



Tanzania regional exports 'eclipsing' what it imports

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA has been exporting goods valued at \$2.6bn to other African countries, while importing goods totalling \$5.1bn annually, the East African Business Council (EABC) said here over the weekend.

Zephania Shaidi, the EABC business development manager, made this observation at the climax of a training session for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to enhance their understanding of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The event brought together over 50 company officials from diverse industries, notably manufacturing, agro-processing, creative arts, transport and a number of government officials.

International Trade Centre data indicates that the country's total imports of goods from other parts of the continent stood at \$1.5bn by 2023 figures, indicating a favourable balance of trade.

Tanzanian businesses need to look beyond local markets and seize continental trade opportunities under the AfCFTA, he said, while Raphael Maganga, the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) chief executive officer pointed out the

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TIC, TRA to form panel on investor grievance



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango is briefed on a sample of research findings by the Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) shortly before gracing the foundation's 30th anniversary in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is ESRF executive director Prof Fortunata Makene. Photo: VPO

It said Tanzania stands at a very good position in its development journey if it can enhance its business environment, drive sustainable growth and improve the quality of life for all its citizens

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) and the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) have agreed to form a joint team of experts to address tax-related matters, including investor grievances.

Gilead Teri, the TIC director general, said at a press conference following their meeting yesterday, that the aim was to provide investors with direct access to the relevant authorities on tax issues.

Key outcomes from the meeting include enhancing collaboration between the two institutions and creating a consolidated unit to tackle investor challenges relating to TIC and TRA spheres of operations, he said.

TIC is working with TRA to promote investments and ensure that Tanzania remains an attractive destination for investors, he declared, while TRA commissioner general Yusuph Mwenda asserted that the initiative is intended

SPORTS



LASER-FOCUSED YANGA PLOT SIXTH CONSECUTIVE LEAGUE WIN

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SLOT HAILS 'HARDEST' WIN AS LIVERPOOL STAYS ABOVE MAN CITY BY BEATING CHELSEA 2-1 IN PREMIER LEAGUE

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VP seeks out ESRF to examine job market openings, threats

By Guardian Reporter

VICE President, Dr Philip Mpango has urged the Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) to direct its research efforts on the job market and ways in which young people can align with employment opportunities.

Addressing delegates at a national conference to commemorate ESRF 30th anniversary in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the VP underlined that Tanzania, like many other countries in sub-Saharan Africa, has struggled to capitalise on the benefits of a growing workforce.

Upwards of 0.8m to 1m graduates from

The government recognises the significant role the ESRF plays in driving development and enhancing our economy

local universities and vocational colleges enter the job market annually, he stated, noting that formal job vacancies stand at 30,000 to 90,000 when the public sector is joined with private sector job openings.

"This stark disparity is tied to a critical mismatch between the quality of graduates and the skills demanded in the formal job market," he said, addressing trends among youths.

Many young people form social groups that lack purpose, while others are entering relationships with significantly older partners, he said, pointing out that young

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NGO initiates research on land ownership for youth

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE Youth Initiative for Land in Africa (YILAA) is setting out to conduct an extensive research on land issues related to young people on the continent.

Innocent Houedji, its executive director, said at the fourth international youth and land governance conference in Africa (CIGOFA4) here yesterday that

the pilot study to that effect will be pioneered in Benin, DR Congo, Senegal and Tanzania, costing \$0.4m, where \$0.1m is used for each country

The project is supported by the International Land Coalition, the Global Land Alliance, the African Union (AU), the German Agency for International Development (GIZ) as well as the FIG Young Surveyors Network, linked with the

Council of European Geodetic Surveyors.

The director said that without research NGOs may not have the right to speak on the issues, "therefore we are embarking on proper research on the issue of youth related land problems and status on the continent."

The forum which has attracted over 500 participants is meant to empower young

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Tanzania regional exports 'eclipsing' what it imports

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potential level of AfCFTA opportunities.

With a combined GDP of some \$3.4trn, the continental pact links 1.3bn people of rapidly growing consumption and other needs, he said, with Clement Kamendu, the Tanzania Shippers Council (TSC) chairman, emphasized the need for countries to work together to reduce transport and logistics costs, for Africa to remain competitive.

It was due to such barriers that intra-African trade accounts for only 16 percent of Africa's total trade volume, compared to 57 percent in Asia and 68 percent in Europe, he stated.

A range of experts assert that Africa's participation in global value chains is low and primarily driven by primary -produce and extractive industries, thus needing to advance up the value chain.

The continent needs value addition, industrialization, improved infrastructure and the actualization of an integrated market under the AfCFTA agenda, the regional council underlines.

EABC in collaboration with the 'Team Europe' technical assistance facility to support AfCFTA links and continental economic integration with the European Union, brought together the business operatives for training or for SMEs in Tanzania, to improve their understanding of the trading protocol, he stated.

The maiden training covered key initiatives under the agreement, including the guided trade initiative, the AfCFTA adjustment fund and value chain integration, with the EABC explaining that this initiative aims to equip SMEs with the necessary tools to access the extensive continental market.

Ultimately, this effort seeks to strengthen SMEs' capacity, positioning them for greater success in a

competitive regional marketplace, it emphasised, underlining its commitment to enhance the capacity of the regional private sector to trade under the AfCFTA protocol.

Through the EU technical assistance facility, it will roll out similar workshops in the member states, it said in a statement, affirming that training will help SMEs to export products across the continent.

It is important to empower businesses with the tools and knowledge needed to access the market and compete with their counterparts, it said, noting that the AfCFTA protocol stresses key value chains to drive intra-African trade and industrial growth.

These include agriculture and agro-processing, pharmaceuticals, automotive, transport and logistics, along with textiles and style clothing, as by focusing on these sectors, the protocol envisages to create jobs, boost regional trade and strengthen Africa's global competitiveness.

The African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) and the AfCFTA Secretariat have already established the AfCFTA Adjustment Fund, with operations of the fund domiciled in Rwanda, it said.

The fund is intended to support countries and private entities through financing, technical assistance and grants for mitigation or compensation funding in transitioning to the AfCFTA trading framework.

SMEs officials participating in the training engaged in discussions on value chain analysis to improve their products and services with the goal of discovering gaps in what they do for uplifting it.

They also sought out opportunities to enhance operational efficiency, resource utilization, financial performance, profitability, product quality and sustainable competitive advantage in light of the AfCFTA protocol, the statement added.



Former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda, currently Head of the Southern African Development Community Electoral Observation Mission in Botswana, receives a report on preparations for the upcoming General Election at the regional bloc's Secretariat in the Botswana capital, Gaborone, on Sunday. Photo courtesy of Tanzania's Foreign Affairs ministry

VP seeks out ESRF to examine job market openings, threats

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In their pursuit of an easier life, often find themselves in relationships with older women, or getting involved in gambling activities.

He reaffirmed the government's commitment to work with ESRF and other institutions to conduct research that will support economic growth and development.

These include the job market

"The government recognises the significant role the ESRF plays in driving development and enhancing our economy," he said, while Prof Fortunata Makene, the ESRF executive director affirmed that the think tank is fully prepared to undertake research in specific critical areas.

and ways in which young people can benefit from such opportunities, she said, affirming that ESRF expects to work closely with stakeholders, including public agencies and various local and international universities.

This will help to strengthen the capacity of our experts in conducting impactful research for the

nation, she stated, stressing the foundation's pride in its active participation in development initiatives and its ongoing efforts to foster economic growth. "Our commitment to enhancing the economic landscape of Tanzania is unwavering, and we are eager to contribute to solutions that address the challenges faced by our youth," she added.

NGO initiates research on land ownership for youth

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people by providing a dynamic platform for dialogue, knowledge-sharing and collaboration on vital issues related to land rights, climate justice and sustainable development, he stated.

The research project will be set to find out how much the youth understand their rights to land ownership and how much they realize the importance of owning land, as well as the role that land plays in the economy.

The research will find out how much the youth know where to get and secure their own land, even as stakeholders battle for the rights of youths to possess their own pieces of land.

Augustine Nyakatoma, the YI-LAA resident director, said that there are some challenges on the side of young people themselves as many youths in villages, after realizing that they have no access to land "they just give up and move to towns thus fuelling cases of rural urban migration."

While others lack access to land, there are those who can acquire such properties, from inheritance or other sources but are unaware of its importance, "thus again ending up selling the land and before moving into urban areas, dreaming of better lives there," he stated.

Bernard Baha, the national coordinator for the Tanzania Land Alliance and facilitator for the Land Governance Platform said that Tanzania is among African countries facing a series of land related conflicts.

Theresa Charles, a resident of Kiteto District, Manyara Region, said that the move to empower the youth to start owning land still leaves out women.

"In Tanzania there are policies safeguarding women land ownership but it does not take into consideration young ladies, only older once and mostly from inheritance," she asserted.

The mission for youth should apply to young males as well as fe-

males, she said, while Wilson Luge, the deputy land commissioner who graced the occasion, said the country is in the process of surveying land to come up with proper land-use plans.

The population is shooting up while farming areas are not expanding, he said, noting that with 59m people needing land, this implies 1.5 hectares on average.

Topics discussed at the meeting include existing opportunities provided by the legal and policy framework, strategies implemented by the government for women and youth to access land, plus achievements and remaining challenges.

Other objectives of the conference include examining empowering the youth, the critical role of youths in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the African Union's Agenda 2063.

The Youth Development Report of the African Union indicates that the continent has the youngest population in the world, with more than 400m young people aged between 15 and 35 years.

"But 55 percent of the young people in Africa live in rural areas facing serious cases of unemployment with the majority being steeped in poverty though they could be empowered economically through the available land," the report intoned.



In Tanzania there are policies safeguarding women land ownership but it does not take into consideration young ladies, only older once and mostly from inheritance



Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko pictured in Singapore yesterday taking part in International Energy Week discussions on investment in the energy sector. Photo: DPMO

'Arrival of Indian naval ship to reinforce Dar-Delhi cooperation'

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and India have over the weekend celebrated the bonds of friendship with the arrival of an Indian Naval Ship Suvarna for a port call, underscoring the importance of naval diplomacy as a means to promote a secure maritime environment.

The visit which aims to enhance defence cooperation and mutual understanding between Tanzania and India highlights a commitment to shared progress and security in the Indian Ocean.

The event underscored the historical maritime ties that date back centuries, bringing together the cultures and aspirations of both countries.

Speaking during the reception event in Dar es Salaam, India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Bishwadip Dey, said celebrating the presence of the Indian Navy in the Indian Ocean and the longstanding friendship between the two nations.

"This marks the second visit by an Indian Naval Ship this year, as it engages in joint exercises with the

Tanzanian Navy," he said.

He added: "The relationship between India and Tanzania stretches back centuries, rooted in the age-old maritime and cultural exchanges along the Indian Ocean."

He said beyond celebrating shared history, the visit emphasised tangible advancements in defence collaboration.

The High Commissioner reiterated the importance of maritime security, freedom of navigation, and collaborative efforts in combating regional challenges.

The speech delivered during the occasion emphasized recent developments that have elevated the bilateral relationship to a strategic partnership, notably following visits by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The newly established defence wing at the Indian High Commission and the appointment of Commodore Agyapal Singh as Defense Adviser were showcased as pivotal steps in strengthening defence cooperation.

INS Suvarna's presence in Dar es

Salaam serves not only as a symbol of India's maritime commitment but also reflects a shared dedication to ensuring peace and security in the Indian Ocean region.

Major General Ibrahim Mhona, chief of operations and training at Tanzania Peoples Defence Forces (TPDF) welcomed the Indian Naval Ship Suvarna as a significant milestone in the enduring partnership between Tanzania and India.

He highlighted the deep-rooted ties that have facilitated cooperation between the two nations since 1964.

Emphasizing the importance of this collaboration, Maj Gen Mhona noted that the presence of INS Suvarna symbolizes not only the strengthening of military relations but also the mutual respect and commitment to peace and security in the region.

The recent establishment of a dedicated Defence Advisor office in Dar es Salaam, led by Commodore Agyapal Singh, further reinforces the intent to deepen defence cooperation.

He expressed gratitude for the de-

livery of an Infantry Weapon Training Simulator, a vital asset for the TPDF.

"This simulator will enhance training capabilities, allowing personnel to engage in realistic exercises that prepare them for real-world challenges," he said.

As the INS Suvarna docks in Tanzania, it heralds a new chapter in defence partnerships, showcasing the commitment of both nations to work together for mutual prosperity and security. This visit not only celebrates the historical ties between India and Tanzania but also sets the stage for future endeavours in military cooperation, disaster response, and regional stability.

As attendees celebrated the bonds of friendship, serving as a reminder of the potential that lies ahead for both nations, united in their quest for a prosperous and secure future.

The event not only marked a milestone in diplomatic relations but also laid the groundwork for deeper cooperation that promises to benefit both nations and their citizens for years to come.

Embrace healthy lifestyles to fight NCDs, Tanzanians urged

By Getrude Mbago

TANZANIANS have been encouraged to embrace regular physical exercises as an essential strategy to stay fit and prevent non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including cancer, which remain a major challenge in the country.

Dr Omary Ubuguyu, assistant director and head of non-Communicable Diseases at the Ministry of Health made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during a fitness event aimed to raise awareness on breast cancer.

Organised by Shujaa Cancer Foundation in collaboration with the Swedish embassy and Ministry of Health, the fitness event dubbed "lively Zumba" as part of the Cancer Awareness Month brought together survivors, supporters, healthcare professionals and community members to emphasize the importance of physical fitness and wellness as key components of cancer prevention.

"Tanzanians should change their lifestyle to conquer the NCDs by conducting regular exercises, refraining from excessive use of alcohol as well as smoking cigarettes and adopting a good healthy diet," Dr Ubuguyu said.

He reaffirmed the government's commitment of further collaborating with the private health institutions in improving and strengthening provision of health services in the country.

He said this year's theme, "No one should face breast cancer alone, highlighted the need for collective action and support in overcoming this disease.

Dr Ubuguyu further appealed for collective efforts from stakeholders to increase public awareness on cancer as well as support treatment costs to fight it but also restore smiles to those battling the disease.

"Our government believes in collaborations with the private sector to ensure our people get access to diagnosis and treatment of cancer," he said.

Gloria Kida, chief executive officer of Shujaa Cancer Foundation said the fitness event not only served as a fun and engaging way to promote health and wellness but also as a platform to educate participants on the importance of regular screenings and support systems for those affected by breast cancer.

She said it is important for families and society in general to value and take good care of cancer patients

Tanzania urged to incorporate agroecology-based food system

By Mary Kadoke

THE Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) has urged the Ministry of Agriculture to incorporate agroecology-based food system transformations to ensure food sovereignty and resilience in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) strategy and action plan for 2026-2035.

Joe Mzinga, ESAFF Regional Coordinator, made this call during a virtual meeting discussing the draft document for the CAADP strategy and action plan, which engaged officials from the Ministry of Agriculture in Dar es Salaam.

He stated that the strategic objective of intensifying sustainable food production, industrialization, and trade includes several strategic interventions written in the draft strategy section but fails to promote farmer-managed seed systems and African food systems.

"We strongly advocate for agroecology to be a core strategy in the Kampala Declaration. It is essential for safeguarding African biodiversity, improving nutrition and health, enhancing soil quality, and increasing resilience to climate and other crises to strengthen local food systems. Agroecology offers an opportunity to transform African agriculture sustainably, rooted in the knowledge and traditions of smallholder farmers," Mzinga emphasized. He also noted, "The importance of food sovereignty cannot be overstated in the face of changing geopolitics, wars, and sanctions. Africa must ensure its food sovereignty against any potential shifts in global geopolitics."

Mzinga expressed concern over the persistent disconnect between

and stop discriminating against them as this affects their journey of battling the disease.

She thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for increasing investment in the health sector which included equipping hospitals including the Ocean Road Cancer Institute with modern equipment to facilitate diagnosis and treatment.

Mikael Stahl, head of politics, trade and communications at Swedish Embassy emphasized the global urgency of addressing breast cancer, the most common cancer among women worldwide.

Stahl commended Shujaa Foundation for their year-round efforts in supporting cancer patients and raising awareness.

He highlighted the alarming global statistics that show over 600,000 deaths annually due to the disease, with a disproportionate impact in developing countries.

He underscored the barriers faced by patients, such as low awareness and access to early detection services, which often lead to late-stage diagnoses.

"In resource-limited areas, breast cancer affects younger individuals, resulting in premature deaths and leaving many children without mothers," he noted.

Stahl further highlighted advancements in early detection methods that significantly increase survival rates, stating that when caught in its earliest stages, breast cancer has a 99 percent five-year relative survival rate.

"In partnership with local organizations and international agencies, Sweden is committed to addressing the global breast cancer challenge.

The initiative focuses on providing humanitarian aid and developing long-term strategies to ensure every woman, regardless of her location, has access to early detection and treatment.

Jerome Muro, one of the cancer survivors, urged the government to invest in cancer treatment which includes putting treatment reliefs to enable patients receive quality care at affordable costs.

He said cancer can affect anyone in society regardless of age; efforts should be made to support all groups in the society.

He encouraged Tanzanians to develop a culture of conducting regular check-ups even if they feel fit because diagnosing cancer early, the survivor possibility is also high.

policy directives and the real needs of small-scale farmers, pastoralists, fisherfolk, and rural communities, recognizing that past frameworks have often failed to adequately address the needs of Africa's smallholder food producers—the backbone of our food systems.

He highlighted that strengthening the resilience of agri-food systems will better prepare the continent to recover during and after crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Million Belay, AFSA General Coordinator, echoed these sentiments during a two-day convening on the CAADP strategy and action plan in Kampala, Uganda. He called for an end to the tokenistic inclusion of smallholder farmers and allied civil society organizations (CSOs) in key policy processes, emphasizing that the post-Malabo process must ensure the voices of small-scale food producers are not only heard but integral to shaping Africa's agricultural policies.

He pointed out that the CAADP strategy and action plan draft document (dated September 15, 2024), much like its predecessors, remains dominated by private sector and external corporate interests. Belay called for immediate and decisive action to ensure that critical elements of the objectives, such as recognition of farmer-managed seed systems, farmer-led research, and African food systems, are fully integrated into the CAADP Strategy and Action Plan.

He also stressed the need for stronger biosafety protocols and protection against corporate control of African genetic resources, rejecting the inclusion of GMOs and corporate-driven technologies in the Kampala Declaration.



Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry, Trade, Agriculture and Livestock pictured with Industry and Trade ministry and Morogoro Region officials while on an inspection tour of a nursery under cocoa seedlings at Kichangani village in Mvomero District yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Utilise warehouse receipt system to bolster income, farmers urged

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry, Trade, Agriculture, and Livestock has urged farmers to utilise the warehouse receipt system to enhance their selling prices and increase their income.

The committee's Chairperson, Deodatus Mwanyika, made this statement yesterday during a visit to the Morogoro Region to assess the progress of cocoa cultivation and the benefits of the warehouse voucher system for local farmers.

Mwanyika called on the public to promptly report any individuals attempting to undermine the system to relevant district or regional lead-

ers, ensuring that appropriate actions are taken.

He emphasized that the government's objective is to guarantee farmers receive fair prices and profits for their produce, noting that cocoa prices have steadily risen in recent years.

The chairperson directed the Warehouse Receipt Regulatory Board (WRRB) to expand the system across all regions of the country and include a wider variety of crops in its storage facilities to maximize benefits for farmers.

"I commend the WRRB for their excellent work and encourage them to continue innovating to ensure farmers realize the true value of

their crops. This board must strive to enhance farmers' returns," he said.

Deputy Minister for Industry and Trade, Exaud Kigahe, reiterated the government's commitment to empowering farmers by boosting productivity, increasing value, and securing markets for their crops.

He advised farmers to remain diligent and fully utilize the warehouse receipt system, warning them against being misled by brokers offering low prices.

Kigahe urged them to be patient for three to five days for their payments after selling through the system.

Morogoro Regional Commission-

er Adam Malima encouraged farmers to adopt the system, given the region's diverse agricultural potential.

He announced plans to distribute 40 clove seedlings to each household to enhance clove production.

Asangye Bangu, WRRB executive director, assured that the board will continue to manage the system effectively to ensure it benefits farmers.

Musa Hamdani, a farmer from Mvomero in Morogoro, expressed his satisfaction with the system, noting that they have successfully sold cocoa at 17,000/- per kilo in 2024, compared to just 2,500/- per kilogram before implementing the system.



Mathayo Olonyoki, once a pastoralist at his native Kirung'ring' village in Simanjiro District but now a contract farmer right there, shows journalists his model drip irrigation farm where he grows mung beans and cowpeas courtesy of support from Agricultural Markets Development Trust. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

AWIEF joins team to help women traders in Tanzania

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

THE South Africa-based Women Innovation & Entrepreneurship Forum (AWIEF), in collaboration with Tanzania's registered CGK Africa organization has partnered to exchange ideas and experiences aimed at empowering Tanzanian women entrepreneurs and innovators.

The two organizations have launched a long-term programme focused on helping women build networks and relationships to become effective leaders and managers in their business ventures.

Held in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the event attracted highly motivated key speakers and was attended by various women business groups

from the city. AWIEF has recently established a presence in Tanzania, opening an office and appointing a local representative to raise awareness and provide support.

Following the launch, discussions centred on leadership styles essential for women's development, emphasizing approaches that help achieve the program's objectives. Key speakers highlighted gender equality, noting that women have fewer opportunities to become leaders in business entities, often due to a lack of knowledge.

Florence Kibopeli, AWIEF's Ambassador in Tanzania said that her organization decided to open an office in Tanzania and work closely with CGK Africa to help boost women's participation in entrepreneur-

ship. She explained that AWIEF is a for-profit economic empowerment organization dedicated to all African women and girls.

"We are a Pan-African business networking, information, and equal-opportunity platform for women business owners, entrepreneurs, innovators, and social enterprises," she said.

AWIEF is the largest women-focused institution in Africa, recognizing and celebrating women founders and entrepreneurs across the continent. The organization has already established branches in Nigeria and Guinea-Bissau, and now in Tanzania, to promote entrepreneurship and innovation at a global level.

AWIEF advocates for women's equality and empowerment as drivers of economic development, aiming to increase women's participation and opportunities to accelerate Africa's transformation and inclusive sustainable growth.

Naomi Nana, CGK Africa's managing director emphasised her organization's commitment to community development and empowering Tanzanian women, particularly through financial literacy programs. Over 4,500 young Tanzanians have benefited from CGK Africa's mentorship programs, which focus on budgeting, improving credit, maintaining savings and investments, managing debt, and investing in both the public and private sectors for economic growth.



BARRICK
NORTH MARA

REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Supply of 10 MVA 33 KV / 6.6 KV Transformer

Specifications

Sr No.	Specification	Value
1	Standard	IEC 60076
2	Rated Voltage HV	33 KV
3	Rated Voltage LV	6.6 KV
4	Phases	3
5	Rated Current HV	175 amps
6	Rated Current LV	875 amps
7	Frequency	50 HZ
8	Rated Power	10 MVA
9	Vector Group	Dyn11
10	Altitude	1200 meters
11	Installation Location	Outside
12	Ambient Temperature	45°C
13	Transformer Insulation Class	A
14	Cooling Mode	ONAN
15	Tapping Range	33+- 8 x 1.25 %
16	Short circuit impedance at Principal tap	7.5 %
17	Insulation Level HV	Um 36/ LI 170/ AC 70 KV
18	Insulation Level LV	Um 7.2/ LI 60 / AC 25 KV
19	Insulation Level LVN	Um 7.2 / LI 60 / AC 25 KV
20	Transformer OLTC	Huaming CV2 350D-40.5-10193W
21	Bucholtz relay	Required
22	Pressure release valve	Required
23	CTs for differential Protection	Required

Voltage at Various Tap Positions

Sr No.	VOLTAGE	CURRENT	POSITION	SERVICE POSITION
1	36300	159	1	1
2	35888	160.9	2	2
3	35475	162.7	3	3
4	35063	164.7	4	4
5	34650	166.6	5	5
6	34238	168.6	6	6
7	33825	170.7	7	7
8	33413	172.8	8	8
9	33000	175	9A	9
			9B	10
			9C	11
10	32588	177.2	10	12
11	32175	179.4	11	13
12	31763	181.8	12	14
13	31350	184.2	13	15
14	30938	186.6	14	16
15	30525	189.1	15	17
16	30113	191.7	16	18
17	29700	194.4	17	19

Qualification Criteria

No	Reference no	Description of work	Qualification Criteria
1	NM025/2024	Supply of 10 MVA Transformer	<p>I. The specifications of the transformer must meet the provided specs.</p> <p>II. The tap changer model and controller must be the same as specified.</p> <p>III. The tap position voltages must match as per tabulated sheet at various tap positions.</p> <p>IV. Percentage Impedance, Vector group must be exactly same as specified.</p> <p>V. Competitive Lead Time and Incoterm.</p> <p>VI. Local Content Plan Approval Letter or Acknowledgement of Submission from the Mining Commission</p> <p>VII. BRELA detailed Search document indicating company ownership</p>

Submission of Proposals

If your company meets the qualification criteria and would like to participate in this tender, please submit your quote along with your company profile and evidence of compliance with the qualification criteria to nm.proposal@barrick.com.

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) through this advertisement.

Qualification of any company submitting a "Proposal" shall be at the sole discretion of NMGM. If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your submission unsuccessful.

Key Dates

- Last Date to Submit Proposal

28 October 2024

North Mara Gold Mine Limited

Stakeholders, experts all for proper recycling of batteries

By Getrude Mbagu

IN a bid to address the environmental and health challenges posed by used lead-acid batteries (ULAB), stakeholders and experts from various institutions, including recycling factories, have gathered in Dar es Salaam for a five-day workshop.

The event which commenced yesterday aims to discuss strategies for enhancing the management and recycling of these batteries. It is organised by Agenda for Environment and Responsible Development (AGENDA) in collaboration with Öko Institut, by the German Development Agency (GIZ) and the National Environment Management Council (NEMC).

During the opening of the workshop, Hamad Taimuru, Acting NEMC Director General warned that improper management of used batteries poses serious environmental risks due to the toxic lead they contain.

He acknowledged that some batteries contain hazardous materials, such as mercury, lead and cadmium which, if they are not disposed of correctly, can cause major health and environmental damage.

"Lead-acid batteries, commonly used in Tanzania's automotive and industrial sectors, are essential for powering vehicles and supporting solar initiatives in rural areas," he said.

However, as the batteries reach the end of their lifespan, they can become hazardous waste.

He further said that the workshop aims to address ongoing compliance challenges related to the

Environmental Management Act and the Hazardous Waste Control and Management Regulations.

"Despite existing regulations requiring Environmental Impact Assessments and permits for ULAB handling, informal collection and illegal exports remain rampant, undermining local recycling efforts and increasing imports," he said.

To combat the issues, the NEMC official called for closer collaboration among stakeholders.

He urged the creation of public awareness campaigns and the formalisation of the informal sector to ensure proper ULAB management.

"Creating incentives for local recycling industries and developing a national database on ULAB will help us understand and manage the volume of batteries in the country," he said.

As participants engage in discussions and share expertise over the next few days, Taimuru expressed hope that actionable solutions will emerge, contributing to a safer and more sustainable future for Tanzania.

He said NEMC was committed to implementing the recommendations that arise from this workshop, further solidifying the country's efforts to protect the environment and public health.

Dora Swai, senior programme officer at AGENDA said the workshop marks a pivotal step in efforts to improve waste management practices, ensuring that the country can effectively navigate the challenges posed by used lead-acid batteries while safeguarding the health of its citizens.

She noted that lead is a toxic metal residue used for many purposes and noticeably present in a variety of consumer products such as paint, ceramic glazes, solder, ammunition as well as some traditional medicines and cosmetics, she stated.

The workshop was conducted in view of the international lead poisoning prevention week which takes place annually, taking up the third week of October, a week of action intended to raise awareness about the health effects of lead exposure, she stated.

Andreas Manhart, senior researcher, Sustainable Products and Material Flows Division at Öko-Institut, a European research consultancy firm, offered valuable insights into emerging trends, best practices, and lessons learned from various global regions grappling with comparable waste management challenges.

Henry Kazula, coordinator of the Tanzania Recyclers Association (TARA) most of the dead batteries are just dumped haphazardly, harming the environment and human beings instead of being delivered to proper recycling companies.

He noted that many people do not have the awareness of where to dispose of dead car batteries, something which required more awareness campaigns.

He said TARA has always emphasised the importance of proper collection and recycling of the products, reminding companies to adhere to the set regulations on how to handle the products.



East Africa TV and Radio presenter Yusta Msowoya briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the launch of the fifth edition of a nutrition competition campaign set to begin on October 30 at Mwananyamala in the city. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Women-focused leadership programmes key in achieving gender equality - official

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has emphasized the importance of inclusivity in women-focused leadership programs as essential for achieving gender equality while ensuring that men are not left behind.

Riziki Pembe Juma, Zanzibar's Minister for Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children, made this statement in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening the 4th Women Leadership Forum organized by the Uongozi Institute.

She highlighted that only 28.6 percent of leaders in the country are women, with the goal of achieving a 50-50 gender ratio by 2030, in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No. 5 (gender equality).

The minister stressed that involving men in these initiatives fosters a collaborative environment where both genders can work together to challenge stereotypes and dismantle barriers to equality.

"While empowering women is critical to achieving gender equality, including men in the conversation ensures a balanced approach

to leadership development and creates allies to help dismantle systemic barriers," she said.

She commended the Uongozi Institute for its initiative aimed at transforming women's leadership in the country, but also challenged the organization to provide insights into why most women in leadership roles, such as cabinet ministers, are in social sectors rather than fields like transport or infrastructure.

Kadari Singo, Chief Executive Officer of the Uongozi Institute, explained that the program provides women leaders with unparalleled learning opportunities, including the Women's Leadership Forum, as well as training, coaching, and mentoring.

It also connects them with thought leaders from around the world, with faculty consisting of experts in global leadership transformation.

Singo noted that the women's leadership program helps senior and emerging female leaders overcome the unique challenges that prevent women from occupying top leadership positions.

"The program aims to enhance their ability to make strategic decisions, lead people and resources, and excel in both personal and leadership qualities," he added.

In terms of women in leadership, Africa leads with 39 percent, followed by Latin America (36 percent), Europe (34 percent), and North America (33 percent).

Marc Stalmans, Head of Cooperation for the European Union (EU) in Tanzania, emphasized the need to accelerate women's leadership initiatives to meet targeted goals.

He added that empowering women, especially through education, is crucial for fostering future leaders and encouraging collaboration among young women.

The Uongozi Institute is a regional leadership development hub operating under the Office of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Established in 2010 by the governments of Tanzania and Finland, the Institute is dedicated to inspiring and equipping African leaders to deliver inclusive and sustainable solutions for their nations and the wider continent.



Tanzania Investment Centre executive director Gilead Teri (L) and Tanzania Revenue Authority commissioner general Yusuph Mwenda address journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after a meeting involving the two state agencies at which a joint team of experts charged with addressing investors' taxation-related grievances was formed. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

LHRC warns on rise in human rights violations

By Correspondent Zuena Shame

AS the continent commemorates Africa Human Rights Day (AHRD) 2024, the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) has reflected on alarming human rights violations, particularly violence against children in the country.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday, LHRC's Executive Director Dr Anna Henga said that recent reports indicate a rise in incidents of violence against children, with boys emerging as the most frequent victims.

"Incidents of violence against children have increased in recent years, with 45 percent of these cases affecting boys. The predominant forms include sexual violence, particularly rape and sodomy, as well as physical violence, including attacks, abductions, and killings," she said.

Dr Henga noted that girls account for over two-thirds of rape victims, with reported incidents rising from 6,827 in 2022 to 8,691 in 2023. Overall, the Tanzania Police Force documented 15,301 incidents of violence against children last year, up from 11,499 in 2021.

In 2024, violence against children, including abductions and killings continued to be widespread, with children constituting nearly half of all documented human rights violations.

Dr Henga identified several contributing factors to this violence, including social acceptance, family protection of perpetrators, gaps in legislation, insufficient funding, and coordination challenges in addressing the issue. "As Africa commemorates AHRD, it is disheartening to see these acts increasing in Tanzania. The community must take action, as many violators are individuals close to us, and these acts occur within our homes," she urged.

In addition to violence against children, Dr Henga mentioned

other human rights violations, such as beatings, abductions, and even people being burned alive. She stressed the importance of public education through legal centers nationwide, with the media playing a vital role in this effort.

Reflecting on AHRD, Dr. Henga acknowledged the broader challenges facing the continent, including climate change, wars, and political conflicts. She pointed out that Tanzania has yet to ratify critical treaties, such as the African Charter on Democracy and Governance and the Maputo Protocol on Gender.

The LHRC also condemned the recent abduction of Aisha Machano, the National Spokesperson for the Chadema's Women's Wing (BAWACHA).

Machano reported being ambushed by individuals claiming to be police officers, resulting in her arrest, torture, and subsequent hospitalization. The police have confirmed the incident and are investigating.

"LHRC strongly condemns the arrest and injury of innocent Tanzanians, especially women involved in politics during this election period. Such acts are unacceptable and violate international treaties to which Tanzania is a signatory," she said.

Dr Henga called for law enforcement to bring the perpetrators to justice.

She also mentioned reports of unlawful arrests of political party leaders, confirming that regional police commanders have acknowledged these incidents. She referenced the recent arrests of Chadema leaders Rhoda Kunchele and Frank Nyalusi, the latter of whom was later released on bail.

"LHRC urges authorities to comply with the law when making arrests and ensure individuals are brought to court within the legally mandated time frame," she said.

Tasaf beneficiaries in Longido issued with loan after forming women's savings group

By Guardian Reporter, Longido

THE Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)'s beneficiaries in Ilchangsapokin village in Longido District, Arusha Region now benefit from the district council loan after forming a women saving group.

Councils in the country allocate ten percent of revenue collections to improve citizen livelihood economically. Some 15 members of Ingishongi group in the village, who are also beneficiaries of the TASAF programme have benefitted from this fund.

Ruth Lazaro, the group secretary said the savings group was established on 29th September 2021

after the members had received training from TASAF officials.

She said the aim was to see how best to utilize the little money they get after every two months. "Through this savings group we are able to have money for basic needs" explained the group secretary.

She said they applied for loans from the district council and were given 3,000,000/- which they used in purchasing 38 bucks that they aim to raise and sell upon maturity.

However, the long-term goal is to buy a milling machine that will provide them with a more stable income as stated by Nalamara Lemuru, a member of the group.

"We know the programme will

come to an end at some point, but we are preparing for better" said the 43 years old mother of five children, adding that without TASAF they could not have reached that far.

She thanked the government for the initiatives through TASAF and district councils' funds which are helping to improve living standards of people.

According to her, group members agreed to contribute 500 /-every week and the amount can be loaned to any member, earning some interest to the group.

Namuru Talaswa, 42 years old mother of seven children shared similar experience but maintained

that before TASAF life was unbearable.

"After getting education on money savings from TASAF officials, we decided to form the group in order to easily raise money and loan each other" she said.

She said despite getting 42,000/- after every two months, she has managed to buy school needs for the children as well as other needs. TASAF's Coordinator in the district, Lobulu Sarun, described the women group as one of the strongest beneficiaries' activities.

He noted that there are over 9040 fund's beneficiaries in some 50 villages and seven streets in the district council.

RC urges public entities to work as per President Samia's counsel

By Correspondent Julieth

Mkireri, Kibaha

COAST regional commissioner Abubakar Kunenge has emphasized the need for public corporations to align their operations with President Samia Suluhu Hassan's priorities to produce positive outcomes and stimulate development.

Kunenge made the remarks yesterday here during the opening ceremony of a leadership and management training session for public corporation leaders at Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Leadership School (MJNLS).

The Regional Commissioner noted that President Samia has specific expectations regarding the outcomes of various initiatives and that public corporations are tasked with realizing these goals through effective planning and execution.

"You must identify the most productive activities, set clear objectives, and conduct assessments based on the needs of your clients," he said.

He wanted civil servants to also ensure that their actions are aligned with the President's priorities.

He also reminded the institutions to identify their target clients and to move away from a culture of complacency. Instead, they should embrace change and

adapt their operations to meet the demands of the global landscape.

Kunenge further emphasized the need for the corporations to deliver efficient services to the public while striving for self-sufficiency, reducing their reliance on government subsidies.

Prof Marcellina Chijoriga, MJNLS Principal said that it is high time for public corporation leaders to embrace change and foster a sense of patriotism in their work.

"We aim to equip leaders from various sectors with the skills they need to succeed. In the case of public institutions, we are focused on transforming their leadership, given the significance of these organizations. Many public corporations have underperformed or even failed, and this needs to change," she said.

She urged public corporations to demonstrate dedication and efficiency in their work to achieve their goals and deliver high-quality services.

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10th African geothermal meeting kicks off in Dar

By Guardian Reporter

THE 10th African Geothermal Conference (ARGeo-CIO) has kicked off in the country's metropolitan capital, Dar es Salaam, attracting approximately 800 experts from 21 countries worldwide.

Opening of the seven-day conference yesterday in Dar es Salaam, Eng. Innocent Luoga, Commissioner for Electricity and Renewable Energy in the ministry of Energy said: "At this conference, participants will benefit from various topics, including gaining a deep understanding of geothermal resource development through discussions and technical workshops, exchanging experiences, visiting and learning hands-on at geothermal project sites, discussing the impacts of carbon markets, and capacity building through short technical courses during panel and parallel sessions.

Eng. Luoga said that Tanzania hosting this conference is a result of the efforts made by the Sixth Phase Government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan to develop the energy sector, including geothermal energy.

"To ensure reliable electricity and energy security in the country, electricity must be generated from various sources, including water, gas, solar, wind, and geothermal. The government's goal is to reduce dependency on just a few energy sources," Luoga stated.

He explained that this international geothermal conference would stimulate new enthusiasm for geothermal development in Tanzania and help attract more investment opportunities in the sector.

Luoga also highlighted that Tanzania has identified about 52

potential areas for geothermal energy development, with five sites already under development: Ngozi, Kiejo-Mbaka, Ruhohi, Natron, and Songwe.

Mathew Mwangomba, Director-General of the Tanzania Geothermal Development Company (TGDC), mentioned that the conference includes various stakeholders, including geothermal experts, and will address issues such as carbon markets and carbon reduction. The theme of the conference is "Accelerating Geothermal Resource Development in Africa: Carbon Markets and Carbon Reduction."

He outlined the benefits of ARGeo-CIO, including opening up opportunities for geothermal energy development and accelerating its progress in Tanzania, which will also increase the national income and electricity supply.

Mwangomba recalled that the 2014 conference, when Tanzania last hosted the event, brought positive results, including the establishment of the Tanzania Geothermal Development Company, Tanzanian experts receiving training abroad, and increased support from development partners such as Japan (JICA), Iceland, New Zealand, and the United States.

Meseret Teklemariam, head of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)'s Southern Africa Sub-Regional Office, praised Tanzania for successfully organizing the conference.

She also commended the Tanzanian government for prioritizing the event, as the conference preparations involved experts from various sectors, with many experts from different institutions and private organizations attending the ongoing workshops.



Barrick Bulyan乎lu Mine's acting general manager, Damian Brice Houseman (R), pictured at Bulyan乎lu mine in Shinyanga Region at the weekend presenting a dummy cheque for US\$10,000 to Bulangwa Secondary School headmaster Sane Macheembe. It was support by international NGO Nos Vies en Partage (NVEP) in collaboration with Barrick Gold Tanzania Ltd. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Relief as Geita school lands 27m/- to boost academic development projects

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

THE international organisation Nos Vies en Partage (NVEP), in collaboration with Barrick Gold Corporation, has donated \$10,000 (27.25m/-) to Bulangwa Secondary School in Geita Region to support academic development projects.

Mark Bristow, President and CEO of Barrick, presented the donation here recently during his visit to Tanzania.

He also announced similar financial support for community

groups, including the Enterprise and Rural Development Community Initiative, Sudama, and Jamii Yetu Development & Relief Agency.

The support is part of the funding provided by NVEP, an organisation sponsored by Bristow to support special groups such as women, children and other needy groups in Africa that do not benefit from the continent's economic growth.

Speaking during the handover ceremony of the donation to Bulangwa Secondary School,

which took place at the Barrick Bulyan乎lu Mine, Acting Mine Manager Damian Brice Houseman said NVEP will continue to support nongovernmental organisation (NGOs) that provide services to the community in line with the institution's goals and bring positive changes in the community.

Bulangwa Secondary School headmaster, Sane Macheembe expressed gratitude for the donation, stating that it would significantly enhance academic projects at the school and

improve student performance, enabling them to overcome various challenges through quality education.

He said every quarter, NVEP delivers impactful support to various needy communities across the continent.

To date, over 25 NGOs and community-based institutions in Tanzania have benefited, particularly in sectors such as education, health for women and children, and environmental conservation.

MNH organises a free medical camp for patients with hip, knee problems

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

PEOPLE with hip and knee problems have been encouraged to visit the Muhimbili National Hospital-Mloganzila (MNH-Mloganzila), where a five-day medical camp is going on, involving local and foreign specialists.

Among the specialists present is Prof. Mamoun Abdel Gadir, a renowned expert in hip and knee surgery from Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the United Kingdom (UK).

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Goodlove Mfuko, assistant director for Surgical Services at Mloganzila Hospital, confirmed that all preparations for the

camp are complete.

He said the camp will run from 21st to 25th of this month, at MNH-Mloganzila, where hundreds of patients with such conditions are expected to undergo surgery.

He noted that Prof. Gadir will work alongside local orthopedic and accident specialists.

"This is the second time we are offering this type of service, following the successful hip and knee replacement surgeries performed for 170 patients at our previous camp," Mfuko said.

Upon his arrival, Prof Gadir was welcomed by staff from Global Medicare, the organisation which coordinates the

camp in partnership with the MNH-Mloganzila.

At the reception, Daniel Lazaro, general manager of Global Medicare, expressed his enthusiasm for Prof. Gadir's arrival, emphasizing the positive impact his presence will have on Tanzanians suffering from hip and knee problems.

Prof. Gadir thanked the Tanzanian government and Global Medicare for their coordination of his visit, promising to deliver high-quality care to the patients attending the camp.

"I look forward to collaborating closely with my local colleagues over the next five days. Through this service, I hope to strengthen the ties between our countries and share valuable experiences in performing these surgeries," he said.

Aron Mwamyanda, a patient who underwent a successful knee surgery during the last camp said he had suffered from knee pain for three years and had seen multiple doctors without success.

"I tried traditional healers but found no relief. When my child learned about the specialists at Mloganzila, I was brought here. After diagnosis, I was told my condition was serious and required surgery," he said.

He added: "Since the surgery, my condition has vastly improved. I can now do many things I couldn't before, and I expect to return to my normal activities soon."



India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Bishwadip Dey (C, in tie) poses for a souvenir photo with children from Sarah House Orphanage of Mwanenge village in Coast Region and members of Dar es Salaam Indian Women's Association (DIWA) in the course of a reception he and his wife, Mayura Dey, hosted in the city at the weekend. The guests were introduced to India's history and culture, including cuisine and entertainment. DIWA supports the orphanage in various ways, including through payment of school fees for some of the children. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Turkish government lauded for boosting education in Tanzania

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Turkish government has been praised for its support in helping Tanzania improve its education system, aligning with the country's policy that emphasizes every child's right to quality education.

Dr Lyabwene Mtababwa, Education Commissioner in the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology, made the commendation over the weekend during the graduation ceremony for Standard Seven and Form Four students at the Arusha-based Turkish Maarif Foundation School.

He praised the school for its academic excellence and for using Tanzania's national curriculum, noting that it also employs Tanzanians in both teaching and non-teaching roles. Dr Mtababwa lauded the school's significant contribution to Tanzania's education sector.

"I am very pleased to hear that

this school, in collaboration with SOS Children's Villages, offers 100 percent scholarships to children from vulnerable families, covering their education from kindergarten through higher levels," said Dr. Mtababwa.

Kheri Abubakar, Arusha-based Turkish Maarif Foundation Secondary School highlighted the school's consistent academic performance since it started in 2020, mentioning that in the 2023/2024 Form 6 exam results, four students achieved first division, five earned second division, four received third division, and one student attained fourth division.

He further noted that in the following year's exam, results improved significantly, with 16 students earning first division, seven second division, and one student third division.

Regarding the 2023 Form 4 exam results, Kheri said that 12 students achieved first division, 13 second

division, and seven third division. He added that the next year saw even better results, with 21 students achieving first division, 18 second division, and four third division.

Cengiz Polat, Director of Turkish Maarif Schools in Tanzania, explained that students at their schools are offered numerous opportunities, including 100percent scholarships for higher education in Turkey.

"I have good news for you. We are now operating in 54 countries, with 477 schools educating over 55,000 students worldwide. We believe we are making a positive impact by investing in human capacity. Graduates from this school will not only strengthen their own countries but also enhance the relationship between Turkey and Tanzania," said Polat.

Ahmed Sami Demir, school director expressed pride in the continuous improvement in the success of the school's graduates year after year.

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2	Nissan Pick Up Single Cabin	ZD30 Diesel Engine	2013	Paid
1	Toyota Land Cruiser Prado	1KZ Diesel Engine	1994	Paid
4	Toyota RAV4 Station Wagon	3S,1AZ,1ZZ,Petrol Engine	1995,2000,2002,2005,	Paid
1	Ford Ranger Double Cabin	AF Diesel Engine	2007	Paid
1	Toyota Grande Mark II	1G Petrol Engine	2001	Paid
1	Suzuki Carry Pick Up	F6 Petrol Engine	1998	Paid
1	Bedford Truck TM 4X4 (Four Wheel Drive)	SKF Diesel Engine	1992	Paid

All vehicle may be inspected at at Sincro Sitewatch Limited Head Office located on Plot 1337 Msonge street Mikocheni A behind Golden Fork Restaurant Mikocheni, Old Bagamoyo Road from October 23rd to 25, 2024 from 10:00 am to 16:00 pm.

AUCTION CONDITIONS:

- The winning bidder must pay 25% to cashier immediately and the final payment in full within 5 working days by November 1, 2024 at 4:00pm. For payments not made within 5 working days, the Vehicle will be offered to the next highest bidder and the advance payment will be forfeited.
- Payments via CRDB Bank VISA & Master Cards will be accepted.
- All vehicle is sold on "as is" basis with no guarantee.
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- All persons entering the premises must obtain a Bid Number at the entrance.

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25,000 hectares in Kibaha to be put under bamboo trees

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale



Zanzibar's Tourism and Antiquities minister, Mudrik Ramadhan Soraga (in blue T-shirt) attends to a tourist at an event featuring organic foods derived from sustainable agriculture was held at the Msonge organic farm at Shakani in Zanzibar's West Urban Region at the weekend. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

BAMBOO trees are set to be planted in an area totalling Coastal Region, as part of an environmental conservation initiative. The goal will be realised under the implementation of "Silva Terra's Bamboo Project" which aims at reshaping perceptions of construction and promoting bamboo as a sustainable building material. Prof Kitila Mkumbo, Minister of State in the President's Office for Investment and Planning, announced the launch of the project in Dar es Salaam over the weekend which is expected to commence next year and implemented by Shikana Group in collaboration with the Swiss-based company Silva Terra. "This will be the first bamboo project of its kind in Tanzania," Prof. Mkumbo said, adding that bamboo is environmentally friendly and can significantly reduce construction costs. Our government is committed to supporting all efforts—small, medium, and large—to achieve our development vision. The project, with an investment of \$100 million (approximately 280bn/-), will create jobs for our youth and enhance the housing sector. Amne Kagasheki, chief executive officer (CEO) of Shikana Group, explained that the initiative will start in Kibaha before expanding to other regions. "We will cultivate bamboo in phases, beginning with 8,500 hectares. The first phase aims to create jobs for about 5,000 people. Our goal is to develop bamboo-based construction products and tap into international markets, as bamboo is valuable even in aircraft manufacturing," Kagasheki said. Carl-Lambert Liesenberg, CEO of Silva Terra, noted the suitability of Tanzania for such investments. Kagasheki said bamboo can be used for buildings up to five stories high, providing a cost-effective alternative to traditional construction methods. "Our research shows that constructing a house with bamboo can save up to 50 percent on costs, making it an attractive option for both developers and homeowners," he said. With the project, Tanzania is poised to enhance its environmental conservation efforts while fostering economic growth and job creation in the construction sector.

Police force receives 77 double-cabin vehicles to stem transport challenges

By Romana Mallya

HOME Affairs minister Hamad Masauni has instructed the Police Force to preserve vehicles entrusted to them, stating that he does not want to hear complaints from people about inadequate services due to vehicle breakdowns or lack of fuel. He made the remarks in Dar es Salaam recently during the handover of 77 GWM P Series Double Cabin vehicles, as part of the ongoing implementation of a contract between his ministry and Ashok Leyland of India. The vehicles are in addition to 40 received last year, with more expected to arrive later to complete the order from the company. The handover was conducted by Kifaru Motor Ltd, the representative of the vehicle manufacturers and Ashok Leyland, with the Director being retired Brigadier General Michael Luwongo. During the handover, Minister Masauni expressed his dismay at the thought of people encountering difficulties at a police station only to be told that the vehicle is broken down or that there is no transport to pursue a criminal, or to be asked to provide fuel, especially as the government has decentralised these services down to the district level. "It would be unfortunate if a person is given a brand new vehicle, and then three days later we find it abandoned," he said. He emphasised that this reflects a lack of compassion for the taxpayers' money, as citizens are paying taxes for officers to perform their duties effectively. Inspector General of Police (IGP), Camilius Wambura, thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her ongoing

support to the Police Force, including major improvements that are bringing about reforms. "We appreciate the government for overseeing the policies and development of this ministry, ensuring that the Police Force becomes modern and respected both domestically and internationally," he stated. IGP Wambura urged senior officers, and drivers within the force who will be using these vehicles to adhere to public service regulations regarding the management and maintenance of these resources. He also called for compliance with road safety laws to ensure the vehicles have a long lifespan. Vita Kawawa, chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security said the vehicles are essential tools for the force to achieve the intended effectiveness and must be used for their intended purposes. At the launch of the vehicles, which use both fuel and self-charging electricity, the Regional Commissioner of Dar es Salaam, Albert Chalamila, emphasised the importance of

purchasing environmentally friendly vehicles due to the impacts of climate change. He also noted that to mitigate road accidents, some of which are caused by driver negligence, it is crucial for people to purchase modern vehicles equipped with systems that inform the driver at every stage of their journey. Retired Brigadier General Luwongo, speaking about the vehicles handed over to the Police Force, stated that Kifaru will work closely with the force to ensure the vehicles maintain appropriate standards and provide necessary technical advice. Vita Kawawa, chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security, said the vehicles are essential tools for the force to achieve their intended effectiveness and must be used for their designated purposes. He noted that to mitigate road accidents—some of which are caused by driver negligence—it is crucial for individuals to invest in modern vehicles equipped with systems that provide real-time information to drivers.

ZANZIBAR HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Zanzibar Health Research Institute (ZAHRI) was established under Act No. 5 of 2020 and is one of the key institutions of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar. ZAHRI is tasked with conducting health research and overseeing the dissemination of scientific information to enhance and advance various treatment methods and the control of human diseases in the country.

ZAHRI announces a job vacancy with a three-year (3) contract as follows:-

Senior Resercher (1 Position)

Applicant Qualifications:

- i. Must be a Tanzanian citizen or from another country outside Tanzania.
- ii. Must hold a Doctoral degree (PhD).
- iii. Must have worked in research institutions with at least ten (10) years of research experience.
- iv. Must have written and successfully secured funding for at least three (3) research projects.
- v. Must have published at least five (5) papers in a recognized scientific journals

Responsibilities:

- i. Conduct approved health research in the relevant field, including collecting data, analyzing results, and writing reports.
- ii. Prepare high-quality health research proposals that attract funding.
- iii. Ensure the submission of research proposals to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) for approval.
- iv. Provide training to assistant researchers in preparing research proposals.
- v. Disseminate research findings across various platforms, including publishing in peer-reviewed scientific journals and presenting at scientific conferences.
- vi. Participate in scientific meetings to exchange research information.
- vii. Plan, implement, and develop research activities in line with the Institute's guidelines.
- viii. Develop innovative research methods aimed at commercialization to improve human health.
- ix. Seek consultancy opportunities to implement awarded research contracts.
- x. Participate in designing and delivering training in the relevant field.
- xi. Contribute to reviewing and creating strategic plans, budgets, and priorities for health research.
- xii. Engage in health research collaboration between public and private institutions to strengthen and promote human health.
- xiii. Perform other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

Applicant Criteria and Conditions:

1. Applicants must be Tanzanian citizens or from other countries.
2. Applicants should attach copies of their detailed CV, academic certificates, birth certificate, and residency ID, or a copy of their passport.
3. Applications submitted with a Statement of Results or Progressive Report will not be considered.
4. Applications should be sent via email to info@zahri.go.tz, addressed to the Director General, Zanzibar Health Research Institute, Binguni, Zanzibar.
5. The deadline for submitting applications is October 31, 2024, during working hours.
6. More information is available on the website: www.zahri.go.tz.

Note:
All applicants are advised to be cautious when submitting their applications, ensuring that all conditions and criteria are met and that all required documents are attached.

Issued by:

Bernad P. Mtuta
Director of Human Resources and Administration
Zanzibar Health Research Institute
Binguni - Zanzibar
21 October, 2024.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROVISION OF LOCAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AIR TICKETING AND TRAVEL AGENCY SERVICES

Church World Services Inc. (CWS Inc.) is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. Church World Services Inc. invites applications from qualified, competent, eligible, and interested firms to submit proposals for the services stated below: -

Item No	Tender Number	Description	Closing Date
1	CWS/RSC/KE/NBO/016/FY24	Provision of local, regional and International Air ticketing and travel agency Services	November 1, 2024, 1700hrs EAT

Request for Proposals documents detailing the requirements of the above are available through the link below: - <https://cwsafrica.org/tenders/>

Completed tender documents should be submitted through tenders@cwsafrica.org indicating the tender number and description being applied for.

Schedule:

Tender package available from: October 22, 2024	Tender Package Pickup Location: https://cwsafrica.org/tenders/
Deadline for Offer Submission: November 1, 2024, 1700hrs EAT	Submit Offers to: Tenders@cwsafrica.org

All proposals should have a table of contents with numbers where specific documents are found

Late submissions will not be accepted.
Queries should be addressed to procurement@cwsafrica.org

Deadline for submission of queries: October 26, 2024, 1700hrs EAT and responses to queries will be posted on the link below: <https://cwsafrica.org/tenders/> by October 28, 2024, 1700hrs EAT.

Church World Service Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids/proposals and is not bound to give any reason for its decision.

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Drive on organic seeds helpful, as local biases stand on the way

IT is widely believed that our country is inching towards self-sufficiency in organic seed production, as it now grows 79 per cent of the kernels for use in farming.

A crop development executive in the Agriculture ministry made this affirmation when launching an expansion project for a Netherlands' organic seeds firm boasting decades of experience in that sphere. The firm works in most countries around the world, and covers over 30 vegetable species or varieties.

Our own institutions would do well to explore the benefits of duplicating such research so as to maintain the stability of local seed species.

Using organic seeds helps develop access to export markets, as that is part of consumption standards in supermarkets in most of Europe and elsewhere.

In addition, using seeds developed by certified firms in a European Union member country implicitly enables sales to the EU and elsewhere as they have similar standards.

On the contrary, certifying seeds locally suffices for local market needs and, by and large, access to regional markets where they are also consulted in setting the relevant standards.

So there was a strain to remarks by a ministerial executive on the issue, underlining that dependency on imported seeds was being reduced each year, whereas the issue is how far the seeds we use enable us to ease access to markets abroad.

Horticulture is a priority as it is a reliable vehicle for niche export markets and, implicitly, an area where credible farm sector employment opportunities can be projected with relative ease.

All this is happening but there are counter-currents of doing the most we possibly can to develop local seeds - not explicitly or necessarily tied to organic agriculture.

Nor is the strategic perspective in

that regard sufficiently clear, firstly that horticulture is a big employer for women and the youth and is appropriate for boosting exports and ensuring the country's food security.

These are distinct components which relate to horticulture in varying degrees - this including the fact that for a country like Tanzania, whose population is estimated at 65 million, export markets aren't where to focus when speaking of the employment of our youth and women. Similarly, horticulture is more of a branch of commerce in food than a food security parameter.

Estimates on the rate of growth in the agricultural sector have been a problem for decades while on the organic seed farm expansion occasion it was heard that horticultural production grows at 11 per cent annually and the entire agricultural sector moves at the rate of 12 per cent.

If the latter statistic is correct, it would imply that there is significant redirection of investment capital from speculation, real estate or industry into crops. Room for employment in that regard would be more sustainable than in commerce.

Plenty of what is being discussed among experts in the public sector appears to suggest that export-led growth is still making ravages in the minds of those helping with policy formulation.

As a matter of fact, it made global strides when basically small countries in the Far East made use of the West's dismantling of old industries in the wake of the tripling and quadrupling of crude oil prices in 1973-1974.

The last major actor in that direction was China's special economic zone - its coastal provinces, not its entire market. Current capital flows target niche Western and other markets, yes, but the rise in unquenched demand there is more focused on the fast-growing market in Africa.

We still need to vigilant on ensuring gainful employment for our people

IN remarks we made in this column roundabout ten years ago, we quoted various authoritative sources as having warned that countries across the globe were experiencing severe shortage of employment opportunities, mainly spurred by economic turmoil.

The sources were emphatic that they did not see the nightmare of joblessness wearing off anywhere in the world in a few years, most especially in the developing world.

Developing countries were seen suffering the most from the gravity of unemployment and its impact on the economy.

Some analysts went to the extent of drawing comparisons between unemployment and the Covid-19 pandemic then wreaking havoc on social and economic development globally, as countries the world over fought to come up with various measures meant to mitigate the severity of the problem.

There were incessant appeals to employers in our country to give our own people priority whenever jobs were up for grabs as long as they had the requisite qualifications.

For instance, very understandably, no lesser an authority than the prime minister on several occasions reiterated the need for public institutions to make greater use of Tanzanian researchers instead of hiring foreign experts for jobs that locals could do just as well - if not better.

All in all, one might still wonder whether we as a nation are doing enough to make sure that all the jobs that can be efficiently done by our own people are not taken up by foreigners.

The problem of unemployment has hit the entire globe, with even economic giants like the US and Germany not safe at all.

That explains the importance of every nation devising surefire ways to keep employment opportunities for their own people and only welcome foreign experts where truly necessary.

We would not be the first to do so: a neighbouring country not long ago decided to tighten rules and regulations on the issuance of work permits to foreigners.

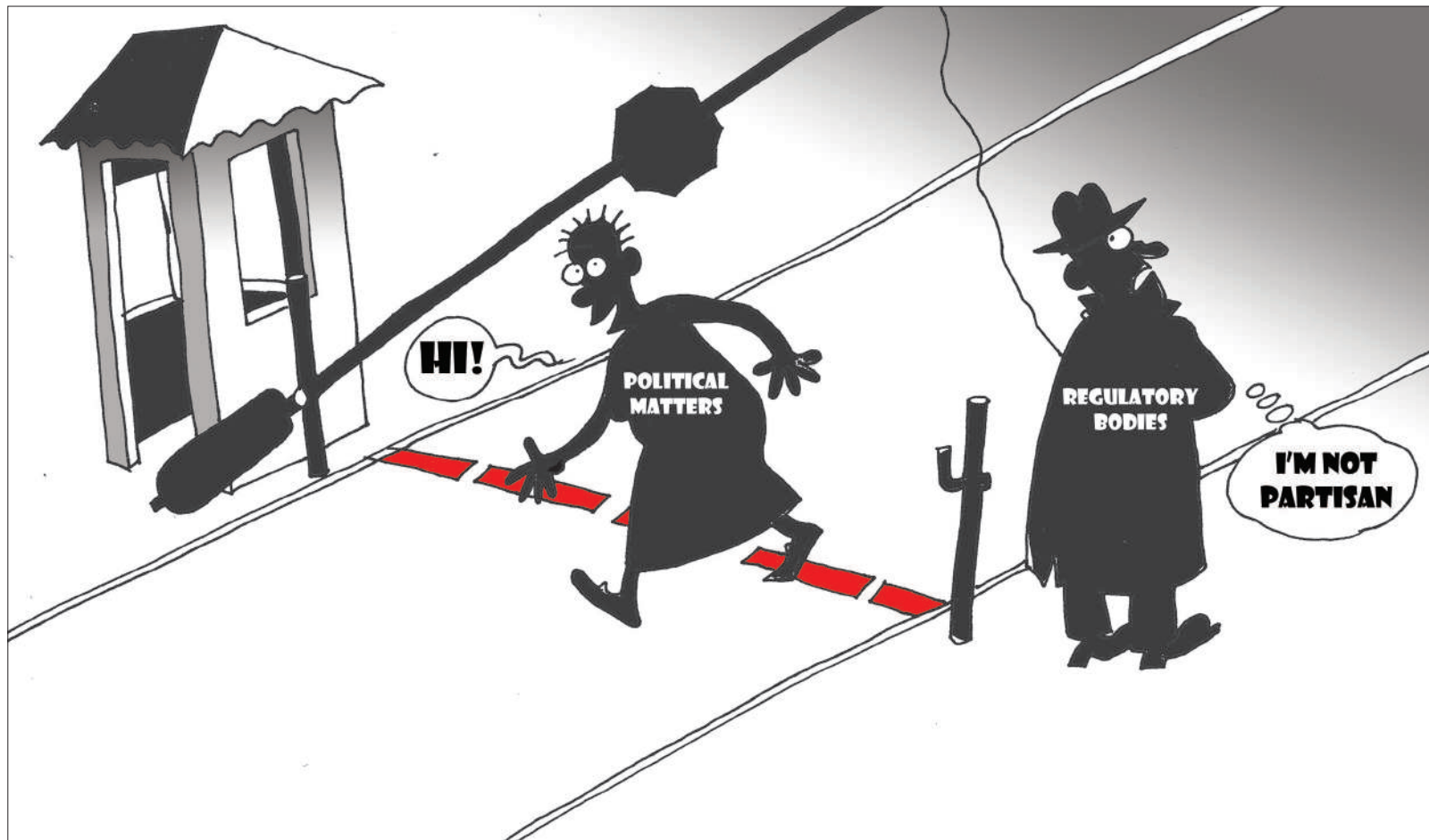
The new modalities there demand that employers issue the names of local understudies before such documents are issued, and this to ensure that the understudies take over the foreigners' positions jobs soon after the foreigners' permits expire.

A decisive reason for bringing in foreign experts should be transfer of knowledge and skills to locals, and not otherwise. With the unemployment problem still raging in our own backyard, we need as many local experts as we can get if we are to guarantee ourselves sustainable development.

We need to be extremely vigilant on the issuance of work and residence permits, at least to ensure that recruitment of non-Tanzanians for jobs where we ought to be self-sufficient comes to an end.

Joblessness is a time-bomb that can cause untold misery, chiefly because it can grow into a recipe for the proliferation of crime.

In the circumstances, we must do the most we can to tame it - and keeping the employment of foreigners to the minimum could prove one of the surest ways out of the mess.



By Robert Kibet

KENYAN farmers have faced a turbulent year, caught between legislative changes and a devastating scandal. While the country's Mung Bean Bill, aiming to regulate the lucrative mung bean industry, has moved to mediation, farmers are battling the fallout from the widespread distribution of counterfeit fertilizers that have jeopardized their crop yields and livelihoods.

The Mung Bean Bill is a response to the crop's rising prominence in Kenya. Known locally as "Ndengu," mung beans have gained traction due to their drought-resistant nature and high demand in both local and international markets. This legislation seeks to create a framework for stabilizing prices, standardizing quality, and ensuring fair trade practices. However, many farmers fear the bill will add to existing bureaucratic hurdles without addressing core issues such as the recent fertilizer scandal.

Among those affected is Lucy Mutuku, a smallholder farmer from Kibwezi, a semi-arid region in Eastern Kenya. With a weathered face and hands hardened by years of labor, Mutuku stands in her field, explaining her decision to venture into mung bean farming. "It was a diversification strategy," she says, her voice carrying the resolve of someone who has seen many harvests. "Mung beans are drought-tolerant and using organic manure helps enhance soil fertility. Even with erratic rains, they provide a reliable source of protein for my family and surplus for the market."

Mutuku's journey took a dark turn when she became one of the many victims of the government's subsidized fertilizer program. "Buying synthetic fertilizer has always been expensive," she recounts, frustration lining her face. "When I heard about the government's fair-priced option, I bought it quickly. But then I realized it was fake. My crops failed, and it's disheartening because farming is my only income."

The scandal's impact has been widespread, with the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) reporting that counterfeit fertilizers accounted for nearly 20 percent of agricultural inputs this season. This affected various crops, including mung beans, maize, and vegetables, devastating small-scale farmers who are now caught in a cycle of debt and uncertainty.

In Makueni County, Beatrice Mwangi, another farmer, invested heavily in mung beans, hoping for a lucrative harvest. With her eyes reflecting a mixture of hope and despair, she recalls the moment she realized the extent of the damage. "I was expecting a bumper harvest,"

Kenya's Mung Bean legislation debate underlining the vulnerability of farmers



Sheba Ogalo and her husband harvest cassava on their farm in Chemelil. Facing harsh weather conditions, including drought, they have turned to cassava and other drought-resistant crops to sustain their livelihood. Credit: Robert Kibet/IPS

she says, "but my crops hardly grew. When the agricultural office confirmed the fertilizer was fake, it was a blow." Now, like many others, she struggles to repay loans taken to purchase inputs, facing financial strain that threatens her family's future.

Dominic Mbithi in Kitui, one of Kenya's semi-arid lands, chose mung beans due to their low water requirements. Mbithi, a wiry man in his forties, employs zai pits, shallow basins that capture and conserve water. "This technique helps me maximize water use," he says, crouching beside one of his pits, examining the soil. Despite the challenges, he's managed to increase his yields and even engages in value addition by producing mung bean flour, which he sells to local schools and health centers.

Over in Taita Taveta, Joyce Mwikali transitioned from maize and sorghum to mung beans. A determined woman in her fifties, she walks through her sandy-soiled farm with a pride that belies the struggles she faces.

"Mung beans have a shorter growing season and thrive here," she explains. Through rotational farming and compost use, Mwikali has managed to reduce her dependency on rain-fed agriculture. She now participates in a cooperative that helps with market access, ensuring better prices for her produce.

Michael Muriuki, farming on the eastern slopes of Mt. Kenya in Meru, utilizes drip irrigation to maintain a consistent water supply for his mung beans during dry spells. With a thoughtful demeanor, he shares how this extra income has enabled him to invest in better equipment. "Drip irrigation and integrated pest management have been game-changers for me," he says, his gaze fixed on the neatly lined plants.

In Tharaka-Nithi, Lydia Njeri

began growing mung beans to combat climate change's effects on traditional crops. Using early planting and certified seeds, she has improved her household's nutrition and found a reliable market for her surplus produce.

"Selling to processors who make mung bean products like noodles and flour gives me a steady income," she notes, her expression softening as she describes the positive changes in her community.

Even though the National Assembly rejected the Mung Bean Bill 2022, at the second reading stage proponents argue it could offer a regulatory framework to protect farmers from fraudulent agricultural inputs.

However, critics like Dr. John Mburu, an agricultural economist, caution that legislation alone is insufficient. "We need a comprehensive approach," he emphasizes, "including stricter enforcement against counterfeit products, farmer education, and better quality control infrastructure."

The bill will now proceed to mediation, according to the National Assembly.

The farmers' stories underscore the deep-seated vulnerabilities within Kenya's agricultural sector. While the Mung Bean Bill may offer a glimmer of hope, immediate action is required to strengthen regulatory oversight, enhance farmer awareness, and ensure the authenticity of agricultural inputs. The future of these farmers—and the nation's food security—depends on it.

As the debate continues, the voices of farmers like Mutuku, Mwangi, Mbithi, Mwikali, Muriuki, and Njeri must guide the development of policies that truly support and protect Kenya's agricultural community. Only then can such crises be prevented in the

future. The 2024 Mung Bean Congress, held in Bangkok, Thailand, brought together 110 stakeholders from 23 countries. This gathering was a platform for sharing current research and discussing future priorities, including studies supported by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

Dr. Eri Huttner, ACIAR's Research Program Manager for crops, emphasized the significant potential impact of their investment in mung bean improvement research on partner countries, highlighting the crop's growing global importance.

As the debate continues, the voices of the most affected—the farmers—mustn't be overlooked. Their firsthand experiences and insights should be at the forefront of developing policies that truly support and protect Kenya's agricultural community. This approach is essential to prevent such crises from reoccurring.

Back in 2013, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming 2016 as the International Year of Pulses. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) spearheaded this initiative, which significantly increased public awareness of pulses' nutritional and environmental advantages while emphasizing their function in sustainable food production.

Building on the success of this celebration and recognizing the potential of pulses to achieve the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Burkina Faso proposed the observance of World Pulse Day. Consequently, in 2019, the General Assembly proclaimed February 10 as World Pulse Day, further underscoring the vital role pulses play in global food security and sustainability.

IPS

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

Nyerere Day: Celebrating the legacy of a leader who shaped the country's cultural identity, national unity



EVERY October 14th of the year calendar, the Tanzania commemorates the death of its father and founder of the nation who died in 1999 aged 77 years while undergoing medical treatment to battle leukemia disease at a hospital in London-United Kingdom.

The government had decided to set aside this important day for the commemoration of its fallen hero and the first President of the country Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere for his visionary leadership codes that became known locally as well as at international level.

His immense dedicated leadership had a profound positive effects to citizens on unity and brotherhood. These are the two well-known elements that he cherished bearing in mind the fact that the ideas had contributed a significant development to the country's national economy.

He earned the Swahili title "Mwalimu," meaning "teacher," due to his teaching profession before entering politics in a rigorous fight against colonialism after having realized that, "citizens of the then Tanganyika state (now Tanzania) were subjected under various forms of economic exploitation".

The Nyerere Day as it is known, is an event that coincides with the climax of the countrywide race of Uhuru Torch which symbolizes the philosophy the father of the nation cherished in his rule which was rooted to defend human rights and equality, while exposing oppression, corruption, bribery, hatred and disrespect.

Despite global circumstances that have changed these philosophical ideas, Tanzania still continues to uphold these principles at all costs for the sake of maintaining peace and harmony and adapted them into the political and economic systems of the country's lifestyles.

In 1954, one year after having resigned from teaching, he helped form a political party known as Tanganyika African National Union (TANU) through which he campaigned for independence countrywide from the British colonizers. Influenced by the Indian independence leader Mahatma Gandhi, Nyerere preached non-violent protest to achieve this aim.

After the independence time in 1961, the father of the nation cherished the idea of lighting the Uhuru torch on top of Mount Kilimanjaro which was put there by the late Brigadier Alexander Nyirenda with a view to shine beyond borders bringing hope wherever there was desperate, love where there was hatred and respect wherever there was contempt.

Now the torch which remains as a national icon is being raced throughout the country in all districts and regions and is specifically designed to inspect various economic and social development projects which have been set up by district and municipals councils.

In this years' 25th anniversary celebrations of the two events were held at CCM Kirumba stadium located in Mwanza city. The significance of this commemoration reaffirmed government's dedication and commitments to preserving Nyerere's legacy as a

blueprint for the nation's sustainable development.

This day is significant in Tanzania as it honors the life and legacy of a leader who played a crucial role in shaping the country's cultural identity that fostered national solidarity among over 120 ethnic tribes which have positioned the country a peaceful nation.

In order to achieve his ambitions, the father of the nation used Kiswahili language in educational curriculums in order to unite all Tanzanians who the majority are now able to communicate the language in various political and social meetings.

Nyerere's political motives are categorized in various factors linked in every sphere of human life, a factor that has compelled the entire government administration enacted a law in Parliament to stop working and instead observe a special day for his remembrance.

This milestone development has also protected the union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar which was

formed in 1964 and it underscores the shared commitment of the government of Tanzania that was formed later and rooted in a strong belief of Pan-Africanism.

The father of the nation is remembered to have done so many things inside and outside the country, and in that regard his contribution to the African liberation struggle is highly commended bearing in mind the fact that countries such as Mozambique, Namibia, Angola, Zimbabwe and South Africa have a high credit on him.

Being the Chairman of the Frontline states for this dedication, the late Nyerere had unwavering belief in the independence of all these African states that was successful due to the solid foundation for unity, and solidarity. He laid down these two elements that enabled the continent have a voice in global governance especially when he denounced openly the apartheid regime of the minority South Africa.

In mid 1960s, Nyerere became an

instrumental figure in the formation of the African Community (EAC) that enjoined three countries of Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. The community collapsed and was reintroduced again in 1999. Other regional groups are Southern African Development Cooperation (SADC) and the then Organization of African Unity (OAU).

In 1967 as outlined in his political program, the Arusha Declaration which was announced to wipe off all forms of capitalist economy and a socialist state was formed within Tanzania.

Since then, the father of the nation was committed to the creation of an egalitarian socialist society based on principles of brotherhood that shared cooperative agricultural practice in Tanzania. He collectivized village farmlands, carried out mass literacy campaigns, and instituted free and universal education.

Nyerere believed that when a society cares about the people and that person wants to work, then the individual should not have to stress about

their living situation. Traditional African society also plays a big role for Nyerere with the creation of socialist villages.

Education for self-reliance emerged as an attempt to revolutionize the educational system in Tanzania thus making it more relevant to citizens while using it as a vehicle for eliminating socio-economic inequalities in Tanzania and cultivating a culture of self-reliance.

To instill patriotism and inspire selfless service among youths in the country, the late father of the nation had founded the National Service Army trainings for youth, including those who had completed higher secondary school levels for disciplining.

In 1971, Idi Amin Dada seized power in Uganda through a military coup, it later on strained relations with Tanzania. Amin's regime was marked by oppression and brutality. The kidnapping and subsequent invasion that was amounted by military soldiers who annexed Tanzania's territorial integrity. The move triggered military confrontations between the two countries.

Despite a previous diplomatic resolution in the form of the "Mogadishu Pact" of 1972, relations soured again in October 1978 when Amin's forces invaded Tanzania, seizing part of Kagera Region. Mwalimu Nyerere, then Commander-in-Chief of the Tanzanian Armed Forces, could not tolerate this aggression and declared war to defend Tanzanian sovereignty.

The Uganda-Tanzania war, known as the Kagera war in Tanzania led to the overthrow of Idi Amin's regime. Many lives were lost and properties were devastated during the conflict.

Born on April 13, 1922, in Tanganyika to a local Zanaki chief, Nyerere was a pivotal figure in Africa's struggle for independence and its post-colonial development. He was the first African head of state to retire voluntarily and provided sanctuary for numerous African liberation movements.

After his presidency, Nyerere remained a respected elder statesman, offering guidance in Tanzanian and regional politics. His final mission involved mediating peace talks to end a civil war in neighbouring Burundi.

Soft-spoken, unpretentious, small of stature, and quick to laugh, was widely credited with impressive oratorical skills and unusual powers of political perception. His thoughts, essays, and speeches are collected in his books.

These include Freedom and Unity (1967), Freedom and Socialism (1968), Freedom and Development (1973) and many others. He also translated two plays by William Shakespeare, The Merchant of Venice and Julius Caesar, into Swahili language.

'Public participation in forest conservation helps to promote sustainable development'

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

ENGAGING communities in forest conservation and management can create significant positive changes in village land forest reserves. It helps prevent deforestation, protects forests and preserves species that rely on them.

Involving people in forest conservation also promotes sustainable development and biodiversity conservation while safeguarding forests from depletion.

As part of measures to curb deforestation, Pangani District in Tanga Region has introduced special training programmes aimed at educating communities on community-based forest management and sustainable charcoal production.

The programmes which are supported by the European Union (EU) target village councils, village natural resources committee members, sustainable charcoal producers and experts from the district.

Presenting the Integrated Forest Biomass Energy Solutions for Tanzania (IFBEST) project report to journalists and stakeholders in Tanga Region recently, Twairu Mkongo, the District Natural Resources and Environmental Officer, said that EU has invested 5.4bn/- through the Ministry of Finance to enable the Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA) to implement the IFBEST project in Pangani, Kilindi, and Handeni districts.

Under the project, village councils, sustainable charcoal producers, village natural resource committee members and members of Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) have been trained on improved charcoal production techniques, entrepreneurship skills as well as how to establish VSLAs in Mseko village.

Participants also learned how to use Geographic Information Systems (GIS), how to measure trees and formulate harvesting plans of forest products.

The district council has successfully raised community awareness on forest governance, sustainable land management and the importance of conserving forest resources. Training also included conflict resolution between farmers and livestock keepers and the development of forest management plans for Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) at local level.

Mkongo highlighted that awareness campaigns were conducted at both village and hamlet levels, and as a result, beneficiaries of the training have been able to establish VSLAs and receive further training on how to manage them.

Mseko village has also formulated a forest management plan, harvesting plan and by-laws for forest management activities, which are awaiting district approval.

However, Pangani District with funding from EU has trained district officials, including planning officer, community development officer, natural resources officer, and



Experts and officials from Pangani District listen to presentation on implementation of the Integrated Forest Biomass Energy Solutions for Tanzania (IFBEST) project. Photo: Beatrice Philemon.

others on good governance, gender issues, joint forest management, participatory forest resource assessment, and coexistence with herders.

The District Environmental Officer, Daudi Mahagwa, praised Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and Community Forest Conservation Network of Tanzania (MJUMITA) for introducing the IFBEST project in Pangani District, which has helped change people's mindsets and encourage them to conserve the Beho Village Land Forest Reserve.

Villagers are now aware that conserving forests can generate income for local development projects, he said, adding sus-

tainable charcoal harvesting and community-based forest management have also been embraced by the villagers.

Nurseries have been established, and households are required to plant trees in their residential areas. The district now orders that anyone applying for a building permit must plant five trees to support biodiversity and reduce soil erosion. Mahagwa commended TFCG and MJUMITA for donating two GPS kits, laptop, printer and an office cabinet to the district council. The GPS kits will help experts identify areas of forest degradation and monitor illegal activities.

However, the district still lacks vehi-

cles and motorcycles to conduct patrols, relying on Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS) for transport services.

Currently, the district has seven natural forest reserves—Kwesinge, Kibubu, Kwevinonde, Beho, Bojo, Kwatango, and Mawata. About 90 percent of households in Pangani rely on charcoal and firewood for energy, contributing to deforestation.

Mahagwa hopes that through the IFBEST project, charcoal consumption will decrease as people adopt gas, sustainable charcoal harvesting and electricity as cooking energy. While the project has led to positive outcomes, chal-

lenges remain, particularly illegal cutting of trees for charcoal production.

Advocate Agape Fuwe of Pangani District expressed gratitude to TFCG and MJUMITA for providing essential equipment and urged local experts to make the most of the training they received to improve forest reserves and combat degradation.

Simon Lugazo, IFBEST Project Manager, reiterated the project's goal to enhance environmental sustainability through sustainable forest management and wood-fuel production in Tanga Region. Currently, the project is being implemented in eight villages across Handeni, Pangani, and Kilindi District Councils.

By Bradley Elliott

Dietary restriction or good genes: New study suggests what has a greater impact on lifespan

AS people who research ageing like to quip: the best thing you can do to increase how long you live is to pick good parents. After all, it has long been recognised that longer-lived people tend to have longer-lived parents and grandparents, suggesting that genetics influence longevity.

Complicating the picture, however, is that we know that the sum of your lifestyle, specifically diet and exercise, also significantly influences your health into older age and how long you live. What contribution lifestyle versus genetics makes is an open question that a recent study in Nature has shed new light on.

Scientists have long known that reducing calorie intake can make animals live longer. In the 1930s, it was noted that rats fed reduced calories lived longer than rats who could eat as much as they wanted. Similarly, people who are more physically active tend to live longer. But specifically linking single genes to longevity was until recently a controversial one.

While studying the lifespan of the tiny worm *C. elegans* at the University of California, San Francisco, Cynthia Kenyon found that small changes to the gene that controls the way that cells detect and respond to nutrients around them led to the worms doubling their lifespan. This raises new questions: if we know that genetics and lifestyle affect how long you live, which one is more important? And how do they interact?

We want to ensure the knowledge of scientists reaches millions. Join us.

To try to tease out the effects of genetics versus lifestyle, the new study in Nature examined different models of caloric restriction in 960 mice. The researchers specifically looked at classical experimental models of caloric restriction (either 20% or 40% fewer calories than control mice), or intermittent fasting of one or two days without food (as intermittent fasting is popular in people looking to see the positive benefits of caloric restriction).

Because we now know that small genetic variations affect ageing, the researchers specifically used genetically diverse mice. This is important for two reasons. First, as laboratory studies on mice are normally performed on genetically very (very!) similar mice, this allowed the researchers to tease out the effects of both diet and genetic variables would have on longevity.

Second, humans are highly diverse, meaning that studies on genetically near-identical mice don't often translate into humanity's high genetic diversity.

The headline finding was that genetics appeared to play a larger role in lifespan than any of the dietary restriction



interventions. Long-lived types of mice were still longer lived despite dietary changes.

Diet counts, but genes count more

And while shorter-lived mice did show improvements as a result of dietary restrictions, they didn't catch up to their longer-lived peers. This suggests that there's truth to the "pick good parents" joke.

Caloric restriction models still increased

lifespans across all the types of mice, with the 40% restriction group having improved average and maximum lifespans compared with the 20% group.

And the 20% group showed improvements in both group average and maximum length of lives compared with the control group. It's just the effects of genetics were larger than the effect of the dietary interventions.

While all the caloric restriction models resulted in increased lifespan in the mice on average, in the most extreme caloric restriction model tested (40% less group) changes that could be seen as physical harms were observed. These included reduced immune function and losses in muscle mass, which outside of a predator- and germ-free laboratory environment could affect health and longevity.

There are some important caveats in studies like this. First, it's not known if these results apply to humans. As with most caloric restriction research in mice, the restricted feeding groups were fed 20% or 40% less than a control group who ate as much as they wanted. In humans, that'd be like assuming people eating every meal every day at a bottomless buffet is "normal". And people who do not eat from limitless trays of food are "restricted feeding". That's not an exact parallel to how humans live and eat.

Second, although exercise wasn't controlled in any way in this study, most groups did similar amounts of running in their in-cage running wheels except the 40% caloric restriction group who ran significantly more.

The researchers suggested that this extra exercise in the 40% group was the mice constantly hunting for more food. But as this group did so much more exercise than the others, it could also mean that positive effects of increased exercise were also seen in this group alongside their caloric restriction. So, while we can't pick our parents or change the genes we inherit from them, it is interesting to know that specific genetic variations play a significant role in the maximum age we can aspire to.

The genetic cards we're dealt dictate how long we can expect to live. Just as important in this study, however, lifestyle interventions such as diet and exercise that aim to improve lifespan should be effective regardless of the genes we have.

Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar's death a defining moment but it will not end the war

By Ian Parimeter

THE death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, one of the masterminds behind the group's horrific October 7 2023 attack on southern Israel, is no doubt a consequential moment in Israel's year-long war against Hamas.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sinwar's killing - long a major objective of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) - would signal the "beginning of the end" of the war. But he made clear the war is not over.

In fact, Benny Gantz, a former defence minister and member of the war cabinet, said the IDF would continue to operate in Gaza "for years to come".

So, what exactly will be the impact of Sinwar's death?

Does this change anything? Sinwar's death does change at least one aspect of the war. He was an iconic figure, for better or worse, for Palestinians. He was seen as someone who was taking the fight to Israel.

With Sinwar still alive and Hamas hitting back at Israel's war in Gaza, the group was actually increasing in popularity. Opinion polling in late May

showed support for Hamas among Palestinians in the Occupied Territories had reached 40%, a six-point increase from three months earlier. Support for the Palestinian Authority, which controls the West Bank, was about half that.

Sinwar's demise changes the face of Hamas. It could be a major turning point if Hamas is unable to replace him with a leader as strong as he was.

One of the names being discussed is Khaled Mashal, the former head of Hamas' political office who still remains influential in the organisation.

This moment offers an opportunity for a new Hamas leader to seek a ceasefire with Israel and an end to the horrific conditions in which Gazans are living. But there's still the question of whether Sinwar's death achieves Israel's war objectives.

What would constitute a victory for Netanyahu?

The main issue is that Netanyahu's war aims have not yet been achieved: The elimination of Hamas as a fighting force and a danger to Israel, the freeing of the roughly 100 Israeli hostages still believed to be held in Gaza, as many as half of whom may now be dead, the re-establishment of deterrence with Hezbollah in Lebanon to allow the



Top Hamas leaders Ismail Haniyeh (left) and leader of Hamas movement in Gaza Strip Yahya Al Sinwar (R) attend a Hamas rally to mark the group's 30th anniversary, in Gaza City, Gaza Strip, 14 December 2017.

60,000 Israelis who have been evacuated from northern Israel to return home.

Although the killing of Sinwar is a major step towards restricting Hamas' ability to maintain its war against the IDF in Gaza, Israeli soldiers still face some very significant problems there.

Over the past year, Hamas

has morphed from an organised fighting force into guerrilla mode, which makes its fighters much more difficult to eliminate completely.

The classic methodology for dealing with a guerrilla force is "clear, hold and build". This means you clear an area of the enemy, put troops in to hold the area, and then build an en-

vironment in which the enemy can't re-establish itself.

Israel can certainly do the "clearing" and "holding", but has not been able to build an environment in which Hamas can no longer operate.

Israeli journalists who have been embedded with Israeli forces have made the point that Hamas operatives are returning

to areas that were previously cleared by the IDF, in part due to the group's extensive tunnel network.

Other complications for Netanyahu

Another issue for Netanyahu is that right-wing members of his cabinet have threatened to resign from his governing coalition if he agrees to a ceasefire before Hamas is destroyed as a fighting force. They believe Hamas could use a ceasefire to regroup and re-establish itself as a serious threat to Israel.

At the same time, Netanyahu is also facing increasing pressure over the fate of the hostages. If there isn't a ceasefire and negotiations to release them, their families and supporters will continue the large demonstrations they have been staging in Israel in recent months. They are desperate to get back any hostages who may still be alive and the remains of those who have died.

Netanyahu is also still weighing Israel's promised retaliation against Iran for its missile attack against the Jewish state in early October.

If Israel does launch a major strike, what does Iran do in response? Iran's problem is that it had always relied on a strong

Hezbollah in Lebanon to be able to respond to Israel militarily on its behalf. And now it seems to have lost that as Hezbollah has been significantly weakened in recent weeks.

The US sees a potential off-ramp

Another aspect, of course, is where the United States stands on this. The US has made clear it sees Sinwar's death as being an off-ramp for Israel in Gaza - it can claim a major strategic victory and essentially agree to a ceasefire.

In recent weeks, the US has also given Israel an ultimatum, saying if there isn't an improvement in the amount of humanitarian aid going into Gaza by the end of November, it will cut off some military aid to Israel.

The Democrats want the war to end as soon as possible, because while it's on the front pages of US newspapers, it divides the party and could encourage some voters not to come out and vote in the presidential election.

So it's very important for the Democratic candidate, Vice President Kamala Harris, that there be a ceasefire as soon as possible. She said as much in her remarks today.

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 UMUJAVYO 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

UNESCO: Alwaleed Philanthropies project for empowerment of the Tanzanian people

By Correspondent Rose Ngunangwa

UNESCO has kicked off its Alwaleed Philanthropies project to empower communities, elevate culture and arts while strengthening technical and vocational skills to drive sustainable development in Tanzania.

The revelations were made at the weekend in Dar es Salaam by UNESCO Head of Office and Country representative Michel Toto during a kick off hybrid meeting for grantees.

The UNESCO Head said through the financial and technical support provided to the five selected grantees, the project intends to create lasting impact within the communities they serve.

Boniface Kadili, Director of Culture Unit in the ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports applauded the joint efforts adding that the culture and arts education through technical and vocational

education training will help to preserve the unique and rich cultural heritage in Tanzania transmitting it to the generations.

"The project will also help to promote cultural entrepreneurs who will be the bearers of economic transformation within our communities," said Kadili.

UNESCO Programme Coordinator Ke Leng said the focus on community-based development will strengthen the capacities of local cultural institutions to act as knowledge hubs and incubators for skills development.

Titled Crafting Change, 'Fostering Community-Based Development through Culture-Related Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and Employment,' the project is meant to foster economic opportunities, especially for youth and women, while preserving the rich cultural heritage of Tanzania.

The grant initiative is part of a broader three-year partnership



UNESCO Head of Office and Country Representative in Tanzania Michel Toto (R) speaks during the meeting to grantees of the UNESCO-Alwaleed Project in Tanzania. Flanking him is Boniface Kadili, the Director of Culture in Tanzania. Photo: Rose Ngunangwa

between UNESCO and Alwaleed Philanthropies, aligning with the recently adopted global Framework for Culture and Arts Education, which focuses on local cultures, teacher training, and the recognition of artistic skills in the professional world.

Alwaleed Philanthropies, led by H.R.H. Princess Lamia bint Majed Al Saud, collaborates globally to combat poverty, empower women and youth, and foster intercultural understanding

In June 2024, UNESCO issued a call for project proposals where 38 eligible applications were submitted by local civil society organizations across Tanzania.

After a thorough evaluation by an independent jury and UNESCO representatives, five outstanding projects were selected to receive financial support to implement their activities.

The five selected grantees are Mwanyanya Green Society, Tanzania Media for Community De-

velopment (TAMCODE), Youth Alliance for Progress Organization (YAPO), Readership for Learning and Development (SOMA), and the Centre for African Development through Economics and the Arts (ADEA).

The joint project UNESCO-Alwaleed Philanthropies, focuses on supporting community-based development by strengthening the role of culture and arts through Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). The initiative

is part of a larger effort to promote the economic and social importance of cultural heritage and institutions in Tanzania.

The hybrid kick-off meeting brought together officials from the Ministry of Information, Youth and Culture in mainland and Zanzibar, Vocational Education and Training, UNESCO staff members from the Dar es Salaam Office and Paris Headquarters, ministry officials in mainland, grantees as well as social media influencers.

EAIIF expands mandate to invest in South, South East Asia, officially becomes EAAIF

LONDON

THE Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund (EAIIF), a Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) company, managed by Ninety One, has announced its expanded mandate to stimulate sustainable infrastructure investment and growth in South and Southeast Asia. EAIIF has been consequently renamed the Emerging Africa and Asia Infrastructure Fund (EAAIF).

Infrastructure development in Africa remains a core focus for the Fund's objective to elevate Africa's competitiveness in the global economy. The Fund is one of Africa's leading impact investors and the principal provider of

debt finance.

The broader scope enables the Fund to catalyse transformative infrastructure investment in dynamic growth markets in Africa and Asia, such as Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia and to enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities in low and middle income countries affected by the climate crisis.

Emerging markets in Asia have seen an acceleration of economic growth over the past two decades. According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the region requires an estimated \$1.7 trillion annual infrastructure investment until 2030 to maintain its growth momentum, improve economic conditions for its population and respond to climate

change. Rapid urbanisation rates, climate change, and extreme weather events make communities in Asia increasingly vulnerable to natural disasters, parallel to current trends in Africa. Strategic investment in climate resilient infrastructure is urgently required, particularly in areas such as transport, power, water supply, and sanitation.

EAAIF is uniquely positioned to mobilise capital at scale to accelerate the roll-out of high-impact infrastructure projects in emerging markets.

The Fund's expansion complements PIDG's geographically diversified offering in Africa and Asia, which already provides guarantees; early-stage infrastructure development activities by taking an equity stake in high-risk projects; and technical assistance.

Philippe Valahu, Chief Executive Officer for PIDG remarked, "We are delighted to formally expand the Fund's mandate. The integrated approach will enable EAAIF to benefit from

PIDG's expertise across the two regions and deliver impact at scale".

Martijn Proos, Co-Head of EM Alternative Credit and Managing Director for EAAIF at Ninety One, noted: "As sustainable infrastructure financing becomes a more significant priority for countries across the globe, we are delighted to announce EAAIF's expansion into Asia. This expansion enables the Fund to further diversify its portfolio, and share expertise from the team's project, corporate and structured finance, asset management, and de-risking expertise across geographies in Asia and Africa - creating economic opportunities that deliver impact and commercially sound returns.

Driving EAAIF's operations in Asia from Singapore, Roland Janssens, Managing Director, Ninety One Esther Chan & Sumit Kanodia, Director, Ninety One, will spearhead the Fund's origination and execution efforts in the region. Roland Janssens, Managing Director, Ninety

One, said: "From a strategic base in Singapore, EAAIF will seek to invest in transformative infrastructure projects in priority sectors such as renewable energy, digital communications and transport.

EAAIF will leverage PIDG and Ninety One's strong track record of investing in Asia to support EAAIF's participation in Asian infrastructure debt markets and accelerate the transition to a lower-carbon future".

Ninety One, an active global investment manager, is EAAIF's fund manager. It invests at the intersection of return and impact and aims to deliver attractive risk-adjusted returns. Ninety One manages a large portfolio of assets in Asia, through various private, corporate and sovereign debt strategies. The strategic expansion of EAAIF is a significant step that will strengthen its balance sheet, diversify its portfolio, and attract investors seeking exposure to infrastructure debt opportunities in both Africa and Asia.

'We're poisoning ourselves': Ghana gold rush sparks off environmental disaster

ACCRA

WATER from a polluted river in Ghana was so thick and discoloured that an artist was able to use it as paint to depict the environmental devastation caused by the illegal gold mining that has spread like wildfire in the resource-rich West African state.

Mercury is increasingly being used to extract gold by miners digging on a massive scale in forests and farms, degrading land and polluting rivers to such an extent that the charity WaterAid has called it "ecocide".

"I could actually paint with the water. It was so bad," said Israel Derrick Apeti, better known as Enil Art.

He and his friend Jay Sterling visited the Pra River - around 200km (125 miles) west of the capital, Accra - to make a point about the environmental catastrophe unfolding because of "galamsey".

This is the term used by locals to describe the illegal mining taking place at thousands of sites around the country - including the forested regions famous for their cocoa farms, as well as their vast gold deposits.

The West African state is the world's sixth-biggest gold exporter, and the second-biggest cocoa exporter.

Demonstrators recently took to the streets of Accra to demand that the government take action to end the illegal mining. The police responded by de-

taining dozens of protesters accused of holding an illegal gathering. They were later released as anger grew over the arrests.

The hashtags #stopgalamseynow and #freethecitizens were used to galvanise young people across Ghana and the diaspora, particularly in Canada and the UK, to voice their concerns.

Apeti said that he had decided to contribute to the campaign through art.

"What is art for?" he said, adding: "On our way to the river, I just thought I could perhaps paint with the polluted water. It just came to me like that. So, we got there, I tried it and it worked out."

Communities along the river - one of the biggest in Ghana - lamented to Apeti that the water was "once so clean that you could see the fish and crocodiles that lived in it", but it had been transformed "into a yellowish-brown body of water".

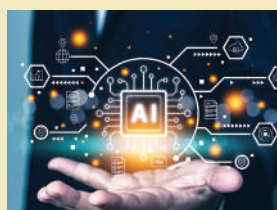
Ghana's music stars have also thrown their weight behind the campaign.

Black Sheriff - who hails from Konongo town in the Ashanti region, which has been badly affected by the illegal mining - stopped his set at The Tidal Rave Concert in Accra earlier this month to show a video of the devastation.

Truth Ofori, who was part of Black Sheriff's set, then sang a patriotic song called "This is our home", while Stonebow used his set to perform "Greedy Men", which targeted those behind galamsey.



A drone view shows the excavated pits for illegal mining at the Prestea-Huni Valley Municipal District in the Western Region



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Trade frameworks linking China, Africa set to broaden

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Tanzania leaps ahead in trade attractiveness rankings

JOHANNESBURG

TANZANIA is now ranked 4th highest in terms of overall attractiveness for trade in Africa. Its leap in the rankings was boosted by the country's substantial investments in infrastructure and better access to finance, enabling businesses to engage more actively in cross-border trade.

On the downside, Ghana experienced a sharp decline, moving from the 3rd position to the 7th spot, underscoring the pressures that economy continues to endure.

Its sharp decline also raises concerns about its ability to maintain trade competitiveness, even as Ghana is one of the most stable and democratic countries in West Africa.

Its decline in the trade rankings is mainly due to a worsening macroeconomic environment and falling trade confidence. As economic volatility intensified in Ghana, its ability to facilitate seamless trade came under strain, making it harder for businesses to access foreign currency, most notably USD, that is required to pay for imports and thus engage in cross-border activities especially for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, which this barometer favours.

These are some of the key insights stemming from Issue 4 of the Standard Bank Africa Trade Barometer (SB ATB).

"As Africa moves towards greater

integration under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the Standard Bank Africa Trade Barometer offers critical insights into the opportunities and challenges faced by African businesses and stakeholders in facilitating trade. The shifts detailed in the report further reflect changing macroeconomic conditions, infrastructure challenges and access to finance amongst many others, which are all impacting the trade environments of the 10 countries featured", says Philip Myburgh, Group Head of Trade at Standard Bank Business and Commercial Banking.

The SB ATB covers seven broad thematic categories of data that impact on Africa's trade, and upon which the barometer scores each country. These categories are: trade openness, access to finance, macroeconomic stability, infrastructure, foreign trade, governance & economy, as well as traders' financial behaviour. The SB ATB serves as Africa's leading trade index, with the intent of addressing the information vacuum of reliable African trade data that can support and enable the growth of intra-Africa trade.

Overall, the SB ATB trade attractiveness rankings reveal a dynamic shift in trade standings among the 10 African nations it covers, with Tanzania (moving from 8th to 4th ranking), Mozambique (4 to 3), Nigeria (6 to 5) and Zambia (9 to 8) recording improvements in their positions, while declines were recorded for Ghana (3 to 7), Uganda (7 to 9) and Kenya (5 to 6).

Meanwhile South Africa, Namibia and Angola retained their rankings, at positions 1, 2 and 10, respectively.



The 10 countries covered by the SB ATB are AfCFTA signatory nations, represent 66 percent of Africa's gross domestic product (GDP) and 45 percent of the continent's population.

Overall, the macroeconomic conditions across the countries present a mixed outlook, with

relatively sustained growth tempered by ongoing challenges.

The estimated real GDP growth rate for 2025 stands at 4.3 percent, reflecting steady progress despite headwinds.

Positive developments include infrastructure investments, economic diversification efforts, and

increased production in sectors like oil, mining, and agriculture. However, high inflation, forecasted to reach 9.9 percent in 2024, remains a pressing concern, driven by currency depreciation and worsened by weather events such as severe droughts in Southern Africa and flooding in East Africa.

Amid these complex dynamics, it is

evident that the path forward will require a focus on prudent economic management, diversified growth strategies, and bolstering resilience against climate risks.

As a trusted partner for the growth of the businesses that continue to power Africa's dynamic economies, this Issue 4 of the SB ATB report serves as a tool for businesses to make strategic decisions that foster sustainable trade and economic development across the continent.

"Given our position as Africa's largest bank, we understand that reliable trade data is essential for making informed business decisions, particularly in the context of a dynamic and evolving trade environment. This Issue 4 of the Standard Bank Africa Trade Barometer provides businesses, governments and investors, with the insights they need to navigate challenges and seize new opportunities on the continent", advised Myburgh.

Iran, TZ seek to expand partnership in agriculture, petro-chemicals, tourism

TEHRAN

IRANIAN Agriculture Minister Gholamreza Nouri Ghezalchah announced about the expansion of cooperation between Iran and Tanzania in the fields of agriculture, petrochemicals and tourism.

Ghezalchah who traveled to Tanzania to attend the two countries' fifth Joint Economic Committee meeting, said this meeting is held after several years of postponement, adding that 11 documents have been prepared in various areas of the governmental and private sectors, which will be finalized and signed at the end of the meeting.

"The Leader of the Islamic Revolution and the president emphasize on the development of relations with Africa, and we hope that the signing of cooperation documents will bring these developing relations into a new phase", the minister further emphasized.

During a meeting with Tanzania's Deputy Foreign Minister Dennis Lazaro Londo, the Iranian minister called for the expansion of economic ties with the African country.

In the meeting, Nouri Ghezalchah emphasized the necessity of expanding the relations between the two countries in various fields and said: "Iran and Tanzania have a lot in common and the cultural interests of both sides paves the ways for the development of relations."

He said: "We prioritized the joint committee of the two countries, and in the new government, this is the first joint committee meeting to be held, and this shows the interest of our country in developing relations with Tanzania." Lazaro Londo for his part said the visit of Iranian delegation to Tanzania is expected to provide the basis for the development of communication between the two countries.

In mid-March, Iranian and Tanzanian tax officials have signed the draft of an agreement to eliminate double taxation on income taxes and prevent tax evasion with the presence of the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Tanzania.

As reported, the draft was signed by Hossein Abdollahi, director general of the Legal Office and Tax Contracts of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and William M. Moja, the acting commissioner of the policy analysis department of the Ministry of Finance of

Tanzania.

According to Abdollahi, the two sides have so far held three rounds of negotiations to prepare the mentioned agreement for signing. This agreement has various goals such as the elimination of double taxation in the two countries, the attraction of direct investment, further development of economic relations and expansion of tax cooperation between the two countries, exchange of information to promote transparency in the tax behavior of the parties, assistance in tax collection, and the provision of facilities, the official explained.

The final signing and approval of this agreement will be done in the legislative assemblies of the two countries in the near future. Tanzania is considered one of the most important countries in East Africa and Iran is taking new measures to expand economic ties with this country.

In late November 2022, Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) held the first exclusive exhibition of Iranian products and services in Tanzania in collaboration with the Iranian Trade Center in the African country to showcase the Islamic Republic's trade and export capabilities.

According to Raed Mousavi, the head of the Iranian Trade Center in Tanzania, this exhibition was the most appropriate platform to increase the knowledge of East African countries, especially Tanzania, about the products, services, and technological advancements of Iranian companies. According to Mousavi, companies active in various fields including the agricultural sector, mines and industrial machinery, construction, as well as medicine and medical equipment participate in the first exclusive

exhibition of the export capabilities of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Tanzania.

In mid-July 2023, Iran's late President Ebrahim Raisi also took a visit to three African countries of Kenya, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. Economic experts believe that the president's visit to Africa provided the basis for increasing Iran's presence in the 60-billion-dollar economy of the African continent and will increase the level of activity of Iranian traders and businessmen in this continent.

Over the past 40 years, the Islamic Republic of Iran has never given up on its principled policy towards Africa due to political and cultural commonalities, despite the sanctions, pressure, and disruptions of the West, and has always maintained itself alongside the people and countries of Africa.

As reported, during the Iranian calendar years 1384 and 1385 (March 2005-March 2007), the relations between Iran and the African continent increased in terms of trade, but since 1386, the economic relations between Iran and Africa have decreased due to the economic crisis and cruel sanctions against Iran.

Surveys show that in the past years, due to the lack of restoration of economic relations with Africa, the amount of trade with the countries of this continent has remained at the level of \$1.2 billion, but according to Mohammed-Sadeq Ghanadzadeh, the director general of the Africa Department of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), facilitating the trade route with Africa is happening now and it is expected that the trade figure with this continent will reach \$10 billion in the next three years.



Tanzania is considered one of the most important countries in East Africa and Iran is taking new measures to expand economic ties with this country

Strong US economy, 'Trump trades' boost dollar

SINGAPORE/LONDON

THE dollar climbed on Monday and cryptocurrency bitcoin hit a three-month high as a rise in US bond yields and the looming Presidential election continued to impact markets.

Currency moves last week were driven by the European Central Bank's dovish rate cut and strong US data that pushed out expectations for how fast US rates can fall, particularly if former President Donald Trump wins the presidency.

The dollar index, which measures the greenback against major rivals, was last up 0.17 percent at 103.65.

It fell 0.3 percent on Friday as risk appetite picked up broadly across markets after China announced more details of its broad stimulus package, but logged 0.55 percent gains for the week.

The euro fell 0.16 percent to \$1.0849 and sterling slipped 0.2 percent to \$1.3022.

The strength of the dollar has "in large part been a rates and relative growth story", said Erik Nelson, macro strategist at Wells Fargo.

"You've had some relatively solid US data, starting with the jobs report earlier this month. You've had decent retail sales, GDP is tracking pretty well this quarter. On the other side Europe's not doing quite as well, the ECB is on the dovish side... so it's been this divergence story."

Polls showing rising odds of former President Donald Trump winning the Nov. 5 election are also helping the dollar against some currencies, analysts say, since his proposed tariff and tax policies are seen as likely to keep US interest rates high and hurt trading partners. Bitcoin got a lift from Trump's improving prospects since his administration is seen as taking a softer line on cryptocurrency regulation. It was last up 0.2 percent at \$68,555, off a peak of \$69,487 which took its gains since Oct. 10 to 18 percent.

The yen was down 0.2 percent at 149.84 per

dollar but staying on the stronger side of 150 per dollar after having breached that level briefly last week for the first time since early August.

The clearest way to express the Trump tariff risk was to (buy) dollars versus the euro, Swiss franc and Mexican peso, Chris Weston, head of research at Australian online broker Pepperstone, said in a note.

"Traders need to decide if now is the right time to start placing election trades with greater conviction," Weston said.

Last week, the yen fell 0.3 percent, the euro 0.6 percent and sterling was flat. The Mexican peso fell 3 percent.

The euro is down more than 3 percent in three weeks and has fallen through its 200-day moving average, and is parked near a 2-1/2 month low.

The closely-watched gap between US and German 10-year bond yields has widened to around 189 basis points (bps) as US yields have climbed in recent weeks while German ones have declined.

ECB governors at Thursday's rate-setting meeting made the case for dropping a pledge to keep policy tight as inflation may now turn out lower than anticipated only a few weeks ago, sources told Reuters.

Yields in Britain too have moved against the pound this month on weaker inflation readings and expectations Finance Minister Rachel Reeves will announce a bond-friendly budget on Oct. 30.

The spread between US and gilt yields has gone from being 24 points in sterling's favour to 3 points negative.

With no major economic events due this week, market focus will be on corporate earnings and the U.S. election.

Japan will hold a general election on Sunday, Oct. 27. While opinion polls vary on how many seats the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) will win, markets have been sanguine that the LDP along with junior coalition partner Komeito will prevail.



Key insights for making smarter AI investments

By Pritom Das

ARTIFICIAL intelligence (AI) has been creating a lot of volatility across industries around the world. And in 2024, it is still creating so many waves that are rocking the boat for investors looking to ride the AI wave.

It's easy to see the potential for AI to create massive disruption, but it can also create massive disasters if you don't know how to sail the stormy seas.

My four rules here will help you cut through the noise and hype – in 2024 and beyond.

1. Mastering the regulatory context

These new developments will undoubtedly cause some turmoil in the industry, regardless of whether they coalesce into a full-fledged upheaval. In response, governments are rushing to establish new regulations to curb unchecked profiteering by weighing benefits against risks.

For instance, the AI Act, a proposed legislation for the EU, aims to taxonomize systems based on their riskiness, measured with social scoring, biometric ID and mass surveillance. These rules on transparency and accountability will therefore have a direct impact on the adoption of the systems, which in turn will affect the profitability of companies using them.

This would mean that countries with different policies would create challenges for firms operating across the world, however committed they might be to journeying with machine learning (ML) models. Given the variations in philosophical outlook and political frameworks, I suspect it could take a long time for the Global Partnership on AI (GPAI) and similar international initiatives to harmonize regulatory standards.

As an investor, it's crucial to follow these international regulatory changes closely, as the rapid pace could lead to significant risks.

2. Optimizing return on investment

Industries exist to be disrupted – efficiently and at scale. All the

fashionable buzzwords promise substantial rewards that attract major investments.

However, you can't discount the fact that it's all about future rewards. Implementing AI technology requires very large initial investments—you need infrastructure, software, and all sorts of skilled talent. Take Nvidia, for example; its massive investment in semiconductors and AI technologies has led to a remarkable 239 percent increase in its capitalization by 2023. This highlights how initial investments can generate big returns, but only if adoption is widespread and competitive advantage is clearly demonstrated.

Indeed, that may still be wise so as not to fall into the trap of buying into hype and paying over the odds. That popped the bubble in the dot-com era in the 2000s.

Examining financials and market metrics – such as the P/E ratio, for example, to determine whether stock price reflects earnings – provides necessary navigational guidance. Additionally, analyzing technical indicators, such as candlestick charts to track trends, daily volatility and market sentiment toward the company can further enhance your understanding of market dynamics.

3. Technological infrastructure

Given AI's substantial data demands, investments must establish robust technological foundations to fully capitalize on the technology's potential.

AI relies on feedback from large-scale data sets, requiring companies to have the infrastructure to efficiently manage, store, and process this data. Is the hardware scalable and flexible? Is it secure?

Providing your own computing infrastructure isn't always an option. AWS, the Amazon Web Services cloud computing platform, and Microsoft's Azure can run basic AI-powered services. This allows organizations that don't want to invest in in-house IT to exploit economies of scale, improving efficiency and innovation. Choose the right partners and review providers.

Data-hungry AI requires strong security, especially if it uses public networks.

Ensure your AI systems incorporate advanced encryption, access controls and multifactor authentication to protect against potentially catastrophic cyberattacks.

In other words, your tech stack needs to respond to and be able to sustain AI's data demands and nuanced needs, and this is where the toughest battles for future success will be fought.

4. Talent acquisition and development
Simply put, AI will only be as effective as the humans who help create it. In an era where specialist, hard-to-fill skills are in high demand, how are recruitment and retention being evaluated? Are efforts successful in attracting and retaining the best minds in specialized fields such as machine learning and data science?

By 2024, talent shortages in AI could make hiring highly competitive, with the AI recruitment market potentially reaching over \$1 billion by 2030. To build your team, offering top rewards, captivating projects and a culture of innovation is essential.

Beyond recruitment, providing continuous education to develop skills is just as important, given the rapid changes in the world of AI. Investments must focus on ongoing training to keep talent at the cutting edge. Look for evidence of leadership in learning programs, mentoring, and other upskilling opportunities.

However, even the best human capital strategies can face challenges. Pay close attention to signs of personnel churn or skill set stagnation; these indicators can be as informative as the bottom line.

When it comes to AI, the key is to be prudently evaluative, avoiding the extremes of pessimistic fatalism and blind optimism currently competing for attention. Through these lenses, you can act strategically and with a long-term focus. The future moves fast, but the insights above will help you time your investments in markets wisely.

Pritom Das is a tech entrepreneur, business development consultant and freelance writer. He is the founder of travel-based networking site TravelerPlus.

pandemic and inflation, many developing countries are still struggling to reach their development goals or to reduce the rate of extreme poverty to even pre-pandemic levels.

Overlapping crises, especially those caused by extreme weather, may increase in frequency and intensity. The shocks from these crises will be, or are, felt across the world rather than contained to one country or region as a result of the networks that connect across countries and systems.

The DESA report cites the example of global warming and the prediction that every region will experience changes in their national climate systems.

The increasing risk of extreme weather such as hurricanes and prolonged droughts will not only impact countries directly affected, but this also poses a threat to agricultural production and food security.

The report shows that although there is a better understanding of the impacts of these crises, preparedness has not yet caught up. Information on early warning and preventative systems is not consistently made available or is otherwise unclear on how effective they are.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, many countries bolstered their social protections; however, gaps remain, which undermine social development in times of crisis.

As the report reveals, only 47 percent of the world's population has access to at least one social protection benefit, meaning nearly half the world's population of 8.1 billion do not access social protections.

The disparity continues as the report indicates that in higher-income countries, 85 percent of the population is covered, while in lower-income countries, it is only 13 percent. Factoring in gender, a new report from UN-Women revealed that 2 billion women and girls globally do not have access to social protections.

Continued crises and shocks to social development disproportionately affect vulnerable communities as they face increased risks of poverty, food insecurity, wealth inequality and education loss, which are only exacerbated with the limited reach or lack of access to social protections.

One area in which this is evident is in unemployment rates, which have only increased over time. The employment gap increased from 20 percent in 2018 to 21 percent in 2023. In 2022, the poorest half of the global population owned only 2 percent of the world's health. These are indicators of the increase in existing income and wealth inequalities, especially in developing countries with pre-existing high levels of inequality.

For countries to build resilience is now more critical than ever, which the report argues can be achieved more fully through international cooperation. Otherwise, actions taken at the national level will be limited.

"I think in most countries, governments' priorities are actually to reduce poverty and improve people's lives. It's just that in order to do so, they need to achieve a particular level of growth," said Shantanu Mukherjee, Director of Economic Policy and Analysis, UN DESA. "So often it becomes a question of which is going to come first. What we're seeing in this report

is that this is too narrow-minded of a view. That you can invest in people in order to get higher growth in the future because you're improving resilience. You're improving their capacity to actually contribute in the future."

The report concludes with recommendations that countries could adopt to reinvigorate national actions for social development, such as expanding and strengthening social protections and accelerating work towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Global cooperation can be strengthened through establishing cross-country collaborative solutions and a knowledge base for risk governance.

Making improvements towards global financing is also one of the proposed recommendations from the report. Easing debt restrictions on developing countries, for instance, would ensure the flow of money, especially they spend far more on paying off their debts than paying towards social development.

According to Mukherjee, this has been achieved before, and there are conversations among major creditors to take measures to ease debt restrictions.

However, in the present day, not only are the challenges more complex, now more parties are involved. In addition to countries and financing institutions such as the World Bank and international development banks, the private sector can also be involved as countries can raise funds on the international market, which need to be paid back, he said.

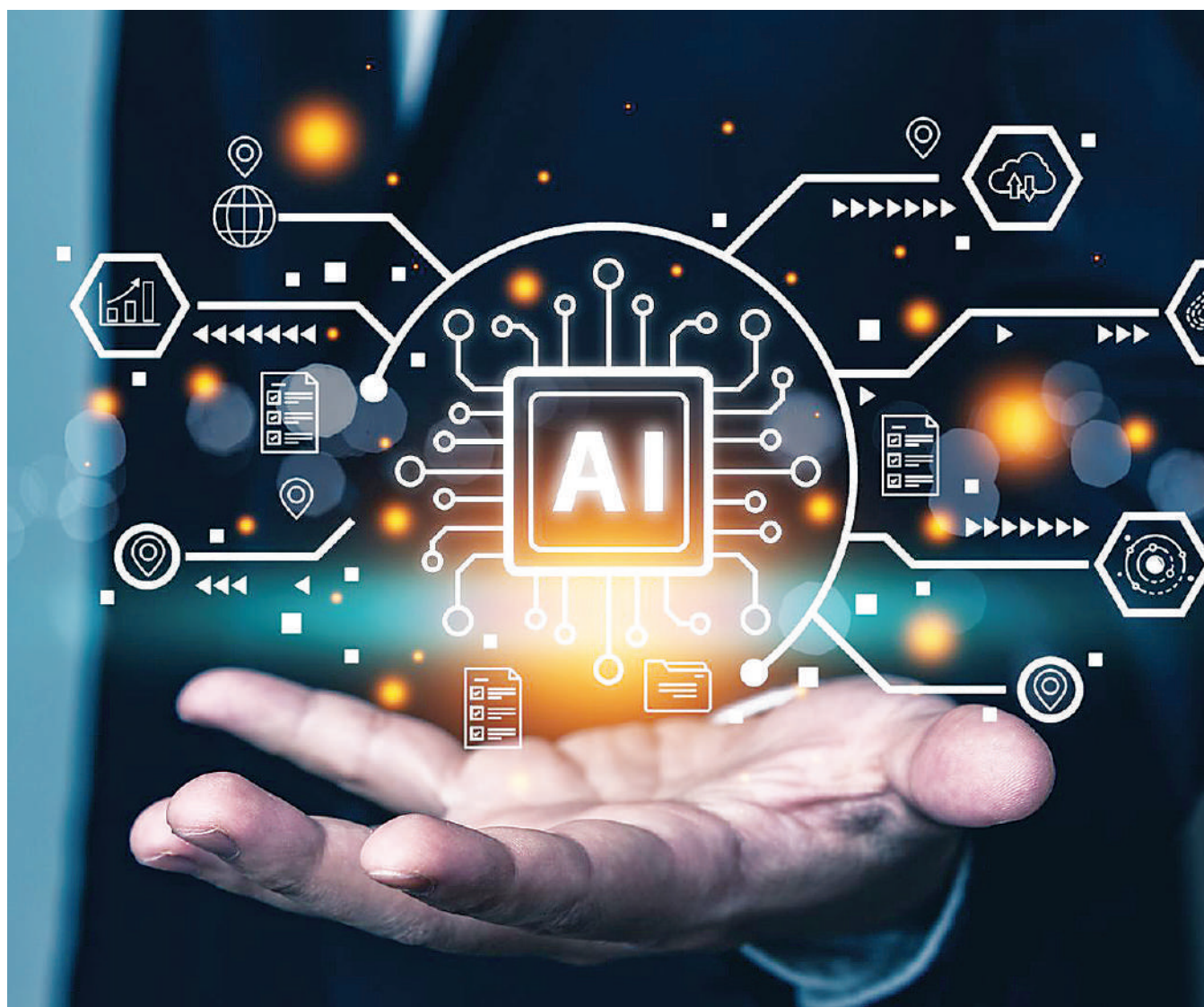
"Now you can imagine that when there are a lot of people who have lent money, no one wants to be the first person to say, 'Okay, I'll take... I'll withdraw my claim for a little bit until things get better', because then everybody else will say, 'Country X is taking a little bit of time; why don't you repay us because country X is standing back?'. So these coordination mechanisms and good kinds of agreements were set up, and I think they need to be revitalized," said Mukherjee.

The report and its recommendations come in the wake of the Summit of the Future and the ratification of the Pact for the Future, where member states made the commitment to take concrete measures towards development and preparedness for current and future generations, thinking beyond the 2030 Agenda.

Upcoming global meetings such as the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, scheduled for June-July 2025 in Spain, and the the Second World Summit of Social Development, scheduled for November 2025 in Qatar, will be critical opportunities for the international community to reach consensus on different areas of social policy.

"Growing insecurity together with high inequality and persistent social exclusion are eroding the social fabric and thus the ability of countries and of the international community to act collectively towards common goals, including achieving the SDGs to address climate challenges," said Wenyan Yang, Chief, Global Dialogue for Social Development Branch, UN DESA.

"So the Second World Summit for Social Development is an opportunity to build new global consensus on social policies and actions to create momentum for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to fulfill the promises that we made to people in 1995."



Overlapping crises hinder global social development and reduction of poverty

By Naureen Hossain, New York

SOCIAL development in a global context shows the risk of trending downwards and not recovering if countries do not minimize the long-term impacts of multiple crises and work towards building up their resilience. As much as this will require

national political will, it will also need global cooperation for it to be possible.

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) launched the 2024 edition of the World Social Report on October 17. Titled 'Social Development in Times of Converging Crises: A Call for Global Action', the report

discusses the effects of multiple crises and shocks on countries' social development and their capacity to handle those shocks through social protections or lack thereof.

It posits that while there has been an upward trajectory in development and economic growth in some parts of the world after the effects of the COVID-19

CURRENT NEWS



Nearly half the world's populations of 8.1 billion don't access social protections

Trade frameworks between China, Africa set to broaden

By Mo Honge

IN the face of a turbulent global landscape, characterized by escalating geopolitical tensions and rising protectionism, China and Africa should lean toward embracing globalization and win-win cooperation more than ever before, to benefit their own populations and catalyze the modernization of the broader Global South, experts said.

As an industrialized nation partnering with less industrialized counterparts, the deepening cooperation between China and Africa has emerged as a model example for other developing regions seeking to emancipate themselves from the constraints of the traditional North-South divide, they added.

Their comments came after the overall characterization of China-Africa relations was elevated to an all-weather China-Africa community with a shared future for the new era during the Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Beijing in early September.

Collaboration between the world's largest developing country, China, and the continent with the highest concentration of developing nations, Africa, transcends mere economic development, said Ye Hailin, dean of the China-Africa Institute at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Through channels such as the Belt and Road Initiative and the FOCAC, the two sides have been expanding trade and investment ties, enhancing infrastructure connectivity, and fostering cultural exchanges, Ye added.

For the 15th consecutive year, China has firmly cemented its status as Africa's number one trade partner, with the volume of China-Africa trade continuing to account for a steadily increasing share of the continent's overall foreign trade.

Data from the Ministry of Commerce showed that the trade volume between China and Africa surged to a historic peak of \$282.1 billion last year, marking an increase of nearly 35 percent compared to 2013 figures.

To ensure greater market openness and trade facilitation with Africa, China announced its decision at the summit to grant 100 percent tariff-free treatment on products from all the least developed countries that have established diplomatic relations with China – 33 nations across the African continent.

This initiative aims to transform the vast Chinese market into a significant opportunity for African nations and enhance their integration into the global economy, said Sang Baichuan, dean of the Institute of International Economy at the University of International Business and Economics.

In recent years, African countries have encountered obstacles in their development path, struggling to boost export volumes. China's move comes as timely and much-needed support, Sang said.

Nevertheless, there are fundamental issues that require attention, notably the necessity to broaden the trade frameworks linking the two regions. Sectors like e-commerce and sustainable development offer auspicious prospects, Sang added.

While trade acts as a key element of China-Africa collaboration, another notable facet emphasizing the strength of the partnership is the considerable increase in direct investment, especially from China into Africa.

As of the end of 2023, China's cumulative direct investments in Africa had surged past the \$40 billion mark, solidifying its position as one of the primary sources of foreign capital for countries across the continent, according to the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade.

China's investments in Africa are increasingly expanding beyond traditional industries, said Wang Xiaosong, a professor at Renmin University of China's School of Economics.

While infrastructure, manufacturing and agriculture have long been the focus of China's engagement on the continent, the country is now directing more funding toward emerging sectors like green development and the digital economy, Wang said.

Major Chinese e-commerce platforms such as Alibaba and Pinduoduo have launched dedicated efforts to penetrate African markets, leveraging their extensive product catalogs and logistics networks to cater to the continent's growing consumer class.

Cross-border e-commerce represents a significant opportunity for China to



deepen its economic ties with Africa. By bringing their proven e-commerce models to African consumers, Chinese platforms can open up new channels for trade and investment, Wang added.

Chinese enterprises have already established a strong presence across Africa, but there is tremendous untapped potential to grow these relationships further, Wang said.

The Chinese government has announced plans to facilitate at least 70 billion yuan (\$9.9 billion) in investments by Chinese companies in Africa over the next three years. Meanwhile, China and Africa will establish a joint digital technology cooperation center and announce plans for 20 flagship digital demonstration projects.

Lei Jun, founder and chairman of Chinese smartphone maker Xiaomi, said that Africa's economic dynamism and policy focus on sustainable development make it a compelling investment destination for Xiaomi.

Africa continues to outpace global economic growth, buoyed by the launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area, which has driven greater cross-border trade and market integration, Lei said.

"We see tremendous potential to partner with African businesses in emerging sectors like new energy vehicles and other green technologies," Lei said, adding that building on its presence in 16 African countries, including Egypt, Nigeria and Kenya, Xiaomi is gearing up to increase its investments across the continent.

That said, without closely interconnected infrastructure, discussions about unimpeded trade, financial integration and people-to-people exchange would be impossible, experts said.

Infrastructure is the cornerstone of Africa's development. Improving infrastructure conditions is a common expectation and urgent desire of African countries, said Xu Hongcai, deputy director of the China Association of Policy Science's Economic Policy Committee.

However, the African Development Bank estimated that infrastructure development requires between \$130 billion and \$170 billion annually, with a funding gap of \$68 billion to \$108 billion.

While infrastructure investment has faced headwinds in certain regions, China's infrastructure push in Africa has persisted, to deliver much-needed transportation, energy, and telecommunications projects, Xu said.

Over the past decade, Chinese firms have constructed or refurbished an expansive network of critical transport, energy, and communications systems that are helping to integrate Africa's economies and facilitate greater regional connectivity, from a major new port facility in Djibouti to a transnational railway network linking Kenya, Uganda and South Sudan.

The numbers speak for themselves – Chinese companies have built or upgraded over 10,000 kilometers of railways, nearly 100,000 kilometers of roads, around 1,000 bridges, close to 100 ports, 66,000 kilometers of power transmission lines, and 150,000 kilometers of backbone communication networks, according to the National Development and Reform Commission.

Chinese firms have played an outsized role in bridging Africa's massive infrastructure gaps. This has been a game-changer, paving the way for accelerated economic growth, boosted local job creation, and integration across the continent, Xu said.

Going forward, China will implement 30 major infrastructure connectivity projects across the African continent, in a move aimed at deepening China-Africa cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative and supporting the development of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

However, a narrative has been propagated by some Western media outlets, attempting to sensationalize China's engagement in Africa through BRI projects by labeling it as a form of "debt trap diplomacy".

The strategic partnerships forged through infrastructure projects, trade agreements, and diplomatic engagements have not only bolstered Africa's path toward sustainable development, but also strengthened bonds of friendship and mutual benefit between China and Africa, Ye, who is with the China-Africa Institute, said.

Amid these advancements, a shift in dynamics is becoming increasingly evident, with Western influence in Africa encountering economic setbacks similar to those experienced in other regions, Ye said, adding that African nations are no longer willing to be coerced by Western powers.

As Western powers witness a waning of their influence in Africa, they are grappling with a need to deflect attention from their own shortcomings and find a scapegoat to mask their ineffectiveness, Ye said.

Looking ahead, China and Africa will deepen the alignment between the BRI and the African Union's Agenda 2063, to empower African nations not just by "providing fish, but by imparting the art of fishing", Ye said.

Central to this collaboration is the goal of facilitating Africa's industrialization and fostering localized production of industrial goods, aiming to address the historic imbalance in industrial and agricultural development that has persisted since the colonial era and prevent African countries from being mere markets for Western industrial products, experts said.

Chinese industrial products have strong competitiveness in Africa, helping improve the livelihoods of many people in African countries, boosting economic development, and catalyzing the pace of their local industrialization, Ye said.

However, this is not enough. Therefore, it's important to further encourage the localized realization of industrialization in Africa. This means manufacturing products in Africa are tailored for the African market, so that industrialization in Africa can directly benefit the African people. China has sufficient experience, technology, and funding to assist Africa in achieving this goal, Ye said.

As the world grapples with a multitude of global challenges, from climate change to the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, China-Africa cooperation has demonstrated the potential for developing countries to work together, leverage their complementarities, and foster innovative solutions that prioritize their common interests and development aspirations, Ye added.

Ecobank Tanzania commemorates its big day 2024 promoting Artificial Intelligence, digital skills in schools

By Guardian Correspondent

ECOBANK Tanzania, an affiliate of Ecobank Group, in partnership with Shule Direct has donated 10 computers (desktops), Internet service (wireless), Learning subscription from Shule direct for one-year, Aluminum windows at computer lab, desks and tables for computer lab to Mugabe Secondary School on its annual Ecobank Day.

Ecobank Day is Ecobank's flagship social impact initiative led by the Ecobank Foundation on which Ecobank's employees give back to their communities.

The 2024 event was themed 'Ignite Learning with AI' and focused on foundational learning and how Artificial Intelligence can be harnessed to improve children's acquisition of basic skills in literacy, numeracy and digital literacy.

Ecobank Tanzania Managing Director Dr. Charles Asiedu, said: "Ensuring that Tanzania children are equipped with basic literacy, numeracy and digital skills at an early age will provide them with the right foundation for their future, help them to thrive at school, gain the skillsets that will prepare them for this rapidly evolving digital age, and broaden their employment and life opportunities".

"Our Ecobank Day activities saw our employees and management volunteering their time for a range

of activities in different communities across Tanzania, including providing computers, laptops, tablets, IT equipment and programmes, subscriptions to online e-books, and working with schools to help improve digital facilities/tuition, and more. I want to thank our partners who made this day a reality for Tanzania's children," said Dr Asiedu.

The donation and activities align with the second year of Ecobank's three-year 'Transforming Africa Through Education' campaign, and also the African Union (AU)'s declaration of 2024 as the year of education and its theme 'Educate and Skill Africa for the 21st Century', which highlights the importance of integrating technology into foundational learning.

Since its launch in 2013, Ecobank Day has pioneered critical interventions and supported a wide range of deserving causes for different sections of the society.

These include Education for young people in Africa (2013); Malaria prevention and control (2014); Every African child deserves a better future (2015); ICT education in schools and improving maternal health (2016); Safe water management (2017); Orphanages (2018); Cancer (2019); Diabetes (2020); Mental health (2021); financial literacy and financial inclusion (2022); and digital education for children (2023).



Tepid start to week for world stocks, but gold, bitcoin shine

LONDON

GLOBAL stocks kicked off the week on a tepid note on Monday, after strong gains last week, while increasing bets on Donald Trump winning the looming US Presidential election helped send bitcoin and gold to new peaks.

Heightened uncertainty over conflict in the Middle East added to the appeal of gold, which hit new record highs around of \$2,733 an ounce.

Europe's benchmark STOXX 600 was largely flat ahead of results later in the day from German heavyweight SAP, which could set the tone for a busy earnings week on both sides of the Atlantic.

"Earnings will be very important in giving direction to stocks - whether or not current US valuations can be justified," said Chris Scicluna, head of economic research at Daiwa Capital Markets in London.

Wall Street futures pointed to a mixed open after the S&P 500 notched a record closing high and rounded up its sixth straight week of gains on Friday.

Meanwhile, optimism over Beijing's slew of stimulus measures first announced late in September has turned into caution in recent days as investors look to further details of more fiscal support from policymakers.

Although China cut its benchmark lending rates on Monday, the move was anticipated. China's blue-chip index rose just 0.2 percent as investors awaited further details on Chinese stimulus.

"We might have to wait until late October or early November for concrete plans from the Standing Committee meeting of the National People's Congress," said Chaoping Zhu, global market strategist at JP Morgan Asset Management in Shanghai.

With two weeks to go before the Nov. 5 U.S. election, bets reflecting a Donald Trump victory are on the rise.

The Republican candidate's tariff, tax and immigration policies are seen as inflationary, negative for bonds and positive for the dollar. Trump is expected to take a more favourable stance towards cryptocurrencies.

"(It) seems now that Trump's ahead in the key battleground states, which suggests he's quite well placed to regain the White House and I think the markets started to factor that in last week with the stronger equities, higher yields, US dollar obviously doing very, very well and bitcoin on track for a 10 percent gain over the past week," said Tony Sycamore, a market analyst at IG. Bitcoin hit its highest since late July at \$69,487 before retreating slightly. The world's largest cryptocurrency gained 9.6 percent last week, and is up more than 8 percent for the month.

The dollar index, which measures the greenback's value against a basket of peers, was last up 0.16 percent at 103.61 - not far more than two-month highs hit last week.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

WORLD

'Expanded BRICS ties to contribute to global governance'

MOSCOW

THE expanded BRICS cooperation will make more contributions to improving the global governance system, said Chinese Ambassador to Russia Zhang Hanhui.

In an exclusive interview with Xinhua ahead of the 16th BRICS Summit scheduled from Oct 22 to 24 in Russia's Kazan, Zhang noted that the summit is the first BRICS leaders' off-line summit since the group's expansion.

As the BRICS mechanism enters a new era of greater cooperation, BRICS members will continue to pursue modernization together, contribute more to improving the global governance system, and offer "BRICS solutions" to the major transformations happening worldwide, Zhang said.

Noting that BRICS countries represent the collective rise of emerging markets and developing nations, Zhang said

BRICS has now become stronger, more influential, and full of potential with its recent expansion.

"China will continue to work closely with other BRICS members to forge a more comprehensive, closer, practical, and inclusive high-quality partnership, and together embark on a new journey for BRICS," he said.

Noting that China and Russia, both permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and major emerging markets, Zhang said the two countries have always stood shoulder to shoulder, working closely to firmly defend the UN-centered international system, the outcomes of World War II, as well as international fairness and justice.

As independent forces in the process of building a multipolar world, China and Russia are pioneers in practicing the concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind, and



A woman walks past a banner advertising the 2023 BRICS Summit at the Sandton Convention Center on Aug 20, 2023, in Johannesburg, South Africa. (PHOTO / CHINA DAILY)

advocates of democratizing international relations, Zhang said.

The two countries maintain close communication and coordination within multilateral mechanisms, leading reforms in the global governance system and promoting an equal and orderly world multipolarity and inclusive and balanced economic globalization, he added.

Noting that China has assumed the presidency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) while Russia holds the presidency of BRICS, the ambassador said that both sides are supporting each other in their respective chairmanship, further strengthening cooperation within a robust SCO and BRICS framework.

"China and Russia have driven the historic expansion of the SCO and BRICS mechanisms, leading the trend of independent, win-win cooperation, strengthening the unity of developing countries and the Global South, and contributing to improving the global governance system," Zhang said.

During the summit, Chinese Presi-

dent Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart are expected to hold in-depth discussions on bilateral relations, cooperation in various fields, and major international and regional issues, promoting the stable and long-term development of bilateral relations in the new era, he said.

Head-of-state diplomacy is the compass and stabilizer of China-Russia relations, playing a crucial and decisive role in guiding the direction of bilateral ties, said the ambassador.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Russia. Zhang noted that for three-quarters of a century, China-Russia relations have withstood the test of time and international changes, advancing steadily on the path of mutual respect, equality, peaceful coexistence, and win-win cooperation.

"This not only serves the fundamental interests of both countries and their peoples but also aligns with the broader expectations of the international community," he said.

Xinhua

Medvedev doubts that Trump threatened Putin with striking Moscow

MOSCOW



FORMER US President Donald Trump likely did not threaten Russian President Vladimir Putin with any 'strikes against Moscow' in their past conversation, according to Deputy Chairman of Russia's Security Council Dmitry Medvedev, who posted on his X social network account yesterday.

Medvedev noted that Trump is actually 'smooth as silk' during high-level talks.

"Trump got carried away. Did he really talk about 'hitting fricking Moscow'? Of course not," he said. "He's generally smooth as silk in negotiations. And there's only one answer to such words: your fricking Washington will get hit too."

"In general, our relationship with him is quite warm," Medvedev added, attaching a laughing emoji to his post on the X social network.

In an interview with the US-based Wall Street Journal last week, Trump stated, warning the Russian president that if Russia assaults Ukraine: "Vladimir, if you go after Ukraine, I am going to hit you so hard, you're not even going to believe it. I'm going to hit you right in the middle of fricking Moscow... We're friends. I don't want to do it, but I have no choice."

India, China reach agreement on patrolling arrangements along LAC ahead of BRICS Summit

NEW DELHI

IN a significant development, India and China have reached an agreement on the patrolling arrangements along Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.

The agreement was reached ahead of the BRICS Summit which will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, who addressed a special media briefing ahead of PM Modi's visit to Russia for the BRICS Summit, said as a result of the discussions with the Chinese interlocutors an agreement has been arrived at on patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the India-China border areas.

He said this is leading to dis-engagement and eventually a resolution of the issues that arose after action by Chinese military in eastern Ladakh in 2020.

"We have been in discussion with Chinese interlocutors through WMCC as was mentioned earlier and at the military level as well through meetings of the military commanders at various levels. These discussions have in the past resulted in the resolution of standoffs at various locations. You are also aware that there were a few locations where the standoff had not been resolved," he said.

"Now as a result of the discussions that have taken place over the last several weeks an agreement has been arrived at on patrolling arrangements along the line of actual control in the India-China border areas and this is leading to dis-engagement and eventually a resolution of the issues that had arisen in these areas in 2020."

Though no information is yet available on PM Modi's bilateral meetings on the sidelines of BRICS Summit, the agreement on patrolling arrangements could pave the way for a meeting between PM Modi and the Chinese President.

MEA had said after the last Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) held in August that the two sides had "a frank, constructive and forward-looking exchange of views on the situation along the LAC to narrow down the differences".

"In line with the guidance provided by two Foreign Ministers' meetings in Astana and Vientiane in July 2024 to accelerate their discussion, and building on the WMCC meeting held last month, the two sides had a frank, constructive and forward-looking exchange of views on the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) to narrow down the differences and find early resolution of the outstanding issues. For this, they further agreed for intensified contact through diplomatic and military channels," MEA said in a release.

It said the two sides had decided to jointly uphold peace and tranquillity on the ground in border areas in accordance with relevant bilateral agreements, protocols and understandings reached between the two Governments.

The release reiterated that restoration of peace and tranquillity, and respect for LAC are the essential basis for restoration of normalcy in bilateral relations.

The WMCC meeting was held in Beijing.

PM Modi will visit Russia on October 22, 23 to attend the 16th BRICS Summit, being held in Kazan, under the Chairmanship of Russia.

ANI

King Charles heckled by Indigenous Australian senator on visit to Canberra

CANBERRA

KING Charles was accused of "genocide" by an Indigenous senator at Australia's Parliament House on Monday, moments after he delivered a speech in which he paid his "respects to the traditional owners of the lands".

Charles, on his 16th official visit to Australia and his first major foreign trip since being diagnosed with cancer, had finished speaking when independent senator and Indigenous activist Lidia Thorpe shouted that she did not accept Charles' sovereignty over Australia.

"You committed genocide against our people," she said. "Give us our land back. Give us what you stole from us - our bones, our skulls, our babies, our people. You destroyed our land. Give us a treaty. We want treaty."

Thorpe, who has disrupted previous events protesting over the colonisation of Australia, was stopped from approaching the king, who spoke quietly to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on the podium but was otherwise unfazed. Thorpe was then escorted out of the chamber.

The protest was an outlier among a stream of tributes to Charles and Queen Camilla from dignitaries and well-wishers in the crowds.

Albanese praised Charles for his long advocacy about the threat of climate change and spoke about the respect Australians had for their monarch.

His speech made only a passing reference to the Republican cause, which Albanese and much of his centre-left Labor party support.

The Australia you first knew has grown and evolved in so many ways," he said. "Yet through these decades of change, our bonds of respect and affection have matured - and endured."

Albanese shelved plans for a referendum on turning Australia into a republic after a government-backed referendum to create an Indigenous advisory body was defeated earlier this year.

Crowds of well-wishers, and an alpaca

The visit to parliament followed a trip to the Aus-



Britain's King Charles III (center), and Queen Camilla (left), waves at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra yesterday. AP

tralian War Memorial in Canberra where the royal couple met more than a thousand well-wishers including Hephner, a nine-year-old alpaca in a suit with a crown perched atop his fluffy white head.

Hephner, named after Playboy founder Hugh Hefner, waited for hours alongside owner Robert Fletcher and long lines of oth-

ers outside the memorial for the chance to greet the royal couple on their one-day tour of the capital.

"He has many outfits and this is one we've saved specifically for today," said Fletcher. "One king meets another king."

Hephner's patience paid off. On a 30-minute walk to greet the

crowds, Charles stopped to pat the alpaca, pulling back with a laugh when Hephner snorted in his face.

The royal couple continue their visit to Australia in Sydney on Tuesday, before heading to Samoa for a meeting of countries in the British Commonwealth.

China to develop new institutions for higher-standard open economy

TRAVEL and consumption during the recent National Day holiday in China became a focus of foreign media outlets, which highlighted the record-breaking passenger volume of the railway system on the first day of the holiday, the surge in outbound tourism, and the bustling crowds at popular destinations. These observations exactly underscored a vibrant and thriving China.

Over the past 75 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China, China has achieved a historic leap in economic development, comprehensive national strength, and international influence.

Statistics show that from

1979 to 2023, China's gross domestic product has grown at an average annual rate of 8.9 percent, far exceeding the global average of 3 percent during the same period. Besides, the country's average annual contribution to global economic growth stood at 24.8 percent.

Chinese President Xi Jinping said, "We will continue to advance high-quality development and Chinese modernization, enable the Chinese people to live a better life, and contribute more to sustainable development in the world. We have the confidence and determination that China's development has a bright future."

China's vitality in development stems from the continuous efforts to deepen reforms. The country has continuously deepened reforms with great courage and determination over the past few decades, injecting a steady stream of vitality and momentum into its development.

The third plenary session of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) ushered in a new period: one of reform, opening up, and socialist modernization. The third plenary session of the 18th CPC Central Committee marked the start of a new journey of comprehensively deepening reform in the new era with

systematic and holistic plans. The third plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee initiated a new era and new journey, further deepening reforms and continuously exploring the broad prospects of Chinese modernization.

China takes deepening reform across the board as the fundamental driving force for Chinese modernization. It is determined to get rid of all thinking and ideas and all institutional ailment that impede Chinese modernization. This way, the country is able to better adapt the relations of production to the productive forces, the superstructure to the economic base, and national governance to social

development so as to provide strong impetus and institutional support for Chinese modernization.

China's vitality in development stems from the efforts to continuously expand opening up. Opening up is a defining feature of Chinese modernization. Since the initiation of reform and opening-up, China has embraced a path of achieving common development through opening up.

China remains committed to the fundamental national policy of opening up to the outside world and pursues a mutually beneficial strategy of opening up. China's development is both domestic and external oriented; while devel-

oping itself, China also shares more of its development outcomes with other countries and peoples.

China is pursuing high-standard opening up not just because it has achieved remarkable reform and development success through opening up, but also because this is the right way forward as shown by the laws of economy and the trend of the times.

The third plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee stressed that China must remain committed to the basic state policy of opening to the outside world and continue to promote reform through opening up. Leveraging the strengths of China's

enormous market, the country will enhance its capacity for opening up while expanding international cooperation and develop new institutions for a higher-standard open economy.

In the future, China will steadily expand institutional opening up, deepen foreign trade structural reform, and further reform the management systems for inward and outward investment. Additionally, China will also optimize the layout for regional opening up, and improve the mechanisms for high-quality cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative.

People's Daily

US states warn officials: Delaying, tampering with vote could bring criminal charges

WASHINGTON

SOME US states are sending strong signals to county and local officials who might be tempted to intervene illegally in the Nov 5 election or refuse to certify results: Fail to do your duty and risk criminal charges or hefty financial penalties.

In at least five of the seven battleground states that could determine whether the next US president is Democrat Kamala Harris or Republican Donald Trump, top election and law enforcement officials have investigated, indicted and even jailed officials who tried to interfere with the vote or delay certification of results, a necessary but largely ceremonial step.

County officials have also been warned that failing to certify results on time could force their local governments to foot the bill for unnecessary audits or recounts.

The increased oversight of local election officials is aimed at preventing unfounded claims of fraud from slowing the certification of election results, which in turn could interfere with Congress's certification of the presidential election results in a highly-charged partisan atmosphere.

Four years after Trump tried to overturn his 2020 defeat, officials in swing states Arizona, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, as well as in solidly Democratic Colorado, said they have become far more adept at handling those who overstep their authority.

With Trump still repeating false claims that the 2020 election was stolen and that he will lose in November only through fraud, ensuring the election process goes smoothly in each state is critical. States that fail to certify results by certain deadlines could be left out of the state-by-state Electoral College process that formally determines the winners of US presidential elections.

"The law is clear and we won't tolerate anyone not following it for any reason," Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson said in an interview. "There are times and places for challenging election results. The certification process is not one of them."

Pennsylvania warns of misdemeanor charges

The biggest of the swing states, Pennsylvania, has already overruled a county official who tried to prevent the use in her district of drop boxes, where early voters can deposit their mail-in ballots.

Luzerne County Manager Romilda Crocama, a Democrat appointed by the Republican-majority county council, in September scrapped plans to deploy drop boxes, citing concerns about safety. The decision came shortly after the Republican National Committee threatened to sue the county if it did not assure the security of the boxes.



Hundreds of voters stand in line at the Galleria at Sunset mall to take part in early voting Saturday in Henderson, Nevada. AP

State Attorney General Michelle Henry, in an Oct 3 letter, warned Crocama that only the county elections board could decide whether to deploy drop boxes under state law and that if Crocama failed to comply she could face criminal misdemeanor charges punishable by fines and up to a year in prison.

The county relented shortly afterward.

Henry, a former Republican appointed to her role last year by the state's Democratic governor, said in an interview that her office would continue to enforce election laws.

"We certainly are ready," Henry said. "Should anyone not comply with the statutes, we will investigate that and there will be consequences... There's both criminal and civil actions that could be taken to maintain the integrity of the process."

Crocama's attorney, Mark Cedrone, said the threat of an RNC lawsuit played no role in his client's initial decision to oppose the use of drop boxes. She was instead influenced by activist groups that have openly targeted what some refer to as the county's "cheat" boxes for action, Cedrone said, adding that Crocama remains deeply concerned about safety.

Wisconsin investigates mayor

The criminal division of the Wisconsin Justice Department is investigating Wausau Mayor Doug Diny for removing a locked, empty drop box from outside City Hall in September. Diny, a nonpartisan conservative backed by Republicans, told reporters at the time that he did not feel the box was secure where the city clerk had placed it.

Diny, who did not respond to queries seeking comment, shrugged off a July Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling that allowed placement of drop boxes by municipal clerks.

"The Supreme Court inter-

prets the law - this is my logic - does not make the law, does not make state statutes, does not make state ordinances," Diny explained this month at a meeting of the Wausau Common Council.

Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul, a Democrat, declined to comment specifically on the Diny investigation but said his office would enforce election laws.

"It's our expectation that election officials will follow the law," Kaul said in an interview. "But if we receive concerns that that won't be the case, we're prepared to act."

Michigan: felony charges, potential fiscal penalties

In Michigan's Macomb County, where Republicans unsuccessfully sued to overturn the 2020 election results, three assistant clerks in the city of St Clair Shores face felony charges for allegedly allowing four residents to vote twice in the state's Aug 6 congressional and state primary election.

Democratic Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel filed charges punishable by up to five years in prison against all seven.

"Despite common talking points by those who seek to instill doubt in our election process, double voting in Michigan is extremely rare," Nessel said in a statement. "Nevertheless, the fact that four incidents occurred in a municipality of this size raised significant concerns."

The charges have raised objections in St Clair Shores. "In my opinion, this is not voter fraud. This is, to me, political theater," Kip Walby, the city's non-partisan mayor, told a city council meeting at which he called on Nessel to drop the charges.

Walby told Reuters that three of the accused are not assistant clerks but "part-time seasonal election workers," two of whom worked only on the day of the election.

Nessel spokesperson Kimberly Bush said the mayor was

"grandstanding in defense of illegal activity" and that the attorney general would continue to take election violations seriously.

Michigan authorities have taken a different tack against officials who refuse to certify elections by leveraging state election laws that were tightened in the aftermath of 2020.

Delta County canvass board members Bonnie Hakkola and LeeAnne Oman, both Republicans, voted against certification of a local recall election on May 14, after seeing nearly identical voting margins in three different races.

"Because of that, they felt something was 'off' and couldn't in good conscience certify the election," Delta County Clerk Nancy Przewrocki said in an email.

State authorities responded two days later.

"County canvassers have a clear and nondiscretionary duty to certify election results," state elections director Jonathan Brater told them in a May 16 letter. "All costs associated with the state canvass... will be the responsibility of the county."

The next day, the board met again and certified the results. This time, Oman, an alternate, was replaced by a full-time board member who had been absent on May 14. Hakkola abstained but read from a prepared statement expressing her concerns. Both later resigned.

"I am being coerced into signing a document," Hakkola said. "I am doing my best to protect the votes of the citizens of Delta County and to ensure free and fair elections by bringing transparency and reassurance to all Delta County citizens."

Przewrocki said a hand-count of ballots matched the tabulator exactly in an audit performed after certification.

Oman said in an interview that she and Hakkola wanted a hand recount to verify the results before certification but the request was denied.

Agencies

India certainly has the credibility, says Former UK PM Cameron

NEW DELHI

AMID the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom David Cameron acknowledged India's credibility to play the role of the mediator and asserted that any mediation efforts must prioritise Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.

The remarks by the former UK PM came while he was speaking at the NDTV World Summit on "The India Century."

On being asked about India's credibility to play the role of the mediator in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, Cameron said, "India certainly has the credibility. India might be in a position to meditate but that must be done in a way that recognises Ukraine's sovereignty and independence."

On the Russia-Ukraine war, India has said that it will support any feasible and mutually acceptable solution or format that could restore peace.

During a regular press briefing in August, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that India always advocated constructive, solution-oriented, and practical engagement with all stakeholders to achieve a negotiated settlement to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

In August, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Ukraine where he met President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and advocated India's stand on achieving peace through dialogue.

Meanwhile, Cameron further emphasised the urgent need for reforms at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), stressing that India deserves a permanent seat.

nent seat.

He said, "We do need a reform of the UNSC... A permanent seat on the UNSC is something that should be India's right in this changed world..."

He added, "It is good to see India taking its place in more informal global institutions like Quad, I think that's a great move for India... G7 regularly invites India... These are all good moves because we need India's perspectives on challenges faced in the world. Perhaps, the biggest issue is climate change and you can see in India that there is a massive investment in green technology and carbon reduction..."

Notably, India has long sought a permanent seat in the Security Council to better represent the interests of the developing world. The nation's quest has gained momentum with support from the international community. The UNSC is composed of 15 member states, including five permanent members with veto power and ten non-permanent members elected for two-year terms. The five permanent members of the UNSC include China, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and the United States.

On being asked about India's position at the global level, and the perception of the West, Cameron asserted that India is indeed a "shining example" of economic growth, democracy, and green transition.

Cameron said, "The world needs three things -- economic growth, more democracy and the green transition to deal with climate change. And I think India is a shining example of all these three things."

ANI

World lags on 2030 nature goals headed into UN COP16 talks

THE world in 2022 reached its most ambitious deal ever to halt the destruction of nature by the decade's end.

Two years later, countries are already behind in meeting their goals.

As nearly 200 nations meet on Monday for a two-week UN biodiversity summit, COP16, in Cali, Colombia, they will be under pressure to prove their support for the goals laid out in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework agreement.

A top concern for countries and companies is how to pay for conservation, with the COP16 talks aiming to develop new initiatives that could generate revenues for nature.

"We have a problem here," said Gavin Edwards, director of the nonprofit Nature Positive.

"COP16 is an opportunity to re-energize and remind everybody of their commitments two years ago and start to course correct if we're going to get anywhere close to 2030 targets being achieved," Edwards said.

The rate of nature destruction through activities like logging or overfishing has not let up, while governments miss deadlines on their biodiversity action plans and funding for conservation is billions of dollars away from meeting a 2025 goal.

The summit in Colombia, marking the 16th meeting of nations that signed the original 1992 Convention on Biodiversity, is set to be the largest biodiversity summit to date, with some 23,000 delegates registered to participate as well as a large exhibition area open to the public.

Richer nations have been quicker to file with many European nations, Australia, Japan, China, South Korea and Canada having filed their plans.

The United States attends the talks but

never ratified the Convention on Biodiversity, so is not obligated to submit a plan.

Another 73 countries as of Friday had opted to only file a less ambitious submission that sets out their national targets, without details of how they would be achieved.

With so few plans filed, experts will likely struggle to gauge progress in meeting the agreement's hallmark "30 by 30" goal of preserving 30 percent of the land and sea by 2030.

Colombia's Environment Minister Susana Muhamad, who also serves as COP16's president, said that while the summit needs to assess the plans submitted so far, it must also look to address why so many others are late.

"It could be that the funds are not enough, for example, to be able to produce the plans," Muhamad told Reuters. Countries with newly elected governments also may still be getting up to speed, she said.

Money for nature

Beyond getting countries to commit to conservation policies and plans, a top priority for the COP16 summit is finding new funding sources for poorer nations to meet nature goals.

During the COP15 talks in 2022, negotiators set a goal for \$20 billion annually by 2025 to help developing countries on biodiversity.

That is not much more than the \$15.4 billion per year that was already flowing for nature by 2022, according to OECD data published in September. While that makes the 2025 target more achievable, it also means the target could have been more ambitious.

Agencies

Sci-tech innovation fuels China's high-quality development

GOOD news on China's sci-tech innovation achievements has been pouring in recently.

On September 24, China launched a Smart Dragon-3 carrier rocket from the waters near the city of Haiyang in east China's Shandong province, placing eight satellites into planned orbit.

On September 25, the construction of the Core Array of China's Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Radio Telescope (FAST) started, highlighting China's growing potential in global radio astronomy research.

At the first Aerospace Information Technology Conference held in Jinan, east China's Shandong province on September 21, the world's first large-scale remote sensing basic model with more than 10 billion parameters, "RingMo 3.0," was launched, marking it as an integrated space-air remote sensing model. Over the past 75 years since the found-

ing of the People's Republic of China, remarkable achievements have been made in sci-tech innovation. Adhering to the innovation-driven development, China has continuously enhanced its technological strength, injecting strong impetus into high-quality development and providing solid support for Chinese modernization.

Committed to the strategic goal of building a strong country in science and technology by 2035, China has been deepening reforms of sci-tech systems and expediting high-level sci-tech self-reliance.

According to the Global Innovation Index 2024 released by the World Intellectual Property Organization, China moved up one spot to 11th place in the ranking of the world's most innovative economies, making it one of the fastest risers over the past decade.

The strong momentum and constantly emerging results of China's sci-tech innovation come from the unremitting drive for innovation among the Chinese people.

Take the space industry as an example. Over the past 75 years, China's space industry has grown from weak to strong, and achieved historic, high-quality and leap-forward development, thanks to the relentless commitment of countless professionals to independent innovation.

This year, Chang'e-6, for the first time in human history, collected samples from the moon's far side, breaking through a number of key technologies, which marks another landmark achievement in China's endeavors in space as well as in science and technology.

The strong momentum and constantly emerging results of China's technological innova-

tion come from the continuously expanded investment in sci-tech innovation.

China's total expenditure in research and development (R&D) exceeded 1 trillion yuan (\$141.53 billion) in 2022, 2 trillion yuan in 2019, and 3 trillion yuan in 2022.

Last year, the figure went beyond 3.3 trillion yuan, a year-on-year increase of 8.4 percent. The stable growth in R&D spending provides solid support for China's endeavor to achieve greater self-reliance and strength in science and technology.

China's sound innovation environment and rich human resources are attracting multinationals to increase investment in their Chinese R&D centers, so as to gain a competitive edge in the race of innovation.

At present, momentous changes unseen in a century are accelerating across the

world, and a new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation is profoundly evolving. The high-tech sector has become the forefront of international competition, greatly reshaping the global order and development landscape. China attaches great importance to the strategic leading role of science and technology and the fundamental backing provided by innovation.

The country has constantly strengthened its efforts to advance sci-tech innovation, with enhanced top-level design and planning.

The third plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee has laid out plans to promote the development of new quality productive forces, stressing the importance to develop support institutions and mechanisms for all-around innovation to boost the overall

performance of China's innovation system.

This will provide constant energy for China's development and make more Chinese contributions to the world economy recovery, said Alexander Lomanov, deputy director of Primakov National Research Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Sci-tech progress is an issue of the world and of the times, and openness and cooperation remain the only right way forward. The more complex the international environment becomes, the more important it is to keep the door open and coordinate opening up and security, so as to build self-reliance and strength via opening up and cooperation.

China pursues open, inclusive and mutually beneficial international sci-tech coopera-

tion, and is committed to building an open, fair, equitable and non-discriminatory environment for sci-tech progress.

So far, China has established sci-tech cooperation relations with over 160 countries and regions, and signed 118 inter-governmental agreements on sci-tech cooperation. Besides, China has proposed the initiative for global scientific and technological cooperation.

Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, said that accelerating innovation and development in China is good for China, developing countries and the world.

Moving forward, China will continue to follow the innovation-driven development strategy, march toward the strategic goal of building China into a great country in science and technology, and promote open sci-tech cooperation for the benefit of humanity.

People's Daily

SPORT

Tabora United FC seek new direction as Kimanzi era ends

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TABORA United Football Club has officially parted ways with head coach Francis Kimanzi and his assistant Yusuf Chipo following a series of disappointing results in the 2024/25 NBC Tanzanian Premier League season.

The club's management cited underperformance as the primary reason for the dismissal, which comes after eight matches in which the team accumulated only eight points.

Currently, Tabora United sits in 11th place on the league table.

Kimanzi's departure marks the sixth coaching change in the NBC Premier League this season, further highlighting the high turnover of managers in Tanzania's top-flight football.

The tipping point for Kimanzi came after Tabora's 4-2 defeat at the hands of JKT Tanzania, a game that saw the team suffer their heaviest loss of the season.

Both Kimanzi (pictured) and Chipo were present at the stadium for the match against JKT but surprisingly watched the game from the stands rather than the touchline.

Conflicting reports suggested that the pair had been suspended by the club's hierarchy ahead of the match due to the team's poor form, while others claimed that the issue stemmed from problems with their coaching licenses.

However, given Kimanzi's UEFA license credentials, the latter explanation seems unlikely.

An insider close to the club hinted on Friday at ongoing tensions between the coaching duo and the management, saying: "There's an

ongoing issue between the club and the two coaches. While the details remain unclear, it's evident that something is brewing.

"The coming week will be crucial in determining whether they will remain with the club or if changes will be made."

Indeed, these tensions culminated in Kimanzi's dismissal, further underscoring the club's desire for a change in direction after a winless streak that stretched to five games, three of which ended in defeat.

Despite being only a few months into the job, the pressure had been mounting on Kimanzi, with rumblings of his potential sacking growing louder after each poor result. His departure now leaves Tabora United scrambling for a new head coach ahead of their crucial midweek clash against Pamba Jiji.

The duo's exit may have seemed inevitable given the team's struggles, but their time in charge was not without its highlights. Kimanzi led the team to two victories, against Namungo and Kagera Sugar, and earned a draw against Tanzania Prisons.

However, defeats to heavyweights such as Simba SC, Singida, and Dodoma Jiji proved too costly, sealing their fate.

For Kimanzi, the future remains open. Despite his short-lived tenure in Tanzania, the Kenyan coach has built a strong reputation over the years, particularly during his time with Mathare United in Kenya.

While his time at Tabora United may not have gone as planned, it is likely that other clubs in the region will be keen to secure his services in the near future.

Yanga snatch late win in derby, Ngorongoro Heroes impress with AFCON U-20 qualification

By Lloyd Elipokea

THERE is no disputing the fact that football is the nation's most dominant sporting passion.

The country's two biggest football clubs are Simba and Young Africans, who each have extremely deep pockets as well as near-fanatical football supporters.

Interestingly, both Simba and Young Africans have an age-old rivalry which has produced many exhilarating football matchups between the two football juggernauts.

It should be noted here that both Young Africans and Simba are also the country's two most successful football clubs both on the local scene and the ferociously competitive African football landscape.

Last Saturday, the two football powerhouses renewed their rivalry for the umpteenth time in a Mainland Premier League encounter dubbed the Dar es Salaam football derby.

Ahead of last Saturday's enormous clash between the two football heavyweights, Young Africans had been in fifth place while Simba were in third place on the league's standings.

Right from the off, the much-anticipated clash was a compelling affair that remained deadlocked at 0-0 until the dying minutes of the football contest.

Indeed, in the final moments of the interesting match, Young Africans netted the much sought-after winner, which condemned Simba to a 0-1 defeat.

Naturally, the favourable outcome for Young Africans means that their fans are presently in seventh heaven while Simba supporters are understandably crestfallen.

Young Africans' razor-thin triumph over Simba also means that the league standings have significantly changed for local football's two behemoths.

In the wake of their pulsating showdown, Young Africans have now climbed to second place on the league table while Simba are currently fourth on the standings.

Considering the intense rivalry



Young Africans left-back Chadrack Boka (R) fights for the ball with Simba right-back Shomari Kapombe during their Premier League match held at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. Young Africans won 1-0. Photo: Courtesy of YASC

between the two football outfits, the smart money is on both clubs running neck and neck in the race for the highly coveted league trophy.

Let us remain with the football theme and consider the sublime exploits of the Ngorongoro Heroes, who lately secured their qualification for the Under-20 AFCON in impressive fashion.

In fact, in spite of vying for top honours against the region's premier under-20 football sides, the Heroes remained undeterred enroute to claiming a treasured berth at the upcoming Under-20 AFCON.

One hopes then that the Heroes will be able to leave a lasting positive impression at the forthcoming Under-20 AFCON, which shall feature a who's who of the continent's most exceptional teams at this level.

Speaking of impeccable teams, basketball fans will be laser-focused on the teams gunning for glory in the NBA's new 2024-25

season, which is scheduled to get underway today.

Seeing as they are the reigning champions, the Boston Celtics will be under the scrutiny of fans and pundits alike following their outstanding victory in the NBA Finals last season.

On an individual level, African basketball devotees are likely to be inspired by the dazzling displays of the NBA's abundant African-American hoops icons, who bowled over audiences at the Paris Olympics earlier this year.

Thus, if you are a die-hard basketball fan you should buckle up for what is likely to be a new and absolutely smashing NBA season.



ARFA commends Coastal Union SC for relocating to Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

COASTAL Union's decision to use Arusha's Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium as a temporary home stadium for the side's NBC Premier League matches has won the admiration of the Arusha Regional Football Association (ARFA).

The ARFA has, as a result, happily welcomed the move.

Zakayo Mjema, ARFA chairman, made such revelation while speaking to The Guardian recently.

He said that ARFA perceives Coastal Union as the NBC Premier League club located in the Northern Zone.

For that matter, Mjema pointed out his association is duty bound to take the club's decision as a good move and promised to provide maximum support.

"We don't have any Premier League team in Arusha, with Coastal Union having decided to use Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium, we congratulate them because we have added another team that is currently using this stadium under the Tanzania Premier League

Board (TPBL) supervision," the official noted.

"Currently, Arusha-based NBC Championship League teams, TMA FC and Mbuni FC, are using the stadium," Mjema revealed.

Coastal Union's information officer Abbas Elisabri confirmed his team's move to Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium after a brief use of Dar es Salaam's KMC Complex.

The official said the decision was brought about by the fact that his club's home venue, CCM Mkwakwani Stadium located in Tanga, has temporarily been closed for minor renovations.

According to Mkwakwani Stadium's manager Nassoro Makau, CCM's Tanga regional chairman, Rajabu Abdulrahman disbursed 50m/- for renovation, adding the facelift is expected to be completed in December.

Since Coastal Union SC decided to use the KMC Complex in Kinondoni, it had featured in three matches at the venue.

Coastal Union SC won one game, lost one, and drew one clash.

Boxing promotion firm donates food items, gas cylinders to orphans, entrepreneurs

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

MAFIA Boxing Promotion recently visited orphanages and some entrepreneurs in Tanga and donated various items, including gas cylinders, for a clean cooking energy drive.

The firm's officials and several boxers fighting under it visited, among others, the Green Crescent Foundation located at Bombo Street and donated food items, soft drinks, and gas cylinders.

The boxing promotion firm officials and boxers also visited Makorora, Mgandini, and Mlango wa Chuma markets and handed over gas cylinders to some female food vendors 'Mama Lishie'.

According to Omari Clayton, Mafia Boxing Promotion's Advertisements and Production Director, the Dar es Salaam-based firm decided to provide the items to celebrate victories the boxers fighting under the firm have garnered in various bouts.

"We decided to travel from Dar es Salaam to Tanga to give back to the communities what we earned through boxing, vouching for Community Social Responsibility (CSR)," he said.

Clayton noted: "The donation of the gas cylinders also aims at backing President Samia Suluhu Hassan's agenda on clean cooking energy and environmental conservation to mitigate climate change, as

well as support female entrepreneurs."

Mafia Boxing Promotion's leader Ibrahim Mustafa, who is also the World Boxing Council (WBC) Africa Bantamweight title holder, expressed his happiness for winning his bout, pointing out that the government has significantly contributed to his achievements.

"We termed all our bouts 'Knockout ya Mama Samia Suluhu Hassan' because of her contribution to boxing promotion and we hoisted our nation's flag high," Mustafa added.

Zainati Saidi - Green Crescent Foundation carer - thanked Mafia Boxing Promotion for the donations, adding the backing supported them greatly.



Omari Clayton, the Advertisements and Production Director for Mafia Boxing Promotion (Front row, R), is pictured presenting a gas cylinder to Green Crescent Foundation's carer Zainati Saidi in Tanga recently. The firm has donated some provisions and gas cylinders to the orphanage. Others in the picture are some of the orphans taken care of by the centre. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT CHEJI BAKARI

Women footballers urge Fifa to end Saudi oil deal

By Katie Gornall

MORE than 100 professional women's footballers have signed an open letter urging Fifa to drop the Saudi oil giant Aramco as a sponsor, calling it a "punch in the stomach" to the sport.

Earlier this year Fifa announced a partnership with Saudi Arabia's state-owned firm that will run until 2027, giving the company sponsorship rights to the men's World Cup in 2026 and the Women's World Cup the following year.

The players, drawn from 24 countries, have called on world governing body Fifa to reconsider the deal on humanitarian and environmental grounds.

Manchester City striker Vivianne Miedema is one of the signatories. The Netherlands international told BBC Sport: "I think as footballers, and especially as women's footballers, we carry the responsibility to show the world and the next generation what is right."

"I think this sponsorship is not right for what Fifa stands for, but also what we as women footballers stand for."

"Fifa always shout that they want the game to be inclusive, and they want the game to lead by example. Well, if so, then make sure that you align with sponsorships that are leading by example."

Fifa told BBC Sport it "values its partnership with Aramco" and stressed that sponsorship revenues were reinvested in the women's game at all levels.

"Why is the Saudi deal controversial?"

Saudi Arabia has been accused by critics of investing in sport and using high-profile events to improve its international reputation - a process that has been labelled 'sportswashing'.

The Gulf kingdom has been criticised for its human rights violations, women's rights abuses and the criminalisation of homosexuality.

Independent think tank Carbon Tracker says Aramco is "the world's largest corporate greenhouse gas emitter".

The company already has sponsorship deals with Formula One and golf's Ladies European Tour, and is a partner of the International Cricket Council.

Aramco did not comment on the letter when contacted by BBC Sport but has previously said it has "one of the lowest upstream carbon footprints in the industry".

The players uniting against the sponsorship have more than 2,300 international caps between them and include England defender Niamh Charles, as well as the captains of Canada and Italy's national teams.

They have been supported in their campaign by the organisation Athletes of the World, which brings together sportspeople to advocate on

issues such as climate change and poverty.

Danish international Sofie Junge Pedersen was one of the architects of the letter which describes the sponsorship as "worse than an own goal" adding that women's football "deserves better" from its governing body.

"We would like Fifa to replace Saudi Aramco with other sponsors whose values align more with with gender equality, human rights and a safe planet for everyone," Pedersen added.

"Then we also suggest that they create a committee with player representation who can be part of deciding which sponsors should be chosen [in the future]."

Both Pedersen and Miedema agree that different sponsors should be sought even if it means the deals are less lucrative for women's football.

Miedema says that if Aramco remains as a sponsor for the 2027 Women's World Cup it could lead to further action from players.

"I think you've seen over the past couple of years that women's teams are not scared to stand up for what they believe in."

"You've seen boycotts from numerous teams, obviously recently, like with the America team, with the Canadian team, everyone is very open and willing to share their opinions."

"That shows you that going forward, there will be a lot of attention and there will definitely be things happening around the World Cup."

"What has Fifa said?"

In response to players' request for an advisory committee to be established, Fifa said in May this year it had agreed to set up committees for the women's game at all levels, including a women's players' committee. That's still a work in progress so wasn't up and running to talk about the Aramco deal.

"Fifa values its partnership with Aramco and its many others commercial and rights partners, including the BBC," Fifa said.

It added it was "an inclusive organisation with many commercial partners also supporting other organisations in football and other sports".

Fifa added: "Sponsorship revenues generated by Fifa are reinvested back into the game at all levels and investment in women's football continues to increase, including for the historic Fifa Women's World Cup 2023 and its groundbreaking new distribution model."

"As well as the increased support for teams at the tournament last year, Fifa's updated Women's Football Strategy for 2023-2027 further highlights how commercial revenues are reinvested back into the development of the women's game."

BBC

Slot hails 'hardest' win as Liverpool stays above Man City by beating Chelsea 2-1 in Premier League

By Mattias Karen

LIVERPOOL is looking more and more like Manchester City's main title rival after beating resurgent Chelsea 2-1 on Sunday to stay top of the Premier League table.

After City needed an injury-time header from John Stones to beat last-place Wolves 2-1 in the early kickoff, Liverpool answered with a composed performance at Anfield to hand Chelsea its first league loss since the opening round.

Having seen third-place Arsenal lose at Bournemouth on Saturday to raise questions about the Gunners' title hopes, Liverpool and City took full advantage to build a small gap atop the standings. Arne Slot's team leads on 21 points from eight games, one ahead of City and four above Arsenal.

It was Slot's most significant win at Anfield so far and prevented Chelsea from moving into third place, with the visitors remaining sixth instead.

"Many other games were hard but this might have been the hardest maybe, because of the amount of quality players they (Chelsea) have and the structure they have," Slot said. "We had to fight really hard to get this one over the line."

Curtis Jones orchestrated the win for Liverpool, earning a penalty for Mohamed Salah's first-half opener and then scoring himself to restore the host's lead in the 51st minute, shortly after Nicolas Jackson had equalized for Chelsea.

Jones also thought he had earned a second penalty in first-half injury time, but it was overturned after a VAR review judged that Chelsea goalkeeper Robert Sanchez got the ball before bundling over the Liverpool player.

But he capped a stellar performance by beating the offside trap to get on the end of a ball into the box from Salah and slot in the win-



Liverpool's Curtis Jones, right, scores his side's second goal past Chelsea's goalkeeper Robert Sanchez during the English Premier League soccer match between Liverpool and Chelsea at Anfield Stadium, Liverpool, England, Sunday, Oct. 20, 2024. (AP Photo)

ner. "As soon as Mo had the ball I made the run, but it bounced so I had to have a touch, and then thankfully it went in," Jones said.

Liverpool was the last team other than City to win the title, in 2019-20, and pushed Pep Guardiola's team to the very end several times under Jurgen Klopp before finishing just fifth two years ago and a distant third last season.

In Slot's first season in charge, though, the Reds are looking like credible challengers again and have now won 10 of 11 games in all competitions.

And City is looking far from unbeatable, needing another last-gasp goal from Stones to avoid a third

league draw in four games against a Wolves team that only has one point so far.

It also needed a VAR intervention for the goal to stand, as referee Chris Kavanagh was called to the sideline monitor to review whether Bernardo Silva was interfering with goalkeeper Jose Sa from an offside position.

"We are not used to winning games at the end," said Guardiola, whose team has won four straight league titles by regularly overwhelming most opponents. "It is a good flavor for us."

It also extended City's unbeaten streak to a club-record 31 league games, beating a mark Guardiola's team had set in 2018.

With prolific striker Erling Haaland held scoreless for a third straight

league game, City's defenders provided the goals instead after Jorgen Strand Larsen had given the hosts a surprising early lead in the seventh minute.

Josko Gvardiol curled in a superb right-foot shot from outside the area to equalize in the 33rd minute but Wolves then repelled wave after wave of City attacks before the late intervention from Stones, who also netted a last-gasp equalizer against Arsenal in the eighth minute of injury time last month.

"These moments don't come often for us," Stones said. "We've come up with a few over the years and today was one of them."

AP

Do Arsenal have a red card problem - and could it cost them the title?

BY HARRY POOLE & GARY ROSE

MIKEL Arteta said it was "an accident waiting to happen" - but just how costly could Arsenal's red card problem be to the Gunners' title hopes?

Just eight games into the new Premier League season and already Arsenal have had three players sent off.

William Saliba was the latest to be shown red after he was dismissed for the first time in his career in Saturday's 2-0 loss to Bournemouth, which ended Arsenal's unbeaten start to the campaign.

It follows red cards for Declan Rice and Leandro Trossard earlier in the campaign and each time Arsenal have gone down to 10 men they have dropped points.

When asked on Match of the Day whether Arsenal have a disciplinary problem after Saturday's loss, former England striker Alan Shearer said "it has to change".

He added: "Quite clearly they're not going to get enough points if it doesn't - you've seen the games it's happened already this season, with the two draws and this defeat."

"It can't continue." indeed, they were left with an "impossible task" following Saliba's 30th-minute dismissal, according to Arteta, but might the Gunners' disciplinary record also prove fateful to their grander aspirations?

"There are things we have discussed" In the short term, Arsenal's latest dismissal is a blow because Saliba will miss the home game against current Premier League leaders Liverpool on 27 October.

The Gunners are currently one point behind the Reds in the table, but should Arne Slot's side win against Chelsea on Sunday and then beat Arsenal, they would move seven clear of Arteta's side.

Champions Manchester City could also move clear of Arsenal - their closest rivals in the past two seasons - with victories over winless clubs Wolves and Southampton in their next two.

"Playing for 65 minutes with 10 men at this level is an impossible task. It's an accident waiting to happen not to get the points," said Arteta.

On his side's disciplinary issues, the Spaniard added: "There are things that



Arsene Wenger won the Premier League in 1997-98, 2001-02 and 2003-04 (Getty Images)

we've discussed in relation to certain topics. Certainly we need to play with 11 if we want to be in the position we want to be.

"I thought what we did with 10 men was quite remarkable."

Like the red cards shown this season to Trossard against Manchester City and Rice at Brighton for delaying the restart, Saliba's sending-off was an avoidable one, with Trossard's awkward pass creating a situation from which his team-mate could not recover.

Midfielder Rice said he was "proud" of his team-mates for the fight they showed but rued the "naivety" which ultimately cost them.

"We've kicked ourselves in the foot three times in eight games," he said.

"We can't make silly mistakes. You need all your best players on the pitch

at all times. The belief is so high and we will stick together."

"How does their red card record compare to past title winners?"

The concerning news for Arsenal is that collecting too many red cards does not bode well to a side's chances of winning the title.

Manchester City have won the Premier League in each of the last four seasons and they have never had more than two red cards in any of those campaigns.

Indeed, the last time they had more - four in 2019-20 - was when Liverpool won the title instead.

You would have to go back to 2015-16 - when Leicester claimed that fairytale win - to find the last time a side won the Premier League with as many red cards as Arsenal have now.

However, the Foxes were shown

their three red cards across that entire season.

Arsenal are already counting the cost, having dropped a total of seven points following those incidents - without which they could have made a perfect start as they seek a first league title for more than 20 years.

It is the first time since 2011-12 that Arsenal have had as many as three players sent off in the opening eight matches of a Premier League season.

"Red cards didn't stop Wenger's Arsenal"

Players getting sent off has been an issue during Arteta's time at Emirates Stadium.

Since he took charge on Boxing Day 2019, the Gunners have been shown 18 red cards in the Premier League, which is at least five more than any other side during that time.

It is an issue he has spoken about before. In January 2022, after three red cards in four games that month, Arteta said: "We played [the] last three games with ten men. When you do that it's difficult to win matches."

However, a poor disciplinary record did not hold back Arsenal when they were managed by club legend Arsene Wenger.

The Frenchman won the Premier League three times with the Gunners and on all three occasions his side picked up at least three red cards. In 2001-02 they even won the title despite six dismissals in that campaign.

A total of 78 red cards were shown in 828 Premier League games under Wenger.

BBC

Ronaldo and Al-Nassr's ACL game moved amid Iran security fears

By JOHN DUERDEN

CRISTIANO Ronaldo and Al-Nassr's AFC Champions League Elite game with Esteghlal of Tehran on Tuesday will be as closely watched in India as it is in Saudi Arabia and Iran.

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) said in a statement released last Tuesday that Esteghlal had to move its home fixture with Al-Nassr to the United Arab Emirates city of Dubai due to the security situation in Iran.

The decision was greeted by surprise in India as, on Oct. 7, the AFC ruled that Mohun Bagan Super Giants of Kolkata had been "considered to have withdrawn" from the second tier AFC Champions League Two for refusing to travel to Iran to play its Oct. 2 fixture against Tractor SC in the northwestern city of Tabriz.

It is not only Al-Nassr's game that has been relocated. Tractor's home game against Ravshan of Tajikistan, scheduled for Wednesday, has been switched to become an away tie. Iran's national team also had to move its Oct. 15 World Cup qualifier against Qatar to Dubai.

"...(Mohun Bagan) notes that the AFC has indeed recognised the volatility of the situation in Iran and as such, has rescheduled or shifted venues for several games," a spokesperson for Mohun Bagan told Associated Press, adding that the confederation had taken the same geopolitical instability into account that the club had. "Failing to apply the same standard to Mohun Bagan would result in unequal treatment by the AFC."

According to the spokesperson, Mohun Bagan had made a request to the AFC that the game's date or venue be changed before it decided not to travel.

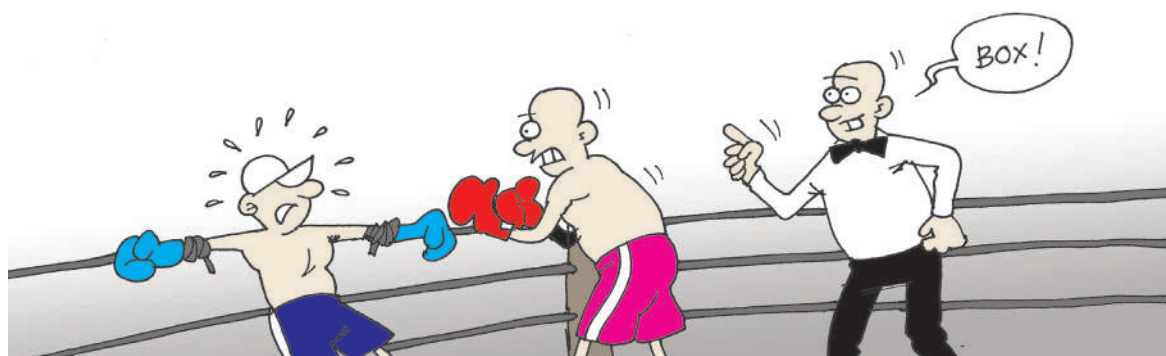
"We consistently communicated concerns about the volatile and unsafe conditions in and around Iran, particularly regarding the safety of players and staff," the official added.

The Indian Super League club said that it had appealed the decision to the relevant AFC committee and hoped to be reinstated into the tournament.

The AFC did not reply to an invitation to comment.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Slot hails 'hardest' win as Liverpool stays above Man City by beating Chelsea 2-1 in Premier League

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

'Tanzania needs VAR', claims Simba coach Davids following Yanga defeat

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA head coach Fadlu Davids has added to the debate around the introduction of VAR (Video Assistant Referee) in Tanzanian football following a controversial 1-0 defeat to bitter rivals Young Africans on Saturday afternoon.

The loss, which marked his first league defeat since taking charge of the Simba, sparked heated discussions over officiating decisions, leading the coach to call for the introduction of VAR in the NBC Premier League.

"We had a very good start against Yanga. Of course, in a match like that you don't want to be emotional after the game. That's why immediately after the game I said, 'Let me not comment on the penalty'."

"It looked like a penalty but of course if you review it, look back at it you can clearly see it is two penalties that should have been given. It is two yellow cards that could have resulted in second yellow cards," he said.

"Of course, you think about solutions. What do you do? It is no use crying over the last result but the league definitely needs VAR. I think it will improve the standards of crucial decisions in crucial matches that can decide outcomes."

He added: "Tanzanian football definitely needs VAR. I am not talking down on referees, it is normal. Other parts of Africa, Europe have already started implementing it and will definitely improve the game."

While Tanzania is left behind, the use of Video Assistant Referee technology has become widespread throughout the world.

VAR is widely used in leagues across Europe, Asia, and even other African countries like Morocco and Tunisia, and has been credited with improving the accuracy of refereeing decisions, reducing human error, and enhancing fairness in the game.

Before the start of the season, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa unveiled plans for the introduction of the VAR this season.

Majaliwa told journalists at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium: "With VAR, the efficiency of our referees will undoubtedly improve, ensuring transparent and fair decision-making."

"This achievement enhances our nation's reputation, ensuring players and fans alike can trust the outcomes of matches, regardless of the level of competition."

"Currently, we enjoy a good partnership with FIFA and CAF. They have brought different games here, and I believe that with this investment, we should expect them to bring more games to be played in the country."

However, eight rounds into the 2024/25 campaign VAR is yet to be implemented due to several challenges. It has now been mooted for next season as various venues across the country are upgraded.

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

MJADALA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 5SPORTS (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
17:00 SSELERT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1

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

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

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

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Simba seek redemption against Tanzania Prisons after tough week



By Correspondents Michael Mwebe & Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA extended their winless thread to two games in the NBC Premier League last weekend. They suffered their first loss of the season last weekend, falling 1-0 at home to their fierce rivals Young Africans on Saturday afternoon.

They offered a surprisingly weak performance in a 2-2 draw with Coastal Union just before the international break to drop their first points of the season. They had an impressive four-match winning streak in the league before conceding those two winless games.

Wekundu wa Msimbazi are now fourth in the standings, sitting six points shy of leaders Singida Black Stars albeit with a game in hand.

They now face a tricky task in an attempt to avoid the second straight defeat that can derail their title ambitions early into the season.

History favours Simba, they are the overwhelming favourites as far as the head-to-head record is concerned. The Dar side have won 14 of their past 24 league games against Prisons.

They have suffered losses in just five games including the most recent ones while drawing five of the remaining head-to-head encounters with Prisons.

Both teams shared three points each last season. Simba won the first-round fixture 3-1, but Tanzania Prisons secured a 2-1 win in the reverse fixture.

Ahead of the game, head coach Fadlu Davids (pictured) insisted they are facing a must-win match after dropping points against Young Africans and Coastal Union.

Simba could be without key players Yusuph Kagoma and Abdulrazak Hamza, who were injured in the derby against Young Africans.

However, Davids believes his squad has the depth to manage these absences. Chamou Karoboue is expected to step in for Hamza, while Fabrice Ngoma could also make a start.

"We respect Prisons, they are a very good team. The results have shown they are not an easy team to beat, especially at home."

"Of course it is not a lot of training for us, it is about recovery after an intense match with Yanga on a wet pitch that gives the fatigue level slightly higher with only two days to prepare."

"We give them the respect but we have come with a job to do. Our job is to collect three points. We respect them but it is a match we have to win," the South African noted.

Despite their struggles this season, Prisons are no strangers to producing a strong performance against Simba.

Mbwana Makata will be urging his squad to step up against the Dar es Salaam giants, hoping for another magical moment to turn their fortunes around.

Last season, Prisons managed to beat Simba in Morogoro, showing that they are capable of causing an upset.

Tanzania Prisons, meanwhile, are eager to recover from their 2-0 defeat to Azam FC last week and will be looking to take advantage of home ground support.

Simba's challenging schedule continues as they return to Dar es Salaam for two important home matches this month, facing Namungo FC and JKT Tanzania at the KMC Stadium.

Laser-focused Yanga plot sixth consecutive league win

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

IN yet another exciting tie in the NBC Premier League, Young Africans will host JKT Tanzania at the Chamazi Complex this evening aiming to win their sixth straight victory in the league.

The reigning league champions, under guide of head coach Miguel Gamondi (pictured), have laid down an early marker in the 2024/25 Premier League, winning all their opening five league games of the season.

They beat arch-rivals Simba 1-0 on Saturday to maintain their perfect start to the new season, having previously seen off Kagera Sugar, Ken Gold, KMC and Pamba Jiji.

While Gamondi men are often praised for being a free scoring team, the rock-solid defence has been the main catalyst to their early-season success this term.

They have not conceded a goal in each of their last five league encounters.

Moving on, Young Africans are on a 24-match unbeaten in all competitions and have won 22 in that period. In that period, they have won 12 league games in a row.

Not only have Young Africans kept clean sheets in all but one of their 11 games this season, they also have a 49-match unbeaten streak behind them on home soil.

The last team to beat Wananchi on their own turf in 90 minutes was Azam, who triumphed with a



2-1 league victory in April 2021.

In contrast, JKT Tanzania started off this season with average recordings as they bagged two wins, four draws and one defeat from their seven league matches.

In a familiar pattern of inconsistency, a 4-2 win over Tabora United preceded a 1-0 defeat on the road to Ken Gold before the international break.

Furthermore, they have a terrible away record with two wins in their last 15 outings. They will face a tough challenge in trying to turn the tide against a formidable Young Africans team.

Hamad Ally's side will need to draw inspiration from last season's hard fought goalless draw if they are to have any chance against a Young Africans team that looks unstoppable at the moment.

Young Africans, however, are laser-focused on their title defence and will be looking to avoid any slip-ups.

While Prisons have had a bright start, Gamondi's side will be all too aware of the threat posed by the visitors.

"We are ready again to prepare for another NBC Premier League game. We analysed this, they come from a big win at home. It is a team that has lost only one game and drawn four."

"They look very difficult defensively but we need to work on that." Gamondi (pictured) said in his pre-match press conference.

"We always say we need to fight to win a game. I expect it will be a tough game. We need to be very focused on how we play at Chamazi."



Youths pictured yesterday during a hockey training session at the Jakaya Kikwete Sports Park in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Flexibles by David Chikoko

