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Big plans for 'Royal Tour' filming bus



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TOSCI joins OECD seed scheme



National Pg 6
Call for haemophilia guidelines



WHO seeks localised anti-malaria strategies

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) wants countries and communities with high frequency of malaria infections to work closely with development partners to advance elimination strategies, as part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) drive.

Dr Matshidiso Moeti (pictured), the WHO regional director for Africa, said in a statement to commemorate the World Malaria Day at the weekend that the event is an occasion to renew political commitment and encourage continued investment in malaria prevention and control.

The event is marked annually on April 25, to focus global attention on malaria and its devastating impact on families, communities and societal development, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa.

This year the UN agency focuses on harnessing innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives. The director said the motto is aligned with an earlier call to urgently scale up innovation and deploy new tools in the fight against malaria, underlining that the focus also seeks equitable access to malaria prevention and treatment, while building health system resilience.

Dr Moeti said malaria remains a significant public health and development challenge, with about 95 percent of the estimated 228m cases occurring in sub-Saharan Africa last year, with over 600,000 deaths linked to the disease.

Six countries with the worst impact of malaria accounted for up to 55 percent of cases globally and for 50 percent of malaria deaths, she said, pointing at landmark

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MSD, MNH have to destroy 23bn/- expired drugs - CAG

By Guardian Reporter

EXPIRED drugs valued at 23.04bn/- are harboured at various warehouses of the Medical Stores Department (MSD) and at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH).

The latest annual report of the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) made this observation in one of its expositions; it is now open to public scrutiny since being unveiled in Parliament on April 12.

Expired drugs for fiscal 2020/21 stood at five per cent of its stock, while total sales stood at 196.83bn/-, where expiry levels were the same as in the 2019/20 audit exercise, the report noted, indicating that this expiry level surpassed acceptable levels by two per cent, stipulated in paragraph 7.34.3 of the June 2018 guidelines for MSD ordering and supply of drugs.

MSD had a total of 7.6m items of drugs valued at 22.8bn/- that had expired from April 16 2000 to June 2021, it said, noting similarly that MSD received funds from various sponsors totaling \$239m to meet the cost of the destruction of the antiretroviral (ARV) drugs for HIV/Aids sufferers.

However, even though permission to destroy the drugs had been given by the Treasury since October 7 2021, the drugs were not destroyed by December 2021.

At Muhimbili the CAG noticed delays in applying for permits for verification of medical devices from 2014 to June 2020, relating to drugs, surgical equipment and reagents that had expired.

The expired or unused medical devices were valued at 235m/-. Applications for permits were forwarded to the paymaster general on September 29 2020, the report

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National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (C); Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), George Simbachawene (R); NMB Bank Plc's chief of retail banking Filbert Mponzi (2nd-R); and NMB chief internal auditor Benedicto Baragomwa (L) head for the venue of iftar the bank hosted for Members of Parliament in Dodoma city at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PM touts national, EAC market in Union expo

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called on business people in both parts of the Union to use existing opportunities in the country to develop their business activities before thinking about investing outside.

Citing the large market comprising 60m people inside the country, there is even a bigger market in the East African Community (EAC) which has lately added the DRC to its expanse.

There is also need to properly use the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) market in like fashion as the wider Africa-wide free trade area comprising 54 countries, he said.

Opening an exhibition to mark 58 years of Union at Maisara Grounds in Unguja, the premier said the two governments were implementing the vision of the founding leaders. This includes making sure financial

and tax challenges in the two parts of the Union receive solutions in time, to spur individual businesses and wider economic growth economic growth.

Tanzanians need to take pride in advertising the big achievements and development under the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan and Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, he said.

Good intentions by the two leaders ensured that various Union issues are being tackled and durable solutions are found in the wider interests of the Union.

"All of you are witnesses that just recently we have resolved 11 challenges that in one way or another had been affecting our people, and the work continues for the remaining issues," he said.

Among the issues that had been resolved is employment in the Union government, whereby Zanzibar has been allocated 21 per cent of employment opportunities provided by the Union Government.

The premier called on the youth to take up the spirit of the Zanzibar Revolution and milestones following Tanganyika's independence as the foundation for the Union, including working to protect the peace and stability as these are pillars of development now and in coming generations.

Earlier, Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdallah had commended

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Tanzanian businessman Rostam Aziz (R) and AfDB Group President Dr Akinwumi Adesina meet at the weekend in Washington, DC, where they held talks on ways to transform Tanzania's agricultural sector. Photo: Special Correspondent

Rostam advises AfDB to direct more money into efforts to bolster farming in Tanzania

By Guardian Correspondent in Washington, DC

TANZANIAN businessman Rostam Aziz has advised the African Development Bank (AfDB) to direct more funds into the transformation of Tanzania's US\$127 billion agricultural sector as part of efforts to help the country become a major food exporter and meet its own food requirements.

While one of Tanzania's biggest challenges remains how to transform its agricultural sector from subsistence to commercial farming, the Ministry of Agriculture has outlined plans to invest up to 1.2 trillion/- annually to reach its target of more than 50 per cent increase in irrigated land over the next ten years, a key pillar to agricultural transformation.

Aziz made the remarks at a one-on-one meeting with the bank's president, Dr Akinwumi Adesina, at the weekend in Washington, D.C., where the former is as part of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's delegation.

He said that Tanzania had considerable potential to produce both food and cash crops for its domestic consumption and export, but more investment was required in supporting the sector so as to revamp its entire value chain.

"Tanzania has huge potential to produce food and cash crops for itself and the outside world. However, it is high time people stopped merely singing about the potential and instead engaged in actual investment in agriculture and its value

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Mlekwa Faki (R), an officer responsible for monitoring malaria cases, draws blood for screening from Mwanaidi Rashidi of Ghana village in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

WHO seeks localised anti-malaria strategies

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recommendations on adopting the first vaccine against malaria (RTS.S) released by WHO late last year. It will be used to prevent malaria among children aged six months to five years who live in moderate to high transmission settings, she stated.

While this is a groundbreaking advance in the development of new tools to fight malaria, with the potential to save millions of lives, supplies are currently limited, hence the doses available must be utilised for maximum impact. Other preventive measures to those most at risk must remain in place, the director cautioned.

A slowing of progress to reduce malaria cases and deaths was noticed, plus disruptions to health services caused by COVID-19, but the UN agency has seen progress maintained well beyond the situation two decades ago. "We need to reignite that momentum, and build on the recent advances," she emphasised.

For example, seasonal malaria chemoprevention campaigns were implemented as planned last year, ensuring protection for an additional

11.8m children, while indoor residual spraying was conducted across the region, with lasting insecticidal nets distributed largely as planned, she explained.

Other notable achievements include the scaled implementation of the new vaccine in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi pilot studies which reached up to 900 000 children, with the ultimate goal being to reduce the number of people catching and dying from malaria.

This requires a focus on research and on leveraging available evidence to ensure that the WHO targeted interventions efficiently use resources, with measurable results. "We also need to work on drug and insecticide resistance, plus focusing on new strains of malaria arising in the region which are more difficult to detect and treat," she further noted.

The regional office remains fully committed to the fight against malaria, trusting that the challenge can be overcome if WHO collaborate closely with governments, partners and communities to accelerate efforts to achieve a malaria-free Africa, she added.

Rostam advises AfDB to extend more funds into efforts to bolster farming in Tanzania

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chain.

Reacting to Aziz's advice, Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe said that he had a meeting with the bank's delegation last month in Dar es Salaam and they discussed priority areas of cooperation such as extending credit facilities to farmers, irrigation, reducing post-harvest losses and conserving traditional seed crops.

He said that the government discussed its priority areas of cooperation with the bank's delegation, including the government's ambitious plan to allocate 1.5trillion/- annually to reach its target of more than 50 per cent increase in irrigated land over the next ten years.

The minister explained that the country registered an average of 25 per cent in food surplus but post-harvest losses stood at 30 per cent owing to lack of infrastructure for supporting the preservation of crops.

"The government has since reviewed

its investment in storage facilities and has switched from investing in multi-billion-shilling regional storage facilities to building rural storage facilities to help take such facilities closer to the farmers," he said.

"Traditional varieties of seeds were in danger of disappearing owing to technological advancements, and the government is seeking to cooperate with AfDB in the traditional seeds' multiplication and commercialising them," he added.

He described agriculture as a long-term and capital-intensive investment, "and it therefore requires the African Development Bank to redefine its financing model to focus on development financing".

Aziz has already signed various investment agreements during his current visit to the United States, including a US\$1.0 billion deal between Taifa Group and an American investment company, Northern Feed & Company, to produce wheat and soya beans.

'New Wami bridge to be completed July this year'

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has said the new 513.5 metre bridge over Wami River whose construction began in October 2018 will make history as it will be completed before the time set in the contract agreement.

Construction work is expected to be completed in July this year instead of November as set stipulated in the contract agreement.

This has been revealed by the Works and Transport Minister, Prof Makame Mbarawa when inspecting final works of the bridge's deck that is 77 per cent complete.

"This is a big step for this type of

bridge, I have seen that the work is going on well and I believe due to work speed, it will be completed before time," said Prof Mbarawa.

He explained that the increase of the number of vehicles on the old narrow Wami Bridge spurred the government to construct a much wider bridge to accommodate two vehicles passing at one time thereby reducing accidents that have been happening at the bridge.

The minister also called upon the contractors to increase work speed and to ensure they finish the remaining work in the time agreed by working day and night as well as increase the labour force.

He hailed the government for continuing to provide funds to ongoing big projects to enable them to be completed in time.

For his part, the Ambassador of China to Tanzania, Mingjian Chen, thanked the government of Tanzania for its trust to Chinese contracting firms in big ongoing projects.

"This project has employed more than 400 Tanzanians who without doubt have acquired many skills that will assist in the country's economic growth," said Amb. Chen.

Earlier, in his project report, TANROADS Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Rogatius Mativila explained that the new Wami Bridge is 100 per cent

financed by the Tanzania government at a cost of 75.13bn/-.

He said the cost includes 67.7bn/- actual construction cost, 6.3bn/- supervision cost, 852.9m/- feasibility studies cost and 194.7m/- compensation to people whose land areas were taken.

He added that the project provided employment to a total of 420 people out of who 25 were foreigners.

The new Wami Bridge aims to solve challenges that existed at the old bridge due to its failure to meet the growing number of traffic using it, both in term of the number of vehicles and tonnage, since it was constructed in 1959.

MSD, MNH have to destroy 23bn/- expired drugs - CAG

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noted.

That situation was in violation of paragraph 26 of the 2019 guidelines on the management of public property requiring applications to reach the paymaster general within 21 working days after the loss occurs.

MSD and MNH incurred unnecessary losses in the storage and management

of unused goods in warehouses, endangering the lives of people working in the warehouses, the report intoned.

"I recommend MSD to destroy expired drugs whose permits thereof have been issued and should liaise with MNH in following up the permits for destruction of expired medical devices," the CAG added.

100 killed in fire at illegal crude oil refinery in Nigeria

ABUJA

A fire has killed more than 100 people at the booming site of illegal crude oil refining in Abaezi forest in Ohaji-Egbema Local Government Area of Nigeria's south east Imo State.

The fire, which erupted on Friday night, also injured more than 150 people who are currently being treated in various hospitals in the state.

A number of cars and other valuable were also burnt in the inferno.

The Imo State Commissioner for Petroleum Resources Goodluck Opiah, who visited the scene of the fire on Saturday, said the operator of the site had been declared wanted by the state government.

He said that many young men who died could not be easily identified because they were burnt beyond recognition.

"Early this morning we received a message of a fire from the oil

companies here. This is a tragedy and a betrayal of the economy," he said.

He reported that the Imo state Governor Hope Uzodimma had ordered the arrest of the owner of the illegal oil rig.

"The Imo State government is deeply concerned about the families of those killed in the blaze. I can't say how many people have died in it," Mr Opiah added.

Before the fire, the federal government on March 23, 2022 vowed to stop the economic devastation caused by the activities of illegal refiners, pipeline vandalism and crude oil theft.

The Minister of State Petroleum Resources Timipre Sylva said President Muhammadu Buhari had directed that the illegal activities must stop and had called for an assessment of the devastation occasioned by the activities of the criminals.

AGENCIES



Zubeir Ali Maulid (R), Speaker of the Zanzibar House of Representatives, presents foodstuffs and various other items to representatives of Unguja's Sebeleni House of Elderly at the weekend. It was a Ramadhan-time goodwill gesture from CRDB Bank Plc handed over shortly after iftar the bank hosted for its Zanzibar clients. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PM touts local, EAC market in Union expo

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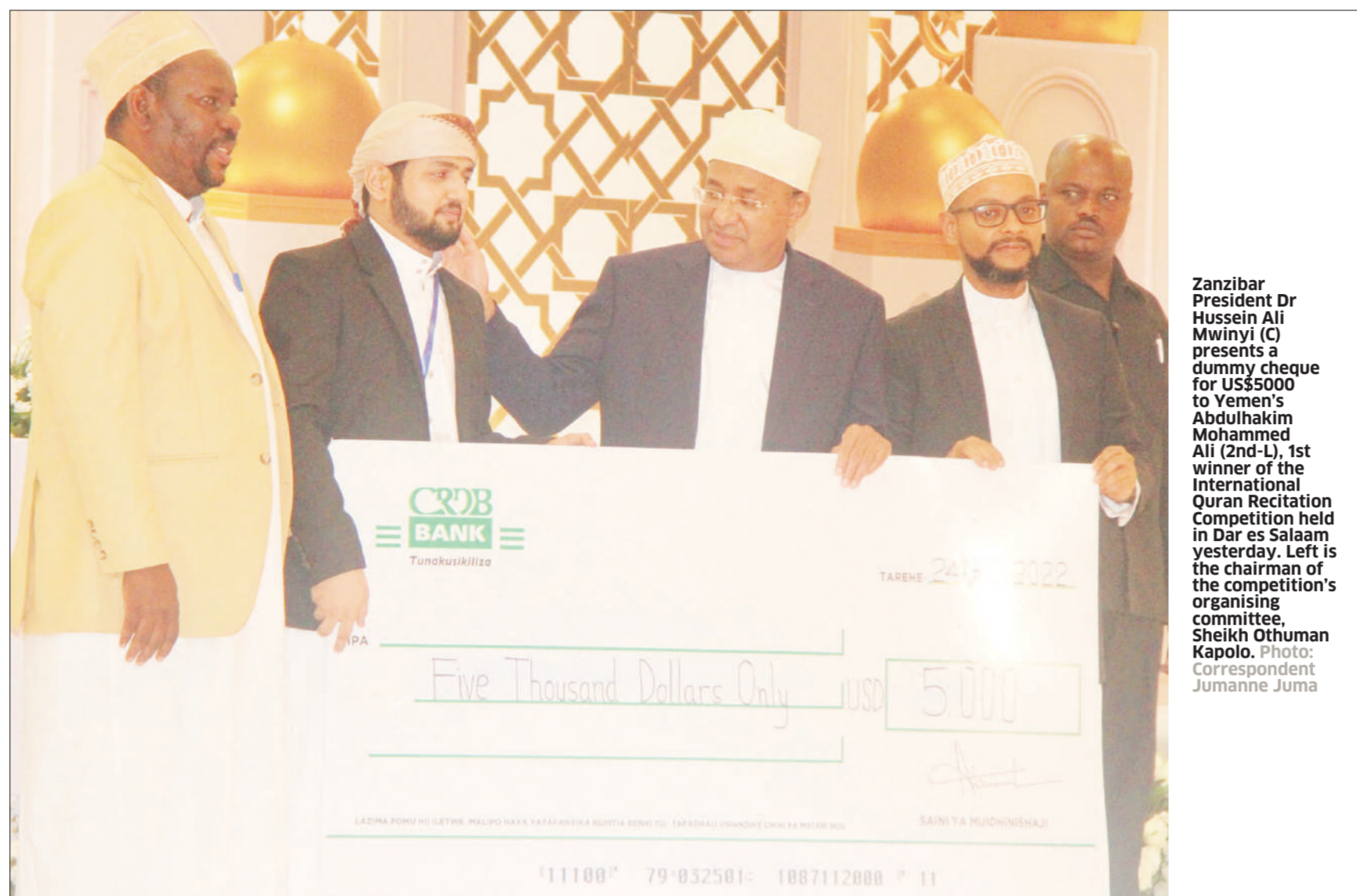
the work of various government

departments and agencies for their contribution in organizing the event and exhibitions to mark 58 years of the

Union.

Zanzibaris value the Union as it is of great benefits to them, as it is

to their Mainland brethren, and are devoted to holding it in high esteem, he declared.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi (C) presents a dummy cheque for US\$5000 to Yemen's Abdulhakim Mohammed Ali (2nd-L), 1st winner of the International Quran Recitation Competition held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is the chairman of the competition's organising committee, Sheikh Othuman Kapolo. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

'The Royal Tour' filming bus new tourist attraction

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE 'War Bus' which President Samia Suluhu Hassan drove during the shooting of 'The Royal Tour' episodes in the northern zone circuit, is in the process of being converted to a treasured conservation vehicle.

Plans are still being sketched and decided after the unveiling of the film in the country's tourist capital by the conservation authorities. The now iconic vehicle christened the 'War Bus' will be brought to the scene at the Arusha International Conference Center (AICC) when the film is unveiled.

Catherine Mbena, corporate communications head for Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), said here late last week that after it premiered in the United States, the local version of the travel documentary will be unveiled in the tourism capital on Thursday, April 28, on the basis of a schedule released by Regional Commissioner John Mongella.

The 'War Bus,' is a green coloured Toyota Land-Cruiser of the older series, SU 37010 stationed at the Serengeti National Park where it serves VIP visitors. President Samia used the vehicle in the shooting of 'The Royal Tour' travel documentary, now trending globally, especially as the president drove the vehicle herself.

The filming was carried out in Ngorongoro and some spectacular events were captured on camera in the Serengeti National Park, with the president driving the mammoth vehicle for close to 25 kilometers through the endless plains from Seronera Lodge to Makoma Hill viewing point in the heart of the vast wilderness.

Memorable photos were taken of President Samia standing with arms locked behind, gazing down below the expanse of the vast national park stretching out below. Earlier the president drove the vehicle when guiding the film producer, Peter Greenberg in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, where a crucial lion chasing scene was shot.

Tutindaga Mwakijambile, who supervises tour visits at the Serengeti, says the vehicle is usually used by VIP visitors coming into the park, with fourth phase president Jakaya Kikwete riding in the Land-Cruiser in his period tours of the park.

The vehicle is used in undertaking missions

outside the park, for instance when it transported fifth phase president John Magufuli when touring Rubondo Island in Geita, he said, highlighting that the vehicle was bought by TANAPA in 2009 Martin Looiboki headed the Serengeti.

In 2010 the vehicle was processed by the Rajinder Singh Auto Motors (RSA) workshop in Moshi, Kilimanjaro Region, converted from the original hardtop to an extended safari body. It is a seven-seater tour bus popularly known here as the 'War Bus.'

The official said the president chose to drive the vehicle since the vehicle colour blends well with the environment, reflecting the natural settings of the conservation area.

During the filming, President Samia used to wear attires blending well with the surrounding environment, thus it was befitting to pick the green truck, he specified.

By Guardian Reporter

TCB, Alliance Insurance host free medical camp in Dar city

HUNDREDS of Dar es Salaam residents have benefited from free medical checkups in a special camp organised by the Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) in collaboration with the Alliance Insurance Corporation.

Held at the bank's Mbagala branch in Temeke Municipality, the free medical camp is aimed to educate the public on the importance of regular health checkups as well as counseling for a number of medical conditions and how to prevent them.

Speaking at the event yesterday, TCB Mbagala branch manager Edward Mwoleka said: "TCB has decided to

support the efforts of the sixth phase government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan to fight diseases."

Mwoleka has urged Tanzanians and residents of Mbagala to join TCB as it has been providing quality and friendly services to its customers while also giving back to the community.

He said the bank is committed to continue improving and expanding its services to more areas so as to reach

a bigger population for the country's inclusive development.

"We've loans ranging from small, medium and large business so I urge our customers to come forward and enjoy various products that the bank has so as to change their lives," he said, adding that the bank also provides a number of loans including retirement credit and urged retirees to grab the opportunity which

will enable them strengthen their financial capacity.

Alliance Insurance spokesperson Justin Erick thanked TCB for trusting them and working together to ensure they provide better services to the people.

He added that all insurance services are available in all TCB branches and Tanzanians can access insurance services from there.



RTI international (www.rti.org) is an independent, Non-profit organization dedicated to conducting innovative, Multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. With a worldwide staff of more than 4,000 people, RTI offers innovative research and development and multidisciplinary services.

USAID Tanzania Tuhifadhi Maliasili Project

Research Triangle Institute (RTI) is an independent non-profit research institute dedicated to improving the human condition with over 30 years' experience assisting governments, communities, and the private sector in managing their environment and natural resources. RTI is implementing the USAID funded **Tuhifadhi Maliasili Project**, which goal is to address dynamics that hinder habitat connectivity and the long-term persistence of biodiversity in Tanzania.

RTI is looking for a candidate to fill the Junior Accountant Position. The position will be based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania with travels required to the project areas.

Purpose of the position.

The Junior Accountant is responsible for the day-to-day accounting functions of the Project. The candidate will utilize the appropriate systems (payroll, cash management, vendor payments, budgeting) and follow proper accounting procedures to disburse, account for, and report usage of funds.

Essential Responsibilities.

- Process payments for staff travel advances, ensuring advances are liquidated on time and accurately.
- Prepare payment vouchers in support of payments for project activities and supplier's invoices. Confirm payments are made in accordance with RTI and USAID procedures and policies, and are accurate, complete, and supported by all underlying appropriate documents, correctly coded to appropriate expenses and tracking code and charge codes.
- Raise journal vouchers or/and share journals with Finance Manager for necessary review and approval.
- Provide support to compile and submit the monthly financial reports package.
- Address monthly financial reports review, and questions or comments related to travel and activity advances and respective liquidations.
- Review sub-grantees financial documents, including budgets and supporting financial documentation, in consultation with the Grants Manager.
- Assist in the compilation of petty cash records and conduct surprise/monthly petty cash counts.
- Make payments to workshop participants (including travel and meals refunds) as designated by the supervisor.

Minimum Required Education and Experience

- Bachelor's Degree in accounting or finance related field with 1 year of experience or Diploma with 3 years of experience or equivalent combination of both the academic and professional experience in relevant professional fields.
- Preferred experience and knowledge of USAID accounting policies and procedures.
- Excellent knowledge of MS Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, Excel.
- Ability to multi-task.
- Ability to work well with others.
- Ability to listen and communicate well both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to work independently.
- Attention to detail and accuracy.
- Proficiency in English is required.

RTI is an equal opportunity employer. Candidates may apply directly on RTI's careers site or submit an updated CV and cover letter to tuhifadhi_hr@rti.org Please reference the position title in subject line.

The deadline for submitting application is **4th May 2022**. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

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TOSCI joins OECD seed scheme to help farmers to export their products

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

TANZANIA seed producers will now be certain of selling their seeds to both local and foreign markets following Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) joining the OECD seed scheme.

Another certainty for seed producers to sell the seeds to other countries is a result of TOSCI also becoming a member of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) while at the same time it possesses the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) Accreditation.

Speaking in a special interview with The Guardian here at the weekend, TOSCI managing director Patrick Ngwedilagi said recognition by the international institutions stems from quality control management of seeds national and internationally.

"Not all countries can receive such recognition, but we have done so and now we can sell locally produced seeds in any other country," he added.

He said the achievements in seeds quality control nationally and internationally stems from the increase of types of seeds whose quality was certified during the period 2014/15 - 2019/2020.

He said during the period TOSCI was able to test new kinds of seeds, inspect farms, test samples and examination of produced seeds to verify their quality.

In regard to challenges posed by fake seeds that were being sold to farmers in the country occasioning huge losses to them, Ngwedilagi said the issue has now been controlled to a great extent due to the increase in the use of TOSCI labels for the seeds produced in the country.

He said in the 2014/15 season incidents of fake and weak seeds were between 300 and 350, the situation that occasioned huge losses to farmers

in the country, hence TOSCI came up with control strategies.

For his part, the director of Aminata seed company, Dr Zubeda Mduruma said the main problem was the market, hence since TOSCI has now been recognised internationally, they will now be certain of selling the seeds outside the country.

For his part, the Chairman of Tanzania Sunflowers Farmers Association, Stephen Marealle said seeds production by various companies should go in tandem with the construction of warehouses for the storage.

Already the Minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe has instructed public institutions engaged in seeds research, production and control to sit together and mobilise themselves for the production of quality seeds for sale to local and foreign farmers.



Not all countries can receive such recognition, but we have done so and now we can sell locally produced seeds in any other country



The European Union's Ambassador to Tanzania, Manfredo Fanti (L), has a word with Works and Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa (R) during an inspection tour of the ongoing construction of the 66.9-km Kidatu-Ikafara road in Morogoro Region at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

THE Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) says the private sector role in the farming sector is much needed to increase production and for the modernization of farming for increased benefits from the sector to the country's GDP.

Addressing a meeting via video conference with the theme "Agricultural revolution and Importance in Distributing Farming Tools to Extension Officers," SAGCOT managing Director, Geoffrey Kirenga, aside from praising the government for providing the tools, he also

'Private sector role is vital for agricultural production'

explained on how the private sector can significantly contribute to the country's farming sector.

He said in the private sector there are knowledge, skills communication and capital, hence to have profitable farming, one must have these basic needs that are important for the farmers.


"In developed countries, the private sector is in the frontline in imparting

knowledge, skills, communication and capital to farmers, hence there should be no reasons not to do the same," said Kirenga.

He added: "We in SAGCOT will continue to be a link between investors in farming, companies and farmers in looking for capital and markets within and outside the country by involving the diaspora in various foreign

countries."

He also used the occasion to assure stakeholders and the government that SAGCOT will continue to concentrate in enhancing and developing agriculture and pledged to provide great cooperation to farmers to make sure the entire farming sector not only benefits individual farmers but also the nation in general.



BANK OF AFRICA
BMCE GROUP

VACANCY

HEAD OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS
Location: Head Office

Summary of Responsibilities:

- The role holder is responsible to develop and drive marketing strategy by providing best-practice, strategic marketing, communication and citizenship support to the business, helping the organization to execute against its business objectives.
- He/she will support business to meet goals through optimizing investment in branding and marketing, communication and citizenship, including leadership, integration of and accountability for those respective functions.

Scope of Duties:

Strategy Development:

- Drive the coordination of all strategic initiatives associated with the development of the customer value propositions and brand.
- Responsible for the implementation of the Bank's marketing strategy.
- Establish and maintain excellent working relationships with key internal and external parties.
- Manage marketing campaigns/projects and identify research opportunities.
- Define, develop and implement marketing procedures relating to policies, products and services in line with the wider business strategies.
- Carry out market research to identify customer needs and changes in the market.
- Contribute to business growth as a key member of senior management team, by translating business requirement into marketing and communications objective.
- Lead development and execution of in-country marketing, communication and citizenship strategy, and associated annual plans with assistance via an insights led approach.
- Responsibility for leveraging our sponsorship assets to drive business & brand growth.
- Understand, own and bring to life Bank of Africa brand strategy, positioning and values with country through the three lenses of marketing, communication and citizenship.

Integrated Communication Support:

- Leverage platforms to maximize exposure for Bank of Africa.
- Provide strategic, issue and crisis communication support (reputation management) including formal and informal environmental scanning and issue identification and monitoring.
- Work with team to develop strategic message/value proposition for the business and ensure alignment of messaging and themes with Bank of Africa.
- Oversee the co-ordination of activities across internal and external platforms, ensuring balanced communication and collaborative communication campaign development.
- Engage and energize colleagues around our mission, vision and strategy.

Marketing Support & Product research and Development:

- Conduct research, collect information, analyze findings and present reports on market intelligence with regards to products within the BANK OF AFRICA GROUP and other banks operating in Tanzania.
- Assisting in product development initiatives; bring together regional business units within BANK OF AFRICA GROUP countries so as to review existing products and services offered.
- Organization of regional product launches and overall marketing support for business units within BANK OF AFRICA Group and BANK OF AFRICA TANZANIA with an aim of customizing the service to suit the Tanzania market.
- Drive and maintain marketing partnership for bank of Africa across the regions.
- Drive and ensure all processes, governance and budget are adhered to driving successful deliver of all requirements.
- Oversee the development of relevant programmes in support of brand or product activities.

- Drive the digital marketing mobile marketing activities, focusing on user experience and user-centricity.
- Ensure that the social channel is integrated and drive customer dialogue.
- Ensure consistency and relevance's of website and microsite use in all marketing plans

Citizenship Management

- Communicate the business value of corporate citizenship activity, creating awareness regarding its importance and impact
- Provide understanding and insight to the business regarding the current citizenship agenda and issues.
- Oversee the implementation of the citizenship plan to support delivery of leading, monitoring, communications, governance and reporting of all efforts

Relationship Building

- Maintain a good understanding of audience needs and issues, either through personal contact or through the marketing and Corporate Affairs (country) network
- Provide exceptional stakeholder support that builds trust in the working relationship, confidence in our expertise, and a positive reputation for the wider function.
- Able to negotiate conflicting requirements from different stakeholders to build a coherent plan, which is accepted by all.
- Work closely with external clients and manage relationships with key customers and suppliers.

Competences, Knowledge & Experience

- Academic Qualifications of Bachelor degree/ Master's degree
- Experience of working in a multinational, multi-segment, environment with matrix reporting.
- Awareness of cultural differences and varying legal/regulatory environments
- Banking or Financial services industry related knowledge.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Negotiation and influencing skills
- Strong leadership and management skills
- Excellent planning, organization and execution skills
- Computer literacy and familiarity with standard office computer applications
- Adapting and responding to change
- Copying with pressure and setbacks
- Deciding and initiating actions
- Relating and networking
- Clear and concise writing and reporting
- Presenting and communication
- Minimum 10 years work experience.

Other Requirements:

All internal applicants should fill the internal vacancy application form found on BNet, attach with your CV and Certificates

Submission:
All the applications have to be submitted not later than 02nd May 2022 to:
**THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
BANK OF AFRICA – TANZANIA
NDC DEVELOPMENT HOUSE
OHIO / KIVUKONI STREET
P.O. Box 3054
DAR ES SALAAM
TANZANIA.**

through email: hr@boatanzania.com
NOTE: We shall communicate to only successful candidates who will meet all the requirements above.

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

Widowed Maasai women in Monduli, Longido and Ngorongoro districts of Arusha have managed to fight their destiny against all odds.

The ladies from mostly pastoralists' communities have overhauled the male chauvinistic system by boldly taking charge of economic developments in their community.

Through their Village Community Banking (VICOPA) endeavours, the pastoralists' women have managed to hatch joint livestock keeping projects that now help to generate incomes.

They split the money from joint savings initiatives and divided cash among themselves ready to undertake even bigger economic activities such as livestock keeping.

That in addition to other small trading activities this has enabled them to stop previous environment destructive schemes such as charcoal burning and embarking on ecologically

'Maasai widows take control of their economic activities'

friendly economic activities.

The women have bought and divided among them, 23 cattle as well as cash money from their joint cattle keeping venture assisted by the Maasai Stoves and Solar Project through the organization's Sara Bank.

"Taking care of widows is no longer the responsibility of the state but community members," explained Meshy Pius Singolyo, the coordinator of the women empowering project through Sara Bank.

Meshy added that in the drastic but positive transformation in the pastoralists' community outlook, men have been the first to contribute funds to help women buy livestock.

The government though respective District Councils has also been helpful in extending loans to local women and

these assisted them to further expand their local enterprises.

"It simply goes to show that men no longer consider women to be weak as it used to be the norm in pastoralists' communities but now they place trust on them to an extent of funding their economic activities," she maintained.

Kisioki Meitiko, the Director of Maasai Stoves and Solar said his organization continues to support women and their projects through funding, training and topping up capital in their trading ventures.

Namnyak Saibul expressed gratitude for the new development especially the part where local women have been rescued from the charcoal burning activities into better paying and environment friendly livestock keeping.



Stanbic Bank Tanzania Ltd CEO Kevin Wingfield speaks at iftar the bank hosted in Dar es Salaam late last week for its Muslim customers. Guests included Chief Sheikh Abubakary Zubeiry bin Ally and the bank's customers and other stakeholders. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



National Assembly deputy Speaker Musa Hassan Zungu (R) leads BancABC Tanzania customers and other guests at iftar the bank hosted in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

Zungu commends BancABC for supporting state economy

DEPUTY Speaker of the National Assembly Musa Azzan Zungu has commended BancABC Tanzania - an Atlas Mara subsidiary, for its continuous investment in the country, which has supported various government initiatives in driving the county's economy. BancABC in partnership with government is geared into driving financial inclusion through extending its financial services closer to the people of Tanzania with the objective of reducing the percentage of unbanked and improve livelihoods through increasing its footprints in Tanzania.

Zungu made the remarks over the weekend in Dar es Salaam during an iftar hosted by BancABC with its customers with the objective of expressing gratitude to its customers especially during this Holy Month of Ramadan.

'Financial sector is very important for the country's economy, when you have a strong financial institutions automatically you will have a strong economy. The government has been putting many efforts to collaborate with financial sector in developing the economy, which will lead to lower poverty among its people. I take this opportunity to comment BancABC

Tanzania for being forefront in working close with the government in order to achieve these goals', said Zungu.

He added that the government has been doing in supporting private sector in the country and especially the financial sector since the introduction of free market. For this reason, we have seen the growth of the sector year after year and this has been bringing a positive impact to the growth of our economy. The Parliament will continue on working closely with the government to make sure that the good relation between the private sector and government continues for the better side of our economy.

'I understand the efforts BancABC has been doing on expanding services to reach the majority of the unbanked Tanzania population. I am also happy to learn that the bank has been supporting small-scale business by offering loans aimed at improving their business. In addition, the bank has been offering loans to employees in different sectors and I must commend you on that.'

The Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly who also doubles as Ilala

Member of Parliament was a lot of praise for BancABC for its involvement in Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR), which among others is the sponsorship of orphans with medical insurance, which assured them an access to improved health facilities whenever they fall sick. I take this opportunity to congratulate the bank's management for supporting orphans as it one the groups in our society that is critical in our society. I pray that you continue with the same spirit and the Almighty God shall reward you.'

Earlier, the BancABC Tanzania Managing Director Imani John said that BancABC has been providing a wide range of products for Individual Customers, SME's and local Corporates ranging from deposits to loans for different customer segments in a way that its innovation and dedication has been recognized through a couple of awards in the industry.

BancABC is the Leading in E-Commerce transaction through VISA Prepaid cards which comes in six different currencies Tanzanian shillings, US Dollar, Rand, Pound, Euro and Yuan.

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

TANGA district commissioner Hashim Mgandilwa has urged journalists to adhere to professional ethics and be patriotic when conducting their duties for the country's peace and development.

Mgandilwa made the call here over the weekend during a one-day dialogue organised by Tanga Press Club themed Freedom of Expression and Journalists' Code of Ethics. It was supported by the International Media Support (IMS) and Union of Tanzania Press Clubs (UTPC).

The dialogue was attended by journalists, representatives from the Police Force, Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB), Open University of Tanzania.

DC Mgandilwa said journalists were playing an important role in helping the government to know and thus take appropriate measures to address various challenges facing communities.

He said journalists reach remote places and expose various issues including challenges facing people thus

DC calls for culture of ethics, professionalism

making it easier for the government to take measures.

He however wanted journalists to be very careful when reporting various incidents by being more patriotic instead of reporting something which may bring havoc or even breach peace.

Mgandilwa said, 'The government is implementing various development projects in Tanga through media people will know the available opportunities, therefore journalists use your pen effectively for the nation's welfare not for catalyzing crimes and offences.'

Senior journalist, Absalom Kibanda who was the facilitator of the dialogue, insisted on ethics, fairness and adherence to media laws, a matter which will keep them on the safe side while implementing their duties.

He said, according to his experience, some of the journalists were arrested

and arraigned to court for reporting and writing news unprofessionally.

Kibanda also warned journalists who practice digital journalism and online media platforms owners to be careful with the cybercrime because many of their reporters were professionals instead of practicing citizen journalism.

Tanga Press Club chairperson Lulu George added that some of online and social media platforms were disrupting media reputation as they were operating without adhering to professional principles.

"The government is implementing various development projects in Tanga through media people will know the available opportunities, therefore journalists use your pen effectively for the nation's welfare not for catalyzing crimes and offences."



Request for Proposal for provision of External Audit Services For the Year Ending 2022.

1. Background

1.1. About Tanzania Health Promotion Support

Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) is an indigenous NGO established under non-governmental organization act No 24 of 2002 in 2011. THPS works in partnership with the Ministry of Health (MoH), and Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG), The Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Health (MoH) in Zanzibar with a goal of ensuring accessible high-quality health care services to Tanzanians; through strengthening of health and community systems for comprehensive quality health services including HIV/AIDS; Tuberculosis; prevention of GBV; reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent health (RMNCAH) services; laboratory and health management information systems (HIMS).

THPS vision is "a healthy society in which every individual receives quality healthcare and contribute positively to socio-economic development".

Our Mission is to promote and support equitable, high quality, accessible and sustainable health services for the Tanzanian society and beyond through partnerships with governments, local and international institutions, civil society, private sector and communities

1.2. About the audit services

Tanzania Health Promotion Support requests submission of financial and technical proposals relating to provision of external audit services for the Organisation. The audits are done once every year in line with the requirements described through engagement letter; which provides terms and conditions of the audit. Audit engagement letter will be reviewed and renewed each year as appropriate.

2. The Auditors

- The auditor shall be an auditing firm, independent and legally registered to operate in Tanzania with a valid business and professional licence. The firm shall be a well-established, reputable, and experienced in auditing work in Tanzania, with profound experience of auditing international and local NGOs accounts operating in Tanzania.
- The auditor shall be approved by the USAID regional Inspector General (RIG) Office, on conditional or permanent basis to conduct A133 Yellow Book audit for US funded projects.

3. Scope of the audit

3.1. The audit work

The auditors will be required to audit a set of accounts for Tanzania Health Promotion Support as part of statutory requirement; and condition on various funding agreement with development partners. The audit involves, but not limited to ascertaining whether:

- Funds have been utilized in accordance with the aims and objectives;
- The expenditures and financial records are in line with the generally accepted accounting principles; and
- The financial reports fairly present financial situation including income received, expenditures during the period and cash position at the end of the respective reporting period.

The audit will be conducted in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and US Generally Accepted Government Audit Standards, and will include such tests of transactions and of the existence, ownership and valuation of assets and liabilities as considered necessary. The auditors shall obtain an understanding of the accounting and internal controls systems to the extent necessary in order to assess their adequacy as a basis for the preparation of the financial statements and to establish whether the programme has maintained proper accounting records. The auditors are expected to obtain such appropriate evidence as considered sufficient to enable them to draw reasonable conclusions thereto.

The auditors are expected to develop, communicate and implement a comprehensive audit plan that is risk-based.

The Audit plan should set out a timeline, requirements and expectations from Tanzania Health Promotion Support and relevant partners including The Government of Tanzania, regulatory authorities and donor community. The audit shall include assessing the significant estimates and judgements made by the Programs in the preparation of the financial statements and whether the accounting policies were appropriate to the circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed. In forming their opinion, they should also evaluate the overall presentation of information in the financial statements.

3.2. Outputs

The following outputs among others are expected at the end of the audit exercise

- THPS accounts including Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Accounts. This should also include Independent Auditor's report with an opinion on the truth and fairness of the financial statements; and
- Management letter with risk assessment on identified issues as High, Medium and Low and comprehensive recommendations to address internal control issues reported.

3.3. Intended completion timeline

It is expected that the audit for the financial year ended 29th September 2022 may take a maximum of one month and will be completed by November 2022.

3.4. Roles and responsibilities of all parties concerned

Prior to commencement of the audit, terms and conditions of the audit will be agreed and described through the audit engagement letter and will form part of the contract for the assignment.

4. Response Proposal Specifications

Those interested in provision of the audit services must include in their application detailed technical and financial proposals with the following components:

Interested audit firms should submit combined technical and financial proposals comprising of relevant information including the following:

- Profile of the auditing firm;
- Comments on the terms of reference - Understanding and interpretation of the audit assignment;
- Proposed approach (methodology) to the assignment;
- Details of selected relevant assignments completed in the past five years (Top five) two of which must be with international organisations - US funded.
- Staffing level clearly indicating number of partners, managers, supervisors, audit seniors and other audit staff at the time of preparing the proposal, and growth plan for the next two years;
- Abridged CVs of partners, managers and supervisors that would be assigned the THPS audit; and
- Financial proposal indicating the basis of determining audit fees.

5. Submission of Proposals

Two hard Copies proposal should be submitted in a sealed envelope (sticker or Wax sealed), clearly marked "Proposal for provision of audit services" to be dropped into THPS Tender box located at THPS front Desk on the 4th May 2022 not later than 2:00Pm, followed by bids opening ceremony which will take place on 4th May 2022 from 2:30Pm in our office conference room. Bidders are invited to witness as well. Please address to:

Executive Director
Tanzania Health Promotion Support
P.O. Box 32605
Plot 254, 3rd Floor, Coco Plaza building,
Toure Drive, Masaki
Tel: +255 22 2923107
+255 689103046
+255 22 2923108
Fax: +255 22 2923108
Email: info@thps.or.tz

If further clarification is needed, please contact THPS Chief Operations Officer at ganatory@thps.or.tz

By Guardian Correspondent,

Mbeya

OCCUPATIONAL Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in southern highlands regions has called upon goldmine owners to make sure they provide their workers with protective gear against disasters while working in the mines.

The call was made at the weekend by OSHA Health and environment Inspector, Renatus Qalgal when inspecting goldmining activities at Mt Elizabeth in Saza Mkwajuni area in Songwe District.

He said during his inspection he saw many workers who claimed to be casual labourers without adequate protective gear against mine disasters, adding that the situation was hazardous to their health.

He further said any mine owner who after these directives will not provide adequate protective gear to his workers will be violating OSHA laws.

He added that every mine owner is provided with directives on what to do to ensure health safety of miners as well as the people surrounding the mining area.

When interviewed some goldminers at Mt Elizabeth said they were working in difficult surroundings as they lack gear needed to ensure safety and peace in the mines.

They said mine owners

OSHA calls upon mine owners to provide protective gear to workers

in the area never care about their safety instead they require them to look for gold without caring about their health. For his part, OSHA Training Coordinator, Charles

Niima called on mine owners and workers to abide by cleanliness and safety in the mining pits to protect themselves against waterborne diseases including cholera.



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ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The Financial Compliance Officer provides highly specialized finance/accounting-related services to the Africa Region business unit in all compliance aspects of finance/accounting. They ensure that Reporting, Audit, Taxation and other operational regulatory compliance requirements within the region are met. The position will be based at any of the following TNC office locations: Arusha, Cape Town, or Nairobi regional office.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Accounting, Business Administration or related field and 4 years' related experience or equivalent combination.
- Practical knowledge of tax compliance with over 4 years' experience in the preparation and submission of tax returns and related statutory financial statements in the region
- Experience with relational databases especially MS Excel and accounting packages.
- Experience using accounting and financial reporting systems.
- Experience in handling audit and tax matters of clients from countries other than their resident countries.
- Technical command of spreadsheet programs, general ledger reports and other financial management tools.
- Experience in supporting multiple projects in various locations and/or countries.
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Stakeholders call for formation of national treatment guidelines to improve access to care for haemophilia

By Getrude Mbagu

THE government and stakeholders have been called to come up with a national financial strategy to support treatment of patients with haemophilia and other blood diseases as their medications were too costly.

Haemophilia is a rare condition that affects the blood's ability to clot. It's usually inherited. Most people who have it are male. Normally, when you cut yourself, substances in your blood known as clotting factors mix with blood cells called platelets to make your blood sticky and form a clot.

Haemophilia Society of Tanzania (HST) president Dr Stella Rwezaura, made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during the society's annual meeting and awareness-raising session.

She stated that haemophilia is one of the neglected diseases with a high treatment cost, noting: "Medication therapy costs approximately \$100,000 (240/-) per year for a person with haemophilia, it is critical to make it available and accessible in different parts of the country but we are sure that if the government and stakeholders will join efforts, these patients will get required support."

According to her, currently, Tanzania receives medicines from the World Federation of Haemophilia (WFH) that accommodates only 172 patients, who have been diagnosed with the disease and registered with HST.

Dr Stella said over 5000 patients with haemophilia in the country are yet to be identified and registered, something that bar them from accessing required support on time for them to survive.

She said the government has been supportive in the fight against the disease, but it was high time for it to set aside the budget to ensure that diagnosed patients had access to medication but also increase awareness and diagnose more patients.

Dr Stella who is also a haematologist at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) said the association also pushes for the formation of national treatment guidelines to improve access to care and treatment for haemophilia disease by expanding check-up services in zonal and regional hospitals.

She said that the society was also implementing a three year project dubbed Accelerating Access to Blood

Disorders care in Tanzania and Kenya'.

The joint project launched in November 2020 is a collaboration of Kenya Haemophilia Association (KHA), Novo Nordisk Haemophilia Foundation (NNHF), Novo Nordisk Foundation (NNF) and the MNH.

She said the project focuses on four areas which are capacity building, diagnosis and a national registry of haemophilia, education, empowerment and advocacy.

According to her, the project's goal is to create six haemophilia clinics in Tanzania, one situated at MNH will be a comprehensive facility and the others would be satellite clinics.

"The MNH clinic has been completely renovated, and satellite clinics such as the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College (KCMC), Bugando Medical Centre (BMC), Benjamin Mkapa Hospital (BMH), Mbeya Referral Hospital, and Morogoro Regional Hospital have been renovated at various levels, and all regional hospitals from Tanzania's 30 regions will benefit," she said.

She further said the project will establish a national blood disorders program and build coalitions with patient organizations representing different blood illnesses in Kenya.

WFH Regional Director for Africa, Thomas Gowa hinted that governments in Africa should set up enough budgets annually to support haemophilia patients.

He also called for more awareness programs so as to identify people with the disease for them to start getting required medical services.

Saguda Emmanuel, a patient from Simiyu said they noticed that he had the disease after circumcision and was sent to Bugando Hospital for a referral before being transferred to MNH for further treatment.

He said access to medication and care was still a big challenge for them because MNH is the only hospital that provides services and they have to travel long distances to seek for the service in Dar es Salaam.

Haemophilia is a rare condition that affects the blood's ability to clot, a process needed to stop bleeding. It is a mostly inherited genetic disorder that affects males. People with this condition experience prolonged bleeding or oozing following an injury, surgery, or having a tooth pulled.

AU and Nutrition International join hands to end malnutrition in Africa

By Special Correspondent, Addis Ababa

THE African Union (AU) and Nutrition International have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU), towards a shared vision to end hunger, poverty and malnutrition in Africa.

The MoU was signed at AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The pact was sealed by AU's Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development at the African Union Commission, Minata Samate Cessouma and Nutrition International's President and CEO, Joel Spicer.

Through the MoU, the AU and Nutrition International have agreed to work together in several areas, including nutrition advocacy and in tracking the progress made by member states in the implementation of the 2014 Malabo Declaration on Nutrition security to achieve inclusive economic growth and sustainable development in Africa.

Other areas include; technical assistance to enhance the capacity of member states in domestic resource mobilization, data collection and analysis in Africa - as well as matters on adolescent nutrition, anemia and integration of social safety net programs.

Cessouma acknowledged and appreciated the ongoing engagements with Nutrition International, noting: "This MoU further strengthens

the AU and Nutrition International collaborative efforts in prioritising and investing in nutrition both at the continental and national levels through a multisectoral and interdisciplinary approach and profoundly during this AU Year on Nutrition and beyond."

"Malnutrition is an urgent problem that is imposing a heavy tax on the hopes and dreams of millions of people in Africa, particularly women, children, and adolescents," said Spicer.

"To face the growing threats of COVID-19, conflict, and climate and to build a strong and resilient future for Africa, nutrition must be prioritized. The key ingredient is leadership - and that is the reason we are excited to formally partner with the AU to advance the nutrition agenda in support of the Year of Nutrition," he noted.

The partnership could not have been timelier as 2022 was endorsed as the year of nutrition dedicated to strengthening the fight against malnutrition in all its forms in Africa under the theme "Strengthening Resilience in Nutrition and Food Security on the African Continent: Strengthening Agro-Food Systems, Health and Social Protection Systems for the Acceleration of Human, Social and Economic Capital Development."

The MoU will be operationalized through a joint action plan including the year of nutrition interventions and commitments.



Bishop Rose Mgetta (kneeling) is installed as head of Dar es Salaam's Mikocheni B 'Mlima wa Moto' Assemblies of God Church. The church's founder, Dr Getrude Rwakatare, held the position until her death two years ago. The event took place in the city on Saturday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msaia

Bishop Mgetta urges Tanzanians to trust women in leadership positions

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

BISHOP Rose Mgetta of Assemblies of God (Mountain of Fire) has urged Tanzanians to trust women in top leadership positions as studies confirmed that they can bring huge positive results in offices.

Bishop Rose who succeeded the founder of the church Reverend Dr Getrude Rwakatare made the call over the weekend in Dar es Salaam during consecration to become the new leader of the church.

The late iconic pastor Dr Rwakatare founded the church in 1993 and since her demise; Mgetta has been acting in the position.

Speaking during the consecration ceremony, Bishop Mgetta appreciated

the church's leadership committee for trusting her to replace the late Dr Rwakatare.

She said women can do wonders if they are trusted in top positions and people should ignore perceptions that women can't handle complicated executive positions like men.

She said there were people who were not confident that President Samia Suluhu Hassan would make it after the demise of former President John Magufuli but fortunately everything is going smoothly under her leadership.

"I really commend our President for the amazing job she is doing and women are proud of her because what she is doing brings respect to us that we can do things if we are trusted. Some people were worried if she could

do it but we are happy that everything is fine," the Bishop said.

She asked Tanzanians to love each other and cherish peace for the country's development and urged religious leaders to pray for the nation and its top leaders.

"The founder of the church, Dr Rwakatare, shaped me to become who I am today. I was her assistant for many years, she enjoyed helping women in various sector and I am among the beneficiaries of her love so I promise to honour her life and ensure the church stand firm," she said

Rose Rwakatare, the first daughter of late Bishop Dr Rwakatare, said they are happy for bishop Mgetta saying that they will support her in every day's operations.

"After acting the position for two years we are satisfied that she can take the position fully. She worked as assistant to our mother for many years so she know everything that's why we are confident on her," she said

She said women are able to do wonders, if they are trusted and given top positions adding that the church's management was confident that she will wear her predecessor's shoes.

Dr Rose said the church followers will continue to pray for the nation's peace and harmony and she asked people to love each other and fear god in their daily conduct.

The new bishop who is the wife of High Court Judge Joseph Mgetta holds a first degree in theology and management.



Rabia Abood (L), Zanzibar Branch manager of Absa Bank Tanzania, leads guests and some of the bank's staff at iftar the bank hosted in Zanzibar at the weekend for its stakeholders. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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To employ enough civil servants, let's cut down national debt first

SCORES of parliamentarians have lately expressed concern with high numbers of vacant positions in the civil service, where the projected employment of 30,000 new public servants in the next financial year is like the proverbial 'drop in the ocean'.

The numbers cited by the Public Service Management and Good Governance 'wing' of the President's Office were salutary enough.

It was reported that more than 200,000 civil service vacancies remain to be filled, and one could dare say they were so estimated given the limited resources we have to employ more. Optimally, it could be well over half a million placements.

The civil service was once a massive employer, but there is a constant diminution of usable resources in management, including hiring, emoluments, promotions and pensions relative to the growth of the national budget.

Still there is one area that hasn't caught the attention of analysts in different directions, though the wider issue (the swelling public debt) is often mentioned as if just to scare the public rather than to address any fiscal obligation in particular.

Yet this is where the real problem lies, not in the size of the debt on its own but its repayment schedules and what it means for the budget.

This is increasingly the case - that repayment schedules are slightly over a quarter of total budgetary resources.

For instance, it is said that total estimates were pegged at 32trn/- while the debt repayment stood at 9trn/- for the financial year.

It doesn't appear that the rate of repayment will be declining, as our

projects are more ambitious now, and most of our traditional development partners have by comparison fewer resources now than in the past.

It means that we are doing more business with other countries than we can expect aid from them, with a soft loan avenue with several international development banks and other funds for global programmes as in the case of Covid-19 control, combating climate change, etc.

There are scores of private funding organisations working through local outlets, NGOs or similar government agencies like the Tanzania Social Action Fund, but their impact is limited.

Structural change is needed where the economy becomes dynamic, not picking rotten fruits of stagnant agro-sector structures or trying to sort out urban poverty where people come to seek refuge from rural poverty.

That is why we need to swap the debt with employment; a vast increase in employment in the public sector would boost consumption and thus also industrial activities and services, now stymied by limited consumption.

It means the country sells the debt and a company comes and takes up the concern that chalked up the debt, and the item is rubbed out of international settlements obligations for the Treasury.

If we clear the biggest debts from large public firms, we would retain between five and ten trillion shillings more in the budget - and employ hundreds of thousands.

The problem is the scare-mongering due to our post-the long-held belief that selling off a public firm is next to bedlam, while it could be the best way for us to address joblessness.

Immunisation Week can help push up wider preventive medicine reflections

MEDICAL professionals and social workers around the world are marking World Immunisation Week (April 24 through 30).

There is a special convention especially among experts and development administrators working alongside the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The idea is to highlight and underline the difficulties global organisations face, as immunisation is the focal point of various other issues particularly in relation to maternal and child care.

Often countries had to battle traditions opposing immunisation, or propaganda that comes up in view global crises.

One item of propaganda that has kept being repeated is immunisation being seen as a hidden way to enforce population control not through family planning per se but through a subtle sterilisation campaign.

This has had a powerful impact on rural populations where means of information dissemination are limited and low levels of education cloud out technical information.

This has been in full evidence during the Covid-19 pandemic, with a global campaign generated to reject masks, then jabs.

During the Week, WHO seeks to work with countries across the globe in raising public awareness of the value of vaccines to push up levels of immunisation, ensuring that governments have most of what they need to ensure adequate coverage in national programmes.

The value of immunisation has been generally grasped in most developing countries and even in the more contested atmosphere of the Covid-19 vaccination campaign, understanding

is slowly winning over hesitation and propaganda.

There is a series of immunisation requirements on children and even on adults, usually administered on clinical attendance by lactating mothers.

Others require one to seek out the medicine, for instance vaccination against one or other type of hepatitis.

Much like it is for cancer - which has no immunisation bar one could clear and be safe - it is painless when it starts and by the time it is painful, or severely so, it is nearly out of reach for treatment.

As this is a weeklong activity, various NGOs and relevant departments should perhaps focus more on a few urgent immunisation exercises for groups of population at risk.

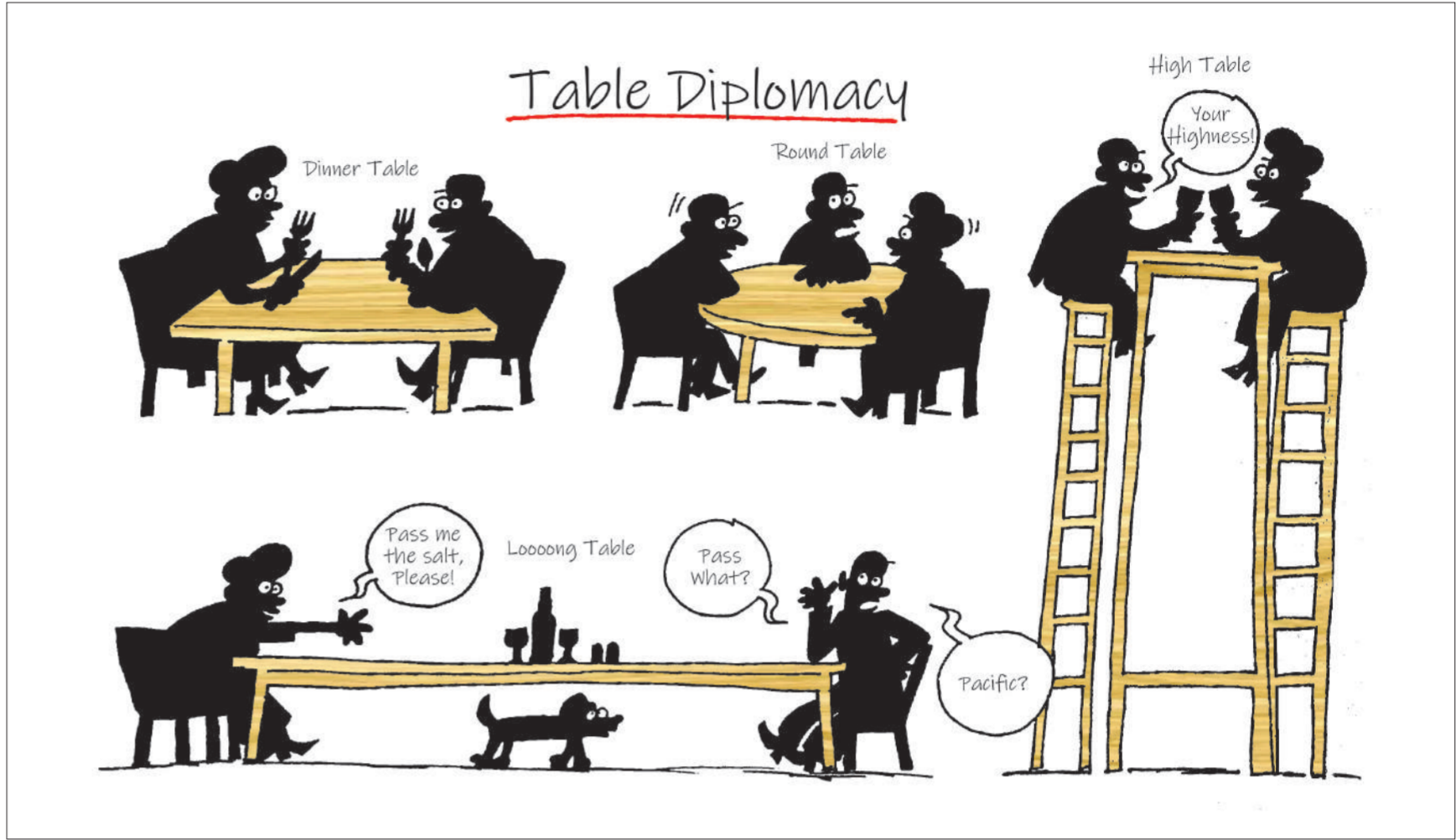
One group constitutes young women being vaccinated against cervical cancer, which can develop in the body at any age.

The worry is that there are fierce battles in society when it comes to anything touching on young girls about whom more customary law has been formulated than anything else.

There are institutional claimants to determining what happens to young women, whether it is in relation to health or general welfare, and making inroads in that environment can be challenging.

Yet this is what the World Immunisation Week is all about: to use the stretch of time to think of answers and put them into action, or at least engage others to think about them as to how the most intractable problems will be solved.

Short of that, the medical profession and even the public authorities will have entertained objectionable negligence on the issues - which would be unacceptable.



Covid-19: Why no one wants to talk about Sweden

By Johan Anderberg

WHEN the results of the first wave of Covid-19 began to be tallied in the media the summer before last, there were different ways of measuring the devastation.

One way of looking at the pandemic was to focus on how many people died - more than half a million around the world by the end of June.

Another was to try assessing the complicated impacts of the various measures taken to combat the coronavirus. When a lot of the functions in society were frozen, people struggled - especially the most vulnerable.

For those who preferred the first perspective, there were plenty of data to lean on. Meticulous records of the death toll were being kept in most countries, especially the wealthy ones, and presented in stylish graphs on various sites: the Johns Hopkins University website, Worldometer, Our World in Data.

It was a lot harder to measure the consequences of the lockdowns. They appeared here and there as scattered anecdotes and figures.

Perhaps the most striking data point came from the United States: by the end of the academic year, a total of 55.1 million students had been affected by school closures.

But still, the death toll was more interesting. In early summer, The New York Times had published a front page completely devoid of pictures. Instead, it contained a long list of people who had died: a thousand names, followed by their age, location and a very brief description.

"Alan Lund (81), Washington, conductor with 'the most amazing ear'; Harvey Bayard (88), New York, grew up directly across the street from the old Yankee Stadium". And so on.

It was The New York Times's national editor who had noticed that the US death toll was about to pass 100,000, and so wanted to create something memorable - something you could look back on in 100 years to understand what society was going through.

The front page was reminiscent of what a newspaper might look like during a bloody war. It brought to mind the way American TV stations had reported the names of fallen soldiers at the end of every day during the Vietnam War.

The idea spread quickly across the world. A few weeks later, in Sweden, the front page of Dagens Nyheter was covered with 49 colour photographs below the words: "One Day, 118 Lives."

Those 118 people had passed away on April 15. It was the highest daily death toll recorded throughout the spring. Since then, it had steadily been falling.

When epidemiologist Johan Giesecke read the paper, it left him a little puzzled. On any normal day, 275 people die in Sweden, he thought.

Giesecke had spent a large part of his life studying just that: where, when and how people die. The way the world currently thought about death was, to him, completely alien.

When Giesecke had taken part in an online conference in Johannesburg, one participant had pointed out that, in that year alone, more than 2 million people had died of hunger in the world. During the same period, Covid-19 had claimed between 200,000 and 300,000 lives.

Giesecke felt as though the world was going through a self-inflicted global disaster. If things had simply been left to run their course, he thought, it would have been over by now.

Instead, millions of children were being deprived of their education. In some countries, they weren't even allowed to go to playgrounds. From Spain came stories of parents sneaking down into parking garages with their children to let them run around.

Healthcare services had postponed tens of thousands of surgeries. Screenings for everything from cervical to prostate cancer were put on ice.

This wasn't just happening in other countries. Sweden had seen its fair share of peculiar decisions, too. The Swedish police hadn't tested drivers for insobriety for months, out of fear of the virus. This year, it didn't seem quite as serious if someone were to get killed by a drunk driver.

It was becoming obvious that the media, the politicians and the public had a hard time assessing the risks of the new virus.

To most people, the figures didn't mean anything. But they saw the healthcare services getting overwhelmed in several countries. They heard the testimonies from nurses and doctors.

Here and there in the world - in Germany, the UK, Ecuador... - people had been taking to the streets to protest the rules, laws and decrees curtailing their lives.

From other countries came reports that people were starting to flout the restrictions. But the force of the resistance remained weaker than Giesecke had expected. There had been no French revolution, no global backlash.

One explanation for the citizens' passivity might have been the coverage of the deadliness of the virus in the media. It seemed that they had been fed a non-contextualised picture of how serious the Covid-19 pandemic really was.

During the spring and the summer, global consultancy firm Kestek CNC had asked people in five big democracies - the UK, Germany, France, the US and Japan - about all kinds of things relating to the virus and society.

The sixth country in the survey was Sweden. Sweden was a lot smaller than the other countries, but was included owing to the unique path it was taking through the pandemic.

The questions were about everything, ranging from people's opinions on actions taken by the authorities, to the state of the job market, and on whether they thought their governments were providing sufficient support to trade and industry.

The twelfth and final topic in the survey contained two questions: "How many people in your country have had the coronavirus? How many people in your country have died?"

At the same time as increasingly reliable figures were trickling in with regard to the actual deadliness of Covid-19, there was now a study of the number that people believed had died.

In the US, the average guess in mid-July was that 9 per cent of the population had died. If that had been true, it would have corresponded to almost 30 million Americans deaths.

The death toll was thus overestimated by 22,500 per cent - or 225 times over. In the UK as well as in France and Sweden, the death toll was exaggerated a hundredfold. The Swedish guess of 6 per cent would have corresponded to 600,000 deaths in the country. By then, the official death toll was more than 5,000 and inching closer to 6,000.

Reporting the average guess was perhaps a little misrepresentative, as some people replied with very high numbers. In the UK, the most common answer was that around 1 per cent of the population had died - in other words, a lot less than the 7 per cent average.

But it was still a figure that overestimated the number of deaths more than tenfold. At this point, 44,000 Brits had been registered dead - or around 0.07 per cent of the population.

The breakdown of the numbers further showed that more than one-third of the Brits responded with a figure of over 5 per cent of the

population. This would have been like the whole population of Wales dropping dead. It would have meant many times more Brits dying of Covid-19 than during the entire Second World War - civilian and military casualties included.

The war rhetoric brandished by the leaders of the world had had an impact. Their citizens really did believe that they were living through a war. Then, two years into the pandemic, the war ended.

There were no longer any foreign journalists at the Swedish Public Health Agency's press conferences. No Americans, Brits, Germans or Danes asked why schools were staying open, or why the country hadn't gone into lockdown.

In large part, this was because the rest of the world had quietly begun to live with the new virus. Most of the world's politicians had given up hope on both lockdowns and school closures.

And yet, considering all those articles and TV segments that had been produced about Sweden's foolishly libertarian attitude to the pandemic, considering the way some data sources had been referenced daily by the world's media, this sudden lack of interest was strange.

For anyone still interested, the results were impossible to deny. By the end of 2021, a total of 56 countries had registered more deaths per capita from Covid-19 than Sweden.

With regard to the restrictions that the rest of the world had put so much faith in - school closures, lockdowns, face masks and mass testing - Sweden had more or less gone in the opposite direction. Yet its results were not noticeably different from those of other countries.

It was beginning to become increasingly clear that the political measures that had been deployed against the virus were of limited value. But no one spoke about this.

From a human perspective, it was easy to understand why so many were reluctant to face the numbers from Sweden.

For the inevitable conclusion must be that millions of people had been denied their freedom, and millions of children had had their education disrupted, all for nothing. Who would want to be complicit in that?

A Brownstone Institute/The Epoch Times dispatch. Johan Anderberg is a journalist and author of The Herd, a bestselling history of the Swedish experience during Covid-19.

UNITED NATIONS

Move set to undermine the anachronistic veto powers in UN Security Council gains traction

The five permanent members (P5) of the UN Security Council (UNSC) - UK, US, France, China and Russia - have exercised their veto powers primarily to protect their own national interests or the interests of their close political and military allies.

But a proposed new resolution before the General Assembly (GA) - entitled "Standing mandate for a General Assembly debate when a veto is cast in the Security Council" - is an attempt to undermine the veto in a move likely to be supported by a majority of the 193 member states.

As of last week, the resolution had 57 co-sponsors - and counting.

US Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield told reporters the United States was one of the co-sponsors of the resolution, spearheaded by a core group of Member States led by Liechtenstein.

"This innovative measure would automatically convene a meeting of the General Assembly after a veto has been cast in the Security Council," she said.

As negotiated in 1945, she pointed out, the UN Charter entrusts in the five Permanent Members of the Security Council the ability to prevent the adoption of a resolution through a veto - a mechanism long the subject of institutional debate.

"The United States takes seriously its privilege of veto power; it is a sober and solemn responsibility that must be respected by those Permanent Members to whom it has been entrusted," she declared.

Permanent Member casts a veto, that member should be prepared to explain why the resolution at issue would not have furthered the maintenance of international peace and security, said Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield.

"Unfortunately, not all members of the Security Council share this sentiment. We are particularly concerned by Russia's shameful pattern of abusing its veto privilege over the past two decades, including its vetoes to kill a UN observer mission in Georgia, block accountability measures and chemical weapons investigations in Syria, prevent the establishment of a criminal tribunal on the downing of flight MH-17 over Ukraine, and protect President Putin from condemnation over his unprovoked and unjust war of choice against Ukraine."

The General Assembly resolution on the veto, she declared, will be a significant step toward the accountability, transparency, and responsibility of all of the Permanent Members of the Security Council members who wield its power.

Stephen Zunes, Professor of Politics and International Studies at the University of San Francisco, who has written extensively on the politics of the Security Council, told IPS the General Assembly Resolution 377, adopted back in 1950, gives the GA the authority to make recommendations for collective action in the event that the Security Council fails to act as required to maintain international security and peace.

He pointed out that the General Assembly has invoked this resolution on four occasions when a widely supported resolution was blocked by a veto: in 1950, in regard to the Korean War;



Russia, which held the rotating presidency of the UN Security Council last month, cast its veto on a resolution condemning the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Credit: United Nations

in 1981, regarding Namibia; and in 1980 and 1997, involving resolutions concerning Palestine.

"There is some irony in the United States pushing for a more active role for the General Assembly, given that three of those four cases were in response to a U.S. veto. Indeed, over the past fifty years, Washington has been responsible for far more vetoes than any other Security Council member."

Of the 72 U.S. vetoes of Security Council resolutions, the United States was the sole negative vote in 63 of them, he said.

Asked about a proposal from an Asian country, back in the late 1970s, calling for a double-veto as more effective, instead of a single

veto, Zunes said it "certainly has merit". "But since it would require amending the UN Charter, it is not only likely that Russia would block it, but probably the United States as well".

The proposed resolution "decides," among other things, "that the President of the General Assembly shall convene a formal meeting of the Assembly within ten working days of the casting of a veto by one or more permanent members of the Security Council, to hold a debate on the situation as to which the veto was cast, provided that the General Assembly does not meet in an Emergency Special Session on the same situation."

James Paul, who authored "Of Foxes and Chickens: Oligarchy and Global Power in the UN Security Council," told IPS that ever since the founding of the UN in 1945, the great majority of UN member states have insisted that vetoes in the Security Council hobble action to preserve the peace.

Experts have often pointed out that the veto keeps many important matters outside of Council action entirely.

"Though the five veto-wielding Permanent Members have never agreed to an alteration of their veto powers, smaller countries in the UN General Assembly have sought to weaken the veto, through procedures and actions that delegitimize

veto-use and protest against veto-protected aggression and other breaches of the peace by the most powerful governments," he argued.

A group of like-minded countries, keen on strengthening international peace and legality (and protecting themselves from larger aggressors), has launched the current initiative, building on opposition to the Russian veto of a Council resolution condemning its invasion of Ukraine.

This initiative, he said, would automatically trigger a General Assembly debate anytime the veto is used in the Security Council. In theory, an Assembly debate (even though non-binding) might be a disincentive to veto-use by a Permanent Member. Even if the embarrassment of a de-

bate would not always act as a brake on the arrogance of powerful states, it would be worth implementing

Andreas Bummel, executive director of the Berlin-based Democracy Without Borders, told IPS: "We strongly support Liechtenstein's initiative that the General Assembly is to meet automatically each time a veto is cast in the Security Council.

This, he said, will force the permanent members of the council to justify their vote to the world community. The political cost of misusing the veto will be raised.

Further the General Assembly routinely will be able to consider its own measures. It's an important step in the right direction, said Bummel.

"It is highly welcome and noteworthy that the United States is one of the co-sponsors of the proposed resolution. Obviously, they are prepared to explain any future use of the veto in front of the General Assembly and accept its subsidiary responsibility".

In a next step, he argued, there should be an understanding that permanent members can cast no votes that are not treated as vetoes against resolutions that otherwise have a majority to pass.

"The UN's whole setup needs to be reviewed though. Everybody knows that it's anachronistic. Eventually, the permanent members need to be prepared to let go of their veto privilege altogether".

In an interview with IPS, Paul warned: "We have to remember that Permanent Members have many cards to play. The United States, by far the most powerful actor on the world stage, has tremendous influence over a majority of Council members. It often can block or greatly alter Council action without having to cast a veto".

That is why its invasion and occupation of Iraq in 2003, though initially rejected by the Council, was eventually tolerated by the same Council for many years. In the case of repeated US vetoes of Council resolutions on Israel, the US has never paid a heavy political price.

He said many observers point out that great powers like Russia and the United States constantly act in contempt of multilateralism and with scant regard for the UN and international law.

"So, we can well ask how the United Nations can succeed in a world exposed to such cynical use of violence and raw national aggrandizement. There is certainly no easy answer, but it is clear that those who seek to undermine the veto and expand the potential of international law are on the right course".

"One day, we can hope, we will prevail," he said.

Meanwhile, a proposal to reform the Security Council has dragged on for more than two decades, with four strong contenders for permanent seats, namely Germany, India, Japan and Brazil.

But if they do eventually succeed in their attempts, they have to put up with what is best described as "second-class citizenship", because the P5 have given no indications that any new comers to their ranks will be offered veto powers.

Still, African leaders have long insisted they will not accept any permanent memberships in the UNSC, without veto powers.



US Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield at a UN Security Council meeting. Credit: United Nations

Earth day is a time to reflect on what it really means to invest in our planet

URBANA, Illinois, USA

Around the world, Earth Day 2022 is being celebrated. The theme this year is "Invest in Our Planet". To mark the day, activities such as planting trees, protests, marches, cleaning up litter, and conferences will be held to highlight the importance of investing and taking care of our planet.

This is sorely needed as our planet is in its worst shape ever, according to the 2022 and 2021 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, and its citizens are facing daunting challenges including food insecurity and COVID-19.

Other evidence to highlight our unhealth planet included increase in the occurrence of billion dollar weather and climate disasters with dire impacts to humans and other species that live in our planet, land and soil degradation, and accelerating loss of biodiversity and species including insects.

Since there is nothing significant to celebrate, just work to do, it is only fair we reflect on what it means to invest in our planet.

And so, I took time to reflect on what this theme means to me, as a person who grew up on a farm in the Kenyan Coast, as a food security advocate and as a female African scientist.

My research aims to find sustainable ways to feed our growing population and uncover novel ways to combat the impacts climate change extremes such as flooding, droughts and crop devouring insects have on agricultural crop plants.

First, investing in our planet, means investing in the people living in it and making sure everyone around the world has access to nutritious food. At the moment, over 800 million of people living in our planet are hungry. According to the United Nations World Food Programme, 44 million people in 38 countries are facing famines all because of climate shocks, conflict, and the global pandemic.

Solving hunger for the millions that are impacted, many of whom live in developing countries, means investing in agriculture. Most of the world's poor, including women, are rural people earning livings from agriculture.

To accelerate progress, it is imperative to invest in ensuring that farmers have the tools and knowledge base to mitigate the climate change impacts on agriculture. Such



Groundnut farm in Torit, South Sudan. Credit: Isaiah Esipisu/IPIS.

tools include access to financing, and agricultural inputs as well as extension services and capacity building and technology transfer schemes to ensure that farmers can implement science-proven climate smart agricultural practices.

Climate smart agricultural practices aim to tackle three objectives: sustainably increase agricultural productivity, adapt, and build resilience to climate change and reduce or remove greenhouse gas emissions.

These initiatives employ and

encourage several strategies including timely planting of improved crop varieties, diversifying crop base, using integrated pest and weed management, and delivering timely seasonal and current weather information to farmers and sharing agricultural innovations.

Second, investing in the planet means investing in empowering women and girls, particularly, women from marginalized communities. Women continue to play multiple roles in our planet including serving in the agricul-

tural workforce as food producers of food.

In many African countries including Cameroon, Gabon, Kenya, according to the World Bank, women make up over 40 percent of the agricultural workforce.

Thirdly, investing in our planet means investing in science. Science will continue to bring forth novel solutions to address these challenges and it is imperative that developed and developing countries alike invest and increase the national budgets

allocated to science funding, particularly, science that is understanding the changing climate and strategies for increasing climate resilience.

Fourth, investing in our planet means highlighting and nurturing all voices - Black, white, lesbians, gay and queer.

Despite the issue affecting us all, surprisingly, the voices that continue to be heard are consistently white and straight. This must change. We must reiterate the fact that the impacts of our changing climate affect everyone

and have no respect for boundaries humanity has created.

We must encourage and highlight activists from all continents and backgrounds. Doing so will reinforce the message that we are in this planet together and collectively, we can act.

Clearly, Our Earth and planet and the people living in it will continue to experience new and harsh realities in part due to the changed climate. We all must strive to reflect and proactively do something. Time is of essence.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



Tanga district commissioner Hashimu Mgangilwa addresses guests during iftar hosted by Exim Bank Tanzania for its customers in Tanga Region as a continuation of the bank's programme to host such events countrywide during the Holy month of Ramadhan. The event was held in Tanga city at the weekend. It was attended by various stakeholders of the bank including customers, bank employees as well as various government officials. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

African scientists facing difficulties utilising climate change mitigation funding - research

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

AS the world marks Earth Day, activists in Africa are calling for wealthier countries to take responsibility for climate change and do more to help developing countries cope with the repercussions.

In Africa, the climate crisis is threatening the livelihoods of millions and the availability of food and water. In recent, the continent has seen economic and population growth that has led to environmental degradation while suffering extreme climatic events such as floods, heatwaves and drought.

Speaking online at the Exponential Climate Action Summit, Susan Chomba, head of Vital Landscapes for Africa at the World Resource Institute, said regulation of land use needs to be prioritised to preserve nature.

"For instance, most of the remaining areas with high biodiversity are the same areas that are increasingly receiving a lot of pressure from farming to produce food for people to eat not just locally in Africa but via local supply chain," Chomba said. "That emphasis on the issue of how we address the demand for luxury products, demand for overconsumption of things that are driving deforestation, that are driving land degradation is critical."

Much of Africa's climate crisis is blamed heavy on atmospheric pollution by developed countries. Although developed countries pledged to give \$100 billion to developing countries to help them adapt to the effects of climate change, that funding, combined with eligibility requirements to receive, is not adequate.

John Recha, a climate scientist with the International Livestock Research Institute, said the priorities of donor and receiving countries are different when dealing with climate mitigation strategies. He said the funds come with conditions and restrictions that make it difficult for the nations to use them in ways they would prioritize.

"Instead, they must use the funds to sometimes do what the donors think is a priority," Recha said. "That may not be necessarily, but what is a leading priority within the country."

Fredrick Owino works with 16 African countries on how best to increase and preserve forests as one of the ways to mitigate global climate change. He said the funds to fight climate change come with many conditions that are difficult to fulfill.

"The commitments being made by some developed countries are not accessible, so we are trying to discuss among African countries how best we can access those funds," Owino said. "They usually come as a part of a new requirement to report on our forests, a new arrangement of managing forest which our countries always find difficult to comply with."

The U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change promotes sustainable use and management of forests. Forests store carbon, and the carbon increases concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Environmentalists are calling on African citizens and the world to take action and invest in the planet for a healthy environment and economy.

Worsening drought in Horn of Africa will put 20 million at risk, says WFP

By Special Correspondent

UP to 20 million people could go hungry this year as delayed rains worsen extreme drought in the Horn of Africa region amid a shortfall in humanitarian aid, the World Food Programme (WFP) has said.

Time is running out fast, the UN agency has warned, with Somalia facing "the very real risk of famine" in the coming six months.

Meanwhile, an estimated 72 million Ethiopians are already not getting enough to eat, and half a million Kenyans are just a step away

from catastrophic levels of hunger and malnutrition. "We know from past experience that acting early to avert a humanitarian catastrophe is vital, yet our ability to launch the response has been limited due to a lack of funding to date," said Michael Dunford, WFP's Regional Director for Eastern Africa.

The Horn of Africa endured drought in 2016-2017, but humanitarian assistance was scaled up early, thus saving lives and averting a devastating famine.

Since last year, WFP and its humanitarian partners have been warning that the current drought could be

disastrous if the international community did not act immediately.

Three consecutive seasons of below-average rains have led to a continued deterioration in food security, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The impact has been felt in those households that raise crops or animals, said Dr. Chimimba David Phiri, FAO Sub regional Coordinator for Eastern Africa, who is based in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa.

Some three million livestock have died across southern Ethiopia and arid and semi-arid regions of

Kenya, he reported, while in Somalia, up to 30 per cent of households' herds have died since mid-2021.

"Furthermore, beyond the drought, many of the areas that we are concerned about have been plagued with conflict and insecurity, as well as macroeconomic challenges and rising food prices and recently also by Desert Locust," said Dr. Phiri, speaking to journalists in Geneva.

The situation in the Horn of Africa has also been compounded by the fallout from the war in Ukraine, as the cost of food and fuel continues to soar.

WFP said that drought-

affected countries are likely to be the hardest hit. The cost of a food basket has already risen, particularly in Ethiopia and Somalia, which depend heavily on wheat imports coming from countries in the Black Sea region.

Dr. Phiri added that FAO is also concerned about low supply of fertilizers from the Black Sea region during the second half of the year.

"We believe that the Ukraine crisis has indeed taken some of the lustre from the needs of the Horn of Africa region," he said. "It is important for the world that while they are considering the needs of Ukraine, that they also consider the needs

for the Horn of Africa."

Both UN agencies are seeking a scale-up in support for their operations. They fear that due to a lack of funding, it will be difficult to confront the looming humanitarian catastrophe.

"We must act now on a no-regret basis if we want to prevent a humanitarian catastrophe, and we must significantly scale up our investments on resilient food systems," said Mr. Phiri.

WFP last appealed for desperately needed funding in February but received less than four per cent of what was needed. Some \$473 million is required over the next six months.

Supporting HIV services for flood survivors in S.Africa KwaZulu-Natal

By Special Correspondent

SINCE floods killed 440 people and left many thousands more homeless last week in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), South Africa, UNAIDS has been working with communities, civil society and government leaders to respond.

Together with the UN system in South Africa, donors and other partners, UNAIDS has been urgently evaluating the needs of thousands of people living with HIV who were directly impacted by the flash flooding. Swollen rivers and landslides damaged more than 600 schools and 66 health care facilities, while many homes have been left without running water or electricity. The government health facilities that can operate, say that they are being overwhelmed, with their staff - themselves affected by the flooding - being further stretched by the scale of demand for health services.

"It is a very tense and stressful time for everyone," said Miriam Chipimo, UNAIDS Fast-Track Adviser based in KZN. "Major roads are damaged or flooded, food supplies are disrupted. People are struggling for electricity, water and shelter while worrying about security. Some have to dig through the mud, looking for friends and family members on their own."

Using lessons learned from the Covid-19 pandemic and other humanitarian situations around the world, UNAIDS has prioritised a rapid assessment of flood-affected people living with HIV, to make sure their urgent needs are met.

South Africa has the largest HIV epidemic in the world, and KZN has the country's largest provincial burden, with an estimated two



million people living with HIV, including 76 000 children (December 2020). The floods have particularly impacted eThekweni district, which is home to Africa's largest port in Durban. In 2020, eThekweni had an estimated 641 000 adults and 21 000 children living with HIV.

It is understood that many people living with

HIV are among the thousands left homeless, and many saw their medication washed away with their other belongings. UNAIDS Country Director for South Africa, Eva Kiyango said: "Our response to these terrible floods is to ensure that people living with HIV, TB and STIs can continue to access treatment and related services. Our starting point has been

to engage with as many relevant parties as possible, to find ways to meet the immediate, practical needs of people living with HIV. It is important that our response is coordinated, reflects community priorities and upholds the principle of the greater involvement of people living with HIV/AIDS (GIPA)."

The Government has declared the floods

to be a national state of disaster and has sent 10 000 troops to assist. UNAIDS staff are collaborating on the ground and remotely with the Office of the Mayor of eThekweni, the Office of the Premier of KZN, and the KZN Provincial Department of Health, to help coordinate responses. UNAIDS is also working with the National Association of Child Care Workers which has a large presence in the communities focused on children and young people living with HIV who are particularly vulnerable.

An ongoing project facilitated by UNAIDS has already redirected eight young peer educators to conduct outreach visits to emergency shelters and affected communities to locate people in need, including those who need urgent replenishment of their lifesaving medication. A further 20 child and youth care workers, who are registered health professionals, are distributing medication and providing counselling to affected community members, as well as working with NGOs and others to help distribute donated food, water and clothing.

UNAIDS is working with the UN Country Team through the UN Resident Coordinators office and convening the country-level Joint Team on AIDS, to explore ways to re-programme AIDS funding in support of related emergency measures. UNAIDS is also pursuing similar opportunities with international donors that are already supporting projects overseen by UNAIDS in the province.

Women in Argentina cultivate dignity in cooperative vegetable gardens

BUENOS AIRES

The space consists of just 300 square meters full of green where there is an agro-ecological vegetable garden and nursery, which are the work and dream of 14 women.

Behind it can be seen the imposing silhouettes of the high rises that are a symbol of the most modern and sought-after part of Argentina's capital city.

But the Viverra Orgánica (Organic Nursery) forms part of another reality: it is located in a low-income neighborhood which has been transformed in recent years thanks to the work of local residents and to government support.

"We started with the idea of growing some fresh vegetables for our families. And today we are a cooperative that opens its doors to the neighborhood and also sells to people who come from all over the city, and to companies," Peruvian immigrant Elizabeth Cuenca, who came to Buenos Aires from her country in 2010 and settled in this neighborhood on the banks of the La Plata River, tells IPS.

The Barrio Rodrigo Bueno emerged as a shantytown in the 1980s on flood-prone land in the south of Buenos Aires.

It is just a few blocks from Puerto Madero, an area occupied for decades by aban-



Several women prepare the products of the Viverra Orgánica, next to part of a mural painted on the door of the container that serves as the office of their small business in a low-income neighborhood in the Argentine capital. CREDIT: Ministry of Human Development and Habitat of the City of Buenos Aires

andoned port warehouses, which since the 1990s has been renovated and gentrified, experiencing a real estate boom that has made it the most sought-after by the wealthy in Buenos Aires.

The contrast between the exposed brick houses of Rodrigo Bueno, separated by narrow, often muddy corridors, and the slick glassy 40- or 50-story skyscrapers built between the wide streets of Puerto Madero became a powerful image of inequality in Greater Buenos Aires, a

megacity of nearly 15 million inhabitants.

However, today things are completely different in Rodrigo Bueno, named after a popular singer who suffered a tragic death in 2000.

It is one of the four shantytowns in the city (out of a total of about 40, according to official figures) that are in the process of urbanization - or "socio-urban integration", as the Buenos Aires city government describes the process.

Since 2017, streets have

been widened and paved, infrastructure for public service delivery was brought in, and 46 buildings with 612 new apartments were built, which now house nearly half of the neighborhood's roughly 1,500 families.

Many of the old precarious houses were demolished while others still stand alongside the brand-new apartments, awarded to their new owners with 30-year loans.

"When the urbanization process began to be

discussed, we started having skills and trades workshops and there was one on gardening, which was attended by many women who, although we lived in the same neighborhood, did not know each other," says Cuenca.

"That's how we learned, we organized ourselves and were able to get a space for the Viverra, which we inaugurated in December 2019. Today we sell vegetables and especially seedlings for people who want to start their own vegetable gardens at home. We don't earn wages, but we generate an income," she adds.

She was working as a cleaner and caring for the elderly in family homes, when she lost her jobs due to the restrictions on movement aimed at curbing the COVID pandemic.

"La Viverra has been very important for me, because it is near our homes and we can always come here," says Flores.

The nursery receives no government subsidies and the 14 women earn little money from it, so almost all of them have other jobs. But they are all confident that they have the potential to grow and that the nursery will become their only job in the future.

"During the worst period of the pandemic, we put together 15 boxes a day with 12 seedlings to sell, but we received 60 orders a day. We couldn't keep up with demand," says Angela Oviedo from Peru, who is also a member of the group.

The hurdles thrown up by informal employment

The Buenos Aires city government provides technical support for the Viverra Orgánica as part of the neighborhood's socio-urban integration process.

Low-income sectors in Argentina have been hard-hit since the process of devaluation of the peso began four years ago, accompanied by high inflation, leading to a steep plunge in purchasing power, especially for workers in the informal economy.

In 2020 the crisis was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused the economy to shrink by 10 percent. And while almost all of the losses were recovered in 2021, the alarming fact is that most of the jobs that have been created since then are informal.

According to data from the Argentine Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security, in January this year there were 6,034,637 registered workers in the private sector, down from 6,273,972 in January 2018, before the start of the recession.

The Buenos Aires city government's Ministry of Human Development and Habitat estimates that there are some 500,000 workers in the informal economy in the capital, who have been the hardest hit by inflation, which reached 6.7 percent last March, the highest rate for a single month in Argentina in the last 20 years.

Many analysts warn that poverty, which in the second half of last year fell from 40.6 percent to 37.3 percent according to the National Institute of Statistics and Census, will grow again in 2022. Assistance in joining the formal sector

"In poor neighborhoods there are many businesses, but the problem is that because of the situation in the informal economy, they face enormous hurdles in order to grow and to be able to connect with the formal market," explains Belén Barreto, undersecretary for the Development of Human Potential in the government of Buenos Aires.

"One issue has to do with productivity: in general, the entrepreneurs work in their own homes and are not able to scale up significantly. That is why we support the Viverra with technical assistance, so the project can reach production levels enabling it to sell in the city's formal value chains," she adds in an interview with IPS.

Barreto says that another obstacle has to do with marketing: entrepreneurs find it difficult to sell their products outside the environment in which they live, despite the growth of on-line sales.

"That is why our focus is on linking these small businesses with companies so that they can become their suppliers in order to earn a more sustainable income and scale up their production through a new market. Last Christmas we held business roundtables and managed to get more companies to buy gifts from the social and popular economy, for a total of 17 million pesos (about 150,000 dollars)," she adds.

Finally, to address the problem of access to credit for informal workers, in 2021 the Buenos Aires city government created the Social Development Fund (Fondes), a public-private fund for the social and popular economy.

The steady growth of the informal economy also prompted the local government to create last year the Registry of Productive Units of the Popular and Social Economy, which allows access to tax benefits and has so far registered some 3,000 self-managed units.

The transformation of the neighborhood has also brought greater opportunities for local residents, who are often victims of discrimination and prejudice.

Cuenca, for example, explains that "we didn't used to have an address to give when we were looking for a job, and it was very unlikely that we would get called back."

She sees the Viverra Orgánica as another tool for a more dignified life: "This project is part of the neighborhood and part of us; we now feel that we have different prospects."

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 270 00--

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions. Clues include: 3 letters: HER, ASI, YES; 4 letters: EDIT, TEEN, NILE, GAME, KALE, RIAL RIVER, VAULT, ENTER, LEASE; 5 letters: EENS, VEERS, SAY SO, NEEDY; 6 letters: REMAIN, NERVES, KARATE, LEAVES; 7 letters: ENCHANT; 8 letters: ONE LINER; 9 letters: MOUSE DEER, INTACTING.

RADIO One RAJIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

Table with 7 columns (Monday to Sunday) and 2 rows (Time Programme). Lists broadcast schedules for Radio One, including programs like 'Hali ya Hewa', 'Nipashe', 'Mwanzo', 'Mwanzo wa Magazeti', 'Mwanzo wa Muziki', etc.

BUSINESS



A Nissan Tanzania official speaks during the launch of Nissan Nivara last year. The company now expects to sell up to 500 vehicles this year. PHOTO/FILE

Nissan: We expect to sell 400-500 vehicles in Tanzania this year

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

NISSAN Motors Tanzania is targeting to sell up to 500 vehicles in Tanzanian market this year, in line with its commitment to support Tanzania's economic development through providing flexible and all terrain transport needs.

The Nissan Tanzania Sales and Marketing Manager Alfred Minja said the automotive industry was severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic as it disrupted global production and sales. "Our target is to sell between 400-500 brand new units in Tanzania this year. The Nissan Terra has had a very good reception as we have already sold five units during the first week of its introduction in the market and we are still receiving orders," he said during unveiling new Nissan Terra vehicles.

He noted that Nissan last year sold 362 brand new Nissan models out of a total of 2000 brand new units sold by various auto-makers operating in the country.

Speaking during the event held in Dar es Salaam mid this week, Nissan Tanzania managing director Mark Van Rooyen commended Government's efforts to improve the business operating environment adding that such efforts will be rewarding in the near future.

"We commend President Samia Suluhu Hassan's efforts in improving the business environment. We believe her efforts will reap big with increased investments in the country which literally translates to increased jobs. At Nissan Tanzania, we are fully committed to support Tanzania's development efforts," he said.

Commenting on the newly unveiled Nissan Terra, Rooyen said the new SUV model comes with a bold new design and built-for comfort spaciousness built with breakthrough engineering and cutting-edge Nissan Intelligent Mobility (NIM) technologies that offer superior driving experience and ad-

venture.

"The all-new Nissan Terra is tough for any terrain. With comfort, flexibility, power, styling and SUV presence, the vehicle is made for families to take on the world together. It is available in the Tanzanian market at a starting price of 172m/- VAT inclusive," he said.

In November last year, the company announced a plan to facilitate establishment of an assembly plant due to growing automobile market.

The plan was unveiled by the company chairman Tim Jaques during the launch of Nissan Navara truck, who said discussions were in progress with authorities on the plan as there is conducive environment for investments in country.

"We are open to conversation, but we are also eager to engage in national economic growth since we have been in Tanzania for some years now and we have seen significant signals of a developing automotive vehicle industry," Jaques was quoted as saying last year.



Our target is to sell between 400-500 brand new units in Tanzania this year. The Nissan Terra has had a very good reception as we have already sold five units during the first week of its introduction in the market and we are still receiving orders

Zones livestock sale registered 460bn/-revenue in Q4 of 2021

By Guardian Reporter

LIVESTOCK sales in Tanzania mainland official markets registered a slight increase of revenue by 2bn/- to 460bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year from 458bn/- recorded during similar quarter of 2020, Bank of Tanzania (BOT) has reported.

According to the consolidated zonal economic report for Q4, 2021 published late last week, total value of livestock sold during the third quarter of last year amounted 610bn/-.

Data by Regional Secretary Offices and BOT say an increase was largely driven by price was observed in Lake Zone and Southern Highlands Zone, while the remaining zones recorded a decrease in revenue.

Lake Zone, which accounts for 26.7 percent of total livestock trade in Tanzania mainland, a total revenue amounting 122bn/- was recorded during the fourth quarter of last year from 106bn/- recorded during Q4, 2020.

The second largest market is Central Zone where the amount slightly decreased to 102bn/- from 117bn/- or 22.3 percent of total market value, followed by Northern Zone, where the value of livestock sold amounted 117bn/- from 113bn/- respectively.

According to the report, the Southern Highlands, which accounts for 5.3 percent of total market share, recorded livestock sale amounting 24.4bn/- from 22.6bn/- respectively, while the eastern southern zone, which accounts for 5.2 percent of total markets share sold livestock



A customer holds a goat before buying it at one of the livestock markets in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO/FILE

valued 26bn/- during Q4, 2021 from 24bn/- in Q4, 2020.

Cattle trade remained dominant accounting for 89.5 percent of the total value of livestock sold in the markets, according to the report.

The value of cattle sold during the period reviewed increased to 412.1bn/- in the fourth quarter of last year, of which Lake Zone sold 111.5bn/-, Central zone had 93bn/- and Northern zone with 100bn/- while in Q4, 2020 a total

value amounted 408bn/-.

The value of cattle sold in Dar es Salaam zone slowed to 61.6bn/- in 2021 from 67.7bn/- recorded during similar quarter of 2020 due to decrease in price, although number of cattle sold increased to 64,824 from 62,525 respectively.

The report shows that the value of goats sold in all markets increased to 38.7bn/- during the third fourth last year from 40.6bn/- in Q4, 2020, but number

of goat sold slightly increased to 451,116 from 436,951 respectively.

Northern zone had the largest value of goat sold amounting 13.5bn/- out of total revenue amounting 38.7bn/- followed by Lake Zone with 8.5bn/-.

The value of sheep sold during the last quarter of last year was 9.5bn/- of which Northern Zone had the largest share with 3.9bn/- followed by Lake zone with 2.7bn/-.

Habib African Bank reports 668m/ net profit Q1, 2022

By Guardian Reporter

HABIB African Bank Limited recorded a net profit amounting 668mn/- during the first quarter of this year, from a loss of 163mn/- recorded during the first quarter of last year.

The bank's quarterly financial statement shows the growth of income resulted from improved net interest income, reduced impairment losses on loans and advances, and slight drop of non-interest expenses of which increased operating income to 968mn/- from 135mn/- respectively.

Net interest income went up to 2.3bn/- during the first quarter this year from 1.9bn/- recorded during similar quarter last year while impairment losses on loans and advances slowed to 16mn/- from 298m/ respectively.

According to the statement, net interest expenses slowed to 2.4bn/- from 2.5bn/- respectively and the bank had no bad debt written off during the reviewed periods. Loans, advances and overdraft increased to 169.7bn/- from 148bn/- respectively.

Non-performing loans and advanced slightly decreased to 10bn/- from 10.1bn/- during the reviewed quarters while non-performing loans to total gross loans slowed to 5.7 percent in Q1, 2022 from 6.7 percent in Q1, 2021.

The statement shows the bank's total assets slightly went down to 297bn/- in the first quarter of this year from 300bn/- recorded in Q4, 2021 due to decrease balance with Bank of Tanzania (BOT), investment in government securities, customer liability on acceptance and balance with other banks and financial institutions.

Balance with BOT slowed to 23.3bn/- from 26.3bn/- in Q4, 2021, investment in government securities decreased to 59.3b/ from 72.4bn/- respectively, while customer liability on acceptance went down to 5.5bn/-



A Habib African Bank branch in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO/FILE

from 10.1bn/- and balance with other banks and financial institutions was 23.3bn/- from 28.5bn/-.

Customer deposits also slowed to 235.9bn/- in Q1, 2022 from 237bn/- recorded during the fourth quarter of last year of which slowed the bank's liability to 256bn/- from 260bn/- respectively.

Basic earnings per share also improved to 257/- during the first quarter of this year from a loss of 63/- per share in Q1, 2021, while number of employees went down to 81 from 87 and number of branches remained flat at four.

Established in Tanzania in 1998, Habib African Bank belongs to the most

famous, respected and trusted Habib family who are treated as the pioneers of banking industry in the sub continents.

Globally the Habib family has interests in financial institutions in the three continents, namely, Africa, Asia and Europe.

Barclays halves stake in Absa via \$687m stake sale

LONDON

BARCLAYS Plc has sold a 74 percent stake in former African unit Absa Group Ltd for 526 million pounds (\$687 million), cutting its holding by half.

The firm priced an accelerated placing of 63 million shares at 164 rand each (\$10.88), according to a statement issued on Thursday.

That was a 73 percent discount to the Johannesburg-listed stock's Wednesday close. Barclays gath-

ered enough investor orders to cover the sale within minutes of opening the book, terms seen by Bloomberg showed. Absa fell as much as 6.5 percent and was trading 5.3 percent lower at 167.63 rand as of 9:16 a.m. in Johannes-

burg. Barclays shares were little changed.

Barclays had a 15 percent holding in the African lender before the sale. The British bank, which has had a presence in Africa for more than 100 years, has been re-

ducing its stake in Johannesburg-based Absa in recent years. It sold off much of its controlling stake in the group - then-Barclays Africa Group - in 2017.

The placing is estimated to result in an increase of approxi-

mately 10 basis points to Barclays' CET1 ratio - a key measure of capital strength - as of Dec. 31, 2021.

The net proceeds from the deal will be used for the group's general corporate purposes, Barclays said in the statement. The bank's

remaining 74 percent stake in Absa is now subject to a lock-up restriction, which applies until 60 days after settlement. Barclays, Absa, Citigroup Inc., Banco Santander SA and Societe Generale SA are arranging the sale.

Bulgarian investors to construct four 5-star hotels in national parks



Tanzania Tourist Board chairman Judge (Retired) Thomas Mihayo. PHOTO/FILE

By Beatrice Philemon

BULGARIAN investors are expecting to construct four best Five-Star Lodges in four National parks to accommodate the growing number of tourists visiting Tanzania national parks.

Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) Chairman Judge (rtd) Thomas Mihayo said yesterday that such investment will brought in positive result in terms of increasing hotel rooms.

He named the national parks as Tarangire, Manyara, Serengeti and Ngorongoro, the lodges will be supervised by Kempiski Company.

"Such investment are ur-

gently needed in this northern circuit because we have serious shortage of such lodge rooms in the parks and tourism sector is growing rapidly in the country," he said

Additionally, TTB is still inviting local and foreign investors from different countries across the world who can build hotels and lodges in both northern and southern circuit falling in the categories of between three, four and five stars because currently we have serious shortage of such hotel and lodge rooms in the park.

Investors keen to invest in Tanzania, Tanapa has been able to set up Liaison and Information Office located at Utalii House in

Kinondoni District.

Through its Liaison and information office investors will get information on how to establish their investment projects there.

"The office is there for you, welcome and use it because we have experts there and right now Tanzania is recognized worldwide as best destination for investment," he said

Currently tourism is one of Tanzania's fastest growing economic sectors representing a 17.2% GDP.

Tourists willing to visit in Tanzania, Tanzania, the largest country in East Africa, is focused on wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism, with approximately 28% of the land protected by the Government,

the largest percentage of any country in the world.

It boasts of 16 National Parks and 32 Game Reserves, 50 Game Controlled Areas, one special Conservation Area (the Ngorongoro) and three Marine Parks. It is home to the tallest mountain in Africa, the legendary Mt. Kilimanjaro.

The Serengeti, home to the "Great Animal Migration" that was named the New 7th Wonder of the World, the world acclaimed Ngorongoro Crater, often referred to as the "Eden of Africa" and the "8th Wonder of the World and Olduvai Gorge, the cradle of mankind.

Others includes the Selous Game Reserve, the

world's largest game reserve, Ruaha National park, now the second largest National Park in Africa, the spice islands of Zanzibar and seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Most important for visitors, the Tanzanian people, with a rich history and diverse blend of cultures are warm and friendly. Tanzania has an oasis of peace and stability with a democratically elected and stable government.

Also Tanzanians are warm and friendly, they speak English, which together with Kiswahili are the two official languages. The country is an oasis of peace and stability with a democratically elected and stable government.

Digital banking key in reaching markets previously not banked

By Sumit Kumar Sharma

TRADITIONAL bricks and mortar banks have been heavily disrupted by the emergence of digital banking in South Africa. These new entrants into the market have the advantage of being 'born digital', without the years of legacy that the big four banks have. The agility and easy access of digital solutions is changing the game, making banking accessible to markets that have previously been underserved. Traditional banks need to embrace digital transformation (DX) if they are to remain both relevant and competitive today and in the future.

Reaching new markets

One of the biggest limitations of the traditional banking system is the reliance on branch offices, face-to-face communication and paper-based processes. This has meant that typically, people who live in remote and rural areas have not made use of the banking system - branches were too far away, and it was too inconvenient. Digital banking has changed this, because all you need is smartphone and internet connectivity to access savings and credit facilities as well as the innovative new banking products that are now on offer.

Adoption of digital banking is high in South Africa and in many other developing countries because of this ease of access, and it will form the basis of economic growth across the African continent. Traditional banks now need to solve this challenge

so that they too are able to access these markets and participate more fully in economic growth and development.

Work in progress

Traditional banking organisations are well aware of the need to adopt DX in an effort to bridge this technology gap; however, it is often easier said than done. One area that has received a lot of focus is communication, as banks take steps to introduce an omnichannel experience that enables customers to receive support 24/7. However, the real gap lies not in the technology, but in the difficulty with change. The intent is there and the demand is there, but the processes that are in place carry the hallmarks of the years of legacy.

The wrap trap

The biggest issue with the current approach to DX is that most of the traditional banks take the approach of wrapping technology around the old ways of working. For example, online account applications still end up requiring paperwork and a visit to a branch for verification, which makes the process difficult for those in remote areas.

If core business processes are not addressed, traditional banks will always remain traditional at heart. Digital banking is more than a chatbot, an app and not having physical branches. It is about how data is handled, the way banks interact with customers, and the agility of internal processes which will affect time to market for new products and services. These

core processes need to be modernised, data platforms need to be transformed and existing mindsets need to shift toward innovation and integration, if legacy banking organisations are to remain relevant and competitive in the future.

Partnering with customers

The disruptors are setting the agenda and consumer behaviours have already changed. Customers are more technologically savvy than ever, and their demands are driving banking to adapt to meet new expectations. Banking is moving from simply an account to store money and transact toward a partnership for financial wellbeing, and innovators are introducing new products and services to meet these needs.

Traditional banks need to identify what they need to change to meet new customer expectations and become more agile in deploying products and services. Digital banks are becoming increasingly mainstream and mature and will play a far bigger role in the sector as time goes on. Change must come from the inside out, because the new world of banking is not just about fancy products, it is about integrating those who were previously excluded from economic participation by the old systems, to drive growth and sustainability.

Sumit Kumar Sharma, (pictured) is Enterprise Architect and Head of Advisory Services at In2IT Technologies



Production starts on National Geographic Kids Africa edutainment programmes

NAIROBI

IN the lead up to Earth Day 2022, The Walt Disney Company, Wildlife Direct, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Department of State have announced that production has commenced on the National Geographic Kids Africa educational entertainment series.

Additionally, the series' first group of presenters has been announced whereby Mysha Hodson (13), Marita Lucas (12), Shanah Manjeru (14), Railey Mwai (10) and Adarsh Nagda (12) will serve as studio and Nairobi based hosts for the show.

CASTING is currently under way for field presenters who will present segments in other regions of Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa and Tanzania.

National Geographic Kids Africa is a collaborative effort to celebrate the environment and raise awareness of conservation and associated issues through a factual entertainment programme for children.

The project aims to inspire and promote positive behaviours among its audiences to protect the world in which they live, through engendering a deeper understanding of their environments.

The 26-part television series will be shot primarily in East Africa with additional filming in West and Southern Africa.

The series will be produced by The Walt Disney Company with White Rhino Films as the production partner.

White Rhino Films is a youthful, creative and vibrant production company, based in Kenya with a passion for crafting quality and engaging stories.

Pan-African crypto currency 'can ease business costs'

By Ivor Price

A common crypto currency and an integrated capital market could boost trade in Africa and sustain growth after the Covid-19 crisis.

As such, a collaborative effort was needed with financial institutions on the digitalisation of delivery and payment channels.

This was the view of experts at the African Economic Conference held in Cape Verde.

They, however, reiterated that the continent first needed to harmonise national rules and protocols governing the financial systems of individual countries to make the reforms workable.

Anouar Hassoune, professor of finance and chief executive of the West Africa Rating Agency, participated in a discussion on reforming Africa's financial system.

He said a common crypto currency will ease the cost of doing business and give the continent an identity.

"We need to come up with a crypto currency that is acceptable to each member state. It's better to do it at the continental level, and we have the expertise to do it. It's a matter of governance, not an issue of technology," Hassoune stressed.

He added that the proposed crypto currency could serve as an alternative to monetise some of the continent's endowments, such as gold and other commodities.

Augustine Ujunwa, an economist at the West African Monetary Institute, said a well-functioning integrated capital market is crucial in raising debt to finance Africa's development needs.

"Currently, our markets are small, our countries are small

and we need to adopt a regional approach towards integrating markets. But, before we get there, we must harmonise our laws, regulations and protocols governing our fintech and digital systems," he said.

Ujunwa said central bank financing had become critical, especially in the wake of the Covid-19 crisis. "Central banks should go beyond their price stability role and pursue a growth-focused monetary policy. They should begin to think of innovative ways of providing finance for the critical sectors of the economy."

The panel, moderated by Marie-Laure Akin-Olugbade, African Development Bank director-general for West Africa, also explored the role of central banks in financing Africa's development, and Islamic financing.

Emmanuelle Riedel Drouin,

head of the economic and financial transition department at Agence Française de Développement, supported the idea of a pan-African crypto currency, but said there were some prerequisites.

"We should not forget that there is a lot of work to be done on the digital infrastructure, the development of payment systems, payment system interoperability really needs to be worked on, so there is a lot of work to be done in collaboration with the financial institutions on digitalisation of delivery and payment channels," she said.

She added that while central banks have a crucial role, it is essential for economies to diversify funding sources to lessen dependence on them.

Panellists noted that the existence of various regional groupings and their different



Presenters of National Geographic Kids Africa educational entertainment series pose for a photo PHOTO/COURTESY

Egyptian writers, intellectuals wish for more popularity of World Book Day

CAIRO

AS the world is marking World Book Day, Egyptian writers, intellectuals, and cultural officials wish for more popularity of the occasion that highlights the value of books, writers and reading as well as the significance of preserving copyrights.

Short for World Book and Copyright Day, it is an annual celebration on April 23 to promote reading, publishing, and copyright.

"Book is something basic and essential. Its popularity reflects the extent of a nation's progress and its ability to be a future civilization maker," said Egyptian novelist Youssef al-Qaeed. World Book Day is significant because it promotes intellectual property rights "not only for writers and publishers but for the reader as well," said al-Qaeed.

Authors' rights are no small matter in terms of protecting one's original thinking and creativity as well as preserving history, Fathy Abdel-Wahab, head of Egypt's Cultural Development Fund, told Xinhua on Saturday.

"A writer's creativity is from his inner self, personal experience, and culture, among many other things," Abdel-Wahab added, stressing the need to raise public awareness. "Writings do not perish by the death of their owners," he noted, citing the works of late Egyptian novelist Naguib Mahfouz, a Nobel laureate in 1988, whose depiction of Egyptian neighborhoods and alleys has remained unique and influential for decades.

Abdel-Wahab is also in charge of the Naguib Mahfouz Museum and Creativity Center, which was opened by the culture ministry in 2019 in the heart of Cairo, featuring his books, handwritten drafts, and other personal belongings, as well as the texts commemorating his life and works.

Echoing al-Qaeed's opinion, Egyptian award-winning novelist Saeed Noah said World Book Day "is a day of festivity for any writer, reader and librarian," and Egypt should do more to raise its visibility to the general public.

DR Congo declares new Ebola outbreak

BRAZZAVILLE/KINSHASA

THE Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) declared the 14th outbreak of Ebola virus after one confirmed case was reported in Mbandaka, a city in the DRC's northwestern Equateur province, the World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed on Saturday.

A positive case of Ebola virus disease has been reported in Wangata Health Zone of the Equateur province, confirmed Saturday DRC's Health Minister Jean-Jacques Mbungani.

The patient, a 31-year-old man, began experiencing symptoms on April 5 and after more than a week of care at home, sought treatment at a local health facility.

On April 21, the patient was admitted to an Ebola treatment centre for intensive care but died later that day, said WHO's regional office for Africa, adding that investigations to determine the source of the outbreak are ongoing.

"Time is not on our side," said Matshidiso Moeti, WHO regional director for Africa.

"The disease has had a two-week head start and we are now playing catch-up. The positive news is that health authorities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo have more experience than anyone else in the world at controlling Ebola outbreaks quickly," said Moeti.

DRC is experiencing its fourteenth Ebola outbreaks since 1976. The current outbreak is the sixth since 2018 alone, the most frequent occurrence in the country's Ebola history. Previous outbreaks in Equateur Province were in 2020 and 2018, with 130 and 54 recorded cases respectively, according to the WHO.

In December 2021, DRC has declared end of its 13th Ebola outbreak in which eight cases were confirmed and three probable, including six deaths in the northeastern North Kivu province.

"Many people in Mbandaka are already vaccinated against Ebola, which should help reduce the impact of the disease," said Dr Moeti. "All those who were vaccinated during the 2020 outbreak will be revaccinated."

COVID-19 was third leading death cause in US in 2021

LOS ANGELES / BRASILIA / LONDON

COVID-19 was the third leading cause of death in the United States in 2021, following heart disease and cancer, according to a report released Friday by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The report showed that the overall age-adjusted death rate increased by almost 1 percent in 2021 from 2020.

Overall death rates in the country were highest among non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaskan Native and non-Hispanic Black or African American people, according to the CDC.

For the second year, COVID-19 was the third leading cause of death after heart disease and cancer.

The report provides an overview of provisional US mortality data for 2021, including a comparison of death rates for all causes of death and for deaths involving COVID-19, said the CDC in a release.

The results highlight the need for greater effort to implement effective interventions, said the agency.

Brazil

Brazilian Health Minister Marcelo Queiroga signed a decree on Friday ending the COVID-19 public health emergency, effective 30 days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

In its decision to lift the emergency, which has been in force since February 2020, the Health Ministry took into account the national public health system's response capacity, the improved epidemiological situation and the wide vaccination coverage against the virus, the ministry said in a statement.

"Brazil has registered an 80 percent decrease in the moving average

of COVID-19 cases and deaths compared to the peak from the Omicron variant earlier this year," the statement read.

In addition, almost 74 percent of the Brazilian population are fully immunized, while 81 percent have received a first vaccine dose and over 74 million people have been given a booster dose, the ministry said.

However, the Health Ministry emphasized the importance of the vaccination campaign, even after the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency. It added that immunization against COVID-19 is essential to maintain transmission control and that Brazilians must complete the vaccination schedule with both doses and a booster dose.

The South American country has registered more than 30.3 million COVID-19 cases and 662,500 deaths since the beginning of the pandemic.

Britain

England's COVID-19 prevalence fell to 1 in 17 people in the week ending April 16, Britain's Office for National Statistics said on Friday, compared with 1 in 14 recorded in the previous week.

The ONS also said on Friday it estimated that 3.2 million people in England had COVID-19 in the week to April 16.

US

Philadelphia is ending its indoor mask mandate, health officials said late on Thursday, reversing its decision just days after imposing the order.

The Board of Health (BOH) voted on Thursday to end the mandate, the Philadelphia health department said.

Kenya eco-warriors committed to sea turtle protection as threats mount

NAIROBI

THE alluring beauty of Watamu beachfront, located on the northern edge of Kenya's coastal county of Kilifi, is the reason behind its fame locally and abroad.

And for life-long residents of serene villages near Watamu like Athman Abdalla, the picturesque area which is home to sea turtles and other flagship species is interwoven in their heritage and pride.

The 60-year-old father of six and a celebrated eco-warrior within Watamu area is on a mission to protect sea turtles which he admitted have been caught in the cross hairs of man's and nature's cruelty.

Speaking to Xinhua during a recent interview ahead of the World Earth Day observed on Friday, Abdalla regretted that mounting plastic pollution along Watamu beachfront has threatened the survival of the gentle reptiles.

"We have been bumping into dead turtles in the beach most likely after choking with plastics and used fishing nets," said Abdalla who is a member of a grassroots network that has been clearing plastic debris from Watamu shoreline in a bid to protect sea turtles from injury or choking.

Abdalla and his peers are convinced that removing plastic waste from Watamu beaches, crucial nesting sites for sea turtles would boost efforts to save the majestic species.

To prove his commitment to saving sea turtles, Abdalla has also been educating local communities to desist from harvesting them for ornamental, medicinal and dietary purposes. According to Abdalla, a minority coastal tribe has for centuries regarded sea turtles as a delicacy while harboring myths that their fat is an aphrodisiac and ideal for treating heart ailments.

Mohamed Omar, the principal scientist, Marine and Coastal Research Center at Wildlife Research and Training Center lauded community-led initiatives to protect sea turtles, whose survival is at stake amid poaching,



Members of a conservation group based in Kenya's coastal County of Kilifi hold a turtle that was rescued by fishermen at Mida Creek, a marine protected area in North coast, Kenya, April 13, 2022.

industrial fishing, habitat destruction and loss of nesting beaches.

Omar said that Kenya has focused on law enforcement and has been engaging coastal communities in protecting nesting sites for sea turtles, including beaches and coral reefs.

As for Alice Kamau, a 26-year-old Watamu native, stumbling upon a dead turtle presumably after consuming plastics motivated her to participate in beach clean-ups and community education activities aimed at strengthening the protection of the migratory marine

reptiles. "I care about turtles but sadly, they are dying in large numbers from ingesting plastics."

That is why we have been clearing plastic bottles from the beach as our contribution to the conservation of turtles," said Kamau.

For two years, Kamau said that she has been mobilizing women, youth and children to remove plastic waste and discarded fishing nets from the Watamu shoreline, in a bid to shield turtles from harm.

Plastics which comprise 58 percent of marine litter along the Kenyan coastline have emerged as an existential threat to the survival of iconic species like turtles, says Eric Okuku, a research

scientist at Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute.

According to Okuku, 31 percent of an estimated 37,000 tons of plastic waste that enters the Kenyan coastline annually is recyclable, adding that the growth of the circular economy was key to taming the plastic crisis and protecting marine life.

At a turtle rehabilitation center run by Local Ocean Conservation, a Watamu-based not-for-profit organization, local fisherfolk affiliated with the center have aided the rescue of reptiles found floating in the ocean, after ingesting plastics.

Lameck Maitha, the rehabilitation center's coordinator said that some of the rescued turtles have physical injuries linked to entanglement by fishing nets while others have tumors or infestation by parasites.

He added that a sea turtle can only emit microplastics from its stomach through stool after being put on some antibiotics, adding that once the reptiles are free from solid particles and healed from physical injuries, they are returned to their natural habitat in the Indian ocean.

According to Maitha, a sea turtle that has consumed plastic has only 10 percent chance of survival.

The UN Environment Program (UNEP) in a report titled "From Pollution to Solutions: A Global Assessment of Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution" released in 2021 says that 11 million tons of plastic was entering the oceans every year, putting marine life at risk of poisoning, starvation, and suffocation.

French agricultural engineer: Here is where I enjoy my ideal life

IT'S still a little chilly outside at this time of year, but in the blueberry seedling greenhouses of Martin Dabilly, spring is everywhere.

Dabilly is a French agricultural engineer who came to southwest China's Yunnan province 16 years ago. He once planted raspberries in the province and now runs a berry plantation in Longyuan village, Songyang township, Songming county of Kunming, capital of Yunnan.

On a business trip to China in 2006, Dabilly found raspberry, a fruit that was very common in Europe, was rarely sold in China. Therefore, he planned to bring the fruit to the Chinese market.

"The great climate and ecology in Yunnan attracted me," he said, explaining the growing condition of raspberries is very demanding. The fruit needs sufficient sunlight, comfortable temperature and clean air, and that's why the man chose Songming county. What's more important is that the local government attaches high importance on sustainable development, which conforms to his development philosophy.

Huang Jianwei, deputy director of the Songyang neighborhood committee, Songming county, told People's Daily that the local government, with the aim to promote the philosophy of green development, has provided multifaceted policy and capital support for these farmers to help them renew production mode.

Today, more and more greenhouses in the neighborhood have started using degradable films and



Martin Dabilly checks the growth of blueberry seedlings.

organic fertilizers. Besides, the local government has constantly advanced water environment treatment, covering the banks of rivers with paddy fields as a natural way to improve water quality. It is also launching regular monitoring on soil and irrigation water to ensure safety.

"Our blueberry seedlings are mainly aimed at the winter market," Dabilly told People's Daily as he checked the growth of the seedlings in a blueberry seedling workshop. "We have potential customers in these places," he said, pointing to several contiguous green dots on a Yunnan map.

According to data released by Yunnan's provincial department of agriculture

and rural affairs, Yunnan province has become a core producer of berry fruits in China. The province planted 101,200 mu (6,747 hectares) of blueberries in 2020, or 9.5 percent of the country's total. The output stood at 35,000 tonnes, accounting for 17.5 percent of the total production of China.

Dabilly's company has been recording increasingly better performance since it was established. Last year, he applied patents for six blueberry varieties he nurtured, which gained him a number of partners. Now, the partners' total planting area of blueberries has exceeded 6,000 mu.

"I see this as not only a job, but also a pursuit of mine," the man said.

Now Dabilly's plantation hires more than 30 local villagers, who were vegetable farmers before working for the French man. To help them gain berry planting skills as quickly as possible, Dabilly always gathered them for instruction. Soon the villagers could identify the maturity of fruits, as well as pick and pack the fruits quickly. "They are now semi-experts in berry picking," Dabilly said.

Longyuan village, while developing crop farming, has also attempted to build featured industries in the past decades. It has enhanced its support for enterprises and products that have potential, so as to drive local economic development.

The sound industrial development has led to better livelihood. "Many families in the village used to live in houses built with mud and dirt, and villagers always came to the office by foot. But now most of them have built new houses and bought cars. I'm glad to have witnessed all these changes," Dabilly said.

The French man is a biking enthusiast. Every week he would go biking in the forests surrounding Longyuan village together with his friends. He loves the mountains, trees, greenness and vitality there. "Here is where I enjoy my ideal lifestyle," he told People's Daily.



Msondo Ngoma Music Band's saxophonist, Roman Mng'ande.

Msondo Ngoma Music Band set to grace show next month

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

DAR ES SALAAM dance music band, Msondo Ngoma, is one of the prominent troupes that will take part in a show, known as 'Cheza Kadansi', which is expected to take place in the city next month.

The 'Cheza Kadansi' show will moreover bring together four other bands.

The show's coordinator Benard James mentioned the bands as Bogoss Musica led by Nyoshi El-Saadat, Morogoro's Waluguru Original, Arusha's Mjengoni Classic, and Mapacha Watatu led by vocalist Joseph Mponzeya, alias 'Jose Mara'.

James said the show is a continuation of the revival of dance music in the country, adding that it has been held in various regions.

According to the coordinator, the 'Cheza Kadansi' show was last held in Mwanza in February this year.

"Next month we will hold this show in Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam, then we will schedule to continue the show in other regions as, apart from Mwanza, we held it in Arusha, Morogoro, and Dodoma," James noted.

He explained that it would be the first time he invites Msondo Ngoma Music

Band since the 'Cheza Kadansi' show started over three years ago.

James added that he will continue to involve many bands and groups in the 'Cheza Kadansi' show.

"Despite the various challenges, dance music continues to return to its original form, so we are actively organizing the 'Cheza Kadansi' show," he said.

He said the show aims to encourage dance music stakeholders to continue supporting the music genre.

The coordinator noted the show further gears towards persuading local radio and television stations owners to give dance music much space in their media outlets as was the case in previous years.

"If you hear either 'Cheza Kadansi' or 'Wafia Dansi' show, then the goal is that we are still fighting to make sure dance music returns to its original status as it has recently somewhat turned out to be stagnant," he said.

He said dance musicians are also at the forefront of releasing good compositions that are uploaded on the artists' respective social media pages.

According to him, those are among the efforts that are made to ensure dance music does not plunge into oblivion.

Mayele's goals justify TFF had nothing against Yanga

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA forward Fiston Mayele's goals are exciting, much as he has not scored more goals than Simba SC's John Bocco and others.

Mayele has not scored many goals probably because the striker has not played in Tanzania for many years.

The Congolese attacker's few goals nevertheless have been impressive, his goal celebration style has also become a nationwide chatter.

He has brought something new to this season's NBC Premier League.

After all, his goals have brought different perspectives that some local football followers pretend they do not either see or want to talk about.

It starts in his club, Yanga, and the nation, there are a lot of issues behind the scenes but local football enthusiasts conceal them.

Mayele's goals have, for example, prompted Yanga's members and fans to reduce their hatred towards Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) to some extent.

Yanga followers were, a few seasons back, in conflict with the TFF and the Tanzania Premier League Board that the two bodies are favouring Simba SC.

Mayele has come to keep the Yanga enthusiasts calm easily.

To begin with, Yanga did not have a better team than their hometown rivals, Simba SC, but in the world, all prominent and good teams have a striker who knows how to put the ball behind the opposing clubs' net.

Such sides have strikers who will make a difference in their squads and the Premier League standings. That is what Yanga was missing.

How many goals did Ivorian attacker Yikpe Gnamien score for Yanga count even those which were disallowed by the referees?

Later on, a Congolese attacker named David Molinga headed to Yanga, the club's fanatics were just comforting themselves with his presence in the club but no modern striker can have a weight akin to the one Molinga had and then harass the opposing



Yanga's Congolese striker, Fiston Mayele. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

squads' defenders.

There is none, he was scoring because Yanga must score goals in any way.

A person should try to imagine how Molinga seemed to be a key striker for Yanga so much that he started scoring.

It was due to a lack of enthusiasm in the squad. Meanwhile, Simba SC had Meddie Kagere and Bocco. Yanga still believed they were being bullied by TFF.

Later came Ghanaian attacker Michael Sarpong at Yanga. How many goals were netted until Yanga made the point that they were being bullied by TFF?

Sarpong was well-built but soccer lovers never knew exactly where his quality was.

He will be best remembered for scoring for his outfit in a draw with Simba SC.

The attacker found Simba SC's back of the net through a penalty after winger Tuisila Kisinda was fouled by Simba SC's defender Joash Onyango.

Some attackers served Yanga in the past few years, it is difficult to claim Yanga were oppressed.

There are as well defenders that have played for Yanga and it is hard to justify the outfit was being bullied by either referees or TFF.

Since losing Congolese striker, Heritier Makambo, to AC Horoya of Guinea, Yanga had not found an ace striker who could put the ball in the opposing sides' net, let alone have a squad that would put pressure on the referees to be on its side.

Yanga should appreciate having a sponsor, GSM Group, which has at least fought to restore the club's dignity, roping in such players like Mayele and others who have the status of turning out for the side.

But at least now a local football lover can get a headache if he or she decides to choose a joint squad made up of Yanga and Simba SC footballers.

A soccer lover can hardly select a squad now and

leave out the likes of Mayele, Khalid Aucho, Yannick Bangala, and others.

Still, when a soccer enthusiast believes no Yanga player could enter the first team of rival Simba SC, Yanga fanatics surprisingly complained they were being bullied.

A player like Mayele has just revealed to local football followers that Yanga did not have a strong team that would convince a local football follower.

Yanga did not have a strong team that would put the TFF to blame.

This is a fact that is currently not talked about by the club's lovers.

There is also something Mayele has revealed to local football fans, Tanzania's football has a long way to go.

One should try to imagine what the whole country is singing about. Every fan dreams of him but Mayele is not in the DR Congo national team.

Recently the DR Congo national team was trying to qualify for the 2022 World Cup finals, locking horns with Morocco in the final round of continental qualifiers, and Mayele was in the Yanga camp in Kigamboni.

Soccer supporters do not know if the Congolese are aware that they have their own dangerous man who is being sung by the whole of the Tanzania football fraternity.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo's football lovers hardly know. Since arriving in Tanzania, Mayele has never been called up to the DRC national side.

Have any football supporters in Tanzania ever wondered if Mayele would have had a permanent place in the country's national squad, had the striker been a Tanzanian?

Have the fanatics ever wondered if any Tanzanian footballer would be a leading goal scorer in any other league in the world?

Tanzania football lovers must have shouted for him to get a call-up to the national side.

How many Mayeles the Democratic Republic of the Congo has? This is where

Tanzania's football fanatics see the legitimacy of the tough opposition that DRC national squad gave Taifa Stars in the World Cup qualifying tournament.

There are good goal scorers in DR Congo and Tanzania's football followers do not know them. It is like Tanzania football followers did not know Mayele.

Some Congolese attackers hold sway in various clubs in Africa, both prominent and less known, and there are Congolese goal-getters in Europe like Cedric Bakambu and others.

Then some Congolese performers were born and raised abroad, here are two types of Congolese footballers.

There are those born to Congolese parents and there are others with one of the parents originating from DR Congo.

The other performers like Romelu Lukaku that originates from DR Congo opted to play for Belgium.

At this point, DR Congo has a large number of talented football players so much so that the country forgets about Mayele.

There is work to be done to be able to fight a nation like DRC. It is not surprising to see Tanzania players struggle to catch up with Mayele in the NBC Premier League's goal-scoring list and the performers have been called up to Taifa Stars.

These are the likes of George Mpole of Geita Gold FC and Reliants Lusajo of Namungo FC.

It is not just Mayele who is missing from the DR Congo national squad. All Congolese players playing for Yanga could have been called up to the Taifa Stars squad and played without a hitch.

They are missing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's national team and it is still normal.

There is a need to produce more talented players here in Tanzania.

Our colleagues' ponds are full of fish and they have a great ability to catch them and then many disappeared into the water without fear.

Uchukuzi SC enjoys winning streak in 2022 Mei Mosi Cup tourney

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu, Dodoma

THE Ministry of Transport (Transport Sector)'s netball side has continued its winning streak in the 2022 Mei Mosi Cup tournament, cruising to a 43-17 win over National Social Security Fund (NSSF) side in a tie that took place at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma last week.

The tie's eventual winners, who won all three of their group games and secured a place in the top eight, went into the halftime leading 18-9.

In another match, the Ministry of Health's team rallied to beat the College of Rural Development Planning's squad 26-1. Ministry of Health's side commanded an 11-8 lead until halftime.

The Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) squad beat the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) squad 27-21, the former had led 11-8 at halftime.

In the women's category's tug-of-war game, the Ocean Roads Cancer Institute's team overcame Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO)'s side 2-0.

In the sport's other tie, Judiciary Department won 2-0 against National Electoral Commission (NEC) outfit, Ministry of Health's squad won by a similar margin against the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports side.

Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) squad as well defeated the Tanzania Roads Agency (TANROADS) side 2-0.

TPDC outfit defeated the Ministry of Agriculture 2-0 and the Prime Minister's Office, Regional Administration, and Local Governments (PMO-RALG) squad also defeated the Ministry of Home Affairs 2-0.

In the men's tug-of-war game, the Ministry of Transport's team defeated the Treasury squad 2-0, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism as well posted a 2-0 victory over the Ministry of Health's squad.

NCAA side beat College of Rural Development Planning's side 2-0, the Home Affairs Ministry squad commanded similar victory over Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports' squad in quarterfinals.

The Ministry of Agriculture's team defeated the Teachers' Service Commission's squad 2-0, Judiciary Department's team got a walkover as TANESCO's squad staged a no-show.

In football, the Kongwa District Commissioner's side posted a 1-1 draw with the Ministry of Energy's squad.

Kongwa District Commissioner's squad's goal was scored by Johnson Joel, whereas the Ministry of Energy side's goal was scored by Charles Kitundu.

Meanwhile, about 40 athletes from various teams competing in the 2022 Mei Mosi Cup tournament were last weekend set to battle it out in various races at the Jamhuri Stadium.

The male and female athletes were set to run 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1,500m, 3,000m, 100x4m relay, and discuss.

Baraza vouches for Kagera Sugar's participation in continental club tiers

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

KAGERA Sugar's head coach Francis Baraza has expressed his desire to lead his team to next season's CAF club competitions.

Baraza is the only Kenyan coach to have lifted two league titles as a player and one as a coach.

He won the league title with Kenya's AFC Leopards in 1998 and Oserian in 2001 before guiding Sony Sugar to the Kenya Premier League league title in 2006.

The former Kenya national team 'Harambee Stars' player has changed Kagera Sugar's fortunes, helping the side that was almost close to the bottom of the Premier League logo at the end of last season to scale up this season.

The Kenyan tactician is doing magic at Kagera Sugar, as the club has since moved to the fifth position in the domestic top-flight.

Tanzania will continue to be represented by four teams in the continental showdowns organized by the Confederation of African Football, following Simba SC's progression to this season's CAF Confederation Cup quarterfinals.

Baraza said he has planned to take his team to one of the tournaments by using Tanzania's chance to have four sides in continental showpieces



Kagera Sugar's footballers feature in a training session in Kagera recently to shape up for 2021/22 NBC Premier League assignments. PHOTO: COURTESY OF KAGERA SUGAR FC

next season.

He said the exercise to achieve the plan is in his hands and his players' through excelling in the remaining Premier League games.

He said if Kagera Sugar wins all remaining league games, the outfit will have a good chance of entering the top four and gaining a chance to become one of Tanzania's representatives in CAF club

showdowns.

The tactician revealed: "Our calculations are to finish in the top four, I know there are a lot of teams with goals like this, but for us, we are planning to achieve this given the quality of my squad."

The former Tusker FC tactician was voted as the NBC Premier League's Coach of the Month for January 2022. Baraza pointed out: "It will not be

easy but my players are aware of our thirst for the continental tournaments, given Tanzania's four places in the tournament, I believe Kagera Sugar will be one of the teams that will go to the tournaments next season."

"The second round is more self-sacrificing because it determines the champion and other teams that will go to represent the country in continental tournaments, so recognizing that importance we will not stop using the opportunity we have at the moment," Baraza added.

Kagera will welcome Azam FC in a top-flight clash that will take place at the Kaitaba Stadium on May 3, as the former seeks to sustain its quest for participation in continental tiers next season.

In this season's Premier League, Kagera Sugar has so far won six games, recording draws in eight, and losing eight clashes.

Out of the last 10 games, Kagera Sugar has won four matches, drawn five, and lost one to sit fifth in the NBC Premier League log with 26 points after 20 games.

Messi reinventing himself in twilight of his career

PARIS

AT 34, Lionel Messi has reinvented himself.

He's no longer the prolific speedy winger of his Barcelona glory days. The Argentina star has lost a bit of pace but compensates with his vision and technique to still have an impact on the game.

Messi helped Paris Saint-Germain clinch a record-tying 10th French league title on Saturday by opening the scoring in a 1-1 draw with Lens. This was Messi's first trophy since leaving Spain last summer.

He spent his entire career with Barcelona before joining PSG, winning 10 La Liga titles as well as four Champions Leagues.

His best performances for PSG this season happened when he played in the role of a free-roaming attacking midfielder. Messi has four goals and 13 assists in the French league. That's quite a contrast to his last season at Barcelona, where he notched 30 goals and nine assists in La Liga.

It's the first time since the 2007-08 season that Messi has more assists than goals.

His body is feeling the wear and tear after nearly 20 seasons at the top level.

Messi missed games against Metz and Montpellier in September because of a bone bruise in his left knee. He missed a game against Bordeaux in November because of pain in his knee and hamstring. A few days ago, he missed the game against Angers because of an inflammation in his left Achilles tendon.

Added up, it has been a strange season for Messi, who led Argentina to a Copa America triumph before signing with PSG. He wasn't completely in unfamiliar territory. He'd played with Neymar at Barcelona and with Angel Di Maria and Leandro Paredes in the Argentina team.

Messi needed time to adapt to a new league. In his PSG debut in August, he was warmly applauded when he came off the bench in the second half against Reims. His first PSG goal was in September in the Champions League against Manchester City, but he didn't open his account in the French league until November.

Life in the French capital looked magnificent after Messi won a record seventh Ballon d'Or in November, primarily for his achievements with Barcelona and Argentina. PSG fans were happy to bask in the glow.

But after the Champions League exit in the round of 16 at the hands of Real Madrid last month, Messi and Neymar became targets of disgruntled PSG supporters, who were disappointed their team didn't fare better with two of the most expensive footballers in the world. PSG has never won the Champions League.

Messi has another year on his contract, another year to fulfil PSG's dream.

Standout Gabriel Jesus performance sends Guardiola a message vs. Watford

MANCHESTER, England

PEP Guardiola's fringe players couldn't get the job done against Liverpool in their FA Cup semifinal last weekend but at a crucial juncture in the season they showed up to give the Manchester City boss a timely boost.

Just 24 hours after Guardiola said his squad was "in trouble" because of a combination of injuries and fatigue, Gabriel Jesus, Oleksandr Zinchenko and Fernando stepped out of the shadows to help City to a comfortable 5-1 win over Watford at the Etihad Stadium. With that, Man City firmly placed pressure back on Liverpool's shoulders in the race to win the Premier League and rested key players ahead of Real Madrid's Champions League visit to Manchester on Tuesday. Job done.

Jesus, who started a league game for just the third time in 2022, scored four times and made another for Rodri, making the case that Guardiola should think twice about leaving the Brazilian on the bench.

Zinchenko, making his fifth start in any competition since Boxing Day, created the first for Jesus and



Manchester City's Gabriel Jesus leaves the pitch with the match ball at the end of the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester City and Watford at Etihad stadium in Manchester, England, Saturday, April 23, 2022. Jesus scored four goals in Manchester City's 5-1 win. (AP Photo)

made a last-ditch tackle on Emmanuel Dennis at 1-0 that was so good it was worth a goal itself while Fernandinho, who hadn't started a league game since February, did what Fernandinho always does in midfield.

None of the three will be sure of a place for the Champions League semifinal first leg in three days' time, but even if they don't play they've already played their part.

While the trio were busy making sure City opened up a four-point gap at the top of the Premier League table, the likes of Phil

Foden, Bernardo Silva, Riyad Mahrez and Ilkay Gundogan were allowed a rare afternoon resting on the substitutes bench. Of those in the starting XI, Kevin De Bruyne was needed for less than an hour and Aymeric Laporte followed him off shortly afterwards.

Expect those usual starters to all be fresh and ready to face Real Madrid on Tuesday.

"We started well from the first minute of the first half and second half," Guardiola said. "We didn't defend well, we were not aggressive enough. But the players up front, not just Ga-

briel for his incredible four goals, but all of them were brilliant.

"When we won against Brighton [on Wednesday] we were two points behind now we're four in front. Brighton was a final. We had another final today and we won it. Now we have an opportunity to play a final against Leeds.

"Nothing changes. We have to win all five games to be champions."

Jesus may feel he's done enough to start against Real Madrid and, if nothing else, he's given Guardiola something to think about.

The Brazilian has been

the subject of speculation linking him with a move away from the Etihad in the summer -- possibly to Arsenal or Juventus -- and against Watford he did everything he could to add another zero onto any potential fee.

By the time 53 minutes were on the clock, he had scored four and assisted one and City were in cruise control at 5-1. Three were poachers' goals from a combined distance of about 15 yards -- one a header from a De Bruyne cross -- and the other was a penalty he won himself.

Who says City haven't had a striker this season? Jesus' role in Rodri's goal will probably please Guardiola even more. Harrying and hassling in the corner, he won the ball back and clipped it to the edge of the area for the Spanish midfielder to smash into the net.

"Today was my day," said Jesus. "We played very good today, we created a lot of chances, that's what we need to do. We made passes and passes to create chances and try to score, and today we were very good on the finishing."

"It was my first hat trick in the Premier League. I've tried. Sometimes I've scored two then I've hit a post, the defender has blocked, or the keeper has saved, but today was my

day." Jesus has a knack for scoring important goals -- he's done it against Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool and Paris Saint-Germain this season alone -- and scored home and away against Real Madrid when City dumped the Spanish giants out of the Champions League in the last-16 in 2020. His audition for a starting role on Tuesday could not have gone much better.

"If there's one person who deserves the best in life for him, his family and his friends, it's Gabriel," added Guardiola.

"All of us at the club, when he has one of these situations, we're happy for him because he's so generous. It doesn't matter what position he's going to play, we know how he fights for his mates. He's fantastic."

After a grueling season, City are potentially seven games away from a Premier League and Champions League double. But ahead of a huge European semifinal with Real Madrid, Guardiola was able to keep his foot down in the title race while also saving the legs of some important players.

It's a stage of the season when every little counts and a squad Guardiola suggested was running on fumes has been given some timely respite without veering off track.

ESPN

Tenth straight league title fails to mask Bayern's discontent

BERLIN

EVEN as their players doused each other with beer to celebrate winning a 10th straight Bundesliga title on Saturday, Bayern Munich were still suffering from the hangover of their shock Champions League defeat by Villarreal.

Bayern's 3-1 victory over second-placed Borussia Dortmund at the Allianz Arena gave them an unassailable 12-point lead with three games left, sparking the traditional "Bierdusche" (beer showers) on the pitch.

Bayern are the first club to win 10 consecutive titles in one of Europe's top leagues.

Yet the feeling among Bayern fans is that another league title is little consolation for premature exits in both the German Cup and Champions League.

Winning the Bundesliga has become the bare minimum expected of Bayern each season.

"When we were German champions, man, you were delirious for a week," former club president Uli Hoeness told Munich newspaper SZ, recalling the three Bundesliga titles he won at Bayern in the 1970s.

"I'm annoyed that the championship has come down in value so much. Nobody is happy."

The Champions League quarter-final loss to Villarreal a fortnight ago still haunts Bayern.

Villarreal substitute Samuel Chukwueze's late equaliser sealed a 1-1 draw at the Allianz Arena to hand Bayern a 2-1 aggregate defeat.

Head coach Julian Nagelsmann was the first to admit the team fell short of expectations in his first season.

"Not good enough," was how he appraised the whole season immediately after the second leg against Villarreal.

"The semi-finals are always the minimum goal for Bayern Munich."

Bayern crashed to a 5-0 thrashing at Borussia Mönchengladbach in the German Cup second round last October.

This week, Nagelsmann said the events of "the last two weeks are clouding the mood" and dampening the euphoria of his first major trophy.

There are several key issues Bayern's senior bosses must resolve.

Manuel Neuer, Thomas Müller, Serge Gnabry and Robert Lewandowski are all out of contract next year and waiting to be offered extension deals.

The biggest concern is over the future of Lewandowski, who has scored 48 goals in all competitions this season.

The Poland striker has been linked with Barcelona and club CEO Oliver Kahn has admitted Lewandowski is "considering his future".

AFP

Arsenal's wild win vs. Man United showed why a top-four finish is so vital for both clubs' futures

LONDON

ARSENAL manager Mikel Arteta last week described Champions League qualification as a "game-changer," and Saturday's chaotic 3-1 victory over Manchester United underlined why the clubs vying for fourth place in the Premier League need it so desperately.

It is perhaps the biggest indictment of the flaws and inconsistencies in both the Gunners and Tottenham Hotspur that United still had a shot at a top-four finish before kick-off despite Ralf Rangnick barely disguising his dismay at the scale of the rebuild at Old Trafford ahead of incoming manager Erik ten Hag.

United's interim boss had described the job of reviving United's fortunes as "open-heart surgery" but for the first few minutes here, they barely had a pulse. Arsenal went ahead inside three minutes as David De Gea saved from Bukayo Saka only for Nuno Tavares to bundle in the rebound.

In fairness, United responded well -- far better than the meek midweek surrender at Liverpool -- and went close on several occasions, but if the decision to drop Harry Maguire was meant to instigate an improvement in United's defending, it categorically failed.

Saka doubled Arsenal's lead from the penalty spot on 32 minutes after Arsenal initially had a second goal ruled out for offside, only for VAR to correctly identify a foul in the box by Alex Telles in the build-up.

Cristiano Ronaldo re-



Manchester United's Scott McTominay, 2nd left and Arsenal's Gabriel, tangle during an English Premier League soccer match between Arsenal and Manchester United at the Emirates stadium in London, Saturday April 23, 2022. (AP Photo)

sponded two minutes later with his 100th Premier League goal via a smart left-footed finish -- albeit an intervention aided by more terrible Arsenal defending, this time from Gabriel -- and that moment seemed to unsettle the home side. Goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale thrashed a clearance into the stand. Cedric Soares sliced another behind for a corner to howls of derision from the Emirates Stadium crowd.

United were the better team -- with Ronaldo denied an equaliser through a tight offside call -- and should have equalised when Bruno Fernandes had the chance to convert a 57th-minute penalty. But the midfielder hit the outside of the post with his spot kick, and 13 minutes later he gave the ball away, giving Granit Xhaka the chance to rifle home a 25-yard shot that settled the contest. That Xhaka strike also survived a VAR check as Eddie Nke-

tiah looked to have impeded De Gea's line of sight.

The fall from grace from the time these two teams constituted a duopoly at the top of the Premier League either side of the turn of the century has been well documented, but everywhere you looked here there were head-shaking reminders of the yawning

gap that now exists to Liverpool and Manchester City in particular.

Nuno Tavares' positioning, Telles' defending, Nemanja Matic still somehow being part of United's midfield in a game of this magnitude -- so many aspects of this game are unrecognisable from the powerhouse tussles of old. Neither team

can be relied upon for any consistency if they continue to defend like this and yet, back-to-back wins -- following three consecutive defeats -- elevated Arsenal into fourth place ahead of Tottenham's trip to Brentford later in the day.

"My belief is that we are going to give it a real go; we can win football matches, but the margins are going to be really small and we have to be very aware of that," Arteta said postmatch. "Winning and losing in this league and where we are today is defined by the small margins, and we have to take the game where we want to win in the 95 minutes."

The game turned on Fernandes' missed penalty. Rangnick revealed afterwards that Ronaldo "felt he couldn't take it" and so the responsibility was passed to his Portugal teammate. But Fernandes was so wasteful in open play that the worst thing he could have done was turn his penalty into a pass, rolling the ball against Ramsdale's

right-hand post.

United have made few player commitments in their present state of flux, with Ten Hag incoming and Rangnick almost desperate to move away from this squad and upstairs so the cull can begin, yet they decided to hand Fernandes an improved contract despite his previous deal expiring in 2025.

If he is to be the focal point of a new United side, the 27-year-old has to find more efficiency in his play than this. He spent more time berating referee Craig Pawson than talking to his teammates and was perhaps fortunate not to be sent off late on for a tackle on Tavares. Contrast his contribution with that of Saka, who continued his penalty redemption with a coolly taken spot kick, or opposing captain Martin Odegaard, who ended the afternoon with the domestic broadcaster's Man of the Match award for another influential display.

ESPN

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Standout Gabriel Jesus performance sends Pep a message vs. Watford

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NBC Premier League's 21st round marked by two-goal victories

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

THE last weekend's fixtures of this season's NBC Premier League were games of two-goal victory, a football follower can say that.

About eight teams played in four stadia in the 20th and 21st rounds of NBC Premier League whereby the victors got three points and two goals.

In Saturday's 7 pm kickoff tie that took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, the league leader Yanga hosted Namungo FC in the 20th round of the to-flight.

It was a historic game for both sides because since Namungo FC secured promotion to Premier League, it has shown stiff opposition to Yanga.

In the two outfits' five meetings, neither of the two posted three points, Yanga however, ended its winless run with a 2-1 victory in the last weekend duel.

Yanga continues widening its points gap with the closest challenger, second-placed Simba SC, with the gap reaching 13 points.

Congolese striker Fiston Mayele scored the opener for Yanga in the 17th minute, capitalizing on a defensive blunder by one of Namungo FC's central defenders.

Mayele has thus continued to be at the top of the Premier League goal scorers' list after recording his 12th goal.

In the 33rd minute, Namungo FC midfielder, Shiza Kichuya, leveled matters, Kichuya recorded his third goal in this season's NBC Premier League.

In the 39th minute, Yanga's midfielder, Feisal Salum 'Fei Toto', who missed some matches due to injury, netted the second for his outfit. It was Salum's fifth goal this season.

The victory has seen Yanga collect 54 points, widening its points gap with Simba to 13 points.

Simba which has 41 points is sitting second while Namungo FC is remaining in the third position with 29 points.

Namungo FC is a point adrift of fourth-placed Azam FC which has 28 points.

Azam FC however has the advantage of moving to third position in the league standing if it will win one match because the club has two matches in hand.

Speaking after the duel, Namungo FC assistant coach Jamhuri Kihwelo 'Julio' congratulated Yanga for the historic victory against Namungo FC.

The tactician said Yanga has brought its winless run, which stretched to five fixtures, to an end.

He also applauded Yanga's Congolese striker Mayele, saying he is one of the best strikers in the NBC Premier League.

The gaffer revealed: "I want to concede that today Yanga has ended its winless streak, it had not recorded victory against Namungo FC since the latter secured promotion to the top-flight."

The tactician said: "Frankly speaking, Mayele is one of the best strikers in the Premier League."

Another weekend game that ended with a two-goal victory is the one pitting Geita Gold FC against Kinondoni Municipal Council FC which took place at Nyankumbu Stadium in Geita.

Geita Gold FC notched a 2-0 victory over Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, a win which has propelled the side to the fifth position in the league table after collecting 27 points.

The Geita squad is one point below fourth-placed Azam FC after taking part in 20 matches.

Dodoma Jiji FC made full use of home ground advantage, posting a 2-1 win over Mbeya City FC in a duel that took place at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma.

The victory has placed Dodoma Jiji FC in 10th position after collecting 24 points and having taken part in 21 matches.

Coastal Union has continued to drop into the relegation zone after suffering a 2-0 loss to Mbeya Kwanza FC in the match played at Majimaji Stadium in Songea, Ruvuma.

Mbeya Kwanza FC, which is using the Majimaji Stadium as its home venue, is still languishing at the bottom of the top-flight log after collecting 18 points.

Coastal Union had earlier gone down 1-0 to Tanzania Prisons FC at Sokoine Memorial Stadium in Mbeya.

Kaze salutes Yanga for showcasing 'best ever' display, chides Julio



Yanga's winger, Farid Mussa (R), dribbles past Namungo FC's fullback Haruna Shante when the sides met in an NBC Premier League clash that took place in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

ASSISTANT coach Cedric Kaze hailed one of Young Africans SC's 'best' performances ever as this season's NBC Premier League's runaway leaders stretched their lead at the summit to 13 points with a 2-1 win against Namungo FC in Dar es Salaam on Saturday.

Young Africans SC, alias 'Yanga', was dominant throughout the game and was unlucky to come up with only two goals.

The side began brightly and had its first shot at goal inside the first few minutes.

Pass dropped to the returning midfielder Feisal Salum 'Fei Toto' at the edge of the box and his wild volley went flying high and wide.

Salum, fellow midfielder, Khalid Aucho, and striker Fiston Mayele had half-chances shortly

after, with Yanga knocking on the door but struggling to find a way through.

Out of nowhere, Mayele was gifted a goal after a shocking slip by Namungo FC center back Abdulmalik Zakaria left the attacker through on goal before he calmly slotted the ball through the legs of goalkeeper, Robert Mapigano, to register his 12 league goal of the season.

Namungo FC needed a deflected strike from winger Shiza Kichuya to equalize 16 minutes later but Yanga restored their lead seven minutes to halftime after Aucho's beautiful lofted pass was well-timed by Salum for a simple tap-in to seal all three points.

Coach Kaze, who was standing for the suspended head coach Nasredine Nabi,

rated his team's performance among the very finest this season.

"I think it was our best game in the league. Looking back at how we played, the number of chances we created, the defending and pressing, I believe with a little bit of luck this game could have ended five, six, or seven goals in our favour," the Burundian gaffer revealed.

He disclosed: "We are grateful for the three points and we now focus on our next game."

"I am not saying it was an easy game, it is always easy when you are either playing or looking back after 90 minutes."

"We created many goal-scoring opportunities, if luck was on our side we could have scored either four or five goals by the halftime break."

"We made it difficult for ourselves by not taking our chances. If you are not taking chances you allow your opponents to have the confidence to remain in the game."

"I also think there were many officiating errors, I think there was a red card incident that wasn't given."

Kaze also aimed a wry dig at Namungo FC assistant coach Jamhuri Kihwelo 'Julio' over the latter's pre-match remarks that Yanga could slip in the title race in the coming games against Simba SC and Mbeya City FC.

"In addition, our players came into this game determined to get maximum points because we saw a rival fan (Julio) claiming we will lose our games, his bizarre statement motivated us for this game."

"We did not know he was on the other side of the divide because a team leader would not utter such statements."

Mayele stretches lead in NBC Premier League golden boot race

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE golden boot race in this season's NBC Premier League is heating up as the regular season

winds down.

Young Africans SC 'Yanga' striker Fiston Mayele has opened up a two-goal lead over Namungo FC's Reliants Lusajo.

The gap was down to just one goal before Saturday's games, but with Yanga and Namungo FC facing each other, Mayele had the chance to take a firm grip of the accolade

while Lusajo had an equal opportunity to catch up on the Congolese forward.

Both started the game for their sides but Mayele was the one on target once again as Yanga stretched their lead at the summit to 13 points with a 2-1 win at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The Congolese international moves on to 12 Premier League goals in this campaign.

Mayele's form has seen him score in 11 league games, two more than any other player this season.

Out of his 12 league goals for Yanga, he has netted seven with his right foot and three with his left.

He has three headers to prove he can score from all angles.

Lusajo remains on 10 goals. The Namungo FC forward has drawn a blank in his last six league outings. His last goal came in February against Mbeya City FC.

George Mpole is emerging as a late contender for the golden boot. The striker has now moved on to 10 league goals for the season as he was once again on target for Geita Gold FC in their

2-0 win over Kinondoni Municipal Council FC on Saturday.

Five of the 10 goals that Mpole, former Mbeya City FC, Majimaji FC, and Polisi Tanzania forward, has scored this season, however, have come since the turn of the year, making him one of the most in-form local strikers and earning a national team call-up last month.

Two-time golden boot winner, Simba SC's Meddie Kagere, is the third top scorer having netted seven goals this season.

Vitalis Mayanga of Polisi Tanzania and Said Ntibazonkiza of Yanga have registered six goals apiece to share the fourth spot.

Simba SC's John Bocco clinched the prize last season with 16 goals, narrowly beating his teammate, Chris Mugalu, to the award on the last day of the campaign.

In a related development, the Yanga duo of Ntibazonkiza and Djuma Shaban, together with Azam FC youngster Tepsi Evance, are joint top in the assists chart each with four.



National Bank of Commerce (NBC) Limited's Head of Public Relations, Godwin Semuny (L), hands over a 1,000,000/- check to Reliants Lusajo of Namungo FC that was voted as NBC Premier League's December Best Player before the kick off of the outfit's league game against Yanga at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Flexibles by David Chikoko

ALL GENERALIZATIONS
are FALSE...

... INCLUDING
THIS ONE!