



GOVT IN NEW DRIVE TO CURB HWC PAGES



TANZANIANS APPEAL FOR AFRICAN INTEGRATION IN NEW BOOK PAGE 4



HYPERTENSION SUFFERERS UNAWARE OF THEIR 'MOST CONDITION' PAGES



Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Nape Nnauye (L) has a 'rare word' yesterday with a robot installed at Parliament grounds in Dodoma city. This was shortly after the minister had tabled the ministry's Budget estimates for financial year 2024/2025 in the Union legislative body. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

# Govt readies rules on use of artificial intelligence

*It will promote the use of satellite technologies in facilitating access to communication services with emphasis on defence and security, research, disaster response and weather forecasting*

By Guardian Reporter

PREPARATIONS for a law on information and communications technology (ICT) which will include areas of emerging technologies including artificial intelligence are being coordinated by the Ministry of Information, Communication, and Information Technology.

Nape Nnauye, the minister, made this remark when presenting budget estimates pegged at 180.92bn/- in the National Assem-

bly yesterday, highlighting that a National Communications Security Centre was being designed.

It will help to revitalise the management of crime statistics and cybercrime, linked with the police force, the National Prosecutor's Office and the courts; enhancing the capacity of the digital investigation unit at police headquarters.

Efforts are also being initiated to review the Cybercrime Act of 2015 to prepare standards

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## 'Declare donkeys an endangered species'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

STAKEHOLDERS have appealed to the government to declare the donkey as an endangered species, on top of prohibiting all trade in the animal that is likely to lead to trafficking, slaughter or use of body parts.

Mbarwa Kivyo, managing director of Inades Foundation (T), issued this appeal at an event to mark the World Donkey Day otherwise slated for May 8 but organised in the capital yesterday.

Stakeholders said that Tanzania, like other 53 countries, has stopped trading in the animal in ways that infringe the animal's well-being or lead to slaughter, saying it was a good move but should also declare donkeys as being on the verge of extinction.

They said that throughout history, donkeys have served in some of the most challenging terrains and forbidding situations with remarkable endurance, appreciating efforts of the government to improve the animal's existence and population stability.

The world day was marked under the theme "Year of Donkey Species Preservation in Africa." To sew what Africa needs to do in recognizing the donkey's environmental value and focusing on the

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# MPs decry chronic govt debts to media agencies

*Higher levels of the government had already issued instructions on this matter and the ministry is working to supervise to ensure that all the debts are cleared*

By Guardian Reporter

CHRONIC government debts to various media outlets have greatly affected media development, the legislature was told yesterday.

Elibariki Kingu (Singida West) said, referring to reports that the government owes the media a total of 19bn/- piling up for over seven years at present, with many media companies having a harrowing time.

The tough condition makes life for their staff even harder, even turning them into beggars, he said, contributing to debate on the Information, Communication and Information Technology budget estimates for fiscal 2024/25 yesterday.

MPs urged that the government clear the debts to enable the industry to grow, referred to a study conducted in 2017 affirming that media stations by up to 80 to 85 percent depend on government expenditure to make ends meet.

Insisting that the concern is of good intention, they said that there is no way that media stations can grow and fulfil their obligation if they are grossly short of the funds they need, so government spending in advertisements stimulates media development.

MPs urged the Treasury to pay the media the relevant amounts to facilitate their growth, as the owed amount was far too high. It prevents the media from engaging in reporting or evaluation work that demands time and spot visits, holding back a vital contribution to transparency and feedback on development efforts.

Esther Bulaya (Special Seats-Opposition) asked that the government set aside

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# Hospital waste: NEMC sets 90 days for correct disposal

By Henry Mwangonde

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC) has issued a 90 days deadline for hospitals and health centres to erect sites for disposal of hospital wastes.

Hamad Taimuru Kissiwa, NEMC acting head of environmental compliance and enforcement said at a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the health institutions could contract specialised companies for the task, after the council

noticed uncontrolled disposal of hospital wastes along city beaches.

There is a tendency among healthcare providers of handing the disposal of medical wastes to unprofessional individuals who end disposing of them anywhere, he said, noting that medical wastes are dangerous as they can cause a deadly public health concern.

They are a mixture of drugs, chemicals and remainders of serious pathological procedures, in which case the relevant authorities need to "ensure they register

with the ministry responsible so that they are given proper ways to dispose of waste in line with the law," he declared.

The wastes include injection syringes, wet bandages and blades in particular, which can lead to spread of diseases if not well disposed, he stated, intimating that council staff will be conducting inspections.

"The Environmental Management Act of 2004 section 191 and its regulations describes the best ways to dispose of

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## SPORTS

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Champions League qualification on the line as Simba meet Dodoma Jiji

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Esperance, Ahly resume great African club rivalry in final

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Gamondi avoids resting on his laurels after Yanga's PL triumph





## Govt readies rules on use of artificial intelligence

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for the use of recent technologies, updating the registration of ICT experts while conducting research on the direction of ICT development.

ICT colleges are slated for Nala area in Dodoma and Buhigwe in Kigoma, along with setting up the national ICT data management system, he said, alluding to major initiatives in the country's space programmes with the establishment of the Tanzania Space Agency.

It will promote the use of satellite technologies in facilitating access to communication services with emphasis on defence and security, research, disaster response and weather forecasting, he said.

Plans are being made for a targeted programme where young people can develop ICT skills at all levels, he said, pointing at nine projects for the provision of reliable and cost-effective information services.

The thrust is placed on creating an environment that promotes creativity, taking the country into the digital economy, he said, raising intentions to connect the information of every citizen into a digital account enabling access to digital services in various situations.

The Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) plans to educate the

public on the correct use of communication services, while the ministry seeks to pursue the setting up of an Accreditation Board, an Independent Press Council and a Journalists' Fund, plus revitalizing functions of government information officers.

He listed six regions as reporting a large number of fraud incidents online, namely Rukwa, Morogoro, Dar es Salaam, Tabora, Songwe and Mwanza.

Statistics show that registered mobile phone lines have increased from 62.3m in April 2023 to 72.5m lines in April 2024, a 16.4 percent increase, while internet users increased from 33.1m in April 2023 to 36.8m in April 2024, an 11.2 percent equal increase.

Phone lines used to send and receive money through the mobile phone network increased from 44.3m in April 2023 to 53.0m in April 2024, an 8.7 percent increase, he further noted, welcoming comments on the artificial intelligence guidelines.

This includes the strategy for conducting ICT research and innovation, national guidelines for information exchange, national social expenditure guide, information technology monitoring plus an evaluation and cyber security strategy, he added.



Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) director general Abdul-Razaq Badru (R) and Suzan Kaganda (C), Tanzania Police Commissioner of Administration and Human Resources Management, and other officials pictured yesterday leaving the Dar es Salaam venue of a meeting where some 200 senior police officers in-charge of pension matters were trained on how to submit documents to the fund digitally. The two-day training was jointly organised by PSSSF and Police headquarters. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## MPs decry chronic govt debts to media agencies

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at least 0.3 percent of the annual budget to pay media debts.

For media companies to grow and execute their functions effectively, the government needs to pay them as their staff needs to be paid, while media organs need funds for general operations, she said.

Many media companies fail to submit employees' contributions to social security funds due to the hard situation arising from the government failing to pay their debts on time, she stated, while Erick Shigongo (Buchosa) said the current situation within media companies pushes scores of media companies to extinction. Without media there is no development, so government institutions need to ensure they coordinate their actions such that they contribute to the development of

media firms by paying out overdue debts.

Responding to the concerns, minister Nape Nnauye promised to supervise to ensure that the debts are paid, also acknowledging MPs' advice on what the government can do to start providing subsidies to media agencies.

He assured media practitioners unwavering support from the government, asking them not to worry as the government recognises the challenges they face, emphasizing that all valid claims will be settled.

Higher levels of the government had already issued instructions on this matter and the ministry is working to supervise to ensure that all the debts are cleared. "I will act hard on all institutions which will be found intentionally delaying the payments," he vowed.

## Dr Mpango preaches conservation at cleric Ruwa'ichi's silver jubilee

By Correspondent James Kandoya

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has appealed to Tanzanians to stop all activities that contribute to deforestation and climate change to make Tanzania and the world a better place.

Dr Mpango made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the silver jubilee of episcopal service of Catholic Archbishop of Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam Jude Thaddaeus Ruwa'ichi.

He said that for Tanzanians, thanksgiving should be meaningful for them by conserving the environment.

"As a country we must take initiative of protecting and conserving the environment. Every one of us must be good ambassador

by protecting the environment as well as maintaining peace," he said.

He commended the cleric for the service in the church and the country, including his contribution to the establishment of St Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT) in Mwanza.

"Your silver episcopal service jubilee has reminded us to work hard to serve people and ensure our country remains centre of peace," he said.

Dr Mpango also reminded the public to take time and care of the elderly who need assistance when they become weak.

Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Angelo Accattino congratulated the Archbishop for a silver jubilee of episcopal service.

"The church appreciates your

service and wishes you a long life. Your contribution is manifested through many benefits. Please continue to serve the people of this diocese and the entire church," he said.

Archbishop Gervais Nyaisonga, President of the Tanzanian Episcopal Conference (TEC) also congratulated Ruwa'ichi for his silver jubilee of episcopal service.

"TEC congratulates you for your silver jubilee. It's a time to thank, forgive and further work hard," he said.

Ruwa'ichi expressed gratitude for the grace granted upon him since he was consecrated as bishop. He also thanked the government and clergies for the collaboration that enabled him to perform his duties.

"On this auspicious occasion, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the grace granted upon me. Let us continue to collaborate," he said.

Rev Henry Mchamungu, Auxiliary Bishop Dar es Salaam, handed over 150m/-cash gift to Ruwa'ichi on behalf of diocese clergies for his silver jubilee of episcopal service.

He said Archbishop Ruwa'ichi became the Dares Salaam Archbishop after his predecessor Cardinal Polycarp Pengo retired. Since he assumed office, the number of parishes increased to 162 in 2024 from 116 in 2019. Archbishop Ruwa'ichi has previously served in three dioceses of Mbulu, Dodoma, and Mwanza.

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## Hospital waste: NEMC sets 90 days for correct disposal

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hospital wastes and gives the Ministry of Health the overall role of administering the disposal of hospital wastes," he explained.

"In recent days the council has noted with concern the rate of violations of environmental management laws and how some hospitals are disposing of medical wastes which are harmful to the environment," he specified.

The law gives NEMC the power to enforce environmental management laws to protect the health of

the general public and the environment, he affirmed, underlining that hospital staff must properly contain, store and potentially treat medical waste.

Then they have to contract professionals to remove the waste from the facility as waste professionals can safely gather the waste from the proper storage area and transport it for permanent disposal elsewhere. The council is working with several stakeholders to regulate the proper disposal of medical wastes for general public interest, he added.



Hamad Taimuru, acting Director of Compliance and Law Enforcement with the National Environment Management Council, addresses journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He is with NEMC communications manager Irene John (R) and North East region manager Glory Kombe. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## 'Declare donkeys an endangered species'

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threat to its existence.

"Let the government include donkeys among the endangered species of animals in the country, being part of the effort to expand the animal's welfare and protection," the director underlined, noting that this would give the donkey similar treatment like other highly protected animals regarded to be under serious threat.

Policies, regulations and laws ought to be in place for greater protection of the animal, he said, elaborating that the public authorities and stakeholders decided to convene a week-long public education on donkey welfare, concluded at its national climax today.

Inades Foundation (IT) initiated a project on donkey welfare in Singida and Iringa districts starting 2019 to educate villagers keeping donkeys, on better methods of tending

to this type of livestock.

Livingstone Masija, CEO for the Arusha Society for the Protection of Animals (ASPA) said that the animal is the second most profitable domestic animal after cattle, praising the government for the ban on slaughtering donkeys.

Through the ban the government has acknowledged the importance of the animal that helps rural based communities to simplify their day to day tasks, he said, urging veterinarians to make available drugs for treatment of diseases associated with donkeys. Such drugs are not easily accessible to farmers, he affirmed.

Sarah Meteli, a resident of Migoli ward in Iringa District and a donkey keeper, acknowledges the importance of donkey to her family, explaining that without the donkey life would be miserable as the animal "helps to bring food on the table in different ways."

## African countries unveil initiative to fight new health emergencies

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

AFRICAN countries have launched an ambitious initiative to cope with health emergencies that have escalated on the continent due to climate change.

The Health Emergency Preparedness, Response and Resilience Programme (HEPRR) project for Eastern and Southern Africa worth \$1billion is expected to transform public health response.

Kenyan Health Cabinet Secretary Susan Nakhumicha said the launch of the World Bank-backed project will strengthen the continent's re-

sponse to infectious diseases and other public health threats.

According to Nakhumicha, communicable diseases such as Ebola, Marburg, yellow fever, and chikungunya have put pressure on Africa's health systems and compromised quality service delivery.

Nakhumicha urged governments to enhance response and resilience through public health surveillance, pharmaceutical and vaccine manufacturing, and building resilience to climate-related risks.

Keith Hansen, World Bank country director for Kenya, urged African countries to redouble their

efforts in preparing for disease outbreaks, adding that domestic manufacturing of vaccines will boost response to health emergencies.

Yoswa Dambisya, director-general for the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community, said part of the funding will be used to start domestic manufacturing of vaccines on the continent.

Workneh Gebeyehu, executive secretary of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, an East African bloc, said the initiative's launch is timely because it will help the region recover from

the negative health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gebeyehu added that the seven-year program will build on the experiences the continent has gained from fighting COVID-19, cholera, and Ebola outbreaks.

The first phase of the project, valued at \$359 million will be implemented in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sao Tome and Principe, while the second phase will cover Burundi, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Malawi, while the third phase will cover Angola, Somalia and Tanzania.





Jude Thaddeus Ruwa'ichi (2nd-R), Catholic Church Archbishop of Dar es Salaam since August 15, 2019, pictured in the city yesterday lighting a candle in marking the 25th anniversary of his episcopal consecration. Born on December 30, 1954, he was ordained a priest on November 25, 1981. Pope John Paul II appointed him Bishop on February 9, 1999. He received his episcopal consecration on May 16, 1999, with the Pope appointing him Archbishop of Dodoma on January 15, 2005. Photo: VPO

## Ministry seeks to have more villages in conservation roles

By Guardian Reporter

THE government is developing strategies to ensure Tanzanians consider destructive wild animals such as elephants as an opportunity, a move aimed at encouraging people to fully participate in conservation activities and protection of corridors.

The decisions to come up with the strategies follows increased incidences of human wildlife conflicts (HWC) in villages bordering national parks where the animals have been invading people's farms, causing damage to crops and properties.

The strategies involve identifying wildlife corridors in the villages as well as helping them to prepare land use plans. Successful execution of the plans would enhance conservation activities and boost the tourism industry.

Fortunata Msofe, Director of Wildlife Department in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism made the remarks in Dar es Salaam early this week when speaking at a breakfast debate organized by Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET).

She said under the strategy, the government has already identified 61 wildlife corridors countrywide where they will start with restoration of 20 corridors located at places where there are recurrent HWC.

Msofe added that in collaboration with the President's Office (Regional Administrations and Local Government) they have been providing education to villagers on the importance of wildlife conservation which includes protection of corridors.

"We also assist villagers to come up with alternative income generating activities instead of relying on forests," she said, adding that to ensure proper implementation of the strategies, in 2022 the government prepared a five-year Wildlife Conservation Plan which seeks to ensure wildlife safe passage and benefit villagers.

Hawa Mwechaga, Chief Wildlife Officer and Coordinator of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change in the President's Office (Regional Administrations and Local Government)

said their responsibility is to ensure that villagers benefit from the resources and take care of them.

She said the government is currently investing in carbon trade whereby the generated income is directed to development projects in the villages.

"We have villages that are doing well and earn a lot of money. Tanganyika District for instance has eight villages which are set to receive 14bn/- . Through forest conservation, 250 people secured jobs and health insurance," she said.

Mwechaga said that more than 50 percent of the country's forests are under the President's Office (Regional Administrations and Local Government). Of the number, 21 million hectares are at village level and 3.5 million hectares at district level.

## CRDB to launch branches in three more African countries

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame,

Arusha

AFTER starting to make profit from its Burundi subsidiary, CRDB Bank is set to expand its services to Zambia, the Comoros and Uganda, it has been announced.

Speaking in Arusha yesterday at the CRDB Annual Shareholders Meeting, Chairperson of CRDB Board of Directors Ally Laay said that in 2023, the company experienced a blend of successes and challenges.

On success, Laay said that some of the bank's subsidiaries made positive contributions to the group's

performance, notably CRDB Bank Burundi S.A. which achieved 30.7 percent year-on-year growth in profits after tax (PAT), reaching 30.2bn/-.

"The Burundi subsidiary is marking a 10-year milestone with an impressive performance," said Laay, adding that it was the right time for the group to expand to eastern and southern Africa regions.

"We will start with Zambia and then sail across to the Comoros as well as Uganda and later Rwanda," he said.

Abdulmajid Nsekela, CRDB Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, said the group has advanced with the implementation

of its new medium-term strategy.

"Our bank made significant progress in financial performance by capitalizing on opportunities within our markets," he said.

CRDB Group boasts PAT amounting to 422.8bn/- in the financial year ending 2023, marking 20.3 percent year-on-year growth from the previous 351.4bn/- that was realized in 2022.

According to the Bank's yearly report, this milestone represents the highest profit ever recorded in CRDB's history, showcasing the group's potential as an organization.

As result, the bank has upped dividend payments per share from 45/- to 50/-. This year, a total of

130.6bn/- will be disbursed to the bank's shareholders following the group's profits.

Still, all is not sunny with the Bank's undertakings because CRDB's newly established subsidiaries, Insurance Company Limited and CRDB DR Congo recorded losses of 1.7bn/- and 4.2bn/- respectively.

The total subsidiary contribution to the group profit after tax stood at 6 percent, indicating a growing potential for profitability.

But as far as the board chairperson is concerned, CRDB Group is committed to sustaining this growth trajectory by continuing to invest in new opportunities.

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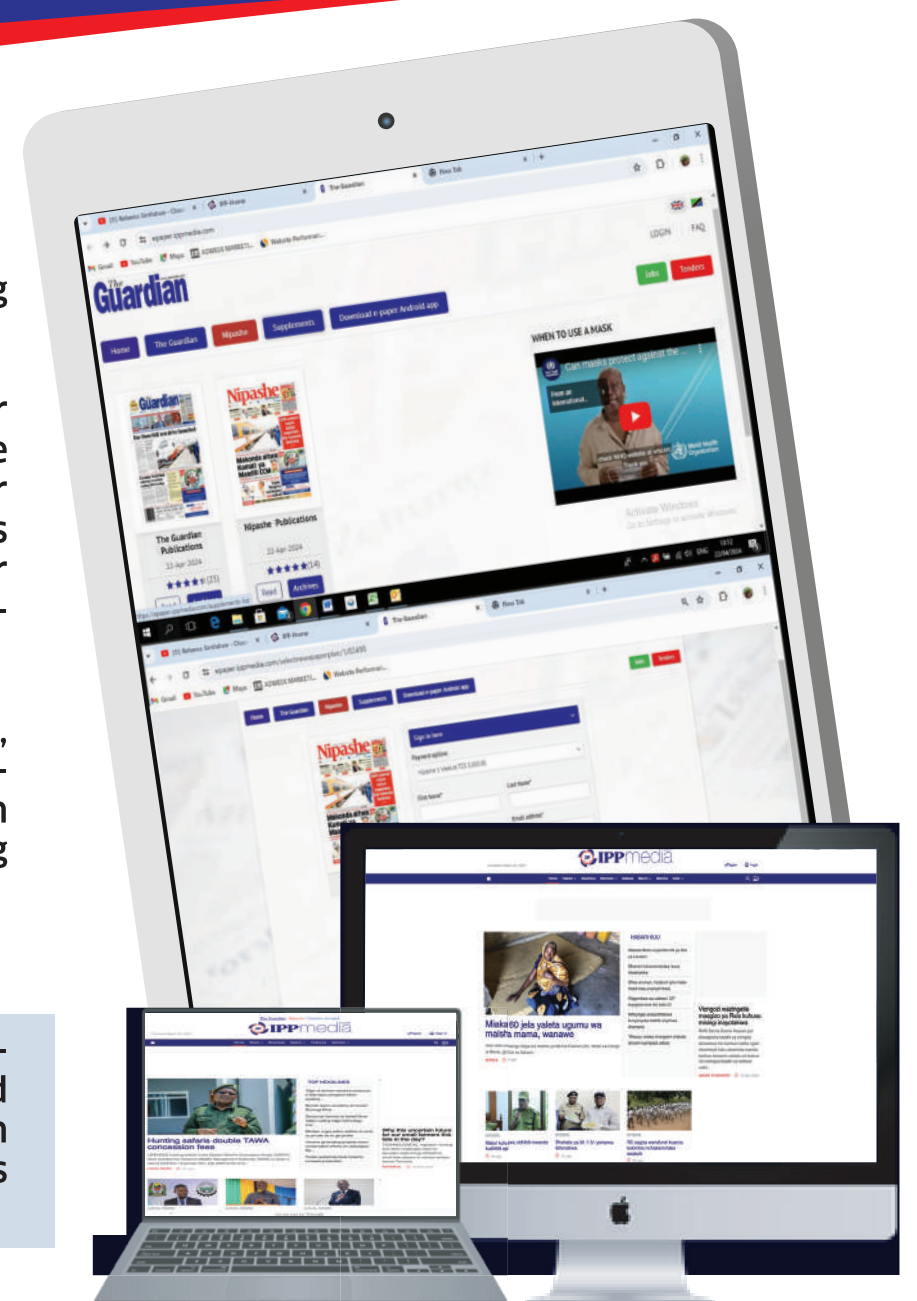
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## ACT boycotts Kwahani poll rerun, wants INEC commissioner to quit

By Guardian Reporter

THE opposition ACT-Wazalendo has said it will boycott a rerun election in Kwahani Constituency in Zanzibar which is scheduled to take place on 8th June this year.

In a statement released yesterday and signed by party's publicity secretary Salim Bimani, the party said the decision to boycott the poll was reached during a national governing council meeting which sat under its legal mandate as stipulated in the party's constitution.

The council which met yesterday also called for the resignation of the current Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

"This decision has been reached and this is the position of our party that after the adoption of the law of the Independent Electoral

Commission, we want the existing commission to resign to pave way for new commissioners and the new secretariat of the Independent Electoral Commission," the statement reads.

The statement went on to state that the Independent Electoral Commission Act requires membership of the commission to be available to Tanzanians to apply and be interviewed.

"The current commissioners do not have the authority to continue to manage this repeat election and other upcoming elections," the statement reads.

The party said it has been opposing the legitimacy of the commission for a long time by asking its members to resign in order to allow another process to take place.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has an audience with Inspector General of Police Camilius Wambura in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: PMO

## Tanzanian historians appeal for African integration in new book

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

A NEW book titled 'Hurdles and Prospects of African Integration' was launched in Nairobi yesterday emphasizing African unity and integration to fight development threats.

Authored by Tanzanian historians Dr Maximilian Julius Chuhila and Dr James Zotto, the book was exposed at Kenyatta University Conference Centre after recording success in Tanzania.

Its launch saw the participation of a huge number of Kenyatta University academicians and historians especially experts from the Departments of History and Social Sciences.

Speaking during the launch, the authors called for a collective African integration, arguing that separatism and separation do not defend the interests of Africa as a unified content in terms of culture and customs in spite of its ethnic and linguistic diversity.

According to them, unity and integration are the soft arms to face any outside threat.

The historians called for an effective and constructive dialogue based on common man interests in order to put an end to the long-term conflict between Morocco and the Saharawi taking into consideration the efforts made by the United Nations and the African union to end the historical dispute.

## Call for civility as city sewer line clogged with hard waste

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda, Mwanza

RESIDENTS of Mwanza city have been called on to ensure proper use of sewerage system to end the current clogging caused by dumping of hard waste.

The call was made yesterday by Mohamed Saif, acting head of the communication and public relations unit at Mwanza Urban Water and Sanitation Authority (MWAUWASA) when speaking to journalists.

Saif noted that currently, some people dump hard materials such as sanitary pads in the sewerage system that block liquid waste from passing, hence causing environmental hazards.

He said that some food vendors dealing with frying chips in the city centre dump food waste and dirt generated from their activities in the sewerage system and cause blockage.

Network of sewerage system that has been built in hills and plain

land in the city was designed to transport liquid waste only, not other materials, he said.

Saif said that there is a team of MWAUWASA staff that works 24 hours to attend to problems related to the sewerage system in a bid to ensure that it does not cause disturbance to people all the time.

According to him, MWAUWASA recently improved its 24 sewerage system chambers so that they are not easily blocked by sand washed away by rain water after they were

identified in collaboration with Mtaa leaders in the city.

He said that people should not take away covers on sewerage system chambers, noting that the acts catalyse improper use of the system that has cost the government a lot of money.

"When chambers are not covered, this makes it easy for some people to dump hard materials in the system and cause blockage hence spill of sewerage in the streets," he said.

swissport

### Dividend Declaration Notice

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of TZS 51.33 per share in respect of the financial year ending 31 December 2023 has been proposed by the Board of Directors. Pursuant to this declaration, shareholders are advised to observe the following:

<b>Dividend Declaration Date:</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>
<b>Trading of shares cum Dividend:</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to 06<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>
<b>Trading of shares Ex Dividend:</b>	<b>07<sup>th</sup> June 2024 onwards</b>
<b>Closure of the Members Register:</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>
<b>(Books Closure Date)</b>	
<b>Dividend Payment Date:</b>	<b>05<sup>th</sup> July 2024</b>

Shareholders are requested to submit and update their payment details at the Share Registry Office to enable the timely payment of their dividends.

The contact details of the Shares Registry Office are as follows:

CAD Securities Limited (CAD).  
Ubungu Plaza Limited, 2nd Floor.  
P.O.Box 11488  
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Tanzania

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Assistant Inspector of Police Michael Rasha from Biro ward in Malinyi District, Morogoro Region, pictured yesterday preparing to test-ride one of five motorcycles Home Affairs minister Hamad Masauuni (4th-R) had just presented to police officers who excelled in popularising the Community Police concept last year. Photo courtesy of Police Hqs

## National NGOs council urges members to contest in polls

By Getrude Mbago

THE National Council of Non-Government Organisations (NaCoNGO) has called upon its members to contest in the council's upcoming election to fill vacant positions.

Scheduled to commence later this month for various positions, the polls will involve electing leaders at the national, regional and district levels who are chairman, secretary and treasurer, chairpersons of sub-committees and board members.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday, chairperson of leadership transition committee Christina Ruhinda said the election is conducted as per the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) Act, 2016.

"Vying for various leadership positions in the council as well as voting is a constitutional right. So, it is important for all eligible members to utilise the opportunity to continue advocating for the country's development," she said.

Ruhinda said the transition committee consists of 10 members who are NaCoNGO leaders and that the election process is set to be completed on June 30, this year.

She said the election takes time because it needs to start at district and regional levels before electing national leaders.

## 'Govt to disburse all project funds within financial year'

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has said that the Ministry of Finance will disburse funds allocated to each ministry so that all development projects are completed within this financial year.

Majaliwa said this in the National Assembly yesterday during questions to PM session when responding to Hai MP Saashisha Mafuwe who wanted to know the government's plans to accomplish strategic projects in this fiscal year.

He also said that the government has directed that all civil servants with claims of various entitlements will be paid on time to resolve issues that affect their morale at work.

The premier was responding to Special Seats MP Kunti Majala who asked what the government will do to address the issue of unpaid entitlements claimed by civil servants in the country.

He said that the government has urged heads of departments to continue to review arrears of public servants and coordinate their payment properly.

"All these efforts are to ensure that employees are not discouraged from working by demanding their rights for a long time."

## 'Most of hypertension sufferers are not aware of their condition'

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

ABOUT 60 percent of people with high blood pressure in the country do not realize that they have the problem because studies show that out of 10 people, three have the condition.

Dr Tulizo Shemu, Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) Dar Group acting director, said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday when briefing journalists ahead of today's World Hypertension Day.

"High blood pressure does not have specific symptoms but there are a few symptoms that can appear if someone gets this condition, including frequent headaches, unclear vision, fast heart beat as well as chest pain," he said.

Dr Shemu said JKCI celebrates that day by conducting free hypertension tests today and tomorrow at JKCI Dar Group Hospital with the aim of creating awareness on the condition.

"This year's slogan calls us to be careful on statistics by diagnosing hypertension correctly and those diagnosed with the condition should get treatment," he said.

Dr Shemu said that according to statistics taken from patients being treated at JKCI in 2023, out of 125,927 patients who received treatment, 42 percent had high blood pressure.

"The effects of high blood pressure include stroke, kidney failure, heart attack, heart failure, swollen legs, coldness in body parts, difficulty in breathing, lack of energy and problems with the reproductive system," he said.

Dr Sulende Kubhoja, cardiologist for children at JKCI, said that the problem of high blood pressure also affects children and the condition is caused by other problems that a child has.

She said that in marking the day, people should not forget to take children for free screening at JKCI which is scheduled to take place alongside awareness about the disease.

"Often if you find a child with high or low blood pressure, it happens that the child has kidney problems or other problems in the organs that communicate in the body", she said.

Dr Kubhoja said there are some children who suffer from high blood pressure due to diseases of the respiratory system as well as blood vessel problems.

"When we find a child with a problem of high blood pressure, we conduct examination by looking at every part of the child's body to identify the problematic part and treat it," she said.



## TANZANIA PORTLAND CEMENT PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

We faced a weak market at the beginning of the year due to heavy rains, projects slow down and export drops. Despite these challenges, March has showed better performance in terms of sales and results. Overall, the quarter revenue declined by 24% whereas the profit before tax declined by 34% year on year.

On the other hand, there is a positive trend and better performance at operational level in terms of clinker production, heat consumption, alternative fuels consumption, among others. Efficiency and quality improvement played a vital role in this quarter's performance, and we remain loyal to our top priority, which is customer centricity.


### Prospects

In spite of cement demand slowing down in the first quarter, we are optimistic about market recovery in the coming months.

### Appreciation

The Board would like to thank all its stakeholders for their support. We have every confidence that TPC PLC will continue to deliver value for the shareholders and community.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

  
Hakan Gurdal  
Chairman of the Board

### STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

TZS '000	2024	2023
Revenue from contracts with customers	102,652,662	135,892,258
Cost of sales	(76,425,963)	(96,140,826)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>26,226,699</b>	<b>39,751,432</b>
Other operating income	151,228	242,248
Selling and marketing expenses	(823,567)	(718,016)
Administrative expenses	(5,291,684)	(5,621,153)
Other operating expenses	(308,742)	(409,355)
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>19,953,934</b>	<b>33,245,156</b>
Finance income	706,866	1,082,485
Finance costs	(175,005)	(161,611)
Net gain on foreign currency translation	2,608,989	922,646
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<b>23,094,784</b>	<b>35,088,676</b>
Income tax expense	(7,090,142)	(10,757,897)
<b>Profit for the year</b>	<b>16,004,642</b>	<b>24,330,779</b>

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

TZS '000	2024	2023
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	137,809,294	139,954,546
Intangible assets	850,685	797,217
Leasehold land	946,124	973,970
Right of Use assets	171,835	3,501,560
Other financial assets	214,000	564,000
	<b>139,991,938</b>	<b>145,791,293</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Inventories	82,956,165	88,086,153
Trade receivables	55,729,598	65,327,973
Other short-term operating receivables	20,439,804	23,047,980
Other financial assets	540,000	600,000
Current income tax receivable	4,914,367	-
Cash and cash equivalent	150,165,921	111,181,738
	<b>314,745,720</b>	<b>288,243,844</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>454,737,793</b>	<b>434,035,137</b>
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Equity</b>		
Authorised, issued and fully paid-up share capital	3,598,462	3,598,462
Retained earnings	340,963,931	320,471,391
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>344,562,393</b>	<b>324,069,853</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Lease liabilities	194,450	194,450
Employment benefit liabilities	6,033,334	5,502,204
Provision for quarry site restoration	4,821,046	4,485,490
Deferred income tax liability	9,613,819	9,322,437
	<b>20,662,649</b>	<b>19,504,581</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Lease liabilities	-	3,614,921
Current income tax payable	-	9,289
Trade and other payables	76,207,649	70,942,631
Provisions	10,583,245	13,049,775
Dividend payable	2,721,857	2,844,085
	<b>89,512,751</b>	<b>90,460,703</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>454,737,793</b>	<b>434,035,137</b>



## Women, youth get set for climate-smart agriculture practices empowerment

By Francis Kajubi

A TOTAL of 175,282 women and young smallholder farmers are set to get training on smart climate agriculture best practices through a six-year project to be implemented in three regions in the southern highlands.

Dubbed "Her Resilience, Our Planet", the 2024/30 project funded by the Global Affairs Canada at a tune of 20.5 million Canadian dollar (38bn/-) is expected to generate an extra 408,992 indirect employment opportunities for women and youth.

Christina John, Senior Fundraising Manager at CARE Tanzania which implements the project, said at the launch on Wednesday in Mkuranga District, Coast Region that the project will be implemented within Mbarali and Ithemba clusters of the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) in Iringa, Njombe and Mbeya regions.

"The project aims at conserving the Great Ruaha River ecology from the threat of being destroyed by promoting smart climate sustainable farming along the river," she said.

According to her, human activities along the Ruaha River and its feeders such as subsistence farming, livestock keeping and unauthorized irrigation farming threaten sustainability of the river in the wake of climate change.

She said the project will be implemented in five districts of the three regions namely Mbarali, Iringa, Kilolo, Wanging'ombe and Mufindi.

The project will focus on several focal areas such as capacity building for smallholder farmers on climate change so that they make right decisions on issues related to agriculture.

The project will further focus on strengthening extension services and block farming. It will also address weaknesses related to post-harvest losses and to link farmers with providers of farm input services.

"The project will also train beneficiaries on the best ways of harvesting rain water and train water user associations and committees to manage sustainable water consumption in the areas of the project," she said.

She said that implementation of the project features other institutions for offering knowledge and skills to beneficiaries on issues related to climate change and gender equality.

The institutions are Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP), Conservation Farming Unit (CFU), SAGCOT Centre, Shahidi wa Maji and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

Ahmed Hussien, Minister of International Development of Canada said the project is part of 5.3 billion Canadian dollar commitment at international level to fighting climate change implications.

"We are investing in this project for the resilience of the planet earth especially by linking climate action and gender equality. The project also focuses on agriculture business practices to empower women and youth to generate income," he said.

David Silinde, Deputy Minister for Agriculture who graced the project launch event, said that the project is expected to bring about a transformative change among benefiting smallholder farmers.

"Through this project the government makes a request for action on increased sustainable food crop production across the country from other development partners," he said.



Shabani Maliyatabu (R) from the Tanzania Health and Environment Care Organisation, a CSO, participates in tree planting alongside Dar es Salaam regional CCM women's wing chairperson Mwajabu Mbwambo at the city's Kinyerezi Health Centre on Tuesday. Photo: Correspondent Halfan Chusi

## DC asks for sustainability of digital learning project

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya,

Iringa

MUFINDI District Commissioner Dr Linda Selekwia has urged head masters of 10 secondary schools which implement Education Technology (Edtech) to ensure proper management of the project to maintain confidence of the sponsors and attract further investment.

Dr Selekwia made the appeal here recently during Edtech Committees Forum, emphasizing the importance of meeting donors' expectations to continue receiving opportunities in Iringa Region.

"I believe you will not let us down. We will continue to work hard, and with your cooperation, we can ensure the success of this

project. Let us not forget that this initiative is aimed at benefiting our children. We have every reason to support our youth and those who are being supported should be the first to encourage others," she said.

"I urge you to help us manage and implement the necessary measures to ensure that our people remain motivated. We may be surprised to see more schools benefiting from this wonderful opportunity in the future. You are the reason other schools can have such an opportunity."

Selekwia said that the Lyra in Africa organization provided 33 computers to schools taking part in the project, which enhanced pupils' understanding of technology and provided teachers with various teaching materials.

"The undeniable truth is that we cannot survive in a world without technology. This initiative helps us adapt to the technological changes happening globally and access materials through networks," she said.

Diana Nisiima, Lyra Tanzania consultant said that the goal of the forum was to develop a strategy to effectively run the project in schools, especially focusing on repairing damaged equipment and incorporating ICT into school schedules.

"At the beginning, the institution provided computers without a clear strategy, leading to equipment damage and theft due to insufficient support in building leadership capacity. The Edtech forum aims to address these issues," she said.

Maria Spink, founder of Lyra in Africa, said that the organization has built 15 hostels to assist female pupils from remote areas to avoid walking long distances to and from school.

Willbard Yanga, Iringa Regional Education Officer, attributed increased academic achievement in schools to the digital education project, highlighting improvements in exam scores.

"Provision of computers and the use of online methods for teaching through projectors have been a catalyst for improved academic performance," he said.

Nikuluka Mbonea, Iringa Regional ICT Advisor, called on school principals to report challenges in computer usage to receive assistance and prevent equipment damage.

GENESIS  
SCHOOLS

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REF: 0269/GEN/2024  
7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT Board of Directors

Are you passionate about shaping the future of education in Tanzania? Do you possess the skills and expertise to guide a dynamic educational institution towards greater success? Genesis Schools Tanzania Limited (GNS) invites visionary leaders to apply for vacant positions on its Board of Directors, effective from the 1st day of August 2024.

**About GNS:** Established in 2002 under the laws of Tanzania, GNS is committed to providing quality education to empower the next generation. With our registered office located at Ali Bin Said Road, Oyster Bay, P.O. Box 3550, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, we stand as a beacon of educational excellence in the region.

**Join a Managed and Passionate Board:** At GNS, we believe in effective governance and prudent management. Our Board boasts a manageable size, ensuring efficient decision-making and impactful leadership. We seek individuals who are driven by integrity, dedicated to GNS's interests, and committed to serving without personal bias.

**Qualifications Needed:** We are seeking individuals with specific expertise to complement our Board's composition:

#### Board's composition:

- One member with a PhD or Master's in Law, possessing expertise in legal matters related to educational institutions.
- Another member with a PhD or Master's in Education, bringing extensive knowledge of international education, particularly the Cambridge curriculum.
- The third member should be a CPA holder with PhD or Masters in Finance/Accountancy with a background in business management and leadership, along with experience in school accounting systems, tax, and business laws.

**Responsibilities of Board Members:** As a member of the GNS Board of Directors, you will play a pivotal role in shaping our organization's future.

#### Key responsibilities include:

- Defining our mission and purpose.
- Selecting key personnel and providing oversight.
- Ensuring financial stability and resource allocation.
- Upholding legal and ethical standards.
- Engaging in strategic planning and organizational development.
- Enhancing our public image and stakeholder relations.
- Monitoring and improving our curriculum and services.
- Supporting and evaluating the performance of our principal.

**Adherence to Ethical Standards:** Board members at GNS are expected to uphold the highest standards of conduct and accountability, including fulfilling the duty of care, loyalty, and obedience outlined in our Code of Ethics.

**Join Us in Transforming Education:** If you are ready to make a difference in the lives of students and contribute to the growth of our community, we invite you to apply for a position on the GNS Board of Directors. Together, let's embark on a journey of educational excellence and innovation.

To apply, please submit your resume and a cover letter detailing your qualifications and motivation to serve on our Board. Applications should be sent to [principal@genesisschools.co.tz](mailto:principal@genesisschools.co.tz) by Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

Join GNS and be a part of a transformative educational journey!  
Genesis Schools Tanzania Limited,  
Ali Bin Said Road, Oyster Bay,  
P.O. Box 3550, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

Every Child Counts, Every Moment Matters

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Cambridge Assessment  
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Room  
to  
Read

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Tanzania Girls' Education Program Impact Evaluation  
RFP No: 001/RtR-TZ/GEP/2024

Founded in 2000 on the belief that World Change Starts with Educated Children®, Room to Read is creating a world free from illiteracy and gender inequality. Learn more at [www.roomtoread.org](http://www.roomtoread.org)

Room to Read Tanzania invites sealed Proposals from eligible Consultants to perform a **Tanzania Girls' Education Program Impact Evaluation**.

Bidding is open to all eligible Consultants Locally Registered with the Tanzania Government.

Package	Description	Estimated date of delivery
A	Tanzania Girls' Education Program Impact Evaluation	August 2024

Envelopes containing sealed bids must be marked with the procurement reference number and name as indicated above.

A complete set of Bidding Document and Terms of Reference in English may be inspected and collected at zero cost from the address given below from **17/05/2024 to 03/06/2024** from **09:00 am to 4:00 pm** Monday to Friday excluding Public Holidays. Proposals must be delivered to the address below by or before **04/06/2024 at 10:00am**.

Late Proposals, electronic proposals, portion proposal and Proposals not received and opened in public at the Proposal opening ceremony shall be rejected. Proposals will be opened in the presence of the Consultants' representatives who choose to attend at the address below at **10:00am of 04/06/2024** immediately after closure time of Proposal receipt.

All rights reserve with the Room to Read pertaining to the rejection, acceptance and cancellation of bids with or without reasons whatsoever.

Secretary of the Procurement Committee  
Room to Read Tanzania  
Tanzania Country Office,  
Mlimani City Office Park,  
Block No. 5,  
P. O. Box 105459,  
Dar es Salaam - Tanzania.  
Phone +255 222 772388





# Request For Expression of Interest Supply of Goods, Works and Services

1. Absa Bank Tanzania Limited (Registered number 38557) is part of Absa Group Limited, an African financial services group that aims to be the pride of the continent. The bank, committed to finding right solutions to uniquely local challenges, offers a range of retail, business, corporate and investment, and wealth management solutions.
2. Absa Bank Tanzania Ltd is expanding its database of potential eligible, experienced and competent suppliers to partner with for the provision of supply of goods, works and services as tabulated in item 5 of this advertisement. We are hereby inviting interested parties to share their contact information for future collaboration opportunities. Central to the Economic Social Governance (ESG) Framework and driven by our organization purpose of "Empowering Africa's tomorrow, together, one story at a time", we have put a specific emphasis on promoting Women Owned Business to thrive and contribute to the overall economic development of our country and we are thus highly encouraging this marginalized group to reach out and present their interest to partner with us.
3. Applications will be conducted according to Absa Bank Tanzania Procurement Policy and Procedures.
4. Only prospective suppliers that demonstrate willingness and commitment to meet the criteria below will be eligible and invited to quote under competitive bidding procedures each time as and when required.
  - a. Company capabilities, experience, competence and eligibility
    - i. Submission of company profile
    - ii. Evidence of at least three years' experience in the related field
    - iii. Demonstration of capabilities in terms of equipment, skills and technology as per requirement in respective tender category
  - b. Legal and Compliance
    - i. Submission of valid business license, certificate of incorporation and BRELA Document 128 Form
    - ii. Submission of all registration certificates from relevant authority
    - iii. Submission of Tanzania Identification Number (TIN) and Value Added Tax (VAT) Certificate (for registered)
    - iv. Evidencing current office physical location
    - v. Submission of correct and updated information of Directors and Shareholders and their scanned copies of Identity Cards (National ID or Passport)
5. The list of services required by the bank is here under, you may enlist for single or more services.
6. Applicants must declare any conflict of interest in relation to any member of Absa Bank Tanzania. The Bank will not procure goods, works or services from suppliers that have not declared conflict of interest for employees that are conflicted.
7. Absa Bank Tanzania Limited shall not be liable for any costs incurred in association with the preparation and submission of the Applicant's expression of interest in regards to this advertisement, nor shall it be enforceable to disclose reasons for not inviting any Applicant to participate in the bidding when required.
8. All information submitted to Absa Bank Tanzania in connection to this expression of interest is to be treated as strictly confidential.
9. Interested and qualified applicants should send their expression of interest to email: [ABTZ-SourcingTeam@absa.africa](mailto:ABTZ-SourcingTeam@absa.africa)
10. Any clarity required for the application of pre-qualification process should be directed to Email: [ABTZ-SourcingTeam@absa.africa](mailto:ABTZ-SourcingTeam@absa.africa); Phone number: +255 746 88 22 68

## A. GOODS & SERVICES

1. Provision of Auctioning and Debt Collection Services
2. Provision of Auditing & Tax Advisory Services
3. Provision of Branding and Signage Activities
4. Provision of Bulk SMS Services
5. Provision of Cash In Transit (CIT) Services
6. Provision of Catering Services
7. Provision of Clearing and Forwarding Services
8. Provision of Courier and Transport Services
9. Provision of Digital and Social Media Services
10. Provision of Digital/Online Newspapers
11. Provision of Engineering Consultancy Services
12. Provision of Entertainment Services (Music & DJ Services)
13. Provision of Event Management Services
14. Provision of Fumigation and Pest Control Services
15. Provision of General Cleanliness
16. Provision of Insurance Services
17. Provision of Internet & Data Services
18. Provision of Legal Services
19. Provision of Marketing and Advertising Services
20. Provision of Media Monitoring, Photography and Video Production
21. Provision of Media Production Services - Still Photography, Videography, Livestreaming Music and Documentary
22. Provision of PR Services
23. Provision of Printing Services For Bank Forms and Other Stock Items
24. Provision of Quantity Surveyors Services
25. Provision of Recruitment and HR Services
26. Provision of Sanitary Services and Hygiene Services
27. Provision of Security and Guarding Services
28. Provision of Service and Maintenance of Network Equipment
29. Provision of Servicing and Maintenances of Data Cabling Services
30. Provision of Trade Marketing Agency Services
31. Provision of Training Services for Absa Bank Tanzania Staff
32. Provision of Transport Services Specifically Vehicle Hire; Saloon Cars, Pick-Ups Double Cabin, Station Wagon, Minibuses and Trucks

33. Supply of Branded Notebooks, Diaries and Calendars
34. Supply of Branded T-Shirts
35. Supply of Customized Branded Trophies and Plaques
36. Supply of Drinking Water for The Dispensers
37. Supply of Fresh Tropical Flowers
38. Supply of Furniture, Fittings, Curtains and Vertical Blinds
39. Supply of General Office Stationery
40. Supply of Households and Kitchen Appliances (TV, Microwaves, Fridges, etc)
41. Supply of ICT Consumables, Accessories, Tonners and Cartridges
42. Supply of ICT Software and Enterprises
43. Supply of Newspapers
44. Supply of Office Equipment
45. Supply of Point of Sales (POS) Machines
46. Supply of Safety Materials & First Aid Kits
47. Supply of Security Safe and Strongroom Doors
48. Supply of Various Customized Gift Hampers
49. Supply of Various Promotional Materials
50. Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Air Conditioners
51. Supply, Installation and Maintenance of CCTV Cameras and Alarm System
52. Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Generators
53. Supply, Repair, Servicing of Fire Extinguishers and Fire Equipment

## B. WORKS

1. Building works Contractors (Minor & Major)
2. Specialized works - Air Conditioning
3. Specialized works - Alternative energy (Solar/UPS/Inverter)
4. Specialized works - CCTV Camera
5. Specialized works - Data cabling
6. Specialized works - Electrical
7. Specialized works - Fire Alarm
8. Specialized works - Intruder Alarm
9. Specialized works - Plumbing works



## Clean cooking energy thrust reshaping global discussions

GLOBAL media outlets have lately echoed the voice of President Samia Suluhu Hassan rooting for a replenishment of support by the African Development Fund within the African Development Bank (AfDB) to include US\$12 billion to enable access to clean cooking energy.

The sourcing of this campaign in the global dialogue is not very clear and, unless those closer to diplomatic initiatives right from the Dubai global climate summit to the present elaborate on the matter, it is President Samia who has championed the cause.

It is a clear slant to the global climate change debate, for clean cooking energy - and it is cause for optimism.

The global debate is usually on the carbon footprint, which basically involves removing fossil fuels like petrol, diesel, heavy furnace oil, coal and even natural gas in favour of renewable energies like solar, hydropower, biogas, wind-farming or the harnessing of the power of oceanic waves for massive generation of electricity.

Much of this is really for the future but the sort of transition that has gained currency in the past decades' climate change global gatherings was the carbon footprint type. Clean cooking is hard to identify with the wider campaign, as it adds some elements and skips other issues.

One new aspect in the president's campaign is the village dimension, where the carbon footprint and climate problems are translated differently - into the health risks of consistent use of firewood, while in urban centres this translates into the risks of using charcoal.

The cleanliness raised relates to the user, where the gender dimension lends credit to the design of the programme, for women need to be

taken away chiefly from firewood and then from charcoal. Firewood is in a sense the central piece of design as it is often harmful to eyes, while charcoal 'desertifies' large chunks of forest cover.

After its initial 'footprint' at the Dubai summit towards the end of last year, the clean cooking energy agenda was recently discussed at a proper summit for clean cooking in Africa held in Paris.

The Doha summit saw President Samia leading a panel discussion on the issue, bringing it up as a gender empowerment imperative particularly with respect to accessing potable water in remote rural areas.

This has now been shifted to the quest for removing firewood and charcoal, not just for the smoke but also for danger to eyes from fire pellets.

This innovation at the level of global diplomacy sets up an entirely different agenda from the global mainstream reclamation in league with the 4Rs philosophy. And it is an illustration of the sort of gifts of creativity and mapping out a vision.

These are traits of leadership that mark out President Samia 'from the crowd', as the gift of leadership is to innovate within the mainstream such that there is a new energy, objective or drive from within the mainstream, without the need to split or redefine one another afresh.

The demand is uplifted by observations that insufficient funding and a lack of awareness in economic opportunities in the clean cooking industry hamper efforts to scale up interventions.

Again, aware of the difficulties of attaining mainstream climate summit issues, global agencies are nodding in comprehension. This outlook promises some results, both in carbon footprint and human development.

## Clear statistics amply available engender crucial interventions

PEOPLE commonly seek data or information on all manner of aspects of developments in society, including the economy or business.

They usually build up arguments or observations from what they already know and seldom ask for such data just for the sake of it.

One can ask if anyone has ever regretted an argument made in a certain direction as one having been due to lack of data, but chances are that this is unlikely.

Contentious positions usually arise from the big picture rather than from precise data about this or that issue, while responding often requires actual data to add up.

It is in this light that one can appreciate recent remarks by a top official of a statistical modernisation project, where the National Bureau of Statistics is looking for aid to execute the second phase of the Tanzania Statistical Master Plan. The official cited a budgetary gap of around US\$30m.

There was an event relating the building of capacity towards enhancing the understanding of the quality of administrative data, with support from the UK Statistical Office.

An official said that the idea was to set up a robust administrative records system meeting 60 per cent of statistical needs, with ICT blending in the picture. The question is whether it is routine or it has the potential for changing the way administration itself is conducted - that is, when it has good data.

There are already plenty of advancements in the information communication technology and physical infrastructure backing it up.

An example lies in the current campaign to uplift the capacity of

telecommunications towers in place to 3G or 4G technology level.

There are equally intense efforts to upgrade the capacity of the fibre optic backbone, at least going by details in the current Budget plans for the communications sector. Technology tools are becoming increasingly routine as days go by, with less distinction between rural and urban areas with investments.

That is another reason statistics administrators feel that the sector might not be getting the sort of attention as it would be expected have by now, either in the precision of the statistics or in the spread and availability.

The core sphere of reference is still the dissemination of results from the national Population and Housing Census of 2022, but there is an onus to it.

Our country has not been at a standstill since that time, meaning that even official application of the data is called into question - without the census agency and statistics administrators coming in. It is a matter of realism that we are no longer a nation of 61.7 million people, etc.

It is plausible that the demand for data is considerably high at all levels of society generally and the economy in particular, but the most pressure so far is the dissemination of official data for instance in the national census.

This way investors and all those wishing to learn about various spheres will have to project from current data or use 'guesstimates' from whatever experts they can find.

That is in part why the further opening up of the data field to plurality is also vital as a policy aspect - as data are both established but also compared and verified or certified.

### The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

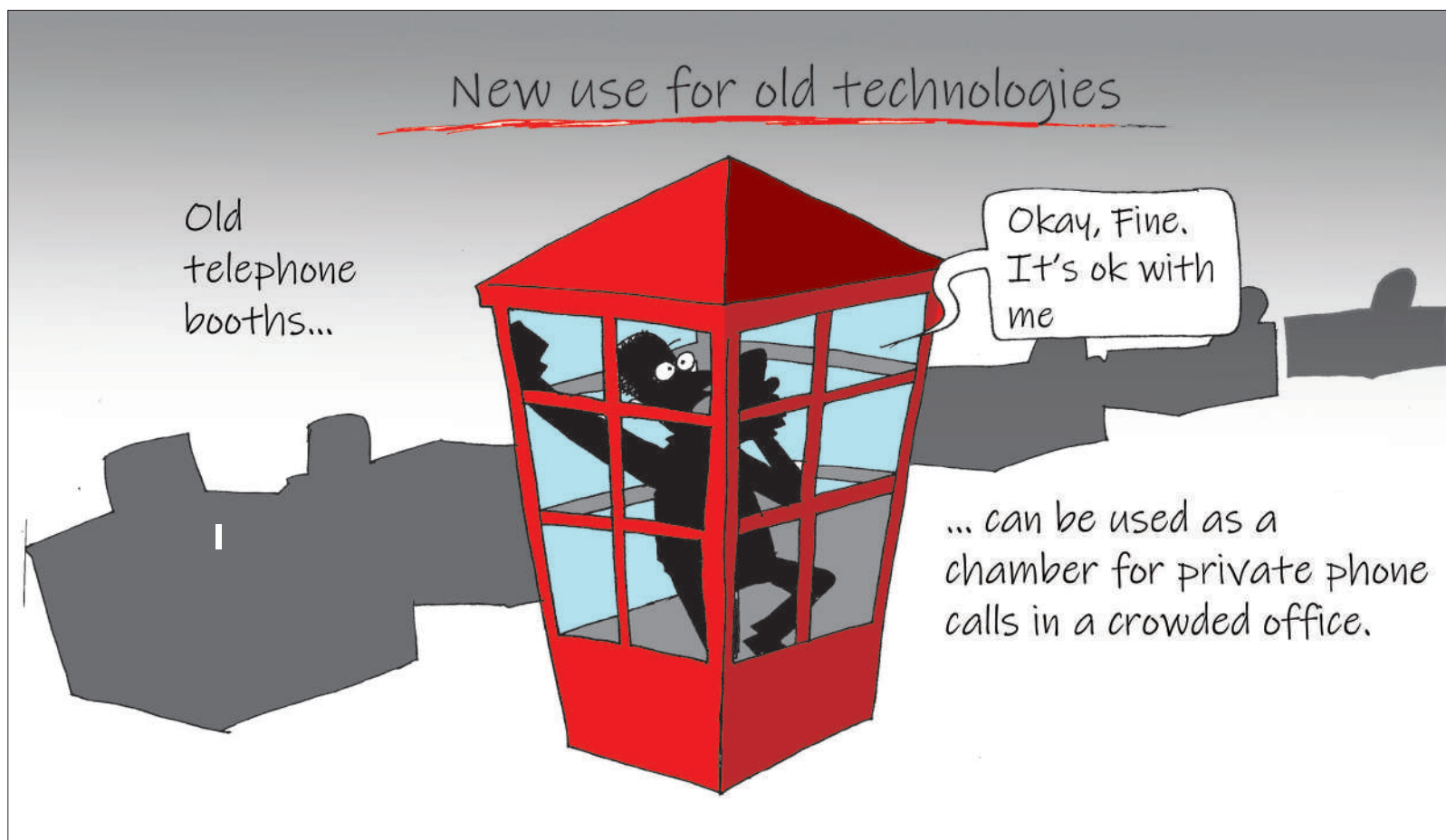
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# Low birth rates are not just a potential economic crisis

By Catherine Ruth Pakaluk

THE United States' fertility rate is the lowest it has been since the government started tracking it in the 1930s. Some sources link the declining birth rate to a number of factors: a lack of support for mothers in the workplace, expensive child care, delayed marriage and a rising cost of living.

But what about women in the US who, despite these obstacles, have bucked the trend and managed to have all the children they want?

I count myself in that camp: I have eight children of my own. But I wanted to learn how other American women were able to reach their childbearing goals. So, beginning in 2019, I decided to talk to some of the 5 per cent of US women who have five or more children.

My recent book, "Hannah's Children: The Women Quietly Defying the Birth Dearth", is an account of what I learned.

### The fertility gap

In April 2024, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, the agency that counts annual births in the United States, released its provisional estimate of all the babies born in 2023.

As noted, at 1.62 expected children per woman - down from 3.8 in 1957 - the fertility rate is the lowest it has been since the government started tracking it in the 1930s. This means, simply, that Americans aren't having enough children to replace themselves.

Studies have shown how, without enough immigration to offset the loss, this will cause the country's population to shrink. This, in turn, can lead to economic stagnation, political instability and social fragmentation.

But falling birth rates go along with one more troubling pattern: the so-called "fertility-gap". The gap refers to the fact that women widely report having fewer children than they intended to have when they were younger.

In the US, women say that about 2.5 children is ideal and that they realistically plan to have around 2.0 children. They end up having 1.62, leaving a gap of about 0.4 to 0.9 children.

This discrepancy exists mainly because women are getting married later than ever in history - near the age of 28 for the average American

woman - which has moved back the median age of having their first child to 30.

Despite the rosy rhetoric of influencers boosting child-free lives, this fertility gap can be a big deal - particularly for women.

Having children usually matters more to women's happiness than to men's, and women are generally more bothered by childlessness.

So, low birth rates aren't just a crisis for societies and economies. They tell a deeply personal story about women failing to reach their goals for motherhood.

### Bucking the trend

Motivated by these circumstances, I interviewed 55 women with five or more children who lived in all parts of the US - from the Pacific Northwest to the Carolinas to New England.

Their homes were in a range of socio-economic areas, including wealthy, middle class and low-income ZIP codes.

Some of them worked full time, while others were part-time employees - and some didn't work at all. Their husbands held blue-collar jobs, white-collar jobs and everything in between.

What they had in common was religious faith - they belonged to Jewish, Catholic, Latter-day Saints, evangelical and mainline Protestant communities. They also tended to value having a big family above other things they could do with their time, talents and money.

One woman I spoke to, a mother of five named Leah, has no regrets about having a large family. [The names used in my book are pseudonyms in accordance with best practices and (US) federal regulations for the protection of human subjects in academic research.]

"I think our culture really values the sort of very rigid perception of success, and has started to devalue a mother's contribution to society," she told me.

She elaborated: "It's almost, like, radical and feminist to say that my contribution is healthy, well-balanced children. Coming from a divorced family, that was a big motivation for me in choosing this life: the family unit being the priority above career and personal identity."

The women bucking the trend weren't necessarily wealthier and didn't seem to face lower childbearing costs. Rather, they believed that children were

blessings from God and the main purpose of their marriages.

As Leah told me: "Every child brings a divine gift into the world that nobody else can bring."

Most of them ended up having more children because they valued having a big family so highly. They didn't plan their family sizes around other life goals - rather, they planned other life goals around having children.

And the very high accord they granted to childbearing ordered their priorities in ways that made it more likely for them to get married and have children, even while meeting career and financial milestones.

### Gains and losses

Prior to my study, it was known that women who have more children than average are more likely to go to church.

Less understood was why. Most churches today do not prohibit the use of contraception in marriage. None of the women in my sample reported having a large family because all believed that family planning was wrong.

The economic theories of 1986 Nobel laureate James Buchanan helped me see the women I interviewed as rational actors like all other women - not as blind adherents to religious dogma.

According to Buchanan, people size up the gains and losses to the choices they make. Anything that adds value to one course of action tips the scale in favour of that choice. Incentives don't have to be monetary: rather, they can come from ideas and convictions, including religious values.

Conversely, anything that detracts value from a course of action makes it less likely. Disincentives can be monetary, like the price of a commodity. But the cost of missing out on other things can factor even more heavily.

### Tipping the scales

Whether the women I interviewed were rich or poor, they often cited the costs of missing out when they chose to have an additional child.

They gave up or put aside hobbies, professions, stay-alone time and financial status - not to mention eight hours of sleep each night - when they decided to have more children.

They didn't report not valuing those things. They felt the sting of being misunderstood,

overwhelmed and limited in their work options.

What stood out in the interviews was how much worth they accorded to having another child. They got to higher numbers of children because they had something on the other side of the scale that weighed more than the losses.

A mother named Esther summed it up thus: "The three big blessings that we talk about in Judaism are children, good health and financial sustenance. I don't feel like you could ever have too much of any of those things. These are blessings. They're God's expression of goodness."

### Clearing the way

Drawing on these insights, my interviews suggested how mothers in my sample managed to defy the country's declining birth rate and fertility gap.

First, because having a big family mattered so much to them, they pursued marriage deliberately. They chose colleges, churches and social settings where others prioritised marriage, increasing the chances of finding a partner in time to have children.

Second, they sought partners who also wanted high numbers of children. One mother, a devout Catholic, told us that she fell in love - in college - with a Protestant guy who wanted a big family. She had known what she wanted from her life partner.

Finally, the women overcoming the fertility gap adjusted their careers to fit their childbearing goals. They didn't try to squeeze their children around professional milestones. As such, they tended to select careers that were more flexible, such as teaching, nursing, graphic design or running a small business out of the home.

Though not all Americans share the religious convictions that tipped the scales for the women in my study, lessons from understanding their motivations may have tremendous value for the millions of young Americans aspiring to be mothers.

**This article was originally published in The Conversation, an independent nonprofit news organisation dedicated to giving people the context to understand what is going on in the world. Catherine Ruth Pakaluk is Associate Professor of Social Research and Economic Thought, Catholic University of America.**



By Felister Peter

# Strengthening Tanzania-France relations for a sustainable future

**D**URING her recent visit to Paris, President Samia Suluhu Hassan engaged in productive discussions with President Emmanuel Macron, culminating in significant strides towards bolstering the longstanding partnership between Tanzania and France.

The fruitful dialogue led to the signing of the new Paris declaration, underscoring both nations' commitment to collaborative efforts in addressing pressing global challenges and advancing shared goals.

During discussions in line with the summit on clean cooking in Africa held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, France reaffirmed its commitment to continue supporting Tanzania's energy transition, emphasizing investments in renewable energy projects.

Both nations highlighted the importance of clean cooking methods, recognizing the need to mitigate the adverse health and environmental impacts of traditional cooking practices.

The summit was intended to enable 2024 become a turning point for progress in ensuring clean cooking access for all, as over 900 million Africans rely on unclean cooking solutions.

Unclean cooking solutions contribute to environmental degradation, biodiversity loss and related health hazards.

Water sector, sustainable water management and marine resource conservation were key focal points. Initiatives like the one water summit and collaborative projects aimed at preserving marine biodiversity underscored the shared commitment to environ-



mental sustainability.

Transport infrastructure development and agricultural modernization were also areas of collaboration agreed by the two nations. France pledged support for Tanzania's efforts to enhance road networks and urban transport systems, as well as initiatives to ensure regional and global food security through agricultural modernization.

Discussions on gender equality and women's empowerment showcased both countries' dedication to advancing women's

rights, with commitments made to support initiatives in healthcare, education, and sports for women and girls in Tanzania.

President Samia's participation in the global summit on clean cooking in Africa marked a pivotal moment in the quest for sustainable development. As co-chair of the summit, she passionately advocated for clean cooking energy access for all Africans by 2030.

Samia emphasizing the urgent need to address the environmental and health impacts of traditional cook-

ing methods, urging for robust international support to scale clean cooking interventions and ensure a just energy transition.

She called for a generous replenishment of the African Development Fund within the African Development Bank (AfDB) to include \$12bn for clean cooking energy access to unlock financing to realise clean cooking for all by 2030.

"Insufficient funding and a lack of awareness in economic opportunities in the clean cooking industry hamper efforts

to scale interventions. The development of the needed solutions is limited by insufficient research and innovation," affirmed the President.

The president said that current figures show that clean cooking access rates globally currently range from over 60 per cent in central and southern Asia, to over 80 per cent in eastern Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Samia mentioned three major challenges facing clean cooking in Africa as lack of access to adequate,

affordable and sustainable solutions, lack of global attention to the problem and the absence of smart partnerships to ensure clean cooking access for all.

Tanzania recently launched a ten-year clean cooking national strategy, which aims to ensure that 80 per cent of Tanzanians use clean cooking solutions by 2034.

Tanzania will also establish a fund to support clean cooking, with the prime minister providing high-level oversight of implementation of the strategy,

she further noted

World leaders need to make clean cooking a priority agenda for Africa for a just energy transition that can positively impact the people, the planet and the environment, the Head of State insisted.

The President Samia's bilateral meeting with president Macron delved into a wide array of issues, reflecting the multifaceted nature of Franco-Tanzanian cooperation. Discussions encompassed key areas such as energy, climate change, water management, infrastructure development, agriculture, and gender equality.

During his meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation January Makamba, France's Secretary of State in charge of Development and International Partnerships, Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, they discussed ways to further strengthen the excellent relations between Tanzania and France.

Tanzania's adherence to the Paris pact for people and planet signifies a significant milestone, demonstrating the country's commitment to sustainable development.

By adding clean cooking to the partnership, Tanzania achieves a significant victory, ensuring that environmental and social considerations are integrated into collaborative efforts for a better future.

The collaborative endeavour, as encapsulated in the Paris declaration, underscores the shared vision of both nations for a sustainable and prosperous future. Through on-going dialogue and cooperation, Tanzania and France are poised to address the challenges of our time and build a better world for all.

## Unity amid diversity: Tanzania's approach to indigenous identity

By Constantine Akitanda

**T**ANZANIA with its breathtaking landscapes and vibrant cultures stands as a testament to the rich needlepoint of human diversity.

With over 120 ethnic groups coexisting within its borders, the nation embodies a variety of traditions, languages, and histories.

At the heart of Tanzania's national ethos lies a commitment to unity amidst this remarkable diversity, a principle underscored by its stance on indigenous identity.

In recent discussions at the 23rd session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), Tanzania's delegation, led by Prof Hamisi Malebo, UNESCO National Commission Executive Secretary reaffirmed the nation's position on indigenous peoples.

Against the backdrop of global conversations about identity and belonging, Tanzania's perspective offers a unique lens through which to examine the complexities of cultural heritage and national unity.

Central to Tanzania's stance is the assertion that it does not formally recognize specific indigenous groups within its populace. Instead, the na-

tion upholds a principle of equality under the law, wherein all citizens of African descent are afforded the same rights and protections, regardless of tribal affiliation.

This approach, rooted in Tanzania's historical path and cultural pluralism, seeks to foster a sense of unity and solidarity among its diverse populace.

To understand Tanzania's position on indigenous identity, one must delve into the complex layers of its history. Tanzania, once a colony of Germany and later of Britain, gained independence in 1961.

Since then, its people, comprising numerous ethnic groups, have inhabited the land for over 5,000 years. This longstanding coexistence has forged bonds of shared heritage and cultural exchange, shaping Tanzania into a nation where diversity is celebrated as a source of strength rather than division.

One of the key points emphasized by the Tanzanian delegation is the complex nature of tribal displacement, particularly within the context of land tenure. Prof. Malebo provided compelling examples, such as the Maasai's historical migration into the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, where they displaced indigenous



Prof Hamisi Malebo, UNESCO National Commission Executive Secretary

communities like the Hadza and Datoga.

Such historical dynamics challenge conventional notions of indigenous identity, highlighting the complex interplay between migration, settlement, and cultural adaptation.

Moreover, Tanzania's unique approach to land ownership further complicates the issue of indigenous status.

Unlike some nations where ancestral or tribal lands are formally recognized, Tanzania's land is considered public property, entrusted to the President on behalf of all citizens. This collective ownership model reflects Tanzania's commitment to equitable access to resources and opportunities, irre-

spective of tribal affiliation.

In addressing ongoing concerns surrounding conservation and development initiatives in regions like Loliondo and Ngorongoro, the Tanzanian delegation underscored the government's commitment to improving the livelihoods of pastoralist communities.

Through targeted interventions such as education, registration, and voluntary resettlement programs, Tanzania seeks to balance the imperatives of conservation with the needs of its diverse population.

Prioritizing community engagement and participatory decision-making, the government aims to ensure that development initiatives are inclusive and sustainable, benefiting all Tanzanians, regard-

less of ethnic background.

At its core, Tanzania's approach to indigenous identity reflects a broader commitment to unity, equality, and national cohesion.

By emphasizing shared heritage and cultural values, the nation endeavors to transcend the divisions of ethnicity and tribe, forging a common identity grounded in mutual respect and understanding.

While challenges persist, Tanzania's journey towards inclusivity and unity serves as a beacon of hope in an increasingly fragmented world, reminding us of the transformative power of diversity in shaping a more equitable and harmonious society.

In examining Tanzania's elusive perspective on indigenous identity, it's imperative to delve deeper into

historical narratives that illustrate the complexities of tribal interactions and territorial claims.

One such example is the conflict between the Wangoni and Wandendeule in Songea. Historically, the Wangoni, originating from South Africa, migrated into the region, clashing with the indigenous Wandendeule community over land and resources.

This historical clash underscores the complex dynamics of migration and settlement, as well as the contestation of territorial boundaries, which continue to shape perceptions of indigenous identity in contemporary Tanzania.

Similarly, the struggles between the Wamakonde and Wayao, along with the Wamatumbi in Mtwara, offer touching insights into Tanzania's multifaceted history of tribal interactions.

The arrival of the Wayao and Wamakonde from Mozambique brought about tensions with the indigenous Wamakua communities, leading to conflicts over land and livelihoods.

These historical confrontations underscore the complications of identity and belonging in Tanzania, as well as the enduring legacies of territorial disputes that challenge conventional notions of indigenous status.

In recognizing these historical realities, Tanzania underscores its dedication to nurturing unity and reconciliation among its diverse ethnic communities.

This acknowledgment serves as a testament to the nation's solid commitment to inclusivity and equitable governance, extending beyond mere recognition of indigenous status to embrace a broader ethos of social cohesion and justice.



By Astrid Arellano

# Mexico's indigenous community makes strides to land rights, but hurdles remain

THE Rarámuri Indigenous people of Bosques de San Elías Repechique have traveled a long road to defend their community territory in northern Mexico. Living in the state of Chihuahua, the Rarámuri have fought for decades to protect a coniferous forest damaged by logging, airport construction and a gas pipeline. After a long legal battle, a Mexican court sided with the Rarámuri this past February, ruling that the territory belongs to them.

The ruling by the Tenth Federal District Court of the State of Chihuahua concludes a six-year process that recognizes the community's existence as an Indigenous people and the negative environmental impacts on 11,415 hectares (28,207 acres) of their territory.

"Our ancestors left us the task of taking care of the forest, of taking care of water sources and rivers. Each of these things has a mystical meaning for the community," said Luis Pérez Enríquez, governor of the Bosques de San Elías Repechique community. "Now a judge is forcing the state and government institutions to respect our territories and forests before engaging in any project that affects the community."

However, Mexico's environment ministry, as well as the state government and two private individuals who hold logging permits in Rarámuri territory, filed appeals against the ruling in early March, according to Repechique's legal team, which is led by the organization CONTEC, short for Community Technical Consulting. CONTEC has been assisting the Rarámuri communities in legally defending their territory for the last 24 years.

Private individuals hold logging permits throughout the territory of Bosques de San Elías Repechique. However, the community and its legal team have argued that the environment ministry didn't consult the Rarámuri before authorizing the permits.

"It's sad that those responsible – in this case, the authorities – instead of complying with the ruling, are doing everything they can to delay compliance and litigate against the communities," said Isabel Saldivar, a human rights lawyer responsible for legal matters at CONTEC. "They do this frequently."

## Defending the forest

The inhabitants of Bosques de San Elías Repechique, who today number more than 500, have led a struggle that dates back to the last century. Their objective has been to defend the lands and forests they have long inhabited, but to which they still lack formal ownership.

"They see themselves as the owners of an ancestral territory of almost 34,000 hectares [84,000 acres], much larger than what is recognized and fought for in the last trial [in 2018], which is 11,400 hectares," Saldivar said. "It's a very strong community with a lot of resistance, and it's systematic in its struggles. Before joining them in 2014, we realized that they had written records dating back to the 1960s. This shows how long they have been fighting to prevent the plundering of their natural resources."

However, more than 40 years ago, businessmen from the region acquired 12 plots of land covering a combined 11,400 hectares (28,170 acres) claimed by the Rarámuri. They obtained logging permits from the environment ministry for at least eight of the properties,



Peaceful protest by the community of Bosques de San Elías Repechique along the Creel-San Rafael highway in 2022 to demand legal recognition of its territory and an end to the intimidation of the Rarámuri Indigenous people by private individuals.

despite complaints by the Indigenous people.

In 2020, locals were not harvesting timber in Repechique; instead, harvests are done by outside workers sent in to cut down the trees. The Rarámuri contend they're not only witnessing the destruction of their forests, but also experiencing water shortages due to the deforestation.

"We lived through land grabbing for megaprojects. In addition to a lot of logging and fires, we had the gas pipeline project, and there's an airport that's still there which began operations in Bocoyna in late January 2024," Pérez Enríquez said. "We're also seeing that tourism is coming, with racecars and ATVs. But right now, what we have is a water shortage because it doesn't rain as much as it used to."

## The ruling

As a part of its ruling, the court also annulled all current logging permits issued by the environment ministry. It also required the ministry to carry out an Indigenous consultation that takes into account "the social, spiritual, cultural, and environmental" issues if the permits are applied for again.

In a statement, CONTEC said the ruling also grants additional protection due to the lack of legislative or administrative measures to guarantee the rights of the Repechique community over the forest.

"There is no mechanism for delimitation, demarcation, titling and registration that allows the Indigenous communities to claim ownership of the lands that constitute their ancestral property," the organization said. Therefore, a mechanism or a procedure must be established to guarantee the integrity of their indigenous lands, it added.

"The Rarámuri presence in the geographic area where logging permits were granted presupposes the existence of a right over [the land] due to the traditional way in which they have occupied [the land] and, therefore, the authorities are obliged to take the necessary measures to guarantee the effective protection of those rights," CONTEC said.

According to Saldivar and Pérez Enríquez, the ruling is an impressive step forward, putting the Rarámuri on track to gain legal title to their ancestral lands.

"Although we've been directly demanding this before the authorities, we have not been heard," Pérez Enríquez said. "Now, a judge is forcing the

three levels of government to take into account the community, the members of this territory. What we hope is that authorities at the state and federal level will recognize this right and provide [land] title so that the community itself can decide what to do."

## The backlash

One month after the ruling, Repechique and its legal defense team learned that the environment ministry, the state government, and private parties had disagreed with the decision. Saldivar said the next step is to wait for a collegiate court to decide if the ruling is in accordance with the law.

In the meantime, the community is reviewing the written ruling and has begun meetings with the National Institute of Indigenous Peoples (INPI) to determine how to proceed in gaining legal title to its territory, Saldivar said.

"Given the rulings issued by the courts in favor of the native communities, the authorities should make progress in terms of the awareness and commitment they need to have, for example, with regard to the protection of indigenous rights," Saldivar added. "[The community] shouldn't have to be dragging [the authorities] back to court to [get them to] do what they should do ex officio: respecting and guaranteeing their rights is part of the state's duty."

Pérez Enríquez said he envisions a future where, in addition to conserving and sustainably using the forest, the Repechique can live without fear of displacement.

"It has been very difficult, because they threaten us, because they want to run us off," he said. "Many people leave temporarily, others stay. It's really difficult for many people to remain in the community. But this gives us legal certainty – recognition by the court – so that we can continue to live here."



Locals celebrate the opening of a sewing shop, Bowe Najativo, in Bosques de San Elías Repechique in June 2021.

# 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 KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI  09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI  01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Zambian teen teaches climate change lessons through sign language



Bridget Chanda (seated), interprets climate change terms to students, with impaired hearing, during a lesson at the Chilsheshe Chepela Special School in Kasama, Zambia

By Special Correspondent,

Lusaka

**A**N 18-YEAR-OLD Zambian teen is helping spread the word about climate change using sign language.

Bridget Chanda, a double amputee interprets lessons at a school where special needs students attend classes with other regular pupils. She attests to learning sign language through self-initiative.

"When I came, it was challenging for me, because by then I never knew sign language. So like it was very difficult for me to communicate with them. But as time goes on, I discovered I just have to know sign language so that I can be helping them in one or two things," said Bridget Chanda, a sign language interpreter and pupil.

This climate change activist and agripreneur Elizabeth Motale has also been at the centre of this initiative to save the planet. She said that Chanda has been so helpful in spreading the word to the special needy students. This has, in turn, helped shape minds in the school.

"I deliver these sessions to my community members about climate change. Whenever they faced challenges in terms of rainfall, I taught them how to reserve water so that they could use [it] at that particular moment. I faced some challenges in terms of signing for them, but Bridget usually helps me when I'm delivering sessions. She usually signs for them," said Elizabeth Motale, a climate change activist/agripreneur.

Sign language isn't recognized as an official language in Zambia, but the government has taken steps to ensure its recogni-

tion and has made it mandatory for climate change education to also be taught in sign language.

"We still have some teething problems as we improve on how to deliver and cater for the special needs, especially in the hearing in terms of how we correctly deliver this information without diluting the context. And also we've got areas where you might have people with special needs, but no one there to really interpret that information, especially at the community level," said Helena Chandwe, a campaign for female education, enterprise development manager.

As the southern African nation has suffered from more frequent extreme weather, including its current severe drought, it's prompted the Zambian government to include more climate change education in its school curriculum.

By Special Correspondent,  
Nairobi

## WHO advances African science by promoting peer-reviewed research

**T**HE World Health Organization's African regional office and partners published over 25 peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals in 2023 as part of efforts to address the imbalance in global research and ensure that Africa was better represented in the production of health research academic literature, a new report shows.

The office, through its Universal Health Coverage, Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases (UCN) Cluster, published on a range of health challenges and diseases, including the risk of zoonotic disease in countries ranging from Uganda, Malawi, Tanzania, Ghana, and Nigeria, investigating infectious and non-infectious diseases, and public health approaches to ease Africa's disease burden.

This research is critical to the continent, says Africa's Regional Director, Dr. Matshidiso Moeti.

"The WHO African Region arguably bears one of the greatest burdens of disease globally. This has always been exacerbated by poverty, which, in the decade prior to COVID-19, was on the decline. Now, however, these gains have been reversed, not only by COVID-19 but by a series of severe shocks during the 2020-2022 period," said Dr. Matshidiso Moeti, the Regional Director for Africa, she told IPS.

"Major threats include climate change, global instability, slowing economic growth, and conflict. This makes it ever more important that we at the WHO Regional Office for Africa focus on the central promise of the 2030

SDG agenda, which is to 'leave no one behind', using a health systems strengthening approach to move towards universal health coverage."

According to the Ending Disease in Africa: Responding to Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases 2023 report released in April, WHO scientists were able to publish their work in reputable journals, including the Social Sciences and Humanities Open, supporting Africa's efforts to raise her scientific research production, estimated at only 2 percent of the world's total.

The works also found homes in open access journals, including America's Public Library of Science (PLOS), where they are accessible for free by the scientific community and the general public.

Besides Africa-based scientific publications such as the Nigerian Journal of Parasitology, highlighting the need to support the role local publications can play in elevating African science and, by extension, helping address imbalances in global research.

"A country's ability to create, acquire, translate, and apply scientific and technological advancements is a major determinant of its socio-economic and industrial development. Many of Africa's current and future health challenges can only be addressed by conducting research on population-based approaches towards effective disease prevention and control, which are then translated into pol-

icy and practice," the report noted in introducing the work.

"Despite Africa's disproportionate burden of disease, the region produced 0.7 percent of global research in 2000, 1.3 percent in 2014 and an estimated 2 percent more recently. In response, the UCN Cluster and partners published over 25 peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals in 2023 as part of efforts to address the imbalance in global research, and ensure regional representation in academic literature."

In Ghana, the WHO team conducted a "community-based cross-sectional study" to investigate occurrences of skin ulcers, whose findings showed the importance of integrating multiple skin diseases on a common research platform in findings published by PLOS One, while in Tanzania, a "spatio-temporal modelling" of routine health facility data to better guide community-based malaria interventions on the mainland was done.

Some of the papers the WHO-Africa says were examples of "operational and implementation research," conducted to identify and ensure the successful adoption and adaptation of evidence-based interventions in both clinical and public health on the continent.

They include findings from an impact assessment of a school-based preventive chemotherapy programme for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), schistosomiasis, and soil-transmitted helminth control in Angola, where

used drugs were found to have little impact in controlling the diseases. These findings were published in PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases.

"This highlighted the need for a comprehensive understanding of individual, community, and environmental factors associated with transmission and consideration for a community-wide control programme," it concluded.

The Springer Nature's Malaria Journal published the team's research on treatment-seeking behavior among parents of children with malaria-related fever in Malawi. It captured the need for targeted health interventions among communities in low socioeconomic settings and those living far from health facilities.

In Nigeria, an article based on experiences in Nigeria using a novel schistosomiasis community data analysis tool, developed by the UCN Cluster, emphasized the usefulness of the tool for strategic planning purposes, allowing the tool to be deployed around Africa for the management of the disease. Blood flukes (trematode worms) from the genus Schistosoma are the primary cause of the acute and chronic parasitic disease schistosomiasis.

Research on health policy and systems, the aim being to better understand how "collective health goals" are reached. This was done through a range of disciplines, including economics, sociology, anthropology, political science, and public health.

One such journal article was published by Elsevier's Social Sciences and Humanities Open, looking at five decades of infectious disease outbreaks on the continent and recommending that concerted public health action may help reduce outbreaks, as well as drawing important conclusions for disease preparedness and prevention activities.

Quite critically, the experts undertook "knowledge translation" work, the application of knowledge by various actors to deliver the benefits

of global and local innovations in strengthening health systems and improving health.

"In the African context, knowledge translation generally includes an aspect of localization, considering local perspectives and approaches and the effects of the social, cultural, political, environmental, and health system context on an intervention's impact," the experts explain.

In 2023, the UCN Cluster translated and localized several global knowledge products for use in

Africa, including one on oral diseases, a malady suffered by about 44 percent of the population in the region.

Africa, the document observes, has experienced the "steepest rise globally in oral diseases over the last three decades," even as spending on treatment costs remains "extremely low," thus the need to share the newest information on their management.

Away from scientific research, the report reveals that Mauritius became the first country in Africa

to fully implement WHO's package of tobacco control measures, while at the same time WHO-Africa launched an initiative to support better access to breast and cervical cancer detection, treatment, and care services in Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, and Zimbabwe.

Equally important, WHO Africa, in collaboration with Nigerian authorities, introduced the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine into routine immunization schedules, targeting more than 7 million girls, the largest number in a single round of HPV vaccination in Africa.

Success stories emerged in Algeria, which successfully 'interrupted' the transmission of schistosomiasis after reporting zero indigenous cases for the past three years, in January 2024, and in Cape Verde, which became the third country to be certified as malaria-free.



### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR REFERENCE NO. MST-TZ-20240517

Daqing Oilfield Construction Group Co., Ltd. (hereinafter as DOCG), as a CONTRACTOR for Storage & Terminal of EACOP Project, invites experienced and reputable contractors that have demonstrable capability, willingness, ability and availability to perform related works to express their interest in providing various services in the description to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania and an onshore Marine Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

**There are Two (2) planned packages as shown below, Interested Companies may Express Interest for either Package 1 or Package 2 or Both;**

#### Package-1: Provision of General Supplies (Ref: MST-TZ-20240517-001)

The services include but not limited to, the following:

- Supply of daily necessities, including but not limited to: toiletries such as toothpaste, soap, and shampoo etc.
- Supply of printer consumables, such as toner cartridges, printer cartridges, and printing paper.
- Supply of office consumables, such as pens, notebooks, etc.
- Supply of cleaning supplies, such as disinfectant wipes, laundry detergent, disposable napkins, toilet paper etc.
- Supply of kitchen supplies, such as Kitchen Knives, spoons, bowls etc.

#### Package-2: Provision of Vehicle Rental & related services (Ref: MST-TZ-20240517-002)

The services include but not limited to, the following:

- Vehicle Rental services, but not limited to the vehicles listed below
  - ✓ 4X4 diesel NEW Toyota Land Cruiser - 5 seats minimum. Quantity Required: Two (2),
  - ✓ 4X4 diesel NEW Ford RANGER, Double Cab Pickup - 5 seats minimum. Quantity Required: Four (4),
  - ✓ 4X4 Toyota Hilux Type Double Cab Pickup - Minimum 5 seats. Quantity Required: Two (2),
  - ✓ 4X4 Toyota Prado Type - Minimum 5 seats. Quantity Required: Two (2)
  - ✓ Business Vehicle (MPV) - 7 or 9 seats. Quantity Required: One (1)
  - ✓ Bus - Minimum 20 seats. Quantity Required: One (1)
  - ✓ Commuter Bus - Minimum 40 Seats. Quantity Required: Four (4)
- Vehicles must have been manufactured and Registered within the last five years and have accumulated less than 80,000 kilometers
- Vehicles shall be fully insured with a comprehensive Insurance according to the Tanzania Regulations and Laws
- Provide Qualified drivers to drive the required vehicles
- Maintenance of the vehicle in a good condition and arranging regular cleaning services and related safety items as required by DOCG

#### Minimum Requirements for Package 1 and Package 2.

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Company Profile;
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).
- Certificate of incorporation (BRELA), TIN Certificate, Valid Business license and permits.
- Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Good Financial Capacity to deliver the services as required
- Proven track record experience list for similar services supplied in the last Three (3) years
- Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017, and Local Company definition for Tanzania.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to [tz\\_adm@docg.cn](mailto:tz_adm@docg.cn) (not exceeding 20 MBs) on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on **30th /May/2024**. Subject of the email should be **MST-TZ-20240517-[Package No.]-EOI-[COMPANY NAME]**.

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will receive, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), a detailed pre-qualification questionnaire for further evaluation by Company.

DOCG reserves the right not to consider companies that submit an incomplete dossier.

**Note:** Only pre qualified companies will receive invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process



According to the Ending Disease in Africa: Responding to Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases, WHO scientists were able to publish their work in reputable journals, supporting Africa's efforts to raise her scientific research production, which is estimated at only 2 percent of the world's total.







# SUMMIT'S DECLARATION UNVEILS PILLARS TO REACHING CLEAN COOKING ACCESS FOR ALL

By Guardian Reporter

The Paris Summit co-chaired by President Samia Suluhu Hassan earlier this week has adopted the declaration, which emphasizes on increased financing, policies and partnership, in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal 7, on universal clean cooking access.

The declaration was signed by Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Senegal, Switzerland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, United Kingdom and United States.

Signatory countries have declared clean cooking as a critical priority and pledge to take concrete steps towards advancing the clean cooking agenda, through action on the ground, raising awareness, and fostering greater collaboration among the key stakeholders.

Leaders have pledged to make clean cooking a priority and enhance their efforts toward achieving universal access for all, recognising its essential role in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Universal clean cooking access was underlined once more by African leaders as a

priority issue for collective action for African governments and the international community on climate and energy in the context of the Nairobi Declaration.

"While working to achieve this goal, we affirm that our primary focus should be on ensuring affordable access in a timely manner to cleaner and modern cooking solutions, which can deliver benefits in terms of health, productivity, gender equality, forest preservation, biodiversity, and emissions reductions," the declaration reads.

"We affirm that the strategies taken by countries to advance clean cooking will depend on local context, and that each country has sovereignty to shape this agenda in a manner consistent with people-centred energy transitions."

The declaration stresses the importance of attracting private sector investments and recognise that concessional finance plays a catalytic role in scaling up private sector investments in clean cooking.

To that end, it acknowledges the close connection to advancing clean cooking to the broader calls for enhancing development finance within the Paris Pact for People and Planet.

"We commend the substantial investments in clean cooking announced at the Summit



Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko (L) hands over filled liquefied petroleum gas cylinder and stove to a small trader, as part of the campaign to increasing access to clean cooking energy in Tanzania. File Photo

and welcome this increase in private sector participation, which can be a potential game changer in our efforts to achieve clean cooking access for all," the declaration reads.

The \$2.2 billion financial support committed at the Summit contributes to the needed upfront investment costs estimated by the IEA to be US\$4 billion annually from now to 2030, to reach universal access to clean cooking in sub-Saharan Africa.

"We call upon others to join this effort and allocate additional resources to clean cook-

ing, recognising the need for diverse sources of financing - concessional, commercial, philanthropic, and public - and the importance of effective, transparent, and timely delivery through proven financing channels and facilities," the declaration further reads.

Signing countries also affirm the criticality of financial measures that help manage affordability for consumers, recognising that past efforts of extending energy access have all depended on shielding consumers from the full cost

of that access initially.

"We affirm affordability support should be targeted to those most in need, noting the importance of this support reaching women to ensure results, and that support should be progressively reduced as the affordability gap decreases," it says.

The declaration also acknowledges the significant role that carbon credits and climate finance have already played in scaling clean cooking efforts, recognising the potential for further expansion of this support, while en-

suring that benefits are shared appropriately among actors.

Commitments to buy carbon credits derived from clean cooking to satisfy nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and other emissions reductions objectives could play a crucial role in funding higher tier clean cooking access, but should be met using high integrity of credits, and underlying carbon credit quality concerns must be addressed is also part of the declaration.

Leaders have applauded the efforts to address underlying carbon credit quality concerns, including new crediting methodologies currently under development, as well as acknowledging the Clean Cooking Alliance-led Responsible Carbon Finance for Clean Cooking Initiative and its role in building consensus around principles for integrity, transparency, fairness, and sustainability of clean cooking carbon credits.

Success stories such as in Brazil, India and Indonesia demonstrate that rapid progress is achievable if there is strong political will.

"We acknowledge the African leaders who have already made clean cooking a top priority and joined the Summit, with special thanks to President Samia Suluhu Hassan of the United Republic of Tan-

zania for championing clean cooking as a pan African priority through her African Women's Clean Cooking Support Programme launched at COP28," they said.

Given the crucial roles of enabling policies, leaders have encouraged greater exchanges to share experiences and best practices.

They commend the African governments who publicly committed to making clean cooking a priority national issue and are taking steps to implement proven policy measures in their country to usher greater progress.

They affirm that clean cooking is a solvable development challenge that will have a positive impact on the lives of millions of the poorest people on earth, predominately for those in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The Summit also co-chaired by the Prime Minister of Norway H.E. Jonas Gahr Store, the President of the African Development Bank Group Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina, and the Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA) Dr. Fatih Birol.

The Summit, attended by 1000 delegates from governments, private sector, development partners, international organisations, philanthropies, and civil society was organised by the International Energy Agency (IEA).

## WFP commends TPA for easing shipment of humanitarian aid

By Francis Kajubi

THE United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has commended improvements made at the Dar es Salaam port by the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) that has led to easing shipments of food staff and other humanitarian aids to refugee camps in Kigoma region.

Speaking yesterday at an event to accept 25 metric tons of nutritious dates donated by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, through King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center, Sarah Gordon-Gibson, WFP Country Director and Representative, said that the consignment of dates' timely arrival was made possible by improvements made at the port.

"The port is a central point for WFP's operations, both land and sea. It is a vital hub for our operations in Tanzania as well as East, Central and Southern Africa," said Gibson.

According to her, TPA is WFP's critical partner who facilitates the movements of humanitarian cargo, enabling WFP's food assistance to reach those most in need.

She asserted that the dates' donation comes at a critical time when WFP is facing significant partners' supporting operations all over the world to save lives and change lives.

"Between now and November 2024, WFP Tanzania will face a \$23 million funding shortfall for its refugee operations," said Gibson.

Dr. George Fasha, TPA's Director of Marketing and Public Relations commended WFP for its role of saving mankind living up to its motto of saving life changing lives.

TPA and WFP have been partners for years now providing logistical support that has ensured food items reach the needy, especially the most vulnerable communities across the region.



Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to Tanzania, Yahya Okeish (C) displays packages of dates in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He presented the consignment to Sarah Gordon-Gibson (L), the WFP's Country Director and Representative in Tanzania. Right is Dr. George Fasha, TPA's director of marketing and public Relations.

He said TPA has been a gateway to the region and global trade has reassured a constructive role in facilitating humanitarian aid timely reaches the intended people.

"Of recent, TPA has been undertaking major infrastructure development projects across all ports where some of the projects are widely known with significant contributions in the current and future operations of the port," said Fasha.

He asserted that the projects includes the Dar es Salaam Maritime Gateway Project that has transformed the port of Dar es Salaam major infrastructure undertaken at Mtwara port, Tanga and planned construction of Bagamoyo port.

As of March this year TPA has handled 20.72 million tons of cargo com-

pared to 14.56 million tons in March 2023 translating to a growth of 42.31 percent.

During the period TPA had continued lobbying for shipping services in Rwanda, DR Congo, Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe from which has led to a transportation of 8.87 million tons of cargo in 2023 up from 8.24 million tons in 2022 a 7.67 percent growth.

For his part, Ambassador Yahya Okeish of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Tanzania said that the country has been extending humanitarian aid to 72 countries across the world.

"The humanitarian support from the Saudi Arabian government to the needy has so far reached \$108 billion benefiting people in 169 countries," said Okeish.

## Afreximbank backs expansion of Caribbean Silversands Hotel

By Guardian correspondent

AFRICAN Export - Import Bank (Afreximbank) has approved a US\$ 30 Million financing facility to Joyau Des Caraibes Limited (JDC); the Caribbean subsidiary of ORA Developers, for the expansion of Silversands Hotel in St. Georges, Grenada.

A statement issued yesterday by the Afreximbank and shared to this paper, has that Grenada is a major touristic hub, that attracts over 2.5 million visitors each year. The facility will be utilised for the construction of additional rooms, restaurants, retail stores and other recreational facilities aimed at boosting tourism revenues.

While commenting on the deal, Prof. Benedict Oramah, President, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Afreximbank said: "We are pleased to have reached yet another significant financial close in the Caribbean. This financing, expected to expand hotel facilities and ancillary businesses, will boost the tourism industry, create jobs, and develop the economy of Grenada. It underscores our commitment to fostering shared growth and prosperity among Africans in geographic Africa, the Caribbean, and beyond. This project, promoted by an African developer, further validates the Bank's strategy of fostering deeper Afri-Caribbean investment relations."

Naguib Sawiris, Chairman and CEO of ORA Developers said: "We are pleased to be a part of this south-to-south financing agreement with Afreximbank which will lead to accelerated expansion of Silversands brand in the Caribbean region. I thank Prof. Oramah and his team for their part in this initiative for growth in this important touristic region."

Under its Diaspora strategy, Afreximbank has spearheaded numerous trade and investment missions to the Caribbean Islands, fostering strong business-to-business and business-to-government relations. These efforts have significantly reinforced two-way investments between Africa and the Caribbean, stimulating economic opportunities for both regions. These ties are expected to enhance additional linkages in the future such as direct movement of people and increased economic activities.

The Silversands Hotel is part of a luxury chain of hotels owned by ORA Developers, an Egyptian firm renowned for designing and developing luxury lifestyle destinations in unique locations around the world.

Afreximbank is a Pan-African multilateral financial institution mandated to finance, facilitate and promote intra and extra-African trade. For over 30 years, the Bank has been deploying innovative instruments to deliver financing and ancillary solutions that support the transformation of the structure of Africa's trade, accelerating

industrialization, intra-African trade, thereby boosting economic expansion in Africa and for Africans around the world.

A stalwart supporter of the AfCFTA, Afreximbank has in partnership with the African Union Commission and AfCFTA Secretariat launched a Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) that was adopted by the African Union (AU) as the payment and settlement platform to underpin the implementation of the Free Trade Agreement. The AfCFTA Secretariat and the Bank have created a USD 10 billion Adjustment Fund to support countries to effectively participate in the AfCFTA.

At the end of December 2023, Afreximbank's total assets and guarantees stood at over US\$37 billion, and its shareholders funds amounted to US\$6.1 billion. The Bank disbursed more than US\$104 billion between 2016 and 2023.

The bank has investment grade ratings assigned by GCR (international scale) (A), Moody's (Baa1), Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR) (A-) and Fitch (BBB). Afreximbank has evolved into a group entity comprising the Bank, its impact equity fund subsidiary called the Fund for Export Development Africa (FEDA), and its insurance management subsidiary, AfrexInsure, (together, "the Group"). The Bank is headquartered in Cairo the Capital of Egypt.



# SAMIA CRUSADES FOR INCREASED SUPPORT IN CLEAN COOKING; AFDB PLEDGES US\$2 BN IN COMMITMENT

By Guardian Reporter

**P**RESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan urges for a substantial replenishment of the African Development Fund to ensure adequate resources for clean cooking in Africa's low-income countries, with the African Development Bank (AfDB) committing \$2 billion in support.

Statement issued by AfDB yesterday and shared to this journalist, indicates that the 10-year support towards clean cooking solutions in Africa, is major step along the road to saving the lives of 600,000 mainly women and children each year.

Speaking at a landmark summit on Clean Cooking in Africa held yesterday in Paris, the Bank Group's President Dr Akinwumi Adesina, said the institution would now commit 20 per cent of all its financing of energy projects towards promoting safe alternatives to cooking with charcoal, wood and biomass.

Receiving heads of state and government, and leaders of international organizations at the Elysee Palace to discuss the outcomes of the summit, French President Emmanuel Macron, praised the African Development Bank's leading role and commitment to delivering clean cooking in Africa. The summit resulted in \$2.2 billion pledges from the public and private sectors.

"As part of the Paris Pact for People and the Planet, and with the commitment of Tanzania, Norway, the International Energy Agency, the African Development Bank, and many other partners, we are taking a step forward against this silent scourge today. We are mobilizing \$2.2 billion to provide clean alternatives to populations in Africa," Macron said. "France pledges to invest €100 million over five years in clean cooking methods and will mobilize even more through the Paris Pact for People and the Planet and Finance in Common."

President Samia told the gathering that successfully advancing the clean cooking agenda in

Africa would contribute towards protecting the environment, climate, health, and ensuring gender equality.

"This summit underscores our commitment to advancing this agenda and providing a framework towards universal adoption of clean cooking fuels and technologies across the continent," she said.

President Suluhu launched during COP28 a national program to solve this challenge in Tanzania, and in other parts of Africa, with the African Women Clean Cooking Support Program.

She made a strong call to the global community to ensure a bold replenishment of the next three-year cycle of the African Development Bank Group's concessional window, the African Development Fund.

"To guarantee resources for clean cooking, this summit has to call for a generous next replenishment of the African Development Fund that includes \$12 billion for clean cooking," President Suluhu urged.

Addressing the summit plenary, the AfDB president noted that in Africa a staggering 1.2 billion people lack access to clean cooking facilities.

The summit was cochaired by President Samia, Norway Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre, AfDB President Adesina, and the Executive Director of the International Energy Agency Dr. Fatih Birol.

In his passionate address, Adesina declared that it was time to end the plight of African women and girls, backs bent bearing heavy loads, walking kilometres each day, often with a lack of security just to cook daily family meals. He noted that the tools for enabling clean cooking access are readily available and affordable but had not been sufficiently prioritised.

"As a result, over 10 years, six million people, mainly women, will die prematurely. That is not acceptable," he told the summit attended by some 20 African heads of state and government, representatives of all leading international organisations and



President Samia Suluhu Hassan at a landmark summit on clean cooking in Africa held yesterday in Paris France. PHOTO: Courtesy of AfDB

global businesses.

"Access to clean cooking is about more than cooking, it is about dignity... It is more than about lighting a stove, it is about life itself. It is about fairness, justice and equity for women," Adesina said, recalling how as a youth he had damaged his own eyesight blowing into smoking wooden fires and how a friend had died in a kerosene-related explosion.

Worldwide, the lack of access to clean cooking affects over two billion people—more than half of whom are in Africa, typically cooking over open fires and basic stoves. Using charcoal, wood, agricultural waste, and animal dung as fuel, they inhale harmful toxic fumes and smoke with dire consequences for health.

It is the second leading cause of premature death in Africa. Opportunities for education, em-

ployment and independence are also severely impacted because women instead spend hours each day foraging for rudimentary fuels.

"This momentous summit on clean cooking in Africa is the largest ever gathering of leaders and policy makers dedicated to confronting the issue of access to clean cooking in Africa. We can fix it," Adesina added. "There is nothing improved in continued suffering. No woman in Africa should have to cook again with firewood, charcoal or biomass. It is time to restore dignity to women who cook in Africa."

The Bank's pledge of \$200 million per year represents an important contribution to the \$4 billion per year needed to allow African families to have access to clean cooking by 2030.

In addition to its dramatic toll

on human lives, the lack of clean cooking facilities is one of the main causes of deforestation in Africa.

International Energy Agency figures show that globally 200 million hectares of forest, 110 millions of them in Africa, were at risk because of the climatic effects of cooking with charcoal, biomass, and wood. "Providing access to clean cooking is not only right, fair and just—it is also the globally responsible thing to do," Adesina said in his address to the Summit plenary session.

Adesina hailed the event in which close to 60 countries took part, with over 1,000 delegates in attendance, as a major turning point on an issue which had gone too long unaddressed.

He added that commitments announced at the summit go beyond the money alone—they set out concrete steps on how governments, institutions and the private sector can work together to solve the clean cooking challenge this decade.

Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre of Norway said: "Improving access to clean cooking is about improving health outcomes, reducing emissions, and creating opportunities for economic growth. With today's summit, we have mobilized much needed support, and built a diverse partnership that together can make a real difference. Norway is a steadfast supporter of clean cooking, and I was pleased to announce today that we are committed to investing approximately \$50 million in this important cause."

"This summit has delivered an emphatic commitment to an issue that has been ignored by too many people, for too long. We still have a long way to go, but the outcome of this summit, \$2.2 billion committed, can help support fundamental rights such as health, gender equality and education while also reducing emissions and restoring forests," IEA Executive Director Birol declared.

Birol said the IEA would build on the summit's achievements by continuing to play a convening role to engage more willing part-

ners and generate new funds to help meet the \$4 billion a year in capital investments required between now and 2030. Reaching this level of funding would enable the world to deploy the stoves and fuel delivery infrastructure needed to reach universal access to clean cooking in sub-Saharan Africa.

Within this context, Denmark's Minister for Development Cooperation and Global Climate Policy Dan Jannik Jørgensen praised the African Development Bank's initiative to establish a dedicated clean cooking sub-program under the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA).

Established in 2011, SEFA is a multi-donor Special Fund managed which provides catalytic finance to unlock private sector investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency. It offers technical assistance and concessional finance instruments to remove market barriers, build a more robust pipeline of projects and improve the risk-return profile of individual investments.

The AfDB has been a key advocate for clean cooking access in Africa. In July 2023, it published with the International Energy Agency a comprehensive report on clean cooking solutions.

At COP28, the African Development Bank hosted a round table on clean cooking during which it committed to allocating 20 per cent of its annual energy lending towards clean cooking, generating \$2 billion over the next decade. The Bank also supported Tanzania's clean cooking initiative, which focuses on improving women's access to clean cooking solutions, launched by President Samia at COP28.

Asia-led by China and India in the lead—and Latin America have for the most part, succeeded in resolving the issue over the last 20 years. However, today in Benin, Ethiopia, Liberia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania... more than 80 per cent of the population still depends on biomass to cook their meals. In Nigeria, Kenya or Ghana, the figure is 70 per cent.

By Guardian Correspondent

COMBATTING illicit trade is imperative as it erodes the foundation of legitimate businesses, granting an unjust edge to those involved in unlawful practices.

This detrimental cycle not only weakens the economy but also deprives governments of essential tax revenue, impacting the provision of public services and hindering infrastructure development.

Additionally, illicit trade often involves the trafficking of counterfeit and substandard goods, posing serious risks to public health and safety.

This underscores the stance of the country's Deputy Minister for Industries and Trade, Exaud Kigaha, who highlights that through the implementation of robust measures to combat illicit trade, nations can not only protect consumers and strengthen legitimate businesses but also uphold the fundamental tenets of justice, ultimately fostering a more secure and sustainable global economy.

A statement issued yesterday and made available to this journalist, indicates that according to a report by the World Customs Organisation (WCO), illicit trade accounts for approximately 3.3 percent of global trade, a significant economic loss for governments and legitimate businesses.

Officiating the regional workshop on 'Track and Trace Systems' in the framework of the East African Community (EAC), organized by the East African

## Deputy minister Kigaha underlines need to end illicit trade



Business Council (EABC), Kigaha applauded the duo for organizing discussions on solutions to combat illicit trade.

According to him, the workshop comes at the right time, as countries worldwide implement measures like Tracking and Tracing (T&T) systems to address illicit trade.

He stated, "As East Africans, given our level of integration, trade interaction, and existence of porous borders in our region, it is high time we consider the adoption of a common regional and interoperable Track and Trace

solution to enable cross-border sharing of data and close cooperation to enhance stop illicit trade in our Community."

In his remarks, the EABC Executive Director, John Kalisa stated, "In the EAC, digital tax stamps and electronic cargo tracking systems are among the digital technologies governments have rolled out with a view to track trade. The technologies are more focused on authentication (tax-stamp based) and tax verification solutions, rather than tracking and tracing."

He urged governments to adopt

a regional track and trace system to streamline cross-border trade, combat illicit trade, improve health, and boost government revenue collection.

He stated that the EABC urges Governments to reduce costs of Digital Tax Stamp (DTS) to enhance revenue collection and business operations. He noted, Tanzania's recent DTS reduction is appreciated; but similar actions are needed in other EAC states. For instance, DTS costs \$25.72 per 1,000 stamps in Kenya for tobacco products, which warrants a deeper regional system

review.

"The EAC Competition Authority is mandated to promote and protect fair competition and enhance consumer welfare within the EAC Partner States, fostering economic growth and prosperity for the citizens of East Africa," said Stella Nyambeki Onyanha, Deputy Registrar at the East African Community Competition Authority.

The Deputy Registrar explained that illicit trade, anti-competitive practices, and consumer violations pose formidable challenges, including counterfeits, contraband, piracy, and IPR violations. These challenges erode trust, distort competition, drive away investors, and worsen consumer welfare, jeopardizing the integrity of our economies. She called for collective efforts by Government, businesses, and consumers to resolve and confront illicit trade and promote fair competition in East Africa.

She stated that a regional track and trace system will harmonize tracking and documentation processes, reduce barriers and transaction costs, enhance competition, eliminate anti-competitive practices, and ensure safety for both suppliers and consumers.

In his presentation during the panel discussion on "Benefits of Digitization: Win-Win for All," Eng. Ahmad Abdeldayem Al-jawawdeh, Director of Planning and Studies and Track & Trace

Project Manager at the Income and Sales Tax Department (ISTD), stated that following the adoption of the track and trace system in Jordan, illicit trading reduced by 30% and production grew by 50 percent.

In his contribution, Cobus de Hart, Director of Consulting at Oxford Economics Africa, South Africa, explained that a regional Track and Trace (T&T) system will enable the EAC bloc to pool resources, share technical assets, minimize costs, and provide timely information. This system will equip law enforcement with the intelligence needed to better protect and control border posts and routes, which is crucial given their limited resources. Other panelists included Nadia Berwa, Tax Officer at the Rwanda Revenue Authority, and Manuel Sumbula, President of the Angola Industrial Beverage Association. The session was moderated by Hafiz Choudhury of M Group.

The Regional Workshop on Track and Trace Systems, within the framework of the East African Community (EAC), convened over 85 government officials, private sector stakeholders, international experts, and industry leaders. They exchanged insights on strategies to enhance regional collaboration, share best practices, and formulate proposals and a roadmap towards a digital regional track and trace system, a key enabler for improved revenue collection and the fight against illicit trade.



## CONSTRUCTION

# SHARED WORKSPACES IMPELLING INNOVATION, ECONOMIC GROWTH

**S**HARED workspaces in Tanzania represent a new and exciting concept that plays a pivotal role in nurturing a collaborative ecosystem for entrepreneurs and professionals in the country. It offers a physical space where individuals from diverse backgrounds can converge to work, exchange ideas, and engage in collaborative projects.

This environment not only facilitates networking and knowledge-sharing among entrepreneurs and professionals but also facilitates the formation of partnerships that can pave the way for new business opportunities and growth.

Recently, The Guardian's Business & Web Editor, Dickson Ng'hily, had the privilege of conversing with Michael Aldridge, the CEO and co-founder of KOFISI, and Paul Keursten, CEO of Workshop17, to delve into the shared workspaces industry. The following excerpt (Q&A) provides valuable insights from their enlightening discussion.

**Question: What is a shared workspace?**

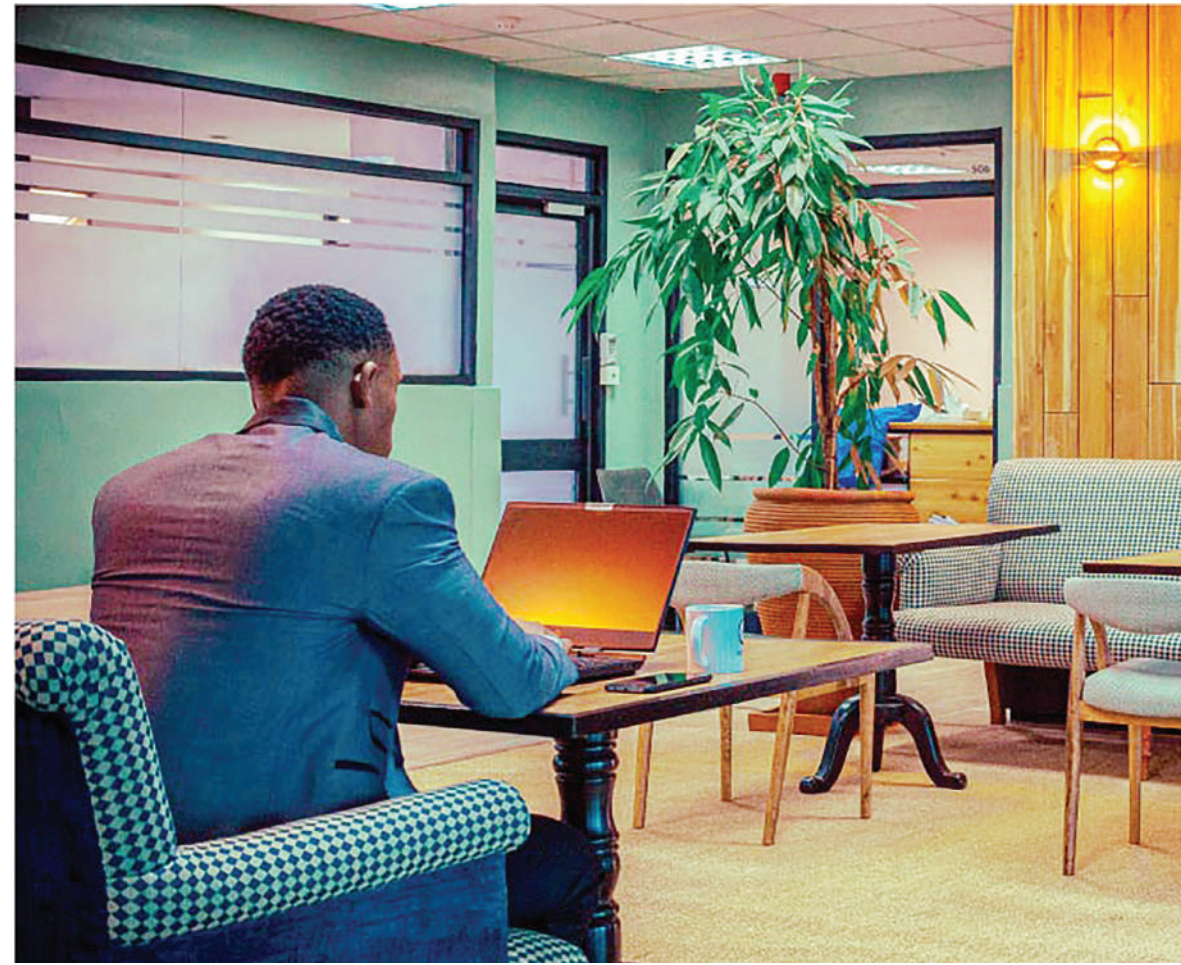
**Answer:** A shared workspace is a collaborative environment where self-employed individuals or employees from various businesses come together to share resources, ideas, and expertise for mutual benefit. It goes beyond just a physical space where people gather, evolving into a community built on trust, shared values, and the productive energy that arises from collaborating with fellow professionals who share similar goals and interests.

**Q: How do shared workspaces contribute to fostering a collaborative ecosystem for entrepreneurs and professionals in Tanzania?**

**A:** KOFISI and Workshop17 offer a range of friction-free workspace solutions for individuals, and businesses large and small. Employee experience is at an all-time high and holds weight as the workplace concept for the now - integrate a variety of open areas (chill out spaces, cafés and hot desking areas) into all their locations, that allow businesses to experience great hospitality and inspiring exchanges at the workplace.

By promoting a lifestyle offering as opposed to simply a work environment, both brands tap into member activations and events, creating meet and work spaces, while building a culture of authentic connectivity and collaboration.

Advance technology and systems integration allow our 'offices' to do more for our members,



Find a desk, grab a coffee, log on and start your day. This is what shared workspace is all about. Photo: Courtesy of KOFISI

while focusing on the things that count for them, creating those human connections and work-life balance that bring them fulfillment.

We allow business to operate from office space within a supportive and engaging environment that provides affordable infrastructure, facilitating networking and knowledge sharing, offering flexibility, access to resources and fostering a supportive community environment

**Q: What unique challenges and opportunities do shared workspaces face in the Tanzanian context compared to other countries?**

**A: Challenges:** Availability of reliable infrastructure, including stable electricity, high-speed internet and well-maintained facilities, can be a challenge in many African countries, including Tanzania. Moreover, we've mitigated these challenges by choosing grade 'A' buildings and locations with alternative energy supplies and in-house hospitality and facilities management teams to help with any issues.

Despite the benefits they offer, shared workspaces can sometimes be perceived as expensive compared to traditional office spaces in African countries where the cost of living is relatively lower. Convincing individuals and businesses of the value proposi-

tion may be challenging.

**Opportunities:**

Africa is home to a growing entrepreneurial ecosystem, with many startups and small businesses seeking cost-effective and flexible workspaces. Shared workspaces can cater to this demand by providing affordable and collaborative environments for entrepreneurs to work and network.

The global shift towards remote work, accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, presents an opportunity for shared workspaces in Africa. As more companies embrace remote work arrangements, there is a growing demand for flexible coworking spaces that offer amenities such as meeting rooms, high-speed internet and a professional service environment.

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are the backbone of many African economies - although larger MNCs are looking to base operations on the continent. KOFISI supports Google, Amazon, GIZ from their locations because shared workspaces can provide valuable support to these businesses by offering cost-effective office space, access to amenities and opportunities for collaboration.

Leveraging technology can help overcome infrastructure challenges in African countries. For example, shared workspaces can invest in backup power solutions,

satellite internet connections and digital platforms for managing bookings and payments.

**Q: Can you discuss the role of shared workspaces in promoting innovation and creativity within the local business community?**

**A:** KOFISI and Workshop17 serve as catalysts for innovation and creativity within the local business community by fostering collaboration, networking, access to resources and a supportive environment for experimentation and growth.

Both KOFISI and Workshop17 host events, workshops and seminars on topics related to entrepreneurship, technology, and innovation.

Both workspace providers offer flexibility in terms of workspace arrangements, lease terms, and amenities to suit the members current needs. With the flexibility to allow businesses to scale up or down quickly in response to changing market conditions, experiment with new ideas and to adapt their business models as needed.

Shared workspaces bring together individuals from diverse backgrounds and industries under one roof. This diversity fosters cross-pollination of ideas, as members interact, collaborate and share insights.

**Q: How do shared workspaces**

**es support the growth of startups and small businesses in Tanzania?**

**A:** We offer cost-effective alternatives to traditional office spaces - with shared resources of everything from; printing stations, reception areas, office furniture and equipment. Ultimately allowing entrepreneurs more room to invest in core business resources, like product development and testing.

Access to our reliable and top-notch technology supports the growth and increased productivity of startups and small businesses in Tanzania and Africa. Startups and small businesses can benefit from their flexible membership plans, allowing them to pay for only the space and amenities they need, thereby reducing overhead costs.

We serve as hubs for investors, venture capitalists and angel investors looking to identify promising startups and small businesses to invest in. By participating in networking events and pitching competitions hosted by shared workspaces, startups can gain exposure to potential investors and secure funding to fuel their growth.

Both brands offer community and support in developing the entrepreneurial ecosystem of small businesses and start-ups with a network of 96 business sectors and over 10 000 members to draw from.

For startups and small businesses looking to establish a professional image and credibility, shared workspaces provide access to well-designed and equipped office spaces in the prime locations both KOFISI and Workshop17 are located.

**Q: What strategies do shared workspaces employ to cultivate a diverse and inclusive community of members?**

**A:** Shared workspaces strive to attract a diverse membership base by offering inclusive membership options, flexible pricing plans and amenities that cater to the needs of individuals from different backgrounds, industries and demographics.

Networking opportunities and member events also foster inclusion. Shared workspaces often collaborate with local organisations, community groups and diversity-focused initiatives to promote inclusivity and diversity within their communities.

**Q: In what ways do shared workspaces adapt to the evolving needs and preferences of their members in the Tanzanian market?**

**A:** KOFISI and Workshop17 of-

fer a variety of membership plans to accommodate different work styles and budgets, including flexible and dedicated desks, private offices and bespoke offices.

We provide customizable amenities such as meeting rooms, event spaces as well as bespoke office space for larger MNCs with specific design and facilities requirements. Incorporating technology solutions such as online booking systems, collaboration tools and digital platforms for communication and member engagement as well as introducing wellness programs, fitness classes and relaxation areas to support the physical and mental well-being of members.

**Q: What are some successful examples of collaborations or partnerships between shared workspaces and local businesses or organizations?**

**A:** We often collaborate with local startup incubators or accelerators to provide resources, mentorship and networking opportunities to early-stage startups. We frequently host industry-specific events, workshops and seminars in collaboration with local businesses or organisations.

We often collaborate with local nonprofits, community organisations and educational institutions to support community outreach initiatives, organise skill-sharing workshops and training sessions in partnership with local experts or businesses as well as engaging in cross-promotional campaigns with local businesses or organisations to increase visibility and attract new members.

**Q: What are the key factors that individuals and companies consider when choosing a shared workspace in Tanzania?**

**A:** The location of the shared workspace is often a critical factor. Individuals and companies may prioritise proximity to transportation hubs, business districts, or residential areas, depending on their needs and preferences.

Affordability is a significant consideration for many individuals and companies. The amenities and facilities offered by the shared workspace are essential considerations.

The availability of different workspace options is important. Individuals and companies may seek flexibility in terms of desk space, private offices, meeting rooms, and event spaces to accommodate their specific needs and preferences. Flexibility and scalability are important considerations for individuals and companies, particularly startups and small businesses.

Security and privacy are essential considerations for individuals and companies.

By Darren Parker

## Half of mining industry still resisting AI integration

At least half of heavy machinery users within the global mining industry still rely primarily on manual supply chain management tools, with 40 percent still using manual tools for operational planning, Wits Mining Institute's Professor Glen Nwaila has said.

"So even if the automation is partially achieved, you will find that the plant is heavily automated but, in the mine, only a portion of it is actually automated," he said, speaking at the Mind Shift conference hosted by Mine Equipment Manufacturers of South Africa, in Sandton, on May 15.

He further noted that only 10 percent of industry players saw their industrial data as useful.

However, for those mining companies that have embraced AI and automation technologies, Nwaila said research showed a 75 percent decrease in unplanned downtime, 50% faster analysis of data leading to more reliable decisions and a more than 20 percent reduction in emissions.

However, while these reductions could



lead to cost reductions, he said the development and adoption of Industry 4.0 technologies was not without its challenges, leading to a continued reluctance by many industry players to fully embrace it.

"We are often forced to produce technology faster than we used to do before. But this comes with its own challenges because it means you also have less time

to test the reliability of your technology. Sometimes this can work against you," Nwaila noted.

He further noted, particularly in South Africa, there was a disconnect between developers and vendors of new technologies and end-users within the mining industry, where he said that most conferences and discussions around new mining technologies tended to be 90% steered by vendors with few end-users participating. This resulted in a state of continuous isolation of end-users who did not feel as though their needs were being met.

"Moreover, a certain number of companies tend to buy technology based on how much it costs. Who can sell it for cheaper. You will find that maybe they'll consult up to five different suppliers and the one that they choose is not because they are very efficient, but they were a couple of rands slightly lower," Nwaila said.

Another significant challenge standing

in the way of greater Industry 4.0 technology adoption in the mining industry was the increased demand for the development of bespoke solutions, which used up the capacity of developers to develop generic solutions.

"Nowadays, each and every mine wants a bespoke solution because they will tell you they were facing a unique set of problems. And for that particular reason, it becomes difficult for original-equipment manufacturers to build engineering solutions that can be generalised to the entire industry," Nwaila said.

He added that the demand for greater efficiencies was leading to a trend of increasingly large machines to process larger volumes at a time. However, he warned that scale increases could not be implemented indefinitely.

"Everyone wants larger machines, something that is going to be faster and deliver something far much quicker. We tend to speak a lot of volume, but we tend not to think a lot about the maintenance that is required. The bigger you go, the more challenges you have," Nwaila said



## WORLD

# China-Russia ties example for the world, says Xi



Chinese President Xi Jinping (right) and Russian President Vladimir Putin shake hands as they meet for talks at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China, Oct 18, 2023. XINHUA

BEIJING

China and Russia together have found a new path for major countries and neighboring nations to treat each other with respect and pursue amity and mutually beneficial cooperation, President Xi Jinping said yesterday.

Xi made the remarks during talks with visiting Russian President Vladimir Putin at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Putin arrived in Beijing earlier in the morning for a two-day state visit to China, the first foreign trip since he was sworn in for the fifth term as Russian president on May 7.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the China-Russia diplomatic relations. Xi said it is an important milestone year in the history of China-Russia relations.

The steady development of China-Russia relations over the past 75 years has made positive contributions to maintaining global strategic stability and promot-

ing greater democracy in international relations, he said.

After lasting three quarters of a century, China-Russia relations have grown from strength to strength despite the ups and downs and have stood the test of a changing international landscape, Xi said.

The relationship has become a fine example for major countries and neighboring nations to treat each other with respect and candor and pursue friendship and mutual benefit, he added.

Xi said that over the years, he and Putin have met more than 40 times and stayed in close communication, providing strategic guidance that has ensured the sound, steady, and smooth development of the relationship. The China-Russia relationship today is hard-earned, and the two sides need to cherish and nurture it, he added.

With the concerted efforts of the two sides, China-Russia relations have been moving forward steadily, with enhanced

comprehensive strategic coordination and further cooperation on economy and trade, investment, energy, and people-to-people exchanges at the subnational level and in other fields, he added.

Noting China and Russia are permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and major emerging markets, Xi said it is the shared strategic choice of both countries to deepen strategic coordination, expand mutually beneficial cooperation, and follow the general historical trend of multipolarity in the world and economic globalization.

He called on the two countries to take the 75th anniversary as a new starting point, further synergize development strategies, and continue to enrich the bilat-

eral cooperation to bring greater benefits to the two countries and their people.

Xi expressed his readiness to work with Putin to jointly steer the future direction of bilateral relations and make new plans for cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

The two countries issued a joint statement on deepening the comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for the new era in the context of the 75th anniversary of China-Russia diplomatic relations.

President Xi and President Putin signed the joint statement following their talks at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

The two leaders jointly met the press later in the afternoon.

## South Sudan launches agro-pastoral climate resilience project

JUBA

SOUTH Sudan on Wednesday launched a five-year United Nations-backed project to build the resilience of vulnerable communities to the effects of climate change while restoring ecosystems.

The Watershed Approaches for Climate Resilience in Agro-pastoral Landscapes (WACRESS) is a 33-million-U.S.-dollar climate resilience project that aims to benefit more than 75,000 people and restore over 15,000 hectares of land.

Minister of Environment and Forestry Josephine Napwon Cosmas said climate change is currently a major threat to the world, and South Sudan is among the countries in the region most affected.

"The country is currently experiencing severe heatwaves, droughts, and unpredictable rain patterns. To address these impacts, the ministry has developed climate change strategies and projects to mitigate and adapt to these impacts," Napwon said in the South Sudanese capital of Juba.

She said the project, which will run from March 2024 to December 2028, will be implemented in Aweil Center and Aweil East counties of Northern Bahr el Ghazal State.

Titus Osundina, deputy resident representative of the UN Development Program (UNDP) in South Sudan, said the project aims to restore ecosystems and build long-term climate resilience among agro-pastoral communities using participatory watershed-based approaches.

Osundina said the UNDP will also re-establish and strengthen market linkages and agricultural value chains while equipping extension agencies to help communities adopt gender-responsive, climate-smart agricultural practices and diversify livelihoods through practical, farmer-field-based approaches and climate change adaptation strategies.

South Sudan is one of the countries rapidly affected by climate change. Over the past four years, persistent flooding in many parts of the country has affected the livelihoods of millions of people, and some areas have experienced drought.

## Moscow ready to navigate market challenges amid US' uranium import ban

MOSCOW

MOSCOW has viewed Washington's ban on Russian uranium imports from every angle and will right the market accordingly, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov told TASS.

"We have analyzed the situation with the ban on imports of uranium products. We will find ways to ensure the stability of the sales market and how to protect Russia's nuclear sector, a world leader in efficiency and technological development in almost all areas, from the negative consequences of these moves," he said.

Everything pointed to the US enacting such a ban, Ryabkov said, adding though that this latest move from Washington showed just how low it would go to try to hurt the Russian economy. "This anti-Russian frenzy flies in the face of both common sense and any consideration of economic reasonability," he said. "This is not the first time that the US has been ready to shoot itself in the foot to try to hurt us."

However, it will not succeed in hurting us, only damaging itself in the process. This is usual practice regarding Moscow as those who make decisions there are guided by the principle of 'cutting off your own nose to spite your face' in many instances," he noted.

Such absurd ideas "appear in political fringe groups in today's US" when it comes to Russia, later "gaining steam and becoming official policy," the official said.

"We have seen many examples of this. Washington is currently discussing with great gusto ways to steal Russian money and give it to Kiev, concurrently representing it as if this cheating is not cheating at all, but the protection of high ideals," he stressed.

Earlier, US President Joe Biden signed a law that prohibits the import of non-irradiated, low-enriched uranium produced in Russia or by any Russian company. Washington said that in moving away from Russian supplies, the US was ensuring its independence.

Agencies

## Hamas chief says Israeli amendments on ceasefire proposal led to deadlock

CAIRO

HAMAS chief Ismail Haniyeh blamed Israel on Wednesday for a deadlock in Gaza ceasefire negotiations and reiterated key demands including that any agreement provide a framework for a permanent end to Israel's offensive in the enclave.

Earlier this month, the Palestinian group said it agreed to a truce proposal from Qatari and Egyptian mediators that Israel previously accepted.

Israel disputed this, saying the three-phase proposal approved by Hamas was unacceptable because terms had been watered down. Ceasefire talks in Cairo broke up this month with no agreement.

"They also introduced amendments to the proposal that put the negotiation into a deadlock," said Haniyeh, who is based in Qatar, in a televised speech.



People move past destroyed buildings along a street in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip on May 14, 2024 amid the ongoing conflict in the Palestinian territory between Israel and Hamas. AFP

Haniyeh said his group was determined to pursue all available ways to end the conflict in Gaza, leaving the door open to more mediation efforts, but he held to

the group's key demands.

"Any efforts or agreement must secure a permanent ceasefire, a comprehensive pull-out from all of the Gaza Strip, a real prisoner swap

deal, the return of the displaced, reconstruction, and lifting the blockade," said Haniyeh.

Israel says it wants to reach a prisoners-for-hos-

tages deal but has so far refused any commitment to end the military offensive in Gaza, which it said seeks to annihilate Hamas.

Haniyeh, whose group has been running Gaza since 2007, rejected any post-conflict settlement in Gaza that excludes the group. "Hamas existed to stay," he said.

Israel says Hamas cannot have any role in ruling Gaza after the conflict is over. Its ally, the United States, says it wants to see Gaza and the West Bank reunited under Hamas' rival, the Palestinian Authority, which currently has limited self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Health authorities in Gaza say the conflict has killed almost 35,000 people since the Oct 7 attack by Hamas on Israel. Some 1,200 people were killed in Israel and 253 were taken hostage on Oct 7, according to Israeli tallies. **Agencies**

## India, Eritrea discuss ways to further broaden and deepen cooperation

NEW DELHI

INDIA and Eritrea held a second round of Foreign Office Consultations in Delhi on Wednesday and discussed ways to further broaden and deepen their cooperation.

The discussions between the officials of India and Eritrea focused on further promoting developmental cooperation and capacity building in the spirit of South-South cooperation, Ministry of Ex-

ternal Affairs (MEA) said in a statement. The two sides also spoke about existing cooperation between India and Eritrea in various sectors, including agriculture, health, pharmaceuticals, and mining.

In a statement, MEA stated, "Discussions were held in a cordial and constructive manner on a wide range of bilateral, regional and multilateral issues. They focused on further promoting developmental cooperation and capacity building in the spirit of South-South coopera-

tion." "Both sides also discussed existing cooperation in the fields of agriculture and food processing, health, pharmaceuticals, renewable energy, mining, trade and investment and ways to further broaden and deepen their cooperation," it added.

The officials of India and Eritrea also held talks on regional and global issues of mutual interest. For the meeting, the Indian delegation was led by M Suresh Kumar, Joint Secretary (WANA), Ministry

of External Affairs (MEA) while Ibrahim Osman Mahmud, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, led the Eritrean delegation.

"Underlining the importance of Digital Public Infrastructure as a focus area for cooperation, they discussed possible support/ cooperation to improve digital governance architecture in Eritrea. The two sides also exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual interest," MEA stated. **ANI**

## South African president signs National Health Insurance Bill into law

JOHANNESBURG

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa on Wednesday signed into law the much-anticipated National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill, which seeks to transform the country's "unequal" healthcare system.

"In signing this bill, we are signaling our determination to advance the constitutional right to access health care as articulated in Section 27 of the Constitution.

The passage of the bill sets the foundation for ending a parallel inequitable health system where those without means are relegated to poor health care," Ramaphosa

said at the signing ceremony held at the Union Buildings in Pretoria, the country's administrative capital. In his speech, Ramaphosa described the NHI as "an opportunity to make a break with the inequality and inefficiency" that characterized the country's approach to healthcare.

According to him, the real challenge facing the NHI would not be funding, as some have suggested, but the misallocation of funds that favored private health care. The president further noted that the healthcare system would tackle healthcare costs.

"The NHI is an important instru-

ment to tackle poverty. The rising cost of health care makes families poorer. By contrast, health care provided through the NHI frees up resources in poor families for other essential needs," he said.

The signing of the NHI Bill came after it was passed by the parliament last year. Its key objectives were to transform healthcare by addressing some of the challenges it faces, including infrastructure decay and shortages of healthcare workers.

According to Ramaphosa, the NHI's implementation will be gradual and phased. For years, South Africa has had a two-tier health-

care system, consisting of both public and private healthcare.

Around 84 percent of the population relies on public healthcare, while those who can afford medical insurance use private healthcare.

Organizations within the healthcare sector, representing healthcare workers ranging from nurses to doctors and specialists, have reacted to the signing of the NHI Bill. Some welcomed it, saying it would overhaul the healthcare system.

The Democratic Nursing Organization of South Africa (DENOSA), which represents thousands of nurses who are the backbone of

the public health system, said this would be a catalyst for change in healthcare. Sibongiseni Delihlazo, the DENOSA's national spokesperson, told Xinhua that nurses supported the NHI as they believed it would "dismantle" the unequal healthcare system.

"At last, South Africa will be doing away with the legacy of the two unequal systems. The concept of equal access to healthcare will finally be realized, where everyone has equal access based on their healthcare needs and not on how deep their pockets are," Delihlazo said.

He further mentioned that the

NHI would enable healthcare workers to work in an environment with adequate resources, adding that he supports the gradual implementation to address any "glitches" that might be encountered.

The National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (NEHAWU) called the signing of the NHI Bill into law a "watershed moment" for the country. "This means more resources will be pumped into the healthcare system to address all the outstanding issues," Lwazi Nkolonzi, NEHAWU's national spokesperson, told Xinhua.





## Barrick's sustainability strategy delivers real value

TORONTO

ALMOST \$12 billion of economic value generated by Barrick's mines last year remained in the countries in which it operates, according to the company's 2023 Sustainability Report published yesterday.

Barrick president and chief executive Mark Bristow says real, tangible sustainability can only be achieved through a holistic approach aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Barrick's conformance with ESG standards is a natural by-product of its sustainable business philosophy and not its driver.

"Barrick's distinctive approach to sustainability has evolved over many years, guided by the operational experience gained at its worldwide operations, the partnership philosophy at the heart of its business and the company's belief that all stakeholders should benefit from the value it creates," he says.

In 2023, 97% of its employees were host country nationals and \$43 million has been invested by the company's pioneering Community Development Committees (CDCs) in education, healthcare, food security, the environment, infrastructure and local economic development. Further details of Barrick's economic value contribution, including taxes paid, is included in its Standalone Tax Contribution Report for 2023.

On the safety front, there was a 21% year-on-year improvement in Barrick's Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate with total injuries reducing from 2022. The company also recorded its lowest malaria incidence rate, a 33% year-on-year decrease from 17.86% in 2022 to 11.35% in

2023. "Our safety performance has been given additional focused attention with the establishment of new groupwide safety protocols to drive fatal risks down and achieve the zero target we have set ourselves," Bristow says.

Also in 2023, Barrick achieved the target it set for itself for 2025 of reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 15%. Its Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions have now been reduced by 16% against its 2018 baseline. Barrick will continue to reduce these emissions, with the long-term goal to be Net Zero by 2050.

At the same time, it remains on track to achieve its Scope 3 emissions reduction targets which were set in consultation with its suppliers and service providers. Barrick also re-used or recycled 84% of the water it used in its operations, with an 85% recycle rate achieved at its water-stressed sites.

Further sustainability metrics, detailed by site, region and at a company level, can be found in the GRI sheet.

Barrick is also targeting no net loss on any Key Biodiversity Features (KBFs) identified at its sites and is contributing positively to the conservation of high-risk biodiversity features.

"This is best illustrated by the successful, and ongoing, reintroduction of white rhinos to the Garamba National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Today, these rhinos are safely roaming a park previously considered lost to poachers and nomad herders.

Its restoration means that the surrounding communities can look forward to a secure future and one that holds the promise of eco-tourism's economic awards," says Bristow.

Agencies

## Biden, Trump agree to debate on June 27 and September 10

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden and Republican rival Donald Trump on Wednesday agreed to face off in two debates on June 27 and Sept 10, setting up the highest stakes moments yet of the race for the White House.

"As you said: anywhere, any time, any place," Biden said on social media.

Trump called Biden "the worst debater" he has ever faced. "I am ready and willing to debate crooked Joe at the two proposed times in June and September," he posted on social media.

CNN, a division of Warner Bros Discovery, said the first debate would be held in their Atlanta studio with no audience, and would be moderated by anchors Jake Tapper and Dana Bash. Georgia is one of November's most closely contested states.

The candidates also accepted an invitation from ABC, which will host a second debate on Sept 10. A separate vice presidential debate has been proposed for July, after the Republican National Convention.

Key differences between the two sides remained on the terms of engagement. Biden said he would participate in those two debates under strict rules to reduce interruptions, while Trump called for more than two - and a very large venue "for excitement purposes".

Independent US presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr claimed in a new post on X that he will meet the criteria to participate in the CNN debate before the June 20 deadline. It remained unclear if he will qualify.

CNN requires its debate candidates to appear on a sufficient number of state ballots to reach the 270 electoral vote threshold and receive at least 15 percent in four separate national polls of registered or likely voters. A new Reuters/Ipsos poll showed only 13 pct of Americans would vote for Kennedy.

Earlier in the day Kennedy said Biden and Trump "are trying to exclude me from their debate because they are afraid I would win."

Debates, which will draw a US live television audience in the tens of millions, are fraught with risks for both candidates, who face a tight race and low enthusiasm from voters.

Biden aides think debates could hurt Trump by exposing his positions on issues, including abortion, that they regard as political vulnerabilities.

Trump aides see Biden as prone to verbal slip-ups that could amplify voter concerns about the 81-year-old president's age. Trump will be 78 by the time the first debate is held.

"Both candidates will be under greater scrutiny than they have ever been due to their age," Alan Schroeder, a professor emeritus at Northeastern University who wrote the book "Presidential Debates: Risky Business on the Campaign Trail." He called the debate "one of the only moments in which the candidates don't have complete control." The first debate would take place after the June 15 conclusion of the Group of Seven summit in Italy and Trump's criminal trial in New York.

### Details to be worked out

Biden's debate proposal, the first formal offer by his campaign, ditched the decades-old tradition of three fall debates and called for direct negotiations between the Trump and Biden campaigns over the rules.

Asked about any preference for format or topics, Biden-Harris campaign spokesman Michael Tyler said some details remained to be worked out.

The move to accept debates shows Biden is willing to take a calculated risk to boost his opinion poll numbers in a race in which he is trailing Trump in key battleground states. In addition to his age, voters remain concerned about Biden's handling of the economy.

Trump, who refused to debate his rivals during the Republican nominating race, has in recent weeks been challenging Biden to a one-on-one matchup with him, arguing that debates should be held before early voting begins in some states. He told conservative radio host Hugh Hewitt the debate should be two hours and that both men should be required to stand.

Biden's team earlier requested that only broadcast networks that hosted Republican primary debates in 2016 and Democratic primary debates in 2020 be eligible to host this year. Only four networks hosted debates for both parties during those election cycles: CNN, Telemundo, CBS News and ABC News.

The Biden team showed no signs of accepting Trump's invitation for more debates. A Biden campaign spokesperson declined comment on the issue.

Biden said he would not take part in the traditional televised showdowns organized by the Commission on Presidential Debates, rejecting the nonpartisan organization that has managed them since 1988.

Trump had also expressed interest in bypassing the commission, and the Republican National Committee announced in 2022 that the party would leave the commission's debate system altogether.

Agencies

## From Biden to Putin: Global leaders condemn shooting attack on Slovak PM; wish him speedy recovery

BRATISLAVA

REACTIONS poured in from across the globe condemning the shooting attack on Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico and wishing for his speedy recovery, as he continues to undergo treatment with his condition being termed "extremely serious."

Robert Fico, who is a four-time Prime Minister of Slovakia, was wounded in a shooting incident on Wednesday (local time) in Handlova, reported the local newspaper, The Slovak Spectator.

The critically wounded prime minister is still undergoing surgery in the town of Banská Bystrica. The alleged shooter was arrested on-site and the area was evacuated.

The United States has condemned the attack. President Joe Biden and Secretary of State Antony Blinken wished for PM Fico's speedy recovery.

"I am alarmed to hear reports of an attack on Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico. Jill and I are praying for a swift recovery, and our thoughts are with his family and the people of Slovakia. We condemn this horrific act of violence. Our embassy is in close touch with the government of Slovakia and ready to assist," President Biden said in a statement.

"The United States condemns the shooting of Slovak Prime Minister Fico. Our thoughts are with him, his family, and the Slovak people, and we wish him a full recovery," Blinken posted on X.

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said that he was "shocked" to hear about the incident.

In a post on social media platform X, Sunak wrote, "Shocked to hear this awful news. All our thoughts are with Prime Minister Fico and his family."

Russian President Vladimir Putin has condemned the shooting of Slovak PM terming it a "monstrous crime."

"There can be no justification for this monstrous crime. I know Robert Fico as a courageous and strong-minded man. I very much hope that these qualities will help him to survive this difficult situation," Putin said. The Russian leader wished Fico "a speedy and full recovery".

Notably, Fico was considered a supporter of the Kremlin. He had previously blamed "Ukrainian Nazis and fascists" for provoking Vladimir Putin into launching the invasion, as per CNN.



This image taken from video footage obtained by AFP shows security personnel carrying Slovakia's Prime Minister Robert Fico (center) towards a vehicle after he was shot in Handlova on Wednesday. AFP

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy also condemned the act of violence against Slovakia's head of state.

"The attack on Slovakia's Prime Minister Robert Fico is appalling. We strongly condemn this act of violence against our neighbouring partner state's head of government," Zelenskyy wrote on X.

French President Emmanuel Macron strongly condemned the attack and expressed solidarity.

"Shocked by the shots that hit Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico. I strongly condemn this attack. My thoughts and solidarity go out to him, his family and the Slovak people," Macron said. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz termed this a "cowardly attack" and said there should be no existence of violence in European politics.

"I am deeply shocked by the news of the cowardly attack on Slovakian Prime Minister Fico. Violence must not be existent in European politics. In these hours, my thoughts are with Robert Fico, his family and the citizens of Slovakia," Scholz stated.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan "strongly condemned" the attack and conveyed his best wishes.

"I strongly condemn the heinous assassination attempt against Slovakian Prime Minister Robert Fico, and I wish a speedy recovery to Mr. Fico, who was injured in the attack. I convey my best wishes to the people and government of Slovakia on behalf of my

country and nation," Erdogan said on X.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen condemned the "vile attack" and said there is no place for such acts of violence in the society.

"I strongly condemn the vile attack on Prime Minister Robert Fico. Such acts of violence have no place in our society and undermine democracy, our most precious common good. My thoughts are with PM Fico and his family," she stated.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni expressed her "deep shock" at the "cowardly attack".

"I learned with deep shock the news of the cowardly attack on Slovakian Prime Minister Robert Fico. All my thoughts are with him, his family and the friendly Slovak people. Also on behalf of the Italian Government I wish to express the strongest condemnation of any form of violence and attack on the cardinal principles of democracy and freedom," she stated on X.

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg also wished for PM Fico's speedy recovery.

"Shocked and appalled by the shooting of Prime Minister Robert Fico. I wish him strength for a speedy recovery. My thoughts are with Robert Fico, his loved ones, and the people of Slovakia," Stoltenberg said on X.

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said nothing can justify violence adding that the whole of Spain stands with the Slovak PM. Agencies

## China, Africa see expanded tourism cooperation

CHINA just witnessed a booming outbound tourism market during the past May Day holiday. Apart from traditional popular destinations in Southeast Asia and Europe, an increasing number of Chinese tourists chose to travel to Africa, to see the pyramids in Egypt and the vast plains of Kenya.

Not only Chinese but also international tourists are showing a growing interest in Africa. According to the newest edition of the World Tourism Barometer released by the United Nations World Tourism Organization, the number of international tourist trips paid to Africa hit 66.4 million in 2023. Among them, 39.6 million were paid to sub-Saharan Africa.

Analysts attributed the strong momentum of tourism in Africa to the diverse range of measures implemented by countries on the continent, which have injected new impetus into regional economic development.

During this year's May Day holiday, a woman surnamed Chen from east China's Zhejiang province had a trip to Kenya with her child.

"My child has always loved observing animals in the wild. On Kenya's vast grasslands, we saw lions hunting, gaining a firsthand understanding of the laws of nature that felt more real than what we read in books," Chen shared.

She told People's Daily that inside the conservation areas, they hiked alongside experienced guides, enjoying intimate and safe encounters with the animals. This experience was truly new to them, she said.

The temples and ancient ruins scattered along the Nile River, including the pyramids, the Sphinx and the Luxor Temple, have attracted many Chinese tourists.

"During this year's May Day holiday, the number of Chinese tourists visiting Egypt has significantly increased compared to the same period last year, with group tours remaining the preferred choice for travelers. There has also been a noticeable increase in independent travelers who prioritize freedom and personalized choices," said Wang Peizhong, head of the Egypt



Chinese tourists visit the Nelson Mandela Square in Johannesburg, South Africa.

China General Association, who has been engaged in the tourism industry for many years. According to him, his travel agency received new tourists every day during the holiday. According to statistics, Africa is becoming one of the popular destinations for Chinese tourists. Statistics released by online travel platform Mafengwo indicated that African countries such as Egypt, Morocco, Kenya, and Mauritius became new choices for many young travelers during the May Day holiday this year.

Data from Statistics South Africa also showed a rapid increase in the number of international tourists arriving in the country last year, with a total of 37,000 Chinese tourists, a year-on-year growth of 205.5 percent.

Tanzania's tourism authorities estimated that the number of Chinese tourists visiting Tanzania had grown from nearly 34,000 in 2019 to approximately 44,000 last year.

China and African countries are jointly strengthening their tourism capacity building. Recently, a training program on tourism capacity building for English-speaking African countries kicked off in Beijing and Hangzhou, hosted by

the Chinese Ministry of Commerce and organized by the Central Academy of Culture and Tourism Administration.

A total of 26 officials, experts, and scholars from countries including Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Tanzania participated in the training program.

The training program focused on topics such as tourism policies, scenic area development and management, standardization, and the integration of culture and tourism development. Experts and scholars from institutions such as the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the China Tourism Academy were invited to share China's practical experience in the development of the tourism industry.

A report on China-Africa Belt and Road cooperation highlighted that China has signed bilateral tourism cooperation agreements with 31 African countries, listed 34 African countries as outbound group tour destinations for its citizens and established 166 pairs of sister cities with Africa.

Both sides actively invite each other to participate in tourism exhibitions and join tourism promotion events, building

a platform for experience sharing, business negotiation, and product promotion between the Chinese and African tourism departments and enterprises.

Professor Song Wei from the School of International Relations and Diplomacy at Beijing Foreign Studies University said that as Belt and Road cooperation continues to deepen, China and Africa have carried out extensive cooperation to promote tourism visa facilitation, increase direct flights, enhance tourism safety and quality, strengthen hotel and scenic spot construction, and promote tourism routes, and these efforts have yielded fruitful results.

"The tourism industries of China and Africa have distinct characteristics and strong complementarity, exhibiting a reciprocal dynamic," Song added.

People's Daily





The president of the Council of East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA), Wallace Karia.

## Tanzania now set to host 2024 CECAFA Kagame Cup tourney

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) has confirmed Tanzania will host this year's edition of the CECAFA Kagame Cup, with the regional inter-club competition making a return after a two-year absence.

The tournament will return after the two-year hiatus, having previously taken place in Dar es Salaam in 2021.

Tanzania, the last showpiece host, has been elected as the host for the 2024 edition of the tournament slated for July 20 to August 4.

The Premier League champions from the 12-member associations, including Zanzibar, and four other invited teams will take part in the tournament.

John Auka Gecheo, CECAFA's Executive Director, confirmed that some guest sides will take part in the coming tournament.

"We are glad that this tournament will be returning after two years to provide a brilliant pre-season platform for the teams to prepare well before the start of the 2024-2025 CAF Champions League, CAF Confederation Cup and various leagues back home," Gecheo revealed.

Before the competition's return, CECAFA president Wallace Karia insisted the tournament is not dormant, revealing it is facing difficulties due to a lack of suitable dates to host it since the international calendar is congested.

"The calendar has been tight, clubs and national teams have had commitments and they are the ones who provide the players for the com-

petition," Karia said.

The CECAFA president remarked: "Teams are in AFCON, CHAN, or World Cup qualifiers, they also want to go to pre-season. So the calendar is tight and it becomes difficult for them to play in this competition."

Karia revealed: "It is not dormant. We need to look at the best way to play Kagame Cup but we will also go back to President (Paul) Kagame and ask him which way he can support and increase the prize money because our teams are now big and cannot play in competitions for little money."

Uganda's Express FC beat guest side, Nyasa Big Bullets FC from Malawi, 1-0 in the final when the tournament was last held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in 2021.

Tanzania's Simba SC has lifted the CECAFA Kagame Cup title a record six times, while the long-time rival Young Africans SC (Tanzania), and Tusker FC (Kenya) have triumphed in the regional showpiece five times apiece.

The teams that have lifted the title three times each include APR FC (Rwanda), Al Merreikh (Sudan), SC Villa (Uganda) and Kenya's Gor Mahia FC.

Other notable winners include Rayon SC (Rwanda), Al Hilal (Sudan), Express FC (Uganda), and Kenya's AFC Leopards - all having claimed the title two times each.

Currently, Yanga, Burundi's Vital'O FC, and APR FC are the clubs guaranteed a spot in the 2024 tournament after winning their respective countries' 2023/24 premier league top honours.

## Gamondi avoids resting on his laurels after Yanga's PL triumph

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans SC head coach Miguel Gamondi is adamant that he is not the person who should rest on his laurels after leading the club to the 2023/24 NBC Premier League triumph.

With three games to go before the curtain comes down on the 2023/24 NBC Premier League season, Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, has already wrapped up the league title.

It is the 30th league title in the history of the Jangwani Street club, and it was confirmed after a 3-1 win over Mtbwa Sugar away from home.

The win took Yanga's points tally to 71, beyond the reach of second-placed Azam FC and the former's long-time rival Simba SC, currently placed third.

In the wake of Yanga's triumph, Gamondi, who joined the club at the start of this season, has set his sights on an even bigger goal.

The Argentinian coach wants to turn Yanga into one of the top five teams on the African continent.

This ambition goes beyond mere on-field success. Gamondi envisions a holistic transformation of the club, encompassing an increased fan base and enhanced professionalism.

He seeks to elevate Yanga to a level that will see it compete with the continent's giants, in terms of results and overall stature.

Gamondi's vision aligns with that of Yanga's president, Hersi Ally Said, who shares the aspiration of propelling the Jangwani Street giants to new heights.

This shared ambition has fostered a strong partnership between the coach and the president, laying the founda-



Yanga's head coach Miguel Gamondi.

tion for the club's future growth.

"The goal we discussed with Young Africans' president (Hersi Ally Said) was to put the outfit in the (list of) top five teams on the continent," Gamondi said.

The Argentine added: "But (it should not only be) on the pitch, Yanga must grow in numbers, the structure of the club on a professional side to improve. But the goal is to be strong not just about results but try to compete with the biggest teams on the continent."

Yanga's third successive league title serves as a springboard for Gamondi's ambitious plans. It has not only solidified Yanga's domestic dominance but also showcased the side's potential on a larger stage.

Gamondi's emphasis on growth and development indicates a long-term vision for the club, one that transcends immediate success.

The journey towards becoming one of the top-five clubs in Africa will undoubtedly be challenging.

However, with Gamondi's tactical acumen, leadership, and unwavering ambition, Yanga, which reached the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League

this season, is well positioned to make significant strides towards achieving this lofty goal.

Gamondi, who was also a league title winner with South Africa's Mamelodi Sundowns in 2007, expressed his elation and pride in Yanga's achievement.

While acknowledging the significance of the Premier League silverware, Gamondi emphasized that the team's style of play and embodiment of his football philosophy throughout the season brought him the most satisfaction.

"They displayed a fantastic (brand of) football," Gamondi remarked, highlighting his players' ability to absorb and execute his tactical vision on the pitch.

For the coach, witnessing his team translate his message into action is the ultimate reward.

He underscored the importance of entertaining the fans, saying: "I always say, for me, football is a show, we need to entertain the football fans."

He emphasized that results are not the sole objective - how those results are achieved holds greater significance.

The team's prolific attacking record, with over 100 goals

scored in all competitions, is a testament to Gamondi's commitment to offensive football.

However, he acknowledged the need for adaptability, citing instances where a more pragmatic approach was necessary, particularly against formidable opponents like Al Ahly and Mamelodi Sundowns in the CAF Champions League.

Gamondi also shed light on the challenges faced by the team after losing star striker Fiston Mayeye to Egypt's Pyramids FC. Recognizing the budgetary constraints, he focused on reinventing the team's attacking strategy.

Through the club's astute scouting and tactical adjustments, Gamondi successfully integrated new players and redefined the roles of existing ones, leading to a seamless transition and continued offensive dominance.

Three of Yanga's signings ahead of the 2023/24 season - Pacome Zouzou, Maxi Nzengeli and Kouassi Yao Attohoulala, and Joseph Guede Gnadou - signed during the mini registration period - have been key for the club this season.

The coach's emphasis on training intensity and the players' unwavering belief in themselves were identified as key factors in the team's success. He praised the players' dedication and work ethic.

Gamondi's reflections on Yanga's league title victory paint a picture of a coach who values not only results but also the process, style, and spirit with which those results are achieved.

His emphasis on entertaining the fans, adapting to different situations, and fostering a strong team culture has undoubtedly played a crucial role in the team's triumph.

As Yanga is basking in the glory of the club's achievement, Gamondi's words serve as a reminder that true success encompasses more than just lifting trophies.



Coastal Union head coach David Ouma. (Agencies)

## Ouma's impact leads Coastal Union to a remarkable turnaround in Premier League

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SINCE the arrival of head coach David Ouma, Coastal Union has shown remarkable improvement and a distinct transformation on the pitch.

Following a 0-0 draw against Geita Gold FC, the team from Tanga has demonstrated significant progress compared to previous seasons, both tactically and technically.

Ouma has been instrumental in refining the team's tactical and technical prowess. His focus on enhancing individual player skills, particularly in defense, has been evident.

The team has conceded only 18 goals this season, a notable improvement and just six more than league leaders Young Africans, who have let in 12 goals.

Goalkeeper Ley Matampi has been exceptional, securing 12 clean sheets, which has been crucial to the team's defensive solidity.

Ouma took over as Coastal Union's head

coach on November 9, last year, succeeding Mwinyi Zahera, who struggled to keep pace with the team's ambitions.

Since his appointment, Ouma has started to etch his name in the club's history, guiding them to perform significantly better than in previous seasons.

The team has shown potential to surpass the points' tallies of 33, 38, and 40 from the past three seasons, aiming for an even higher finish if they maintain their current form in the remaining matches.

Coastal Union, former champions of the Mainland Premier League (first division era) in 1988, recently managed a 0-0 away draw against Geita Gold. The draw has positioned them firmly in the race for a top-four finish, accumulating 38 points from 27 matches with three games left in the season.

Ouma's impressive record includes winning five consecutive matches out of the 17 he has overseen, showcasing his ability to instill a winning mentality within the squad. This consistency has placed

Coastal Union in a favorable position to challenge their rivals and secure a higher league standing.

Despite not being initially considered contenders for the top four, Coastal Union has defied expectations this season. Many had predicted Singida Fountain Gate to secure a top-four spot due to their roster of foreign stars and the previous season's performance.

However, Coastal Union's resilience and tactical astuteness have seen them outperform expectations under Ouma's guidance.

In the 27 games played so far, Coastal Union has won 10, drawn eight, and lost nine. Under Ouma's leadership, the team has secured nine wins, three draws, and five losses.

Notable victories include triumphs over Tanzania Prisons (1-0), Geita Gold (3-0), Kagera Sugar (1-0), JKT Tanzania (1-0), Dodoma Jiji (1-0), Mtbwa Sugar (1-0), Thefu FC (1-0), Mashujaa (2-1), and Singida Fountain Gate (2-0).

The team's defeats under Ouma were against Singida Fountain Gate (2-1), Tabora United (1-0), Simba (2-1), Namungo (1-0), and Yanga (1-0).

Ouma's success can be attributed to his ability to instill discipline, foster team spirit, and implement effective tactical strategies. His players have embraced his vision, showing dedication and passion to achieve their collective goals.

The Kenyan tactician found a squad eager for success and has harnessed this enthusiasm to elevate their performance levels.

As the season approaches its climax, Coastal Union still has crucial matches ahead to secure a top-four finish. Their upcoming fixtures include challenging encounters against Kagera Sugar, JKT Tanzania, and KMC.

These matches will be decisive in determining whether Coastal Union can achieve their ambitious goals set at the beginning of the season.

For the next season, Coastal Union's

leadership should focus on retaining the best players in their squad. Rumors suggest that top teams in the league are eyeing defender Lameck Lawi and goalkeeper Ley Matampi. It's crucial for the club to keep these key players to maintain their competitive edge.

Additionally, the management should allocate more time and resources to support coach Ouma. Providing him with the necessary tools and backing will enable him to continue leading the team towards greater success.

Under Ouma's stewardship, Coastal Union has not only improved their standing in the league but also rekindled the hope and passion of their supporters.

The team's journey this season is a testament to what can be achieved with the right leadership, dedication, and tactical acumen.

As they strive to finish in the top four, Coastal Union's remarkable transformation continues to be a story of resilience, ambition, and strategic brilliance.



## FIFA meets to award 2027 Women's World Cup under Gaza cloud

BANGKOK

FOOTBALL's world governing body FIFA will decide the hosts for the 2027 Women's World Cup at its congress in Bangkok today, where the war in Gaza will also rear its head.

After the 2023 World Cup in Australia and New Zealand lifted the women's game to new heights, FIFA must decide whether to take the 2027 edition to South America for the first time or return to Europe.

FIFA's 74th Congress -- held for the first time in Premier League-mad Thailand -- will also hear a call from the Palestinian Football Association to sanction Israel for "violations of international laws", though FIFA says it will not vote on the matter.

Delegates will vote on Women's World Cup bids from Brazil and a joint offer from Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany.

Brazil, home of women's football greats such as Formiga and Marta, appear to be the narrow favourites after FIFA's evaluation task force scored their bid slightly higher.

The evaluation report notes the "tremendous impact on women's football in the region" that South America hosting the Women's World Cup would have.

Brazil's bid includes 10 stadiums used for the men's World Cup in 2014, with Rio de Janeiro's famous Maracana lined up for the opening match and the final.

But work needs to be done, in particular to the Amazonia stadium in Manaus which has stood almost unused for a decade.

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) has been in turmoil with president Ednaldo Rodrigues ousted by a court ruling in December, only to be reinstated a week later by another judge.

Suspensions of government interference raised the threat of penalties from FIFA or football's regional ruling body in South America, Conmebol.

By contrast, Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands are offering a "compact tournament footprint" that uses rail links to reduce the environmental impact. But the FIFA inspectors warned of a "more complex legal framework" with the European bid -- which could mean higher costs.

AFP

## Premier League in the US? FIFA weighs allowing overseas games

BANGKOK

FIFA is to consider allowing domestic leagues to play matches overseas, opening the door to money-spinning English Premier League or Spanish La Liga clashes being staged in the United States, the Middle East or Asia.

Football's world governing body on Wednesday agreed to set up a 10-15 strong working group to examine the idea and make recommendations.

The Premier League and La Liga, with their vast global followings, have long mooted the idea of playing matches outside their home territories.

The new FIFA committee will "gather further information and issue recommendations to the Council regarding potential amendments to the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches (FRGIM)", the body said in a statement.

The council -- FIFA's regular decision-making body -- said the group would consider 10 aspects of hosting overseas games.

These include the impact on fans, how it would affect the balance of the competition, whether the games would be one-offs or a regular feature, and the impact on football.

Top European clubs regularly play lucrative friendlies around the world such as Tottenham Hotspur and Newcastle United's clash in Melbourne next Wednesday, just three days after the end of the Premier League season.

US broadcasters in particular are keen to cash in on the booming popularity of the English top flight by hosting competitive matches.

La Liga has said it aims to play matches in North America as early as 2025.

Up to now, dreams of a mouthwatering Arsenal v Manchester City or Real Madrid v Barcelona clash stateside have been thwarted by FIFA rules that say competitive league games must be played in their home country.

Much-discussed plans for a Premier League "39th game" overseas were dropped in 2008 following opposition from supporters' groups, FIFA and UEFA.

But a legal challenge in the United States last month prompted FIFA to reconsider their long-held opposition to out-of-territory matches.

The move came as delegates gather in Bangkok for FIFA's annual congress on Friday, where the host of the next Women's World Cup will be decided.

After the 2023 World Cup in Australia and New Zealand lifted the profile of the women's game to new heights, FIFA will decide whether to award the 2027 edition to Brazil or a joint bid from Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands.

AFP

# Esperance, Ahly resume great African club rivalry in final

TUNIS

EPISODE 23 of a great African club rivalry unfolds in Tunisia tomorrow when Esperance host Egyptian visitors Al Ahly in the CAF Champions League final first leg.

Ahly have won 10 and drawn eight of their 22 meetings in the premier continental competition since first clashing 34 years ago, and are appearing in a record fifth straight final.

But while the Cairo Red Devils are favourites to lift the trophy a record-extending 12th time after an unbeaten 12-game march to the title decider, Esperance have also impressed.

The Blood and Gold are back in the final for the first time since completing back-to-back Champions League triumphs in 2019 and, like Ahly, boast a formidable defence.

"Every Champions League opponent raises their game against Ahly. We are the most successful club in Africa so everybody wants to beat us," Swiss coach Marcel Koller told reporters.

Ahly have won 24 African titles in four competitions, 13 more than their closest rivals, compatriots Zamalek and TP Mazembe from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Both finalists have kept 11 clean sheets in 12 qualifying,



Yan Sasse (L) celebrates scoring for Tunisian club Esperance with fellow Brazilian Rodrigo Rodrigues. Agencies

group and knockout matches, with goalkeepers Mostafa Shobeir of Ahly and Amanallah Memmiche of Esperance the unexpected stars.

A son of former Ahly goalkeeper Ahmed Shobeir, Mostafa was promoted after captain Mohamed El Shenawy suffered a shoulder injury during the 2024 Africa Cup of Nations.

Shobeir rose to the occasion and has not conceded in six Champions League matches,

leaving Koller with a selection headache.

Does he continue with Shobeir or recall fit-again El Shenawy after both were included in a 23-man squad?

- Young goalkeeper stars -

Esperance began this Champions League campaign with veteran goalkeeper Moez Ben Cherifia captaining the side, but he has dropped to the bench with 20-year-old Memmiche preferred.

Promoted when a teenager,

Memmiche has not conceded in his last eight Champions League matches as Esperance seek a fifth title.

Where Ahly have a clear advantage over Esperance is scoring, netting 19 goals en route to the final compared with a meagre nine by their rivals.

There have been contributions from 11 players to the Ahly total with Hussein El Shahat (five) and Mahmoud Kahraba (four) the leading

scorers.

Despite topping the Champions League goals chart, however, El Shahat was an unused substitute in the 3-0 semi-final, second-leg victory over Mazembe.

South African winger Percy Tau will hope to add to his solitary goal in the African campaign this season.

A returnee to the Ahly squad is Mali midfielder Aliou Dieng, back in contention after a three-month absence due to a knee injury.

Esperance coach Miguel Cardoso says reaching the final is the "biggest achievement of my career". He previously struggled at clubs in France, Spain, Greece and his native Portugal.

He took over this January after two Tunisians, 2018 and 2019 Champions League winner Mouin Chaabani and Tarek Thabet, had short spells in charge.

Yan Sasse, plucked from the obscurity of Wellington Phoenix reserves in New Zealand, has scored three Champions League goals, but fellow Brazilian Rodrigo Rodrigues has yet to get off the mark.

Other potential starters include centre-back Mohamed Tougai and winger Houssam Ghacha from Algeria and Togo midfielder Roger Aholou.

AFP

# With excitement and errors aplenty Man U perfectly encapsulate the Erik ten Hag era

By Richard Jolly

IF this proves Erik ten Hag's farewell to Old Trafford, at least it summed up some of the finest elements of the Dutchman's fraught second season at Manchester United. There was entertainment in abundance and goals by three youngsters; Kobbie Mainoo and Amad Diallo were given their chance by Ten Hag. Rasmus Hojlund signed by him. A patched-up team delivered a victory against one of the better teams in the country, Casemiro was talismanic if also culpable, the Stretford End sang supportively and the roof didn't leak.

In the bigger picture, it may only postpone various forms of disappointment for four days. United need to better Newcastle's result on Sunday to move out of eighth and avoid their lowest finish for 34 years. Stay there and they will need to win the FA Cup to qualify for Europe. Eddie Howe's side may instead be the United in continental competition next season. Newcastle are still on course to finish above Manchester United for the first time since 1975, but now there is some final-day jeopardy for the Geordies.

For Ten Hag, there was excitement and excellence, but also errors. United's defence were run ragged by Anthony Gordon. They somehow only conceded twice - Newcastle had 21 shots, to add to the multitude of the United's opponents have enjoyed in recent months - and there were few indications a high-class team is being



Erik ten Hag addresses to Old Trafford crowd following Manchester United's 3-2 win over Newcastle United. Agencies

forged. But there was a terrific performance by Bruno Fernandes as a roving striker, a late strike by the substitute Hojlund and earlier goals from Mainoo and Diallo; neither was near anyone's first-choice team at the start of the season and now each could end the campaign starting the FA Cup final.

Mainoo is the younger and was the first to make his mark; Amad has surged into contention in the last two months. For each it was a second Old Trafford goal, and the first came against Liverpool. Perhaps that suggests each has a big-match temperament, though if the eventual verdict is that these sides only contested a Europa Conference League place, perhaps not.

But after consecutive defeats, Ten Hag's team reconnected with their attacking instincts. The next generation brought youthful verve and an end product. Amad, who starred for Sunderland last season, registered

an assist and a goal against Newcastle. For the breakthrough, he weaved a pass through a group of Newcastle players to Mainoo. Played on by Kieran Trippier, a potential England teammate this summer, the teenager placed a shot into the bottom corner. It was an unfortunate return for Trippier, making his first appearance since March and producing the second worst interpretation of

an offside trap seen at Old Trafford in the last few days, though not the only imperfect execution of it on the night. If it damns Amad to suggest he is an upgrade on Antony, he looks far more than that. The £85m Brazilian is not even the best left-footed right winger at Old Trafford and the Ivorian whistled in a shot from 14 yards, connecting sweetly with a half-volley after Jacob Mur-

phy headed a corner away. When he departed, Hojlund came on and angled a shot into the bottom corner of Martin Dubravka's net.

But United's defence was scarcely watertight; Bruno Guimaraes headed just wide while Andre Onana saved from Sean Longstaff and Joelinton. Sofyan Amrabat clipped Gordon's heel in the box, ripping his sock but not conceding a penalty.

And the Merseysider, scorer of a December winner against the other United, added a May equaliser, even if it came in defeat. Gordon stole in behind Casemiro, again lingering behind the rest of the defence, to meet Jacob Murphy's cross. Too quick and persistent for United, Gordon was the supplier when Alexander Isak's shot looped up off Amrabat and hit the bar.

Yet Newcastle encountered unexpected resistance in the idiosyncratic shape of Casemiro. With Lisandro Martinez's comeback occurring as a late sub-

stitute, the Brazilian had a third consecutive outing at centre-back; a liability at the back in the previous two, he enjoyed a redemptive first half. He made a perfectly-timed penalty-box tackle on Gordon and cleared Dan Burn's header off the line. On an early foray forward, he almost scored with an audacious overhead kick. Casemiro suggested the spirit is willing, whatever the limitations of the legs.

He did, though, have a part in two Newcastle goals, heading an injury-time corner out only for Lewis Hall to dispatch a sweet shot from 25 yards beyond Onana. It all added to the drama and there have been 49 goals in United's last 11 games. Which, in part, is because they have conceded the majority of them, but as they shaded a five-goal thriller, they retained their hopes of finishing seventh. But while even that reflects badly on Ten Hag, this was a night to show his season has not all been bad.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Esperance, Ahly resume great African club rivalry in final

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Angola's Petro de Luanda head coach Alexandre Santos. Agencies

## Simba linked with Petro de Luanda's Portuguese coach

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA have been linked with a move for Angola's Petro de Luanda head coach Alexandre Santos as they look to find a permanent replacement for Abdelhak Benchikha who resigned last month.

Juma Mgunda is the interim coach at Simba and it has now emerged that the club is interested in luring away the Portuguese coach from Petro de Luanda, according to a report in this week's South African publication of iDiski Times.

The publication reports that Simba are interested in the 47 year-old, who has also worked a lot with former Nigerian national team head coach Jose Peseiro as his assistant at FC Porto, SC Braga, Al Ahly and the Saudi Arabian national team.

His current contract expires by the end of the current season and it has been reported by Angolan media that he has decided not to continue with Petro de Luanda.

Santos is currently on target for a third consecutive domestic league title with Petro de Luanda and took the Angola giants to the quarter finals of CAF Champions League, where they were eliminated by DR Congo's TP Mazembe.

In the 2021/22 season, Santos led Petro de Luanda to the semifinals of the CAF Champions League, when they registered a famous victory over South African giants Mamelodi Sundowns in the quarterfinals.

To get Santos' signature, Simba will have to beat tough competition in Morocco's Wydad AC and South African sleeping giants Kaizer Chiefs.

However, it is not clear if Simba are looking to replace interim head coach Mgunda in time for next season, as well as making several other changes to their coaching staff.

Mgunda has led Simba in five games so far and he remains unbeaten after securing three wins and two draws.

There have been wins against Azam, Tabora United and Mtibwa Sugar with two draws coming away to Namungo and Kagera Sugar.

Mgunda's Simba will be next seen in action this evening as they take on Francis Baraza's Dodoma Jiji in a vital league fixture away from home.

The two teams will meet for the first time since August last year when Simba under the then head coach Roberto Oliveira 'Robertinho' side secured a 2-0 victory at Uhuru Stadium.

# Champions League qualification on the line as Simba meet Dodoma Jiji



Simba interim head coach Juma Mgunda during a training session recently. Photo: Courtesy of Simba

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA's battle to secure second position in the NBC Premier League table will continue this evening when they face hosts Dodoma Jiji at Jamhuri Stadium.

With just four games of the season to play, Simba are still very much in the running for the second spot but face competition with current runners-up Azam, who are three points better off than Juma Mgunda's side.

Simba drew their last league

the damaging draw with Kagera Sugar on Sunday before resuming their fight for second place.

An optimistic Mgunda added that his side will dust themselves off and go again, against Dodoma Jiji as they seek to close the gap on Azam.

Simba have also won each of their last three away encounters with Dodoma Jiji by an aggregate score of 4-1, including an emphatic 1-0 victory in January last year, so there is a reason for Mgunda and co to be optimistic of success today.

Defence hasn't been the strongest unit for Simba. It has allowed 24 goals, which is the fifth-fewest in the league.

While the defence has wavered, the attack has played well, scoring 51 times. It is the third-most goals scored by an NBC Premier League team behind Champions-elect Young Africans and Azam.

If the final CAF Champions League spot comes down to goal difference, Simba could find themselves at a disadvantage at the moment.

They have scored fewer goals than Azam while conceding more.

What this means is that Simba have to secure victory by a greater margin to go second because their goal difference is currently inferior to Azam by seven.

The Msimbazi Street outfit did not pick up any fresh issues against Kag-

era Sugar, but there could be a couple of changes to the starting side, with Clatous Chama in line for a recall after serving his three-game suspension.

As the league comes to a close for Dodoma Jiji, it's about survival. The New Capital City boys are languishing down in 11th position.

They are just four points above the drop zone. Log points could help them avoid the relegation playoffs, a contest no team wants to be a part of at the end of the regular campaign.

Dodoma Jiji come into the game on the back of a goalless home draw with Namungo on Tuesday in the NBC Premier League.

While the hosts would love nothing more than to bring their three games winless to an end here, their recent history in this fixture suggests they may struggle to do so, having failed to beat this opponent in their last seven league meetings, including a 2-0 loss in the reverse fixture back in August last year.

Another issue of concern for Francis Baraza's side is their blunt attack.

Dodoma Jiji's attack has slumped at the worst possible time. They have not scored in any of their last three league games.

As a result, they have the league's second-worst attack having registered just 17 goals in 26 games.



The National Sports Council (NSC) chairman, Leodegar Tenga, speaks to journalists about the 2023 Best Sportspersons Awards gala to be held on June 9, 2024 in Dar es Salaam. Looking on are the Awards Committee's secretary, Neema Mitha (R) and Christina Koroso, the committee's member. The event took place on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## NSC to organize Best Sportspersons Awards next month

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Sports Council of Tanzania (NSC) will organize the second edition of the Best Sportspersons Awards in Dar es Salaam on June 9.

The awards aim to recognize and honour the country's sportsmen and women, as well as teams that have performed well in various competitions.

Speaking to journalists in the city on Wednesday, NSC Chairman Leodegar Tenga

said hosting the awards gears towards motivating the players to do well in their respective sports.

"This year, we will hand over awards to all sportsmen and women who have done well in various sports, a move that will make them step up their efforts," Tenga said.

He moreover congratulated President Samia Suluhu Hassan and the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports for seeing to it that Tanzania scales great heights in sports.

He said that through these

efforts, Simba SC and Yanga made it to the last-eight stage of this season's CAF Champions League, and congratulated the two clubs' leaders and members.

"For many years we have not seen our teams excel in continental competitions. We have, this time, witnessed the feat due to the efforts of our leaders," the NSC chairman disclosed.

The Awards Committee Chairman Professor Madundo Mtambo pointed out that the committee has, this year,

made great improvements, unlike last season.

He said the improvements made by the committee target to not only reward individual sportsmen and women - as was the case in the past - but also hand over prizes to the best coach and the best referee of the year.

"We have decided to make these improvements to give the awards value. The committee will do its job clearly (when it comes to) rewarding each player who has shown great professionalism," Mt-

ambo added.

He also mentioned the 16 categories of the awards, some of which are the Best Female Player, Best Male Player, Best Male Player for Athletes with Disabilities, Best Female Player for Athletes with Disabilities, as well as Best Female Journalist and Best Male Journalist.

The awards committee chairman also asked various stakeholders to come out in large numbers on the day so they could witness the awards presentation.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

WE OFFER THREE KINDS OF SERVICES: GOOD, CHEAP AND FAST

PICK ONLY TWO

GOOD AND CHEAP WON'T BE FAST.  
FAST AND CHEAP WON'T BE ANY GOOD.  
GOOD AND FAST WON'T BE CHEAP AT ALL.