies for Development.

Secondly, the African Voices project has also leveraged digital platforms, social media and Artificial Intelligence (AI), aiming to further destigmatise sexual and reproductive health topics.

One key aspect has been the engagement of African youth influencers to appeal to younger audiences, including engagement with the African influencer Angella Summer Namubiru as a goodwill ambassador.

Collaborations with the Tanzanian-based production company Songai led to the creation of 'Fatima TV,' an AI animation film inspired by the three countries visited by Professor and Dr Sidibe, featuring Fatima, a virtual preteen influencer who engages with young people on crucial SRHR issues.

Dr Ekua Yankah explained the vision behind this short film: 'Fatima TV came about because we were trying to create a timeless documentary about sexual and reproductive health.'

The kind of thing that people could watch 10 years' time and still believe was relevant. What you normally find in documentaries is that you have a Northern European or Global North voice speaking about a population in the Global South.

And so, we reversed that and made the film in the voice of a young girl of a fictional character. Her name is Fatima and Fatima is an activist'.

Fatima basically represents what African youth are now and what they will be in the future. And this approach of her having been created with AI is also us placing ourselves within global conversations about artificial intelligence, about what Africa's future can be.

Thirdly, looking ahead, the African Voices project remains dedicated to centering African youth voices to tackle Sexual and Reproductive Health challenges - the team will be discussing this further at the Sexual Violence and Research Initiative Forum in Cape Town, South Africa this October.

With Africa's youth are set to constitute 75% of the population under 35 by 2030 - investing in their health and well-being is crucial for transformative societal change in Africa. We need fresh approaches that engage new stakeholders - such as social change that know and are shaped by young people - to challenge harmful SRHR norms.

In conclusion, we need diverse sectors to come and act together to achieve real, lasting impact in SRHR on our continent'.

**Professor Sidibe is currently Chief Mission Officer and Founder of Brands on a Mission, a B-corp aiming to get brands and companies to drive impact in health and wellbeing through their business models. She has just been selected as one of the 100 most influential Africans in the world for her work on changing global corporate behaviour.**

## UAE's non-oil foreign trade reaches \$381bn in H1 2024

DUBAI

UAE's non-oil foreign trade has reached a record high of AED1.4 trillion (\$381.17 billion) in the first half of 2024, rising 11.2 percent year-on-year (YoY), according to Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.

"Our foreign trade is nearing AED 1.4 trillion in these six months, with a 25 percent growth in non-oil exports. Our target is to achieve AED 3 trillion in non-oil foreign trade by the end of this year," he said in a statement published on his official website.

The UAE has set ambitious economic goals, targeting AED 4 trillion in foreign trade by 2031.

"Our economic relations with various countries have strengthened, with trade increasing by 10 percent with India, 15 percent with Turkey, and 41 percent with Iraq, making Iraq the top destination for UAE exports, followed by India, Turkey, and others," Sheikh Mohammed stated.

Non-oil exports to the UAE's top 10 trade partners surged by 28.7 percent, while trade with all other countries increased by 12.6 percent.

Gold, jewellery, cigarettes, oils, aluminium, copper wires, printed materials, silver, iron industries, and perfumes topped the list of the UAE's most important export categories in the first half of 2024, collectively

growing by 36.8 percent YoY. Other goods grew by 1 percent.

Re-exports reached AED345.1 billion in the first half of 2024, growing by 2.7 percent YoY and increasing by 11.2 percent compared to the same period in 2022.

The statement said re-exports with major trading partners grew, particularly Saudi Arabia, Iraq, India, the US, Kuwait, and Qatar.

Kazakhstan joined the list of leading re-export partners, nearly doubling its growth due to increased re-exports of telephone devices.

Overall, re-exports with the top 10 trading partners grew by 7.6%, with telephones and diamonds leading the way. The highest growth was seen in re-exports of aircraft parts, cars, and transport vehicles.

Non-oil imports reached AED 800 billion in the first half of 2024, up 11.3 percent YoY and 34.6 percent compared to the first six months of 2022, the statement disclosed.

A significant portion of these imports are re-exported. Imports from the top 10 markets grew by 7.2 percent, accounting for 48.7 percent of total imports.

Other countries, which account for 51.3 percent of UAE imports, grew by 15.4 percent YoY in the first half of 2024.



## Equities market to benefit from liquidity tightening

By Guardian Reporter

INVESTORS in financial markets are expected to shift their focus from bonds to equities market driven by recent gain in banking counters and liquidity tightening.

Analyst says the reallocation is expected to be driven by rising bond yields, which make equities more attractive in comparison.

Isaac Lubeja, Advisory and research manager, Zan Securities Limited says the recent gains in banking stocks and the overall year-to-date return of 7.91 percent on the TSI index suggest continued strength in the domestic equity market.

"As liquidity tightens in the money markets and yields rise, equities may benefit from increased inflows, particularly in sectors showing robust performance," he said in the company's weekly market wrap up.

Overall, the report shows the equity market is expected to remain buoyant, with potential for further gains in the coming weeks.

In the debt market, tight liquidity in the money markets is expected to push yields higher.

A shift towards equities with strong fundamentals will likely decrease demand for fixed-income securities, the

report observes.

This reduced demand could lead to further pressure on bond prices, potentially driving yields even higher.

"In the coming weeks, we anticipate the one-year Treasury bill yield to exceed 11 percent, while long-term rates are expected to stabilize around the 16 percent mark," the report says.

During the trading week ending on August 23th, the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) saw a decrease in turnover compared to the prior week.

The total market turnover decreased to 3.087bn/-, reflecting a 51.55 percent downturn from the previous week's 6.372bn/-.

MBP was the top gainer for the week, appreciating by 9.84 percent to close off the week at 335/- per share while DCB gained 8.33 percent closing off the week at 130/- per share.

MKCB share price increased by 3.7 percent reaching 560/- per share while NICO appreciated by 2.53 percent to reach 810/- per share while TPCC gained 0.52 percent concluding the week at 3840/- per share.

During the week ending on August 23rd, the secondary bonds market activities saw a decrease compared to the previous week as overall turnover decreased by 15.43 percent, from 32.7886bn/- to 27.7307bn/-.

Similarly, there was a notable decrease in the number of trades, falling from 75 to

50.

Trading activities primarily focused on the long end of the yield curve, with the 20-year and 25-year bonds traded contributing to 99.25 percent of the total turnover.

In the corporate bond segment, there was a decrease in activity compared to the previous week.

However, on Wednesday 21st August 2024, the Central Bank was in the market offering 156bn/- to investors for a reopening of the 20-Year Treasury bond offering a 15.49 percent coupon rate annually.

This auction was catered for investors with more preference for long-term papers.

The auction was subscribed by 158.89 percent the auction received bids totaling 247.866bn/- and accepted bids worth 142.781bn/- billion.

In this auction the 20-yr Treasury bond still sees high demand, as weighted average yield to maturity has increased in this auction by 22.7 basis points relative to the previous auction held on late July from 15.1683 percent to 15.3953 percent.

The amount offered has decreased in this auction from 183bn/- to 156bn/- in the last auction, however the central bank accepted less than required accepting bids worth 142.781bn/-.

Moreover, the price floor has slightly increased from 100.00 to 100.002 in the previous auction in July 2024.

## Qatar Airways offers ticket discount for visa card holders

By Guardian Reporter

VISA cards holders in Tanzania and East Africa at large will benefit from discounts of between 12 percent to 22 percent, when paying their tickets through the card.

In Tanzania, those who holds the CRDB Bank's Visa Tembocard will benefit from 22 percent discount, which include 12 percent discount by Visa International and 10 percent cash refund, which will be debited into their accounts after paying for a ticket.

Speaking yesterday during the launch of the programme, which will last for six months, the acting director of retail and intermediate banking, CRDB Bank Muhumuliza Buberwa said this collaboration is targeting to promote cashless economy.

"This 22 percent discount is aimed at motivating our customers to build the culture of using visa cards in making payment. I would like to encourage our customers who are planning to travel using Qatar Airways to benefit from the discount," he said.

"CRDB Bank and Qatar Airways look the same when it comes into innovative solutions. Our bank is the leading in creating innovative goods and services to meet customer expectation, the same as the Qatar Airways which has also scooped number of international awards on innovations."

The Qatar Airways country manager Isaac Wambura said their planes at Hamad International Airport in Doha are landing in more than 170 airports across the world, which gives an opportunity to CRDB customers to assure of their



Muhumuliza Buberwa, the acting retail and intermediate banking director, CRDB Bank (2nd R), along with the Qatar Airways Resident Manager, Isaack Wambua (L), press a button to officially launch of a discount for passengers who pay their fares using Tembocard Visa cards in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Right is Farid Seif, head of card business, CRDB bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

affordable travel arrangement.

"This discount by CRDB Bank ending in December this year, involves all 4 million customers using Tembocard Visa to pay for their flights. In recognising that others have businesses outside the country and they travel in different purposes, I am sure that they will use this opportunity to travel with Qatar Airways," he said.

The different statement issued by Qatar Airways in Nairobi yesterday, said this exclusive campaign between the global payment technology company and the award-winning airline, seeks to provide unparalleled value to Visa cardholders when they book their travel with Qatar Airways.

"We are delighted to team up with Visa for this exclusive campaign. At Qatar Airways, we believe in rewarding our loyal customers with exceptional offers. This partnership allows us to do just that, providing a unique benefit

to Visa card holders," said Hendrik du Preez, Vice President - Africa at Qatar Airways.

The Visa-exclusive campaign runs up to November 2024.

During this period, Visa cardholders will receive up to 12 percent off on all Qatar Airways flights when they book online and use their Visa card for payment, the statement said.

"Visa is always looking for innovative ways to bring value to our cardholders. This partnership with Qatar Airways allows us to provide our customers with exclusive discounts, enhancing their travel experiences," said Chad Pollock, General Manager and Vice President for East Africa at Visa.

To take advantage of this offer, Visa cardholders simply need to book their flight on the Qatar Airways website or app and pay using their Visa card and use the promo code VISA.

The discount will automatically be applied at checkout.

## Students encouraged to cultivate saving culture

By Guardian Reporter

STUDENTS and teachers at Pugu Secondary School in Ilala Municipality, Dar es Salaam, received comprehensive financial education in a strategic effort to instill a strong culture of saving and foster entrepreneurial mindsets.

Led by Sarah Laiser, Head of Compliance at NBC, the one-day training aimed to equip young learners with the knowledge to effectively utilize financial institutions and make sound financial decisions.

School Headmaster Boniface Orenda expressed his gratitude to the bank for the initiative. "This education will help students, especially those about to graduate, to develop saving habits and entrepreneurial skills, even if they are unable to pursue higher edu-



NBC Head of Compliance, Sarah Laiser, plants a fruit tree at Pugu Secondary School in Ilala Municipality, Dar es Salaam, during a visit by the bank's officials to conduct a seminar on financial literacy and savings education for students. The event was witnessed by the school's Headmaster, Boniface Orenda, and other bank officials. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

cation," he said.

Orenda emphasized the importance of financial education, noting that it becomes even more crucial after graduation when students engage in various economic activities, including business.

For those continuing with higher education, financial literacy helps them make informed decisions about student loans and money management.

"The comprehensive financial education program provided by the bank has the potential to transform these young individuals' lives, empowering them to make informed financial decisions, nurture their entrepreneurial aspirations, and ultimately contribute to the economic growth of their communities and the nation," he added.

Sarah Laiser explained that financial education for students is essential as it enables them to understand how to manage money, create and follow budgets, and make sound financial choices from an early age.

"Our presence here today is also to help students recognize the importance of saving, investing, and using credit responsibly. We believe they are the future entrepreneurs, investors, and officials, so it's vital to prepare them early to utilize financial institutions for improving their lives," she said.

NBC officials presented on various financial topics, entrepreneurship, and related subjects. The students, including those with special needs, were actively engaged in discussions and had opportunities to ask questions.

"We also introduced our specialized services to students and teachers, including Student Accounts and Mwalimu Accounts tailored to their needs. Additionally, we presented gifts such as jerseys from clubs participating in the NBC Premier League, sports equipment, and personal items, which were handed over to the school management and various students," Laiser added.

In a gesture of environmental commitment, NBC officials planted fruit and shade trees on the school premises, leaving a lasting impact on the community.

## Fruit stakeholders sit to discuss interventions for improved consumptions

By Guardian Reporter

FRUITS and vegetables are essential for good health due to their high nutritional value. However, their consumption remains alarmingly low in Tanzania, contributing to malnutrition and diet-related diseases, which are increasingly becoming leading causes of premature death globally.

In response to this issue, stakeholders from around the world have gathered in Arusha for a two-day conference titled FRESH Science Conference 2024.

The conference aims to address the barriers to fruit and vegetable consumption and identify policy actions and program priorities to improve the situation.

Dr. Gabriel Rugalema, Associate Director General for Africa and Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa at the World Vegetable Centre, emphasized that the conference is part of the Fruit and Vegetables for Sustainable Healthy Diets (FRESH) research initiative. The initiative focuses on designing, testing, and scaling approaches to sustainably increase fruit and vegetable intake through an end-to-end approach and a food systems lens.

Rugalema urged participants to go beyond conventional intervention frameworks and consider other critical factors, such as strengthening seed systems for fruits and vegetables, changing cultural perceptions of their consumption at the family level, and re-evaluating entry points that reflect the realities on the ground.

In his keynote address, Daniel Ruiruki, representing the Arusha

Regional Commissioner's Office, highlighted the importance of improving diets by increasing fruit and vegetable intake. He pointed out that poor diets are a leading cause of malnutrition and diseases worldwide and pledged his office's support to promote fruit and vegetable production and consumption in the Arusha region.

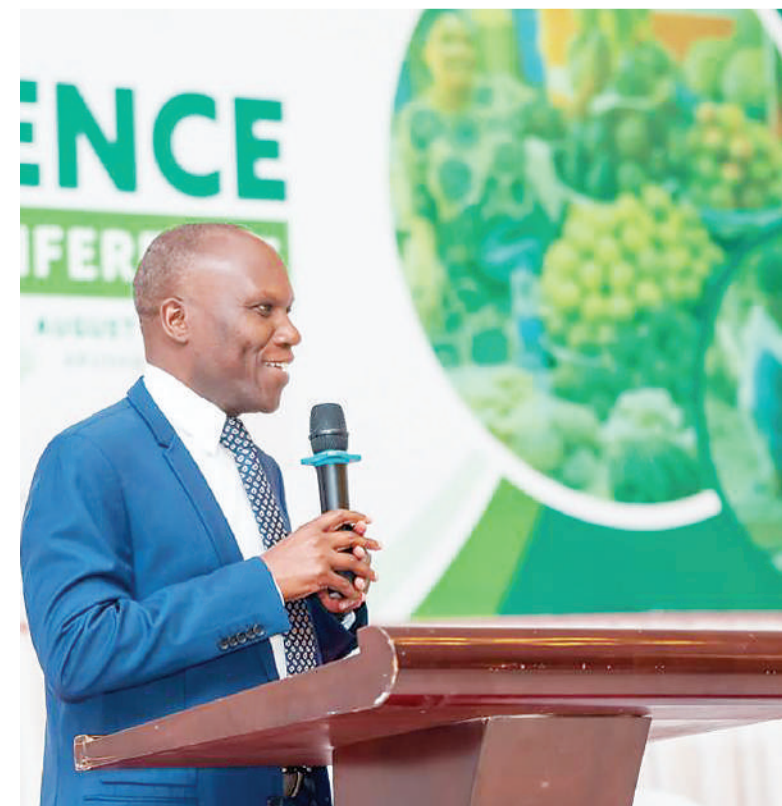
Dr. Deanna Olney, Global Coordinator of the FRESH initiatives from the International Food Policy Research Institute, presented research findings during the conference. She explained that FRESH seeks to understand consumers' dietary patterns and the factors driving low fruit and vegetable consumption to identify strategies for changing dietary behaviors.

Dr. Nyamizi Bundala also addressed the participants, drawing attention to the dangerously low levels of fruit and vegetable consumption, both in Tanzania and globally. She stressed that poor diets and low fruit and vegetable intake are complex issues that require integrated approaches, not only to increase consumption but also to improve availability, accessibility, affordability, and desirability.

Bundala also highlighted national policies aimed at improving nutrition through increased fruit and vegetable intake.

The two-day conference focuses primarily on research and activities in Tanzania and the East African region. It will also leverage learnings and experiences from other countries to enhance the supply and consumption of fruits and vegetables.

VIEW FROM THE TOP



Dr. Gabriel Rugalema, Associate Director General for Africa and Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa at the World Vegetable Centre, addresses delegates in Arusha yesterday.

## WORLD

## Kamala Harris raises \$540 million since launching her presidential campaign

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRAT Kamala Harris has raised \$540 million in little more than a month since she began her race for US president, with a surge of donations flowing in during the Democratic National Convention last week, her campaign said on Sunday.

A memo released by Harris' campaign manager, Jen O'Malley Dillon, said the \$540 million raised included \$82 million

that came in during convention week and is a sign of Democratic enthusiasm for her candidacy.

"This is the most ever for any presidential campaign in this time span," she said.

Vice-President Harris became a candidate for president on July 21 when President Joe Biden stepped aside under pressure from fellow Democrats concerned about his cognitive ability after he stumbled during a June 27 debate against



US Vice-President and 2024 Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris waves as she arrives to speak on the fourth and last day of the Democratic National Convention (DNC) at the United Center in Chicago, Illinois, on August 22, 2024. AFP

Republican Donald Trump.

The Harris candidacy has generated momentum that has put Trump on the defensive and he has struggled to maintain the media spotlight on him.

Harris and her vice-presidential

running mate, Tim Walz, take their campaign for the White House on a bus tour through Georgia this week, looking to build support in a state looming large in the Nov 5 election.

Agencies

## PM Starmer says fixing UK problems will take time

LONDON

PRIME Minister Keir Starmer will warn Britons next week that the changes needed to fix Britain's many problems will take time, saying "things will get worse before we get better" in a speech he describes as a chance to level with the public.

After being elected as prime minister at a July landslide election, Starmer has repeatedly blamed the former Conservative government for leaving Britain in a parlous state, something he said allowed "thugs" to spark this month's anti-migrant riots.

In a speech due on Tuesday, a week before Britain's parliament returns to work after a summer break, Starmer will say that "change won't happen overnight" but that his government is determined to tackle a multitude of problems ranging from overflowing prisons to long waiting lists for health services.

"I said change would not happen overnight. When there is rot deep in the heart of a structure, you can't just cover it up. You can't tinker with it or rely on quick fixes. You have to overhaul the entire thing," Starmer will say, according to excerpts of his speech provided by his office.

"We have inherited not just an economic black hole but a societal black hole and that is why we have to take action and do things differently. Part of that is being honest with people about the choices we face and how tough this will be. Frankly, things will get worse before we get better."

Starmer, a former Director of Public Prosecutions, was forced to cancel his summer holiday this month to tackle riots that targeted Muslims and migrants. The riots began after the killings of three young girls in northern England was wrongly blamed on an Islamist migrant based on online misinformation.

Starmer said the Conservative government's failure to tackle problems had widened cracks in society making it harder to deal with rioters than when he was Britain's top prosecutor from 2008 to 2013.



Britain Prime Minister Keir Starmer (L), and First Minister of Wales Eluned Morgan talk during their meeting in Cardiff, Wales, Monday, Aug 19, 2024. AP

"And those people throwing rocks, torching cars, making threats, they didn't just know the system was broken. They were betting on it, they were gaming it, they saw the cracks in our society after 14 years of populism and failure and they exploited them. That's what we have inherited," he will say.

Appealing to what he calls Britain's working people such as

teachers, nurses, small business owners and firefighters, Starmer will say his government has taken the "first steps towards the change people voted for" on July 4.

But he will say the poor state of Britain's public finances - which his finance minister says are on course to show a 22 billion pound (\$29 billion) overspend this year - mean his government will have

to make tough decisions.

"If we don't take tough action across the board, we won't be able to fix the foundations of the country like we need," he will say. "I won't shy away from making unpopular decisions now if it's the right thing for the country in the long term. That's what a government of service means."

Agencies

## PM Modi takes stock of bilateral relations with Australian counterpart

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi yesterday spoke to the Prime Minister of Australia, Anthony Albanese and took stock of the bilateral relations between both countries.

PM Modi (pictured) and Australian PM Albanese also discussed about their cooperation in the multilateral fora, including the Quad.

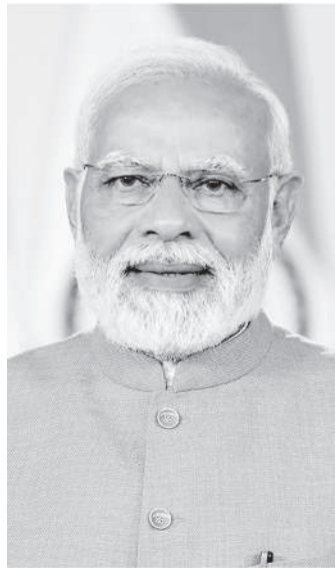
In a post on X, PM Modi said, "Delighted to speak to my friend Anthony Albanese. We took stock of progress in our bilateral relations and cooperation in the multilateral fora,

including the Quad."

Earlier on July 29, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met his Australian counterpart Penny Wong and spoke about intensifying the bilateral ties between the two nations.

Jaishankar said that he and Wong also discussed deepening practical cooperation across the Indo-Pacific.

In a post on X, he said, "A great start this morning meeting Australian FM Penny Wong in Tokyo. Spoke about further steps to intensify our bilateral ties including in security, trade and education. Also discussed



deepening our practical cooperation across the Indo-Pacific. Look forward to continuing this at the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting shortly."

Wong said on July 29 that Australia is launching a new Cable Connectivity and Resilience Centre, to help undersea cable networks in the Indo-Pacific.

The centre will ensure that Indo-Pacific networks are resilient and all countries can benefit from reliable connectivity and the growth of the digital economy, a statement from the Australian Foreign Minister's office said. The

statement added that the work is integral to the prosperity and security of the region.

"We rely on a vast network of undersea cables, which carry over 95 per cent of international data traffic from emails to e-commerce, accessing news, social media and streaming content," the statement said.

Wong said in the statement that Australia will invest more than USD 18 million over the next four years in the Centre, which will draw on the region's extensive undersea telecommunications cables expertise and experience. **ANI**

## Let's not have World War III: Donald Trump criticises Biden administration over Middle East

WASHINGTON

FORMER US President Donald Trump has criticised the Biden administration's efforts concerning the situation in the Middle East and stressed that they should not have a third world war.

Questioning the Biden administration on who is negotiating for the US in the Middle East, he said US President Joe Biden is sleeping on a beach in California while Vice President Kamala Harris is holding a campaign bus tour with her running mate and Minnesota Governor, Tim Walz.

In a post on X, Trump stated, "Who is negotiating for us in the

Middle East? Bombs are dropping all over the place! Sleepy Joe is sleeping on a Beach in California, viciously Exiled by the Democrats, and Comrade Kamala is doing a campaign bus tour with Tampon Tim, her really bad V.P. Pick. Let's not have World War III, because that's where we're heading!"

Trump's statement comes amid escalating tensions in the Middle East following Israeli military pre-emptive strikes against what it said were "terror targets in Lebanon" after it claimed to have identified Hezbollah as "preparing to fire missiles and rockets toward Israeli

territory."

Hezbollah rejected the allegations, terming them "baseless." In response, Hezbollah responded with strikes of its own, which it called the "first phase" of its response to Israel. It has termed the salvo a "complete success," CNN reported.

Earlier on Thursday, Trump said, "There will be no future under Comrade Kamala Harris, because she will take us into a Nuclear World War III! She will never be respected by the Tyrants of the World!"

He made the remarks after Harris in her acceptance speech at the Democratic National Convention (DNC)

spoke about the war in Gaza. The Washington Post reported. Trump took to his Truth Social account to make statements against Harris over her speech.

In her address, Harris said, "I will always stand up for Israel's right to defend itself, and I will always ensure Israel has the ability to defend itself, because the people of Israel must never again face the horror that a terrorist organization called Hamas caused," Harris said, also stressing the widespread suffering of Palestinians," according to The Washington Post report.

Around 100 Israeli Air Force fighter jets have struck and

eliminated thousands of Hezbollah rocket launcher barrels aimed at northern and central Israel, according to a statement issued by Israel Defense Forces (IDF) on Sunday. The fighter jets targeted more than 40 Hezbollah launch areas.

The IDF stated that they would defend their civilians and Israel. In a post on X, the Israeli Defense Forces said, "Approx. 100 IAF fighter jets struck and eliminated thousands of Hezbollah rocket launcher barrels, aimed for immediate fire toward northern and central Israel. More than 40 Hezbollah launch areas were struck. We will do whatever is needed

to defend our civilians and the State of Israel."

Earlier in the day, Israel declared an emergency for the next 48 hours amid the country's escalating tensions with Lebanon. Israel's Defense Minister, Yoav Gallant, declared an emergency. This comes as a "special situation in the home front," which enables the IDF Home Front Command to issue restrictions.

In emergencies, the legal term "special situation" is used to give authorities more authority over the civilian population, simplifying attempts to protect them. It is valid for 48 hours, unless extended by cabinet

ministers.

As tensions continue to rise, the Israeli public remains on high alert, bracing for the possibility of further incidents. The IDF said, "Hezbollah has just launched over 150 projectiles from Lebanon toward Israeli territory. We target terrorist infrastructure, they target civilians."

Israel Defense Forces (IDF) spokesperson Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari warned the Lebanese citizens who are in southern Lebanon of possible attacks by Israel in retaliation to Hezbollah strikes, according to CNN report.

ANI

## EAM Jaishankar calls on Singapore President, PM on sidelines of ministerial roundtable with Singapore

NEW DELHI

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar yesterday called on Tharman Shanmugaratnam, the President of Singapore on the sidelines of the India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable. The external affairs minister was also accompanied by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Electronics & IT minister Ashwini Vaishnav.

Jaishankar (pictured) said that he valued Shanmugaratnam's guidance on ways to further take forward the India-Singapore Strategic Partnership.

In a post on X, he said, "Honored to jointly call on President Tharman Shanmugaratnam of Singapore. Conveyed the warm greetings of President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Value his guidance on ways to further take forward the India-Singapore Strategic Partnership."

Jaishankar also called on Prime Minister of Singapore, Lawrence Wong, and said he appreciated Wong's engagement in the round table in Singapore.

In a post on X, he said, "Delighted to call on Prime Minister Lawrence Wong of Singapore today morning along with my colleagues Nirmala Sitharaman, Piyush Goyal and Ashwini Vaishnav. We conveyed the warm greetings of PM, Narendra Modi. Appreciate PM Wong's continued engagement with the India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable."

Earlier in the day, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman met former Financial Action Task Force (FATF) President T Raja Kumar in Singapore.

The discussion highlighted the strong partnership between India and the FATF, focusing on past collaborations and future strategies.

The Ministry of Finance took to X and posted, "Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman met former FATF President T Raja Kumar, in Singapore, today."

ANI

## Trump says he will keep Musk in cabinet if elected as President

WASHINGTON

FORMER US President Donald Trump said that he would like to keep Tesla CEO Elon Musk in his cabinet if he's elected as President.



In an interview with Shawn Ryan, which is yet to be broadcasted, the host of US-based "The Shawn Ryan Show", Trump said that he would keep Musk in his cabinet but doubted if Musk could do it with so many things already on his plate.

Ryan asked Trump if keeping Musk in the cabinet would require him to do something with artificial intelligence.

"He wants to be involved now. Look, he's running big businesses and all that, so he can't really. I don't think he'd be [able to handle the work of cabinet]. I'd put him in the cabinet, absolutely. But I don't know how he could do that with all the things he's got going," Trump said.

Trump said that Musk can consult with the country and produce ideas, especially on AI.

"But he can sort of, as the expression goes, consult with the country and give you some very good ideas, like on AI. There's nobody knows more about it than Elon. It's a big thing," he said.

Trump said that if the US doesn't focus on building AI, somebody else--most likely China--will do it.

"It's very important for the country. If we don't do it, China is going to do it or somebody else. But most likely China. And China is working right now to develop a massive flood of electricity. And we don't, because we have people that are not even thinking about that," he said.

Trump said that Musk is an "unusual character". He said that Musk was a genius and we must cherish him.

"We have a great relationship. He's [Musk is] great. He is a totally unusual character. He's great, and he's smart, and we have to cherish our geniuses. You know, we don't have too many of them. He is a brilliant guy, and what he really would like to do is get involved in cutting some of the fat. And he does know how to do it, and he loves the country. You know, it's just an amazing thing."

Trump said that if this election doesn't go the right way, the country will be doomed.

"We have to win this election. This election is going. November 5 will be the most important day, in my opinion, in the history of our country, because if our country goes the wrong way with this election, I think this country is doomed," he said. Trump said that the fact that his podcast with Musk on August 13 was viewed by millions was 'crazy'.

"We had a conversation the other day... I hear it had hundreds of millions of people. I heard it had the biggest audience that there's ever been. I mean, would you say that's a correct statement? There's never been anything even close. I heard 750 million people. I mean, numbers that are crazy," he said. **ANI**



## Germany's Scholz vows tougher asylum rules after suspected Islamist attack

BERLIN

CHANCELLOR Olaf Scholz vowed to step up deportations and bring down irregular migration yesterday during a visit to the city of Solingen, where three people were killed in a mass stabbing over the weekend.

"This was terrorism, terrorism against us all," Scholz (pictured) told reporters in the western city after laying a flower at the site of the attack in memory of the victims.

The attack, which investigators believe was carried out by a suspected Islamic State member from Syria, has fueled political tensions over asylum and deportation rules as well as violent crime ahead of three state elections



next month.

"We will have to do everything we can to ensure that those who cannot and are not al-

lowed to stay in Germany are repatriated and deported," Scholz said.

He described the suspected attacker as a "Dublin case", referring to the European Union rules under which asylum seekers must lodge their applications in the first EU country they arrive in.

Authorities had planned to deport the suspect in Friday's knife attack, a 26-year-old Syrian man, to Bulgaria last year, according to German media.

However, the deportation was unsuccessful because the man had not been at his refugee accommodation when authorities tried to carry out the measure, the reports said.

Agencies

## National projects and wage growth – Vladimir Putin holds meeting on economic issues

MOSCOW

EMPTY promises for the sake of "ticking boxes" in national projects are unacceptable, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a meeting on economic issues.

The president noted that the country has a record-low unemployment rate, and real wage growth for January-May 2024 amounted to 10.1%.



"It is very important that the rapid development of the financial sector does not lead to negative consequences."

### On national projects

- Empty promises for the sake of "ticking boxes" in national projects are unacceptable "without achieving real results, practical positive changes in people's lives."

- Wage growth and record low unemployment

- Wages in Russia in real terms for January-May 2024 increased by 10.1%.

- The country "maintains record low unemployment", in June the figure reached 2.4%.

### On economic growth

- The Russian economy this year "continues to grow at a good, high rate."

- In the first half of the year, the country's GDP grew by 4.6%.

### On lending

- The volume of bank lending in Russia is growing at an accelerated pace, despite the increase in the key interest rate.

### On fighting inflation

- The fight against inflation should be primarily based on the growth of the supply of goods and services. "I once again draw the attention of both the Government and the Central Bank of Russia - it is necessary to increase the effectiveness of coordinated actions to reduce inflation," Putin said.

- It is necessary to strengthen positive trends in the real sector, support business investments in modernization and opening of new production facilities, in creating jobs and training personnel.

## Emirates' unaccompanied minors service prepares for busy period

DUBAI

EMIRATES is currently operating one of the busiest time periods for its Unaccompanied Minors Service, as many children return to Dubai from summers spent abroad to start the new school year. In the coming week alone, Emirates will welcome more than 900 children, who are flying alone using the acclaimed family-friendly service.

Over the past five years, more than 120,000 children have availed of Emirates' Unaccompanied Minors and Young Passenger services. The majority of children who have travelled alone in Emirates care are aged 11 years or younger.

The families who currently use the service the most are British, then Indian, followed by American, Filipino and French. When children are flying without their family, Emirates is there every step of the way. For those aged between five and 11 years old, Emirates' Unaccompanied Minors Service ensures young people enjoy a supervised and safe trip from check-in to destination, with plenty of fun and memorable moments along the way.

When parents and guardians bring their young flyer to Dubai International Airport (DXB), they can go straight to the Unaccompanied Minors Lounge near the check-in area. Proof of identification must be provided to Emirates by the person dropping off the child and the guardian will need to sign a permission form.

Children will be swiftly checked in and can then relax with video games, free Wi-Fi, and comfortable sofas. In the dedicated and private space supervised by the Emirates team, the young ones can enjoy complimentary drinks and snacks



while they wait for their flight and use the children's bathrooms. At the airport, a specialist member of Emirates' team will meet the child at the Unaccompanied Minors check-in desk.

The Emirates specialist stays with the child all the way through the airport, taking care of them and carrying their passport for safety.

The specialist helps them through security and immigration, facilitating priority boarding so that the child has time to get settled on their flight, before introducing them to the cabin crew at the aircraft door for the next stage.

While in the air, Emirates cabin crew are on hand to make sure the young flyer has a comfortable and memorable journey. Parents and guardians can request any special dietary requirements in advance and advise whether the child would like to sit by the window or the aisle,

or seat siblings together.

Emirates cabin crew regularly check on the child to ensure they are enjoying their trip, are eating their meals and whether they need any support in adjusting their seat or inflight entertainment system.

Children onboard Emirates can pass the time with free Wi-Fi when they sign up to Emirates Skysurfers, complimentary toys and giveaways, more than 100 video games and a huge array of children's content on the award-winning inflight entertainment ice, including new release movies, Disney Classics, Marvel Studios and Star Wars collections, and the complete Harry Potter movies series, CBeebies, Nickelodeon and Cartoon Network.

If it's the child's birthday, parents and guardians can order a cake 48 hours before the flight and Emirates cabin crew will celebrate the special occasion. Special memories are captured with a

Polaroid camera so children have a keepsake of their travels.

Once children land at their destination, a specialist member of Emirates' team will be at the aircraft door to welcome them.

The child will be accompanied through the airport until they meet their parent or guardian at Arrivals, and proof of identification must be provided to Emirates by the person collecting the child.

Children aged 12 - 15 years old are permitted to fly alone without using Emirates' Unaccompanied Minors Service at parents and guardians' discretion.

However, parents and guardians who would like some extra support and supervision for their solo travellers aged between 12 and 15, can request this service. For an additional fee of USD 50 for each leg of the journey, support will be provided for children aged 12- 15 years, which includes all aspects of the Unaccompanied Minors Service.

PARIS

AFTER the arrest of the Telegram chief executive officer (CEO), the owner of the US social media platform X Elon Musk, and former US National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden both condemned this arrest and stressed the freedom of speech on Sunday.

The founder and CEO of the encrypted messenger Telegram, Pavel Durov, was arrested Saturday evening at Le Bourget Airport in Paris.

Following a tweet with the tag #FreePavel on X, Musk wrote several other posts stressing the importance of protecting free speech and democracy.

For Snowden's part, in his posts on X, he called the arrest of Pavel Durov "an assault on the basic human rights of speech and association."

"I am surprised and deeply saddened that (French President Emmanuel) Macron has descended to the level of taking hostages as a means for gaining access to private communications. It lowers not only France, but the world," he said.



Edward Snowden

## India is in favour of peace, says JDU leader KC Tyagi

NEW DELHI

JANATA Dal (United) leader KC Tyagi yesterday said that India is in favour of peace and ceasefire in the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas.

Speaking to ANI about the issue, Tyagi said that in the past few days, the Indian government has sent medical and food supplies to help Palestine and that the Indian government is in fa-

vour of ending the war.

"The Indian government is in favour of ending the war there. In the past few days, the Indian government has sent medical and food supplies to help Palestine. Hamas Hezbollah are different and Palestine is a separate nation which has been supported by Mahatma Gandhi and Atal Bihari Vajpayee as well," he told ANI.

Mohammad Makram Balawi,

who is the Secretary General of League of Parliamentarians for Al Quds met with Tyagi, MP Sanjay Singh, MP Javed Ali Khan, Ex MP Mohammad Adeeab, Ex MP Meem Afzal, Ex MLA Pankaj Pushkar, Ex MP Santosh Bhartiya, MP Mohibbullah, and Ex MP Danish Ali. They condemned Israel's aggression and expressed solidarity with Palestine, a statement from KC Tyagi's office said.

Earlier, US Secretary of State

Antony Blinken announced that Israel has accepted a proposal to bridge gaps in ceasefire negotiations and urged Hamas to accept it ahead of further negotiations expected later.

Speaking to reporters in Tel Aviv, Blinken stated, "In a very constructive meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu today, he confirmed to me that Israel accepts the bridging proposal and supports it."

ANI

## German firms ramp up investment, not to miss out on China's growth opportunities

BERLIN

GERMAN businesses are growing increasingly optimistic about China's innovative vitality and open market benefits, leading to a surge in their investments in the Chinese market.

German investments in China have shattered records, reaching an unprecedented 7.3 billion euros (8.2 billion U.S. dollars) in the first half of 2024, according to the latest data from the Central Bank of Germany.

This momentum continues unabated, highlighting the deepening economic ties between the two countries as they mark the 10th anniversary of the China-Germany comprehensive strategic partnership.

### BOOMING INVESTMENT

Several prominent German companies have dem-

onstrated their long-term commitment to China through significant increases in investments.

Volkswagen is investing 2.5 billion euros (2.8 billion dollars) in the Chinese city of Hefei to establish its largest R&D center outside Germany. BMW is boosting its investment in its Shenyang plant in northeast China by 20 billion yuan (2.8 billion U.S. dollars) to upgrade production capacity and boost innovation. Bayer revealed a 600-million-yuan (84.2-million-dollar) investment for a new supply center in Qidong in coastal Jiangsu Province.

This consistent increase in investment not only acknowledges China's vast market potential but also reflects confidence in its infrastructure, comprehensive industrial chain and business environment.

During the 7th China Inter-

national Import Expo Germany Roadshow in June, Wu Zhengping, deputy director general of the China International Import Expo Bureau, emphasized the strong participation of German companies in the expo, noting the number of exhibitors and the space they occupied were the highest among European nations. This robust involvement signals the high level of confidence that German businesses have in China's economic prospects.

"Over 90 percent of German leading global companies have partnerships with China. Any company aspiring to lead in the global market must collaborate with China," said Walter Doring, chairman of the Academy of German Hidden Champions, adding that German firms embedded in the Chinese market face bright prospects and continued growth op-

portunities that will enhance competitiveness worldwide.

Zhai Qian, minister of economic and commercial affairs at the Chinese Embassy in Germany, noted that Germany's strengths in traditional sectors like machinery, automotive and pharmaceuticals complement China's advances in green development and the digital economy. This synergy injects new dynamism into bilateral economic ties and pushes cooperation to new heights.

### DRIVING FACTORS

Behind the sustained increase in German investment in China lies confidence in the country's long-term economic prospects, positive signals emanating from China's high-level opening-up and a continually improving business environment.

Tobias Wahl, board chair-

man of the Hawk brand at Karcher Group, highlighted how his company successfully introduced deep-cleaning concepts to the Chinese market, yielding impressive results. This success further strengthened Karcher's commitment to the Chinese market, with the company now investing 2 billion yuan (280.7 million dollars) to advance its localization strategy.

"German companies approach investment decisions with a strong focus on market potential and profitability, carefully analyzing global markets to identify regions with the highest opportunities and growth potential," said Zheng Chunrong, director of the German Studies Center at Tongji University.

The sustained growth of German investment in China highlights the market's

significant scale and promising prospects. For many German companies, China remains a preferred hub for global supply chain layouts.

Michael Schumann, chairman of the Board of the German Federal Association for Economic Development and Foreign Trade, emphasized that what previously had to be imported from Germany or other parts of Europe is now sourced from China. This shift has led to the creation of production models such as "In China, For China" and "In China, For the World."

China's growing innovation leadership is fostering greater synergy between China and Germany.

"China's significance surpasses mere consumption; it has become a hub of innovation, leading the transformation across various sectors such as electrifica-

tion, smart mobility, artificial intelligence, digitalization, and energy efficiency," said Stefan Hartung, chairman of the board of management of Robert Bosch GmbH.

Schumann echoed this sentiment, stating that China's innovation leadership is gradually strengthening, and more German firms are investing strategically in the country to participate in local innovation. In the automotive sector, for instance, German manufacturers are increasingly benefiting from China's expertise in electric vehicles.

According to the 2024 Global Foreign Direct Investment Confidence Index published by global management consulting firm Kearney, China has risen from seventh place last year to third this year, ranking first among emerging markets.

Xinhua

# SPORT



People with Disabilities tennis team player, Lucy Shirima, is pictured during a training session at the Gymkhana Club grounds in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## Simba Queens fall short in CAF Women's Champions League qualifiers semifinal

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA Queens have failed to qualify for the CAF Women's Champions League CECAFA Zonal Qualifiers finals after a narrow 3-2 defeat to Kenya Police Bullets FC in a semifinal match held at the Abebe Bikila Stadium yesterday afternoon in Addis Ababa.

Despite being the favorites to advance, Juma Mgunda's Simba Queens were unable to overcome their Kenyan league rivals.

The Kenyan side, led by coach Beldine Odemba, displayed resilience and tactical superiority, ending Simba's hopes of qualifying for the second continental women's football campaign.

Heading into the game, Simba Queens were expected to dominate due to their free-scoring form throughout the tournament.

However, Kenya Police had other plans and emerged victorious to move one step closer to qualifying for the showpiece event. The winner of the final will secure a spot in the continental competition.

Simba Queens started the match aggressively, seeking an early lead. Jentrix Shikangwa forced Kenya Police goalkeeper Anneddy Kundu into making a crucial save, while Corazone Aquino's shot narrowly missed the target, showing Simba's intent to control the game from the outset.

However, Kenya Police Bullets managed to withstand the early pressure and gradually found their rhythm, proving particularly dangerous on counterattacks.

Against the run of play, they took the lead through Lucy Kwekwe, who pounced on a spill from Simba's goalkeeper Carlyne Rufa to score the opening goal.

Simba Queens responded quickly, equalizing just ten minutes later. Kenya Police's keeper Kundu spilled a cross from Harambee Starlets winger Elizabeth Wambui, and Aquino seized the opportunity to score

an easy tap-in, leveling the game before halftime.

The second half saw more action, with Simba taking the lead 11 minutes in. Aquino controlled the ball superbly before beating Kundu with a well-executed half-volley for her second goal of the match and her fourth of the tournament.

However, Simba's lead was short-lived. Just five minutes later, Diana Wacera equalized for Kenya Police with a powerful header from a free-kick delivery, making it 2-2.

Kenya Police continued to create scoring opportunities, with Kwekwe, Rebecca Okwaro, and Lydia Akoth all coming close to adding to their tally. Despite their dominance in the final third, a lack of composure prevented them from converting these chances. The decisive moment came eight minutes from time when Okwaro capitalized on a defensive lapse, rounding goalkeeper Rufa and slotting the ball into an empty net to put Kenya Police ahead 3-2.

The goal caused jubilation on the Police bench and proved to be the match-winner.

Rufa sustained an injury during the goal attempt and required medical attention. The goal proved to be the winner for the Kenyan team.

With this victory, Kenya Police will advance to the final, where they will face the winner of the second semifinal between Kawempe Muslim and Commercial Bank of Ethiopia.

Should they triumph in the final, they will become the second Kenyan team to qualify for the CAF Women's Champions League, following Vihiga Queens' qualification in 2021.

This result marks a significant setback for Simba Queens, who were hopeful of making a deep run in the tournament. As they regroup and reflect on this defeat, their focus will now shift to preparing for future challenges and building on their strengths.



Juma Mgunda

## SPORTS

## Yanga stroll into the next round while Azam sadly fall by the wayside

By Lloyd Elipokea

AFTER comfortably registering a dominant 4-0 rout of the luckless Burundian side Vital'O in the first leg of their CAF Champions League's First Preliminary Round tie a tad over a week ago, many Young Africans' supporters likely believed that the second leg would be plain sailing for their beloved football outfit.

Despite the bullishness of the Young Africans fan base, the Jangwani Street club produced such an unexpectedly impressive tour de force in the second leg against Vital'O that went far beyond the expectations of the club's army of supporters.

Indeed, in the second leg, the Tanzanian champions surprisingly emerged as 6-0 winners to clinch the tie by a whopping 10-0 on aggregate.

Doubtlessly, the fabulous triumph has strengthened the hopes of all ardent Young Africans devotees that their club will be able to overcome all teams, including the big guns en route to making a deep run in continental football's top-tier championship.

Still, well before that happens, Young Africans will have to negotiate their way through the 2nd preliminary round first leg tie of the CAF Champions League where they will face off against the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, which promises to be quite a fascinating affair.

It should be noted that while exuberance presently reigns supreme among the Young Africans faithful, a mood of despondency has settled over Azam FC fans following their team's slim 2-1 loss on aggregate to Rwandan juggernauts APR FC.

Indeed, the demoralizing defeat in the first preliminary round saw Azam FC come a-cropper and exit the CAF Champions League almost as hastily as their campaign in the revered football championship



Young Africans attacking midfielder Pacome Zouzoua and his teammates celebrate their first goal against Vital'O during the second leg of their CAF Champions League first preliminary round match at Chamazi Complex in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Young Africans won 6-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

had started. Consequently, this then means that Young Africans are our country's lone representatives in the CAF Champions League and it is hoped that the Jangwani Street-based club can deliver the goods in truly dazzling style.

Dear Reader, at the risk of sounding like a broken record, this writer would like to revisit our meltdown at the Paris Olympics earlier this year for seemingly the umpteenth time.

For those who have been dwelling under a large boulder for the last several weeks and are in the dark as a result, our national contingent to the quadrennial, entertaining multi-sport spectacle returned home from the games utterly bereft of even a single medal.

Ever since the Paris Olympics wrapped up a few weeks ago, there have been some noteworthy suggestions that have emerged from the Post-Olympics analysis of our unquestionably dismal overall performance at the mega sporting event.

Indeed, one such helpful suggestion came from the talented marathoner, Alphonse Simbu,

who remarked that it was high time for our sports fraternity to focus on a broader range of sports and not just restrict ourselves to the same handful of sports when it comes to partaking in the Olympic Games.

To be candid, an assessment of Simbu's suggestion will reveal that it is right on the money.

It is an irrefutable fact that once-popular sports like table-tennis, squash and handball have been grossly neglected and as a result, have now become alarmingly stagnant.

It is hoped then that our sports administrators will swiftly see the error of their ways and furthermore, that they will move expeditiously to revive the aforementioned sports that have been in the doldrums for some time now.



Pak Stars A cricket side. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

## Pak Stars cruise to TCA Dar 50 Overs Cup Div A semi-finals

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

PROMISING cricketer Ivan Ismail put up a stellar batting showing to propel Pak Stars A to this season's Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Dar 50 Overs Cup's Division A semi-finals after garnering a six-wicket thrashing of Aces A in the city recently.

Ismail's solid batting, buoyed by experienced player Zafar Khan's all-round exploits, had Pak Stars A confidently getting down to a gallant chase of Aces A's total and assuring themselves of progression to the semi-finals.

Aces A, led by senior cricketer Asif Butt, went in to bat first and were skittled for 140 runs in 371 overs, with top-order batsmen playing a pivotal role in the club's ability to register the convincing total.

After a slight wobble resulting from an early dismissal of the opener Butt that made his way back to the pavilion while being one run short of two digits, fellow top-order cricketer, Nassib Kelvin, partnered Alishahab Bukhari to ensure Aces A's cricketers are in control their innings.

Kelvin made his experience count given the performer notched 30 runs - consisting of four boundaries and a sixer-propelling the batting outfit to 46 runs in the eighth over when the performer was run out by Rana Waqas from Mohammad Ali's bowling.

Bukhari - slotted in at number three - was the eventual top-run-getter during the club's turn with the bat, scoring 34 from 59 balls while blasting three boundaries.

Youthful cricketer Hamza Ally (19 runs) and senior performer Ally Mpeka who notched 11 runs, moreover, contributed significantly to Aces A's total.

Aisah Chibanda and Jeremiah Makanya - key performers for Aces A in various club showdowns in recent years - experienced

a less convincing outing having ended with single digits.

Chibanda ended two runs short of a two-digit figure and Makanya was three runs short of two digits.

Khan led Pak Stars A's bowling attack, taking four wickets for 32 runs in 10 overs, and was ably assisted by Ali (3-24 in 10 overs) to keep Aces A's batting unit in check.

Needing 141 runs from the allotted 50 overs to grab a victory, Pak Stars A hardly wasted time - cruising to the win for four wickets in mere 27.3 overs.

Ismail, a regular opener for the batting outfit, zealously orchestrated the chase, blasting 74 runs which included five boundaries and four sixes, and deservedly garnered the Player of the Match prize.

Khan moreover displayed his all-round prowess, ending with an impressive 65-ball 40 while blasting six boundaries.

The equally experienced cricketer had impressively proved his worth following brief spells that top-order cricketers Nisar Ahmed (two runs) and Mohamed Omary (five runs) had endured.

Team captain Kashif Adnan and Hassan Raza had a fifth-wicket stand which made certain of Pak Stars A's progression to the last four, as Adnan ended with three runs not out and Raza chipped in with 11 runs not out - nailing a four and a sixer.

Pak Stars A cricketers' chase was moreover buoyed by 11 extras leaked by Aces A's bowlers, which included four byes and seven wides.

Pace bowler Mpeka was by far the Aces A cricketer who sought to frustrate Pak Stars A's chase with his two wickets in five overs, his efforts, however, ended in vain.

Medium pacer, Salum Jumbe, and Jatin Prajapati took one wicket apiece for Aces A, who consequently had their hopes of embarking on a successful campaign in a second successive showdown this season going up in smokes.

## Slot enjoys perfect Anfield start as Liverpool ease past Brentford

By Kieran Canning

ARNE Slot enjoyed a winning bow as Liverpool boss at Anfield with Luis Diaz and Mohamed Salah scoring in a 2-0 win over Brentford on Sunday.

The Reds join Manchester City, Arsenal and Brighton as the only sides with maximum points from two games of the new Premier League season.

Tougher tests lie ahead of Slot in his daunting task of succeeding Jurgen Klopp, starting with a visit to Manchester United next weekend.

But the early signs are positive for the Dutchman as his side are yet to concede and showcased their wealth of attacking options, spearheaded by Salah.

"Most players are quite used to what we want because it is not too different to what Jurgen did in the past," said Slot after building on an opening weekend win at Ipswich.

"We still have to prove a lot against teams that can end up in the top six."

Slot is expected to instill a more possession-focused approach than the one adopted by Klopp in his near nine years in charge.

However, Liverpool's opener was straight out of the Klopp copybook.

From a Brentford corner, Salah released Diogo Jota, who timed his pass perfectly into Diaz to charge through on goal and fire into the top corner on 13 minutes.

Thereafter there were only flashes of the football Slot is hoping to bring in the first half.

Brentford were again missing Ivan Toney, who is expected to leave the club before Friday's transfer deadline.

But the Bees still posed a threat without the England striker and should have levelled 10 minutes into the second half.

Nathan Collins met Mathias Jensen's enticing cross with a bullet

header that Alisson Becker did brilliantly to parry.

That warning awoke Liverpool from their slumber early in the second period.

Collins made a goal-saving block moments later to deny Jota turning in Trent Alexander-Arnold's low cross.

Vitaly Janelt was next to get a vital foot in to prevent Salah rounding off a slick team move.

Brentford goalkeeper Mark Flekken then produced a brilliant stop to turn Diaz's powerful effort behind.

As is so often the case, the Reds had to turn to Salah to provide the clinical finish to finally make the points safe.

The impressive Diaz this time bagged the assist and the Egyptian managed to time his run perfectly to remain onside and dink the ball over Flekken.

"In the first half there is more energy in the other team, then in the second half it eventually leads to gaps that open up," added Slot.

"In the end Brentford didn't have the legs anymore to defend us."

Slot was serenaded in the closing stages by the 60,000 crowd chanting his name – as they had been instructed to do by Klopp at his farewell in May.

For much of last season Liverpool looked on course to give Klopp a glorious goodbye as they rivalled City and Arsenal for the title until falling away in the final weeks of the season.

There has been much consternation among the Liverpool support at the lack of a single new signing heading into the final week of the transfer window to strengthen that squad.

But they look best placed of the rest to push City and Arsenal again if there is to be a three-way battle for the title.

AFP

## Vicent Kompany praises Bayern Munich's 'outstanding mentality' in comeback win

BERLIN

NEW Bayern Munich coach Vincent Kompany praised his team's mentality after Sunday's come-from-behind 3-2 win at Wolfsburg.

In his first Bundesliga match in the Bayern dugout, Kompany's side held a 1-0 half-time lead but were 2-1 down in the second-half, before turning the match in their favour.

Telling broadcaster DAZN he "enjoyed his first Bundesliga game as coach", Kompany said Bayern's mindset carried them to victory.

"We were dominant in the first half and didn't concede any chances. The start of the second half wasn't good.

"We conceded twice, but in the end the mentality was good and that's why we won the game.

"I played football long enough and know that you can lose or draw such a game. The fact we won shows that the mentality was there, even though not everything was perfect."

Speaking with reporters after the game, Kompany lauded Bayern's "outstanding mentality", saying "you can make mistakes but it's about how you react after the mistakes.

"We got the goals because we created the chances. A tough, tough away game but in the end a very good win."

England captain Harry Kane was again crucial for Bayern, with a hand in each of the visitors' three goals.

Kane played a key pass in the lead-up to Jamal Musiala's opener. His second-half header forced Wolfsburg into conceding an own goal and his pinpoint assist created Serge Gnabry's 82nd-minute winner.

"It's not perfect yet", Kane told Bayern TV after the match, saying his side "got punished a little" in the second-half.

AFP

## Real Madrid suffer Vinicius Jr contract blow after Saudi Pro League transfer decision

MADRID

REAL Madrid and Brazil winger Vinicius Junior has decided to wait until the end of the season before making a decision on interest from the Saudi Pro League, according to a report.

The 24-year-old has emerged as one of the world's best wingers with Los Blancos and is one of the leading candidates to claim this year's Ballon d'Or after his starring performances powered the club to a La Liga and Champions League double in 2023/24.

His success has seen him become a high-profile target for Saudi Arabia, where officials remain keen to sign up the world's biggest talents after previously recruiting the likes of Cristiano Ronaldo, Karim Benzema and N'Golo Kante. It had been reported that Vinicius had said no to a potential transfer to the Middle East this summer, with Madrid manager Carlo Ancelotti rubbishing the rumours as "just speculation".

However, ESPN now report the Brazil international has delayed making a decision on his future until 2025 as he does not want to scupper his chances of winning the Ballon d'Or.

Lucrative wages in the region of €350m a year were said to have been discussed with the former Flamengo attacker, who has a €1bn release clause in his current contract with Madrid. The Spanish and European champions were not willing to negotiate a fee lower than that monstrous figure, but there is thought to be optimism from the Saudi Pro League that Madrid will lower their demands next year when Vinicius will have only two seasons left on his deal. (AGENCIES)

# Madueke nets hat trick for Chelsea after boos over Instagram post and Slot gets win in Anfield debut

By MATTIAS KAREN

AFTER being constantly booed by the home crowd for a disparaging social media post about Wolverhampton, Noni Madueke responded with a second-half hat trick to give Chelsea its first Premier League win under manager Enzo Maresca.

Madueke netted three goals in a 14-minute span – all of them assisted by Cole Palmer – to spark a 6-2 win over Wolves on Sunday that at times had the same kind of chaotic feel that envelops most things at Chelsea these days.

But the emphatic second-half performance also indicated that Maresca may already be figuring out how to use the wealth of attacking talent at his disposal – and overshadowed a more routine 2-0 win for Liverpool against Brentford in new manager Arne Slot's first game at Anfield.

Madueke's hat trick capped a day where he had already drawn headlines for an Instagram post that used an expletive to describe "everything about this place" after Chelsea arrived in Wolverhampton. While he later deleted the post, Wolves fans let him know they didn't appreciate the sentiment and booed him every time they got the chance.

"Turns out that may have been a bad idea.

After Chelsea gave up the lead twice in an eventful first half that was highlighted by Palmer's improvised long-range lob for his team's second goal, Madueke made sure there was no way back for Wolves in the second.

His goals all had a similar feel to them, with Palmer picking him out on the right side of the area and Madueke beating goalkeeper Jose Sa with a shot from an angle – the first taking a deflection before sailing inside the far post.

New signing Joao Felix then sealed the rout after sidefooting home a cross from fellow substitute Pedro Neto, the winger who joined from Wolves this month.

Madueke was apologetic to Wolverhampton residents after the game, and his opinion about the West Midlands city seemed to have



Chelsea's Noni Madueke shoots to score against Wolves. (Agencies)

improved after the hat trick.

"Obviously it was a mistake, and I'm sure that Wolverhampton is a great town," Madueke said, adding that he won't be posting on Instagram again any time soon.

"I'll be giving my social media accounts to my manager, I think," he said. "I think I'm just going to leave the social media."

"Shades of Klopp in Slot's Anfield debut Slot has clearly brought his own style of play to Anfield, but there were still shades of Jurgen Klopp in the way Liverpool secured the win in the Dutchman's home debut as manager.

Liverpool's goals came from a lightning counterattack and a clinical finish from Mohamed Salah – two of the things that fans at Anfield became very used to seeing under Klopp.

"I think Liverpool fans saw these performances under Jurgen Klopp many, many, many times," Slot said. "I want to see everybody sprinting back and doing everything they can to avoid conceding a goal and that's what we did very well today."

"There are some clear differences, though.

Just like Slot doesn't have the German manager's energetic mannerisms on the touchline – and there were no post-game fist pumps toward the Kop, only applause and a wave – his team also shows more composure in possession rather than the all-out blitz often deployed under his predecessor. According to stats provider Opta, Liverpool completed 92% of its passes against Brentford – its highest percentage in the Premier League since at least 2003-04.

"If I am honest, I think most players are quite used to what we want, but that has a lot to do with us not doing much different to what Jurgen has done," Slot said. "There are details maybe a bit different but it also has to do with the opponents you face."

Luis Diaz gave Liverpool the lead by finishing off a quick counter that Salah started after a Bournemouth corner in the 13th minute, with Diogo Jota delivering the assist. Salah then added the second by dinking the ball past goalkeeper Mark Flekken after being played through on goal in the 70th.

That's two goals in two games for

Salah, who also netted in an opening 2-0 win at Ipswich.

A tougher test will come next weekend, though, when Liverpool visits archrival Manchester United.

"VAR denies Bournemouth Bournemouth was denied a late winner by a disputed VAR decision and had to settle for a 1-1 draw at home against Newcastle.

Dango Ouattara thought he had secured the win for Bournemouth with a header in injury time, but it was disallowed for handball even though the ball hit the upper part of the arm.

Bournemouth manager Andoni Iraola was left "very frustrated" by the decision.

"It was so obvious. I think everyone who watches the game would agree," Iraola told the BBC. "I have just seen the video and the fact is it doesn't touch the arm, it is the shoulder, a clear goal and three points for us."

Bournemouth had taken the lead through Marcus Tavernier in the 37th, but Anthony Gordon equalized for Newcastle in the 76th.

AP

## Endrick makes Madrid debut and becomes youngest foreign player to score for club in Spanish league

MADRID

ENDRICK needed only 10 minutes to make an impression in his debut with Real Madrid.

The Brazil teenager replaced Kylian Mbappé late in the match and scored deep into stoppage time to seal Madrid's 3-0 win over Valladolid on Sunday.

The goal made Endrick the youngest foreign player to score for Madrid in the Spanish league at 18 years, 35 days, surpassing Frenchman Raphael Varane, who was 18 years, 152 days when he scored in 2011. "He's looking very good and he has a lot of potential," Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti said of Endrick. "He has shown his quality very quickly with his control and he's got a very powerful shot. He's a center forward and very dangerous in tight spaces."

It was the first league win for defending champion Madrid after it opened with a 1-1 draw at Mallorca last weekend.

Mbappé scored in Madrid's UEFA Super Cup win over Atalanta at the start of the season but has yet to find the net in the first two league matches. The France star was making his debut at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium as a Madrid player.

Federico Valverde had put Madrid ahead in the 50th, and Brahim Diaz added to the lead in a breakaway in the 86th.

Endrick scored six minutes into stoppage time with a low shot into the near corner after going past a defender entering the area. He had replaced Mbappé in the 86th.

"He deserves it," Valverde said of Endrick. "He has to keep working, he still has a long way to go with this



Real Madrid's Endrick scores his side's third goal during the Spanish La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and Valladolid at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain, Sunday, Aug. 25, 2024. (AP Photo)

club, he should keep working hard because he deserves it."

Endrick was only 16 when he was sold to Madrid by Brazilian club Palmeiras for more than 40 million euros (around \$45 million), plus add-ons, in 2022.

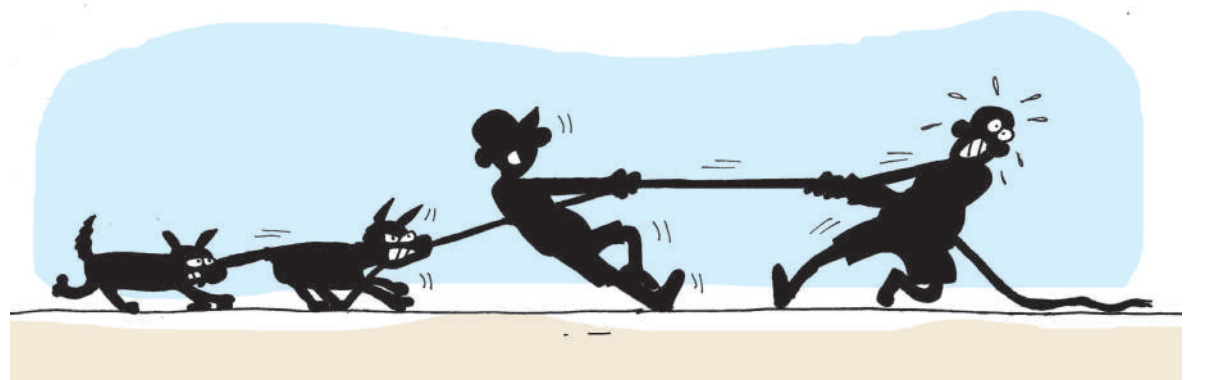
He stayed with Palmeiras until arriving at Madrid for this season after turning 18. Madrid had already done

similar deals with Vinicius Junior and Rodrygo, who are now regular starters with the Spanish club.

Endrick was an unused substitute in the team's first two matches this season, against Atalanta in the UEFA Super Cup and at Mallorca.

Barcelona defeated Athletic Bilbao 2-1 on Saturday for its second consecutive win to start the season.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

**Madueke nets hat trick for Chelsea after boos over Instagram post and Slot gets win in Anfield debut**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



## Dickson Job recalled as Taifa Squad is announced

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

NATIONAL soccer team (Taifa Stars) interim head coach Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman has announced his 23-man squad for the upcoming Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) 2025 qualifiers against Ethiopia and Guinea next month.

After missing the last two matches - the international friendlies in March and the World Cup qualifier against Zambia in June - due to a fallout following the AFCON 2023 campaign, Young Africans' vice-captain Dickson Job has been recalled to the squad by Coach Morocco.

Job is among seven Young Africans players named in the squad, which also includes Clement Mzize, Ibrahim Hamad, Mudathir Yahya, Nickson Kibabage, Aboutwalib Msherry, and Bakari Nondo Mwanjeto, highlighting the dominance of Young Africans players in the Taifa Stars lineup.

Coastal Union midfielder Charles Semfuko has earned his first call-up to the senior national team, while long-time captain Mbwana Samatta has been left out of the squad without any official explanation from the coach.

Coach Morocco (pictured) only explained the omission of striker Simon Msuva from the squad due to his current unattached status following the end of his stint in Saudi Arabia.

"Simon Msuva is a national team player. I have talked to him, and right now, he is focusing on securing a new club. He is a player that we really need in the team, but without a club, it becomes a challenge," Morocco stated.

"When he signs with a club and performs well, he could return to help us. It's difficult to call a player to the national team when he is still dealing with contract issues with a new team," the coach added.

Taifa Stars have been drawn alongside DR Congo, Guinea, and Ethiopia in their group for the AFCON 2025 qualifiers.

The top two teams in the group will qualify for the tournament, which is set to be hosted in Morocco from December 21, 2025, to January 18, 2026.

The team will kick off their qualifying campaign with a home game against Ethiopia on Monday, September 2, before travelling to Guinea four days later.

As Taifa Stars gear up for these crucial matches, fans and stakeholders will be keenly watching how Coach Morocco's selection and tactics unfold in the pursuit of a place in the AFCON 2025 tournament.

The squad:

### Goalkeepers:

Ally Salim (Simba SC) Aboutwalb Mshery (Young Africans) Yona Amos (Pamba FC)

### Defenders:

Lusajo Mwaikenda (Azam FC) Nathaniel Chilambo (Azam FC) Mohamed Hussein (Simba SC) Dickson Job (Young Africans) Pascal Msindo (Azam FC) Ibrahim Hamad (Young Africans) Bakari Nondo Mwanjeto (Young Africans) Nickson Kibabage (Young Africans) Abdulmalik Zakaria (Mashujaa FC)

### Midfielders:

Adolf Mtasingwa (Azam FC) Himid Mao (Talaal El Geish, Egypt) Novatus Dismas (Goztepe, Turkey) Mudathiri Yahya (Young Africans) Hussein Semfuko (Coastal Union) Edwin Balua (Simba SC) Feisal Salum (Azam FC)

### Forwards:

Wazir Junior (Dodoma Jiji) Cyprian Kachwele (Vancouver Whitecaps, Canada) Clement Mzize (Young Africans) and Abel Josiah (TDS TFF Academy)

## Mixed CAF Confederation Cup fortunes for E. African Police clubs

JOHANNESBURG

THE Kenyan Police team won and qualified and the Rwandan Police side lost and were eliminated in the CAF Confederation Cup first round, second legs on Sunday.

South Sudanese Rashid Toha scored the only goal of a two-leg tie against Ethiopian opponents Coffee after 19 minutes in Addis Ababa to take his Kenyan club through 1-0 on aggregate.

Victory earned the Nairobi-based outfit a final qualifying round showdown with title-holders Zamalek of Egypt, who also won the African equivalent of the Uefa Europa League in 2019.

Both legs are scheduled for September with the Kenyans enjoying home advantage first as they seek to reach the group stage at the first attempt.

Hopes of two Police clubs from east Africa advancing were raised when Nigerian Elijah Ani gave the Rwandan team an early lead over Algerian visitors CS Constantine.

His goal halved the two-goal advantage the north Africans took to Kigali after the first leg last weekend.

But Zakaria Benchaab dealt a huge blow to the local side five minutes before halftime when he equalised in a stadium named after deceased Brazilian superstar Pele.

It left the hosts needing to score at least three goals to survive, and the situation deteriorated further on 60 minutes when Mounder Temine netted a second Constantine goal.

The Algerian club retained the lead for a 2-1 second-leg victory and a 4-1 aggregate triumph, which secured a second-round date with Nsoatreman from Ghana.

Coastal Union of Tanzania were another east African side to fail after being held 0-0 by Angolan visitors Bravos Maquis in Dar es Salaam.

Bravos won 3-0 on aggregate and will play Saint-Eloi Lupopo from neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo next month.

The other Angolan challengers, Lunda Sul, also drew 0-0, at home to Elgeco Plus of Madagascar in Luanda, and progressed on away goals after a 1-1 first-leg stalemate.

Lunda have been paired with Sekhukhune United of South Africa, one of 12 clubs who received byes based on previous results in the competition, in the second round.

Paynesville achieved rare home and away victories for a Liberian club in a CAF competition when they defeated Fovu Baham of Cameroon 1-0 in Yaounde through a 47th-minute Mark Paye goal.

The Liberians took a 4-0 lead into the return match after Fovu fielded only eight players in the first leg as others in the travelling party were not registered with CAF.

AGENCIES

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**MJADALA**

**EATV TUESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Mpera Mpera  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
14:00 SSPORTS (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kali Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 MJADALA  
21:30 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa  
23:05 EATV SAA 1

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

**eastafrica RADIO**

05:00 Supa Breakfast  
09:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Xtra  
16:00 EA Drive  
19:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Simba's dominant 4-0 victory over Fountain Gate boosts confidence ahead of CAF Confederation Cup

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA head coach Fadlu Davids expressed his satisfaction with his squad's performance following a commanding 4-0 victory over Fountain Gate FC in their Premier League match on Sunday at the KMC Complex. This dominant win showcased Simba's growing form, leaving them with a perfect record of six points from two matches.

The victory was powered by goals from Edwin Balua, Steven Mukwala, Jean Charles Ahoua, and Valentino Mashaka, as Simba controlled the game from start to finish.

Davids was particularly pleased with how his players executed their tactical instructions and demonstrated a solid understanding of the game plan.

"I am pleased with the way the lads played today," Davids remarked after the match. "We controlled the game well, created chances, and capitalized on them, although we could have scored even more if we had been more focused."

Davids emphasized the importance of the win, not just for the scoreline but for the team's overall development.

"The important thing is that we have secured a great victory by scoring four goals. This is a significant step in our plan to build a strong team. Now, we are shifting our focus to the CAF Confederation Cup, where we need to maintain this level of quality to ensure we advance to the later stages of the competition," he added.

The match saw Simba take early control, with Balua opening the scoring in the 13th minute. He headed in a cross from Ahoua, setting the tone for what would be a dominant performance by Simba. Mukwala doubled the lead just before halftime, finishing off a precise pass from Shomari Kapombe to make it 2-0.

Simba's relentless pressure continued in the second half. Ahoua, who had already provided an assist, scored in the 59th minute with a powerful shot from inside the box after receiving a pass from Balua, extending the lead to 3-0.

Mashaka capped off the scoring in the 81st minute with a composed finish after another assist from Ahoua, sealing the comprehensive 4-0 victory.

Ahoua was named Man of the



Simba Sports Club attacking midfielder Jean Charles Ahoua scores his side's third goal during their Premier League match against Fountain Gate FC at KMC Complex in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Simba won 4-0. Photo: Courtesy of SSC

Match for his stellar performance. He was directly involved in three of the four goals, scoring one and assisting two.

Ahoua's outstanding form continued from Simba's previous match against Tabora United, where he also contributed a crucial assist. His consistent impact has made him the second Simba player this season to win the Player of the Match Award, following central defender Che Malone Fondoh.

Simba's impressive display against Fountain Gate FC sends a strong message as they aim for success on multiple fronts this season. With two wins in the Premier League, they are also gearing up for their upcoming challenge in the CAF Confederation Cup.

The Msimbazi Street-based side is set to face Libyan side Al Ahly Tripoli in the CAF Confederation Cup playoff round, with the first leg scheduled to take place in Lib-

ya between September 13 and 15, and the return leg at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam between September 20 and 22.

A victory in this tie would see Simba advance to the group stages of the competition, a key objective for the club as they seek to make their mark on the continental stage.

As Simba prepare for these crucial fixtures, Davids and his squad are focused on maintaining the momentum they have built in the early stages of the domestic league.

The blend of young talent and tactical discipline positions Simba as a formidable force in both domestic and continental competitions.

Their next challenge will be to carry this momentum into their upcoming matches, starting with the crucial CAF Confederation Cup playoff against Al Ahly Tripoli.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

