



National Pg 3
Samia: Exams success, source of national pride

National Pg 4
Tanzanian youth in 2025 social equity programme

National Pg 6
Beekeeping value chain initiative starts centres



Dr Natu El-Maamry Mwamba (L), Permanent Secretary in the Finance ministry, exchanges documents in Dar es Salaam yesterday with Kemi Williams, Director for Development at the British High Commission in Tanzania. It was shortly after they had signed an agreement under which the UK will contribute 34.28bn/- to the Health Basket Fund over a five-year period, with a view to enhancing the provision of quality healthcare services in the Tanzania from 2024 to 2029. Looking on is Health ministry permanent secretary Dr John Jingu. Photo: Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

'Stressed women turning to drugs'

By Henry Mwangonde

ANTI-DRUGS enforcers have reported seizing 687.32 kilogrammes of skunk and one kilogramme of hashish in Dar es Salaam city's Goba suburb over the past month. The drug

was hidden inside a suspect's house. Investigators have meanwhile said that a large number of people using the particular drug are women.

Aretas Lyimo, the Drug Control and En-

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SPORTS

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Simba to stay at KMC Stadium despite Yanga's venue change

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Ruben Amorim axes Ruud van Nistelrooy on first day as Manchester United head coach

UK joining donor health basket fund with 34bn/-

"Healthcare for all means that everyone, regardless of where they live or their financial situation, should be able to access quality healthcare when needed"

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

BRITAIN and Tanzania have signed an agreement to boost contributions to the Health Basket Fund (HBF), with a £10m (34bn/-) commitment from the United Kingdom to enhance healthcare services.

Dr Natu El-Maamry Mwamba, the Treasury permanent secretary and

Kemi Williams, the development director at the UK High Commission signed the pact in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The pact is scaled to support healthcare delivery from 2024 to 2029 by improving the quality and accessibility of health services across the country, an agreement that some observers view as reflecting a fresh impetus on UK assistance to tackle African challenges in the

wake of the change of government there.

Health permanent secretary Dr John Jingu, the Regional Administration and Local Governments deputy permanent secretary Dr Grace Magembe witnessed the signing, where the Treasury executive hailed the UK for joining the fund.

She expressed the government's satisfaction with an addendum to the previous agreement, which now formally recognises the UK as a key development partner contributing to the health sector support fund.

The new annex takes to a higher level the memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the development partners

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CCM instructs PO-RALG to reinstate 'axed' candidates

By Henry Mwangonde

THE ruling CCM has directed the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments- PO-RALG), to disregard minor errors in candidate forms for the upcoming civic polls which occasioned the disqualification of a wide range of contestants.

Dr Emmanuel Nchimbi, the CCM secretary general, said at a press conference yesterday the party secretariat had consulted with the chairperson, President Samia Suluhu Hassan on the issue, as opposition parties raised concern over the disqualification of their candidates for technicalities or errors across the country.

The president has instructed that na-

The overwhelming participation of people in the electoral process is proof that Tanzania's democracy is maturing

tional interests should take precedence in the election process, where the secretariat executive said that party headquarters had observed several shortfalls in the handling of the elections.

This particularly concerns the filling of candidate nomination forms where the supposed errors or technicalities touched off an avalanche of disqualification of numerous party candidates.

The correction of polls handling is intended to ensure broader participation in the democratic process and prevent likely poll disruptions, he said, asking PO-RALG to show flexibility and facilitate the participation of nominated candidates even with minor errors.

Supervisors should disregard the mi-

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African elephants: Study profiles key rates of decline

By Guardian Reporter

AN average decline of 90 percent for the African elephant population, a 70 percent decline for the savannah elephant population and a combined average decline of 77 percent across both species in the continent has been affirmed in a recent study.

George Wittemyer, top expert with Save the Elephants and senior author of the study, said that the study published by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, was conducted by two conservation groups, Save the Elephants and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

The study helped pinpoint regions where the population of the iconic land mammals increased

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'Stressed women turning to drugs'

FROM PAGE 1

forcement Agency (DCEA) commissioner general, said at a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the primary reasons are stress, relationship issues and the search for personal enjoyment.

He described skunk as a highly potent strain of cannabis with particularly high levels of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the principal psychoactive constituent of cannabis, adding that the drug contains high levels of toxins that can cause serious health problems.

Lyimo explained that hashish is made from a mixture of cannabis flowers and seed oil and when smoked it releases harmful chemicals that can lead to igniting mental health issues.

He added that enforcers at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) in Dar es Salaam seized 120 millilitres of codeine-based medication that was being illegally transported abroad.

There was another substantial haul, an additional 327 millilitres found at a suspect's home in the Tabata Kinyerezi area, he said, noting that these drugs were brought into the country illegally, disguised with fake labels as dog and cat shampoo to avoid detection.

In Dodoma Region, two suspects, Suleiman Mbaruku Suleiman alias Nyanda (52) and Kimwaga Msobi Lazaro (37), both residents of Kinyali Street in Viwandani ward, were arrested with 393 grammes of heroin.

"Nyanda is a key figure in the drug trade in the region and had been under surveillance for some time. Many addicts at the Itega rehabilitation centre, which treats people with addictions, were influenced by him and the drugs he supplied," he stated.

Overall, law enforcers seized 303,553 kilogrammes of cannabis, 103.8 grammes of heroin and 63 kilogrammes of khat in various locations, similarly noticing that some shisha vendors were mixing shisha with drugs without their customers' knowledge.

He explained this tendency as sale boosting methods, where research and samples have shown that some business owners are vio-

lating the country's laws. "We intend to regulate the sale of shisha," the commissioner declared.

When questioned, convicted drug dealers affirmed that women were their primary market, while research conducted in beauty salons and among groups of female users found that skunk was often used to relieve stress, but sometimes it led to addiction.

"Women, particularly those facing life's challenges and betrayal in relationships, have turned to this drug as a solution. This shift occurred after heroin became less available in the country due to increased enforcement measures," he said.

Heroin has become less available, and what remains is often mixed with substances like maize flour and seeds, which reduces its effectiveness. As a result, many users have turned to skunk, he elaborated.

Despite ongoing controls, there has been a rise in the use of pharmaceutical drugs with narcotic properties, typically prescribed to cancer patients or those in severe pain, as substitutes for illegal drugs.

However, the government has placed strict regulations to control the sale of the drugs in pharmacies, aiming to curb the rise in addiction, even as the law enforcers seized 1,006,105 kilogrammes of drugs, 447 millilitres of addictive prescription drugs, destroyed 157.4 acres of cannabis farms, confiscated 19,804 litres of precursor chemicals, while arresting 58 suspects.

Challenges faced by DCEA in its operations include numerous porous border points which unscrupulous individuals exploit to smuggle drugs, he explained, highlighting that corruption and drug trafficking are closely linked.

"We have entered into an agreement with the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to collaborate in tackling this issue," he said, pointing at instances where cannabis or khat plantations are found in areas where local government officials are present.

"And you have to wonder, how did they not notice this? And at border points, how are drugs being smuggled through cargo vehicles when customs officers are on duty?" he queried.

CCM instructs PO-RALG to reinstate 'axed' candidates

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nor issues that led to disqualification of contestants especially at this stage of the appeals process, so that many people can take part in the polling, he emphasised.

While the disqualifications may have been legally justified, the core purpose of the law is to strengthen and not to disrupt the democratic process, he said, elaborating that laws are initiated to promote peace and democracy, not to cause confusion or chaos.

"We need to ensure that our laws facilitate the democratic process, not hinder it," he said, reiterating that President Samia is adamant on protecting the country's democracy, where the large number of those registered to participate in the civic

polls as a sign of democratic growth.

"The overwhelming participation of people in the electoral process is proof that Tanzania's democracy is maturing," he stated, as PO-RALG state minister Mohamed Mchengerwa urged political parties to use the remaining period for appeals to resolve the issues.

President Samia effectively directed that all candidates disqualified due to minor errors should be reinstated, with only those who committed serious violations remaining disqualified.

This decision is part of an effort to ensure inclusivity and fairness in the upcoming elections, a critical exercise for the country's democratic development, the secretariat executive intoned.

African elephants: Study profiles key decline rates

FROM PAGE 1

dramatic growth, the study affirms, and successful conservation efforts, with the population of both savannah and forest elephant species having declined sharply in the past half a century across sub-Saharan Africa.

The just released research report analysed hundreds of population surveys from 475 sites across 37 African countries between 1964 and 2016, focusing on the population dynamics of elephants in their natural habitats.

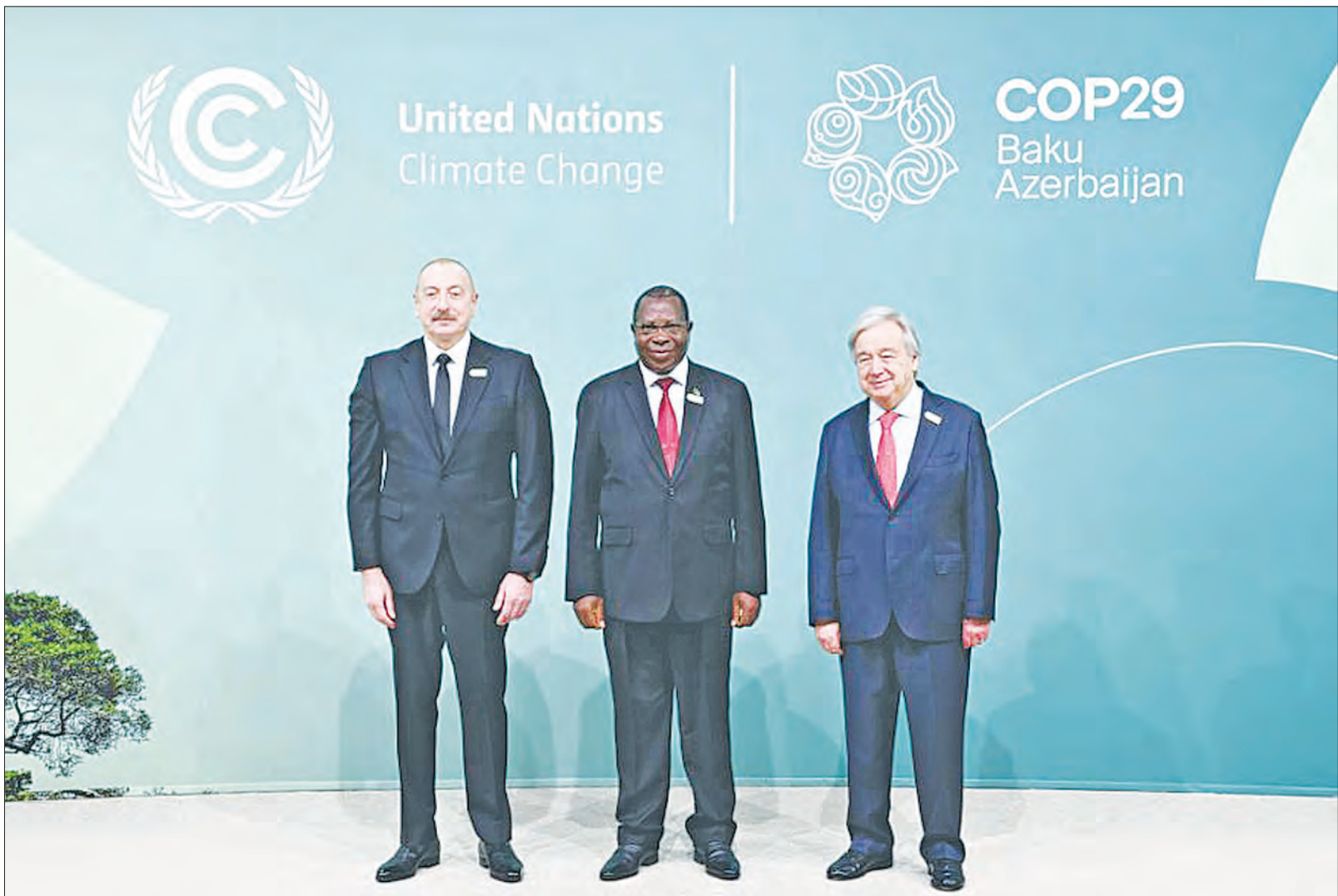
"We must develop and implement a portfolio of effective solutions to address the diverse challenges elephants face across Africa," the lead author intoned, asserting that trends of the elephant population in the continent varied significantly.

While some populations disappeared entirely, others recorded

growth, the study affirms, elaborating that in southern Africa, the savannah elephant population saw an average increase of 42 percent, while only 10 percent of surveyed populations in eastern Africa showed growth.

By contrast, northern savannahs recorded no elephant population growth, with many elephant groups becoming extinct, it said, underlining that these trends show the severe threats facing these land mammals, including poaching, habitat loss and climate-related stresses.

Boo Maisels, a conservation scientist at the Wildlife Conservation Society and a contributing author of the study, said that if well protected and managed, the African elephants can still thrive in their natural habitats despite the myriad threats they face.



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango pictured in Baku yesterday with Azerbaijan's President, Ilham Aliyev (L), and United Nations Secretary General António Guterres shortly before the opening of the November 11 - 22 Conference of the Parties (COP-29) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in progress in the Azerbaijani capital. Photo: VPO

UK joining donor health basket fund with 34bn/-

FROM PAGE 1

in July 2021 on the matter, as donor countries were taking a new interest in development issues at the new financial year after a change of government.

The fund pools resources to improve healthcare services across Tanzania, she said, pointing at collaboration with Ireland, Denmark, Switzerland governments as well as with agencies like the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United

Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). This is crucial to achieving major national healthcare goals, she stated, asserting that the fund's resources were essential for significant improvements in healthcare, including reduced child mortality rates and better community access to basic services.

The Health top civic official specified that fund resources support healthcare services in village dispensaries and district hospitals since it was set up in 1999, stressing that the UK's support is invaluable as efforts to strengthen the health-

care system are pursued. The PO-RALG top executive stated that collaboration through the fund has enabled the government to significantly increase the number of health centres, dispensaries and district hospitals.

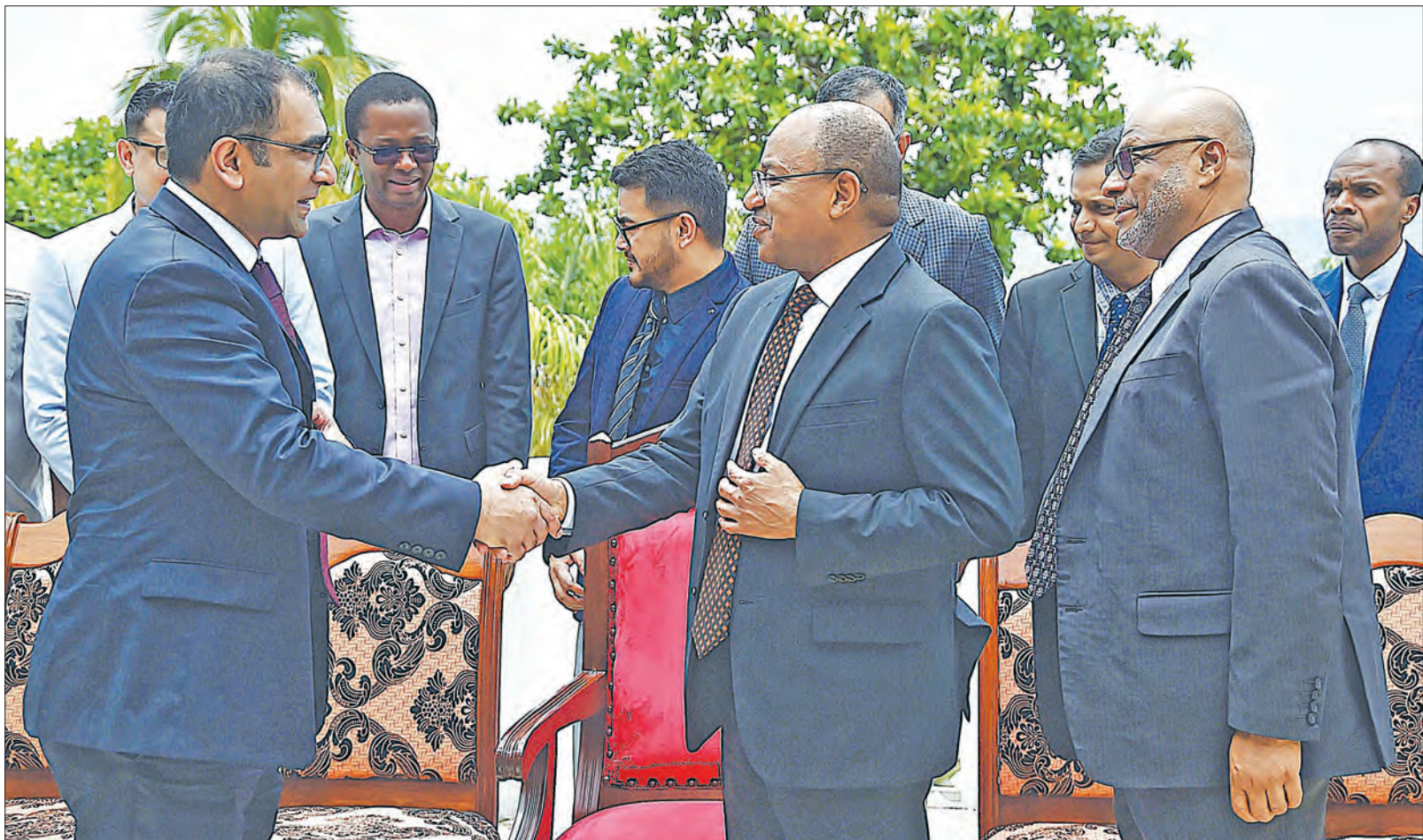
As a result, over 65-70 percent of the public now have access to healthcare services within five kilometres of their homes, while the diplomat emphasised the UK's commitment to universal healthcare.

"Healthcare for all means that everyone, regardless of where they live or their financial situation,

should be able to access quality healthcare when needed," she said.

She praised President Samia Suluhu Hassan and the government for efforts in advancing universal healthcare, citing ongoing reforms plus implementation of the universal health insurance policy.

"We recognise and support Tanzania's vision of universal health coverage and its goal of ending preventable deaths by 2030. Our partners will continue to provide technical support to improve the quality of primary healthcare services," she added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi bids farewell yesterday to the Geneva-based Head of the Delegation of Specialist Doctors and Experts in the Fight Against Non-Communicable Diseases, Mukul Bhoia, shortly after talks at Zanzibar State House. Right is Zanzibar's Health minister, Nassor Ahmed Mazrui. Photo: Zanzibar State House

World's longest detained journo scoops rights prize

ASMARA

A JOURNALIST detained in Eritrean prison without trial for 23 years has won a Swedish human rights prize for his commitment to freedom of expression.

Dawit Isaak, who holds dual Eritrean-Swedish citizenship, was given the Edelstam Prize "for his exceptional courage", the foundation behind the award said in a statement.

Dawit was one of the founders of Setit, Eritrea's first independent newspaper. He was detained in 2001 after his paper published letters demanding democratic reforms.

Dawit was among a group of about two dozen individuals, including senior cabinet ministers,

members of parliament and independent journalists, arrested in a government purge.

Over the years, the Eritrean government has provided no information on his whereabouts or health, and many who were jailed alongside him are presumed dead.

The Edelstam Prize, awarded for exceptional courage in defending human rights, will be presented on 19 November in Stockholm.

Dawit's daughter, Betlehem Isaak, will accept the prize on his behalf as he remains imprisoned in Eritrea.

His work with the Setit included criticism of the government and calls for democratic reform and free expression, actions that led to his arrest in a crackdown on dissent.

The Edelstam Foundation has

called for Dawit's release, urging the Eritrean authorities to disclose his location and allow him legal representation.

"Dawit Isaak is the longest detained journalist in the world. We are very concerned about his health and his whereabouts are unknown, he is not charged with a crime, and he has been denied access to his family, consular assistance, and the right to legal counsel - effectively, it is an enforced disappearance," said Caroline Edelstam, the chair of the Edelstam Prize jury.

His "indefatigable courage stands as a testament to the principle of freedom of expression."

The Edelstam Foundation also urged the international community to pressure Eritrea for Dawit's

release and to advocate for human rights reforms.

The Edelstam Prize honours individuals who show exceptional bravery in defending human rights, in memory of Swedish diplomat Harald Edelstam.

Eritrea is the only African country without privately owned media, having shut down its private press in 2001 under the pretext of "national security."

Dawit, who fled to Sweden in 1987 during Eritrea's war for independence, returned after the country gained independence in 1993 after becoming a Swedish citizen.

There have been no elections in Eritrea since its independence, and President Isaias Afwerki has held power for nearly 31 years.



Air traffic controller Jackson Nchimbi (L, gesturing) pictured at the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority's Air Traffic Control Centre at the Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam at the weekend taking visiting journalists around the facility. Photo: Correspondent Dickson Mulashani

Stakeholders demand resilient, tech-driven systems of education

By Gertrude Mbago

EDUCATION stakeholders have emphasised the need for African countries to invest in resilient education systems that ensure access to quality education for all even during times of crisis.

Speaking at the opening of the 4th International Quality Education Conference (IQEC) in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Faraja Nyalandu, chairperson of the Tanzania Education Network (TEN/MET) Board, highlighted the importance of investing in information and communication technologies (ICTs) such as connecting schools to the internet to facilitate quality education.

She stressed that ICT integration will help improve teaching and learning, producing competent graduates for various sectors.

"The Covid-19 outbreak highlighted the need for education systems that allow children to learn whether inside or outside the classroom. We must ensure the learning environment is effective even when students can't physically attend classes," she said.

Nyalandu also noted that despite progress in the education sector, many children remain out of school due to various challenges.

Themed 'Fostering Resilient Education Systems for Sustainable Development in Africa', the conference aims to explore ways education systems can effectively respond to current challenges and adapt to technological advancements, ensuring long-term development across the continent.

Elke Wisch, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Country Representative, emphasised the need for investment in quality education to meet the demands of a changing digital economy

and the impacts of the climate crisis. She commended Tanzania's education network for its efforts to improve the sector.

"In the context of education, digital transformation not only increases access to technology and learning platforms but also strengthens the education system's ability to foster digital literacy and 21st-century skills for all children," Wisch said.

Mohamed Mchengerwa, Minister of State in the President's Office for Local Government and Regional Administration, reaffirmed the government's commitment to enhancing education systems and increasing funding to ensure quality education for all.

"The theme of this conference reminds us of our responsibility to build systems that are resilient and sustainable," he said.

He also mentioned recent updates to the Education and Training Policy, aimed at fostering critical thinking, resilience, and practical skills in pupils.

Martha Makala, TEN/MET National Coordinator, noted that the three-day conference would explore the role of technology in enhancing educational systems, developing 21st-century teaching methods and sharing successful initiatives from Tanzania and beyond.

"The evolving science, technology and cultural shifts have a significant impact on education trends. This conference provides an opportunity to seek solutions to the emerging challenges in education," Makala said.

Organised by TEN/MET and its partners, the conference brought together over 300 participants from across Africa, including Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Sudan, Lesotho, South Africa, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Cameroon.

Samia says 'best of luck' to Form Four candidates

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has said that pupils' success in examinations is a source of immense pride for teachers, parents and all Tanzanians.

The remarks come as national Certificate of Secondary Education Examination (CSEE) began on Monday.

In a statement shared on her X page on Monday, President Samia emphasised that the government's ability to provide fee-free education and continue its development initiatives is made possible through payment of taxes and peace and stability in the country.

"These successes will further enable the government to continue its efforts to improve education system, ensuring it meets the evolving demands of our society and the current educational landscape," she said.

"Best of luck to all Form Four pupils as you begin your final exams. I wish you success and peace as you prepare to contribute positively to your families, communities and our nation," President Samia added.

Dr Said Mohamed, Executive Secretary of the National Examinations Council of Tanzania (NECTA), reported that 161,020 pupils, or 23.3 percent of those who took the Form Two exams two years

ago, will not be able to graduate this year.

Dr Mohamed explained that two years ago, when the pupils sat for their Form Two exams, a total of 690,341 pupils were registered. This year, however, only 529,321 pupils are registered to take the Form Four exams, showing a gap of approximately 161,000 pupils absent from the exam registration list.

For the 2024 CSEE, Dr Mohamed confirmed that 557,731 candidates are registered. Of these, 529,321 are school candidates while 28,410 are private candidates.

Breaking down the gender distribution, Dr Mohamed noted

that among the school candidates, 250,562 are boys (47.34 percent), and 278,759 are girls (52.66 percent).

Ezekiel Magoto, a parent of one of the candidates, highlighted that parents sacrifice a lot to provide their children with education, including paying school fees.

"Every parent wants their child to perform well, as it is the greatest expectation. Our goal is always to see them succeed," he said.

Magoto also urged pupils to adhere to the rules and regulations governing the exams, stressing the importance of avoiding malpractice.

"Any deviation from the standards could jeopardise their academic future," he warned.

By Guardian Reporter

THE Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Community Development has expressed satisfaction with the toll bundle purchasing system at Nyerere Bridge in Kigamboni District, Dar es Salaam.

The committee urged users to adopt the payment method, citing its cost-effectiveness, convenience, potential to reduce traffic congestion and ability to increase revenue. Unlike in the past when users were required to pay each time they crossed, the new system allows users to pay in bundles on a daily, weekly or monthly basis.

Speaking during the visit to the 680-metre-long bridge recently, Committee Chairperson Fatma Toufiq commended the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) for its efforts in implementation of the toll bundle payment system.

"Effective systems have been established that not only alleviate traffic challenges but also minimise opportunities for revenue loss at the bridge," she said.

The committee reaffirmed its support for all initiatives under the sixth-phase government and expressed confidence that social security funds, such as NSSF will continue to add value for their members through strategic investments.

Committee member Katani Katani praised the toll bundle payment system at the bridge, highlighting its ease of use, user-friendly design and positive impact on reducing traffic congestion.

Mariam Kisangi, a committee member, noted that the Nyerere Bridge

Parliament committee supports new payments system at Nyerere Bridge

project has contributed significantly to the development of Kigamboni community and urged residents to continue using toll bundles to avoid inconvenience.

Another lawmaker, Athumani Maige, encouraged the public to embrace the bundle payment method for bridge crossings, commending NSSF for its effective project management.

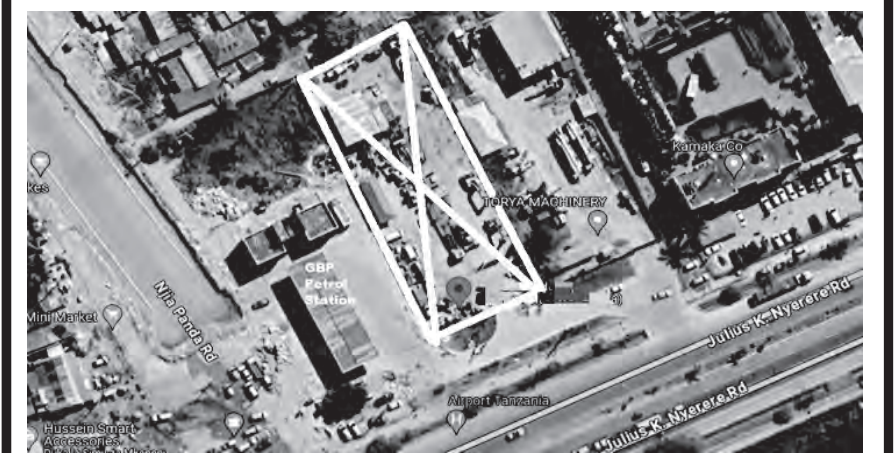
Ridhiwani Kikwete, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities), emphasised the importance of educating the public about the benefits of using toll bundles as they reduce hassle for users.

"Using toll bundles is a good practice that will increase revenue while minimising frustration for bridge users. It's essential to continue educating citizens about this system to help them avoid inconvenience," he said.

NSSF Director General, Masha Mshomba, noted that the fund continues to encourage bridge users to purchase daily, weekly, or monthly bundles for ease of access.

Mshomba thanked the committee for their feedback and promised to act on their recommendations to ensure effective implementation.

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1. WWF Tanzania Country Office is a Non-Government Organization dealing with environmental protection in Tanzania since 1990 and it has supported the Government of Tanzania in implementing various projects on Marine, Forest, Fresh Water and Wildlife. WWF global mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:
 - i. conserving the world's biological diversity;
 - ii. ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable and
 - iii. Promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.
2. WWF Tanzania intends to sale by tender its 2 units of USED Motor Vehicles listed in the table below, we thus, now invite sealed bids for sale by tender the following motor vehicles;

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S/n	Vehicle Type	Reg. No.	Location	Condition
1	Toyota Land cruiser Hard Top	DFP 9249	WWF - DSM	Grounded
2	Toyota Hilux Double Cabin	DFP 8199	WWF Bunda	Grounded
3. Interested eligible applicants may visit the office for further information and viewing located at;

Plot # 252 Mikocheni, Kiko St. Off Mwai Kibaki Rd
Tel. +255 - 22 - 2775346/2772455/2700077
Mail: procurement@wwftz.org
Web: wwf.or.tz
And
WWF Tanzania- Bunda Office
Bomani Area, near DC Office

Visiting hours from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm on Mondays to Fridays. For more information on who we are, what we do and what we stand for, you may also wish to visit the following website link;
https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/consultancies_and_tenders/

4. ONLY electronic applications/bids properly filled, should be sent through procurement email (procurement@wwftz.org) so as to reach us by or **before 1000hrs local time, Monday, 28th November, 2024** the APPLICATION should clearly mention the type and registration number of the vehicle of interest e.g. **BID FOR PURCHASE OF USED VEHICLE # DFP 6106** "BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF USED VEHICLE Reg. # DFP 6379" etc Please, direct all applications following address:

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5. Late applications, portion of applications shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstance (please, remember that, only electronic applications will be accepted)
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11. WWF has a principle of zero tolerance for fraud and corruption, if you encounter such an incident, then report by sending an email to fcci@wwftz.org

'CSOs grapple with cumbersome registration, regulatory barriers'

By Correspondent Ashton Balaigwa, Morogoro

THE Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) has raised concerns over proliferation of laws that complicate operations of civil society organisations (CSOs) in the country.

TLS argues that the legal challenges hinder CSOs' ability to operate effectively and complicate the efforts of donors wishing to support development initiatives in the country.

Mackphason Mshana, TLS Programme Manager, made the remarks yesterday here during a working session with 15 CSOs participating in the 'Our Citizenship' project which is funded by the European Union (EU) through the Foundation for Civil Society (FCS).

He said that one of the key issues facing CSOs is the complex and fragmented registration processes.

"Despite being non-governmental organisations, CSOs are registered with various authorities: some are registered by the Ministry of Home Affairs, others by the Registrar of NGOs, and other by the Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA). This lack of a unified registration system creates implementation challenges for CSOs across the country," he said.

Mshana pointed to additional legal hurdles, including the 2002 NGOs Act which requires CSOs to renew their operational permits every 10 years.

He said: "While the law recognises that registration is permanent, organizations must renew their permits every decade. Many CSOs rely on external donors and when a permit is close to expiry, it creates difficulties for both the donors and the CSO, especially if they implement long-term projects. This

often leads to project cancellations." He further emphasised that one of TLS's main objectives is to help unify CSOs under a single legal framework which would allow the sector to present a collective voice.

Joelbert Shamte from the Centre for Youth Dialogue in Zanzibar said as part of the 'Our Citizenship' project, the organisation has been working to improve relationship between CSOs and the government in Zanzibar. He said their efforts have focused on identifying and addressing barriers within the civil society to help the organisations contribute more effectively to national development and support government initiatives.

Shamte reported that their efforts to engage with the government in Zanzibar have been met with a positive response.

However, he highlighted challenges in securing donor funding due to the current registration requirements. Donors often perceive CSOs as non-compliant with tax regulations even though the organizations are not businesses.

Doreen Audax, Project Coordinator at Child Support Tanzania- Mbeya, shared her experience with the challenges faced by CSOs working with vulnerable groups.

Her organisation's project focuses on helping people with disabilities access their rights, including democratic participation.

She emphasised the importance of CSO-government collaboration, noting that through their project, they have demonstrated that CSOs can work with the government to present proposals and ideas that align with national development goals, helping to dispel the misconception that the organisations have separate or conflicting political agenda.

African CSOs call for productivity in revamped agriculture strategy

By Special Correspondent, Kampala

AS African leaders prepare for the 2025 Kampala Summit to adopt a revamped Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) strategy, civil society and farmer organizations have pressed for agroecology to be integrated into the continent's agricultural framework.

They argue that agroecological practices—emphasizing local, sustainable, and biodiversity-friendly farming—could address Africa's food insecurity more effectively than the industrial agriculture approaches currently dominant in policy.

During a press conference in Kampala over the weekend, groups including the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA), the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA), and the Uganda chapter of the Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) emphasized the need for an agricultural strategy that empowers smallholder farmers, protects biodiversity, and builds a resilient, self-reliant food system.

They are calling on African governments and the African Union to adopt agroecology as a core strategy, citing its potential to improve crop resilience by up to 30% in areas affected by drought and extreme weather.

Despite repeated efforts over the past two decades, Africa has failed to effectively implement strategies to feed its rapidly expanding population.

Although CAADP was established in 2003 under the Maputo Declaration to drive agricultural investment and reduce food insecurity across Africa, its ambitious targets remain largely unmet.

The CAADP framework had called for African nations to allocate 10pc of national budgets to agriculture, aiming for 6pc annual sector growth. Progress was limited, however, prompting leaders to issue the 2014 Malabo Declaration to reiterate CAADP commitments and improve accountability and sustainability in agricultural strategies.

While civil society organizations

(CSOs) appreciate the participatory process that allowed them to submit proposals for the updated CAADP strategy, they reported that their calls for agroecology, food sovereignty, and climate resilience have been largely ignored in favour of industrial farming models. CSOs argue that these industrial approaches have proven ineffective in meeting Africa's needs and could undermine the continent's natural resources.

The coalition urged Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, alongside the Ugandan Ministry of Agriculture, to rally other African leaders to support policies that empower small-scale farmers and prioritize sustainable, local food systems.

Specific recommendations include prioritizing agroecology by recognizing it as a key strategy in CAADP to build resilience and sustainable agricultural practices.

The continent should also ensure inclusive decision-making by involving youth, women, pastoralists, fisherfolk, and small-scale producers in policy processes.

The CSOs also want governments to protect genetic resources through enforcement of strict biosafety measures against corporate control over African genetic resources and resisting reliance on GMOs and synthetic agro-inputs.

Mechanisms to support farmer-managed seed systems should also be put in place and adequate financial backing for seed systems managed by farmers and biofertilizers provided to promote soil health.

Lastly, the CSOs want an Advisory Council for Smallholder Farmers established within CAADP to ensure that smallholder farmers' perspectives are prioritized alongside the private sector's.

These organizations stress that the success of African agriculture hinges on policies that respect the knowledge and resilience of Africa's smallholder farmers. They argue that integrating agroecology into CAADP could lead to more resilient, self-reliant food systems that are better equipped to meet the continent's growing food needs sustainably.



Public Service Social Security Fund acting director general Mbaruku Magawa makes a presentation at a seminar held in Dodoma city yesterday for prospective retirees who are members of the fund. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Young Tanzanians set to take part in leadership, entrepreneurship face-off

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

YOUNG Tanzanian finalists in the Social Equity Programme will face other candidates from six other African countries in January 2025 for the climax event.

The Social Equity Programme is an initiative by Junior Achievement Africa to equip young people aged between 16 and 25 years with leadership and entrepreneurship skills.

The SEP project started in 2023 globally and expanded to Tanzania this year.

On the other hand, the Junior Achievement (JA) Africa is one of the continent's largest organizations dedicated to youth economic empowerment.

It forms part of JA Worldwide which is one of the world's largest youth-serving Non-Government Organizations. JA Africa's mission is to prepare young Africans for the future job market.

In Tanzania, the project was organized by E3Empower Africa in collaboration with Junior Achievement Africa and Zurich foundation and ran from April to October 2024.

Chief Executive Officer of

E3Empower, Ji-Young Rhee, said here yesterday that more than 8000 students underwent a series of training in around 59 boot camps at 18 universities and colleges, 20 secondary schools and three non-government organizations.

The sessions involved four days of intensive training on entrepreneurship and leadership skills and an online entrepreneurship programme.

At the end of every four days of intensive training boot camp, students came up with project ideas addressing social challenges and pitched them to a panel of

judges on the last day of the camp. A total of 490 social project entries were obtained in all the boot camps and among them 10 were selected as semi-finalists.

The AfrInnovate Youth Challenge was held on Saturday for the top 10 semi-finalist teams to compete so as to get top 3 teams and one team that will progress to regional competition which will involve participants other African countries namely Uganda, South Africa, DRC, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso.

The Regional competition will be held in the second week of January 2025.



Residents of Enguserosidan village in Kitemo District, Manyara Region, come together at the weekend at an unusually well-attended rally addressed by their (Kitemo constituency) legislator, Edward ole Lekaita. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Climate change worsens refugees crisis, says UN

By Special Correspondent

CLIMATE change helps to drive a rising refugee crisis, adding to the huge numbers already displaced by conflict, according to a United Nations report.

Three-quarters of the world's forcibly displaced people live in countries heavily affected by climate hazards, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) said in the document released on Tuesday.

The number of people fleeing conflict doubled to more than 120 million over the past decade, 90 million of them in countries with high-to-extreme exposure to climate-related hazards, it reported.

Half of displaced people are in locations affected by both conflict and serious climate hazards, such as Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan and Syria.

"For the world's most vulnerable

people, climate change is a harsh reality that profoundly affects their lives," said UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi.

"The climate crisis is driving displacement in regions already hosting large numbers of people uprooted by conflict and insecurity, compounding their plight and leaving them with nowhere safe to go."

About 700,000 people were forced to flee war in Sudan crossing into neighbouring Chad. The country has hosted refugees for years, but is highly exposed to climate change. Those who remain in Sudan are at risk of further displacement due to severe flooding, the report says.

More than 70 percent of refugees from Myanmar have sought safety in Bangladesh, where cyclones and flooding are classified as extreme.

"In our region, where so many

people have been displaced for so many years, we see the effects of climate change before our very eyes," said Grace Dorong, a climate activist and former refugee living in South Sudan.

"I hope the voices of the people in this report help decision-makers to understand that if not addressed, forced displacement - and the multiplying effect of climate change - will get worse. But if they listen to us, we can be part of the solution, too."

The UN report was released at the COP29 climate meeting in Azerbaijan. Delegates from nearly 200 countries are gathering this week to discuss climate change-related challenges, although larger ones, such as the United States and China, have not sent top-level delegations.

The climate summit opened

on Monday amid new warnings that 2024 is on track to break temperature records, adding urgency to a fractious debate over climate funding as poorer countries seek an increase in the \$100bn-a-year target at the forum.

Damilola Ogunbiyi, UN special representative on sustainable energy, said one of her "key expectations is on the role of climate finance."

"We have a record-breaking year of investments in clean renewable energy. However, only 15 percent of that goes to the Global South," she said.

The recent election of Donald Trump as the US president has added a sense of renewed urgency to the event. Trump has repeatedly threatened to pull the US out of the landmark Paris Agreement to limit global warming.

Minister raises concern as road crashes, deaths increase sharply

By Getrude Mbago

DEPUTY Minister for Transport David Kihenzile has expressed concern over the alarming number of road traffic fatalities in the country, revealing that more than 5,000 people have died in road accidents over the past three and a half years.

Kihenzile gave the figures in Dar es Salaam yesterday during a ceremony to award certification cards to long-distance passenger bus attendants who completed training and registered with the Land Transport Regulatory Authority (Latra).

The deputy minister reported that in 2021, there were 1,698 accidents, resulting in 1,245 fatalities and 2,023 injuries. In 2022, the number of accidents rose to 1,720, with 1,545 deaths and 2,271 injuries. In 2023, a total of 1,733 accidents occurred, causing 1,647 deaths and 2,716 injuries. This year, 872 accidents have occurred, resulting in 816 deaths and 1,216 injuries.

"The statistics from the past three years paint a concerning picture of road safety in our country," Kihenzile said.

He added: "One might question

what actions the government has taken to address this issue in addition to enforcing regulations and introducing new laws. Today's event marks a key step by Latra to tackle this problem head-on."

Kihenzile praised Latra's initiative, noting that it reflects their recognition of the challenges and commitment to finding solutions.

He further urged bus operators to strictly adhere to road safety laws to reduce preventable accidents. He also highlighted the importance of first aid services on buses.

"As part of your training, you have been taught how to administer first aid to assist injured passengers. I urge you to ensure that first aid kits are always available on your buses,"

he said.

Kihenzile instructed Latra to take action against any service providers who fail to ensure their staff undergo the required training.

"Not only will this improve professionalism of service providers but also create more jobs, raise the profile of the industry and enhance its credibility and respect. I emphasise that providing high-quality service should be a top priority," he said.

Prof Ahmed Ame, Chairman of Latra Board of Directors, reaffirmed the authority's commitment to ensuring that land transport services are of the highest quality.

He stressed that Latra will continue to enforce regulations ensuring drivers are certified, and attendants are properly trained.

"Training bus attendants is crucial because it equips them with skills to enable them assist passengers during emergencies, especially when first aid is required. It also ensures the safety of passengers, their belongings and proper handling of luggage," he said.

He added that a total of 750 attendants received training, with 174 meeting requirements to be officially registered by Latra.



The statistics from the past three years paint a concerning picture of road safety in our country



Members of an International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) delegation and experts from the Agriculture and Fisheries Development Programme coordinated by the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), accompanied by specialists from the Livestock and Fisheries ministry, the Regional Administration and Local Governments wing of the President's Office and Zanzibar's Blue Economy and Fisheries ministry pictured on Monday touring the Kilwa Masoko (Lindi Region) site where the construction of a port and fish processing factory is under way. Photo: PMO

African youth network unveiled to nurture innovation in digital health

By Special Correspondent, Kigali

YOUNG Africans are set to transform digital health landscape with the launch of Youth in Digital Health Network (YiDHN) by Africa CDC in collaboration with the German International Development Agency -African Union (GIZ-AU) office.

Africa CDC's Youth Division announced the programme on the sidelines of the 2024 Africa HealthTech Summit in Kigali, Rwanda. The youth-led initiative seeks to amplify youth voices, foster leadership and connect young innovators with multilateral organisations in the health and technology sectors.

The launch was preceded by a two-day co-creation workshop where participants discussed opportunities and challenges for youth engagement in Africa CDC's Digital Transformation Strategy (DTS). Through collaborative sessions, they identified solutions to overcome barriers to youth-led innovation and enhance youth participation in health policy and decision-making.

Dr Jean Nsengimana, Chief Digital Advisor at Africa CDC, underscored YiDHN's role as a key player within the broader African digital health networks to advance

and the DTS. "This strategy aims to revolutionise health systems across the continent through the adoption of digital technologies, promotion of data-driven decision-making, and fostering of collaborative solutions to combat health challenges, ultimately improving health outcomes for all African Union Member States," he said.

During the workshop, four significant challenges were identified for YiDHN to address. These include Digital Literacy—bridging the digital divide; Regulatory and Policy Frameworks—establishing supportive policies to drive youth innovation; Funding and Innovation Gaps—improving access to financial resources; and Stakeholder Access—facilitating connections with government and private sector leaders.

Ibraheem Sanusi, Head of the Project for Strengthening Crisis and Pandemic Action in Africa at the GIZ-AU office, acknowledged the importance of tackling these challenges. "This has been an initiative designed and created by young people themselves; all we have done is to provide the platform, resources, and incentives required to move from talking to doing," he emphasised.

The YiDHN was launched to empower African youth to drive

and shape digitally enabled, equitable, and resilient healthcare systems in Africa. It will contribute to the vision of the African Digital Health Network to unite Africa's digital health communities to share knowledge, build partnerships, drive innovation, and enhance capacity building, fostering collaboration for sustainable health outcomes across the continent.

The YiDHN's strategic objectives include empowering youth leadership through digital literacy, increasing youth participation in governance and policy, promoting innovation by facilitating funding access for sustainable growth, and fostering collaboration with key stakeholders. These objectives address the identified challenges and lay a clear path for the network's future.

Dr Chrys Kaniki, Senior Technical Officer for Strategic Programmes at Africa CDC, said YiDHN is driven by long-standing disparities and inefficiencies in healthcare delivery in Africa, which have delayed the continent's efforts to achieve universal health coverage and improved health outcomes for all. "We know that digital solutions have the potential to transform the health sector by reducing costs and improving access in hard-to-reach areas across our continent," he said.



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
TANZANIA RAILWAYS CORPORATION



SECOND TANZANIA INTERMODAL AND RAIL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (TIRP-2)

PROJECT ID NO: P176682

IDA CREDIT NO: 7529-TZ

PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR UNDERTAKING FIELD ASSESSMENT, DETAILED ENGINEERING DESIGN AND PREPARATION OF PROCUREMENT DOCUMENTS FOR RAILWAY TRACK AND STRUCTURES (BRIDGE & CULVERTS) REHABILITATION WORKS ALONG TANGA - MOSHI - ARUSHA AND LINK LINE (626 KM)

PROCUREMENT REFERENCE NO. TZ-TRC-440682-CS-QCBS

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

- This request for Expressions of Interest follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in the United Nations Development Business (UNDB) on March 21, 2023.
- The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has applied for a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) equivalent to US\$ 200 million towards the Second Tanzania Intermodal and Rail Development Project (TIRP-2) cost. It intends to apply part of the proceeds for Consulting Services.
- The Tanga - Moshi - Arusha and Link Line forms part of the Northern Meter-Gauge Railway Corridor. The line serves the northern Regions of Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Manyara, the lake zone, and neighbouring countries including Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, and Uganda. The railway track and structures have deteriorated due to long service and climatic changes. Therefore, major rehabilitation works are required.
- The Consulting Services ("the Services") include undertaking Field Assessment, Detailed Engineering Design, and Preparation of Procurement Documents along Railway Track and Structures (Bridges & Culverts) Rehabilitation Works along Tanga - Moshi - Arusha and Link Line (626 km). The anticipated duration of the assignment is 10 calendar months covering Field Assessment, Detailed Engineering Design, and Preparation of Procurement Documents. The anticipated implementation period is ten (10) Calendar Months. The estimated Professional Staff-Month is 38 and the assignment is expected to start in June 2025.
- The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: <http://www.trc.co.tz> or requested through e-mail: dg@trc.co.tz copy to: pmu@trc.co.tz
- The Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) on behalf of the Government of Tanzania, now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.
- The shortlisting criteria are (i) Core Business and years in business (ii) relevant experience in similar assignments - the successful execution of at least three (iii) contracts of similar nature (by size and complexity) in the last ten years - information to be provided should include the name of the assignment, name including full contact details of the client, contract value (in equivalent US dollars) and period (dates) of execution of assignments; (iii) technical and managerial capability of the firm (provide only the structure of the organization, general qualifications and number of appropriate experts). Do not provide CV of the key staff. The Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage. The shortlist will contain five (5) to eight (8) eligible firms.
- The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" Fifth Edition, September 2023, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interest related to this assignment: Consultants shall not be hired for any assignment that would conflict with their prior or current obligations to other clients, or that may place them in a position of being unable to carry out the assignment in the best interests of the Borrower.
- Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected. The JV shall be considered to qualify if each member of the JV has successfully executed at least one (1) contract of a similar nature. The Sub-Consultant's experience, Technical and Managerial Capabilities shall not be evaluated to enhance the qualification of the Lead Firm or JV Partners.
- A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method described in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" Fifth Edition, September 2023 and to be specifically set out in the Request for Proposals.
- Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 0800 to 1600 hours local time, Mondays to Fridays inclusive, except Public Holidays.
- Expression of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person or by mail, or by e-mail) on or **before 10:30 am local time on Friday, 29 November 2024 clearly marked "EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR UNDERTAKING FIELD ASSESSMENT, DETAILED ENGINEERING DESIGN, AND PREPARATION OF PROCUREMENT DOCUMENTS FOR RAILWAY TRACK AND STRUCTURES (BRIDGES & CULVERTS) REHABILITATION WORKS ALONG TANGA - MOSHI - ARUSHA AND LINK LINE (626 KM). REFERENCE NO. TZ-TRC-440682-CS-QCBS**
- The firms that will submit their REOIs via e-mail must get confirmation of receiving their documents from TRC. In case the firm does not receive an acknowledgment from TRC within two working after sending the documents via email please call **Mr Jamal Ngereja (Telephone No. + 255 784257294/752059290)** or Email: jamal.ngereja@trc.co.tz and pmu@trc.co.tz for follow-up. TRC is not responsible for any corrupted documents.

The Secretary,
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DIRECTOR GENERAL,
TANZANIA RAILWAYS CORPORATION (TRC)

Beekeeping initiative launches centres for apiculture excellence

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Beekeeping Value Chain Support (BEVAC) project has established demonstration apiaries to serve as centres for rolling out knowledge to stakeholders and experts involved in the country's apiculture sector, it has been announced.

The development incorporates construction of beekeeping facilities within at least 15 districts of Tanzania Mainland as well as the four districts in Pemba Island.

An apiary, also known as a bee yard, is a location where beehives are kept, and usually, such areas are wall-less, roofed structures similar to a hut which houses hives or an enclosed structure with an opening that directs the flight path for the bees.

BEVAC Expert in Result Monitoring Deogratius Kimena told The Guardian yesterday that the initiative which seeks to improve performance of the sector is being implemented by Enabel, the Belgian Development Agency through funds from the European Union (EU).

"The envisaged bee yards are expected to help impart the district beekeeping officers (DBOs) as well as beekeepers in the beneficiary districts with the recommended beekeeping practices," he said.

Kimena named the 15 mainland district councils as Kakonko, Kibondo, Kasulu, Uvinza, Tanganyika, Nsimbo, Mlele, Sikonge, Uyu, Urambo, Kaliua, Kahama-Ushetu, Manyoni-Itigi, Ikungi and Singida.

He further said that, apart from the project, BEVAC will this year run several campaigns to disseminate training to beekeepers to ensure high-quality honey is produced that meet the set international standards.

"In Pemba Island, establishment of new beekeeping reserves is being prioritized in January with the initial stages, including holding

community meetings and meeting with leaders of hosting shehias," he said.

Kimena expounded that plans are also afoot to organise an array of remote coaching of beekeeping SMEs on branding and packaging that continues to support them to access and meet international markets of bee products.

In more concerted efforts to spur the sector, the project works with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism in Tanzania Mainland and Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock in Zanzibar, to establish new bee reserve areas in different regions with apiculture potential across the country.

The target, according to Kimena, is to ensure that at least a total of 53,527 hectares of forest land is conserved and officially recognised as a beekeeping reserve area.

Tanzania as stands 14th country for beekeeping in the world and second in Africa with most of the country's produced honey and beeswax often exported to Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Oman, USA, Japan, Botswana, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somali and Kenya.



The envisaged bee yards are expected to help impart the district beekeeping officers (DBOs) as well as beekeepers in the beneficiary districts with the recommended beekeeping practices

Africa's policymakers, educators seek viable ways to tackle learning poverty

By Special Correspondent, Kigali

POLICYMAKERS and educationists gathered at an education forum in Kigali, Rwanda on Monday to discuss pathways to end learning poverty, a major threat to Africa's future workforce.

Learning poverty is the inability of children to meet basic literacy and numeracy milestones.

The meeting drew about 500 delegates, including ministers of education, development partners, and experts from across sub-Saharan Africa, seeking to scale successful education initiatives that enhance foundational learning.

"Learning poverty is unacceptable and a fundamental threat to the continent. Foundational learning is the cornerstone of all future learning. Prioritizing it is not an option," Obiageli Ezekwes, chief executive of Human Capital Africa, an advocacy organization, said at the opening of the forum.

Ezekwes, former Nigerian education minister, said action without accountability is not enough, adding that there must be a capacity to track progress on foundational learning.

Rwandan Education Minister Joseph Nsengimana said the forum offers an opportunity for Africa to unite for collective growth and equip every child with the skills necessary to contribute to socioeconomic development.

Wongani Taalo, education adviser at UNICEF Africa, said the continent "is running out of time to shape a generation of critical thinkers."

She argued that governments need to invest more in foundational learning to unlock the potential of millions of children across Africa. "The solutions lie with all of us, we must dedicate more resources to foundational learning and not forget pre-primary so that children are ready to enter school," she said.

Victoria Kwakwa, vice president

for Eastern and Southern Africa at the World Bank, noted that education today builds the Africa of tomorrow, and to truly transform the continent, there is a need to invest in the next generation of learners.

Underlining the need to strengthen partnerships with the private sector to boost foundational learning, participants said aligning resources, expertise, and innovation from both sectors would expand educational access, improve quality, and drive sustainable impact across communities.

The forum, which will run through Wednesday, offers a platform for countries to exchange progress made on commitments in foundational learning at previous forums.

Through a series of presentations, panels, round table discussions, and formal and informal dialogue, participants will share knowledge derived from foundational learning efforts on the continent and jointly plan the way forward toward meeting targets.

The learning poverty rate in sub-Saharan Africa stands at around 90 percent, according to the latest UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report, which could affect the continent's future workforce.



Learning poverty is unacceptable and a fundamental threat to the continent. Foundational learning is the cornerstone of all future learning. Prioritizing it is not an option



Barrick Buzwagi Mine closure manager Zonnastral Mumbi (L) updates Kahama district commissioner Mboni Mhita upon the latter's arrival at the former mining site at the weekend for a first-hand account of preparations for the establishment of Buzwagi Special Economic Zone there. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

KAHAMA District Commissioner Mboni Mhita has invited investors to explore opportunities at Buzwagi Special Economic Zone which is billed to become a business hub for the Lake Zone regions and neighbouring countries.

Mhita extended the invitation yesterday during a tour of the former Buzwagi mine site, now transformed into a special investment zone. She described the area as an attractive opportunity for both domestic and international investors, stating that, "the government is ready to provide support to investors interested in the area."

"Barrick has expertly managed the mine closure, leaving the area in an excellent and sustainable condition that will continue to benefit the surrounding

DC appeals to investors to explore opportunities at new economic site

Buzwagi community," Mhita said, highlighting the government's pride in its partnership with Barrick.

According to her, some interested investors have already begun investing in the project, creating job opportunities for Tanzanians and contributing to government revenue through various taxes.

Zonnastral Mumbi, Barrick Buzwagi Mine Closure Manager, said that Barrick will continue collaborating with the government to ensure the project meets international standards. He emphasized that the effort will serve as a model for responsible mine closures, leaving sustainable projects that benefit both citizens

and the nation.

Mumbi said: "As sustainable mining company's responsibility is not only to create value for stakeholders in the present but also to leave a lasting legacy that continues to serve the community long after mining activities have ended."

Emanuel Mgaya, Domestic Tourism Ambassador and part of the government delegation visiting the site, remarked that the mine closure was conducted with exceptional skill, leaving a permanent legacy for future generations. He encouraged Tanzanian investors to seize the opportunity in the area, stressing

that it is not reserved solely for foreign investors.

To further enhance the area for business, Barrick has constructed a new passenger terminal at the closed Buzwagi Mine Airport. The facility, with a capacity to serve over 200 passengers at a time, has already been handed over to the government.

For approximately 15 years, Buzwagi Gold Mine was a key economic driver particularly in Shinyanga Region. At its peak, it was the second-largest mine in Tanzania, employing over 3,000 people. Its operational life ended in July 2021 with the mine officially closing in July 2022.



Ilala district commissioner Edward Mpogolo addresses an entrepreneurs' conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Guardian Correspondent,

Sumbawanga

JOURNALISTS in Rukwa Region have been called upon to publicize various tourist attractions in the region, including the Kalambo Falls to promote tourism and investment.

Kalambo Falls, the 235-metre (772 ft.) single-drop waterfall on the border with Zambia are some of the tallest uninterrupted falls in Africa after South Africa's Tugela Falls and Ethiopia's Jin Bahir Falls.

Nyakia Chirukie, Sumbawanga District Commissioner made the

Scribes in Rukwa asked to help market Kalambo Falls, other tourist attractions

call in Sumbawanga on Monday while officiating a capacity building for community radio and digital platform journalists to enable them promote intangible cultural heritage in Rukwa Region.

"Rukwa has unique falls, abundant food including delicious rice and passable infrastructure. Our region is also endowed with Helium, a rare mineral. Journalists have a great role to publicize

these natural resources to attract investment," said the DC.

The training was conducted by Tanzania Media for Community Development through the support from UNESCO- Alwaleed Philanthropies with goals being to build capacity of community radio and digital platforms journalists to promote intangible cultural heritage to enhance employment for youth and women in Rukwa

Region.

Rukwa region is among the top five in terms of food production in Tanzania with food crops grown ranging from maize, rice, beans, sunflower, finger millet, wheat, sorghum to onions just to mention a few.

The region is also endowed with a variety of fish species as 58 percent of Lake Tanganyika is in the region, not to mention Lake Rukwa.



Despite decades of efforts by the government and various other national and international agencies to promote the use of clean cooking energy and thus reduce the consumption of firewood and charcoal, the war is far from won anywhere. Correspondent Sabato Kasika captured this scene yesterday, a common sight in many parts of Tanzania to this day, just next to a strategic bridge in Dar es Salaam's Mbezi Mwisho suburb.

NAIROBI

Initiative in Nairobi slums uses fly larvae to combat food waste

FOOD waste building up and blocking routes is a major issue in Nairobi's Mukuru slums.

Lacking a system to dispose of it, much waste is left outside, trapping stagnant water that would otherwise run off.

But some locals have come up with a new project using fly larvae to break down the discarded food.

According to some experts, the fact that residents don't tend to sort their waste is part of the issue.

Ephantus Kung'u, an entomologist at Akiba Mashinani Trust, said: "The people tend to throw (their waste away), they don't categorize their waste so they tend to put organic

waste in plastic bags, then they just litter and this waste in the organic bag will not decompose inside there, so it just ends up clogging."

According to experts, the initiative reduces plastic waste, as well as greenhouse gases such as methane and carbon dioxide.

"To eliminate that need for putting organic waste into plastic bags and other plastic containers, that is why we came up with the BSF, black soldier fly units, that tend to consume more organic waste

and solve that issue of organic waste in the street," Kung'u said.

Bernadette Kosgei, an agronomist and trainer at Miramar International College, said: "The waste that would have alternatively been left around to decompose and release a lot of greenhouse gases - the methane, the carbon dioxide - that would have otherwise escaped into the air and caused global warming, we are able to sequester that carbon through the black soldier fly. So we convert it into protein and that again goes

back and is used as animal feeds."

Another advantage of the programme is that the waste ultimately creates animal feed and affordable fertiliser.

"With organic fertilizers I am able to save about sixty percent of the amount I used to go and buy the inorganic fertilizers from the agro shops," Moses Aswani, an organic farmer in Mukuru Slums, said.

Launched last year, the initiative's goal is to cut the area's food waste by up to 70 percent.

with dilapidated roads and an overwhelmed transportation system. "There is a significant increase in fuel and spare parts prices, forcing us to raise transportation fees," explained Moataz Ibrahim, a bus driver.

Efforts are underway to address some of these challenges. Ahmed Mohamed Tahir, the Red Sea State's minister of industry, said the government is seeking partnerships to establish local factories in essential sectors, aiming to reduce reliance on costly imports. "We must work to produce affordable goods locally," the official emphasized.

Located about 500 miles northeast of Khartoum on the Red Sea, Port Sudan is Sudan's main port and has now become a central refuge in the wider conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces. The violence, which has claimed over 24,850 lives and displaced millions, continues to cast a long shadow over the nation.

Crisis worsens in Sudan's caretaker capital city as war strains resources

PORT SUDAN

AS Sudan's capital Khartoum remains engulfed in a devastating war, Port Sudan, the capital city of eastern Red Sea State, has emerged as a critical refuge.

Since hostilities erupted in April 2023, the coastal city has become a sanctuary for thousands of displaced Sudanese, with its population swelling and resources strained under the weight of the crisis.

Now serving as a hub for government operations, diplomatic missions, and humanitarian aid organizations, the city is grappling with a growing demand for essential services. "We have nearly 105,000 displaced people residing in shelters here," said Ilham Idris Gasmalla, the Red Sea State's minister of social welfare. "Additionally, about 44,448 families have been hosted by local households, and thousands more have rented homes in the city."

The economic impact has been equally severe, with supply chains disrupted and prices for basic goods soaring. "There is a significant price hike," Mohamed Al-Fateh Ezzeddine, a merchant in Port Sudan, told Xinhua, citing fluctuations in exchange markets as a key driver of the rising costs.

Access to drinking water has also become a critical issue. The collapse of the Arbaat Dam near Port Sudan in August has only worsened an existing shortage. "The suffering from drinking water scarcity has doubled," said Mohamed Aswad, a prominent local tribe leader. Residents now rely heavily on desalination plants, which struggle to meet demand.

Port Sudan's infrastructure is buckling under pressure,

Additionally, about 44,448 families have been hosted by local households, and thousands more have rented homes in the city



Work on a floodwater drainage chamber constituting part of the ongoing implementation of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) road infrastructure project in progress at a spot in downtown Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

BAKU

World leaders gather at UN climate conference amid notable absences

AT the COP29 conference in Baku, some of the world's most influential figures are notably absent, including leaders from China, the United States, India, Germany and France.

The absence has raised concerns among activists and delegates, who worry it signals a lack of commitment from major emitters in addressing the climate emergency. However, many argue that the urgency of the climate crisis remains undiminished, and global efforts must continue with or without these prominent figures.

Shiva Gounden, a climate advocate from the Pacific, reflected the sentiment of many participants. "A lot of people across the world have very little trust in the United Nations system, and big leaders from larger countries not being here doesn't give a good signal," Gounden remarked.

"But this is the only multilateral process that works on a consensus among 197 countries or 198, if the

U.S. doesn't withdraw so the world needs to unite to find solutions to fight the climate crisis. Climate change doesn't wait for one leader or one country; it impacts communities like mine in the Pacific."

While major powers will be absent, the conference will see a strong presence from leaders of small island nations and over a dozen African countries, many

of whom are among the most vulnerable to climate change effects. These leaders are expected to highlight the urgent need for adaptation funding, emissions reduction, and international cooperation. Over two days, the World Leaders' Summit will offer these nations a critical platform to voice their unique challenges and push for a stronger commitment to global climate goals.

China wins praise for peace support operations in Africa

ADDIS ABABA

AFRICAN Union and Ethiopian officials have commended China's "unwavering support and role" in helping realize peace and security across Africa.

China has been Africa's steadfast supporter through participating in conflict prevention, mediation and peace operations across the continent, said Frederic Gateretse-Ngoga, a senior advisor at the AU Commission.

"China has been supporting peace operations in Africa in conflict prevention and mediation as well as advancing the continent's security agenda at the UN Security Council," said Ngoga, highlighting China's financial, logistic and equipment support for the AU-led peace operations in Africa.

According to the official, the AU and the United Nations have recently endorsed a joint AU-UN roadmap on peace operations in Africa for which China has been one of the financiers in line with its policy of supporting AU peacekeeping operations.

Ngoga said that the AU is keen to collaborate with China in the area of artificial intelligence (AI) and cyber and climate security to deal with new and emerging threats based on principles such as mutual respect and shared accountability.

According to Ngoga, China's support for Africa's peace and stability emanates from its shared common vision.

Yonas Adaye, commissioner in the Ethiopian National Dialogue Commission, said that China has significantly increased its personnel in UN peacekeeping operations in Africa over the past two decades.

He said that the evolving

geopolitical dynamic has become fragile, and there is need for China and Africa to expand their strategic cooperation and engagement in preventive actions to deal with emerging threats.

The commissioner said China could help African countries protect and utilize their rich natural resources through applying advanced technologies such as cybersecurity and AI to avert possible attacks on computer systems.

"Globally, China is well advanced in AI and cybersecurity, and its cooperation with Africa in this sector would be extremely important to bring about an inclusive and holistic development in Africa," Adaye said.

China established or elevated its strategic partnerships with many African countries during the 2024 summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Beijing.

China has been supporting peace operations in Africa in conflict prevention and mediation as well as advancing the continent's security agenda at the UN Security Council

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Top coaches getting excessively chummy with players, low performances, not new

NEARLY everyone who knows a thing or two about soccer may in one way or another be involved in the vast soul-searching with city giants Young Africans SC, who were at the end of the week holding top coach Miguel Gamondi to council.

The reason was a clear decline in the big-name team's recent performance, winning by sheer luck or apparently faulty referee judgment, and then losing two matches back to back.

The latter was the clincher to the soul-searching but the reactions have ranged from the usual technically inept criticism to real dilemmas.

The most pronounced criticism is the 'so and so is not playing' sort of questioning, in which case it would appear from this school of thought that regular rotation is the best way to go.

Still, even with top premier league clubs pushed to rotation mainly on account of injury or transfer, the results are always a toss of the coin.

It is that those often benched sometimes rise to the occasion but more often than not people see clearly why they aren't regular starters. The fans pursuing this line use a distorted view of whom the coach 'likes', and not who is better.

On the other hand, there are problems arising from the limited professionalism of African top league players compared to most of their European counterparts, and to be sure, we share these honours with South America - Brazil in particular.

It is a situation where top players who are more or less

assured of a place in the starting line-up can't keep out of social mischief, while they are supposed to sideline these concerns except if they have a family or a tidy arrangement, which ought not to distract them. It is often not that easy.

For example, there is a player at the club who has for two years been rated as an MVP (most valuable player) but whose current performance some watchers and commentators see as having "mysteriously" plummeted.

There are different perspectives of interpreting such situations, but in social theory projects or movements have two distinct stages - that of 'charisma' followed by that of 'bureaucracy'.

During the first stage everyone is committed, oozing with vision and ideals on what is to be done, and then when they are anchored in the market and no longer feel a threat to the success of the project, the guard is lowered.

There then surface supposedly innocuous differences at times over minor matters, with those involved progressively losing sight of details - until it soon it moves from an orchestra to a beehive, or chaos.

At that moment, the head coach and maybe a sizeable segment of the technical bench has to make way for replacements, though not always leading to better days.

Sports generally and soccer in particular can be extremely tricky, with those in charge having to have extremely thick skins to weather a range of storms and - for the most fortunate - to thrive. It is the nature of a discipline sometimes worth enjoying, whatever the outcomes.

Global climate change conference will serve useful purpose discussing energy

THERE were signs that the international conference on climate change which opened on Monday in the Azerbaijan capital, Baku, would find itself at a crossroads given the radical US strategic shift on the matter following the presidential election results.

It is already being reported in some global news channels that the US and China will not be properly represented at the conference, as neither is in a position to make proper bargains with the rest of the world on what needs to be done.

Whatever else can be agreed by those remaining will likely be of significantly limited ambition and scale. The singularly biting point, going by climate financing experts interviewed ahead of the bargaining in Baku is what is often described as climate justice.

That relates to the degree to which the developed world can help the poor countries meet the goals of combating climate change impacts.

The series of meetings in past years yielded a US\$100 billion funding per year that has been met more on the breach than on the promise. Yet, factually, this way of exploring the issue has acute biases - the old 'let the rich pay' quibble.

While opinion makers in Europe most noticeably see the win by the now returning US republican hardliner Donald Trump to the White House as 'bitterly disappointing,' this turn of events is not explicitly bad luck to the world but a rude awakening. It will shake a portion of

intellectuals around the world into starting looking at social or economic objectives that need external involvement on a transactional basis.

When that is the case, where the national 4Rs (Reconciliation, Resilience, Reform and Rebuild) are accepted globally and environment plans are on a PPP basis, it will work.

There is a clear example in what PPP can do to solve painful global problems or crises that distributive diplomacy can't solve as well as in the radical nationalism or 'make them pay' attitudes reigning at the moment.

A few energy companies can put up gas or nuclear power stations to harvest water from the sea, desalinate it for plenty of fertiliser raw materials, create dams all over the Sahara, irrigate the zone and open it up for global investment, even migration.

Another example is the current fallout in the Middle East where Arabic and Islamic countries were meeting in Riyadh as a signal to the incoming US administration that they may realign with Iran in confronting Israel.

The latter has banned UN relief agency UNRWA and implicitly annexed Gaza and the West Bank, all of which is contrary to all standing United Nations resolutions. Yet those resolutions did not stop a militant organisation from conducting a small-scale genocide a year ago.

Were it that UN experts were more far-sighted, we might have heard of Saudi Arabia and its oil rich Gulf neighbours along with the United States being asked to start a water harvesting project on the Red Sea.



Ways to support mobile workforces with diabetes: from prevention to management

By Special Correspondent

AS global mobility surges, managing chronic conditions like diabetes during travel has become a significant concern.

Diabetes remains one of the fastest-growing global public health issues, affecting some 422 million people worldwide and causing 1.5 million deaths annually.

According to International SOS, a leading global health and security services firm, there has been a significant year-on-year increase in diabetes-related assistance cases over the past three years - with a 28 per cent increase in 2022 and a 32 per cent rise in 2023.

Meanwhile, year-to-date 2024 data indicate a further uptick. With World Diabetes Day being marked tomorrow (Nov 14), organisations are urged to support diabetes prevention and management strategies.

This year's theme, 'Breaking Barriers, Bridging Gaps', highlights the need for equitable, comprehensive and affordable diabetes care.

Dr Katherine O'Reilly, Regional Medical Director at International SOS, emphasizes the importance of comprehensive health strategies.

She says: "It is important for organisations to understand the unique challenges that employees with diabetes face, particularly

when travelling. By recognising these specific needs, companies can provide the necessary support and resources to help their employees manage their condition effectively.

"This ensures that employees can maintain their health and productivity, even when they are on the go. With thoughtful planning and the right resources, organisations can help their employees navigate the complexities of diabetes, fostering a supportive and inclusive work environment."

People with diabetes face a double burden: a higher risk of life-threatening conditions like heart attack, stroke and kidney failure, compounded by the psychological toll of diabetes distress.

Individuals with diabetes are two to three times more likely to experience depression compared to those without the condition.

These challenges can significantly impact employee wellbeing, leading to increased absenteeism, reduced productivity and higher healthcare costs for employers.

The International Diabetes Federation (IDF) reports that the global healthcare costs for individuals living with diabetes are expected to exceed US\$105 billion by 2045.

Furthermore, the prevalence of diabetes is projected to rise, with 643 million people affected by 2030 and 783 million by 2045.

With this rise in prevalence, it is crucial for organisations to implement strategies that help their workforce manage and prevent this chronic condition. Minor adjustments can reduce absenteeism, increase productivity, concentration, and energy levels, and reduce the chance of on-the-job injury.

Dr O'Reilly elaborates: "Early diagnosis is crucial. Raising awareness about diabetes symptoms can prompt people to get screened, enabling early detection and intervention to prevent or delay its onset."

"This proactive approach can prevent undiagnosed diabetes from causing severe health complications, affecting various organ systems, including eye damage, heart and kidney disease, nerve damage and poor wound healing."

"By prioritising employee health, organisations can enhance productivity and foster a more engaged and resilient workforce. This approach also promotes a positive work environment and supports overall employee wellbeing."

International SOS has offered five tips for organisations to support employees in managing and preventing diabetes, the first being **education and awareness**. It is important to enhance awareness about diabetes symptoms to

encourage early diagnosis and effective management, thereby preventing severe health complications.

Two: Provide comprehensive health solutions. It is crucial to offer resources such as dietary guidelines, exercise programmes and regular health screenings to help employees manage their diabetes.

Three: There is need to place a premium on supportive culture and policies. This essentially means developing and implementing policies allowing for flexible work schedules and access to medical care while travelling.

It is vital to foster a culture that prioritises health and wellbeing by accommodating regular meals and exercise, and ensuring that employees have time to rest and recover from travel.

Four: Promote a healthy lifestyle. It pays to offer guidance on maintaining a healthy diet and regular exercise. Provide resources such as a list of healthy meal options and tips for finding nutritious food in different locations.

Five: Facilitate health monitoring and provide adjustments. Ensure that employees have scheduled breaks to take medication, check blood sugar levels and have regular meals. Provide a private space for insulin administration and other medical needs.

By Michael Battle

I was excited to welcome Tanzanians last week into our six American spaces, which are located across Tanzania from Mwanza to Pemba, to watch as results of the 2024 US presidential election began to stream in through international media outlets.

This year, the United States joined 63 countries, representing approximately one half of the world's population, in holding national elections. Last week in the US, civic responsibility, transparency and accountability have been on display demonstrating that democracy works.

November is always an exciting month for Americans, as registered voters have the opportunity to vote for both local and national representatives, often times signalling the need for a change.

We pay attention to the percentage of youth, working heads of families and older Americans who have recognized the importance of their civic duty and voted to include more gender, racial and ethnic diversity in Congress and other leadership positions throughout the

When each and every citizen performs his or her civic duty, democracy works

government year after year.

Democracy requires free and fair elections as a vital check on government. We welcomed both official and informal international observers, including from Tanzania, to witness our elections and the strength of our institutional processes.

USAID's Tushiriki Pamoja (underlining need for collaboration) project sponsored two members of Zanzibar's judiciary to witness democracy in action at US polling stations in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.

Similarly, through the International Visitor Leadership Programme, we welcomed representatives from Chadema and CCM to observe elections and see Americans recognizing their civic duty to vote in the states of New Hampshire and Iowa, respectively.

I am proud that the United States may be counted among the oldest participatory democracies in the world. As I have said many times,

"we recognize that democracies are not perfect, often complex and always challenging".

Elections can be loud and contentious but, when based upon rules and constitutional foundations that guarantee the rights of all citizens to freely associate and openly express their opinions, democratic nations maintain stability and resilience.

Violence, censorship and intimidation have no place in elections and, by keeping this in mind, we strive to strengthen our democracy - just as we support our partners in doing the same for theirs.

We value our partnership with democracies like Tanzania. Democratically governed nations are more likely to expand open markets, promote innovation and economic development, uphold human and worker rights, avoid humanitarian crises, improve the global environment and protect health.

One of the significant benefits of a democracy is providing the foundation for growing the economy on a national, regional and global scale.

Partnering with other democracies, the Trans Africa Transportation Corridor being planned will open markets regionally from Angola to Tanzania, facilitating more efficient outreach to global markets.

Democratic nations also deliver on the issues the citizens care about the most - well-paying jobs, safe communities, and ensuring a better future for their children.

There is always room for improvement in terms of transparency and accountability, but when each and every citizen performs his or her civic duty and election officials fairly count the votes, we will witness that democracy works.

• **Michael Battle is the Ambassador of the United States to Tanzania.**

Embracing resilience to achieve greater success in life

By Thomas Lyimo

ALBERT Einstein famously remarked that those who have never failed have likely never tried something new. His statement is a call for us to persevere and be willing to face struggles in order to progress and grow.

Hard work increases the likelihood of success, but Einstein isn't suggesting we seek out failure; rather, he encourages us to view failure as a learning opportunity. Developing strategies to minimize future failures is key to personal and societal advancement.

Many people believe that failure is not an identity but simply an event. This mindset inspires us to learn from our mistakes and strive to improve. When we understand the reasons behind our failures, we can lay a foundation to prevent them in the future.

Instead of letting setbacks cause discouragement, we should see them as moments for growth and move forward with a renewed sense of purpose. We should consider setbacks as opportunities for growth rather than failure because they offer valuable lessons, foster resilience, and help us develop a stronger foundation for future success.

Setbacks reveal areas where we can improve, thus helping us to understand what didn't work and why. This reflection and insight are crucial to refining our skills, strategies, and approaches. Each setback can teach us something valuable, leading to better outcomes in the future.

Facing and overcoming setbacks strengthens resilience—the ability to bounce back from challenges. Resilience is a vital life skill that enables us to handle obstacles with confidence and composure, rather than feeling defeated or discouraged.

When things don't go as planned,



most of us see situations from new angles. This broader perspective helps us develop creative problem-solving skills and think outside the box.

When someone views setbacks as growth opportunities they align with a growth mindset, the belief that abilities and intelligence can be developed with effort and perseverance. People with a growth mindset are more likely to see challenges as stepping stones rather than roadblocks, allowing them to adapt and excel.

Setbacks in life should be considered as learning experiences rather than failures,

this helps in reducing the fear of making mistakes. In turn, allows us to take risks, try new things and innovate key components for personal and professional growth.

Challenges are a natural part of life and can hinder progress, but resilience in the face of adversity is essential for social and economic growth. True failure happens only if we give up entirely. Each attempt adds to our experience, sharpening our skills and enhancing our abilities. Success is often a product of repeated efforts and continuous improvement.

Opportunities arise over

time, and resilience empowers us to seize them despite past failures. Social and economic development depends on this resilience, as things rarely go perfectly on the first try. Repeated attempts allow us to learn and develop the skills necessary for success. When people lose hope, they risk becoming a burden to society rather than contributing to its growth. This is why embracing resilience is vital: it enables every person to contribute meaningfully.

Certain foundational traits are essential to cultivate resilience which includes patience: Achieving suc-

cess takes time. It's not instantaneous. Patience helps individuals persevere, as many fail simply due to impatience, wanting results too quickly. Those who lack patience often don't see things through to completion, leading to limited knowledge and stunted growth.

Seeking advice from others could be the best way to help someone to accomplish his/her life goals. Learning from others' experiences can save us from avoidable pitfalls. Success often has roots in the guidance of others, so connecting with mentors and peers is essential in our journey.

Resilience is easier to maintain when we have clear goals. These objectives keep us motivated, fueling our drive to push through challenges. Goals provide direction, acting as a beacon in our pursuit of success.

Presenting ideas well is crucial. Often, the way an idea is conveyed affects its acceptance. Confidence and clear communication enable individuals to express and defend their ideas effectively, increasing the likelihood of acceptance and understanding.

Embracing constructive feedback demonstrates flexibility and adaptability, which are vital for growth. As circumstances change, being open to new perspectives can prevent us from being left behind. Flexibility allows us to adapt to evolving situations rather than being disrupted by them.

Hard work underpins all other resilience traits. Laziness leads to missed opportunities, many of which are time-sensitive. Resilience in society requires everyone to contribute their efforts. Hard work opens doors to new opportunities and drives discovery and innovation.

A positive mindset enables us to learn from failures and keep moving forward. We must view failures as chances to reassess and refine our methods. As the saying goes, a mistake only counts if it's repeated. By correcting mistakes and minimizing them, we reduce the likelihood of failure. Success, then, is often a matter of persistence—trying again and again until we reach our goals.

In summary, resilience is a powerful asset for individuals and society. It is the strength that allows us to overcome obstacles and achieve lasting progress.

The author, a teacher based in Moshi, can be reached at lyimo.thomas@yahoo.com.

BAKU

Scientists warn of vastly higher impacts on billions of people's livelihood and cost to the global economy by the accelerating losses in the world's snow and ice regions, aka the cryosphere.

Over 50 leading cryosphere scientists released an annual report on the status of the world's ice stores on Tuesday (November 12) at the UN Climate Conference (COP29) in Baku. An updated report on the world's ice warns of "drastically higher costs without immediate emissions reductions."

The State of the Cryosphere Report 2024 titled *Lost Ice, Global Damage*, coordinated by the International Cryosphere Climate Initiative (ICCI), says that current climate commitments are nowhere near to avoid irreversible consequences for billions of people from global ice loss.

After analyzing most recent cryosphere science, scientists underscore that the costs of loss and damage if our current level of emissions continues—leading towards a rise of 3°C or more—will be even more extreme, with many regions experiencing sea-level rise or water resource loss well beyond adaptation limits in this century. Reports say mitigation also becomes more costly due to feedback from thawing permafrost emissions and loss of sea ice.

For the first time, the report notes a growing scientific consensus that melting Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets may be slowing important ocean currents at both poles, with potentially dire consequences for a much colder northern Europe and greater sea-level rise along the U.S. East Coast.

Cryosphere scientists (ICCI) stress that only definitive and rapid measures to reduce emissions can avert the worst loss and damage impacts of ice and snow loss and cut the ultimate costs to vulnerable nations and high emitters alike.

"The drastic changes we are seeing in the cryosphere while mountain and downstream regions all over the planet are suffering floods, droughts, and landslides provide the most compelling arguments we could have for immediate climate action," said Regine Hock, an IPCC author and glaciologist. "The cryosphere can't wait. It must be put at the top of the global climate agenda."

To underscore the situation, scientists gave an example of the Greenland Ice Sheet, which is currently losing 30 million tons of ice per hour, "something

Cryosphere crisis: Scientists warn of devastating global impacts if no urgent climate action seen



Mountain range in Mt. Everest region in Nepal; loss of snow and glacier melting in the region impacting people living in the region and downstream communities. Photo: Tanka Dhakal/IPS

I never thought I would see in my lifetime," said IPCC scientist Dr. Rob DeConto. "If climate pledges are not taken seriously, global temperature rise may exceed 3°C, with Antarctic ice loss potentially causing sea lev-

els to rise much faster than we think."

Cryosphere scientists are pleading for urgent climate action to avoid catastrophe for coastal cities and downstream communities in the

Dr. James Kirkham, an author on the report, said, "We are not talking about the distant future; the impacts of cryosphere loss are already felt by millions. But the speed of action we take today decides the size and

speed of the challenge to which future generations will need to adapt. The impacts of cryosphere loss will only become greater with every hour that leaders delay action now."

Impact is not only limited

to coastal or ice sheet regions but also impacts the day-to-day livelihood of Himalayan regions too.

"There is a very clear connection between changes in the cryosphere in high mountain regions and downstream impacts," climate scientist Dr. Miriam Jackson said. "Some of these are related to hazards, including thawing of permafrost (frozen ground) and floods that originate in glacial lakes, commonly called GLOFs—glacier lake outburst floods."

In Asia, the frequency of GLOFs is expected to triple by century's end without substantial emission reductions. Jackson added, "Glaciers are continuing to shrink, affecting and changing water runoff. Snow cover and number of snow-covered days are also showing decreasing trends, affecting people who depend on meltwater runoff for irrigation."

A change in water resources will affect agriculture and probably lead to higher food prices.

To avoid multilayered impacts, urgent climate responses and emissions cuts are necessary.

"Whilst some devastating losses and impacts are now locked in," Kirkham said, "how bad the intensity and severity of cryosphere impacts will continue to grow in the future is still very much to be decided based on the policy decisions we will make in the coming five or so years."

IPS UN Bureau Report

Leather cooperative eases unemployment in northeast Brazil

CABACEIRAS, Brazil

The small community of Ribeira stands out in the Northeast, the poorest region of Brazil. There is no unemployment here. One in five inhabitants make a living directly or indirectly from the Arteza Cooperative of Tanners and Leather Artisans.

"An idea has the power to transform your world," said in a philosophical tone Ângelo Macio, president of Arteza, recalling the creation of the cooperative in 1998 under the impulse of a Dutch priest who no longer lives in the region.

"You come to the community and you don't see unemployed young people, they all work in the workshops, they have their income, they raise their children, they have their houses... their transport. Everything comes from the leather activity", he said, while showing a sandal made by one of the cooperative's artisans.

This is the case of Tarcisio de Andrade, 29, and a member of the cooperative for seven years. "I am married and have a son. My wife doesn't work, but we all live off my work in Arteza. I don't plan to leave Ribeira," he said while making a sandal.

The expansion of the cooperative, which has a tannery, a shop selling supplies and tools, other shops selling its products and online commerce, has boosted the local economy. At first, the tannery processed 800 hides per month, then it spiked to 12,000, a number the members had never thought they would reach. Nowadays they process 20,000 hides.

The 1,700 residents of Ribeira seem to believe that anything is possible.

Before, there was no petrol station, no department shops, and no pharmacy. Thanks to the cooperative's earnings, now they have all that, and people don't have to travel 13 kilometres to Cabaceiras, the capital of the municipality of 5,300 inhabitants, of which Ribeira is a part.

Solar energy, the driver

The cooperative's success is largely due to solar energy. In 2018, it received equipment worth US\$ 58,728 from the government of the state of Paraíba, where the municipality is located, with resources from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

The savings obtained with the 170 panels installed were decisive.

"Solar energy was a milestone in our history. Today we would be paying 10,000 reais (US\$ 1,755) in electricity bills in the tannery alone, and now it's down to 600 reais (US\$ 105). We were able to buy two new machines that allowed us to increase production and improve the quality of the hides," Macio said.

There was no longer any need to increase the number of panels because when they were installed they were already double what was needed at the time. Today, with this energy, it would be possible to double production and process 40,000 hides.

The original plan was to install photovoltaic panels on the roof of the tannery,



José Carlos Castro, founding partner and former president of the Arteza Cooperative in Ribeira, Paraíba state, northeast Brazil. Credit: Carlos Müller / IPS

but the cooperative's board of directors came up with a better idea: to build a new roof.

Thus, they increased the drying area for the hides and they seized the opportunity to collect water from the scarce rainfall for the water-consuming treatment of the hides. Apart from the economy, the old roof could only dry 300 skins. Under the solar panels it is possible to dry 2,500.

Tradition in leather

At the beginning, the 28 founding members of Arteza were supported by the Brazilian Micro and Small Business Support Service (Sebrae),

a private entity financed through a compulsory contribution from the companies. There are now 78 partners, benefiting some 400 families.

The entire micro-region of Cariri, where the municipality is located, and especially Ribeira, have a long tradition of leather work.

Macio's great-grandfather worked with leather, but his product was rustic and consisted mainly of coarse clothes, hats and work utensils used by the herders to navigate the caatinga, the predominant biome in the northeastern interior with many thorny plants.

The cooperative's produc-

tion evolved from traditional products due to the decline of extensive cattle raising and young people's desire for more modern products. Today, work clothes account for some 10% of the total.

Currently, the flagship product are sandals, which account for about 60% of the total production, including wallets, women's bags and backpacks, the most expensive product, which cost the equivalent of 150 dollars.

By joining the cooperative, artisans can buy inputs such as glue and tools, as well as leather at cost price. Those who are not members and have other suppliers pay 40%

more on average. Members do not need to worry about sales: they hand over the product to the cooperative, which negotiates it with the traders.

When the cooperative receives the money from the sales, it deducts the value of the inputs that the members have withdrawn. In the end, they receive a 30% profit in average.

Some artisans, however, remain faithful to traditional products. This is the case of José Guimarães de Souza, who specialised in the production of quaint 'horn hats'.

Zé, as everybody knows him, is not a member of the cooperative, although his workshop is 100 metres from it. He learned the trade from his father, whom he reveres with a photo next to a crucifix as if he were an icon. He buys the raw material and sells his hats through a local merchant.

The cooperatives' products are sold in craft shops all over Brazil, especially in the cities of the Northeast, where the Arteza brand is already recognised. That is why, with Sebrae's support, the cooperative is working to establish the products' designation of origin with their own seal next year.

"Tomorrow, anything can happen..."

In front of Souza's workshop, called 'Zé's Crafts - The King of the Horn Hat', a graffiti catches the eye. It reads: "Don't worry, everything can happen tomorrow, even nothing". It is the first verse of a local folk song called "The

nature of things".

The tannery was processing 16,000 skins when the pandemic started, forcing the cooperative to suspend work for more than six months. It has now reached 20,000 units. The cooperative's income grew by 70%, including leather and handicrafts.

"The pandemic's impact was huge. We went almost to the bottom of the well," Macio recalled. In late 2021, the cooperative started promoting its products through Instagram and other social media to sell online. At first, this type of sales amounted to 20% of the total. Today it reaches between 35% and 40%.

In Cariri there is not so much leather and the cooperative is forced to buy it from other states. Now the cooperative's problem is finding raw materials and labour because everyone in the community, especially young people, is already employed.

"Handicrafts have been my survival. Through it I have raised my whole family without having to leave my beloved land", said José Carlos Castro, a founding member and former president of the cooperative. He currently works in the tannery, doing heavy work: removing the hair and defective parts of the skins. Sustainability

Arteza is the only tannery that works with natural products, such as the bark of anjico (Parapitadenia rigida), a tree native to several South American countries. The tanning process lasts one month. If chemicals, such as chromium, were used, it would only take two days.

"We maintain a natural process to avoid environmental damage and harm to people. The natural process is in our DNA," Macio explained. But difficulties arise. Existing trees in the region are not enough, although the cooperative avoids predatory consumption.

A few years ago, when the bark was removed, the tree died. Nowadays, the tree is cut down and sprouts again, and can be cut down again after five to six years. From what has been cut, the bark is removed, put through a shredder and placed in tanks with water where it releases the tannin.

When the tannin is gone, the bark is used as mulch for planting fodder palm, a type of cactus used for animal feed in the dry season.

The water is treated and disposed of in the wild and the shelled sticks of the anjicos are used for fencing.



The Arteza cooperative in northeastern Brazil has built a new warehouse to expand the drying of hides and install 170 solar panels, enough to generate twice the energy currently consumed by the tannery. Credit: Carlos Müller / IPS

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

VOICES project to transform people's livelihoods in Kigoma

By Guardian Correspondent, Kigoma

AS one of East Africa's most vital natural resources—Lake Tanganyika basin supports the livelihoods of over 10 million people across five countries. Its waters provide food, jobs, and sustenance for communities in Tanzania, Zambia, and beyond.

However, the lake is facing mounting environmental challenges, including pollution and overfishing, which threaten both the ecosystem and the health and economic well-being of the communities that depend on it.

The newly launched Vitalizing Opportunities in Circular Economy and Sustainable Solutions (VOICES) project aims to address these challenges directly, with a focus on sustainable development and inclusive economic practices in Tanzania's Kigoma Region.

Developed by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) with funding from the European Union, the VOICES project sets an ambitious goal of improving water quality in Lake Tanganyika by promoting circular economy practices.

At the heart of this approach is the idea of minimizing waste and regenerating natural resources. Rather than following a linear 'take-make-dispose' model, the circular economy focuses on keeping resources in use for as long as possible, extracting maximum value before safely returning materials to the environment.

Through this, VOICES aims to create a sustainable growth blueprint in Kigoma that can be replicated in other regions.

According to reports, a major concern for the lake is pollution from various sources, including agricultural runoff, untreated sewage, and industrial byproducts.

Local communities have reported a decline in fish stocks, both in quantity and size, which threatens their food security and livelihoods.

In response, the VOICES project will promote sustainable agricultural practices, helping farmers reduce the use of harmful fertilizers and chemicals while encouraging organic alternatives. The project will also introduce innovative waste management solutions to reduce the amount of waste entering the lake.

Improving public health is another critical component of the VOICES project. With rising levels of heavy metals in the lake and increasing cases of waterborne diseases, immediate action is required.

The project will work with local governments and health authorities to tackle the issue of raw sewage dumping and ensure that proper sanitation practices are in place.

"This, in turn, will improve not only water quality but also the health of communities living around Lake Tang-



Voices project manager, Roberts Muganzi

anyika," says Roberts Muganzi, VOICES Project Manager.

He says a core element of the VOICES project is its Circular Economy Challenge Fund (CECF), which provides financial and technical support to micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in the region.

By promoting new business models that focus on resource efficiency and waste reduction, the fund aims to create job opportunities while driving sustainable economic growth.

Special attention will be given to supporting youth and women-led enterprises to address the high rates of underemployment in Kigoma and the

surrounding areas.

"This project will also focus on strengthening governance and policy frameworks for waste management. While both Tanzania and Zambia have passed legislation to regulate pollution, enforcement remains a challenge," says Muganzi.

According to him, VOICES will support local government authorities in developing more robust waste management policies and implementing sustainable practices at the community level. By aligning with national strategies like Tanzania's Building a Better Tomorrow Youth Initiative for Agribusinesses (2022-2030), the pro-

ject aims to empower local leaders to take charge of their communities' sustainable futures.

"In addition to engaging governments, VOICES will work closely with non-state actors, such as civil society organizations, community-based organizations, and private sector partners. These groups will be key in advocating for circular economy principles and ensuring that communities are actively involved in decision-making processes. A key aspect of this engagement will be to raise awareness about the importance of paying for waste collection services, an area where community buy-in has historically

been low," he says.

Cross-border collaboration is essential to the success of the project, particularly as environmental challenges do not respect national boundaries. The VOICES project will build on the work of the Lake Tanganyika Authority, which promotes regional cooperation on sustainable water management. By partnering with stakeholders from Zambia and other neighboring countries, the project will facilitate the sharing of best practices and ensure that solutions are implemented across the entire lake basin.

Looking ahead, several key outcomes are expected that will contribute to transforming Kigoma's future. One primary objective is to establish and strengthen circular and sustainable value chains for managing waste, particularly plastic, organic, and sewage waste. Implementing circular economy principles will reduce the environmental impact of waste while creating economic value from these materials.

Another significant outcome will be increased awareness among communities about waste management and the business opportunities offered by circular economy practices. Through targeted education campaigns and workshops, residents will be empowered to adopt improved waste management practices and recognize the potential for new income streams from recycling and waste reduction initiatives.

He also notes that the project seeks to attract private sector investment into circular economy businesses, creating a more supportive ecosystem for entrepreneurs and MSMEs focused on sustainable solutions.

"This financial backing will be vital in scaling up innovative waste management projects and driving broader adoption of circular economy practices."

The VOICES project aims to create long-lasting positive impacts on the environment, public health, and the economy. As the project progresses, local residents and businesses will not only benefit from cleaner water and healthier ecosystems but also from new economic opportunities that can transform their livelihoods.

He says: "As we move forward with the VOICES project in the coming months, I am excited to witness how our initiatives will contribute to transforming Kigoma into a model of sustainable growth. Through collaboration and innovation, we have the opportunity to inspire a new wave of circular economy practices in the region, paving the way for both environmental preservation and economic advancement for generations to come."

Hustle culture emerges in Benin in face of high graduate unemployment



Christophe Ainagnon dropped out science degree because he realized he would not be able to find a job with his degree.

By Megan Fahrney, Cotonou

AT just 11 years old, with a heavy heart, Louis peered up at his parents and said goodbye. He was leaving his small village in northern Benin to live with his uncle in Parakou, where the schools were better. Ever since, Louis has continued to make sacrifices to pursue a strong education and a better life.

Now, at 23 years old, Louis finds himself with an undergraduate degree in mathematics from Benin's largest public university, speaking nearly perfect English, unable to find formalized employment. His response?

"Hustle," he says. "I'm an entrepreneur," Louis said. "It won't be easy for me to create a startup, but I have to tell myself in my mind that I can do it even if it is hard. I will [do] whatever I can to make it possible."

Louis said he is currently launching a company providing computer programming services. He and his team

hope to develop apps, create websites and solve technical problems for clients.

In Benin, college graduates struggle to find formalized work. Educated young people find themselves working odd jobs, creating their own companies or remaining entirely financially dependent on their parents.

Few in the country decide to pursue higher education at all. According to the UNESCO Institute of Statistics, only 15% of men and 8% of women in Benin enroll in tertiary education.

Of those who do enroll, the percentage of students who complete their degree is even lower. In the 2022-2023 school year, 58,456 undergraduate students enrolled in the University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin's largest public university. That same academic year, only 6,614 received a diploma.

Christophe Ainagnon, now an English student at the University of Abomey-Calavi, dropped out of the science department after two years because he recognized

he would not be able to find a job with his degree.

Ainagnon said he has many friends who drop out of college altogether because they do not think it is worth it to continue. Other friends of his have finished their degrees but cannot find work.

"They think that if they finish, they won't find a job, [so] they vanish," Ainagnon said. "I even have many friends... they study, they work hard, they did everything to finish, but... they didn't happen to find a job. It's not that they didn't know how, but a lot of them are at home now doing nothing."

Ainagnon, for his part, has launched his own business breeding rabbits to earn an income.

"It's the kind of business [through which] I can become who I want and live my best life," Ainagnon said.

Last month, the Ichikowitz Family Foundation published a survey that found 60 percent of young Africans ages 18-24 want to emigrate in the next five

years. The report surveyed 5,604 individuals and was conducted in 16 different countries.

Louis said it is his dream to immigrate to the United States and has applied for the visa lottery many times.

"That's why I'm motivated to speak English: to immigrate, to go to the U.S.A.," Louis said. "When I was a kid, I wanted to study at MIT."

Others do not wish to emigrate, citing lack of connections abroad, the challenge of finding employment in a foreign country and the difficulty of the immigration process.

Mirabelle Awegnonde, an English student at the University of Abomey-Calavi, said she wants to be a teacher but has to start thinking of alternative self-employment options in case she cannot find a teaching job.

"It makes me afraid sometimes," Awegnonde said. "I'm afraid. I tell myself, how can I get a job in the future? How can I make myself a job instead? Because I'm a shy person, so... it is hard for me."

Farming in crisis: Suicides and climate change threaten India's agrarian future

DELHI

“Farming is in my blood, and I can't imagine doing anything else,” said Mahim Mazumder, a farmer from Assam. “Even though the past three to five years have seen drastic changes—with temperatures rising so much that even sitting under a tree no longer offers relief—I will keep farming, even if it only yields a small harvest. I've spent my entire life farming, and despite all the challenges, I'll continue.”

Mahim has been farming alongside his father since childhood, and now, at 55, he continues to rely on growing paddy and vegetables, both heavily dependent on the weather. However, floods and erratic temperatures often devastate his crops. With the changing climate, cultivating anything with certainty has become increasingly difficult. Mahim hails from Assam, a northeastern region of India often overlooked but now recognized as a climate hotspot.

Though it constitutes just 2.4 percent of India's land area, Assam accounts for nearly 9.4 percent of the country's flood-prone regions. Severe flooding and natural disasters, worsened by climate change, strike the state annually, wreaking havoc on millions of lives and livelihoods.

A Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India, jointly conducted by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Mandi, IIT-Guwahati, and the Indian Institute of Science-Bangalore, identifies the districts of Cachar, Hailakandi, and Karimganj in Assam's Barak Valley as among the most vulnerable to climate change.

Of the 25 most vulnerable districts in India, 15 districts from Assam have been highlighted as highly vulnerable. Farmers are the ones who are most severely affected by this as they struggle to deal with the worsening climate crisis,



Mahim Mazumder spends his days tending to his crops. Credit: Juhab Jhony/IPS

which frequently results in tragic extremes like an increase in farmer suicides.

Long-standing problems in India include farmer suicides brought on by crushing debt, deteriorating the environment, droughts, severe weather, and the unfavorable effects of pesticides, which in some cases have even caused cancer.

The year-long farmers' protest in 2021, held amid the COVID-19 pan-

dem, serves as a stark reminder of how farmers have been treated—many lost their lives during the movement.

India is now on the verge of becoming the global epicenter of farmer suicides, where these tragedies make the news but no longer dominate the headlines. Many farmers are still struggling to cope with the intensifying crisis as the cycle of debt and economic hard-

ships worsen.

Farmer suicides in India have averaged between 10,000 and 12,000 annually from 2015 to 2022 (NCRB 2015-2022). In Assam, agricultural laborers faced higher suicide rates than land-owning or leasing farmers, highlighting their increased vulnerability.

However, now floods disrupt the farmers' schedules.

“We once experimented with various crop varieties, but now we're forced to stick to the basics, fearing total loss. While we know how to handle traditional flooding, this extreme heat is new, and we don't know how to cope. Creeper plants wither in the heat, and even our livestock struggle—some have collapsed from heat-stroke.

Crops that used to thrive in higher temperatures now wilt under the pressure of climate change. Every flood wipes out everything, and even during normal seasons, we face a 20 percent reduction in yield due to the rising heat and poor-quality inputs,” says Mash.

The Indian government recognizes the impact of climate change on agriculture and farmers. Since 2014, a total of 1,888 climate-resilient crop varieties have been developed, along with 68 location-specific climate adaptation technologies, which have been demonstrated to farming communities for broader adoption.

But without adaptation, rainfed rice yields could drop by 20 percent

by 2050 and 47 percent by 2080, while irrigated rice may decline by 3.5 percent and 5 percent, respectively. Wheat yields are projected to decrease by 19.3 percent by 2050 and 40 percent by 2080.

Kharif maize yields are expected to fall by 18 percent in 2050 and 23 percent by 2080. Climate change not only reduces crop yields but also lowers produce quality, with extreme events like droughts severely impacting food consumption for all.

The agrarian crisis in India runs deep, rooted in financial strain, crop failures, and climate-related challenges that are pushing the farming community to the edge. Rising suicide rates among agricultural laborers reveal just how precarious their situation has become.

As farmers like Mahim Mazumder continue to face the effects of climate change—unpredictable floods, rising temperatures, and reduced crop yields—their livelihoods and futures remain at risk. This isn't just a crisis of economics or agriculture; it's a human crisis affecting generations who have relied on farming for survival.

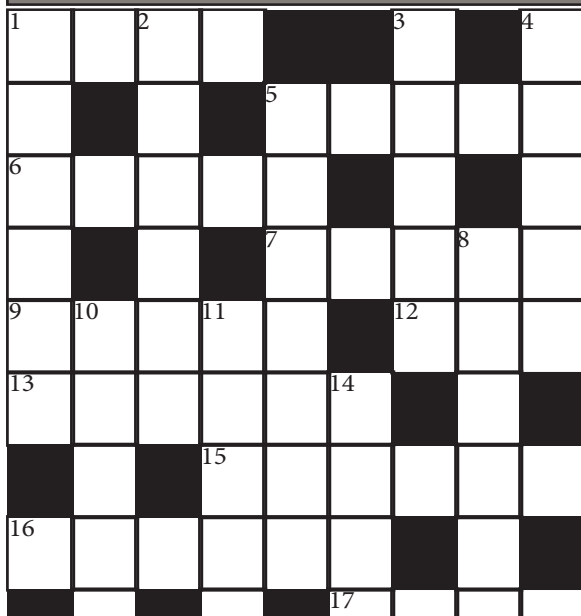
While the Indian government has made strides by developing climate-resilient crop varieties and location-specific technologies, these measures are not being adopted at the scale and speed necessary to prevent further losses. The impacts of climate change are no longer a distant concern but an immediate threat, eroding not only the output from farms but also the lives of those who till the land.

As climate change accelerates, so too must the response from policymakers and institutions. It's not enough to focus on agricultural yields alone—reforms must also prioritize the well-being of the farmers themselves, ensuring that they have the resources and support needed to adapt, survive, and thrive in the face of this growing crisis.

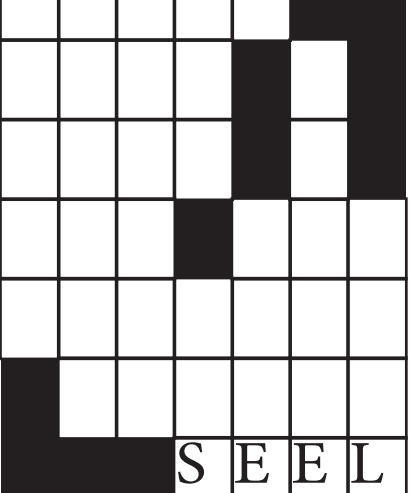
If we fail to act, the consequences will be devastating, not just for India's farming community but for the nation's food security as a whole.

IPS UN Bureau Report

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 00 208 00 -



- Across:
- 1 God as Father
 - 5 Prepare in Kiswahili
 - 6 brush and clean the coat of a horse
 - 7 Scarcity in kiswahili
 - 9 show the way
 - 12 having a cunning and deceitful nature
 - 13 though
 - 15 the sound of sneezing
 - 16 Spanish word meaning The league
 - 17 dishonest act
- Down:
- 1 Luanda is her mother city
 - 2 African tree living to great age
 - 3 Thoughts
 - 4 a member inhabiting Malaysia
 - 5 entertaining
 - 8 a man's smart jacket not forming part of a suit
 - 10 transportable chemical toilet
 - 11 a village in Iran
 - 14 pull or rip apart



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

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| TAEL | REMAKE |
| SICKLE | AIDE |
| BUSES | SES |
| ORE : SEEL | USER |
| NEEDLE | ETA: ACT |
| ISATIN | SAME |
| BIROS | SIKSIKA |
- Felix: 0789437309 / Telixmagezi@gmail.

Yesterday's Solutions
ZONK D C S H A L E A
A E F R E S H I H O W E V E R
M A S A I M E H O M E G A K
B T L O O T S P E S A C H
I S L A M N E T P E S A C H
A N E M I A E P O T U A
A M C H A N A
G R E A S E S E M E E T S
E N M A Y A R Y E E T S

RADIO One **RATIBA YA VIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

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China's copper production boom threatens to crowd out the rest of the world

LONDON

Chinese copper smelters are facing pressure to rein in an expansion that's pounding the industry's profitability. The viability of plants across the globe may be at stake.

The top consumer of copper globally is on track to produce about half the world's refined metal this year after a frenzy of smelter construction to secure supplies crucial to the energy transition. The boom in capacity has continued despite cutthroat competition for scarce raw materials that is crushing margins everywhere.

China's excesses threaten the future of copper refining beyond its borders, said Grant Sporre, head of metals and mining research at Bloomberg Intelligence. Operations from Chile to Europe and India could be at risk, he said.

Mounting calls within the country to curb production and scale back the formidable pipeline of new plants have yet to be heeded. If the breakneck expansion continues – and forces curtailments elsewhere in the world – more output will be concentrated in China, even as western governments fret about its grip on strategic minerals.

The situation will come to a head at Asia's biggest gathering of the copper industry in Shanghai this week, when smelters face crunch talks on the ore supply contracts that determine their margins. Miners have the whip hand at the annual negotiations because capacity is running so far ahead of global mine production.

The treatment and refining fees paid to smelters to convert ore into metal could drop to \$40 a ton or less for next year, according to industry estimates, from \$80 a ton in 2024. Such a settlement could lead to widespread losses. The previous low was \$43 a ton in 2004, according to metals consultancy CRU Group, which has data going back to 1992.

Demand from renewables, electric vehicles and grid infrastructure is poised to balloon in coming decades. That's spurring more investment along the copper supply chain, but smelters are far quicker and cheaper to build than new mines.

The ore squeeze has been compounded by the construction of new plants in India, which is seeking to re-

duce its reliance on imports, and Indonesia, where the government plans to halt exports of ore that currently feed smelters throughout Asia.

That has intensified the need to impose restraint in China. Spot treatment fees made an unprecedented plunge below zero earlier in the year. But the industry's push to cut output hasn't had much impact. China's production of refined copper has risen more than 5% so far in 2024. Last month, the country's main metals association called for stronger government intervention to stem the "blind expansion."

It's a familiar refrain across Chinese industries, from steel to solar and EVs, which are grappling with the effects of overcapacity while at the same time attempting to protect jobs and targets for economic growth.

China remains a net importer of copper, and doesn't yet ship huge volumes overseas – unlike its steel and aluminum sectors, which are running up against increased protectionism from trade partners around the world. But that could change if it presses on with its expansion.

Top executives from key Chinese smelters have met in recent days to address the unfavorable market, according to people familiar with the talks. The meetings, which were attended by government representatives, included discussions about sticking more firmly to plans to cut production, said the people, who asked not to be identified as the information is private.

But there's skepticism. Analysts believe Chinese producers can weather the conditions better than others because of their cost advantage. Most of the older, less efficient plants have already been retired, according to Bloomberg's Sporre. And large, privately-owned smelters have been flushed out of the industry in recent years, leaving the sector dominated by state-owned firms more resilient to financial pressures.

"No one wants to cut first, but the ore tightness will be years-long and like running a marathon," said Zhao Yongcheng, an analyst at Benchmark Mineral Intelligence Ltd. "Who can survive till the end will really be a test of everything from capital abundance to operations."

barrels per day to 85 million barrels per day in 2030 for the world to be on pace to hit its net zero target by 2050. That works out to a decline rate of three to four million barrels per day, per year, till the end of the decade.

IEA's highly bearish predictions for the oil industry mirror those by Bloomberg.

Back in April, Bloomberg predicted that global demand for road fuel would continue to grow for only four more years,

with demand peaking in 2027 at 49 million barrels per day before entering terminal decline.

According to Bloomberg, electric vehicles, ever-improving fuel efficiency and shared mobility are the oil sector's biggest nemesis, with EVs expected to displace a staggering 20 million barrels per day in oil demand by 2040, up from 2 million barrels per day currently. Bloomberg reckons that demand for gasoline and diesel

for road transport has already peaked in the U.S. and Europe, while demand in China is set to peak in 2024. Demand in other major consuming countries like India will go into a tailspin in the 2030s.

However, another well-known analyst has pointed out that these bearish scenarios are highly unlikely to materialize. Speaking in an interview on the CBC's "The Eyeopener," Enverus Intelligence Research's Al Salazar has pointed

out that 85 million barrels per day is six million barrels less than the demand levels experienced during COVID-19, when global oil demand slumped to -91 MMBbl/d in 2020 and sent oil prices into negative territory for the first time in history. As Al Salazar has noted, the EV revolution is starting to face serious roadblocks, with China's renewable energy and EV sector facing a tariff storm.

Biden's administration has been nearly as hard on China as

Trump's first term, albeit with much less fanfare. Two months ago, the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR) finalized its plan to raise tariffs on a slew of Chinese goods, largely adopting hikes it first proposed in May.

The expanded tariffs mainly target strategic product categories, including electric vehicles, batteries, solar cells, semiconductors and critical minerals.

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14 product categories, with the first tariff hikes set to go into effect on Sept. 27 and the rest over the next two years.

And, they are just as punitive as those of the Trump era: Chinese EVs were slapped with a hefty 100 percent tariff; a 25 percent tariff on lithium-ion EV batteries, and a 50 percent tariff on photovoltaic solar cells. Meanwhile, a 50 percent tariff on China-made semiconductors will go into effect in 2025.

New investment fund makes a debut in TZ's financial market

By Francis Kajubi

THE Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) has said that the establishment of more investment funds is part of the implementation of the government's strategies to increase the scope of access to financial services for many citizens in rural and urban areas.

The Authority's Chief Executive Officer, Nicodemus Mkama, said this at the launch of the iTrust Finance Limited's investment Funds in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Mkama said that the implementation of this ambition is outlined in the third plan of financial services with the aim of increasing the participation of citizens in the formal financial sector including the capital markets.

Mkama said that the authority approved the initial offering and the operations of five investment Funds on October 11 this year.

He said that the approval was given by the Authority after meeting the requirements of the Capital Markets and Securities Act Cap 79 and the Regulation of Capital Markets and Securities.

"Investment in these funds has various benefits in the welfare of society and the development of the economy as a whole," said



Nicodemus Mkama, chief executive officer CMSA.

Mkama.

Mkama mentioned some of the benefits that contribute to the implementation of government's policies, economic empowerment of citizens, and access to financial resources to finance development projects.

He asserted that the investment in these funds offers various benefits in investment for citizens where investors get the opportunity to invest their money in various areas and projects and thus reduce risks.

Prof Mohammed Warsame, Director iTrust Finance Limited said that the company aims at raising 37.5bn/- in a space of two weeks

until November 29.

He asserted that the iTrust scheme is formed of five Funds namely: iSave Collective Investment Fund, iCash Collective Investment Fund, iMaan Collective Investment Fund, iIncome Collective Investment Fund and iGrowth Collective Investment Fund.

"The collective investment funds operates in five key areas including fundraising which involves collecting funds from individuals, groups, institutions and companies," he said.

Warsame clarified that among benefits of investing in the Funds is the convenience for investors as they can contribute as frequently or infrequently as they wish, based on their financial goals.

He said this flexibility allows them to plan their investments according to their needs.

On his part, Gilead Teri, Executive Director, Tanzania Investment Center (TIC) said foreign direct investments had flourished since President Samia Suluhu Hassan assumed the top office in March 2021.

In 2020, TIC enriched investment projects worth \$2 billion, while this year until last week, TIC enriched projects worth \$7 billion. He said TIC aimed at registering investments worth \$30 billion by 2030.

According to him, the pooled investment scheme that collects funds from multiple investors to invest in a diversified mix of assets such as equities, bonds and bank deposits.

"These investments have been made in the industrial, transport, agriculture, tourism and construction sectors. The investment of iTrust Finance is coming to be the catalyst for Tanzanians to grow their economy," he said.

He said that in order for normal investment to grow, there must be sufficient circulation of money in the financial markets where this innovation comes to increase productivity in real economic sectors.

He reminded stakeholders from the business community that the government is reviewing the Investment Act 2022 to allow the merging of TIC and Export Processing Zone Authority (EPZA) to improve efficiency in service delivery.

He said that the business community should take part in sharing their views for the improvement of the Investment and Special Economic Zones draft which was tabled for the first time in the parliament last week.

"We need to learn from the business community what incentives they wish to be featured in the new law," he said.

CBE students' incubation programme generates 412 fresh ideas on business

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE business incubation program established by the College of Business Education (CBE), has successfully registered 412 business ideas of the college's students that are incubated to produce great results.

This was said at the weekend in Dar es Salaam by the Rector of the college, Prof Edda Lwoga, during the 59th graduation of the college where there were 2,665 graduates of various levels.

She said the business incubation program was introduced in 2021 with the aim of providing practical business training to the students while in college where students have been registering their business ideas with the college to develop the students while in college.

"The implementation program has very good results as many of our students have started various businesses that are fruitful and during the convocation day they made exhibitions of the products they are making," she said.

Prof Lwoga said that in providing them the skills needed in the job market, the college also started an apprenticeship program that enables them to study theory and do it in practice in various workplaces.

She said that in the program they have entered into an agreement with some employers who accept the students of the college to work while they continue their studies.

"In apprenticeship program is that the student studies half of his



Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Exaud Kigaha (3rd R) answers questions from journalists during the 59th graduation of the College of Business Education (CBE) held at the weekend in Dar es Salaam. Right is the college's Rector Prof Edda Lwoga. Photo by Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

time in the classroom and half is with the employer and the goal is to ensure that when they graduates they have enough skills needed in the job market," said Prof Lwoga.

She said that they recently started courses in the fields of entrepreneurship, innovation, economy, finance, transportation, equipment management and digital marketing that go with the job market.

She said the courses are the result of extensive research and long-term efforts made by team of CBE lecturers and various stakeholders who are experts in the relevant industry.

She said the courses have focused on the rapidly growing technology changes, the invest-

ment environment, industry and business, and the needs of the labor market.

She said the courses aim to provide practical skills, advanced knowledge, and in-depth training to the students of the college to enable them to succeed in the job market and face the challenges of today.

The Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Exaud Kigaha, said government will continue to facilitate (CBE), so that it becomes the center of excellence in the East and southern Sahara Africa.

He said the government is proud to have the college which has been smart in producing academicians who are trusted by various industries and companies in the country and abroad.

"The increase in students enrollment in this college is a clear sign of how this college is a help for many Tanzanians, we will continue to maintain the quality of education provided here, we want it to be a center of practical education that enables graduates to be employed and be self-employed after their graduation," he said.

He said the government will continue to improve the college's infrastructure, including lecture rooms and classroom buildings to increase the number of students admitted every year.

Kigaha said that all these improvements will be done on all campuses of the college which are located in Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Mbeya and Dodoma regions.

World oil demand unlikely to decrease 15pc by 2030

By Alex Kimani

Last month, the International Energy Agency (IEA) published its annual World Energy Outlook, wherein it predicted that global demand for all fossil fuels will stop growing in the current decade while renewable energy would account for almost half of global power generation by 2030.

According to the Paris-based energy watchdog, global oil demand would need to fall from the current clip of 103 million

barrels per day to 85 million barrels per day in 2030 for the world to be on pace to hit its net zero target by 2050. That works out to a decline rate of three to four million barrels per day, per year, till the end of the decade.

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Back in April, Bloomberg predicted that global demand for road fuel would continue to grow for only four more years,

with demand peaking in 2027 at 49 million barrels per day before entering terminal decline.

According to Bloomberg, electric vehicles, ever-improving fuel efficiency and shared mobility are the oil sector's biggest nemesis, with EVs expected to displace a staggering 20 million barrels per day in oil demand by 2040, up from 2 million barrels per day currently. Bloomberg reckons that demand for gasoline and diesel

for road transport has already peaked in the U.S. and Europe, while demand in China is set to peak in 2024. Demand in other major consuming countries like India will go into a tailspin in the 2030s.

However, another well-known analyst has pointed out that these bearish scenarios are highly unlikely to materialize. Speaking in an interview on the CBC's "The Eyeopener," Enverus Intelligence Research's Al Salazar has pointed

out that 85 million barrels per day is six million barrels less than the demand levels experienced during COVID-19, when global oil demand slumped to -91 MMBbl/d in 2020 and sent oil prices into negative territory for the first time in history. As Al Salazar has noted, the EV revolution is starting to face serious roadblocks, with China's renewable energy and EV sector facing a tariff storm.

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Trump's first term, albeit with much less fanfare. Two months ago, the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR) finalized its plan to raise tariffs on a slew of Chinese goods, largely adopting hikes it first proposed in May.

The expanded tariffs mainly target strategic product categories, including electric vehicles, batteries, solar cells, semiconductors and critical minerals.

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14 product categories, with the first tariff hikes set to go into effect on Sept. 27 and the rest over the next two years.

And, they are just as punitive as those of the Trump era: Chinese EVs were slapped with a hefty 100 percent tariff; a 25 percent tariff on lithium-ion EV batteries, and a 50 percent tariff on photovoltaic solar cells. Meanwhile, a 50 percent tariff on China-made semiconductors will go into effect in 2025.

COMMENTARY:

Public funds must match climate investment to impact

By Heather Taylor & Mark MacDonald

The regulatory environment and investor expectations surrounding sustainability are evolving rapidly. Investors face the challenge of balancing stewardship, risk management and risk-adjusted returns when considering transition finance, and there is a strong desire to manage short- and long-term economic risks through a sustainability lens.

OMFIF has created the Transition Finance Working Group to explore these concerns and priorities. Over the past few months, global asset owners and investors, which include EY, have convened to discuss the status of transition finance and share insights on the environmental, social and governance landscape. Market participants understand they have an important role to play in what comes next.

At the same time, the market remains incomplete and

significant risks still require management to evolve into an effective tool of transition. Three such risks are worth highlighting.

Significant risks require management

First, political-economic behaviour risk is apparent to many investors and continues to lead to inconsistency and uncertainty. There is evidence of this in the way policy is set within and across countries, and how regulatory structures are designed and enforced. These inconsistencies are the main reason consumer demand does not (yet) match required shifts in consumption behaviour for climate impact mitigation at a scale necessary to fundamentally alter investment. Some working group participants suggested policy and regulation is going backwards, even while the daily cost of climate impact is worsening and our lived experiences of climate events are increasing.



Second, transition finance markets are quite thin. This is a function of the underlying policy, regulatory and behavioural dimensions of markets that show a deficit of investable projects tied to credible impact abatement strategies. Investors suggested that much of the 'low hanging fruit' has been harvested and what remains is projects with uncertain financial and climate impact, including in circumstances where capacity for action is not yet ready for market investment. The risk

that capital goes unallocated against science-based abatement and transition targets remains very real.

Third, portfolio risk is critical where the primary driver for mandated investment is financial return (i.e. fiduciary responsibility) and the secondary driver is climate impact. At a project level, matching investment to impact over time is crucial to success and includes significant play in so-called 'grey' projects, where decarbonisation is a longer-term result. Some working

group members indicated that they are making investments where the short-term impact on the portfolio carbon balance sheet might actually be negative, as abatement-driven investments in necessary capital/operating transformation only takes hold over time. In this context, forecasts matter.

Encouragingly, the discussions also offered insights into the opportunities to manage such risks and secure greater short- and long-term development of sustainable finance markets.

Compatibility and consistency

We have a particular interest in the still-emerging role that standardisation of investment-grade financial information and associated transparency and reporting requirements can play in decreasing the cost of information, and making that information more widely available to policy-makers, regulators,

investors and consumers.

The framework advanced by the International Sustainability Standards Board in 2023 is beginning to find its way into regulation. This is a vital first step that, potentially, will be extended to the public sector through a similar framework expected from the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board in October 2024.

Discussions with transition financiers make it clear that these frameworks are critical. They must be adopted as the standard across jurisdictions to enhance comparability and consistency. This not only reduces the cost of compliance, but importantly increases standardisation of the global investment market. Over time, this will reduce investment-to-impact uncertainty and help lay bare a new wave of investable decarbonisation transition projects.

Just as importantly, the requirement to forecast climate impact and associated

financial performance is inherent in the new reporting frameworks. It should become an important tool to help inform necessary shifts in political-economic behaviour. Achieving sustainable outcomes requires that policy-makers, regulators, investors, managers and consumers must work off the same scope of information about how public and private economic action plays out in financial, fiscal and climate impact terms. The economic competitiveness of jurisdictions depends on it, particularly as the real financial and economic costs of climate adaptation and mitigation continue to rise.

The information distilled from the roundtables has been informative, consistent and often inspiring. We strongly support the need to further examine the results secured to date and renew commitment to developing the necessary capacity and market conditions that OMFIF is promoting. At EY, we share this vision and are 'all in' to support.

Heather Taylor is Partner, Climate Change and Sustainability Services Practice, and Mark MacDonald is Global Public Finance Management Leader at EY.



Organic honey producer targets export markets

By Correspondent James Kandoya

SWAHILI Honey, a top supplier of premium honey in Tanzania and East Africa, has marked a significant achievement by exporting its first 20-ton shipment of organic honey to Japan. This milestone underscores its growing global presence and commitment to sustainable trade.

Founded in 2015, Swahili Honey empowers rural communities by supporting around 2,500 beekeepers across Njombe, Tabora, Kigoma, and Kahama. The company provides resources like modern beehives, market access, and training to ensure high-quality, internationally certified honey.

CEO Joseph Kadindula credits partnerships with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and companies like Nisshin Honey and Kawakami for advanc-

ing processing techniques and quality control. These collaborations have enabled Swahili Honey to achieve organic certification and premium pricing.

The company's dedication to quality includes a traceability system linking each honey batch to its origin, promoting consumer trust and eco-friendly practices. Beyond honey, Swahili Honey produces 500 tons of beeswax annually and explores other products like propolis and royal jelly.

Despite funding challenges, continued support from JICA and Japanese partners positions Swahili Honey for growth, benefiting Tanzanian beekeepers. Kadindula notes that higher incomes have improved beekeepers' living standards, supported education, and enhanced farming investments, fostering community pride.

JICA CEO Hitoshi Ara highlights

the collaboration as a model public-private partnership, showcasing how Japanese techniques adapted to Tanzanian conditions boost productivity and sustainability.

Tanzania's beekeeping sector, vital to the economy and employing nearly two million people, contributes up to 33 percent of household income in forested regions.

Yet, only 22 percent of the potential 138,000 tons of honey and 9,200 tons of beeswax is utilized. Swahili Honey's success demonstrates how strategic investments can unlock this potential and drive economic growth.

As Swahili Honey continues to innovate and build partnerships, it exemplifies the transformative power of sustainable practices and international collaboration, showcasing Tanzanian products on a global stage.

Record-breaking bitcoin surges towards \$90,000

SINGAPORE/LONDON

Bitcoin rallied to the verge of \$90,000 on Tuesday, riding a wave of euphoria since the election of Donald Trump as US president on expectations his administration will be crypto friendly.

The world's biggest cryptocurrency has become one of the most eye-catching movers in the week since the election and touched \$89,982 - a gain of around 30 percent since Nov. 5. It was last down 1.4 percent at \$86,730.

Bitcoin is surging along with Elon Musk's automaker Tesla (TSLA.O), opens new tab, which is up nearly 40 percent since voting results rolled in, as investors figure Trump's friends and interests will do well while he is in office.

"The crypto enthusiasts think they have a like-minded incoming president," said Alvin Tan, head of Asia FX strategy at RBC Capital Markets.

"The thing about bitcoin at the end of the day is that there is no valuation anchor to it, it's hard to get a grip on fair value. So when sentiment is very positive, it does get carried away a lot more than other asset classes."

Trump embraced digital assets during his campaign, promising to make the United States the "crypto capital of the planet" and to accumulate a national stockpile of bitcoin.

It is not clear how or when that could happen but the possibility drove a speculative surge in crypto mining and trading stocks.

"I think it increases the chances that other nation states buy bitcoin in a bid to front run the U.S.," said Matthew Dibb, chief investment officer at cryptocurrency asset manager Astronaut Capital.

"Additionally I think it would be a crazy catalyst for the U.S. listed bit-

coin miners ... given possibilities of such entities getting nationalised."

Crypto miner Riot Platforms jumped nearly 17 percent on Wall Street on Monday. Fellow miners MARA Holdings (MARA.O), opens new tab and CleanSpark (CLSK.O), opens new tab leapt nearly 30 percent.

Software company and investor in bitcoin MicroStrategy (MSTR.O), opens new tab announced it had spent about \$2 billion buying bitcoin between Oct. 31 and Nov. 10. Shares rose 26 percent on Monday.

"Obviously (it's) a clear Trump trade as he is so supportive of the industry, and this can only mean more demand both for crypto stocks as well as the currencies themselves," Nick Twidale, chief market analyst at AFX Global in Sydney, said of the bitcoin rally.

"The fact that bitcoin was trading near all-time highs when the election result came through meant that it had clean sky above."

The euphoria extended across the crypto landscape with smaller tokens such as ether and dogecoin surging, although they dipped on Tuesday morning in Europe.

Crypto investors see an end to increased scrutiny under U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Chair Gary Gensler whom Trump has said he will replace. Trump also unveiled a new crypto business, World Liberty Financial, in September.

"What we're seeing isn't just a price milestone; it's a signal that the market is warming to the idea of bitcoin as a more stable, even politically favoured, asset," said Justin D'Anethan, head of Asia-Pacific business development at digital assets market maker Keyrock.



CMSA seeks to support dev't projects funding

By Guardian Reporter

THE Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) has expressed its commitment to creating a supportive and inclusive environment for public and private institutions to leverage capital markets to fund development projects.

This includes options like equity financing, infrastructure bonds, green bonds, blue bonds, social bonds, and subnational

bonds.

Exaut Julius, CMSA's Director of Market Supervision and Investigation, made the commitment in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch of DCB Bank's rights issue sale.

Julius emphasized that the CMSA is responsible for developing and overseeing Tanzania's capital markets, ensuring all activities adhere to laws and regulations to promote transparency and fairness.

"I would like to encour-

age companies and institutions in both the private and public sectors to take advantage of opportunities in capital markets to raise funds for business activities and development projects," he said.

He advised Tanzanians with investment goals to increase their investments to strengthen their holdings and benefit from anticipated positive returns. This, he said, would contribute to the growth of the bank, the financial sec-

tor, and the economy overall. Through this rights issue, DCB Bank aims to raise 10.7bn/- to bolster its capital, currently at 15bn/-, in line with Bank of Tanzania (BoT) requirements. The bank's goal is to reach 61bn/- by 2028, providing greater economic value to shareholders and Tanzanians.

Zawadia Nanyaro, the bank's board chairperson, stated that the rights issue is expected to enhance shareholder value

and benefit Tanzanians by strengthening the bank's capacity to support small and medium-sized enterprises. This aligns with the Sixth Phase Government's focus on development under President Samia Suluhu Hassan's leadership.

Nanyaro noted that the DCB Board has approved a five-year strategic plan focused on five key areas: increasing capital from 15bn/- in 2024 to 61bn/- by 2028; mobilizing low-cost deposits; expanding high-

quality loan offerings; supporting small and medium entrepreneurs; and improving service delivery with a focus on digital products.

The DCB Board and Management have also authorized the sale of 97,646,913 rights issue shares valued at 10,741,160,430/-, with a discounted price of 110/- per share (compared to the current market price of 160/- per share). They hope this initiative will attract interest from share-

holders who trust the bank's board and management.

Sabasaba Moshingi, DCB Bank's CEO reaffirmed his and the management team's commitment to transforming the bank by 2028. He shared that the bank has achieved profitability in the last two quarters and has been expanding digital services to enhance access for Tanzanians.

"We are dedicated to advancing our founding mis-

sion of supporting poverty reduction projects by providing capital to small and medium entrepreneurs who previously had limited access to commercial banking services," Moshingi said.

"This rights issue, the bank's fourth, will strengthen our service capabilities, and we are optimistic shareholders will start receiving dividends next year. We ask for their continued support," he added.

China's central bank pledges more monetary policy support

BEIJING

China's central bank confirmed on Monday the continuation of its supportive monetary policy stance, a move that analysts said has reinforced expectations of another cut in the reserve requirement ratio to accommodate additional government bond issuance.

The ongoing policy dynamics have ushered the country into the first round of significant fiscal and monetary expansion following the pandemic period, signaling a much-anticipated mindset shift toward paying more heed to demand-side management in drafting economic policies that will continue in 2025, they added.

While delivering a report to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, China's top legislature, Pan Gongsheng, governor of the People's Bank of China, said the central bank will intensify countercyclical adjustments to shape a favorable condition for stable economic growth and high-quality development.

"We will adhere to a supportive monetary policy stance and increase the intensity of monetary policy adjustments," a statement published on the PBOC's website on Monday quoted Pan as saying, vowing to maintain reasonably sufficient liquidity and lower financing costs for enterprises and households.

Pan added that the central bank will improve policy tools to deal with abnormal fluctuations in the stock market, while optimizing policy



Headquarters of the People's Bank of China in Beijing.

mechanisms to make smooth the market-oriented formation and transmission of interest rates.

The remarks followed the approval by Chinese lawmakers on Friday of an increase of 6 trillion yuan (\$833 billion) in the local govern-

ment special bond ceiling to replace outstanding hidden debt. The new quota will be allocated evenly through 2026, with 2 trillion yuan for this year.

Feng Jianlin, chief economist at Beijing FOST Economic Consulting Co, said the central bank

may soon coordinate with the 2 trillion yuan in bond issuance by lowering the RRR, which refers to the proportion of deposits banks must keep as reserves, to achieve the goal of "maintaining reasonably sufficient liquidity".

The cut, potentially by 0.5 percentage point,

may release approximately 1 trillion yuan in long-term liquidity, Feng said, adding that the central bank may inject another 1 trillion yuan via a new open market operation tool, called outright reverse repo, while withdrawing some short-term liquidity.

Li Yong, a fixed-income analyst at Soochow Securities, said that cutting the RRR has become a necessity both for ensuring the steady issuance of special bonds and for achieving the policy target of promoting a reasonable rise in prices.

China's consumer price index grew 0.3 percent year-on-year in October, a four-month low and down from 0.4 percent in September, official data showed on Saturday. Financial data also pointed to the need for continued policy support as residential lending recovered while corporate financing remained weak in October.

Experts close to the central bank said the future monetary policy will "continue to provide sufficient support to the real economy" amid lingering economic headwinds and rising external uncertainties, adding that monetary policy has been prudent in nominal terms but moderately loose in real terms this year.

On the fiscal front, Yang Zhiyong, president of the Chinese Academy of Fiscal Sciences, said there remains scope for China to raise more debt and increase the deficit-to-GDP ratio in 2025.

"It is entirely possible to further strengthen fiscal policy adjustments," Yang added.

Ming Ming, chief economist at CITIC Securities, however, said there is limited possibility for further interest rate cuts in the remainder of the year, given that the central bank has acknowledged the constraints from banks' net interest margins and renminbi exchange rates.

Nigeria's public debt increases by N12.6trn in three months on naira's depreciation

LAGOS

Nigeria's public debt stock surged by N12.6 trillion between March and June 2024 amid continued depreciation of the naira which has remained pressured despite the Central Bank of Nigeria's efforts to shore up the local currency.

This spike in the nation's debt burden now puts the total debt at N134.3 trillion, according to the most recent data published by the Debt Management Office (DMO).

"The modest rise (in Nigeria's public debt stock) was driven by two factors. The first is the depreciation of the naira, which added about NGN5.9trn to the total debt stock," said analysts at Lagos-based FBNQuest Capital Research in a note on Tuesday.

The analysts explained that the exchange rate used to convert dollar-denominated debt to naira was NGN1,470.2/USD compared with NGN1,330.3/USD in Q1 '24.

"An additional contributing factor is due to fresh borrowings from the domestic market."

A further probe into the DMO's data revealed that Africa's fourth largest economy has as much as N63 trillion (\$4 billion) as its foreign debt, accounting for 47 percent of the total debt stock.

The Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) took the lion share, borrowing approximately N56 trillion while the 36 states plus the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) has N7 trillion as their external debt.

A more cursory look at the data showed that the Nigerian government relied more on domestic borrowings as it accounted for 53 percent of total debt profile, with the FGN taking N66 trillion and state governments having N4 trillion as their debt.

Nigeria's debt stock has grown from 53 percent recorded in Q1 to 58 percent in Q2, defying the DMO's self-imposed public debt ceiling of 40 percent, as outlined in the agency's Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy.

Although the current public debt-to-GDP ratio is slightly below the IMF's 60 percent benchmark for emerging market countries, the nation's weak revenue profile and FX volatility risks could further escalate debt levels, straining the already strained economy.

"By 2026, we project the debt stock will reach N185 trillion," said Esili Eigebe, director at consulting firm, Escap Management Ltd, said in a previous report by BusinessDay.

"Despite this, authorities seem unfazed, citing a lower debt-to-GDP ratio compared to global peers.

"However, the focus should be on the debt-to-government revenue ratio in our opinion, which places Nigeria among the countries least capable of repaying their debt," Eigebe said.

With Nigeria's public debt stock rising, debt-to-service ratio will remain elevated. This means that a large percentage of the government's revenue which should be used for capital expenditures will be portioned to pay off the debts.



SATURDAY 9 Nov		SUNDAY 10 Nov		MONDAY 11 Nov	
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	Kumekucha	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI
6:40	HABARI	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	HABARI	7:00	HABARI	7:00	HABARI
8:00	Art and Lifestyle	8:00	Uwatoletu	8:00	Uwatoletu
9:00	Uwatoletu	9:00	Uwatoletu	9:00	Uwatoletu
10:05	Shika Bamba 5	10:05	Shika Bamba	10:05	Shika Bamba
10:35	Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	10:35	Mjuzi Zaidi	10:35	Mjuzi Zaidi
11:15	Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:15	Chetu ni chetu	11:15	Chetu ni chetu
11:50	Hawavumi lakini wamo	11:50	Hawavumi lakini wamo	11:50	Hawavumi lakini wamo
12:50	Art and Lifestyle	12:50	Art and Lifestyle	12:50	Art and Lifestyle
13:20	Shamba lulu	13:20	Shamba lulu	13:20	Shamba lulu
13:50	Soap rpt: Laws of love	13:50	Soap rpt: Laws of love	13:50	Soap rpt: Laws of love
15:45	Doc rpt: Beyond Narrative	15:45	Doc rpt: Beyond Narrative	15:45	Doc rpt: Beyond Narrative
16:10	Igizo: Haikufuma	16:10	Igizo: Haikufuma	16:10	Igizo: Haikufuma
17:00	Shamsham za Pwani	17:00	Shamsham za Pwani	17:00	Shamsham za Pwani
18:00	Hapa na Pale	18:00	Hapa na Pale	18:00	Hapa na Pale
18:10	ITV Top 10 rpt	18:10	ITV Top 10 rpt	18:10	ITV Top 10 rpt
19:00	Jungu kuu	19:00	Jungu kuu	19:00	Jungu kuu
19:30	Shika Bamba	19:30	Shika Bamba	19:30	Shika Bamba
20:00	HABARI	20:00	HABARI	20:00	HABARI
21:05	Kipindi maalum: Tatu Mzuka	21:05	Kipindi maalum: Mchezo	21:05	Kipindi maalum: Mchezo
21:15	Igizo: Haikufuma	21:15	Igizo: Haikufuma	21:15	Igizo: Haikufuma
21:45	Kipindi maalum: Mchezo	21:45	Kipindi maalum: Mchezo	21:45	Kipindi maalum: Mchezo
21:55	Supa Min Jackpot	21:55	Supa Min Jackpot	21:55	Supa Min Jackpot
22:15	ITV Top 10	22:15	ITV Top 10	22:15	ITV Top 10
23:00	Hawavumi lakini wamo	23:00	Hawavumi lakini wamo	23:00	Hawavumi lakini wamo
23:40	Soap: Uzalo rpt	23:40	Soap: Uzalo rpt	23:40	Soap: Uzalo rpt
00:30	Al Jazeera	00:30	Al Jazeera	00:30	Al Jazeera

WORLD

Judge to decide whether Trump's hush money conviction can stand

NEW YORK

A New York judge is set to decide this week whether President-elect Donald Trump's criminal conviction on charges involving hush money paid to a porn star should be overturned in light of the US Supreme Court's July ruling on presidential immunity.

Justice Juan Merchan has said he will make his decision by Tuesday. It is the first of two pivotal choices that the judge must make after Trump's Nov 5 election victory. Merchan also must decide whether to go ahead with sentencing Trump on Nov 26 as currently scheduled. Legal experts have said sentencing now is unlikely to happen ahead of Trump's Jan 20 inauguration.

A favorable ruling by Merchan for Trump on the immunity question or a sentencing delay would pave the way for him to return to the White House largely unencumbered by any of the four criminal cases that once

appeared to threaten his ambitions to win back the White House.

Officials at the US Justice Department are assessing how to wind down the two federal criminal cases brought against Trump by Special Counsel Jack Smith due to its long-standing policy against prosecuting a sitting president. A separate case in Georgia involving state criminal charges concerning Trump's efforts to overturn his 2020 presidential election loss remains in limbo.

Trump, 78, pleaded not guilty and denied wrongdoing in all four cases, which he portrayed as political persecutions by allies of Democratic President Joe Biden designed to thwart his campaign.

"It is now abundantly clear that Americans want an immediate end to the weaponization of our justice system," Trump campaign spokesperson Steven Cheung said in a statement on Friday.

Trump in May became the first US president to be convicted of a crime when a jury



Former US president and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during an election night event at the West Palm Beach Convention Center in West Palm Beach, Florida, on Nov 6, 2024. AFP

in Manhattan found him guilty of state charges of falsifying business records to cover up a potential sex scandal shortly before his first presidential victory in 2016. Trump has vowed to appeal the conviction after sentencing.

His lawyers have argued that the case must be dismissed following the Supreme Court's immunity ruling. The Supreme Court, in a decision arising from one of Smith's two cases against Trump, decided that presidents are immune from prosecution involving their official acts, and that juries cannot be presented evidence of official acts in trials over personal conduct. It marked the first time that the court recognized any degree of presidential immunity from prosecution.

Trump's lawyers said the jury that convicted Trump was shown evidence by prosecutors of his social media posts as president and heard testimony from his former aides about conversations that oc-

curred in the White House during his 2017-2021 term.

Prosecutors with the office of Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, a Democrat, have argued that the Supreme Court's ruling has no bearing on the case, which they said concerned "wholly unofficial conduct." The Supreme Court in its ruling found no immunity for a president's unofficial acts.

"Even if the judge finds that some of the evidence should not have been introduced, it would not have changed the outcome of the jury's decision, and the court will not, therefore, dismiss the case on that basis," New York Law School professor Anna Cominsky said.

Even if Merchan allows the conviction to stand, experts expect Trump's lawyers to ask the judge to delay the sentencing. Trump faces a sentence of up to four years in prison after being convicted of 34 felony counts. Legal experts have said that while lesser pen-

Kremlin spokesman denies media reports of phone call between Putin, Trump

MOSCOW

WESTERN media claims of an alleged phone call between Russian President Vladimir Putin and US President-elect Donald Trump are false, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

"There was no conversation," he said. "This is completely untrue; it's pure fiction," Peskov emphasized.

He described the Washington Post and Reuters reports about the alleged telephone conversation as "the most remarkable example of the quality of the information that is published nowadays, sometimes even by quite respected outlets."

The US media earlier alleged that Putin and Trump had discussed the situation in Ukraine and peace on the European continent. The last Putin-Trump telephone call that was reported on the Kremlin's website took place in July 2020, at the end of Trump's first term in office. Its agenda included various international issues, including strategic stability. Communication continued in the following months as Putin issued a joint statement on Nagorno-Karabakh together with his counterparts from the US and France; additionally, he sent a message to Trump wishing him a speedy recovery from the coronavirus.

In addition, the Russian president wished a happy New Year 2021 and a merry Christmas to Trump and then-US President-elect Joe Biden.

Putin did not send any congratulatory messages to Western leaders in the past two years, the US president being no exception. Putin and Trump met in person on several occasions. In particular, the Finnish capital of Helsinki hosted a Russia-US summit in July 2018, with the two leaders holding both a one-on-one conversation and expanded talks involving their delegations.

Veteran American journalist Bob Woodward, a member of the editorial board of the Washington Post newspaper, suggested that Trump and Putin could also have communicated after the 45th US president's term in office had expired. However, Russian Presidential Spokesman Dmitry Peskov denied those allegations.

Communication with US leaders

Putin last held a phone call with the US leader on February 12, 2022. During that call, he and Joe Biden spoke for over an hour, focusing on security guarantees for Russia and the situation surrounding Ukraine. They also discussed bilateral relations between Moscow and Washington. This summer, Putin mentioned that Biden had sent him a letter regarding Ukraine. The Russian president responded in writing, stating that in order to end the military activities, Washington needed to stop providing weapons to Kiev, and once that was done, the conflict would end "in two to three months at the latest."

Putin did not specify when the exchange of letters had taken place, but judging by the context, it likely occurred during Russia's special military operation.

Boeing 787 turns back to Rome after engine fire

ROME

A Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner operated by Hainan Airlines was forced to return to Rome's Fiumicino Airport shortly after takeoff on Sunday following an engine fire.

The flight, bound for Shenzhen, China, was carrying 249 passengers and 16 crew members. Fortunately, no injuries were reported.

According to the Italian Coast Guard, the fire was likely caused by a bird strike, a common incident in aviation where birds collide with aircraft, particularly during take-off or landing.

In a statement, Hainan Airlines apologized for this inconvenience and confirmed that a bird strike was suspected to have caused the incident. The airline reported providing a range of options to affected passengers, including alternative flights for those continuing their journeys and refunds or compensation for those canceling their plans.

Media reports indicated that the fire ignited in the plane's right engine, prompting the crew to act swiftly and perform an emergency fuel dump over the sea before safely returning to the airport.

The aircraft, which had departed Fiumicino at 9:55 a.m. (0855 GMT) local time, turned back and landed around 11:00 a.m. (1000 GMT). Local Coast Guard vessels were deployed to monitor the situation and remain on standby for emergencies, but the situation was quickly brought under control, and the aircraft landed without further complications.

Xinhua

Xi extends congratulations to Global South Media and Think Tank Forum

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Monday sent a congratulatory message to the Global South Media and Think Tank Forum.

Noting that at present, the Global South is growing with a strong momentum and playing an increasingly important role in the cause of human progress, Xi said China has always been a member of the Global

South and will always belong to the developing world.

China is willing to work alongside Global South countries to practice true multilateralism, advocate for an equal and orderly multipolar world and universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization, in a joint effort to build a community with a shared future for mankind, he said.

Xi emphasized that in the

face of global changes of the century, pursuing modernization and working for a more just and equitable international order are the sacred historic missions of Global South countries and the common issues of the times for Global South media and think tanks.

Xi expressed hope that the forum's participants will engage in in-depth discussions, build consensus, and jointly

amplify the "voice of the Global South" while showcasing the "commitment of the Global South."

He also urged them to contribute wisdom toward empowering the Global South to become a stabilizing force for peace, a backbone of openness and development, a constructive force in global governance, and a driving force for mutual learning among civilizations. The Global South Media

and Think Tank Forum kicked off on Monday in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The forum, co-hosted by Xinhua News Agency and the Brazil Communication Company, was held under the theme of "Development and Revitalization: A New Journey for the Global South."

Also on Monday, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva also sent a congratulatory message to the forum. Xinhua

UBA strengthens long-term investments in Africa as expands operation in Middle East

RIYADH

UNITED Bank for Africa (UBA) has set the wheels in motion to expand its operations in the Middle East with the plan to open a subsidiary in Saudi Arabia, its largest economy.

This move which is expected to happen within the next year will mark the bank's second subsidiary in the Gulf Region, following the expansion of its business to the United Arab Emirates in 2022.

UBA's Group Deputy Managing Director, Muyiwa Akinyemi, who disclosed this during a panel session during the 8th Edition of the Future Investment Initiative (FII) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and in an interview with Arise TV, underscored the bank's strategic commitment towards fostering Africa's growth through infrastructure development, youth empowerment, and sustainable partnerships across key global markets.

He said, "Opening a presence in Saudi Arabia represents the next step for us in connecting the Africa-Gulf region. We are excited to bring UBA's expertise in financial services to Saudi Arabia, where we aim to facilitate knowledge transfer and create strong economic linkages. This

venture will further enable us to access Saudi expertise in food security, energy transition, and sustainable practices, which are all critical for Africa's continued development."

While emphasizing the importance of Africa as a strategic investment destination for long-term capital, he said, "Africa's infrastructure deficit is an opportunity for investors worldwide. Our pitch to the Gulf and Southeast Asia emphasizes that Africa must be part of their investment horizon. Today, food security is paramount as our population expands."

Akinyemi also highlighted the bank's dedication to nurturing Africa's youth talent through entrepreneurship. "Guided by our Group Chairman's efforts with the Tony Elumelu Foundation, UBA is committed to supporting young entrepreneurs in tech, agriculture, and entertainment, which are all burgeoning sectors in Africa. With such a young and dynamic population, we see enormous potential for innovation and growth."

He also reiterated the bank's continuous support for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Africa and beyond as he outlined the bank's commitment to these businesses, which he referred to as

key players in the African economy and vehicles for employment and economic growth.

"SMEs are the backbone of economic development in Africa. They contribute significantly to job creation and value chains, particularly within Nigeria. Over the last year, UBA has committed billions to support SMEs across Africa, and our network of over 20 countries enables us to make a substantial impact."

During the panel discussions, Akinyemi took time to emphasize UBA's longstanding experience on the continent as it navigates an ever-evolving investment landscape, adding that "As investors, we focus on infrastructure and sustainable projects that encourage economic prosperity while addressing pressing issues such as talent migration. Our goal is to ensure that people can thrive in Africa without needing to relocate. By investing in local talent and fostering growth sectors, we contribute to building the next generation of global innovators right here in Africa."

The DMD further articulated UBA's approach to risk management on the continent, emphasizing that the bank's 75-year history has uniquely equipped it with

insights and strategies to navigate diverse markets.

"With over seven decades of experience, Africa is what we know, and that knowledge allows us to manage risks effectively. We see tremendous opportunities in various sectors across the continent, and our continued investments are driven by a commitment to bring economic empowerment to communities, increase GDP, and improve socio-economic quality. Our anniversary is a celebration of UBA's legacy of contributing to Africa's progress. We look forward to leveraging this milestone to drive even greater impact across sectors and empower future generations," he said.

United Bank for Africa Plc is a leading Pan-African financial institution, offering banking services to more than forty-five million customers, across 1,000 business offices and customer touch points in 20 African countries. With presence in New York, London, Paris and Dubai, UBA is connecting people and businesses across Africa through retail, commercial and corporate banking, innovative cross-border payments and remittances, trade finance and ancillary banking services.

Agencies

China-Africa partnership strengthens resilient community building - officials

ADDIS ABABA

CHINA-Africa all-rounded cooperation continues to gather momentum toward building a resilient China-Africa community, driven by a shared destiny, African Union (AU) and Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) officials have said.

The remarks came during a seminar held recently in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, under the theme "Jointly building an all-weather China-Africa community with shared future in the new era" within the Forum on China-

Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) platform.

The seminar was a follow-up of the FOCAC summit held in Beijing back in September this year, and it defined concrete pathways for building an enduring China-Africa community grounded in shared purpose and mutual respect.

Speaking at the event, Claudia Shilumani, director of external relations and strategic engagement at the Africa CDC, said China and Africa are building a resilient health system that can withstand and adapt to the current complex health challenges across the con-

tinent.

"Africa CDC has partnered with China CDC to build a robust network of disease surveillance, expand laboratory capacities, and develop a skilled health workforce to ensure that all Africans benefit from common strides in health security," Shilumani said.

Appreciating China's commitment to creating a high-level, mutually beneficial partnership with Africa, Shilumani said China's investments in Africa spur not only economic growth but also create the foundation needed for sustainable health and wellness across generations.

She said in the spirit of the all-weather friendship between China and Africa, Africa CDC is committed to working hand in hand with our Chinese counterparts to advance innovations in laboratory infrastructure and disease prevention.

"We have enjoyed tremendous value in China's strategic support in genomics training and technical capacity building, which aligns with Africa CDC's commitment to strengthening its scientific foundations," the director said.

She noted that Africa CDC is particularly eager to expand its partnerships with China through the FOCAC platform to bolster disease

surveillance and advance its health networks across the continent.

"As we face emerging infectious diseases, food insecurity, and the health impacts of climate change, it is through such collaboration that we can forge a path to stability and self-reliance in Africa's healthcare landscape," she said.

Khalid Boudali, presiding officer of the Economic, Social, and Cultural Council of the AU, also said China's partnership with Africa offers an opportunity to adopt governance practices that empower Africa's people and institutions.

Boudali described the "Beijing Declaration on Jointly Building an

All-Weather China-Africa Community with a Shared Future for the New Era" as a visionary roadmap toward building a resilient China-Africa community, strengthened by their shared destinies.

Appreciating China's commitment to promoting Africa's agenda in the United Nations Security Council, Boudali said China's advocacy for reform within the United Nations Security Council to redress historical imbalances, enhancing Africa's representation is a position Africa deeply values and will champion alongside China.

Xinhua

Russian advances, Ukrainian losses: Situation in Kursk Region

MOSCOW

THE Ukrainian armed forces have lost more than 300 troops in the Kursk area over the past day, the Russian Defense Ministry reported.

In total, the enemy has lost more than 31,390 troops since the fighting began in the region.

Units of Russia's Battlegroup North have continued their offensive, defeating Ukrainian formations near several settlements in the Kursk region.

TASS has gathered the key news about the unfolding situation.

Operation to neutralize Ukrainian forces

Russia's Battlegroup North repelled six enemy counterattacks towards the settlements of Daryino, Nikolayevo-Daryino and Novoivanovka.

Units of the battlegroup continued offensive operations, defeating Ukrainian formations in the areas of the settlements of Daryino, Leonidovo, Malaya Loknya, Nikolayevo-Daryino and Novoivanovka.

Russian tactical aircraft and artillery hit clusters of Ukrainian manpower and equipment in the Kursk Region.

Operational/tactical aircraft and missile forces hit amassment areas and enemy reserves in the Sumy Region.

The operation to destroy Ukrainian forces is ongoing.

Ukraine's losses

Over the day, the enemy lost more than 300 troops, a tank, an infantry fighting vehicle, two armored personnel carriers, eight armored combat vehicles, three artillery pieces, a mortar and seven motor vehicles. Five Ukrainian servicemen surrendered as prisoners of war.

Since the beginning of hostilities in the Kursk Region, Kiev has lost over 31,390 troops, 195 tanks, 127 infantry fighting vehicles, 109 armored personnel carriers, 1,110 armored combat vehicles, 850 motor vehicles, 265 artillery pieces and 40 multiple rocket launchers, including 11 HIMARS and six MLRS of US manufacture.

13 Russian residents found

Thirteen Russians who had been displaced from the Kursk Region have been found in Ukraine's Sumy Region; negotiations on their possible return are underway, Russian Human Rights Commissioner Tatyana Moskalkova told reporters.

Agencies

Belarus officially becomes BRICS partner state – Foreign Ministry

MINSK

BELARUS has officially become a BRICS partner state, the press service of the country's Foreign Ministry reported to TASS.

According to the ministry, on November 5, Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko signed a letter to his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, expressing the country's readiness to join BRICS as a partner state.

The document was handed over by Belarusian Foreign Minister Maxim Ryzhenkov to Russian Ambassador in Minsk, Boris Gryzlov, during a personal meeting.

"The official response to the written invitation is an essential part of the procedure agreed upon by the member states for obtaining partner status. From this moment on, the country is considered an official BRICS partner state," the ministry said.

Lukashenko thanked Putin for his support and "emphasized with particular

satisfaction that Belarus' participation in BRICS as a partner state was formalized during Russia's presidency," the ministry said.

According to the ministry, the status of a partner country entitles Belarus, among other things, to participate in special sessions of BRICS summits and meetings of BRICS foreign ministers on a permanent basis.

Full members may also invite partners to other ministerial-level events, particularly on trade, meetings of national security representatives, and the Parliamentary Forum.

Partners can also accede to BRICS final documents, thus expanding their geographical coverage and strengthening the association's voice in international affairs.

Earlier, Lukashenko stated in an interview with Izvestia on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Kazan that Belarus had become a partner state of the association.

Agencies

COP29 leaders speak as summit formally opens

BAKU

THE annual UN climate summit kicked off Monday with countries readying for tough talks on finance and trade, following a year of weather disasters that have emboldened developing countries in their demands for climate cash.

Delegates gathering in Azerbaijan's capital, Baku, hope to resolve the COP29 summit's top agenda item – a deal for up to \$1 trillion in annual climate finance for developing countries, replacing a target of \$100 billion.

That goal is competing for resources and attention against economic concerns, conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, and the election of Donald Trump, a climate-change denier, for a second term as president of the United States, the world's biggest economy.

The event's president, Mukhtar Babayev, said the world was "on a road to ruin" and the summit was a "moment of truth" for the world's climate goals.

"Azerbaijan can build the bridge, but you all need to walk across it. In fact, we need to start running," he told delegates at the Baku Stadium venue.

Trump has called climate change a hoax and vowed to withdraw the US from the Paris Agreement, the global treaty to reduce planet-warming emissions.

The EU, along with current US President Joe Biden's administration, has been pressing Gulf oil nations to join the pool of climate finance donor countries.

Extreme pressure

This year is on track to be the hottest on record, and experts said climate extremes – from flooding disasters in Africa, coastal Spain and the US state of North Carolina, to drought gripping South America, Mexico and the US West – were challenging rich and poor countries alike.

Most countries are not prepared.

"Election results don't alter the laws of physics," said Kaveh Guilanpour, vice-president for international strategies at the nonprofit Center for Climate and Energy Solutions.

"Unless the world collectively steps up its efforts, the impacts of climate change will become increasingly severe and frequent and will be felt by an increasing number of people in all countries, including in the United States."

Many people gathered in Baku worry that US disengagement could lead other countries to backpedal on past climate pledges or scale back future ambitions.

"That is definitely a risk. People will be saying, well, the US is the second biggest emitter. It's the biggest economy in the world ... If they don't set themselves an ambitious target, why would we?" Marc Vanheukelen, the EU's climate ambassador from 2019 to 2023, told Reuters.

Azerbaijan has been lobbying governments to accelerate their move to clean energy while touting gas as a transition fuel.

President Ilham Aliyev has called Azerbaijan's fossil-fuel bounty "a gift of God," and Baku has proposed creating a Climate Finance Action Fund to collect voluntarily up to \$1 billion from extractive companies across 10 countries including Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan's gas exports to Europe this year are expected to exceed 12 billion cubic meters, after 11.8 billion cubic meters last year, as Europe seeks to reduce its reliance on Russian gas.

Presidential aide Hikmet Hajiyev said that, with its buildup of renewables, Azerbaijan was "moving from fossil fuel exports to green electricity exports." Baku aims to have renewable energy fueling 35 percent of its power plant capacity by 2030. Last year, this figure was about 20 percent.

How Xi champions China's people-to-people exchanges with Latin America

BEIJING

"CONDITION of good friends, condition of old wine," Chinese President Xi Jinping cited a Brazilian proverb to describe the long-running friendship between the Chinese and Latin American people when addressing the Brazilian National Congress during a visit to the South American country in 2014. It was Xi's first visit to Brazil after assuming the Chinese presidency.

In the speech, he told stories of people-to-people exchanges between the two countries. He also quoted Brazilian lyricist and novelist Paulo Coelho and mentioned the Brazilian TV series Escrava Isaura, which was quite popular in China in the 1980s.

"I listened to President Xi's speech at the Congress in 2014," said Fausto Pinato, president of the Brazil-China Parliamentary Front of the Brazilian National Congress. "In addition to the cooperation between the two countries in diplomacy and trade, he also mentioned plenty about Brazilian culture, such as Brasilia's architecture, President Kubitschek's words, Brazilian TV series and a Brazilian journalist."

"His knowledge of Brazil made us proud," he added.

Cultural exchanges are a crucial pillar of interaction for China and Latin America, two great civilizations. Xi has repeatedly stressed that people-to-people amity is vital to sound state-to-state relations.

In fact, while still a local official, Xi was engaged in cooperation between China and Latin America.

In 1996, Xi, then deputy secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Fujian Provincial Committee, visited Brazil for the first time. He flew to Fortaleza, the state capital of Ceara in northeastern Brazil, and signed a memorandum of understanding to establish a sister province/state relationship between East China's Fujian province and Ceara.



Chinese President Xi Jinping delivers a speech at the Brazilian National Congress in Brasilia, Brazil, July 16, 2014. Xinhua

"I remember spending New Year's Day 1996 on the road ... There is some serendipity between me and the city," Xi recalled when attending the BRICS summit in Fortaleza in 2014.

China has established approximately 180 sister-city partnerships with 17 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, which illustrates their ever-flourishing cultural and people-to-people exchanges.

In May last year, Fortaleza established a sisterly relationship with Xiamen, a coastal city in Fujian where Xi used to serve as deputy mayor. The sister cities are known as the "BRICS Twin Cities" because both have hosted BRICS summits.

In recent years, the platforms for people-

to-people and cultural exchanges between China and Latin America have become increasingly diverse, from the China-Latin America Cultural Exchange Year and the Latin American and Caribbean Art Season to the "Bridge of the Future" China-Latin American Young Leaders Training Campus.

"The rich cultures and arts of China and Latin America bloom like splendid flowers on each other's vast land, pushing the mutual learning between the Chinese and Latin American civilizations to a new high," Xi said when attending the closing ceremony of the China-Latin America Cultural Exchange Year in 2016 in Peru.

Xinhua

Unity remains out of reach for European leaders at Budapest meetings

BUDAPEST

TWO European meetings have been convened in Budapest with one on a new European competitiveness deal and the other to address pressing European security issues.

Analysts point out that these events provided a platform for European leaders to align on critical challenges amid the uncertain economic outlook. But deep-rooted divisions on issues like aid to Ukraine and political struggles in major EU nations such as France and Germany limited the meetings' potential outcomes.

ROADBLOCKS TO COMPETITIVENESS DEAL

A new European competitiveness deal was a focal point at the informal meeting of heads of state or government. According to the European Council, leaders endorsed the "Budapest Declaration," emphasizing the urgency of bolstering Europe's competitiveness through a new deal. The EU's share of global GDP has halved over the past two decades, a concerning trend that leaders aimed to address by discussing competitive drivers introduced at an EU summit in April, said European Council President Charles Michel ahead of the meeting. Media reports suggest the competitiveness deal discussions drew on a strategic report by Mario Draghi, former Italian Prime Minister and former European Central Bank president, which advocates for an additional annual investment of 750 billion euros (804 billion U.S. dollars) to 800 billion euros (857 billion dollars) to counteract Europe's competitive decline. Draghi proposes issuing new fresh joint debt to bridge this substantial financial gap.

Ludovic Subran, chief economist at Allianz, commented that while the Budapest Declaration was endorsed, "Europe is not ready for this." Analysts note that with Europe's uncertain economic outlook and continued internal disagreements, reaching a consensus on joint debt remains elusive. France backed Draghi's

proposal, yet Germany and the Netherlands rejected it almost immediately after the report's release. Although EU officials believed that Draghi's report will provide a strong basis for further EU initiatives, the Budapest Declaration remains vague on how to address the funding shortfall. "That consensus did not come, and as a result we have suffered lower economic growth, and now stagnation," Draghi told reporters at the meeting.

SPLITS OVER UKRAINE AID

The issue of support for Ukraine remains a central concern for European leaders. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen took to social media X on Thursday, urging Europe to take on greater responsibility in security, defense and aid to Ukraine. Since the escalation of the Ukraine crisis in February 2022, the EU and its member states have provided Ukraine with 118 billion euros (126 billion dollars) in aid, according to European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis. However, EU countries remain deeply divided over future aid. Hungary opposes further assistance, with

Prime Minister Viktor Orban asserting that Europe cannot shoulder the financial burden of aiding Ukraine alone. Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico also questioned financial support for Ukraine, highlighting the need to prioritize resources for Europe's pressing issues like illegal immigration. Matthew Burrows, director of the Strategic Foresight Hub at the Stimson Center, noted that European nations are increasingly divided politically and economically. The looming uncertainty over U.S. policy on Ukraine under a future administration has added to Europe's fatigue.

"FRANCO-GERMAN ENGINE" PREOCCUPIED

France and Germany, often regarded as the EU's "twin engines," have both encountered significant political troubles this year, with declining influence due to waning support for their ruling parties. Analysts suggest this has weakened EU cohesion, with disagreements increasingly difficult to bridge and collective actions diminishing. In France's legislative elections in June and July, President Emmanuel Macron's centrist coalition lost its

majority. The new parliament was divided among the left-wing, centrist alliances and the far-right parties.

It created a rare period of over 50 days without a functioning government in France. Not until Sept. 5 did Macron appoint veteran conservative Michel Barnier as the new prime minister, restoring government functionality. Meanwhile, Germany's coalition government encountered a political crisis following German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's announcement of the dismissal of Finance Minister Christian Lindner. It led the Free Democratic Party (FDP) to exit the administration coalition, leaving Scholz's Social Democrats, Greens and FDP in disarray. The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a Washington think tank, noted that the coalition breakdown in Germany and persistent challenges for the French government have hampered EU efforts to consolidate its stance on key issues. Germany, often regarded as Europe's leading economic engine, has faced an economic downturn in recent years, with declining manufacturing output affecting the EU's economic landscape.



Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban ©, European Council President Charles Michel © and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen attend a press conference after an informal European Council meeting in Budapest, Hungary, on Nov. 8, 2024. Xinhua

The Guardian

SPORT



FILE - Beyoncé, left, accepts the Innovator Award during the iHeartRadio Music Awards, April 1, 2024, at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. (AP Photo)

Beyoncé and her legacy will be the subject of a new course at Yale

By SUSAN HAIGH

WITH a record 99 Grammy nominations and acclaim as one of the most influential artists in music history, pop superstar Beyoncé and her expansive cultural legacy will be the subject of a new course at Yale University next year.

Titled "Beyoncé Makes History: Black Radical Tradition, Culture, Theory & Politics Through Music," the one-credit class will focus on the period from her 2013 self-titled album through this year's genre-defying "Cowboy Carter" and how the world-famous singer, songwriter and entrepreneur has generated awareness and engagement in social and political ideologies.

Yale University's African American Studies Professor Daphne Brooks intends to use the performer's wide-ranging repertoire, including footage of her live performances, as a "portal" for students to learn about Black intellectuals, from Frederick Douglass to Toni Morrison.

"We're going to be taking seriously the ways in which the critical work, the intellectual work of some of our greatest thinkers in American culture resonates with Beyoncé's music and thinking about the ways in which we can apply their philosophies to her work" and how it has sometimes been at odds with the "Black radical intellectual tradition," Brooks said.

Beyoncé, whose full name is Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter, is not the first performer to be the subject of a college-level course.

There have been courses on singer and songwriter Bob Dylan over the years and several colleges and universities have recently offered classes on singer Taylor Swift and her lyrics and pop culture legacy.

That includes law professors who hope to engage a new generation of lawyers by using a famous celebrity

like Swift to bring context to complicated, real-world concepts.

Professors at other colleges and universities have also incorporated Beyoncé into their courses or offered classes on the superstar.

Brooks sees Beyoncé in a league of her own, crediting the singer with using her platform to "spectacularly elevate awareness of and engagement with grassroots, social, political ideologies and movements" in her music, including the Black Lives Matter movement and Black feminist commentary.

"Can you think of any other pop musician who's invited an array of grassroots activists to participate in these longform multimedia album projects that she's given us since 2013," asked Brooks.

She noted how Beyoncé has also tried to tell a story through her music about "race and gender and sexuality in the context of the 400-year-plus history of African-American subjugation."

"She's a fascinating artist because historical memory, as I often refer to it, and also the kind of impulse to be an archive of that historical memory, it's just all over her work," Brooks said. "And you just don't see that with any other artist."

Brooks previously taught a well-received class on Black women in popular music culture at Princeton University and discovered her students were most excited about the portion dedicated to Beyoncé. She expects her class at Yale will be especially popular, but she's trying to keep the size of the group relatively small.

For those who manage to snag a seat next semester, they shouldn't get their hopes up about seeing Queen Bey in person.

"It's too bad because if she were on tour, I would definitely try to take the class to see her," Brooks said.

AP

Yanga and Gamondi need to clear their heads during the international break

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans' dominance has been clear for all to see in recent years, with Miguel Gamondi's side winning each of the last three NBC Premier League titles.

The Green and Yellow secured the Premier League and Federation Cup (FA Cup) titles last season leaving rival clubs desperately searching for ways to bridge the gap with the serial winners.

After eight rounds of matches in the 2024/25 Premier League season, Young Africans had a 100% record, sitting top of the table on 24 points, clearly exhibiting a consistency that the rest of the division had not.

Fast forward to a week later, the defending champions have lost back-to-back games. A slim 1-0 loss to Azam was followed by a shocking 3-1 humbling from Tabora United last weekend.

It's the first time Young Africans have lost two league games in a row since February 2021, when Cedric Kaze was coach of the club.

It makes for quite an interesting international break. Gamondi has some rare time to reflect on why his team has lost two matches in six days.

The root cause is fairly obvious. Injuries and suspensions are often disregarded when top teams are struggling, but a glance at Young Africans' line-up and substitutes' bench against Tabora United demonstrates how Gamondi's selection options were limited.

He missed his entire backline starters due to a combination of injuries and suspension. Ibrahim Bacca was serving a one-match suspension following sending off against Azam.

Dickson Job was also serving yellow-card accumulation suspension. Kouassi Yao and Chadrack Boka were sidelined with injuries. To make matters worse, Azizi Andabwile, who was started as a makeshift centre-back, was forced out after only 12 minutes of action.

Like they did against Azam, Young Africans had played very well until the forced substitution of Andabwile.



Young Africans head coach Miguel Gamondi pictured with his attacking midfielder Stephano Azizi Ki. Photo: Agencies

This is not merely an excuse but a valid technical point that had a major influence on the outcome of the game.

However, Gamondi is not blind to Young Africans' issues, though, admitting it was one of those bad days in the office. They struggled to contain Tabora United's counter-attacks while struggling to open up their low block.

"We must be honest. You see in the eighth minute Aziz Andabwile picked up an injury and we did not have any central defender on the bench. Musonda missed one clear chance and after that they attacked once and scored one goal.

"We had a penalty and missed it. In the second half they attacked twice and scored two goals. We attacked 20 times but did not score. It is football. Like I said, nothing worked for us today. The performance of the team wasn't good but I think it was influenced by the situation as well," he said after their

match against Tabora United.

Prior to that Gamondi had been largely satisfied with his side's efforts in recent matches. Where some saw narrow victories against Singida Black Stars, Coastal Union and Simba as fortunate, the Young Africans boss has been pleased with their fight and desire to get the job done.

But there's no getting away from the fact that, over the past week, Young Africans have lost two times. Two defeats in five days are uncharted territory for Young Africans and Gamondi.

The reality is that the likes of Prince Dube and Stephano Azizi Ki have not been playing at their peak level, it is perhaps no surprise that some of the team's recent performances, even when victorious, have looked a little underwhelming.

Too often in matches this season there is a lack of bite in the final third, which was also the case against Tabora United

and Azam.

Little wonder then that rumours of Gamondi sack dominated the airwaves and social media the past few days.

The panic button has been pressed with the club confirmation of shifting their domestic competitions games from Azam Chamazi Complex to KMC Complex.

Whether the move from Chamazi was on the card for some time, the timing is enough reason to conclude these are uneasy times at Jangwani.

The current international break is a time for Young Africans and Gamondi to clear their heads and put things right before crucial CAF Champions League games start.

With Al Hilal and MC Alger coming up after the November international break, Young Africans are going to need to tighten up in defence and midfield and start taking some more chances when they arrive.

Cavaliers join exclusive company with 12-0 start after win over Bulls



Cavs point guard Donovan Mitchell scores against the Chicago Bulls in the first half. Photo: Reuters

By Ryan Young

THE Cleveland Cavaliers' undefeated run is alive and well.

Donovan Mitchell and the Cavaliers flew ahead in the fourth quarter on Monday night at the United Center to beat the Chicago Bulls 119-113. That pushed them to a perfect 12-0 record on the season.

The Cavaliers, who are the last undefeated team left standing in the NBA, are now just the eighth team to start 12-0 or better in league history. It's already the best start in franchise history, and the best start to a season since the Golden State Warriors opened the 2015-16 campaign with 24 consecutive wins. The Cavaliers, led by LeBron James, beat those Warriors in the NBA Finals that season.

Mitchell went off in the first half, which is what kept Cleveland in lockstep with the Bulls after all five of Chicago's starters hit double figures in the first 24 minutes.

Mitchell had 25 points in the first half on five 3-pointers, and he

pulled off a wild 360-degree layup while flying through the middle of the lane in the middle of the second quarter.

Though the Bulls pushed ahead in the third quarter and jumped to a nine-point lead after a pair of Ayo Dosunmu free throws late in the period, the Cavaliers rattled off an 11-2 run to tie the game up almost immediately.

The Cavs held Chicago to just two field goals, easy floaters from both Dalen Terry and Josh Giddey, in the final six minutes of the quarter. That pushed Cleveland to a three-point lead entering the fourth quarter.

While the Bulls tied the game again midway through the final period on a fadeaway midrange jumper from Zach LaVine, the Cavaliers turned it on immediately. Evan Mobley threw down an easy alley-oop and then Mitchell dropped in a fast-break layup off a steal from Ty Jerome just seconds later. That quickly turned into a 9-2 run, which was enough to keep

the Cavaliers a step ahead the rest of the way and allow them to close out the six-point win.

Mitchell finished with 36 points and eight rebounds, and he shot 7-of-16 from behind the arc. Darius Garland added 17 points and five assists, and Mobley finished with 15 points and 11 rebounds.

LaVine led the Bulls with 26 points and six rebounds. Nikola Vucevic finished with 20 points and eight rebounds, and Coby White added 20 points with five 3-pointers. The Bulls had 20 turnovers as a team, which the Cavaliers turned into 35 points.

The Cavaliers will take on the Philadelphia 76ers next on Wednesday. A win there would match the longest winning streak in team history. While they are sure to drop a game eventually, Mitchell and the Cavaliers are looking like true contenders in the Eastern Conference through the first few weeks of the season.

Yahoo Sports

The peculiar Premier League trend that hints at drastic change

By Miguel Delaney

AS Ange Postecoglou came in after another deflating Tottenham Hotspur defeat, both he and fans were evidently furious, but there were some calming voices. It's just "that kind of season", as some around the club maintained. This isn't a figure of speech. It's a fact. Spurs's inconsistency has spread to the majority of the Premier League, in a way that has never been seen before.

The gap between third and 13th is only four points. Between third and 11th, it's a mere three. The table has never been so congested at this stage, across more than half the table and almost a third of the way through the season.

Historically, the closest we've seen to this kind of table at this stage are the four points that separated third-placed Chelsea and 11th-placed Fulham in 2002-03, and the five between Spurs and Middlesbrough in 2005-06. From third to 13th, the closest has been the six between Arsenal and Newcastle United in 1998-99.

Generally, these gaps have been far bigger, with an average of 10 and 11 points over the last decade. Even "the Leicester City season" of 2015-16 only had gaps between these positions of six and nine points, respectively. This is the Premier League's big crunch. It's why Manchester United, sitting in 13th place, can be optimistic about the appointment of Ruben Amorim. If he does get an immediate response from the team, two wins can suddenly have them right in contention for the Champions League places and maybe even more.

Many clubs can feel similarly, if also a little confused about how things are going. Spurs themselves have won two of their last four games with thoroughly convincing 4-1 routs and yet there they are in 11th amid huge debate over the manager. Brentford have seemed simultaneously resurgent and as if the Thomas Frank era is going stale. Aston Villa are ninth and looking like the extra rigours of their Champions League campaign might be getting to them... and yet still just a point off the positions to return to the competition next season.

It's like little we've seen before, at least for some time. Having to go back to the early 2000s or even 1990s for similar examples is instructive. That was an era where financial gaps weren't as great and there was more competitive balance, as illustrated by how 79 points was enough to win the title in 1999. The arrival of Roman Abramovich, capitalist money, states and all manner of other interests transformed all of that, instigating this financial stretch in the league. The table's 90 per cent correlation to wage bills, as revealed in many academic studies, becomes even more meaningful when the differences in those wage bills are greater.

That's why this crunch right now is so remarkable. It shouldn't really be possible at this stage of the Premier League's history, and may well be unsustainable.

Even if it is, it could still have huge effect. Blips in form may not be as damaging and could be quickly recoverable. There's still a sense of many teams finding out where and what they are, as if we are still in the first weeks of the campaign.

There are two direct and related reasons for this. One is the effect of Profit and Sustainability Rules, which have forced clubs to make more compromises. Wage bills have been so high for so long that there hasn't been the same headroom. Clubs haven't been able to go out and buy in the same way.

While this has naturally brought a lot of complaints in the market, it is probably a self-correction that the Premier League has long needed.

More concerning is something bigger, that very much does need fixing, and has exacerbated other issues. That is the effect of the schedule, and what is essentially becoming "Forever Football". Players are exhausted. It is not just the resultant injuries that Mikel Arteta has complained about and have also affected Manchester City, who have a Club World Cup at the end of the season.

It is also the way coaching staff find they can't train properly, often because squad members aren't available. Players might not be injured for games but they do have to miss a lot of sessions due to physical issues. That has a much more profound effect in a modern game of highly systemised teams. It also has a knock-on effect since the workload on the fit players goes up, they can't be rested, and they are then more likely to get injured themselves.

"It's been a nightmare for eight weeks," Arteta said. "Doubt after doubt, issue after issue, not only with the ones that are not able to play, but with the ones who are able to play only for certain moments and not able to play."

The Professional Footballers' Association and other player representative bodies have already had a lot of meetings over the last week about injury impact, that has concluded with discussions over whether it is becoming "a literal survival of the fittest". The factor impacting results that is seen as the most meaningful right now is who can get something close to a full team out.

That's where Arne Slot's Liverpool have been excellent, but also where there are two sides to this discussion. There might also be two sides to the season, with another that isn't so crunched.

THE INDEPENDENT

Ruben Amorim axes Ruud van Nistelrooy on first day as Manchester United head coach

By James Ducker

RUUD van Nistelrooy has left Manchester United after Ruben Amorim wielded the axe on his first day as the club's new head coach.

Amorim landed in England via private jet around 2pm on Monday with United confirming the news Van Nistelrooy had gone in an official statement only three hours later.

Van Nistelrooy, the former United striker, was placed in interim charge following Erik ten Hag's sacking a fortnight ago and oversaw a four-match unbeaten run, including Sunday's 3-0 victory over Leicester City in the Premier League. He had originally been brought back to the club in July as one of two new assistants to Ten Hag.

But Amorim has decided he does not want the Dutchman to be part of his backroom staff and would prefer to work predominantly with the coaches he has brought over from Sporting Lisbon.

In a statement, United said: "Ruud is, and always will be, a Manchester United legend. We are grateful for his contribution and the way in which he has approached the role throughout his time with the club. He will always be very welcome at Old Trafford."

United also confirmed that Ten Hag's other assistant Rene Hake had also left the club along with Jelle ten Rouwelaar and performance analyst Pieter Morel.

Darren Fletcher, the United first team coach under Ten Hag, could stay on, with the club saying they will confirm the full composition of Amorim's staff in due course. There is also a decision to make on Andreas Georgson, who was another coach brought to United by Ten Hag in the summer, and fellow coach Craig Mawson.

Amorim was joined by five of his backroom staff from Sporting - Emanuel Ferro, Carlos Fernandes, Adelio Candido, Paulo Barreira and Jorge Vital - on an 11am flight from Beja in Portugal on Monday having overseen his final game as Sporting manager the night before with a 4-2 win over Braga.

Amorim and his staff were then whisked to United's Carrington training ground in black Mercedes people carriers where they were met by the club's chief executive Omar Berrada, sporting director Dan Ashworth and technical director Jason Wilcox.

Wearing jeans, trademark black zip up hoodie and black Prada trainers, Amorim was all smiles as he greeted the Old Trafford executives backing him to bring back the glory days to the club. He was then given a tour of Carrington, which is currently undergoing a £50 million revamp.

The new United head coach - who will not be able to start coaching



Amorim laughs alongside Dan Ashworth, the Manchester United sporting director (second right), and Jason Wilcox (third right), the technical director. Agencies

until his visa has been ratified - insisted he was not "naive" to the scale of the challenge facing him at Old Trafford.

"I feel ready for the new challenge," he said. "I'm not naive, I know it's going to be very different, very difficult. I'm at peace now. I can focus on my new job and I'm looking forward to starting tomorrow. I know it will be difficult to reproduce what I have here anywhere else but there are other places with different exposure and pressure."

Amorim has also dropped the biggest hint yet that he plans to play the 3-4-2-1 system with which he has enjoyed such success at Sporting.

The new head coach said he wanted to start with a structure with which he was familiar as he assesses the strengths and weaknesses of the squad and the injury situation. He is due to take charge of his first United game away at Ipswich Town in the Premier League on Sunday week.

"I know how I am going to play in the beginning, because you have to start with a structure that you know," he said. "Then you will adapt with the players that you have, some injuries, or no injuries, what kind of players have the abilities to defend, attack, I will discover that in the next few weeks. We don't have a lot of time to train, so I have to show something that I know very well. You can take whatever you want from that."

Matthijs de Ligt, who admitted it was not easy to see the manager who brought him to Old Trafford sacked a few months later, believes United are more than capable of adapting to Amorim's system.

"I've played in a back three for the [Dutch] national team, but also Juventus and Bayern," the defender said. "I think a back three or a back four, it's in general the same, the only thing of importance is how the team is set up. You can play in a back three but if everything is not compact and everybody is doing their own job then it's going to be really difficult, the same in a back four."

"That's going to be the

biggest challenge for the coaches - to get everyone on the same wavelength and same page to improve as a team and improve as players.

"I think the squad is capable of everything, back three, back four - the most important thing is how you play together, how you set up together."

Meanwhile, Ruud van Nistelrooy has made no secret of the fact that becoming the assistant manager of Manchester United was the only job for which he was willing to give up the role of a No 1.

The former United striker, who scored 150 goals in just 219 games for the club over five seasons, passed up the chance to resume his managerial career elsewhere this summer when he accepted the post of Erik ten Hag's assistant.

Van Nistelrooy probably could not have expected that, only a few months later, he would replace Ten Hag on an interim basis following his fellow Dutchman's sacking.

Having left the club under something of a cloud in 2006 after a falling out with Sir Alex

Ferguson, it is unlikely he imagined he would be picking his old manager's brains before taking his place in the dugout as manager himself 18 years later against Leicester City in the League Cup.

That was an experience he was able to savour on three further occasions at Old Trafford, during which time he was well received by the United fans.

A 5-2 win over a severely weakened Leicester in the Carabao Cup was followed by a draw with Chelsea and a 2-0 victory against PAOK Salonika in the Europa League, before he concluded his interim spell with Sunday's 3-0 win over Leicester in the Premier League.

After the chaos and turbulence of Ten Hag's final months in charge, Van Nistelrooy has helped to stabilise things over the past fortnight but now United need to move on.

If that sounds ruthless, it is because that is precisely what United need to be. This is not the time for sentiment or clouded judgment - goodness knows there has been enough of that at Old Trafford in recent times.

Amorim intends to bring three

of his Sporting assistants - Carlos Fernandes, Adelio Candido and Emanuel Ferro - with him to United, plus goalkeeping coach Jorge Vital and sports scientist Paulo Barreira.

What Amorim does not need is an assistant with a rich United backstory who has already had a taste of the top job and is very clear about his own managerial desires hanging around in the background. It is a situation that would do neither men any favours - and that is assuming they shared similar ideals. United need clear-eyed thinking, not an overcrowded backroom staff.

Van Nistelrooy's presence was complicated enough for Ten Hag - and he had apparently chosen the former United goalscorer to join his staff alongside Rene Hake, contrary to claims he was hoisted on the manager by the club's hierarchy.

"Risk of repeat of Ten Hag situation

Questions were immediately being asked about how Ten Hag might handle having two former managers as his assistants, particularly one who was still at the start of his managerial journey and had rejected No 1 jobs to return to Old Trafford.

Even before results started to go awry, Van Nistelrooy was being touted as an interim replacement - and look what unfolded.

What is to think the Van Nistelrooy situation would be much different for Amorim should his opening months in charge at Old Trafford prove rocky?

He is joining the biggest and most scrutinised club in the world's most competitive domestic league in a country that is new to him and taking over a chronically underperforming squad that, on the surface at least, does not appear to be tailored to his preferred 3-4-2-1 system.

He will have enough on his plate without the spectre of Van Nistelrooy hanging over him.

It is a distraction Amorim would not need. Van Nistelrooy did a solid job as interim but United and their new head coach will still need to part company with him, even if that means yet another compensation bill.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Ruben Amorim axes Ruud van Nistelrooy on first day as Man United head coach

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Simba request rescheduling of Pamba Jiji and Singida Black Stars matches

By Correspondents Seth Mapoli & Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA Sports Club have formally requested the Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) to adjust their upcoming schedule, citing logistical challenges that impact their preparations for key CAF Confederation Cup fixtures.

Simba are asking for changes to two NBC Premier League matches to allow the team adequate time for training and recovery before their continental commitments.

The first request involves Simba's previously postponed league match against Pamba Jiji, originally scheduled for November 21.

The fixture was rescheduled to allow Simba additional preparation time for their CAF Confederation Cup game against Angola's Bravos Do Maquis on November 27.

Simba have now requested that the TPLB reinstate the original date, confident that the team can balance both domestic and international obligations.

"We believe playing Pamba Jiji on November 21 is feasible due to the direct flight from Dar es Salaam to Mwanza, which simplifies travel logistics," a Simba representative explained. "With this arrangement, we'll have about five days to prepare for our match against Bravos Do Maquis."

Simba anticipate having their full squad available, as key players on international duty are expected to return by November 19. This allows sufficient time to rest and strategize for the Pamba Jiji game while preparing for the CAF competition without compromising player fitness.

Simba's second request involves the December 1 away match against Singida Black Stars. The club argues that this fixture would disrupt their preparations for the December 8 CAF Confederation Cup match against Algeria's CS Constantine.

Simba have requested that this match be postponed to reduce travel-related fatigue, which could impact their readiness for the Algerian encounter.

"With no direct flights from Singida to Dar es Salaam, we'd have to travel over five hours by bus to Dodoma before catching a flight to Dar es Salaam and then connecting to Algeria," the Simba representative noted.

"This itinerary leaves little recovery time, affecting our players' readiness for the match against Constantine."

Simba contend that postponing the Singida Black Stars fixture would provide a smoother transition into their crucial away game in Algeria.

Given the importance of the group-stage matches, the club hopes that TPLB will recognize the logistical demands and offer flexibility to enhance Simba's performance on the continental stage.

TPLB spokesperson Karim Boimanda confirmed receipt of Simba's request, stating: "Yes, we've received Simba's letter and will review it carefully before making a decision. Once finalized, we will inform the public."

Simba, under head coach Fadlu Davids, currently lead the Premier League standings with 25 points from 10 matches.

Competing in the CAF Confederation Cup, Simba have been drawn into Group A, facing Algeria's CS Constantine, Angola's Bravos Do Maquis, and Tunisia's CS Sfaxien.



We believe playing Pamba Jiji on November 21 is feasible due to the direct flight from Dar es Salaam to Mwanza, which simplifies travel logistics

Simba confirm to stay at KMC Stadium despite Yanga's venue change



By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA Sports Club have confirmed they will continue playing their home matches at KMC Stadium, even as rivals Young Africans (Yanga) relocated their home base from Azam Complex to share the venue.

Simba, who currently lead the NBC Premier League with 25 points from 10 games, have had a strong season, winning eight matches and scoring a league-high 21 goals.

They also hold one of the best defensive records, with only three goals conceded - an achievement they share with Azam FC.

Young Africans' recent back-to-back losses to Azam FC (1-0)

and Tabora United (3-1) led them to shift their home games from the Azam Complex to KMC Stadium.

Despite Young Africans' move, Simba's Media and Information Manager, Ahmed Ally (pictured), clarified that Simba have no intention of leaving KMC Stadium.

"We welcome Young Africans to KMC Stadium. If their goal is to concentrate on their football, that's commendable. However,

our main focus remains on our own progress. We are committed to KMC Stadium as our home ground and have no plans to change," said Ally.

"Simba SC is content with KMC Stadium, both in terms of facilities and performance. Our top standing in the league reflects our success here, and it's a key reason to stay and keep working hard."

Simba's recent 4-0 victory over KMC FC has

strengthened their position at the top of the table.

Leading their offensive charge is Ivorian forward Jean Charles Ahoua, who currently tops the league in combined goals and assists (G/A) with 5 goals and 4 assists.

Head Coach Fadlu Davids has resumed training with players not on national duty, as the team prepares for their upcoming Premier League match against Pamba Jiji on November 21.

Davids, who has implemented a rotational strategy this season, is pleased with the team's progress just four months into their new project. The match against Pamba Jiji is seen as a valuable opportunity to regain fitness and build team chemistry before their CAF Confederation Cup group-stage game against Bravos Do Maquis on November 27.

This season, the Msimbazi Reds have ambitious goals, aiming to progress further in the CAF Confederation Cup.

In the 2021/2022 season, Simba were eliminated in the quarterfinals by Orlando Pirates after a 1-1 aggregate tie and a penalty shootout loss.

This year, the club is targeting at least a semifinal finish, building on experience gained from matches such as the group-stage qualifier against Al Ahly Tripoli. Drawn into Group A, Simba SC will face Bravos Do Maquis (Angola), CS Constantine (Algeria), and CS Sfaxien (Tunisia) as they pursue success in both domestic and continental competitions.

Women's Criioo Cricket Festival enthralls Dar enthusiasts

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

THE Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC)'s cricket ground was, last Saturday, a scene of pulsating action as the venue hosted the second day of the 2024 Women's Criioo Cricket festival.

The Tanzania Cricket (TCA)-organized festival is an initiative geared towards promoting cricket among women in the country.

The university students, one of the TCA officials disclosed, brought their energy and enthusiasm to the festival ground for an unforgettable day of cricket.

With intense matches and lots of laughter, cricketers making Team Mbezi emerged as champions, followed by second-placed Team Goba.

The day was filled with fun, friendships, and a shared love for cricket, he pointed out.

Every player went home with a special gift, ensuring no one left empty-handed from the celebration of togetherness and sportsmanship.

The festival, he said, keeps spreading joy, and the association is excited for the memories yet to come.

The Women's Criioo Cricket Festival's opening day, which took place a day before, was a day for the girls as described by the TCA official.

The showdown got underway amazingly as 120 schoolgirls turned up at the venue to celebrate cricket with great passion. The participating girls formed 20 teams and played cricket with enthusiasm.

Team Yombo cricketers ultimately ended up emerging as champions, and Team Goba cricketers gallantly finished as runners-up.

Criioo cricket program, operating under the International Cricket Council (ICC), is a celebration of the many ways cricket is played around the



Winners of the second day of the Women's Criioo Cricket Festival, Team Mbezi, celebrate with a trophy following the culmination of the festival at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) venue last Saturday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

world.

A cricket fanatic can play in a park, on the streets, on a beach, or in a hall, using any type of bat and ball to play. Criioo is played in any person's way.

Traditional cricket is played with a hardball, bringing together teams of eleven-a-side.

Criioo celebrates all of the creative and adaptive ways that cricket is played around the world.

The council pointed out that Criioo can be played anywhere, noting the cricketers ought to bring bats and balls and make sure the playing area is safe.

The Criioo cricket program facilitator training - offered by ICC - is an online workshop designed to support new cricket facilitators with the tools and knowledge they need to deliver exciting and engaging cricket sessions to new participants of the game.

The modules, the ICC said, cover key areas around safeguarding, session planning, and structure.

It provides tips on the delivery of the games and drills featured in the Criioo cricket program.

This training provides a great entry point for teachers, parents and cricket activators with limited experience in

the game.

Upon completion of the course, Criioo facilitators would be able to deliver safe and enjoyable sessions, using the Criioo cricket program.

There is, of late, tremendous progress in women's cricket in Tanzania, with TCA stepping up efforts to boost women's participation in the sport from the grassroots.

One of the tangible achievements in the country's women's cricket is the senior women's cricket squad's victory in this season's Nigeria Invitational Women's T20I Tournament in Lagos early this year.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

I KNOW - KILOGRAMME MEANS - WEIGHT. KILOMETRE - DISTANCE. NOW, WHAT'S KILOBERO?



There is also KILOSA