



## AGRIBUSINESS



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## CHARITY



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## COMMENTARY



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# NECTA senses frauds, shutting two Std Seven exam centres

### Cancels results for 31 candidates in primary school exam nations

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Examinations Council of Tanzania (NECTA) yesterday announced results of the primary school leaving examination (PSLE) 2023, showing a slight dip in pass percentage in mathematics.

Dr Said Mohamed, the NECTA executive secretary, announced the results in Dar es Salaam, saying that the council had closed two Serengeti District examination centres, Twibhoki (PS0904095) and Grayaki (PS0904122) in Mara Region over cheating suspicions.

He said the council has cancelled results for 31 candidates, equivalent to 0.002 percent of the 1,356,392 candidates who sat for exams,

on account of cheating.

Warnings were issued to four examination centres listed as Mother of Mercy (SO203133) and St. Mary's Mbezi Beach (PS0203088) both in Kinondoni District, Charm Modern (PS0103111) in Karatu District and Morotonga primary school (PS0904042) in Serengeti District.

The centres are suspected to have engaged in fraudulent activities in the exam so they will be placed under NECTA supervision until officials are satisfied that they are safe centres for conducting the national exam, he stated.

"The council is holding results of 360 candidates who experienced health challenges,

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Oman's Ambassador to Tanzania, Saud Hilal Al Shidhani, makes remarks at a reception held in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday to mark the sultanate's 53rd National Day. He said Tanzania and Oman boast over 200 years of cordial trade, investment and various other links, adding: "We share a lot, from culture to food to language and much more, part of the evidence being that Kiswahili is widely spoken in almost 30 per cent of Oman." Text and Photo: Chief Photographer Selemani Mpochi

## SPORTS

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Yanga kicks off 2023/24 CAF Champions League Group Stage campaign

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As Qatar World Cup glory fades, Arab legacy remains

# PM: Haul to court lovers of pregnant school girls

### "I am happy to see that you have a special IT building"

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed the Songwe regional commissioner and all district commissioners there to search and bring to book the men suspected to have impregnated school girls.

The premier, in the region on a three day tour, said Songwe has an alarming rate of pregnancies, with 59 secondary school girls abandoning classes since January for impregnation.

The school girls have since stopped going to school but there are only two cases which have been brought to court, he said in the direction of Dr Francis Mi-

chael, the RC.

Inspecting Ileje secondary school, the premier asked officials to use security and defense committees to find a solution to the problem of school pregnancies, taking a swipe at young men who push school girls to sentimental affairs.

The law was clear on anyone caught on the wrong side of the issue, he said, asking the men to take note of how old they are "because when you are arrested now you will be released in your old age."

Emphasizing the need to protect the pupils, the premier said that school girls are our children, "we should raise them so that they grow up and take on responsibilities as adult citizens."

President Samia has invested in school girls by providing free education, thus each individual has to make sure they help girls to fulfill their dreams, "so we should protect them so that they can graduate," he stressed.

Religious leaders need to regularly address this behaviour in homilies to help ensure that the malpractice is shunned upon by broad sections of society, he urged.

He similarly hailed Ileje residents for building a computer laboratory at the school he inspected, holding form one to form four learners, as this facility will enable them to learn information tech-

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# REA to reach last 1,005 villages up to next June

By Francis Kajubi

ALL villages will have been connected to electricity by next June, with 1,005 villages not yet connected in the second round of the third phase of the rural electrification project.

Jones Olotu, operations director at the Rural Energy Agency (REA), told journalists yesterday in Dar es Salaam that at the moment 11,313 villages are already connected to grid electricity.

The agency was working speedily to connect electricity to the remaining villages, including 64,760 portions of the villages (hamlets) by 2030, he said, affirming that so far 28,659 hamlets have

been connected.

The government has invested 1.8trn/- in seven ongoing electrification projects, he said, elaborating that nearly 42,000 rural health facilities as well as schools with their dormitories are connected to electricity.

Health facilities like Hidalu in Singida region now offer CT scan and MRI diagnostic services following the supply of electricity, he said, noting that some schools have registered better performance after being connected.

A major challenge facing the agency is poor infrastructure connectivity in some areas that are yet to be connected, he said, pointing at some areas with no

bridges to cross a river to put up installations, while some areas have dust roads that pose challenges to go through especially in the rainy season.

Advera Mwijage, the REA director of renewable and alternative energy technologies, said that the agency is currently implementing a project that targets at connecting 196 islands with renewable energy sources.

"About 72 islands have already been connected to renewable energy sources. Works are ongoing to connect 71 islands," she said, affirming that the remaining 53 islands will be connected later.

The islands have sporadic habitation as it is tied up with seasonal economic activities like fishing and farming, she said, pointing at 15 rural power generation projects using waterfalls. REA has disbursed 1bn/- offered as loans to host communities near the waterfalls to develop income generating activities from the reliable supply of power, she added.

# 'ATCL ought to be creative in ending flight cancellations'

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

AIR Tanzania Co. Ltd (ATCL) has to increase creativity and come up with strategies to end customer complaints as to flight delays and cancellation, Transport deputy minister David Kihenzile has directed.

Visiting the company premises in Dar es Salaam yesterday, he said that ATCL will be receiving a Boeing 737 MAX in January, with capacity for 180 passengers, while in March next year it is slated to receive a Dreamliner 787-800 carrying 260 passengers.

Hinting that flight cancellation was associated with aircraft shortage, he said that after the two planes arrive, the company will have 16 planes, while the company has increased the number of pilots to 105.

"There should be no delays and flight cancellation since we will have a good number of planes. It is important to come up with a strategy to ensure zero complaints from customers," he said.

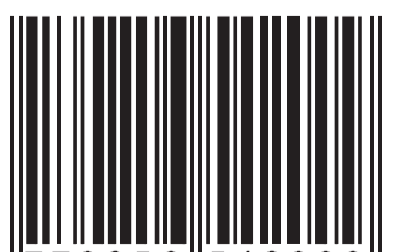
Previously, the company was experiencing a loss of 170bn/-, but it has been cutting losses and is expected to generate a 1.5bn/- profit in the current financial year, he affirmed.

Total ATCL debts to the government had reached 236bn/-, with 60 percent of the debts having been paid, he said, citing assurances by the management that the company is now 99.6 percent self-sufficient.

"The government would be happy to see you depending on yourself by 100 percent," he said, urging the board of directors and the management to come up with short and long term plans, "to be the largest airline in the region."

The number of investors coming into the country was rapidly increasing, thus

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## NECTA sees frauds, shuts two Std VII exam centres

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thus failing to sit for all the papers. We will give them an opportunity to sit for exams next year," he stated.

A total of 1,397,293 candidates were registered for exams, with among them 742,690 girls (53.15 percent) and 654,603 boys (48.85 percent), with 4,599 (0.33 percent) being disabled, he said.

Of the 1,397,293 registered candidates, 1,356,392 (97.07 percent) sat for exams, while 40,901 candidates failed to sit for exams for various reasons, he said, elaborating that a total of 1,092,960 candidates (80.58 percent) passed the exams with average grades—A, B and C.

Among them 507,920 are boys and 585,040 girls, whereas the pass mark rose by 0.96 compared to 2022 where 1,073,402 candidates passed with average grades—A, B

and C, he said.

The quality of the girls' pass mark increased to 80.58 percent compared to 78.91 percent in 2022 while for boys the pass mark increased to 80.59 percent compared to 80.41 percent in 2022, he specified.

This year's pass mark for English subject stands at 34.35 percent while the pass mark for Kiswahili subject stood at 87.91. For English subject, the pass mark increased by 4.96 percent while for Kiswahili it dropped by 1.59 percent compared to 2022 results, he stated, noting that the pass mark for science subjects stands at 74.08 percent and 48.83 percent for Mathematics.

"The number of candidates who passed with the lowest grade 'E' as well as those who have completely failed the exams dropped to 0.15 percent compared to 1.21 percent in 2022," he added.



National Examinations Council of Tanzania (NECTA) executive secretary Dr Said Ally Mohamed briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the results of this year's Primary School Leaving Examinations. Photo: John Badi

## 'ATCL ought to be creative to end flight cancellations'

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raising the demand for air transport flight frequency, he said, pressing the ATCL board to work on all the issues raised by the Controller and Auditor General (CAG).

The government does not like to see its institutions having qualified

audit reports, he said, with director general Ladislaus Matindi asserting that the management worked to reduce losses from 170bn/- earlier and in the last audit report, the loss stood at 33bn/-.

The 2022/2023 audit report indicates that the company will get a profit of 1.5bn/-, he added.

## TAMWA all for halt of abuse on children through social media

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Tanzania Media Women's Association, Zanzibar (TAMWA-Zanzibar) has urged the community to refrain from recording children and posting on the social media networks after they have been subjected to humiliating acts. By doing so, it aggravates the problem and is humiliating them even more.

In a statement issued yesterday, Dr Mzuri Issa, TAMWA-Zanzibar director said that following the spread of smartphones there have been people who record children and distribute their information through pictures, audio and video contrary to the procedures and ethics of journalism.

She said: "TAMWA-Zanzibar believes that these people may have good intentions seeking justice to the children but strongly advises them not to do that work and instead leave it to journalists who have studied the work and thus know how to hide the identity of the children."

Dr Mzuri said that children have the right to be protected from all forms of abuse, threats to their safety and cyberbullying, as well as to protect their personal information.

According to the Children's Act No. 6, 2011 section 33 (1), no person shall publish any information or a photograph that may lead to the identification of an abused child except with the permission of the

court. She said: "TAMWA Zanzibar requests the government in collaboration with stakeholders to prepare a strategy that will help provide awareness to the community to prevent these acts of recording and distributing children's information."

In a recent study conducted by TAMWA Zanzibar, it was found that most journalists understand the importance of protecting children from social media and their news by veiling their identities. Therefore, videos that reveal and expose children's information are often from non-professional journalists.

The recent trending incident via social media networks involves a child who is alleged to have been abused by a guardian father who has not yet been convicted by law enforcement agencies, therefore, TAMWA ZNZ calls for the government and relevant agencies to administer severe punishment to the suspects when the truth is revealed so that it will be a lesson for others.

Children have been the main victims of sexual abuse and legal remedies still remain an uphill task thus affecting them both physically, and psychologically. According to the Chief Government Statistician, 1360 incidents of humiliation were reported in 2022, and only 181 incidents, equal to 13 percent, got convictions.

## PM: Haul to court lovers of pregnant school girls

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nology.

"I am happy to see that you have a special IT building," he said, noting that this was an excellent take up of efforts by President Samia to see IT being spread throughout the country, for a more empowered generation of youth.

He was glad to hear the district council's appeal that the school be expanded to include form five and six placing, urging them to build the facilities "and then give opportunities to the girls of this district to learn."

## Graduates of SUA mourn colleague killed in Gaza

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

SOKOINE University of Agriculture (SUA) graduates have expressed shock over the death of former fellow student Clemence Mtenga (22) who was killed after being held hostage by Hamas group in Palestine in an attack on October 7.

They expressed their sadness yesterday when speaking at the 42nd graduation, graced by SUA council chairman and former Chief Justice Mohamed Chande Othman and Varsity chancellor

Judge Joseph Sinde Warioba

One of the graduating students, Mtenga, Milanzi Shandries, said they are happy to graduate safely expressing sadness of the death of their colleague who could not fulfill his dreams.

He said that many young people are dreamers hence spend time and efforts to chase them saying their departed colleague has gone without fulfilling them.

Another graduate Neema Magesa said they were happy to finish their education, however expressed sadness over the death of their colleague who they said was also dreaming of becoming

an expert in the field.

She described the late Clemence as a person who helped colleagues in the profession, but also collaborated with fellow students in studies while at the college.

Clemence and another colleague whose whereabouts are unknown up to now, went to Israel in September this year for practical training in agricultural business towards completing their studies.

SUA Vice Chancellor Prof Raphael Chibunda said a total of 3,095 students have graduated with various degrees.



Finance ministry deputy permanent secretary Amina Shaaban addresses a Good Financial Governance Programme - II meeting held in Dar es Salaam yesterday and primarily meant to evaluate the execution of GFG programmes since they were devised in August 2020. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

## Govt pledges to work closely with partners to promote transparency

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

THE government has expressed commitment to continue working with development partners in crafting ways to promote transparency and effective management of public funds.

Amina Shaaban, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance made the commitment in Dar es Salaam yesterday when wrapping-up the meeting on good financial governance (GFG) Phase II programme.

"The achievements of the current GFG programme reflect our shared commitment to sustaining the positive momentum we have generated. The results we have achieved are testament to the collaborative efforts of everyone involved," said Amina.

Amina said the GFG II program has enabled the National Audit of Tanzania (NAOT) to increasingly perform its role

as a supreme audit institution.

She said the programme also facilitates efficient and transparent management of local government revenues but also promotes transparency and accountability on public funds management at national and local level.

She said that objectives of the GFG III programme were led by an appraisal mission conducted on the country in May this year, which has shown that the country's revenues would be raised and spent in a more transparent and effective manner.

Amina pointed out outputs of the GFG program that will strengthen administrative capacities for mobilization of domestic revenue at national and local levels, public expenditure control, and improved strategic framework conditions for evidence-based, transparent and

equitable fiscal policy making.

"After the success of the GFG II program, then the III phase will also involve the implementation of the public finance management program for Zanzibar Isles," said Amina.

She added that GFG program, supports the Internal Auditor General's Division (IADG) in developing systemic solutions to the challenges facing the internal auditor system and also supports selected internal audit units of ministries, departments and agencies and Local Governments Authority (LGA) to perform their duties according to international standards.

Holger Tausch from Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation SDC said that the GFG program has supported the strengthening of the capacities of seven regional secretariats and 21 partners in LGA's in revenue mobilization and management systems

in order to increase their own-source revenue collection.

Tausch said that the transition from Local Government Revenue Collection Information System (LGRICIS) to TAUSI along with exchange of data between Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and LGA has resulted in enhanced integrity of the taxpayer's database.

Head of GFG programme, David Lahl said that the program is the solution in solving the previous challenges the government experienced when collecting taxes and fees from its citizens.

Lahl said that the GFG program promotes the digitalization of revenue collection and management, capacitates revenue staff to amend and up-date by-laws, improves data quality and hence avoid corruption loopholes.

Switzerland and European Union (EU) and implemented by GIZ

HUMULIZA



### PUBLIC NOTE

Apologize for the advert that was published on **22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023**, Tender for the Supply of Education subsidies with RFQ Number: **2023-HUMULIZA/11/ 22** that had closing date and time of **6<sup>th</sup> January 2024** should be **5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 11:00am** and the deadline for Questions and Clarifications has to be **4<sup>th</sup> December 2023..** Humuliza will open bid on **5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 12:00pm**





Traffic police officer Sergeant Ninga Gilagiza pictured in Mwanza city yesterday screening a commuter bus driver for alcohol consumption level. It was shortly after he had sensitised motorists, would-be passengers and the larger public on the need for them to be especially vigilant and stay clear of avoidable traffic accidents particularly in the run-up to the end of the year. Photo: Correspondent Vitus Audax

## Empower your staff with new skills to increase efficiency, TASAC urged

By Henry Mwangonde

MINISTER for transport Prof Makame Mbarawa has tasked the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) to create a capacity building system to empower staff and personnel with skills to make the entity competitive to properly regulate the sector for national security.

Speaking when addressing TASAC staff in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Prof Mbarawa said since its establishment in 2018, the agency has been less productive because of unnecessary

transfers of workers.

"It is very unfortunate that there are some top officials at TASAC who have been transferring active employees for no reason hence weakening the capacity of the institution," he said.

Mbarawa said "We have met to listen to their grievances and understand their concerns because we need to make TASAC a strong institution which can be able to protect national interests."

The minister said the meeting came after receiving several complaints from marine engineers

that internationally recognized Certificates of Competency (CoC) were not recognized at the agency hence denying them promotion.

The minister called upon the institution to have a work of schemes which will facilitate proper grading of salaries for special professionals as done at the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) and the Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL).

The minister expressed concerns over the rate of transfers of staff at TASAC saying this was the reason the agency was underperforming.

"We need discipline at TASAC

because this is a sensitive institution which is also reasonable for national security," he said.

He directed newly appointed Director General Mohamed Salum to create a tendency of meeting with staff from time to time to ensure to address grievances that the workers face.

TASAC board Chairman Mussa Mandia said what the minister was saying was true adding that the agency management will work on the issues raised by the minister to ensure that the challenges are addressed.

## Ulega for bolstering of agribusiness as global and peri-urban populations rise

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIANS must take very seriously business activities that support agriculture (agribusiness) primarily because of increasing opportunities in those activities, because of global rise in urban and peri-urban populations and their population is steadily rising. Tanzania's population stood at 43.6 million (2012) and at 61,741,120 (2022).

Addressing the 15th Agricultural Economics Society of Tanzania (AGREST) conference in Dar es Salaam, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Abdallah Ulega, underscored this urge, saying that Tanzanians have cause to plunge into these activities because agribusinesses have grown over the years.

"The increase has been driven by growing urban and peri-urban populations (hence) the increasing demand from well-off urban consumers for different, higher quality and often high-value products and services," he said.

Besides, the Tanzanian government has taken initiatives and policies to foster agribusiness resilience.

He explained that agribusiness covers all activities ranging from production, processing, packaging, distribution to consumption of agricultural products. "It also includes related services (supplying of inputs such as fertiliser, seed, breeds and equipment) and provision of advisory and extension services to agriculture."

On initiatives and policies taken by the government, Uledi said policies and regulations have been streamlined to enhance resilience in agribusiness. This has included lifting up of food crops export bans; removing restrictions of where farmers can sell crops and livestock products without prejudice and allowing importation of specialised inputs for production and processing.

He further said, the government is investing in key infrastructure including roads, irrigation systems, animal health care facilities, slaughter

and cold storage facilities and other common use facilities for processing perishable produce to ensure agribusiness value chains covering crops, livestock and fisheries products are resilient.

In partnership with the private sector, he said, the government is working to expand international market access for agricultural produce, livestock and fisheries products.

The government has significantly increased its investment in agriculture, livestock and fisheries research and development, he said, adding that the government has embraced digital technology to improve agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors. Further, he explained, Tanzania has adopted climate-smart agricultural practices, including drought-resistant crops, sustainable land management and promotion of climate-resilient livestock breeds.

The government's ambitious Agenda 10/30 initiative aims to attain a 10 percent annual growth rate in the agriculture sector by the year 2030. The 2022/23-2026/27 Livestock Transformation Plan, the minister said, sets out livestock sector investment areas.

He also urged Tanzanians to realise that developments are occurring in logistics, storage, transport, wholesale, retail and food services, with fundamental and rapid changes in structure, conduct, and performance in agribusiness value chain nodes.

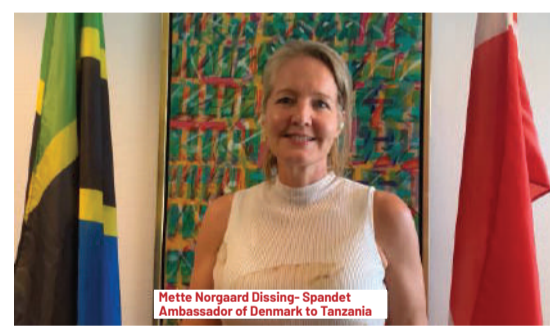
"These developments provide new opportunities for farmers to increase their income, food security and nutrition and improve access to productivity-enhancing inputs and services."

The Chairman of AGREST, Dr Florens Turuka, told the conference that agriculture accounts for 35 percent of the value of economies in Africa and makes up to 50 percent of the value of the world economy. Agriculture, he said, accounts for 26 percent of the GDP, 65 percent of the labour force in Tanzania.

### DENMARK SUPPORTS AMDT'S AGRICULTURAL MARKET SYSTEMS PROJECTS WORTH TZS 58BILLION IN EIGHT YEARS

Ambassador Mette Dissing-Spandet insists on cooperation as Denmark reverses embassy closure decision

Full speech by Danish Ambassador in Tanzania, H.E. Mette Dissing-Spandet, on the occasion to launch the 2023 Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholder Learning Event (TASLE), held in Dodoma, Tanzania. The Ambassador participated virtually on November 22, 2023 at 11:30-11:45. Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Hussein Bashe was the Guest of Honour:



Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Hussein Bashe, Representatives from the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Development partners, Ladies and gentlemen, Good morning,

It is truly an honor to join you virtually as the Ambassador of Denmark in Tanzania at this momentous occasion—the Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholders Learning Event (TASLE) 2023. I extend my warmest greetings to each and every one of you, distinguished guests, partners, and stakeholders who have gathered here to celebrate and collaborate on the

theme **CONNECT. SUSTAIN. SCALE INNOVATIONS IN AGRICULTURAL MARKET SYSTEMS.**

Before we delve into the heart of today's discussions, allow me to express my deepest gratitude to the organizers, the Agricultural Markets Development Trust (AMDT), for their unwavering commitment and dedication. For the past eight years, our Embassy has had the privilege of supporting AMDT with a budget of 58 Billion TZS. Currently, Sweden and Denmark are supporting AMDT in its work to develop and strengthen market systems in selected agricultural value chains here in Tanzania. The progress and impact of this collaboration are indeed commendable, and I want to applaud the entire AMDT team for their hard work and dedication.

Today's event underscores the importance of connecting, sustaining, and scaling innovations in agriculture market systems—an endeavour that aligns seamlessly with our shared vision for a more prosperous and sustainable Tanzania. The strides made in the agricultural sector in Tanzania are a testament to the concerted efforts of various stakeholders, and I am thrilled to witness the positive transformations taking place.

On that note, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the government of Tanzania for showcasing serious determination towards improving the agriculture sector. The substantial increase in the budget allocated to the sector this financial year reflects a commendable commitment to fostering growth and development. It is through such collaborative efforts that we can truly make a lasting impact on the lives of those who depend on agriculture for their livelihoods.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the diverse array of stakeholders present here today, and those beyond these virtual walls, who are actively contributing to the betterment of the agricultural sector. Your dedication to innovation, investment, and collaboration is paving the way for a more sustainable and resilient agricultural landscape in Tanzania.

In some recent and joyous news, I am pleased to highlight the news that most of you may have heard already: that the Government of Denmark has decided to reverse its decision to close the Embassy in Tanzania. Instead, we are resolute in our commitment to continue the long and fruitful cooperation between our two nations. This decision reflects the enduring friendship and the belief in the potential of Tanzania's growth and development, particularly in the agricultural sector. We look forward to strengthening our ties even further and continuing to work hand in hand towards shared goals.

Even though it has not been possible for me to travel to Dodoma and participate physically, technology has made it possible for me to still be part of this event virtually. This underscores the power of technology in connecting us across distances, allowing us to collaborate and share ideas despite the challenges posed by physical constraints.

As you embark on today's discussions, I encourage you to keep in mind that together, we can overcome challenges, seize opportunities, and build a resilient agricultural sector that not only sustains communities but also propels Tanzania towards a brighter and more prosperous future.

Thank you, and I wish you all a fruitful and inspiring Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholders Learning Event 2023. Asante sana!



WWF for a living planet®

### PROCUREMENT OF BEEHIVES AND HONEY PROCESSING ACCESSORIES

#### Background

Stretching from Lake Victoria to the Indian Ocean, the Southern Kenya - Northern Tanzania (SOKNOT) transboundary area covers some 134,000 km<sup>2</sup>. The area is famous for its conservation areas, including the Serengeti, Maasai-Mara, Tsavo, Kilimanjaro and the Ngorongoro crater, important biospheres and bird habitats including Lake Natron, Loita, Amboseli and West Kilimanjaro. There are 39 communal conservancies and 3 Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) that reflect its extraordinary biodiversity and tourism value. The landscape is home to millions of wild animals including threatened and endangered species such as elephant, black rhino, lion, cheetah, hirola and African wild dog.

The Land for Life project, is among the SOKNOT transboundary program funded by WWF-UK and the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) aiming at securing livelihood and empowering vulnerable Maasai communities whilst recovering wildlife in critical corridors, addressing the need for Human - Wildlife Conflict (HWC) mitigation and supporting sustainable rangeland management in the project areas; Tanzania's Lake Natron and Kenya's Loita Forest area.

WWF Tanzania for **this tender**, it aims at procuring beehives and honey processing accessories in order to support eco-friendly business development and livelihoods of the local communities in Longido.

WWF Tanzania invites eligible Tanzanian Suppliers registered by relevant Authorities/Bodies to bid for the lot/lots as indicated below given that each lot is a separate tender;

Project Number	Description
WWF/TCO/L4L/NOVEMBER/2023/LOT 1	Supply of Beehives
WWF/TCO/L4L/NOVEMBER/2023/LOT 2	Supply and Installation of Honey Processing Machine

#### Application Procedure & Submission of Applications

WWF TCO invites applications from competent, qualified and experienced bidder(s) through the following address:

Secretary, Procurement Committee  
WWF Tanzania  
Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, Mikocheni  
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077

All applicants should direct their electronic copy to the procurement e-mail at [procurement@wwftz.org](mailto:procurement@wwftz.org)

Interested applicants may access the Full Detailed Tender Document through the following website: [https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/consultancies\\_and\\_tenders/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/consultancies_and_tenders/)

All applications should reach us **by or before 09:00am** Tanzania local time on **Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.**

WWF has a principle of zero-tolerance to fraud and corruption, if you encounter such incident, report by sending an email to [fcci@wwftz.org](mailto:fcci@wwftz.org)



## Villagers call on govt to consider halting turning of farmland into quarries at expense of farmers

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

VILLAGERS in Umbuji and Kanyengwa in Unguja South Region have opposed the government's plan to evict them from their farms for quarry mining when their lives depend on the area for farming activities.

In separate interviews yesterday Umbuji villagers asked the government to halt the exercise as it's beneficial to them taking into account that they have been there for years.

"We're not happy with the plan," Rashid Zuberi Juma said, urging the government's intervention.

He said: "We're astonished to see people who claimed to be government officials started surveying our farms without our knowledge, while each one was asked to count the crop trees in the field."

Juma said their lives have been dependent on agricultural activities with our crops such as coconuts, mangoes, lemons and grain crops.

"When they came back for the second time, they wanted us to start counting the crops and prepare to leave without telling us where we were going to live," asked the villager.

Another villager, Patima Vua Hassan said the move to survey their areas of their farms began to take place in August, this year without being involved or being told what was to be done by the leaders of the Central Unguja District.

"When President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi wants people to be self-employed and build modern markets, how are the crop trees that we planted for more than 20 years today should be cut and removed, this will increase our poverty. I don't see that it is fair," said Patima.

A mother of 12 said that only two children have secondary education and depend on agriculture to run

the life of her family and asked the government to reconsider the plan to remove them from their areas in the village.

Rashid Ali Mohammed, said that for more than 40 years he has been living by farming with his family and was very surprised by the plan to want to be evicted from their original places without being told where they will go to live and what activities their income will depend on.

Mohammed described the move as barbaric as the people who were behind it did not bother to discuss with the owners of the land and even leaders in the area were not informed.

Hidaya Abdallah Kheri, said the evaluation of the trees in their areas is full of biases and it is impossible for a tree of Mdimu, Mnazi or Mueembe to be paid for 5000/- when the production of those trees per year brings in more than 5m/- annually

Muhammadi Kassim Umbuji village leader admitted the existence of a conflict between the villagers and the government after they were asked to count the trees before they were asked to leave their homes.

He however said that after the citizens came to a common position, the district leaders arrived soon and gave information that the plan had been suspended and asked them to be calm and continue with their production activities.

"I myself am a victim of this crisis but the leaders including the district commissioner arrived and now the plan no longer exists and instead the government is looking at the possibility of putting quarry mining in Uroa Mkoni village," he said.

The plan to evict the people in the Umbuji, Kajengwa and Jendele villages will affect 90 percent of farmers who are major producers of food products, fruits and spices.

## GGML, CCBRT present 55 wheelchairs to people with disabilities in Geita Region

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

GEITA Gold Mining Company Limited (GGML) in partnership with Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) has provided 55 wheelchairs and assistive devices to disabled people in the Geita region to assist in their mobility, enabling them inclusion in various social activities.

The life changing equipment was handed over on Wednesday in Geita with aims to demonstrate GGML's commitment to the community and bring positive results outside of mining activities.

Terry Strong, GGML managing director said the company is keen to continue to focus on the dignity of all people, including our stakeholders and the community we work for.

"This is one of several healthcare initiatives we have undertaken in partnership with the CCBRT, which has worked hard to provide medical services and rehabilitation of various prosthetics at low cost, enabling people with disabilities and their families to regain their smiles."

"We believe that everyone deserves dignity, respect and equal opportunities to thrive in life. We also recognise that people with disabilities face many challenges and barriers in accessing basic services, education, employment and social inclusion. That is why we are proud to support this programme that will provide many people with appropriate and improved services that will enhance freedom and quality of life," said the Managing Director.

Clinician Neophita Lukiringi, from CCBRT further thanked GGML for thinking of people with disabilities and providing them with proper wheelchairs.

She said that if a person with a disability is given a wheelchair that is not right for them, it can cause them more harm.

"But GGML saw that there was a need and decided to help people

with disabilities and wanted to make sure that this equipment reached the right people. So, I would like to thank GGML for setting a good example, because if you give a chair to a disabled person, you have helped them a lot," she said.

The CCBRT clinician said that if an elderly person is given a chair and it does not fit properly, it causes them to bend their back and shorten some of the muscles, leading to increased disability.

"I urge Tanzanians who want to help people with disabilities not to provide wheelchairs without seeking experts to work with them because even the World Health Organization (WHO) insists that wheelchairs should be provided by people who are trained to make the necessary adjustments to benefit the users," she said.

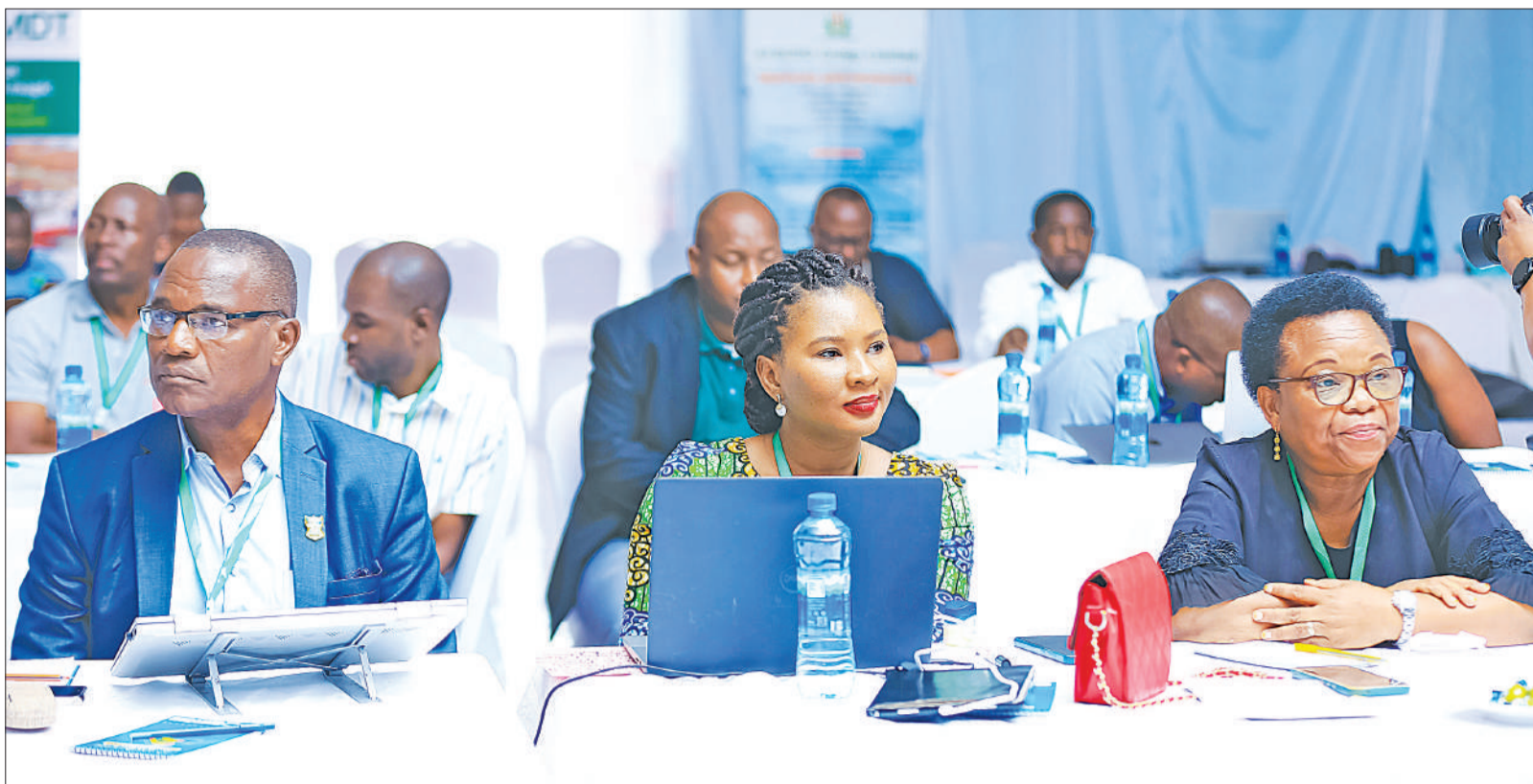
One of the beneficiaries, Matendo Sitta, thanked GGML and CCBRT for the kindness they showed by providing them with wheelchairs that will help them, navigate life's challenges and better integrate into the community.

"We ask you not to stop at us because there are many of our colleagues who have challenges, so we ask you to continue to have a spirit of giving because right now we can even go to the neighbour to tell stories, we promise to take care of these equipment," he said.

Geita District Commissioner, Col. Boniphace Maghembe commended CCBRT for partnering with GGML to provide professional training on the correct use of such equipment and to give proper advice to people with disabilities.

Col. Maghembe said that GGML have been great partners in development activities and illustrated this through many good deeds for the benefit of the people living in Geita region.

He also pledged the government's continued support to investors including GGML, a company that has joined the community in providing goods and humanitarian aid to people with various needs.



Members of the Agricultural Market Development Trust's Board of Trustees (front row) pictured in Dodoma city yesterday following a presentation at this year's edition of the Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholders learning event (TASLE). Themed: "Connect, Sustain and Scale Innovations in Agriculture Market Systems", the four-day event attracted more than 80 local and foreign delegates. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Varsity spends over 19bn/- on various strategic programmes

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

SOKOINE University of Agriculture (SUA) has spent 19.276bn/- in executing various varsity strategic programmes, which meant to meet intended educational goals.

SUA council chairman and former Chief Justice Mohamed Chande Othman unveiled this yesterday here when speaking at the 42nd graduation.

Judge Othman said that as the council they managed the university to fulfill the main responsibilities including

providing education.

Other main responsibilities, according to Othman include conducting researches, providing professional services, extension and generate income for the varsity.

He said that the council managed to hold two meetings.

He also encouraged the graduates to adapt to technological and environmental changes and use them as an opportunity to bring progress to them and the Nation as a whole.

Judge Othmani said that the environment is always changing

due to various technological influences and that if graduates adapt to them, they will be able to create self-employment opportunities and even hire others.

He further urged varsity students to study hard so that they will be more professional after graduation and be confident in their work to serve Tanzanians because they are dependable in efficiency and skills in carrying out development activities.

SUA vice chancellor Prof Raphael Chibunda said that the college currently has a total of 16,656 students studying various

courses—PhDs, master's, first degree, higher diplomas, diplomas and diplomas of the college.

Prof. Chibunda said that in May 2023 until now the college has received 18 new research projects worth more than 3.142bn/-.

He also said that the varsity is still facing various challenges, including the lack of teaching infrastructure and shortage of staff.

He however thanked the government for providing them with funds for construction and renovation through Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) Project, whereby the university has begun to repair various learning and teaching infrastructure including lecture camps, hostels, engineering workshops and laboratories.



Works minister Innocent Bashungwa (R, nearest camera) gives instructions to Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) project manager Julius Msofe (with microphone) after inspecting the 120.8km Mkange-Tungamaa-Pangani road in Pangani District, Tanga Region, yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Envoy hails Tanzania for boosting agriculture sector

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

METTE Nørgaard Dissing-Spandet, Denmark Ambassador to Tanzania has praised the Tanzanian government for its serious commitment towards improving agricultural sector.

She was speaking virtually on the occasion to launch the 2023 Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholders Learning Event (TASLE) which was organized by Agricultural Markets Development Trust held in Dodoma.

Ambassador Dissing Spandet extended her heartfelt congratulations to Tanzania for showcasing serious determination towards improving the agricultural

sector. "The substantial increase in the budget allocated is highly impressive by increased government commitment and institutional support", she said.

She also said for the past 8 years Denmark has had the privilege of supporting AMDT with a budget of 58bn/-

Currently, Denmark and Sweden are supporting the organization in its work to develop and strengthen market systems in selected agriculture value chains in Tanzania.

She said the progress and impact of the collaboration are indeed commendable and applauded the entire team for their hard work and dedication.

According to her, the events underscore the importance of connecting, sustaining and scaling innovations in agriculture market systems, an endeavour that aligns seamlessly with their shared vision of a more prosperous and sustainable Tanzania.

Speaking at the event the Chief Executive Officer of AMDT, Charles Ogutu, urged local organizations which support agricultural activities in the country to create a habit of knowing each other in order to avoid duplication.

He said most of the organizations work on behalf of ordinary people or farmers who do not have enough income hence they have to make sure they provide services without

duplication. "As financial resources become a constraint we have to know each other and avoid doing the same job for the similar farmers," he said.

He asked agricultural practitioners to continue learning and share everything they do for the improvement of farmers' welfare.

He said there are many agricultural innovations where practitioners can tap, what is needed is scale up between the organisations

The four day event Themed: connect sustain and scale innovations in agriculture market systems organized by AMDT attracted more than 100 local and foreign participants.





Geita Gold Mining Company Limited (GGML) managing director Terry Strong (L) and Geita district commissioner Col Boniphace Maghembe (R) pictured in Geita yesterday assisting two people with disabilities who had just been presented with new wheelchairs provided by the firm in partnership with Dar es Salaam-based CCBRT Hospital. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Kidney transplants in Tanzania: 60m/- spared per patient - govt

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has been saving 60m/- by desisting from every kidney transplant previously performed on Tanzanians outside the country but now done locally, from following improvement of services in the country.

Since kidney treatment started to be offered in the country, more than 100 patients have been transplanted at the Benjamin Mkapa Hospital (BMH) and Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH).

Speaking at the opening of the 9th conference of kidney experts, Director of Medical Services in the Ministry of Health, Prof Paschal Ruggajo said the government

has reduced the high cost of sending kidney patients abroad following huge investment in the sector.

"We are grateful to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for the investment in the health sector, we also thank doctors and nurses for the good work in taking care of kidney patients," said Prof Ruggajo.

He said that currently kidney patients are treated locally at low cost and most of them recover within a short period.

Commenting on provision of treatment for patients with kidney complications, he said the services are provided at BMH and MNH, calling upon Tanzanians to go for examinations to determine if they are safe.

He said that kidney problems are on

the increase in this country due to the presence of Diabetes in Sub-Saharan Africa as well as the challenge of HIV.

President of the association of kidney disease experts, Dr Onesmo Kisanga said they recognize the contribution made by the government in ensuring that kidney patients get the right treatment.

He said their goal is to make sure that kidney treatments reach all the patients in need. He commended organizers of the conference, saying participants had an opportunity to share experience and exchange ideas on better ways to treat kidney patients. He urged doctors and nurses to continue providing quality services to patients.

## Stakeholders plead for policies to support use of indigenous seeds

By Carlos Banda

AGRICULTURAL stakeholders have suggested the need for the government to come up with policies that recognize and advocate the wide use of indigenous seeds by farmers to ensure sustainable food production and sovereignty.

They made the suggestion during the launch of a one-year seed management system project workshop in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Dr Fasil Gebeyehu, general coordinator African Biodiversity Network (ABN) said the project intends to mobilize small holder farmers in East Africa especially in Tanzania and Uganda to promote Farmer Management Seed Systems (FMSS) and also amplify the value of local seeds.

"We intend to mobilize small holder farmers in East Africa especially in Tanzania and Uganda to promote FMSS and also amplify the value of local seeds. We are targeting a change in mindset about the value of local seeds and also create a viable market. The value of the indigenous seeds is becoming gradually known in terms of their benefit and adaptability," said Fasil.

Responding to a question on how farmers can benefit from the wider available market in the East African Community (EAC), Fasil said that the market is gradually opening and it will not only be for consumption alone but farmers will be able to generate income and have their livelihoods improved.

"The market is opening gradually and it will not only be for growing and consumption alone but also for generating income. In response to the prevailing challenge of disease because of hybrid seeds which have been grown because of intensive input of chemicals. It is obvious how people are becoming sick. Now the demand for local seeds which is growing naturally with use of natural fertilizer has a potential market. From this collective effort, farmer's livelihoods will be improved through generating income out of this," he stated.

On her part, Venter Mwangera - Communications and Advocacy Coordinator African Biodiversity Network (ABN) said the purpose of the campaign is to cultivate food sovereignty through promotion of FMSS in East Africa adding that the goal will be achieved through building on the efforts that have already been put in place.

Mwangera said that project is there to support the farmers with the understanding on the benefits of utilizing indigenous seeds which are resilient, nutritious and are environmentally friendly but most importantly to advocate for policies that recognize and promote the use of local seeds.

"We are here to support farmers because we believe they are the knowledge bearers. So, they have been told as many times that their indigenous seeds have been tried and tested as many times and proven to be resilient and to have nutritious food. We are looking at this pilot phase of one year to reach out to more farmers to support them and give them a voice to speak more about the farmer seed management system which is sustainable and influence aligned policies on indigenous seed which can also be formulated and operationalized so that farmers can be supported to continue preserving and using a system that has sustained them for centuries without them sleeping on an empty stomach," she said.

She said further that they hope countries like Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya which are leading for now will look at the policies that are aligned to support the farmers instead of criminalizing their seeds but also to recognize the system as being sustainable.

"We are looking at all the countries in East Africa and the ones that are leading for now are Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. We hope the country will look at the policies that are aligned to support the farmers, not to criminalize their seeds but also to be recognized as a sustainable system that is having all elements to live in harmony with nature without any of them exploiting each other but living harmoniously ensuring the health of the soil, environment, plants and animals are all in tandem and that we can contribute to sustainable goal 2 on Zero hunger, sustainable development goal 13 on Climate Action and Sustainable Development Goal 15 on life on the land. Farmers' seed management system leads to achieving all this holistically," she said.

On her side, Euphrasia Shayo, a Program Officer from Envirocare said the project focuses on building capacity for farmers and stakeholders taking part in the project so as to push for policy advocacy in favor of local seeds to be managed and used by farmers and have the seeds recognized by the government.



### EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) is expanding its network to meet the strategic business needs which focus on sustaining the recorded achievements and remain an airline of choice that meets and exceeds customers' expectations in line of its mission of provision of reliable, safe, and high-quality services. Therefore, applications are invited from qualified Tanzanians to fill the following positions: -

#### 1. POSITION: CAPTAIN - (30 POSTS)

##### 1.1. MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS AND WORKING EXPERIENCE:

- Must have flown with more than 3500 flying hours with an Airline Transport Pilot License, Multi Engine and Instrument Rating.
- Must have 10000 hours as a Pilot in Command and an experience of handling a minimum of 20 tons equipment or above with a good performance.

##### 1.2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Responsible for safety of the aircraft, its occupants and cargo pre, during and post flight.
- Maintain a high standard of discipline, appearance, uniformity and promptness of Co-pilots and Cabin Crew.
- Determine the achievement of commercial aspects of flights safety is not impaired to obtain additional revenue load for the Company.
- Ascertain that Flight Plans, Notam, Fleet Notices, Weather and any pertinent documentation and service items that flight may require are briefed.
- Verify that the loading of aircraft being performed in accordance with laid down procedures.
- Report all incidents and accidents.
- Verify that all documents/certificates required being on board the aircraft are available and valid.
- Report any Flight delays of flights.
- Accept and sign for diplomatic mail, precious cargo and supervise stowage aboard the aircraft and handover to destinations.
- Perform any other official duties as may be assigned by your supervisor.

#### 2. POSITION: FIRST OFFICER - (26 POSTS)

##### 2.1. MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS AND WORKING EXPERIENCE:

- Must have flown with more than 250 flying hours or above with Commercial Pilot License, Multi Engine with Instrument Rating.
- Must be with an experience of handling a minimum of 10 tons' equipment with good performance.

##### 2.2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- To participate in the Pilot-in-Command's crew briefing, and make himself aware of all relevant aeronautical and meteorological information as well as relevant papers documenting the aircraft technical status and its anticipated load.
- To prepare the DFP and when necessary, file the ATS Flight Plan with the appropriate Authority. If stored plans are used

then he should ensure that the correct plan has been activated

- To carry out such duties concerning the flight in accordance with the SOP, including procedures, limitations and performance related to the specific aircraft type, as allocated to him by the Pilot-in-Command;
- To confirm the safe navigation of the aircraft, maintaining a continuous and independent check upon both the geographical position of the aircraft and its safe terrain clearance
- To safely and properly conduct the flight in compliance with the current flight plan and the Pilot-in-Command's instructions when the Pilot-in-Command is not at the controls. Any change to the current flight plan has to be notified to the Pilot-in-Command.
- To provide advice, information and assistance to the Pilot-in-Command, as may contribute favorable towards the safe and efficient conduct of the flight.
- To assist the Pilot-in-Command in administration duties related to the flight and
- To seek and receive information and/or explanation from the Pilot-in-Command, as may be necessary to enable fulfilment of functions.
- To assist the Flight Safety Department for all Technical related matters
- Perform any other official duties as may be assigned by your supervisor.

##### 3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Ten (10) years contract with attractive remuneration and fringe benefits as per ATCL Salary Structure and Incentive Scheme.

##### 4. MODE OF APPLICATION FOR ALL APPLICANTS:

Interested applicants must submit a duly signed letter for consideration of the application attached with the following:

- A curriculum vitae (CV),
- Certified copies of all certificates (including secondary school, birth certificates), other relevant certificates, Applicants who have studied outside Tanzania should have their certificates approved by relevant authorities Tanzania Commission for University (TCU) or National Examination Council-NECTA)
- Two recent passport size photographs
- Name and address of at least two reputable referees;
- Applicant's reliable contact address, email address and telephone number.

##### 5. CLOSING DATES:

Applicants should reach the undersigned within 14 days from the first date of this announcement.

MANAGING DIRECTOR & CEO,  
AIR TANZANIA COMPANY LIMITED,  
P.O. Box 543,  
DAR ES SALAAM.  
Issued on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

ATCL is an equal opportunity employer. Women are encouraged to apply. Misrepresentation of qualifications or any other information on application shall warrant legal consequences.



### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA MINISTRY OF WORKS TANZANIA NATIONAL ROADS AGENCY



### DISCLOSURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) REPORT FOR REHABILITATION OF THE LUTUKIRA - SONGEA (100 km) AND SONGEA BY PASS (16 km) AND MTWARA - MINGOYO - MASASI (200 km) ROAD PROJECT IN RUVUMA, LINDI AND MTWARA REGIONS

The Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) on behalf of the Ministry of Works intends to rehabilitate to bitumen standard the Lutukira - Songea Road (100 km) and Songea bypass (16 km) and Mtwara - Mingoyo - Masasi (200 km) Road located in Ruvuma, Lindi and Mtwara Regions under World Bank financing.

The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report for the proposed project has been prepared in fulfilment of the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (2004) and the World Bank's Environmental and Social Frameworks (ESF).

TANROADS is now disclosing the document to the Public and inviting all Stakeholders and the Community at large to access the document for the purpose of following up its implementation during the execution of construction works.

The Public can access the ESIA Report for the project through TANROADS Website: [www.tanroads.go.tz](http://www.tanroads.go.tz) and at the following offices:

- Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS),**  
P.O. Box 11364,  
10 Shaaban Robert Road/Garden Avenue Junction,  
Dar es Salaam.  
Email: [tanroadshq@tanroads.go.tz](mailto:tanroadshq@tanroads.go.tz)
- TANROADS - Regional Office,**  
P.O. Box 1022,  
Lindi.  
Email: [rm-lindi@tanroads.go.tz](mailto:rm-lindi@tanroads.go.tz)
- TANROADS - Regional Office,**  
P.O. Box 31,  
Ruvuma.  
Email: [rm-ruvuma@tanroads.go.tz](mailto:rm-ruvuma@tanroads.go.tz)
- TANROADS - Regional Office,**  
P.O. Box 383,  
Mtwara.  
Email: [rm-mtwara@tanroads.go.tz](mailto:rm-mtwara@tanroads.go.tz)





## JOB VACANCIES

### About Us

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) is a global community conservation organization that advances the vision and work of Dr. Jane Goodall by conserving chimpanzees and inspiring communities to conserve the natural world we all share, we improve the lives of people, animals, and the environment. We strongly believe everything is connected and everyone can make a difference.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) is a reputable and rapidly expanding non-governmental organization committed to wildlife research, conservation, socio-economic development, and environmental education. The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) was founded in 2001 by Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE. The JGI Tanzania with its partners makes a difference through community centered conservation, chimpanzees research projects, youths' environmental education, the innovative use of science and technology, we work closely with local communities in Tanzania, inspiring hope through a collective power of individual action.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to support implementation of the new USAID funded project, USAID Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo is currently seeking to recruit a suitably qualified and competent Tanzanian to fill the following vacant positions:

<b>Job Position:</b>	<b>Senior Livelihoods and Rural Finance Officer</b>
<b>Project/Program:</b>	USAID Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo
<b>Duty Station:</b>	Kigoma or Mpanda
<b>Reporting Line:</b>	Deputy Chief of Party- Conservation and Livelihoods

### Job Summary:

The Senior Livelihoods and Rural Finance Officer (SLRFO) will support a range of activities to improve the lives of rural citizens in Western Tanzania. The SLRFO will lead execution of the project's support for Village Savings and Loans, microfinance provision and development of new conservation-oriented enterprises and livelihoods. To a large extent, the livelihood activities within the landscape rely on agriculture - crop production, livestock keeping and fishing. Thus a knowledge in agricultural value chains/agribusiness is highly sought for. The job holder will assist his supervisor/line manager in the execution of the following key responsibilities:

### Key Responsibilities and Duties:

Main responsibilities will include but not limited to:

- To support the access to finance for alternative, environmentally friendly rural livelihoods (new financial services and products from banks, support for VSLAs, impact investment, etc.).
- To strengthen management capacity and governance of community development groups (farmers, beekeepers, mushroom collection groups, AMCOs/Cooperatives, etc.) on how to set up, manage and share benefits from member-owned institutions.
- Serve as the principal liaison between financial institutions - including banks and microfinance institutions, impact investors, and other financial services providers.
- To improve market access by forging linkages with key off-takers for the products produced by the target groups/communities.
- Provide technical leadership to operationalize support for alternative livelihoods and enterprises that promote biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and sustainable development.
- Lead the technical preparation of the project annual work plans and quarterly reports.
- Supervise and verify the quality of rural finance and alternative livelihood related services delivered by service providers to stakeholders.

### Minimum Job Qualifications and other Requirements:

- Master's degree in community focused economic development and entrepreneurship, rural development, banking and finance, agribusiness, cooperative development, or a related field; A bachelor's degree with commensurate field experience will also be considered.
- At least 5 years of experience supporting village level rural economic development. Experience with organizing farmers/rural communities for finance and markets, finance provision, through Village Savings and Loan systems, banking, or other institutions. Ideally with some management responsibility.
- Experience in engaging the private sector, developing and/or marketing inclusive financial products, including micro, small and medium or even large loans that support new livelihoods and enterprises.
- Experience integrating livelihoods improvement with biodiversity conservation (conservation enterprises like Eco-tourism, forest products, or other livelihoods that are environmentally friendly and sustainable).
- Fluent English and Swahili, written and oral communication skills.

<b>Job Position:</b>	<b>Forest Officer</b>
<b>Project/Program:</b>	USAID Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo
<b>Duty Station:</b>	Kigoma or Mpanda
<b>Reporting Line:</b>	Forest and natural governance Lead

### Job Summary:

The Forest Officer will support a range of forest management and biodiversity conservation activities. The Forest officer will provide technical guidance, capacity building to Government and Village stakeholders, and support and facilitate "conservation action" in the landscape. The Forest Officer will assist the Forest Management Lead in the execution of the following key responsibilities:

### Key Duties and Responsibilities:

- Support the development of Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) and Joint Forest Management (JFM) in collaboration with relevant local authorities.
- Collaborate with the Forest and Governance lead officer in improving natural resource governance in project villages.
- Train and empower/mentor the local communities on promoting Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)
- Coordinate the development and implementation of forest management plans for all forests under CBFM/JFM in the project areas.
- Support capacity building through backstopping, training materials and resources for forest management for Village Natural Resources Committees (VNR)
- Facilitate resource mapping for local communities.
- Design and coordinate forest surveys and assessments including analysis of biological data and continuous monitoring of the forest ecosystems.
- Support the implementation of effective forest patrols and monitoring of forest fire incidents, illegal harvesting, and other threats to the ecosystems.
- Maintain a comprehensive database (clearly highlighting baseline information) on the principal species and uses for all timber and non-timber forest products are produced through community participatory mapping for resource planning and management.
- Support establishment of equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms for natural resources within the community under CBFM and JFM are in place and appropriately applied.
- Support the district efforts to empower forums for dispute resolution within the community (Village Governments, VNRM, CSOs and CBOs) for sustainable forest management.
- Prepare monthly reports against set targets and indicators with analysis of evidence of progress towards planned work plan and budget.
- Ensure appropriate stakeholder involvement at all appropriate levels.
- Work closely with the Forest and Governance lead in the preparation of periodic Project Implementation Reports and Annual Project Reports as required;
- Organise tree nursery establishment and tree planting campaign
- Provide extension services support.

### Minimum Job Qualifications and other Requirements:

- At least a bachelor's or master's Degree in natural resources management, forestry, biodiversity conservation or related discipline with experience in planning, implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation.
- Proven knowledge and experience in institution building in the natural resources and environment sector;
- A minimum of three (3) years (for masters graduate) and five years (5) years (for bachelor graduate) of postgraduate professional experience relevant in sustainable land/forest and natural resources management in the development context;
- Proven experience in participatory processes, and in facilitating dialogue between Government, development partners, private sector, villagers and civil society;
- Willingness to participate in field activities/surveys and extensive travel to remote areas within the project areas;
- Understanding of climate change issues, including REDD+, forest/Natural Resources Management and GIS/Remote sensing is an asset;
- Experience in writing project reports and forest management plans;
- Experience in writing project success stories, lessons learned and best practices;
- Experience in working with local communities, NGOs, CSOs and local government.
- Experience in managing meetings and facilitating training sessions.

### Required Job Competencies:

- Proven ability to plan, organize and effectively implement activities;
- Proven skills for negotiation, lobbying and advocacy;
- Ability to coordinate and work in teams, as well as in complex environments;
- Ability to observe deadlines, accuracy and attention to detail;
- Excellent communication and facilitation skills including knowledge in application of computer software packages for word processing, excel, PowerPoint, databases and spreadsheets, and the internet;
- Ability to work under minimum supervision to meet deadlines;
- Commitment and drive to achieve challenging goals, and problem-solving skills;
- A team player with strong interpersonal skills and the ability to deal with multiple teams from multiple institutions;

<b>Job Position:</b>	<b>Land Tenure Officer</b>
<b>Project/Program:</b>	USAID Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo
<b>Duty Station:</b>	Kigoma or Mpanda
<b>Reporting Line:</b>	Land planning and tenure Lead

### Job Summary:

The Land tenure Officer will provide technical and managerial support including general management, oversight, advice, and support efforts to develop and Issue the Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCROs) and other land use planning and management activities implementation in support of the biodiversity conservation objectives of the project. Along with strong training skills and familiarity with spatial analysis through GIS. Familiarity with the policies, guidelines, and legislation around land tenure in Tanzania is required. The Land Tenure Officer is required to demonstrate a high level of ingenuity and creativity as a team player since will always work with the district council, program teams, or individual staff and the targeted communities. The job holder will assist his supervisor/line manager in the execution of the following key responsibilities:

### Key Responsibilities and Duties:

Main responsibilities will include but not limited to:

- Work with the Land Use Planning Officer, to participate in the development, review, and/or adoption of procedures to support communities to obtain land rights through CCROs.
- Collaborate with the district and villages to facilitate the development of individual (as appropriate) and communal CCROs.
- Collaborate with district and other land tenure service providers to design incentive mechanisms for CCROs issuance.
- Ensures the use of the Mobile Application to Secure Tenure (MAST) and geographical information systems (GIS) in the development of CCROs.
- Organize and build the capacity of the districts and villages using the MAST system for CCROs Issuance.
- Work with partners, local communities, district staff, and Monitoring and Evaluation Specialists in monitoring and following up on the land administration processes and issued CCROs being used as allocated in the VLUPs.
- To Promote and mobilize Gender equity and social inclusion for CCROs applications.
- Support land allocation and ownership conflict resolution within and between communities in the project area.
- Produces technical information, data, progress, quarterly and annual reports by highlighting achievements, success stories, challenges, and lessons learned.
- Provide support on land-related matters to other project staff.
- Perform other tasks as assigned.

### Minimum Job Qualifications and other Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree in Land Use planning/surveying/land Management /GIS or related field including Natural Resources Management, a master's degree will be an added advantage.
- Knowledge of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) is a MUST.
- Knowledge of the Mobile Application to Secure Tenure (MAST) system will be an added advantage.
- At least 3 years after graduation of professional experience in land resource data and information systems, land use planning, and land resources mapping with remote sensing/GIS technologies.
- Experience working in rural and remote areas of Tanzania.
- Proven successful work experience related to Land Use Planning and land rights in support of a conservation and sustainable natural resources management project is desirable.
- Ability to work under pressure, tight deadlines, and less supervision, self-motivated person, team player, reporting, and presentation skills.
- Good Communication skills - fluent in Swahili and English, both Oral and written.

### Application Procedure:

All applications should be submitted together with the most recent Curriculum Vitae (CV)/resume, copy of relevant academic certificates & transcripts, testimonials, three names of reputable referees, day-time telephone number or e-mail address, and should be sent to the following e-mail address: [recruitment@janegoodall.or.tz](mailto:recruitment@janegoodall.or.tz)

Only the final shortlisted candidates will be interviewed and provided with the interview feedback.

**Deadline:** Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 before 5pm in the evening.

JGI Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and considers all applicants on the basis of merit without regard to race, national or tribal origin, religious belief, gender, and marital status.

QUALIFIED FEMALE APPLICANTS ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.



**Air Tanzania Limited Company (ATCL) CEO and managing director Ladislaus Matindi briefs Transport deputy minister David Kihenzile (3rd-R), who visited the national flag carrier's offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole**

## Traders applaud govt for being pro-business

By Henry Mwangonde

BUSINESS in Tanzania have positive perceptions on the role of the government in supporting cross-border trade activities, expressing confidence of expanding profits as a result of pro-business policies implemented by the government, a new report has shown.

The third Stanbic Bank Africa Trade Barometer (SB ATB), released yesterday, highlights the current cross-border trade landscape in Tanzania with businesses exhibiting slightly more positive sentiments.

The report said the sentiments are likely a reflection in Tanzania's improvement in business climate in the past two years which is believed to have restored the private sector's trust and confidence in investing in the country.

"As a result, the majority (94-percent) of businesses expect their revenue to increase over the next year due to the perception that demand for their goods and services will increase," the report said.

The report said specifically 47percent of surveyed businesses perceive the government to be supportive of their cross-border trading activities compared to 18percent who said the opposite.

"This is most likely a reflection of deeper bilateral economic ties with other countries as well as improved activity with trading blocs such as the East African Community (EAC), as well as increased investment in infrastructure to facilitate cross-border trade with other African countries," it reads in parts.

Tanzania ranks fourth out of the 10 countries that were surveyed in terms of the perceived quality of its transportation infrastructure. While the state of the country's airports, port and rail were on average not reported to be significant obstacles to trade, the state of power supply, road infrastructure are the most poorly perceived which present obstacles to Tanzania's trade.

The report further said the majority of the surveyed importers and exporters expect the scale

of their foreign trade activity to increase as a result of higher degree of regional integration over the coming years with other EAC countries such as Kenya and Uganda.

The SB ATB was launched in 2022 with an aim of Africa's leading trade index to address the information vacuum of reliable African trade data to support the growth of intra-Africa-trade.

The ten surveyed countries include Angola, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

Speaking when presenting the report, an economist from Stanbic Bank Zainul Chandoo said Tanzania as a country needs to cherish some of the advantages that it has including peace stability which are facilitating investor confidence.

"There are several things that bring about investor confidence in the country, even businesses are seeing opportunities which the government is ready to support," he said.

He said the EAC market was bigger with a combined GDP of \$180 billion and a population of 300 million, Tanzania was poised to benefit from it.



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Contact: Mobile phone  
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- Inspection of the property shall be done starting from 7 days before auction date from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm. All expenses related to the inspection especially transport shall be borne by the buyer.
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- The property shall be sold 'as is and where it is'.
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AZANIA BANK LIMITED  
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MAWASILIANO TOWER  
DAR ES SALAAM  
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Email: [info@azaniabank.co.tz](mailto:info@azaniabank.co.tz)  
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# Majaliwa delighted by Exim Bank's move to boost public access to financial services

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has expressed his admiration for Exim Bank Tanzania's endeavours to extend and bring its services closer to communities across the country.

He emphasized that this initiative will not only bolster local economies but also foster social integration.

Prime Minister Majaliwa conveyed his appreciation when he visited Exim Bank Tanzania's exhibition booth just prior to the official launch of the National Financial Services Week (NFSW) which took place at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha on Wednesday. As a key exhibitor, Exim Bank's involvement in the event will span until November 26 this year.

During his visit to the Exim Bank booth, the Prime Minister was briefed on the diverse range of services provided by the bank by its Marketing and Communications Manager, Kauthar D'Souza.

D'Souza not only described several financial services offered by Exim Bank Tanzania but also detailed the bank's strategy for expansion into various regions of the country.

"I applaud your ongoing efforts to expand your services. However, more must be done to ensure that these beneficial services reach a greater number of people, especially those residing in remote areas who have yet to have access to formal financial services," advised Prime Minister Majaliwa.

Taking advantage of the opportunity, the Prime Minister urged financial service providers in the country to continue delivering financial education to the public while simultaneously reducing the operational costs associated with their services, including interest rates and fees, to enable greater utilization of official financial services.

Speaking about the bank's services and products before the PM, D'Souza said that despite the bank's efforts to expand its presence throughout the country, with a 33 network of branches and 1500 agents nationwide, its strategy is still to invest more in digital innovation to provide customers with suitable and safe banking solutions.

"We also recognize our responsibility in contributing to the social and economic development of our country, which is why one of our priorities

is to empower individuals and entrepreneurs, including women, through our specialized services such as the Wajasiriamali Account and the 'Supa Woman' account designed for women who are striving to grow their businesses," she added.

D'souza pointed out that Exim Bank Tanzania has continued to commit itself to uplifting communities, citing the bank's Exim Cares program as a key pillar in implementing various CSR initiatives, particularly in important sectors such as education, health, sports, and environmental conservation (Exim Go Green Initiative), to contribute to the country's development.

In affirming its commitment, Exim Bank showcased its support for women entrepreneurs who have benefited from the bank's Women Empowerment Program (WEP) at the exhibition. The women were given the opportunity to display their products at the bank's exhibition booth during the celebration.

"By doing so, we are not only fulfilling our role as a bank, but we have become agents of positive change within our communities," she emphasised.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has a quick word in Arusha city on Wednesday with Exim Bank Tanzania officials including marketing and communications manager Kauthar D'Souza (C, in head-cloth) and Mount Meru branch manager Eliud Massaga (3rd L) at the bank's exhibition pavilion shortly before opening the National Financial Services Week. Looking on (R) is Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Scale up FP uptake to attain SDG goal 3 by 2030, says health expert

By Guardian Reporter

SCALING up family planning (FP) uptake can play an important role in reducing maternal mortality rate and ensuring that Tanzania attains the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The SDG three, targets for countries to reduce maternal mortality rate to at least 70-100,000 live births.

Dr Geoffrey Sigalla, Marie Stopes Tanzania (MST) director of health services made the remarks in Dar es Salaam recently when speaking during the second scientific health conference on maternal and child health.

Themed: "Improve maternal and child nutrition health services based on scientific results", the conference brought together various health experts from the public and private sector in Tanzania and overseas, including international bodies like the United Nations (UN) agencies and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Dr Sigalla said FP was one of the important pillars of scaling down maternal mortality rate in the country by at least one third.

"Family Planning reduces the 'at risk birth', those who are too young to have the pregnancy or too old, and those with many births," he

said.

The MST health expert said FP also allows better spacing which reduces the frequencies associated with pregnancy risks, saying doing it to many women means a number of them will be less exposed to pregnancy risks, thus ensuring low maternal mortality rate.

He therefore asked for the need to conduct beneficiary segmentation to the youth as there were different youth's categories who needed to be addressed differently.

"Youths are not homogenous, most of them have the knowledge of sexual reproductive health and they need comprehensive sexuality curricula approved by the government and UNESCO to ensure they have information on sexual reproductive health and access to services," he said.

He added: "We know that some of these youths are first time mothers, others are in school and some are out of school. We therefore need to give them proper information in SRH."

Dr Sigalla said for the majority of youths and women to easily access FP information and services, there was a need to blend such information with entrepreneurship skills, community dialogue and education.

Dr Wilson Charles, Deputy Permanent Secretary (PS) in

the President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) on health sector, said FP uptake was still very low in the country, asking for more initiatives to increase the service.

According to Dr Jaria Aljoe from the UNFP, there was a need to train more service providers to ensure health commodities on FP are available at all levels while also insisting on data visibility.

She asked for interventions in order to improve commodities availability through financing and supporting FP interventions to ensure clients have access to commodities.

The Tanzania Demographic Health Survey (TDHS) 2022, puts the Demand for FP at 60 percent with only 31 percent having been satisfied by modern methods while the other 70 percent using traditional methods.

The report reveals that at least 31 percent of the women population have unmet FP needs despite being sexually active with partners and willing to delay their pregnancies.

It says 40 percent of the population was community groups with cultural and traditional norms who need intervention through behavioural change to ensure they have the knowledge on FP so that they have access to contraceptives services.



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT  
TANZANIA RAILWAYS CORPORATION



## SECOND TANZANIA INTERMODAL AND RAIL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (TIRP) PROJECT ID: P176682

### CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE PROVISION OF EXPERTS TO REINFORCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECOND TANZANIA INTERMODAL AND RAIL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (TIRP-II) - REFERENCE NO. TZ-TRC-386072-CS-QCBS

#### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

1. This request for Expressions of Interest follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in the United Nations Development Business (UNDB) on March 21, 2023.
2. The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has applied a credit from the World Bank towards the cost of the Second Tanzania Intermodal Rail Development Project (TIRP-II) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for Consultancy Services.
3. The Consulting services ("the Services") include the Provision of Experts to Reinforce the Implementation of the Second Tanzania Intermodal and Rail Development Project (TIRP-II). The anticipated execution period is twenty-four (24) Calendar Months.
4. The Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) on behalf of the Government of Tanzania, now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing Services. Interested Consultants should provide information with supporting documents demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.
5. The shortlisting criteria are (i) experience in similar assignments - successful preparation of at least two (2) contracts of similar nature in the last ten years - information to be provided should include name of assignment, name including full contact details of the client, contract value (in equivalent US dollars) and period (dates) of execution of assignments; (ii) experience in similar conditions; and (iii) technical and managerial capability of the firm (Provide only the structure of the organization, general qualifications and number of key staff). Do not provide the CV of the key staff. Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage. The shortlist will contain five (5) to eight (8) eligible firms.
6. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" Fifth Edition, September 2023, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interest related to this assignment: Consultants shall not be hired for any assignment that would be in conflict with their prior or current obligations to other clients, or that may place them in a position of being unable to carry out the assignment in the best interests of the Borrower.
7. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.
8. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Framework Agreement arrangements described in the Procurement Regulations and to be specifically set out in the Request for Proposals.
9. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 0800 to 1600 hours local time, Mondays to Fridays inclusive, except Public Holidays.
10. Expression of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person or by mail, or by e-mail) by Monday, 18 December 2023.
11. The firms that will submit their REOIs via e-mail must get confirmation of the receipt of their documents from TRC. In case the firm does not receive an acknowledgment from TRC within two days after sending the documents via email please call **Mr. Reginald Malele (+255754710372)** or Email: [reginald.malele@trc.co.tz](mailto:reginald.malele@trc.co.tz) for follow-up. TRC is not responsible for any corrupted documents.

The Secretary,  
TRC Tender Board,  
PMU Office, Shaurimoyo Road,  
P.O Box 76959,  
Dar es Salaam,  
TANZANIA.

Tel: +255 22 2112695, E-Mail: [dg@trc.co.tz](mailto:dg@trc.co.tz); [pmu@trc.co.tz](mailto:pmu@trc.co.tz)

DIRECTOR GENERAL,  
TANZANIA RAILWAYS CORPORATION (TRC)



FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2023

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Improving civil service conduct has, truly, some usable remedies

HOW to get public servants to do their duties properly, be motivated and serve people without a semblance of compulsion is a long-term challenge. This is especially because of underlying conflicts in fathoming how human behaviour, or action, is organised.

But some ideas appear to be working in practice as people tend to reflect the sort of environment in which they are bred, which means that they will have contrasting habits but tend to learn from one another. This is particularly the case for collective outlooks in that they relate to institutional norms.

Top officials of the civil service management department in the President's Office have been pondering how to update lessons on civil service conduct countrywide, largely in a bid to update a number of evaluation parameters and make them more effective.

Decision makers have the ability to direct attitudes in the civil service at the collective level by instilling hope or expectation, and indeed also by command.

In the latter aspect, the one in command has to be sure that what he or she says isn't transparent to those listening as, if they notice loopholes, it will be 'business as usual'.

Changing the outlook of non-performing civil servants can be dauntingly tiresome because one would then be talking about modifying the outlook of an individual whose job is assured virtually for life.

In that even with job situations that are contractual it isn't easy to actually mould someone, in a civil service environment the situation is harder since taking drastic action could disrupt the set-up in ways that are absent in the private sector. Dismissal in the civil service impacts on the public authorities too often.

The ministry's efforts in formulating

an evaluation mechanism on performance of individuals and institutions can be said to improve the situation - for instance, if it enhances objectivity of what is sought for or how it is determined, say, by offering good or bad performance mark.

The more objective the particular assessment is, the more those expected to subject to it will believe in its fairness and thus maintain institutional cohesion vital in a civil service structure.

Still, such a formula ought to leave enough room for people to sort out the proverbial wheat and chaff, for disciplinary action or for dismissal, since precluding dismissal from public service would be an obvious mistake.

In the past, particularly in public organisations of a commercial character, hardly anyone could be dismissed by the management without the respective ruling political party branch nodding to the decision.

The respective trade union also had to be consulted, and the law talked more on arbitration and reconciliation - this relating to groups of members and not individuals.

While we are definitely a bit distant from those days the relics are prevalent, because during the 1970s the country had potential enemies on virtually each of its borders and the government was worried about dissent in civil service ranks.

This led to over-employment so that work was at least done, all of which came down tumbling as public financial and other resources could no longer carry the burden.

However, many will say we were stabled in the back by accepting IMF/World Bank advice about downsizing of the civil service, changing salary systems, etc.

Whatever the issues it was "modernisation" and, while workers still have voices in institutions, the balance is much clearer now.

## Sinking 48bn/- into ship repairs may thrill some, even if others see it as a lost chance

AN engineering company based in Tanzania's commercial, the Dar es Salaam Merchant Group (DMG), has been tasked with repairing a number of old ships traditionally plying Lake Tanganyika and Lake Victoria ports.

It is reported that the firm has signed an agreement to that effect with Marine Services Co. Ltd (MSCL), where the repairing will be conducted with technical input from M/S Brodosplit JSC of Croatia.

The total work will gobble up 48bn/- from the public coffers, for work that, with some better arrangements, could have been done by the private sector, fully and completely.

All the same observers tend to be realistic on the fact that policy-making is a debate, for instance, whether old ships should be sold and repaired by private operators or the work should be done by the government.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has in the past demanded that regional administrators - and in this context regulatory authorities - take initiative rather than always wait for 'orders from above'.

But then initiative proceeds from a pre-existing mindset, in which case the relevant authorities prepared a project for maintenance of those ships.

Way back in the 1980s and 1990s most such older equipment, factories, etc., were sold out, and in many cases those who took them over prospered.

However, broad sections of policy makers still believe that public sector management is just as good as, if not better, than private sector management. They see the issues in terms of skills, which leads back to educational qualifications, whereas the real issue actually lies elsewhere.

Human beings work for prosperity and assurance in life, so public authorities can't guard over

what everyone is doing, making commercialisation a far better option.

Had a particular agency, institution or individual operator purchased all those ships - say, at the same 48bn/- that we are now to spend repairing them, those ships would indeed be rehabilitated and conduct even better services plying lake ports mentioned.

But we have ingrained perceptions of holding such situations negatively. We fear that someone is taking a prized item owned by the public, instead of actually seeing it as relieving the government of burdens of maintenance, at times on the basis of cleverly crafted costs, and indeed even if the costs weren't so clever. There is no need to argue over extent of loss.

While all this looks like a routine commercial interaction, we are not marking any time since the 1996 sinking of MV Victoria for reasons of engine failure and gross overloading.

Granted, we have had several marine accidents but nothing as massive, just like we have had massive train accidents like one on the central railway in 1998.

Two trains crashed as if it was a road crash, as neither drivers nor controllers appeared to know that another train was coming from the opposite direction. That is why, seeing these efforts at repairs instead of institutional change, there is understandable caution.

The formation of the various institutions with a private sector tonality and presumably autonomous and more efficient public sector bodies is the best that we have so far been able to do.

But as we go along, it is possible that the need to go much further could start being appreciated - since, as they say, Rome wasn't built in a day. Still, it is our expectation that the work will at least be done to satisfaction and services will indeed improve.

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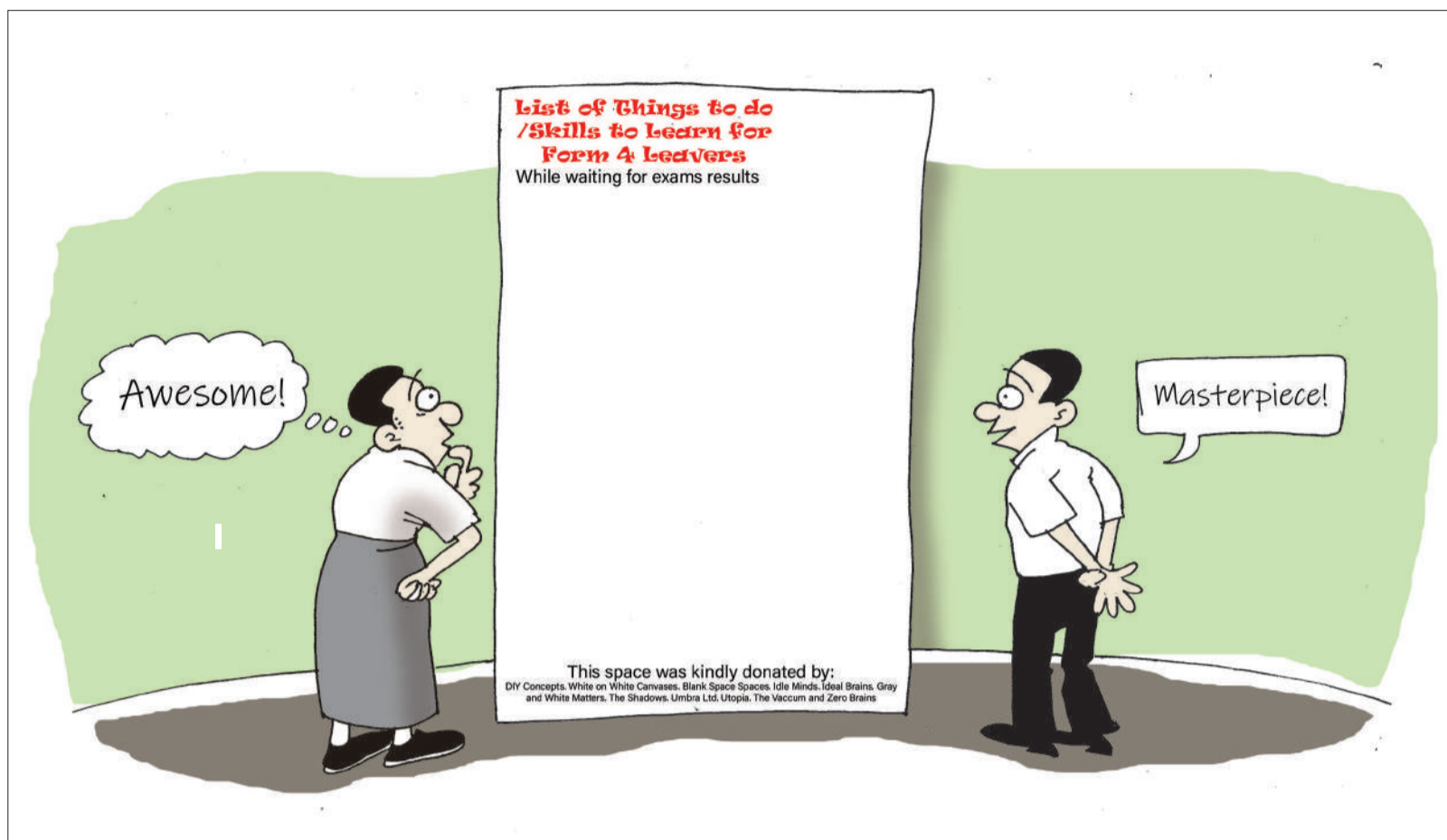
Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO  
Circulation Manager: DENNIS NTAITA

### Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON  
0757154767  
General line: 0745700710  
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

### Advertising

Mobile: 0677020701  
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz  
Website: www.ippmedia.com  
epaper.ippmedia.com



## How to make a profit in the modern media landscape

By Aurora Martinez

WHEN it comes to running a media outlet, understanding business strategies is just as important as producing high-quality journalism.

Informing, educating and holding the powerful accountable may be at the core of the profession, but profitability is what ensures its continued existence.

In today's rapidly evolving media landscape, too, innovation is key to developing a robust revenue portfolio, said Jeremy Caplan in a recent ICFJ (International Centre for Journalists) Global Crisis Reporting session held in partnership with ICFJ's news business hub, Elevate.

Caplan, director of teaching and learning at the CUNY Newmark Graduate School of Journalism in New York City, advised: "We should aim to thrive, not just survive."

Here are key tips and insights from Caplan for media organisations to keep in mind to better sustain themselves:

Diversify revenue streams. Media revenue streams can be direct or indirect. Direct streams include subscriptions, e-commerce, memberships and educational offerings like training. Support from philanthropic sources and advertisement revenue are examples of indirect streams.

A dual approach to revenue generation, considering both direct and indirect funding, provides media organisations with versatility to

By Mette Dissing-Spandet

AGRICULTURE minister Hussein Bashe, Representatives from the Industry and Trade ministry, and Development partners:

It is truly an honour to join you virtually in my capacity as the Ambassador of Denmark in Tanzania at this momentous occasion - the Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholders Learning Event 2023.

I extend my warmest greetings to each and every one of you, distinguished guests, partners and stakeholders who have gathered here to celebrate and collaborate on the theme "Connect, Sustain and Scale Innovations in Agriculture Market Systems".

Before we delve into the heart of today's discussions, allow me to express my deepest gratitude to the organisers, the Agricultural Markets Development Trust (AMDT), for their unwavering commitment and dedication. For the past eight years, the Danish Embassy in Tanzania has had the privilege of supporting AMDT with a budget of 58 billion Tanzanian shillings.

Currently, Sweden and Denmark are supporting AMDT in its work of developing and strengthening market

sustain their operations and serve their audiences effectively. Learning what other organisations may be implementing successfully already is helpful, too. We need a mindset that's about experimentation and exploration.

Providing services to other organisations can serve as an additional revenue stream. For example, to supplement the funding it already generates through advertising, the podcast studio Multitude, offers coaching, training and production services for businesses interested in producing podcasts of their own.

"A diversified revenue stream means you're not putting all your eggs in one basket and you have all sorts of different ways to build more revenue as the years progress," Caplan said.

Assess viability. Before implementing a new revenue stream, media organizations should assess their profitability through a comprehensive development plan, said Caplan.

Consider the following factors: Desirability: Do people want this? Feasibility: Can your team execute this? Viability: Can you make money from this? Compatibility: Does this align with your organisation's goals?

Map out best-case, conservative and worst-case scenarios when it comes to investment and revenue. This can help you identify future challenges and how to counteract them to increase your odds of success.

Once you visualise the revenue outcomes and challenges, you can develop a prototype, an event, a

membership offer, a service or other revenue stream ideas.

Once you develop the prototype, test it: invite people to evaluate how the idea is being perceived. Once interest is gauged, pilot (or execute) the prototype. That will enable your organisation to evaluate the strategy's effectiveness and determine whether it is worth adding as a revenue stream.

Learn from others. It is smart to learn from the mistakes and successes of other media organisations to find innovative approaches that work.

Avoid reinventing the wheel; instead, get in touch with people who have adopted innovative revenue streams in the past and be open to adopting ideas that were effective for them.

"Take this global village that we are living in as an opportunity to reach out to people," Caplan said.

Reaching out to other media organisations to expand your network can also lead you to new opportunities and growth. Caplan highlighted this revenue database as one helpful resource.

Don't do too many things at once. Organise, prioritise and focus on one objective at a time, suggested Caplan. Otherwise, you'll spread yourself too thin and fail to effectively execute your ideas.

Don't jump to conclusions or rush solutions, either, he continued. When organisations encounter a problem, it is best to step past initial assumptions, solicit feedback from different perspectives and take into account stakeholders before coming up with a quick fix.

## Connecting, sustaining and scaling innovations in agriculture market systems do play vital role

systems in selected agricultural value chains here in Tanzania.

The progress and impact of this collaboration are indeed commendable, and I want to applaud the entire AMDT team for their hard work and dedication.

Today's event underscores the importance of connecting, sustaining and scaling innovations in agriculture market systems - an endeavour that aligns seamlessly with our shared vision for a more prosperous and sustainable Tanzania.

The strides made in the agricultural sector in Tanzania are a testament to the concerted efforts of various stakeholders, and I am thrilled to witness the positive transformations taking place.

On that note, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the government of Tanzania for showcasing serious determination towards improving the agriculture sector. The substantial increase in the budget allocated to the sector this financial year reflects a commendable commitment to fostering growth and development. It is through such collaborative efforts that we can truly

make a lasting impact on the lives of those who depend on agriculture for their livelihoods.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the diverse array of stakeholders present here today, and those beyond these virtual walls, who are actively contributing to the betterment of Tanzania's agricultural sector.

Your dedication to innovation, investment and collaboration is paving the way for a more sustainable and resilient agricultural landscape in Tanzania.

In some recent and joyous news, I am pleased to highlight the news that most of you may have heard already: that the Government of Denmark has decided to reverse its decision to close the Embassy in Tanzania. Instead, we are resolute in our commitment to continuing the long and fruitful cooperation between our two nations.

This decision reflects the enduring friendship and the belief in the potential of Tanzania's growth and development, particularly in the agricultural sector.

We look forward to strengthening our ties even further and continuing

Tap into philanthropic support. Partnering with philanthropic organisations can have a significant impact on the sustainability of media organisations and how they continue serving their communities, Caplan said.

Daniel Lopera, co-founder of FOCO Panamá and an Elevate alumnus, shared during the session how his organisation has partnered with the anti-corruption initiative Movin, which at the same time gave them access to their donors.

Organisations like Free Press Unlimited and UNESCO can provide support and monetary aid to journalists in distress around the world, Lopera said. His team, for instance, has turned to Free Press Unlimited in the past to replace stolen equipment and to pay lawyers.

Caplan and Lopera both stressed the importance of prioritising the business aspects of journalism. Understanding revenue generation and adapting strategies to meet market needs are all keys to success for a media outlet.

"If you want to expand, if you want your stories to have more impact, you're going to need more hands, you're going to need more tools," Lopera said.

He added: "You need to plan, and you need to understand or partner with someone that understands the business side of it."

\* A dispatch by the International Journalists' Network (IJNet), a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists.

to work hand in hand towards shared goals. Even though it has not been possible for me to travel to Dodoma (the national capital) and participate physically, technology has made it possible for me to still be part of this event virtually.

This underscores the power of technology in connecting us across distances, allowing us to collaborate and share ideas despite the challenges posed by physical constraints.

As you embark on today's discussions, I encourage you to keep in mind that, together, we can overcome challenges, seize opportunities, and build a resilient agricultural sector that not only sustains communities but also propels Tanzania towards a brighter and more prosperous future.

Thank you - and I wish you all a fruitful and inspiring Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholders Learning Event 2023. Asante sana!

\* Mette Dissing-Spandet is Denmark's Ambassador to Tanzania. This is the full text of speech she delivered virtually on Wednesday (Nov 22) at this year's edition of the Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholders Learning Event.



# Due process of law in administering a deceased person's estate (2)

As promised in the previous article, today's piece continues with powers of estate administrator after being duly appointed by a court of law. The point of emphasis was that parties are required to be careful when proposing who a person to step into the shoes of the deceased.

However, it should be noted that the administrator can be removed from his or her office by court of law through legal grounds listed in section 49 of the Probate and Administration Act although previous transactions before his or her removal cannot be reversed or erased unless fraud is proved on the required standards and the third party such as purchaser should also be an integral part of the said fraud.

Failure to prove fraud to the required standards means allegations of fraud cannot vitiate legal transaction conducted by the previous administrator.

In the case of Mille Alfan Ismail and Zainabu Mzee vs Sofia Mzaki, Civil Appeal No 75 of 2008, the successor administrator moved to court seeking to nullify all the transactions done by the previous administrator.

The Court of Appeal rejected the prayers and stated very clear that when the first administrator of the estate is revoked, the previous transactions remain intact. Rationale of this is to uphold the office of administrator because otherwise, there will not be

an end to administration and no one can be able to purchase properties of deceased persons for fear that the transaction can be set aside by the court of law.

After looking at the general powers of the administrator once appointed, today, let highlight duties. Among the core duties of the administrator once appointed is to trace all claims or debts against the deceased and properties left behind.

Once the same is done, then filing of inventory and accounts to exhibit the deceased's estate is the next step. This is governed by section 106 and 107 of the Probate and Administration Act.

Inventory is required to be filed on or before lapse of the six months from the date of appointment while accounts should be filed on or before lapse of one year. Extension of time may be sought and granted by the court of law upon showing sound reasons as to why the said statutory task was not finalized within given statutory time.

It is legally important to look at what is inventory and accounts so that one may have good picture on what is required to be filed in court.

An inventory is a list of the deceased's assets which contains its value, liabilities and other related costs while accounts refers to the collection of records about income, gains, losses and distribution of the estate to the rightful beneficiaries.

Accounts part is always available after creation of



an inventory. Therefore, there cannot be accounts without having an inventory first. Formant of how inventory and accounts look like is available in the statutes.

Distribution of the deceased's estate to the rightful beneficiaries is supposed to be indicated in the accounts filed by the administrator in a court of law. A pointed earlier, the administrator is not required to consult the beneficiaries on how to distribute the estate but to discharge duties in accordance with the law and good faith.

Among the rationale of exhibiting inventory and accounts is to keep the beneficiaries informed on the status of the deceased's estate and to have transparency in the administration of the deceased's estate.

Laws which may be used in distribution of estate vary from estate to estate but legal test used to determine which law is the mode of life which the deceased lived during his or her life as decided in

the case of Innocent Mbilinyi (1969) HCD No 283.

It was stated that if the deceased lived in accordance with Christian beliefs or in accordance with government rules then the law applicable was supposed to be the Indian Succession Act of 1865 but if he lived in accordance with customary beliefs, then Local Customary Law (Declaration) No 4 Order (GN No 436/1963) was to be applied.

One benefit of applying the Indian Succession Act under section 30 is that it provides more advantage to the wife of the deceased upon proving that she was part and parcel of acquisition of the deceased's properties and children of deceased are treated equally in division of the estate.

Further, it is imperative for our readers to take note, particularly those who purchased properties which are registered in the name of the deceased, that once the administrator is appointed to administer the estate,

he or she has mandate under section 99 to sale or to dispose of the deceased's estate.

However, some conditions must be met for the administrator to be permitted legally to sale or dispose of the deceased's registered properties. Section 67 of the Land Registration Act, Cap 334 requires the administrator to be registered as the owner of the deceased's estate instead of the deceased so that he or she can have legal mandate under section 68 of the above act to sale the deceased's properties.

Any transaction which violates the above mandatory provision of the law cannot be protected in the eyes of the law; the court will nullify the said transaction.

In the case of Abbas Asly Athuman Bantulaki & other vs Kelvin Victor Mahity, (administrator of the Estate of the late Peter Walcher) Civil Appeal No 385 of 2019, the Court of Appeal stated very clear that because of the failure by the administrator to be

registered with registrar of titles in place of the deceased, he could not have mandate to sale the deceased's estate.

The transaction was nullified due to the above shortfall. Therefore, it is our advice particularly to the purchaser, among other things, is required to be satisfied before purchasing properties registered in the deceased's name to ensure the seller is registered as the owner instead of the deceased.

As pointed in part one of this article, the administrator is required to discharge duties assigned to his or her offices in accordance with the law and in good faith. However, in the event the administrator violates the law in discharging duties, then he or she can be removed from the assigned office.

But mere allegations against the administrator in discharging his or her duties are not sufficient for removal. Rather, section 49 of the Probate and Administration provides guidelines in case the administrator violates

the law and the court can remove him or her from the administration. Such grounds include failure to distribute the deceased's estate, failure to file inventory and accounts among many other reasons.

It is the court of law which has mandate to remove the administrator from the office upon application made by either beneficiaries or any person who has interest in the deceased's estate.

Once the administrator is removed from the office, section 49(2) provides powers to the Judge of the High Court to appoint the successor administrator. There was tag of arguments in the Civil Appeal No 183 of 2016 between Joseph Shumbusho vs Mary Grace Tigwera and 2 others.

In this case, the court held that rationale behind the power vested upon the Judge of the High Court is that the office of the administration cannot be left without a person to administer it. Therefore, once the administrator is removed from that office, then automatically the Judge has mandate to elect any person as successor administrator without having formal application. So, as a matter of procedure, there should be facts as to why a certain person should be appointed because the court cannot act without having facts in place.

Lastly, it is practice of many people's belief that once you are appointed as administrator, then you will be in that office for life. This is not correct because under section

107 and 108 of the Probate and Administration provide that administrator is required to inform the beneficiaries on the inventory and accounts filed in court.

In the Misc Application No 7 of 2021 between Miriam John Mallya & 3 others vs Marian John Mallya (executrix of estate of the late John Kachelo Mallya) the court was very clear that probate and administration is closed once a court order is issued.

The same position was also stated in the Court of Appeal case between Andrew G.Mfuko (suing in person) vs George C Mfuko, Civil Appeal 320 of 2021. Therefore, it is important for the administrator to close the office through court order and once the office is closed, he or she cannot sue or be sued through decree unless one opts to sue the administrator personally.

Note: the material and information contained in this article are for general information purposes only. They only provide either elementary or basic legal knowledge on the above subject. Anyone considering legal action should consult an experienced lawyer to understand current laws and how they may affect a case in question.

**You can send questions or comments to our email info@legisattorneys.co.tz or postal address Managing Partner, Legis Attorneys, P. O. Box 3750, DSM. You can visit our website www.legisattorneys.co.tz**

By Tamsin Metelerkamp

INTERNATIONAL aid organisations have reiterated the call for an immediate and sustainable ceasefire in Gaza, warning that a "humanitarian pause" of a few days will in no way be enough to meet the urgent needs of people on the ground.

Israel and Hamas recently agreed to a four-day pause in fighting as part of a Qatar-mediated deal, according to an Al Jazeera report. Under the agreement, 50 people held captive by Hamas in Gaza will be released in exchange for the release of 150 Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails.

The temporary halt in military action is expected to allow hundreds of trucks carrying humanitarian supplies, medical aid and fuel into the Gaza Strip.

"It is so important that yesterday, a commitment was made to release some of the Israeli hostages and release Palestinian detainees... and that there may be a several-day pause in the fighting... But... on a humanitarian basis, it's not enough, and it's certainly not enough in human rights terms," said Paul O'Brien, executive director at Amnesty International USA.

"Gaza was once an open-air prison; today, it is worse than that. After a 16-year blockade, living in occupied territories, which violates the international law of apartheid, meeting urgent needs in Gaza is not going to happen in a pause of a few days and is not going to happen with a few hundred aid trucks, as essential... as they are."

O'Brien was speaking at a press briefing on the need for a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip and Israel on Wednesday. He was joined by representatives of various international aid agencies, including Doctors Without Borders (Médecins Sans Frontières/MSF), Doctors of the World (Médecins Du Monde), Save the Children and Handicap International.

Joel Weiler, executive director of Doctors of the World, described the situation in Gaza as "catastrophic", adding that several of the organisation's members remained trapped in the northern region due to ongoing bombing attacks.

"We need a real ceasefire... A pause is not realistic... You can't come from Egypt to Gaza and be able to do a good

## A 'humanitarian pause' in deadly Israel-Gaza conflict is not enough, say aid agencies



An injured man is assisted following Israeli air strikes in Rafah town in the southern Gaza Strip, on 20 November 2023. (Photo: EPA-EFE / Mohammed Saber)

distribution in four hours, in 10 hours or even in five days. For medical organisations, we can't do follow-up treatment for injured people," he argued. "We need time and unrestricted humanitarian access... We are tired of technical discussions... Now we need to be operational in the field."

"We call on the US government, the UK Government, the EU, France [and] the international community to put pressure on Israel and Hamas to respect international humanitarian law and agree on an immediate, sustainable ceasefire."

Since the onset of the conflict, over 14,000 civilians are estimated to have been killed in Gaza, of which at least 5,800 are children, according to Jason Lee, Save the Children's country director for Palestine.

Hamas is believed to be holding about 240 Israeli hostages in Gaza, taken during a coordinated attack that breached Israeli defences on 7 October. It has been widely reported that

more than 1,200 Israelis were killed in that attack.

### Health system targeted

Since the onset of the Israel-Gaza conflict, there have been repeated instances in which hospitals, clinics, health workers and patients have been targeted, according to Avril Benoit, executive director of MSF in the US. She pointed out that the World Health Organization (WHO) had documented 178 attacks on healthcare infrastructure in Gaza, resulting in hundreds of fatalities.

"We have more than 300 staff who are Palestinians who are trapped there under the siege and we have an international team that is also now trying to [reinstate] surgeries in a hospital. The conditions are impossible to be able to do proper, coordinated humanitarian aid, which is something that people have a right to receive in a conflict," she said.

"We're extremely worried about our

own colleagues and all the civilians in Gaza. There's no safe space."

Two MSF doctors, Dr Mahmoud Abu Nujaila and Dr Ahmad Al Sahar, were killed in an air strike on Al Awda Hospital in northern Gaza on Wednesday. MSF stated that it had regularly communicated the fact that Al Awda was a functioning facility with MSF personnel on-site to warring parties, including sending the GPS coordinates of the hospital to Israeli authorities the day before the attack.

Benoit emphasised that hospitals should "never, under any circumstances, be a target", as they are places where people go for treatment and protection during conflict.

"It's like this dystopian reality now, where all the normal scaffolding [for] the conduct of responsible parties in a conflict has been completely perverted and the supporters of some of these belligerents are standing by watching it happen," she said.

"We're not lawyers – we're doctors, we're nurses, we're midwives just trying to alleviate the suffering and treat people. And what we see is these arguments, these fake justifications for why it's okay to target civilians in a hospital. It's not and no one should stand aside and watch this perversion of the norms of international law."

Investigation of war crimes The widespread bombing campaign and "collective punishment" of people in Gaza should be halted immediately, said Benoit, and an investigation should be launched into possible war crimes.

"There should be international observers on the ground. There should be much more probing of misinformation, disinformation that is out there flying around while we humanitarians

are just trying to save lives," she said.

O'Brien echoed Benoit's call for an investigation into possible war crimes. He referenced hostage-taking by Hamas, which violated international law, but also Israel's forcible displacement of over a million people in Gaza and the blockade preventing food, water and fuel from entering the region.

"The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and the United States argue that because Hamas is targeted and they live in Gaza, the IDF is adhering to humanitarian law when they bomb churches, schools, hospitals. They are wrong and these acts must be investigated as war crimes," he said.

"Because the IDF suspects that there might be Hamas infrastructure under a hospital or a refugee camp, they believe they can shut down those spaces and kill or forcibly displace thousands of civilians in order to find out... That needs to be investigated as a violation of humanitarian law. Until we have those investigations, we have every reason to fear that what happened in Al Shifa [Hospital] will happen in every other hospital."

The IDF raided Al Shifa Hospital last week, claiming that Hamas was using the facility as a command centre. A WHO-led team who visited the facility on 18 November described it as a "death zone", with a mass grave at the entrance. At the time of the team's visit, there were still 25 health workers and 291 patients on site. The WHO reported that the IDF had issued evacuation orders to the 2,500 internally displaced people who had been sheltering on the hospital grounds earlier that day.

"WHO is deeply concerned about the safety and health needs of patients, health workers and internally displaced people sheltering at the few remaining partially functional hospitals in the north, which are facing the risk of closure due to a lack of fuel, water, medical supplies and food, and the intense hostilities," stated the organisation.

"Immediate efforts must be made to restore the functionality of Al-Shifa and all other hospitals to provide urgently needed health services in Gaza."



# COP28: Strengthen climate resilience in small and vulnerable countries

By Umar Manzoor Shah

**W**ITH a focus on strengthening the resilience of small and vulnerable member countries, Unnikrishnan Nair says the Commonwealth Secretariat is working to align development and climate finance for maximum impact.

Nair, who is the Head of Climate Change in the Economic, Youth, and Sustainable Development Directorate, told IPS in an exclusive interview that to “build resilience and avoid the reversal of development gains due to climate change, climate action must be integrated into development projects so that the funding supports the necessary climate change outcomes.”

The Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub (CCFAH) has served as a “catalyst to help vulnerable countries access climate finance to enhance resilience. To date, USD 315.413 million of climate finance mobilised, including USD 8.1 million in co-financing for 79 approved projects (33 adaptation, 10 mitigation, and 36 cross-cutting) in 14 Commonwealth countries.”



mate change initiatives is fundamental to building resilience and developing robust climate mitigation and adaptation proposals.

The Secretariat has mandated advisers operating under the CCFAH to integrate youth considerations across all projects supported in-country to ensure that climate finance delivered in member states takes account of the needs of young people.

These are Commonwealth Youth Initiatives, Commonwealth Youth Climate Network (CYCN), Commonwealth Youth Statement on Climate Change, Intergenerational Dialogue on Climate Change (held at COP), Commonwealth Youth Development Index and Report, Climate Section, Enhancing Access to Finance for Youth in Green Entrepreneurship, Summer School on Climate Justice support with the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), Climate Finance Teach-in Session during the Global NDC, Youth Engagement Forum and Internship Programme.

**IPS: How does your directorate integrate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its climate change and economic development initiatives? Can you highlight specific projects or programmes that contribute to multiple SDGs simultaneously?**

**Nair:** While aligning NDCs and SDGs is important, it requires funding. Climate finance plays a crucial role in ‘building back better,’ as adequate funding is vital to support climate action, resilience-building, and sustainable development efforts.

Equally, to build resilience and avoid the reversal of development gains due to climate change, climate action must be integrated into development projects so that the funding supports the necessary climate change outcomes. In other words, aligning development and climate finance is essential to maximising impact. Development projects should be able to access climate funding, and climate projects should access development funding.

The Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub (CCFAH) is a significant enabler. By deploying Commonwealth national, regional, and thematic climate finance advisers to support governments, the CCFAH serves as a catalyst to help vulnerable countries access climate finance to enhance resilience. To date, USD 315.413 million of climate finance has been mobilised, including USD 8.1 million in co-financing for 79 approved projects (33 adaptation, 10 mitigation, and 36 cross-cutting) in 14 Commonwealth countries.

Some CCFAH projects are linked to the Living Lands Charter: A Commonwealth Call to Action on Living Lands (CALL). This initiative supports the alignment of climate action and sustainable development by safeguarding global land resources and taking coordinated action to address climate change, biodiversity loss, and land degradation while promoting sustainable, climate-resilient land management and agriculture.

**IPS: What roles do innovation and technology play in your directorate’s approach to achieving sustainable development goals and combating climate change? Are there specific technologies or innovations that have shown promise in your initiatives?**

**Nair:** On the technology front, one of the most important initiatives is an innovative project based on a partnership between Fiji, the Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu and a consortium of international partners working together to support and build climate resilience and enhance decision-making using satellite remote sensing technology.

The Commonwealth Secretariat is the thematic lead on climate finance and provides technical assistance to the three countries in utilising the geospatial-based platforms for enhanced access to climate finance.

The project is designed to enhance capacities, introduce technological advancements (including artificial intelligence-based methods), and provide integrated solutions for decision-making related to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), climate resilience, environmental preservation, and food security.

**IPS: How does your directorate measure the impact of its programmes and initiatives on climate change, economic development, and youth empowerment? Are there key performance indicators or metrics used to assess progress?**

**Nair:** The programme, based on requirements, appoints external third parties to assess its performance and results through its relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, and sustainability, per the OECD Development Assistance Committee Guidelines. This is a formative evaluation of the programme, focusing on assessing the initial results, effectiveness of the programme’s processes, and lessons learned. The evaluation is also supported by case studies to illustrate examples of how the programme operates and to identify success factors and lessons learned.

**IPS: How does your directorate contribute to building the capacity of individuals and communities to respond to climate change and engage in sustainable development? Are there specific training programmes or educational initiatives?**

**Nair:** The Commonwealth Climate Change programme is focused on building the technical and institutional capacity of small and other vulnerable states to engage and navigate through the complex climate action landscape and to take action to address the long-term impacts of climate change. This is achieved by strengthening the technical and policy infrastructure in the country, thereby improving an enabling environment for attracting technical and financial support by devising long-term climate action plans and pipelining climate finance projects, policies, and institutions.

Under the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub (CCFAH), rather than offering short-term consulta-

tion to countries, the project embeds qualified national advisers for a three-year period to support the country in all areas of climate finance. This embeds knowledge transfer formally through workshops, training, and continuous support in priority areas for the government. This generates a critical mass of national government officials and relevant institutions directly responsible for climate action who are capacitated to tackle various aspects of climate finance, including project development, gender mainstreaming, environmental and social governance, policy support, etc. This CCFAH ‘write shop’ approach to capacity building focused on learning by doing has proven to support the sustainability of outcomes. This approach also helps develop a critical mass of officials in government departments responsible for climate action.

**IPS: What are your directorate’s major challenges in implementing climate change, economic, and sustainable development initiatives? Are there notable opportunities or innovations that could positively impact your work?**

**Nair:** The Commonwealth Climate Change Programme is facing several challenges in implementing climate change, economic, and sustainable development initiatives. The prominent three are:

**Diverse Member States:** The Commonwealth comprises countries with diverse economic structures, levels of development, and vulnerabilities to climate change. Tailoring initiatives to suit each member state’s specific needs and capacities is a complex task, requiring flexibility and inclusivity in programme design and implementation.

**Limited Resources:** Resource constraints hinder the ability of the programme to invest in comprehensive climate change and sustainable development initiatives. Mobilising adequate financial resources to support these programmes, especially for smaller and less economically developed nations, is a persistent challenge.

**Capacity Building:** Enhancing the capacity of member states to plan, implement, and monitor climate change initiatives is crucial. Many countries within the Commonwealth lack the technical expertise and institutional capacity needed to carry out these programmes, necessitating targeted capacity-building efforts.

**IPS: How does your directorate collaborate on climate change and sustainable development issues with international organisations and other countries? Are there ongoing partnerships that have been particularly fruitful?**

**Nair:** The Commonwealth Climate Change Programme actively collaborates with international organisations and other countries to address pressing climate challenges. Through diplomatic channels and multilateral forums, the programme fosters partnerships that transcend borders, facilitating the exchange of knowledge, expertise, and best practises in the realms of climate change and sustainable development. This collaboration involves joint technical initiatives, capacity-building programmes, and sharing best practises aimed at inclusive climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies in line with national sustainability practises. By participating in international dialogues and contributing to global initiatives, the programme strives to create a cohesive and coordinated approach to tackle the complex and interconnected issues of climate change and sustainable development, recognising that only through unified efforts can we effectively address the shared challenges facing our planet.

Here are excerpts from the interview:

**IPS: Please give us an overview of the current climate change policies and strategies the Commonwealth Secretariat implements. How do these policies align with broader national and international climate goals?**

**Nair:** The Climate Change Programme of the Commonwealth Secretariat focuses on strengthening the resilience of Commonwealth small and other vulnerable member countries to the negative impacts of climate change. It provides member countries with measures and support for mitigating and adapting to a changing climate. The programme facilitates the human and institutional capacity development of member countries to access public and private climate funding to meet their Paris Agreement commitments, including the implementation of their Nationally Determined Contributions. The Commonwealth Climate Change Programme advocates for international policies, mechanisms, and rules to be more responsive to the development needs of Small Islands Developing States, and other vulnerable countries. The Programme’s support is delivered through various mechanisms and partnerships, including:

Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub with a focus on increasing access to climate finance.

Commonwealth Call to Action on Living Lands aimed at accelerating climate action around land.

Commonwealth NDC Programme focuses on fast-tracking implementation and achievement of climate targets in line with the Paris Agreement.

Geospatial Programme targeted at the use of geospatial data and information for climate decisions.

Integration of Gender and youth for Climate Action, promoting inclusive climate action

Low Carbon & Climate Resilient Health Sector with special focus on Health sector adaptation and mitigation planning

**torate address the economic impacts of climate change? Are there specific measures to promote sustainable economic development in the face of climate-related challenges?**

**Nair:** One of the major initiatives of the Commonwealth Climate Change Programme is to undertake the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR) to enable the consideration of climate change in the national development planning and budgeting process. This initiative applied the World Bank methodology for undertaking the CPEIR and was based on the data and information provided by the Ministry of Finance.

The CPEIR reviewed the overall climate policy adequacy in the country and analysed the strengths and weaknesses of the institutional set-ups, considering current climate change priorities and future challenges. The process also undertook an analytical review of climate expenditure and showed how the country had been allocating funds from public finance in dealing with the impacts of climate change. Initial results and recommendations were shared in a virtual validation workshop, in which a large set of participants from government institutions, the private sector, and development partners provided input, endorsed the study’s conclusions, and appreciated the recommendations.

**IPS: How does your directorate engage with youth in the context of climate change and sustainable development? Are there initiatives to empower youth by advocating for and implementing climate-friendly practises?**

**Nair:** Young people are key stakeholders in climate action, and as future decision-makers, they need to be fully engaged in climate processes, providing their perspectives, innovative ideas, and experiences that can help shape and accelerate climate action.

The integration of youth into cli-

**IPS: In what ways does your direc-**

## 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	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 KADOGO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAYVO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEUJUMA 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



By Lillian Mulupi

# African marine conservation could well turn the tide on climate change

As leaders converge in Dubai for COP28 to strategise on building resilience and reducing emissions to tackle the climate crisis, the ocean stands out as an indispensable ally that can no longer be overlooked. But in many parts of the world, including East Africa, the incredible potential for marine conservation to turn the tide on climate change is hindered by a severe lack of resources.

The upcoming COP28 presents a platform for global leadership to recalibrate our strategic approach to accelerate climate action by building a solid case for ocean conservation.

The ocean contributes about US\$1.5 trillion to the global economy and provides livelihoods for 10-12 percent of the world's population.

But there's another reason to protect our blue planet. The ocean is a carbon-absorbing powerhouse. It harbours tremendous capacity to sequester carbon and regulate the climate. Since the end of the pre-industrial era, our ocean has absorbed a staggering 29 percent of the world's carbon emissions. It holds about 42 times more carbon than the atmosphere.

As a nature-based solution to the climate crisis, marine conservation offers the world an excellent opportunity to leapfrog the most pressing challenge of our time by harnessing the enormous carbon sequestration capacity of the ocean. With suitable investments, the sea can potentially deliver a third of the world's energy needs in a climate-compatible manner. Therefore, global climate action must deliberately elevate marine



conservation as a natural solution to climate change by allocating more resources to this critical ecosystem.

Human activities pose an existential threat to the health of marine ecosystems around the world, and Africa is certainly no exception.

Along the Kenyan coastline for instance, the busy ports of Mombasa and Lamu disrupt the migratory routes of marine species, destroying critical foraging and breeding grounds of sea life. Marine mega-

fauna, including sea turtles and marine mammals, are impacted by oil discharges and underwater noise pollution and die from ship strikes. In addition to threats posed by fishing activities, increasing plastic pollution alters seawater chemistry by making it more acidic, diminishing its carbon-absorbing capacity.

In-shore waters host about 90 percent of East Africa's marine biodiversity, including coral reefs, seagrass meadows, and mangrove forests. These habitats provide food

security for coastal communities and act as a natural buffer against storms and floods. Unfortunately, we're losing critical beaches to the ever-increasing infrastructural development along our coast. Protecting waters closer to the land is vital for human livelihoods and marine life.

That's not to underestimate the role of offshore protected areas. Humpback whales utilise the warmer offshore waters of East Africa for calving and need vast seascapes to

thrive. The carbon capture capacity of whales is astonishing; one great whale sequesters around 33 tonnes of carbon dioxide on average while a tree absorbs only around 0.02 tonnes of carbon annually.

Sadly, many countries, especially those on the African continent, do not have the resources available to effectively protect offshore marine areas. Many such areas remain threatened by overfishing and mining and oil exploration, so conserving these marine ecosystems by

gazetting them right now must be a priority for governments. The development of protected areas on the open ocean would also align with the global target to protect 30 percent of the planet by 2030.

Limited capacity to carry out marine research and disseminate information are significant obstacles to effective ocean management in the Global South. When research is done, as was the case earlier this year when Kenya conducted its first marine megafauna's aerial survey in nearly three decades, it is critical that governments invest in the implementation of recommendations from that research. Policymakers and managers of ocean resources must be trained and equipped to develop national marine spatial plans to provide robust guidelines for permissible ocean activities.

Our ocean's colossal potential to mitigate climate change has remained relatively untapped. However, with a suitable strategic investment, marine ecosystem conservation and restoration in Africa and around the world can form the pivotal centrepiece to anchor global climate action.

Recent initiatives, like the Great Blue Wall, offer examples of how partnerships can be developed to advance ocean conservation in the East African region. COP28 in Dubai presents a key opportunity for governments, private sector partners, and multilateral institutions to come together and renew a more informed charge, guided by science, to build a strong case for ocean conservation to save our planet. The time to make that deliberate decision to protect the ocean is now.

## 'Super mosquito' driving malaria surge in Africa, study confirms

BANGKOK

A "super mosquito" from Asia is driving an uptick in malaria across the Horn of Africa, scientists have confirmed for the first time.

In recent years, there has been speculation that the arrival of the *Anopheles stephensi* mosquito - native to parts of Asia and the Arabian Peninsula - in at least five African countries could be behind an unexpected surge in malaria.

This increase has been dramatic and fast: in Djibouti, for instance, infections skyrocketed by 2,800 per cent in just eight years after the highly adaptable, city-loving super mosquito was first spotted in 2012.

But until now, the "impact of *An. stephensi* in malaria transmission in Africa has been anecdotal," said Dr Luigi Sedda, an epidemiologist at Lancaster Medical School.

While experts theorised that the mosquito has played a major role - and the World Health Organization warned last December that it poses a "threat to malaria control and elimination" across Africa - no study had confirmed the link.

But in a new report, published in *Nature Medicine*, researchers tracked a specific outbreak in a university campus in Dire Dawa - a city in eastern Ethiopia, less than 150 miles from the border with Djibouti - and found the "strongest evidence to date" that the *stephensi* mosquito is driving urban malaria outbreaks in Africa.

The study revealed that in

Dire Dawa, malaria cases increased 12-fold in the 2022 dry season, compared to 2019. To track the role played by the insect, researchers mapped where these bugs were living and compared that to the location of patients.

They also analysed which malaria parasites the insects were carrying, and found they were the same as the strains causing disease in people. "We found a strong geographical and clinical interlink between *An. stephensi* and the [malaria parasite]," Dr Sedda, a co-author of the report, told the Telegraph. "This evidence is unique."

Unlike the *Anopheles gambiae*, the most widespread carrier of malaria, the highly adaptable *stephensi* mosquito thrives in urban areas and breeds almost anywhere - in a dirty puddle between slum shacks, a rubbish dump, or even water in an abandoned car tyre.

It also survives in high temperatures in dry seasons, when malaria transmission usually lulls, and is resistant to many of the insecticides used to curb the parasitic disease.

"At the moment we don't have a clear picture of the distribution of *An. stephensi* in Africa, apart from the Horn of Africa," added Dr Sedda. Since it was first spotted in Djibouti in 2012, it has been found in Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria and recently northern Kenya - but surveillance is patchy, making it difficult to assess its overall prevalence.

In the *Nature* article, researchers also found that the mosquito was carrying

malaria parasites resistant to existing treatments and diagnostics.

This is a known problem in the Horn of Africa, but the high prevalence of resistance revealed in the paper demonstrates the urgent need to develop new drug formulations if there's any hope of eliminating the disease.

"In terms of drug-resistant parasites, this is not new in Africa, but the discovery of a sustained transmission of drug-resistant parasites by a new vector is worryingly," said Dr Sedda.

Despite huge progress since the millennium, malaria remains one of the world's deadliest diseases. According to the latest report, it killed roughly 619,000 people in 2021 - a slight drop from 625,000 in 2020, but up from 568,000 before the Covid pandemic struck.

"Sadly, apart from the good news of the development and approval of the first malaria vaccine, more is needed in terms of new drug formulations," said Dr Sedda. "Malaria elimination is stalled and more needs to be done to understand the bionomics, distribution and resistance of the malaria autochthonous and invasive mosquitoes and parasites."

Dr Fitsum Tadesse, a malarialogist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and co-author of the paper, added: "Given increasing reports of *An. stephensi* in Africa and the lack of urgency, the time window during which elimination of this mosquito from parts of the continent is possible is rapidly closing."



## Indigenous people form pan-African alliance for community conservation

WINDHOEK

MORE than 300 representatives of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, governments, donors, and NGOs from 47 African countries gathered last month in Namibia to collectively develop a strategy for community-led and people-centred conservation in Africa. Participants from 47 countries shared their lived experiences, lessons, and challenges around community-led conservation during the first-ever Community-led Conservation Congress held in Windhoek, Namibia recently.

Participants discussed the preliminary findings of a forthcoming study on community conservation in Africa and devised a roadmap for a newly established Alliance for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities for Conservation in Africa (AICA).

The Congress provided an unprecedented space to discuss Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' priorities and strategies initiated at the IUCN Africa Protected Areas

Congress (APAC) in Rwanda in July 2022.

Following a historic convening in Namibia, the Alliance for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities for Conservation in Africa (AICA) has released a communiqué that presents a unified call from Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPs and LCs) in Africa for a people-centred rights-based conservation agenda.

The convening was the first Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' Conservation Congress, co-hosted by AICA and Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI) in collaboration with Southern Africa's Community Leaders Network (CLN); the Indigenous Movement for Peace Advancement and Conflict Transformation (IMPACT); and the Namibian Association of Community Based Natural Resource Management Support Organizations (NACSO).

The former Prime Minister of Ethiopia and APAC Patron, Hailemariam Desalegn said at the event's opening: "Having taken the time to read through the impeccable IP and LC dec-

laration at APAC and the recent strategy that you all played a part in putting together, I am reminded of the immense power custodians of our land hold in leapfrogging us to the next level and redefining what sustainable development means for Africa."

Royal Johan Kxao Iuiloloo, Deputy Minister for Marginalized Communities of Namibia, said: "We should apply consultation, participation, and representation to every conservation policy, because nothing about us without us. The rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities must be protected, celebrated, and respected."

At the Congress, participants made clear that across Africa, IPs and LCs - and especially the women and youth within these groups - have never been better positioned, organized, and coordinated to uphold and realize their land and livelihood rights.

Jose Monteiro, Executive Director of ReGeCom, Mozambique, said: "This gathering was a sign that communities in

Africa are in this together and working towards speaking with one voice... We need to build an institution that is not elite captured but built from the bottom up, and that is AICA."

The event was also presided by the Deputy Minister of Environment Forestry and Tourism of Namibia, Heather Sibungo and the Ethiopia's State Minister for Irrigation and Lowlands, Dr Endrias Geta.

Malidadi Langa, who represents Malawi in CLN and is the interim Chair of AICA, called the Congress a celebration of community-based conservation. "As IPs and LCs, we have every reason to celebrate community-based conservation because from time immemorial, we have effectively conserved forests, ecosystems, and biodiversity through collective ownership, traditional governance, and ecological knowledge systems which continue to this day," he said.

Langa urged African governments to change the dominant conservation narrative by instead putting people at the center alongside nature.



# Give wildlife a seat at the table

UCKFIELD, UK

As we stand at a critical crossroads in climate change, we must recognise the inextricable link between nature and climate. This connection has been overlooked for far too long. IAR's COP28 campaign, 'Give Wildlife A Seat At The Table,' is gaining support from prominent figures such as Joanna Lumley, Peter Egan, and Jo Brand, who are joining forces with the organisation to address the urgent need for wildlife representation.

The campaign aims to push world leaders to seriously consider the planet's wildlife and the biodiversity crisis during COP28 discussions.

As the world gears up for COP28, the urgency of addressing climate change has never been more apparent. However, it is crucial to recognise that climate change is not a standalone issue; it is intricately linked to biodiversity loss and, ultimately, the health and wellbeing of humanity. It is important to understand the critical role that conserving wildlife, habitats, nature, and ecosystems plays in mitigating climate change and safeguarding our shared future.

The toll on people and wildlife from climate change is not a distant threat; its impacts are already being felt across the globe, affecting both human populations and wildlife. Communities are already experiencing the adverse effects of rising sea levels, extreme weather events, flooding, droughts and severe storms.

Similarly, the changes to global weather patterns due to climate change pose direct threats to ecosystems worldwide. These changes disrupt habitats, pushing hundreds of thousands of species to the brink of extinction. As ecosystems unravel, the intricate web of biodiversity is compromised, affecting the delicate balance that



**International Animal Rescue addresses the urgent need for wildlife representation at COP28. The campaign aims to push world leaders to seriously consider the planet's wildlife and the biodiversity crisis during COP28 discussions. (November 30-December 12 in Dubai, UAE)**

sustains life on Earth.

We are now at a critical moment in global climate action. This urgency is underscored by a year of record-breaking temperatures and extreme weather events across the planet. COP28 serves as an evaluation of the progress since the promises made in Paris at COP21 and how effective these commitments have been in limiting long-term global temperature rises.

At COP28, we are hopeful that world leaders will come together, representing their countries, and step up their commitments to slow global heating. They will also consider the funding and adaptations needed to support the communities

most affected.

The central question arises: Is it right that wildlife does not have a voice at the table where decisions impacting the entire planet are made? Wildlife must be given due representation in these discussions. Wildlife must have a seat at the table! International Animal Rescue (IAR) is leading the charge to 'Give Wildlife A Seat At The Table,' mobilising 10,000 voices to implore world leaders to prioritise wildlife and biodiversity during the discussions.

IAR envisions a world where humans and animals thrive together in sustainable ecosystems. Conserving biodiversity is not just about protecting endangered species; it's

about preserving the intricate web of life that sustains our planet. Healthy ecosystems, thriving with diverse plant and animal species, act as a natural buffer against climate change.

IAR's conservation programme, IARconserves, embraces a holistic, one-health approach. By adopting community-centric, grass-roots strategies, the outcomes positively impact people, wildlife and the environment. Through IARconserves, we have improved the health and prosperity of forest edge communities; in turn, this has reduced the environmental impact of human activity.

By conserving wildlife and their habitats, forests

are protected, ensuring that millions of tonnes of carbon remain stored in the flora and deep peat below.

As we approach COP28, the call to 'Give Wildlife A Seat At The Table' becomes more urgent. The success of this campaign hinges on collective action - individuals, communities, and nations coming together to advocate for a more sustainable and inclusive approach to climate discussions.

It is imperative that the international community recognises the inextricable

link between climate change, biodiversity loss, and human health. Conservation efforts must be elevated on the global agenda, with a commitment to preserving wildlife, habitats, nature, and ecosystems. By doing so, we not only mitigate the impacts of climate change but also foster a world where both human and non-human inhabitants can thrive.

The urgency is palpable; the time for action is now. The 'Give Wildlife A Seat At The Table' campaign by International

Animal Rescue calls for world leaders to consider the planet's wildlife and biodiversity during COP28 seriously.

With a target of 10,000 signatures on the petition, the campaign aims to ensure that the voices of wildlife are heard in decisions that affect all of us - people, animals, forests, and the entirety of our interconnected ecosystems. You can find out more here.

Gavin Bruce is Chief Executive of International Animal Rescue  
**IPS UN Bureau**

## THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 30 -

By Felix Magezi: 0787 00 97 94 // felixmagezi@gmail.com

15. an amino acid which is a constituent of most proteins  
18. method of doing something  
20. a person who is in charge of a newspaper  
22. name again  
23. Monetary unit of Japan  
24. energy, style, and enthusiasm

- DOWN:**  
1. a long curved fruit  
2. Banjul is her mother city  
3. allowing access  
4. used to give an affirmative response  
5. a fertile spot in a desert  
6. plasm  
9. an edible mollusc of warm seas, with a shallow ear shaped shell lined with mother-of-pearl  
10. person earning money  
14. an assistant to a political leader  
16. one less than ten  
17. and others  
18. songbirds  
19. Monetary unit of China  
21. suffix denoting tumours

**C**  
**A**  
**N**  
**E**

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

- |         |           |       |
|---------|-----------|-------|
| MAM     | CAREER    | OVERT |
| CANE    | NOVEL     | LIMA  |
| RIVER   | EVEN      | GAS   |
| CHANNEL | E-REGION  |       |
| ENEMY   | STAY SAIL |       |

**Yesterday's solution**



# RATIBA YA VIPINDI

## JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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# NEW IMMIGRATION ACT ENCOURAGES FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN ZANZIBAR REAL ESTATE MARKET



Mudrick Soraga (L), Minister of State in the Zanzibar President's Office, Responsible for Economy and Investment, speaks during a panel discussion on advocating secure foreign investments in the country shortly before the unveiling of two CPS Africa new residential houses at Moyoni Bay and Mwangani SkyLoft in Fumba Town in Zanzibar earlier this week. Others are CPS Africa Ltd CEO Sebastian Dietzold (C) and CPS project engineer Leander Moons. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S real estate landscape has taken a significant step forward with the introduction of a new immigration Act that grants residence permits to homebuyers investing above \$100,000 (250m/-).

The immigration Act was unveiled recently by CPS Africa and has been welcomed by the sector as major boost for foreign investment in the Indian Ocean Archipelago.

"We're thrilled with the government move," said Sebastian Dietzold, CPS Africa CEO.

"This will equip our Diaspora clients and organisations to engage in the Zanzibar real estate market with greater confidence."

The event also saw the launch of two new innovative products by CPs Africa—Moyoni Bay and Mwangani SkyLoft.

The offerings signify a paradigm shift in luxury living and investment opportunities, promising a redefined real estate in

Zanzibar.

The event also featured a panel discussion on the future of foreign investment in Isles.

Mudrick Soraga, Zanzibar Minister of State in the President's Office, Responsible for Economy and Investment reassured foreign investors about the safety and reliability of investing in Isles.

"This act demonstrates our unwavering commitment to ensuring a secure investment environment," affirmed the Minister, emphasizing the government's dedication to safeguarding the interests of foreign investors.

He also assured foreign investors of the security of investing in Zanzibar.

"This activity underscores our commitment to ensuring the investment climate is secure as well as the government's drive to respect the interests of foreign investors," minister Soraga said.

He noted: "The new law that allows buyers or investors in residential property to get residence permits in the country is of historical significance which will widen

the property market as well as grow the tourism sector which will, in turn, increase the number of investors in the country.

This will allow international tourists who wish to purchase homes here and continue to propel economic growth. We take this very seriously in Zanzibar, we have more than 36 residential property projects and CPS Africa has invested over 400 million dollars. This is a sector that is growing rapidly and one that adds to the value chain in the country."

"I wish to thank the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration for the great work they have done for the last two years to framework this new facility," he said.

Previously, residential property buyers were not issued with residence permits, they would come and buy their homes but they had to leave periodically to remain compliant with immigration requirements. These changes will give buyers peace of mind by issuing them and their families (up to 4 children) with 5-year residence permits.

## NMB, CTM (T) launch house construction loans

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank has signed an agreement with CTM Tanzania, dubbed: 'Lipa Baadaye' ('Pay Later'), which will enable the bank's customers to access loans for purchasing finishing materials for home construction sold by CTM. Customers will benefit from a discount ranging from 2 percent to 10 percent.

Lipa Baadaye is a system that allows NMB and CTM customers to find financial solutions through loans for home improvement and the purchase of CTM products such as tiles, toilets, sinks, bathroom cabinets, and free construction advice.

The signing ceremony took place on Wednesday, in Dar es Salaam, whereby the bank represented Chief of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi, while CTM was represented by its Managing Director, Shiraz Satchu.

Mponzi expressed great pride in the partnership between NMB and CTM, noting that both institutions are committed to providing financial solutions and construction services to their customers.

ers.

"Today, we are here to sign a partnership with CTM that enables Tanzanians to access quality products from this company. NMB has always been a leader in providing customer solutions, including construction loans, buying completed houses, starting construction projects, or finishing them," said Mponzi.

"Lipa Baadaye offers a wide range of borrowing options for purchasing CTM products, allowing customers to move from cash purchases to joint purchases, paying back gradually with very low interest rates, while also receiving advice on materials and building techniques," he added.

"This partnership will address the challenges our customers face during the construction process. Unlike other housing loans offered by NMB, Lipa Baadaye allows customers to borrow step by step based on their specific needs for finishing the construction."

"This service will be available at all our branches nationwide. A customer can visit CTM, choose the desired products,



NMB Bank Chief of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi (C), and CTM Tanzania CEO, Shiraz Satchu, sign an agreement for the launch of the 'Lipa Baadaye' loan service for house construction in Dar es Salaam. Witnessing the signing is NMB legal official, Herbert Clipa.

and then come to NMB to borrow money. Alternatively, they can start the loan process first, then go shopping and gradually repay the loan based on their income," Mponzi explained. In response, Satchu thanked NMB for reaching an agreement after nearly nine months of negotiations. He emphasized CTM's 40 years of experience in the construction sector, providing quality finishing products.

"We have worked on this matter for nearly nine months, analyzing and evaluating until we reached this point today. Our goal is to enable Tanzanians to realize their dreams

of living in better and modern houses, knowing that the value of a house lies in its construction and finishing using quality products, which is what we offer," Satchu said.

He added that CTM has 40 years of experience in selling and distributing quality materials to ensure that every Tanzanian can access suitable products based on their environment, income, and goals. The ceremony marked a new and improved partnership, including free advice for customers.

"Tanzanian construction faces various challenges, including informal construction in areas without

permits or ownership documents. Tanzanians need to change their approach and build according to the law and regulations to freely construct quality and modern houses, and to insure them," Satchu emphasized.

"Many Tanzanians have limited incomes and find themselves buying land haphazardly, thereby lacking peace of mind when building or making valuable improvements to their homes. Through Lipa Baadaye, CTM and NMB are now ready to provide advice to enable everyone to build and live in their dream home," Satchu said.

## Nigeria, Germany sign US \$500m renewable energy and gas deals

By Felix Onuah

NIGERIAN and German companies have signed two accords in Berlin that include a \$500 million renewable energy pact and a gas export deal, further strengthening economic ties between the two nations, a presidential spokesperson said.

Union Bank of Nigeria and Germany's DWS Group signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on renewable energy. The agreement seeks to harness \$500 million in investment in renewable energy projects across Nigeria, mostly in rural communities, spokesperson Ajuri Ngelale said in a statement.

A second MoU on gas export partnership was agreed between Riverside LNG of Nigeria and Germany's Johannes Schuetze Energy Import AG. Under the accord, Nigeria will supply 850,000 tons of natural gas to Germany annually which is expected to rise to 1.2 million. The first deliveries will be in 2026, Ngelale said.

The deal will help process about 50 million cubic feet per day of natural gas that otherwise would have flared.

Nigeria holds Africa's largest gas reserves of more than 200 trillion cubic feet, but flares, or burns off, about 300 million cubic feet daily due to inadequate processing facilities.

President Bola Tinubu, who is attending the G20 Compact with Africa conference in Berlin, welcomed the deals, Ngelale said.

On Monday German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Germany will invest 4 billion euros in green energy projects in Africa until 2030, noting these could in turn help Europe's largest economy achieve its own transition to carbon neutrality.

Germany will need to import large quantities of green hydrogen going forward, including from Africa, if it is to achieve its goal of net zero emissions by 2045, he said at a German-African business forum in Berlin.

The forum preceded the G20 Compact with Africa summit that aims to drum up investment in the world's poorest but fast-growing continent by coordinating the development agendas of reform-minded countries and identifying business opportunities.

Under Tinubu, Nigeria has embarked on the boldest reforms in decades, scrapping a popular petrol subsidy and lifting restrictions on foreign exchange trading.

Tinubu is seeking to make Nigeria attractive to investors as he strives to revive its economy that is weighed down by sluggish growth, record debt, double-digit inflation and theft of crude oil, its main export.

## Singapore launches fish farm in shipping container to bolster food security

By Sarah Newey, Bangkok

FROM the outside, there's little to suggest the nondescript grey shipping container could help transform Singapore's food security. Yet the city-state has high hopes for the project lurking within the 20-foot-vessel.

Deposited on a gravel plot in eastern Singapore, this is the country's first urban fish farm - and some say it could help the metropolis hit an ambitious target to produce 30 per cent of its food by 2030.

The project, called 'Our Fish Storey', was unveiled by the start-up Aqualita Ecotechnology and the local council this

weekend. It will see the fish jade perch farmed in Tampines, a central Singapore suburb close to Changi airport, in a "litmus test" to gauge consumer interest and confirm feasibility.

"By using up spaces that are not utilised, we can actually grow fishes in an urban city - within grass plots, within empty warehouses," Goh Chin Heng, director of local startup Aqualita Ecotechnology, told Channel News Asia. "We can easily farm fish anywhere... and can easily relocate, when the site is up, to a new place and restart a new farm very quickly."

According to the company, one con-

tainer - which costs close to £18,000 to set up, bar land costs - could produce up to 1,200kg of jade perch a year, a freshwater fish rich in Omega 3. The first harvest will be four to six months away and other varieties, including barramundi, tilapia and red snapper, could also be farmed in future.

The project, called 'Our Fish Storey', will see freshwater jade perch farmed in central Singapore, with the first harvest four to six months away.

The project, called 'Our Fish Storey', will see freshwater jade perch farmed in central Singapore, with the first harvest four to six months away CREDIT: Face-

book / Aqualita Ecotechnology Aqualita Ecotechnology added that the approach - known as a recirculating aquaculture system - could also improve fishing efficiency.

Not only are the three fish tanks inside housed in a cleaner, more controlled space, but the approach reduces the amount of pollution caused by uneaten feed and eradicates the need for antibiotics. Overuse of these critical drugs in agriculture is a major driver of antibiotic resistance, dubbed a "silent pandemic".

The start-up said it is also exploring whether solar panels could power the fishing containers.



# HOUSING FINANCE BANK, GIZ STARHUB AFRICA TEAM UP IN PROMOTING INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY TOWARDS SMART CITIES

KAMPALA

**H**OUSING Finance Bank joined StartHub Africa with support from GIZ for the Open Innovation Program demo day where six startups – WENA Hardware, Yunga, ShareCARD, RentBeta, Kawu, and SEMA – showcased their customized solutions to the growth of sustainable and smart cities.

The Open Innovation Program, implemented by StartHub Africa in partnership with Make-IT in Africa, a project by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), is dedicated to supporting technology-driven solutions in the areas of smart cities. This initiative aims to refine smart city ideas, establish long-term partnerships between startups and relevant partners, and equip startups with personalized venture development and business modeling.

Within this context, Housing Finance Bank played a pivotal



role in developing the problem statements in relation to smart cities, contributed to the short-listing of participating startups, and offered training sessions and essential financial advisory ser-

vices. Furthermore, the Bank is actively pursuing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with startups sharing mutual areas of interest to solidify its commitment to advancing the smart cities agenda.

Representing the Bank, John Kaweesi, the Head of Mortgages and Consumer Banking at Housing Finance Bank emphasized the significance of this collabora-

tion during the demo day. He underscored that Housing Finance Bank's involvement in the program aligns seamlessly with the bank's unwavering commitment to advancing smart cities and

green technology while addressing Uganda's substantial housing deficit.

"We believe that the Open Innovation Program is a pivotal step in addressing the profound housing deficit, currently estimated at 2.4 million units, and in safeguarding our planet for future generations. Since the Program started, we have witnessed innovative solutions that not only reduce the cost of homeownership but also enhance environmental protection, home security, and digital platforms that unify key stakeholders within the housing value chain," said John B. Kaweesi, the Head of Mortgages and Consumer Banking at Housing Finance Bank.

Housing Finance Bank is proud to be a part of the innovative movement shaping the future of housing and sustainability in Uganda. The bank remains committed to enabling sustainable home ownership and financial independence, and the Open Innovation Program is an important step in that journey.



Jackson Mmbando, Airtel Tanzania public relations manager speaking during the launch of the new phone model at the event held in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

## Airtel, iTel partner and unveil latest smartphone

By Guardian Reporter

Airtel Tanzania has partnered with iTel mobile to introduce to the market a new smartphone model which comes with a bonus of free 75GB that lasts for 12 months.

Dubbed iTel A70 the new handset is available on the local market at an affordable price as Airtel targets at meeting its customers' demands towards the end of year festive season.

Addressing journalists yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the launching event, Airtel Tanzania Director of Communications Beatrice Singano said the company is happy to enter into the partnership that will push for a collaborative promotion of the newest phone in stores.

"We have considered our customers' needs to unveil this affordable iTel smartphone. With our stable state of the art network coverage;

We are certain our customers across the country will have the best experience using our services with a device which leaves no one behind in digital lifestyle and digital economy," said Singano.

She asserted that following the emerging growth in smartphone users the two companies have developed a strong business partnership to provide access for more people to enjoy a digital world by in-

troducing the newest smartphone with high specification at affordable prices.

According to her, the newest handset is designed to enhance user experience with high speeds and great performance.

"This is a great opportunity for all current Airtel users and new customers to buy new itel A70 and enjoy a free bundle worth 75GB which will be valid for 12 months. The new Iiel A70 will be available

in all Airtel and iTel stores country wide," said Singano.

On his part, iTel mobile Brand Manager Thomas Wang said that it is a great move for the new partnership to continue dominating the market share of smartphones in the country.

He added that the iTel A70 comes with a big storage of 128GB ROM + 8GB RAM, 6" big screen with dynamic bar and 13MP super HDR CAM.

With all these fea-

tures, he said, users can experience a seamless and advanced mobile experience, redefining the way they interact with the global internet of things lifestyle.

"At itel, we believe that innovation should be accessible to everyone. The A70 combines quality with the best features but at affordable prices ensuring that our customers get unparalleled value for their investment," said Wang.

## W. Africa's real estate leaders convene to re-write the narrative during #WAPI2023

By Special Correspondent

WEST Africa's most influential real estate investors and developers are set to gather for the 9th annual West Africa Property Investment (WAPI) Summit on November 22, an exclusive in-person event at the Four Points Sheraton, Lagos. The summit aims to provide a platform for rewriting the narrative and positioning developers for future success, according to Murray Anderson-Ogle, the organizer of the event and API Events' representative.

"Led by Nigeria and Ghana, West Africa's real estate market continues to prove its resilience and attract local and international investors across multiple sub-sectors. We look forward to exploring opportunities across the value chain with over 250 in-person C-suite players from 10 countries," says Anderson-Ogle.

This year's event boasts an impressive lineup of new speakers, particularly international experts, who have recognized the opportunities in Nigeria and Ghana's dynamic markets.

Dolapo Omidire, CEO of Estate Intel and API Events' official industry data expert partner, highlights the significance of #WAPI Summit 2023. She sees it as a valuable opportunity for market players to discuss progress in the face of current challenges.

"While challenges persist, investment activity is not slowing down. The second half of 2023 has witnessed a record number of development starts, especially in the residential sector. Other sectors, including office and retail, are navigating the effects of a recently devalued Naira and Cedi. As new policies and leadership positions emerge,

making strategic decisions this year and next will be crucial for successful real estate investments in West Africa over the next decade," says Omidire.

Anderson-Ogle echoes this sentiment, stating, "This year's theme, 'Rewriting the Narrative - Positioning and Strategies for the Future,' will delve into the broader macro-economic landscape and its detailed impact on real estate markets."

The focus and strategy for #WAPI involve providing industry leaders with tools to re-strategize for the future, considering current limitations, creating new opportunities, and positioning themselves at the top of the competition.

"Our agenda this year emphasizes the core fundamentals of the economy and the most attractive assets for investors, ranging from commercial to data centers, logistics, hotels, proptech, and residences. Added networking functions pre and post-event enhance the overall experience," Anderson-Ogle explains.

A Growing Opportunity for Local & Offshore Investors

Tola Akinhanmi, Head of Real Estate for West Africa at Stanbic IBTC, observes that the Nigerian and Ghanaian markets have evolved to weather macro and micro challenges, leading to sustained growth across the sector and into emerging asset classes.

"The real estate asset class is inherently long term and has demonstrated resilience amid various shocks over the past five to six years. This resilience has allowed the market to diversify and grow, attracting new investments from local and offshore players," says Akinhanmi.

## Fish production in Mbinga Town skyrockets by 114.3 per cent

By Guardian Reporter

FISH production in Mbinga town council skyrocketed by 114.3 per cent in the 2022/23 financial year compared to the preceding year, thanks to the improved fishing methods.

Mbinga town council's Fisheries Officer Musa Mwasenga said yes-

terday that fish production shot from 0.7 tonnes in 2021/22 to 1.5 tonnes in 2022/23.

"The ongoing education on good practices for fish farming is what had significantly triggered an increase in fish production that we recorded in the 2022/23 Financial Year," underscored Mwasenga.

He went on to add: "We have

been using Radio Stations and seminars to educate people on how to improve fishing methods and thus productivity."

He said a number of fish farmers at Mbinga Town Council stood at 448.

Of the figure, he explained, 243 are individual fish farmers and 205 are in fish farming groups.

Mwasenga went further to explain that a number of fishing dams jumped from 529 in 2021/22 to 594 in 2022/23.

"In Mbinga Town Council, we depend solely on dams when it comes to fishing production," he concluded.



## CONSTRUCTION

# ICT MINISTERS PROMOTE FUTURE-ORIENTED, INTELLIGENT DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AFRICA

By Special Correspondent, Cape Town

**T**HE Ministers of Communications and Digital Technologies from the African Telecommunications Union (ATU) member states have underscored the need for Africa countries to strengthen the construction of high-speed networks (4G, 5G and fibre), and the implementation of high-performance cloud computing capabilities.

This was during a Ministerial Forum on Building a Future-Oriented, Intelligent Digital Infrastructure for Africa held recently in Cape Town, South Africa co-organised by the ATU and the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies (DCDT) of South Africa, with the aim of advancing the digital transformation agenda in Africa.

Taking place alongside AfricaCom, the continent's premier ICT conference and exhibition, the forum provided a platform for dialogue and an exchange of views on the development of a future-oriented intelligent digital infrastructure in Africa, which is essential for achieving the socio-economic development goals of the continent.

According to the African Telecommunications Union (ATU) Secretary General, John Omo, Africa has the ability to create consensus



From L: Thulagano Merafe Segokgo, Minister of Communications, Knowledge and Technology, Republic of Botswana; Philly Mapulane, Deputy Minister of Communications, Digital Technologies, South Africa; Hon Dr. Tatenda Mavetera, Minister of Information Communication Technology, Postal and Courier Services, Zimbabwe; Nonkqubela Thathakahle Jordan-Dyani, Director-General in the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies, South Africa; Nape Nnauye, Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology, Tanzania and John OMO, Secretary General, African Telecommunications Union (ATU). Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

on which way to go in building future-oriented digital infrastructure.

"We know the place of digital infrastructure in the global arithmetic that defines the compass of progress. We also know that to find our bearing on this compass, we must be deliberate about the actions we take to protect the future of Africa," he said.

He added: "I must note that it is also through the synergy of governments, private sector entities, research institu-

tions, and international organisations that we can realise the full potential of our collective efforts. What this means is that inclusivity should be a guiding principle as we shape the future of digital infrastructure. We must ensure that the benefits of technological advancements reach every corner of society, leaving no one behind."

Nape Nnauye, Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology during the event

said: "Collaborating is an important aspect if we want to achieve our goals. Let's see how we can work together and face the challenges together."

South African Deputy Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies, Philly Mapulane concurred with the need for collaboration by players across the sector.

"This gathering marks a significant milestone in our collective pursuit of a digitally empowered

Africa. Today, we are not just building a digital infrastructure; we are laying the foundation for the socio-economic emancipation of our continent," he added.

Leo Chen, President of Huawei Sub-Saharan Africa, underlined how much progress the continent has made when it comes to building the digital infrastructure it needs while also outlining the areas that still need improvement. These improvements, he said, are best achieved

through the One Network, One Cloud approach advocated by Huawei.

"To build One Network, countries should continue to build national broadband backbone networks to serve as the arteries of national network connectivity," he said. "In addition, such backbone networks should be extensible across multiple domains."

He added, "This means they should be able to connect to different metropolitan area networks and campus networks." He added, "Similar to a highly-developed neural network, they will connect the last mile of connectivity to meet the needs of different scenarios."

According to Chen, the benefits of such a network would be considerable. Among the benefits he listed were increased GDPs for countries across the region, enhanced government service delivery, and improved connectivity for individual households. He also mentioned that due to the coverage gap on the continent, it is still important to cover more people through wireless connectivity technologies, such as 4G and 5G, and through rural connectivity solutions, such as Huawei's RuralStar.

In dissecting the "One Cloud" segment of the approach, Chen outlined how important cloud technologies have become at a nation-state level.

"The national cloud platform can serve as the foundation for a country's advanced technological innovation, and can greatly improve the capabilities of governments and enterprises to adopt new technologies," he said.

"With the national cloud platform and cloud infrastructure, African countries can also unlock

huge potential in the 'e-government' cloud," he added. "One example from China can represent a future trend. In Shenzhen, where Huawei is headquartered, citizens can complete almost all of the government service items with at most one visit to the service office, or without even making a physical visit at all."

According to Chen, "to implement One Network, One Cloud and ensure its steady progress, the governments of all countries should provide strategic guidance and support through specific policies."

"As we continue our digital transformation journeys, it is important that we share our collective wisdom, vision, and resolve," Chen concluded. "Thus, it is very important that we share different experiences and best practices across the continent when building the 'One Network and One Cloud'."

Other dignitaries echoed the importance of collaboration for the future of African digital infrastructure. "It's key that we work collaboratively to ensure that connection costs don't become a barrier to connectivity for our citizens," said Thulagano Merafe Segokgo, Minister of Communications, Knowledge and Technology, Botswana. "If we are going to achieve connectivity at the level our citizenries deserve, we must work together."

The communique, issued at the end of the gathering, committed the African countries present to "collaborate and align our policies and strategies to promote the development of digital infrastructure in Africa, in line with the African Union Agenda 2063, the ATU Strategic Plan 2020-2024, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals among other things.

## Kenya power to recover Sh6.5bn tariff gift via bills

NAIROBI

The Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (Epra) has given nod to Kenya Power to recover from consumers the Sh6.5 billion revenue it lost when President William Ruto's government offered a temporary tariff cut extension months after ascending to office.

Kenya Power has disclosed in the latest annual report that it has received clearance to get back the money that it missed out when President Ruto offered Kenyans a three-month extension of the 15 percent tariff cut that his predecessor had offered for a year.

The recovery of the amount,

foregone for three months, has the potential of increasing the power bills for its more than 9.2 million customers in an environment where prices have been rising due to higher fuel costs, currency depreciation and the review of electricity tariffs.

Retired President Uhuru Kenyatta offered Kenyans a one-year 15 percent tariff cut running from January to December last year, with Kenya Power getting compensation from the government.

The Ruto administration extended the tariff cut by a further three months until April 1 this year but did not provide any mechanism for Kenya Power to be compensated for

the cut—a loophole that has come back to haunt consumers.

"Unlike the preceding 12 months period of reduction for which interventions to cover the deficit had been provided, there was no intervention for the extended period," says Kenya Power in the annual report.

"This amount has now been confirmed by Epra and is scheduled to be recovered through pass-through mechanisms."

This will prove to have been an expensive present from Dr Ruto as Kenya Power, which already reviewed upwards its tariff in April, starts deducting the money from consumers.



Domestic consumers are currently paying about Sh33.10 per unit of electricity up from Sh26.29 in December or 26 percent higher but Kenya Power does not give a detailed breakdown of the costs.

Kenya Power's audited report was signed by the board on October 26 and it is not clear if the utility firm has already started deducting cus-

tomers the amount and how long it is going to take.

The Nairobi Securities Exchange-listed firm in March started hiding a breakdown of charges on electricity bills, making it difficult for customers to assess the pass-through costs.

The practice continues despite summons by Parliament and the promise by Epra to prevail upon

Kenya Power to reinstate a detailed breakdown of the bill when one purchases power through its prepaid system. The transaction messages would show the money spent on what, the units received, how much going towards actual energy bought and other costs, including value-added tax (VAT), fuel cost charge and forex charge.

Other costs that were included in the breakdown are the charges covering rural electrification, Epra, the Water Resources Management Authority, and inflation adjustment.

Currently, Kenya Power only shows customers the tokens code, date of purchase, units received, money used on the tokens and money spent on what it summarises as "other costs," leaving consumers in the dark about what exactly they are paying for.

The one-year tariff cut, which cost Sh26 billion, saw Kenya Power forego an annual revenue of Sh7.8 billion, KenGen (Sh3.5 billion), Ketraco (Sh500 million) while Geothermal Development Corporation relinquished Sh346 million.

## Urgent call to address gaps in shelters supporting GBV victims

SANDTON, SA

LACK of sufficient funding, transportation for victims of gender-based violence, lack of social workers in some facilities, shelters' compliance with the norms and standards were some of the gaps identified on the first day of the two-day National Shelter Indaba currently underway in Sandton.

Delegates heard that half of the shelters' allocated budget was spent on salaries and this stretched the finances of shelters that require more funding to efficiently render services to victims of gender-based violence.

One of the shelter managers, Sindisiwe Msimango from Mpumalanga, indicated that most shelters struggle with trans-

port.

"Transport is a problem for shelters, as victims must be transported to and from police stations and health facilities. Nowadays, perpetrators of GBV are using sophisticated ways to track their victims and this poses a risk for both the victims and social workers," she said.

She said the lack of security and delays in the payment of subsidies from government also posed a huge threat to the safety of persons working and living in the shelters.

Rose Bailey, from a shelter in the Northern Cape province, asked for shelters to be treated with dignity and not be seen as charities, as they play an important role in saving lives and restoring women's mental health. She appealed

for more attention to be given to the work provided by shelters.

Joining the Indaba virtually, former Deputy President of South Africa, Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, reminded delegates that GBV was declared a pandemic and said that it should be treated the same way as COVID-19 where everyone, including governments, were playing their part.

She indicated that more often than not, women continue to be failed by the system because when they report abuse "their cases are not efficiently prosecuted, and this discourages them".

Providing solutions to some of the challenges by shelters, Uber SA shared that they partnered with the National Shelter Movement of South Africa to

provide safe transportation for victims of gender-based violence and women in general.

Uber SA senior operations manager, Collen Mphabantsi, told the summit the safety of women is at the centre of their business.

"Uber SA strives to ensure that Uber users can travel under safe conditions with, amongst others, access to pre-boarding applications such as Driver Screening, Vehicle Inspection and Driver Profile," he said.

He revealed that to date, Uber South Africa has successfully transported 6 715 women and their children to places of safety through the National Shelter Movement of South Africa.

Social Development Minister Lindiwe

Zulu appealed to the private sector to come to the table and assist in supporting the work that is done by government through shelters.

"Often in these gatherings, the private sector is not sitting around the table. We call upon the private sector to play a role by availing suitable buildings and infrastructure which can be used as shelters for victims and survivors of gender-based violence and femicide," Zulu said.

The Minister said that shelters for victims of violence and crime have been a central and a critical resource providing care, safety, support, opportunities for healing and an understanding of the dynamics of abuse to South African women and children.





New-energy vehicle and heavy truck products of Chinese brands are exhibited during the Seventh Silk Road International Exposition in Xi'an, Shaanxi province, China, Nov 16, 2023. XINHUA

## BRI benefits partner nations with vast opportunities

XI'AN

POMEGRANATE, introduced to China more than 2,000 years ago from Central Asia, has become a name card for free trade propelled by the Silk Road.

Now a sought-after fruit in Xi'an, the capital of northwest China's Shaanxi province, pomegranate-made products from Azerbaijan, one of the fruit's main producers, also drew the attention of participants at the 7th Silk Road International Exposition which ended on Monday.

Pomegranate juice and wine from Azerbaijan were for the first time brought to the expo this year, which opened Thursday in Xi'an and attracted guests from over 50 countries and regions.

"We hope to take the expo as an opportunity to establish long-term partnerships with Chinese distributors," said Teymur Nadiroglu, trade representative at the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in China.

Stressing that the two countries have long-established collaboration in the fields of construction, energy, logistics and tourism, Nadiroglu said there is huge room for growth of sales of Azerbaijani food and beverage products in the Chinese market in the future.

The previous six editions of the Silk Road International Exposition had welcomed more than 10,000 overseas exhibitors from over 190 countries and regions, and the total amount of contracts signed for foreign investment projects had exceeded \$45.3 billion in value.

China has signed more than 200 documents with 152 countries and 32 international organizations on cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), covering 83 percent of the countries with which China has established diplomatic relations.

The expo's role as a platform for BRI partner countries to tap the huge, ever-expanding Chinese market is becoming more and more prominent.

During a roundtable discussion at the expo, Mirzahmedov Bobirjon Batirovich, president of the Uzbek-Chinese Association for Development of Foreign Trade and Investment, said that although Uzbekistan is located in the hinterland of Eurasia, the trade volume between Uzbekistan and China had ex-

ceeded \$9 billion in 2022 thanks to the BRI.

Meanwhile, during this year's China-Central Asia Summit, the construction of a wharf project in Kazakhstan was officially launched, in accordance with an agreement inked between the Xi'an International Trade and Logistics Park and Kazakhstan's national railways group.

Not long ago, the two sides jointly witnessed the inauguration of a logistics terminal project in Almaty, which is expected to further enhance the operational capacity of China-Europe freight trains.

"The practice of jointly building the BRI shows that by connecting the Eurasian continent with land and sea routes, the landlocked area is no longer an economic lowland, but at the forefront of driving development," noted Wang Fan, president of the Foreign Affairs University.

Take the northwestern Chinese province of Shaanxi as an example. The BRI is transforming its geographical disadvantages into assets, making it an active player in the nation's opening-up drive.

Mao Xuzhi, vice-president of Hitachi Energy China, said market opportunities delivered by the BRI and global energy transformation have resulted in Hitachi Energy's production plant in Xi'an developing into the world's largest power capacitor manufacturing base, and its products are now exported to Europe, the United States, Oceania and Africa, which further increased the company's confidence in the Chinese market.

Davit Mkhitaryan, vice-president of the Armenian Chinese Partnership Center, said that the center has signed memorandums of understanding on strategic cooperation with 57 Chinese government agencies, economic and trade associations and organizations, with 28 cooperation projects already in process.

"Since participating in the BRI, the trade volume between Armenia and China has shown almost three-fold growth. China is our second largest trading partner. We are very optimistic about the Chinese market and its development potential," Mkhitaryan said.

Xinhua

## Christmas lights glitter across London as festival approaches

LONDON

IT'S that time of the year as 'winter has come': London is all set for Christmas 2023 with the world-famous London Christmas lights glittering all over the city.

While Oxford Street, Bond Street, and Regent Street dazzle with brilliant Christmas lights awing Londoners and visitors alike, the Carnaby Street Universe transcends the revellers to a world comparable only to Hogsmeade from the Harry Potter books.

Turning on the Christmas lights is always a big affair, and the whole of London saw those spectacles across the city throughout November with fireworks, live music, captivating per-

formances, LED light parades, the Mistletoe Girls, and even the Grinch (who stole Christmas!)

Londoners in West London's Uxbridge welcomed the festive season over the weekend.

And that's not all—with Santa making his last-minute gift checks and packing, the Tinsel Town Christmas markets are also set up from Leicester Square in Central London to the counties.

From traditional Christmas delectables like cheerios dipped in hot chocolate and mulled wine to 'desi' samosas, London's Christmas markets are always a foodie's delight.

Here is a list of places to enjoy the London Christmas lights this season: Oxford Street, Covent Garden, Car-

naby Street, Regent Street, Leicester Square and Piccadilly, Kew Gardens, Bond Street, Mayfair, King's Cross, Marylebone Village and, of course, a visit to the famous pub The Churchill Arms. ANI



Londoners in West London's Uxbridge welcomed the festive season over the weekend



In Diwali of democracy, ensure Congress is swept out of every corner, says PM Modi

HANUMANGARH

EQUATING Diwali, which symbolizes lightness over darkness, with the upcoming Assembly election in Rajasthan this week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called it a 'Diwali of democracy' and urged people to ensure that the Congress party is swept out of every corner.

The Prime Minister, while addressing an election rally here in Pilibanga, said that wherever Congress is in power, there is corruption and nepotism.

He said that the Centre spent crores of rupees on the Jal Jeevan mission in Rajasthan. "But the Congress government did scams in it too and left you drinking poisonous water," he said.

"You tell me, does the Congress, which does not care about your life, have the right to remain in power for even a single day? Diwali has just passed. Our mothers and sisters work 15-16 hours at home. But when Diwali comes, they even clean the corners of the house. This election is also the Diwali of democracy. Sweep out the Congress in such a way that this Congress is not left even in any corner," PM Modi said.

Rajasthan will go to the polls on November 25, and the counting of votes will be held on December 3 along with the other four states: Mizoram, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh.

During his address, PM Modi said in Rajasthan, farmers, employees and businessmen all paid taxes, but in return, they got only poor roads, a lack of electricity and water, inflation and unemployment.

"Today I have come here to give you a guarantee that those who have looted the poor will not be spared. The day is not far in Rajasthan when those who looted the poor will be put behind bars," the PM said.

He said the entire story of what has happened here in Rajasthan in the last 5 years is written in the 'Red Diary'. "The diary is red. (But) the deeds are black," he added.

PM Modi said that people in Rajasthan have to pay Rs 12 per litre more for petrol and diesel than people in its neighbouring BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Haryana.

"Whenever you fill petrol in your car, remember that the money you are paying is part of Congress's loot. And I assure you, after December 3 (the day of counting votes), after the BJP government is formed here, there will be a review of petrol prices," he added.

Earlier in the day, while addressing an election rally in Pali, the Prime Minister accused the Congress Party of "corruption" and "appeasement politics" stating that dynasty politics is everything for them. ANI

## Türkiye's quake survivors yearn for housing as winter sets in

ANTAKYA, TÜRKIYE

NINE months after the twin devastating earthquakes struck southern Türkiye and killed more than 50,000 people, survivors in the quake-affected areas are looking forward to moving into permanent residence as winter arrives.

According to official figures, more than 200,000 buildings either collapsed or were heavily damaged across the country during the two powerful tremors that occurred several hours apart.

The government has promised to build 850,000 new units for both residences and businesses, but locals worry that construction works could take more time than expected.

"Rebuilding will be a long process. Thousands of people who were displaced from their homes have found temporary housing in pre-fabricated containers," Seref Atli, a retired driver from Antakya, a main city in the southern Hatay province, told Xinhua.

He is referring to the temporary new settlements built by the government in the months following the disaster. Composed of pre-fabricated housing units resembling shipping containers, those "container towns" housed around 578,000 earthquake survivors, according to data released by Türkiye's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority at the end of August.

Atli, who lives in one of those container towns, fears that most of his neighbors will have to spend the winter in these temporary shelters.

"We are waiting for a new house. In the meantime, we struggle to survive." He added that as winter sets in, water shortages and heating are the pressing concerns in his neighborhood.

Numan Ermis, another survivor living in a container camp in Antakya told Xinhua that they would probably have to warm themselves with gas and electric heaters, which would be particularly difficult for the children.

The trader explained that some containers are built to withstand winter conditions but most of them are poorly insulated. "In harsh winter conditions, it will not be easy to heat our shelter," he said.

In addition, there are health concerns over the unhygienic living conditions and cancer-causing asbestos still being released from the rubble nine months after the earthquake.

Asbestos, once used profusely in construction, is now classified as a



A boy plays in a shelter in the quake-hit city of Antakya, Türkiye, Nov 17, 2023. XINHUA

carcinogen by the World Health Organization.

"People living in the earthquake zone face diseases such as COPD (Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), silicosis, and cancer due to materials such as asbestos, silica, concrete, sand and stone emerging from

the demolition," the Turkish Health and Social Services Workers' Trade Union said on Tuesday.

"There are still many excavators and trucks roaming the city, and the dust that accompanies the works is surrounding us most of the time," Atli said.



People build houses in the quake-hit city of Antakya, Türkiye, Nov 17, 2023. XINHUA

## China's Xinjiang fastens steps of opening up

NORTHWEST China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, located at the heart of the Eurasian continent, sees the most land ports as a provincial-level region in China. It plays an irreplaceable role in the development of the Silk Road Economic Belt.

In Xinjiang, it takes only 0.08 hours for cargos to complete customs clearance through the Alashankou railway port; the number of China-Europe freight trains departing from and arriving in Horgos has increased with an annual growth of 81 percent; foreign trade volume of the autonomous region exceeded 250 billion

yuan (\$34.44 billion) in the first three quarters this year, reaching a historical high.

In recent years, with China's efforts to expand opening up, develop its western region, and promote the Belt and Road Initiative, Xinjiang has transformed from a relatively closed inland area to a frontier of opening up.

Not long ago, China's State Council issued a general plan for establishing the Xinjiang Pilot Free Trade Zone (FTZ), further promoting Xinjiang's high-level opening up and writing a new chapter in the autonomous region's engagement with the outside world.

Recently, a China-Europe freight train departed from Xinjiang's Alashankou, also known as Alataw Pass, for Kazakhstan.

"We send polyvinyl chloride materials and solar cells out and take wheat, edible oil, and minerals back to China," said Guan Xizhi, driver of the train. Thanks to the continuous improvement in transport efficiency, the frequency of the China-Europe freight service has also increased in recent years, Guan added.

It is learned that the Alashankou railway port has introduced a "24/7

appointment-based customs clearance mechanism to ensure quick inspection, verification and release. This helps minimize the time for customs clearance and significantly reduces transportation costs.

Since the freight service was launched in 2011, the number of China-Europe freight trains leaving and entering China via the Alashankou Port has surpassed 30,000. Nearly 6,000 trips are made a year now, up from 17 in the beginning, connecting 25 Chinese provincial-level regions to some 20 countries to the west.

At present, a network covering over 110 routes has been formulated. More than 200 categories of goods are currently being transported along these routes, including automobiles, auto parts, cotton yarn, and timber. "Reaching Europe via Alashankou is the international trade channel with the shortest distance, the least time and the lowest freight cost on the Silk Road Economic Belt," said Li Jianglin, executive deputy mayor of the city.

At the Horgos highway port, trucks are often seen lining up. As of Nov. 3 this year, the number of

vehicles exported through this port reached 101,100, a year-on-year increase of 177.3 percent. The highest daily export of vehicles reached 1,301 units, showing exponential growth. "Chinese vehicles, especially new energy vehicles, have become a new highlight of Xinjiang's foreign trade," said Hu Lajie, director of the port management bureau of the Horgos economic development zone.

Currently, 35 Chinese carmakers export vehicles through the Horgos highway port, and there are over 80 vehicle export agencies, according

to Hu. He said Chinese vehicles are exported via the port to Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Russia, and other Belt and Road countries.

"I believe I can find 'gold' in the 'desert,'" said He Haiyan, who came to Alashankou from her hometown Shaanxi province to start a business.

Today, her three small counters have blossomed into a 275-square-meter cross-border e-commerce store. Stepping into the store, visitors are greeted by a dazzling array of imported goods that entice them to fill their shopping carts and spend hours exploring the vast selection.

People's Daily



# Houthis seize cargo ship with Israeli links in Red Sea

SANAA/JERUSALEM/ADEN

YEMEN'S Houthi rebels on Sunday confirmed that they have hijacked a cargo ship with Israeli links in the Red Sea.

"The Houthis announce the implementation of a military operation in the Red Sea, the results of which included the seizure of an Israeli ship," Houthi military spokesman Yehya Sarea said in a statement aired by the group's al-Masirah TV.

Renewing the rebel group's threat to target all ships belonging to or dealing with Israel, Sarea called on "all countries whose citizens work in the Red Sea to stop any activity with Israeli ships or ships rented by Israelis."

The spokesman reiterated that the group would continue to carry out military operations against Israel until "its aggression against the Gaza Strip" stops.

Hours earlier, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said in a statement that the Houthis took control of the cargo ship near Yemen in the southern Red Sea, adding that the vessel was heading from Türkiye to India. IDF warned that the hijacking was "a very grave incident of global consequence."

The ship was identified as the Galaxy Leader, a cargo ship that transports cars, according to a report by the Saudi-based Al Arabiya TV news.

Israel's state-owned Kan TV news reported that the ship was operated by a Japanese company, which leased it from a British company co-owned by Rami Ungar, an Israeli shipping mogul and importer of vehicles.

In a statement, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office "strongly condemned" the hijacking, saying the ship "was hijacked at the whim of Iran by the Houthi militia in Yemen."



The Galaxy Leader is seen at the port of Koper, Slovenia on Sept 16, 2008. Yemen's Houthi rebels seized the Israeli-linked cargo ship in a crucial Red Sea shipping route on Nov 19, 2023. AP

# Sudan conflict: 'Our lives have become a piece of hell'

PORT SUDAN

SEVEN months after the start of Sudan's civil war, conditions for many in the capital, Khartoum, are worse than ever - but some of those who escaped from the city in the early days are also struggling to survive.

Abdul-Aziz Hussein - whose name has been changed for his safety - took the decision in April to stay in Khartoum. He never thought the fighting between the army and paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) would last so long.

"We are still besieged, and the fighting has not stopped," he tells me when I get through by telephone.

"The RSF have penetrated the area and caused havoc, while the army is shelling their positions within the neighbourhood. Death could come at any moment."

An estimated 5,000 Sudanese people have already been killed in crossfire between these two warring branches of the military, while many more have been injured.

With his wife and three children, the 45-year-old teacher is now desperate to leave. Last month they almost did, but the fighting around their home in the suburb of Kalakla was too intense.

The area is now a ghost town, the family has not eaten for two days and even water is hard to find. Electricity, Mr Hussein says, is a rare luxury.

The second time I call, Mr Hussein tells me that marauding RSF soldiers are looting shops and people's homes.

It's like living in "a piece of hell", he says.

The intense fighting in Khartoum and the western region of Darfur is causing serious problems with the distribution of aid, the UN says.

It says more than five million people have been displaced by the con-



More than 100,000 people have sought shelter and assistance in Red Sea State and its capital Port Sudan

flict and 24.7 million are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.

Many have no access to clean water, increasing the risk of cholera and other diseases.

"We need a ceasefire that allows us to deliver humanitarian aid to those affected and assess the extent of their needs," says the UN's deputy special representative in Sudan, Clementine Nkweta-Salami.

"Most importantly, we need a permanent cessation of hostilities. We want this fighting to stop so aid can be delivered, and Sudanese people can resume their normal lives."

A few short humanitarian truces were agreed in the early months of the war, but various ongoing peace initiatives are making little tangible progress. Unicef's representative in Sudan, Mandeep O'Brien, told the BBC a humanitarian crisis was looming.

"The war needs to stop now, for the sake of children and for the sake of the future of Sudan," she says. "If the war continues, by the end of this year,

we believe the situation will be catastrophic."

Even those who escaped from Khartoum to the relative safety of Port Sudan, on the Red Sea coast, are often struggling to survive.

In a shelter for displaced people in the port city, I met Hawa Suleiman trying in vain to make a meal for her five children from the meagre remains of a tin of wheat.

They receive one meal per day, provided by a Qatari charity, which Ms Suleiman divides in half so that her children have something for breakfast. With no refrigeration, however, the food sometimes goes off and makes her children sick.

She and her children fled Omdurman, the city across the River Nile from Khartoum, soon after the fighting started on 14 April. Bombs were falling as they escaped and she and her husband became separated in the chaos. There has been no word from him since, and no news whether he is alive or dead.

Arriving in Port Sudan after a journey of 1,000km (620 miles), the family applied to be evacuated, but were told the boats were for foreigners only. Syrian businessmen paid for food to be delivered to Syrian refugees in the camp where they were staying, while Sudanese people went hungry.

Ms Suleiman soon discovered she was on her own. When one of her children fell ill with food poisoning, she was only able to buy antibiotics thanks to a well-wisher, who footed half the bill.

"The doctor herself cried over our condition," Ms Suleiman says. "We are exhausted. Our suffering has gone beyond all limits."

As well as the Sudanese, people from many other nationalities are suffering because of this war - among them Syrians, Pakistanis and Indians, and large numbers of refugees from South Sudan. In Port Sudan, hundreds of families are now living in an overcrowded shelter that was formerly a university dormitory.

Abiol is one of them. She had earlier fled from South Sudan and settled in a camp for displaced people in Khartoum's north-eastern district of al-Haj Yousif.

"I had hoped to return to my country, but the war started in Khartoum, and we were forced to migrate once again to Port Sudan," she says.

"It's as though fate has written for us to live our entire lives in refugee camps."

Peter, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo, was studying at the International University of Africa in Khartoum before the fighting began. He says conditions in the Port Sudan dormitory are dire, so he sells charcoal in order to "live a slightly better life".

Aid workers have also been among the victims of the conflict, with 900 security incidents involving UN workers, and 19 deaths. This makes it the most dangerous place in the world for humanitarian workers.

Meanwhile the UN is struggling to fund its work in the country, having only raised funds to cover a quarter of its \$2.6bn (£2bn) humanitarian response plan.

"The cost of inaction is high," says Ms Nkweta-Salami. "That's why we urgently appeal to our donors to please support our efforts, and [appeal] to the parties to stop the violence and conflict."

Agencies

# US borders 'most unsafe' in world history: Donald Trump slams Biden administration

TEXAS

FORMER US President Donald Trump visited Texas near the US-Mexico border on Sunday (local time) and attacked the Biden administration over his 'anti-migrant' rhetoric, calling the US borders the "most unsafe" in the history of the world, CNN reported.

Speaking at the South Texas International Airport, Trump (pictured) bashed President Joe Biden over his handling of the border, arguing that the US now has the "most insecure border in the history, I believe, really, of the world."

During the visit, Trump also received the endorsement of Texas Governor Greg Abbott.

"We need Donald J. Trump back as our president of the United States of America," the Republican governor said at an event with the former president in Edinburg, Texas.

The former president has been ramping up his rhetoric on the campaign trail, promising to conduct the "largest domestic deportation operation in American history" if he wins the White House next year. He has said that undocumented immigrants are "poisoning the blood of our country".

"There's never been anything like this. Our country is being invaded. This is an invasion."

Notably, the Republican frontrunner has made 'curtailing illegal immigration' a cornerstone of his 2024 campaign, CNN reported.

The former President is also planning a widespread expansion of his administration's hard-line immigration policies that would restrict both legal and illegal immigration, should he be elected to a second term.

The plans include rounding up undocumented immigrants already in the US and placing them in detention camps to await deportation. Such a proposal would necessitate building large camps to house migrants waiting for deportation and tapping federal and local law enforcement to assist with arrests of undocumented immigrants across the country, according to CNN.

"Stopping the invasion at our southern border is an urgent national security necessity and one of President Trump's top priorities. For that reason, he has laid out - in his own speeches and Agenda 47 platform - by far the most detailed program for securing the border, stopping illegal immigration, and removing those who should never have been allowed into our country in the first place," a spokesperson for the Trump campaign said in a statement to CNN.

On the other hand, the officials of President Joe Biden's campaign have outrightly slammed the policies, calling them "unAmerican."

"Simply put, Donald Trump is going after immigrants, our rights, our safety and our democracy. And that is really what's on the ballot next year," said Biden campaign manager Julie Chavez Rodriguez.

The Biden campaign also blasted Trump's visit to the US-Mexico border, casting the former president's immigration policies as "inhumane" and "draconian."

The former president has been pointing to the Israel-Hamas war to advocate an immigration crackdown.

Trump has also pushed for "ideological screenings" of immigrants, blocking immigrants and refugees from predominantly Muslim countries, and deporting people in the US on visas who he argues have "jihadist sympathies", CNN reported. **ANI**



# China's Wuhan steers commercial aerospace industry into broader space

AS HOME to China's first commercial aerospace industrial base, namely the Wuhan National Aerospace Industry Base, Wuhan city, capital of central China's Hubei province, is making significant progress in the exploration of capabilities and application scenarios of the commercial aerospace industry.

Recently, a Kuaizhou-1A (KZ-1A) carrier rocket produced in the Wuhan National Aerospace Industry Base successfully launched five satellites, the A to E satellites belonging to the Head-3 micro-satellite constellation, into their planned orbits from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China's Sichuan province.

The Kuaizhou-series rockets are solid-propellant launch vehicles independently developed by the Kuaizhou rocket industrial park within the Wuhan National Aerospace Industry Base. The first batch of the Kuaizhou-1A rockets rolled off the production line at the industrial park in 2021.

So far, the Kuaizhou series rockets have been successfully launched over 20 times, sending more than 40 satellites into their planned orbits.

Initiated in 2017, the Wuhan National Aerospace Industry Base has achieved an annual production capacity of up to 50 rockets and has built the backbone of an industry chain encompassing satellites, rockets, cloud platforms and aerospace materials.

In November 2014, China's State Council issued guidelines on in-

novating investment and financing mechanisms of key areas to encourage social investment, inspiring private enterprises to participate in civil space infrastructure construction. The document ushered in new opportunities for China's commercial aerospace industry.

At the time, Wuhan-based China Space Sanjiang Group Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of the China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation Limited (CASIC), envisioned potential in the commercial aerospace industry and was poised to step into it.

"As a transportation hub linking nine provinces, Wuhan has rather developed land and water transport. Development of the aerospace industry here not only enjoys the advantage of convenient transportation of aerospace products, but can boost the growth of upstream and downstream links of the entire industrial chain across the country," said an executive of the CASIC.

In 2017, the construction of the Wuhan National Aerospace Industry Base kicked off in Shuangliu subdistrict of Wuhan's Xinzhou district under a partnership between the CASIC and the Hubei Provincial People's Government.

Thanks to tireless efforts of relevant parties, a demonstration zone featuring the integration of the aerospace industry and city develop-



Photo shows the Wuhan National Aerospace Industry Base in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei province. File photo

ment, with an area of 8 square kilometers, took shape in 2022.

In the satellite industrial park of the Wuhan National Aerospace Industry Base, one can enter China's first intelligent satellite production line after donning white work clothes and cap and going through dust removal.

Inside the satellite production line, dozens of components for satellite manufacturing are neatly placed in a 10-meter-tall component warehouse.

The entire production process, from components delivery to assembly, final assembly and testing, is highly automated.

The production line has realized flexible and intelligent satellite manufacturing, according to Liu Feng, deputy director of the Wuhan intelligent manufacturing center of the CASIC's Space Engineering Department.

It can meet the needs for the development and production of single satellite as well as mass production of customized satellites, Liu said.

With a deep understanding of the development of the aerospace industrial chain, the Wuhan National Aerospace Industry Base has consistently improved the business environment for the growth of aerospace manufacturing, services and supporting industries.

It has attracted 17 industrial projects spanning such industries as commercial aerospace, new materials, and data application, and completed cumulative investments of nearly 20 billion yuan (\$2.76 billion).

"We earn our main revenues by providing satellite launch services, and additional income by offering customized peripheral services to companies, enhancing the overall profitability of commercial rockets," said Liu Xin, deputy general manager of CASIC Rocket Technology Company, a holding subsidiary of the China Space Sanjiang Group Co., Ltd.

The company has established brand partnerships with over 10 companies, according to Liu. In addition to satellites and rockets, the Wuhan

National Aerospace Industry Base has also continuously explored more application scenarios for space technologies along the long industry chain to expand the development models of the commercial aerospace industry.

At the telemetry, command and control center of a holding subsidiary of the China Space Sanjiang Group Co., Ltd., real-time data on the location, door status, internal temperature and humidity as well as other information about the containers carried by the China-Europe freight trains are displayed on large screens.

This application scenario represents an emerging commercial aerospace development model based on the use of remote sensing satellites, satellite internet and aerospace technologies in areas like environmental monitoring, smart transportation, and emergency communications, according to Pi Benjie, an executive of the telemetry, command and control center.

"In 2020, we successfully launched two communications satellites. After networking them into a constellation, we can eliminate communication blind spots in areas where ground networks can't reach, like oceans, polar regions, forests and deserts," explained Pi.

In an effort to strengthen, complement and expand the commercial aerospace industrial chain, local authorities have accelerated efforts to promote communication and attract more enterprises through diverse means.

The government of Xinzhou district has reportedly signed over 10 billion yuan worth of agreements with many renowned Chinese enterprises to jointly create different commercial aerospace application scenarios.

People's Daily





Rotary eClub of Masaki's president, Leena Kapadia.

## Dar athletes to feature in Run For Sight race

By Guardian Correspondent

DAR ES SALAAM's Masaki Rotary eClub has announced the hosting of a race, termed Run For Sight, to raise funds to help for the provision of eye treatment.

The race has been slated for January 12, 2024, in the city bringing together 2,000 participants who will donate money to help those in need.

Rotary eClub of Masaki's president, Leena Kapadia, speaking to journalists in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, said they expect to collect approximately 70m/- which will help to provide eye treatment to citizens.

The official stated: "Through this race, we aim to bring change to the lives of people with eye problems in the country."

"The funds that will be collected will help to set up an eye treatment camp including free surgery and essential services for those with these problems," Leena said.

She said they decided to host the race because the statistics issued by the World Health Organization (WHO) show that approximately 1 billion people have vision problems and most of them live in developing countries, one of which is Tanzania.

The race's coordinator, Reshma Shah, said last year they hosted a similar race that had 1, 283 partici-

pants battling it out and collected 14m/- which ran an eye treatment center in Kahama District, Mwanza, and Zanzibar.

Leena said a total of 9,027 patients were tested while 587 underwent cataract surgery free of charge and now the club has returned to host another event on January 12, 2024, to help other Tanzanians access the service.

The official said each of the race's participants will contribute 35,000/- and will get a T-shirt.

According to Leena, they will hand over prizes to the participants starting from 1.5m/- for the champion, 750,000/- for the second-placed performer, and 500,000/- for the third-placed competitor.

Leena said the fourth-placed competitor will walk away with 250,000/- and the fifth finisher will rake in 200,000/-.

The official pointed out awards have further been set aside for the oldest runner, youngest runner, and institutions that will participate in large numbers.

"This race is an important event and the funds raised will support cataract surgery, minor surgery, treating cell deficiency caused by aging, glaucoma, and problems caused by eye disease," she said.

## Chaneta disappointed by NSC's failure to back Taifa Queens

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Netball Association (Chaneta) has said it is extremely disappointed with the government's failure to fund the national netball team, Taifa Queens, to feature in the coming Africa Netball Cup slated to take place in Botswana.

Chaneta Secretary-General Rose Mkisi disclosed that the team was expected to depart for Botswana on Sunday and the association had already confirmed the squad's participation to the showpiece's organizers.

Rose disclosed that the government, through the National Sports Council (NSC), has been funding Taifa Queen's participation in international events citing the previous tournaments held in Nigeria and last year in South Africa.

She said what pains the association the most is that the NSC accepted to fund the team's camp in Kibaha, the trip to Botswana, and accommodation only to make a turn in the eleventh hour.

"We are very disappointed with what is happening regarding our trip to Botswana for the Africa Netball Cup. National Sports Council has our calendar of activities for the whole year and, in the calendar, we indicated that we will feature in Africa Netball Cup, therefore, we want to have a one month



Netballers are pictured competing in the recent National First Division League clash at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha.

camp," Rose noted.

She said: "NSC advised us that we should camp for five days in Kibaha, we accepted the council's advice and we called 11 players, coaches, team doctors, and other officials."

The Chaneta leader noted: "Two days before the camp, NSC informed us that it has no funding for the team's trip to Botswana, the former Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Pindi Chana assured us that the government will fund our camp to prepare for the Botswana showdown."

Rose disclosed: "(You should) remember that we already booked the hotel and also confirmed our participation in the

showpiece, on top of that the showpiece will run concurrently with Netball Africa's Annual General Meeting."

"The money which is needed for the team's accommodation in Botswana is 20.5m/- for 18 people but, as a team, we are ready if funding for the trip is available," she revealed.

"There are many effects of losing out on participation in the tournament, one of them is that the country will drop on the International Netball Federation (INF) ranking," she said.

The NSC Secretary-General, Neema Msitha, yesterday could not be reached on her mobile phone to issue a response.

Initially, the Africa Netball

Cup was to be hosted by Uganda but the country was stripped of the hosting rights.

Recently there was uncertainty about Botswana hosting the Africa Netball Cup as it was reported that the Botswana National Sports Council (BNSC) has not allowed the Botswana Netball Association (BONA) to host the showdown.

The Africa Netball Cup has been slated for November 28-December 6 at the University of Botswana Indoor Stadium.

South Africa, Malawi, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, Burundi, and the host Botswana will feature in the showdown.

## Simba SC cautious about appointing new head coach

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC has outlined reasons for the delay in introducing a new head coach during the international break.

The squad is set to lock horns with Ivory Coast's ASEC Mimosas in the 2023/24 CAF Champions League's Group B game slated for Saturday at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The Msimbazi Street outfit has delayed announcing the new head coach who will succeed Roberto Oliveira, alias 'Robertinho', before the game, pleading with its members and supporters to wait for the completion of the procedure.

To keep the squad in a competitive mindset, Simba SC played a friendly match against Dar City FC at the Simba Mo Arena in Dar es Salaam on Sunday and grabbed a 4-0 victory.

Simba SC Information and Communication Manager, Ahmed Ally, noted the process has been delayed due to the great attention the top management of the club has paid to finding a head coach with the right qualifications to take their

team to the next level.

Robertinho's position is vacant but Simba SC interim head coach Daniel Cadena is leading the team with his assistant Selmani Matola.

He said they do not want to do the task quickly because they need to make major improvements by bringing in a gaffer who will implement the squad's long-term plans.

The official added they need to be calm in the process of finding the right person who will lead the club, so, they are making sure they get the best coach with the criteria set by the club.

The official stated: "We have received many CVs and many coaches are being mentioned including Algerian coach Abdelhak Benchikha- who is a good tactician- Simba SC leaders have not mentioned him, and the process has been delayed to avoid getting a coach that will be fired after two matches."

"To avoid that, we have had to be careful in this process. We ask our fans and members to remain calm during this period in which they are eager to get to know the new head coach for our team," Ally disclosed.



Simba SC Information and Communication Manager, Ahmed Ally.

Many coaches are linked to taking over from Robertinho, including Fernando Da Cruz and Tunisian Radhi Jaïdi. Former Simba SC tactician Sven Vandebroek, who left the club in 2021, is also one of the coaches rumored to be on the squad's radar.

Former Young Africans SC head coach, Belgo-Tunisian Nasreddine Nabi, and Benchikha- who led USM Alger to the top honour in last season's CAF Confederation Cup- are also speculated to be in talks with Simba SC, although the club has yet to confirm these rumours.

## Tanzania to face Uganda in CECAFA U-18 Championship opener

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi &amp; Agencies

TANZANIA will take on Uganda in the opening Group B match of this season's CECAFA U-18 Boys Championship in Kakamega, Kenya on November 26.

The championship,

which will attract eight teams, will be played in the towns of Kisumu and Kakamega between November 25 and December 2. Before the second Group B match, Zanzibar will take on South Sudan while Group A will have hosts Kenya coming up against Sudan, with So-

malia taking on Rwanda in the opening match of the championship.

Yussuf Mossi, CECAFA Competitions Director, stated this tournament will help the teams prepare and get match practice ahead of the AFCON U-20 Zonal qualifiers next year.

"It is a good platform for the youngsters and the technical teams to test the teams," he said.

Group B, which will be based in Kakamega, will see Zanzibar open its campaign against South Sudan on November 26.

The following group stage fixtures will be

played on November 29, and the last matches will be played from December 1-2. Tanzania will face South Sudan on November 29 and later lock horns with Zanzibar on December 2.

The semi-finals will take place on December 5. All the semi-final

matches and the final will be played in Kisumu.

**Group A:** Kenya, Somalia, Rwanda, and Sudan

**Group B:** Tanzania, Zanzibar, South Sudan, and Uganda

Meanwhile, Tanzania's national junior squad has intensified training

in Dar es Salaam and was expected to leave for Kakamega mid this week.

Kenya will host both the CECAFA U-18 Boys Championship between November 25 and December 9 and the zonal qualifiers for the Pan African Schools Championship later in Decem-

ber, CECAFA announced.

The news comes after Kenya missed out on hosting the CECAFA U-18 Women's Championship which was initially slated for Kenya in June but was later called off with a host of countries pulling out of the prestigious regional tournament.



## Infantino decries violence at Argentina v Brazil World Cup qualifier

ZURICH

FIFA chief Gianni Infantino said Wednesday there was no place in football for violence after ugly clashes ahead of Brazil's World Cup qualifier against Argentina.

A skirmish between rival fans broke out during the national anthems in a stand behind one of the goals at the Maracana stadium in Rio on Tuesday with Brazilian police confronting Argentine fans.

"There's no place in football for this kind of violence, on or off the pitch," Infantino said on Instagram.

"Players, fans, teams and officials deserve a secure environment," Infantino said.

Tempers had flared in the Maracana stands moments before kick-off, with Brazilian police using batons.

Argentina players including Lionel Messi went towards the disturbances in an attempt to plead for calm. Argentina and Aston Villa goalkeeper Emi Martinez attempted to jump into the seating area at one stage to confront a baton-wielding Brazilian police officer.

Messi and the other Argentinian players then returned to their dressing room as the clashes continued, with Messi appearing to say: "We're not playing, we're leaving."

"We went to the locker room because it was a way to calm everything down a little," Messi said. "We went to see how our families and people close to us were doing. And then we came back."

Argentina went on to defeat Brazil 1-0 thanks to a goal by Nicolas Otamendi and sit top of the South American qualifying standings with 15 points from six games.

Brazil's third defeat of qualifying, meanwhile, leaves the five-time world champions in sixth place with seven points from six games.

AFP

## Venezuela in diplomatic row with Peru after controversial football match

CARACAS

THE government of Venezuela lambasted Peru on Wednesday following a controversial football match, at one point accusing Lima of kidnapping its national team by refusing to allow the aircraft bringing the players home to refuel.

The diplomatic spat began following a 1-1 draw between the two countries' teams in a 2026 World Cup qualifier, after which Venezuelan players accused Peruvian police of beating them as they went to greet fans Tuesday night.

Following a delay in the plane's departure on Wednesday, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Yvan Gil said Peru had carried out "another arbitrary act against the Venezuelans by preventing the plane bringing the team back from refueling."

"This is kidnapping as vengeance against our team which played an extraordinary match" in Lima, he added.

Almost four hours after the scheduled takeoff, however, the Rutaca airline plane finally began its journey at 2:53 pm (1953 GMT).

The delay "occurred for purely administrative reasons related to fuel supply" the company that operates Jorge Chavez International Airport in Lima said.

Gil confirmed that the team was "undertaking its return to Caracas safely" after the Peruvian government ordered fuel supplies.

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said that the "xenophobia of that racist oligarchy of Peru has been unleashed against our noble team. Venezuela has raised its voice to protest against xenophobia, violence and aggression."

Tuesday's game marked a tumultuous night for the South American qualifiers, following a match between Brazil and Argentina in Rio de Janeiro which saw ugly clashes between fans.

- 'They hit me twice' -

Venezuelan footballer Nahuel Ferraresi earlier showed bandages on his right hand, saying Peruvian police "beat me."

"These are things which should not happen. The match was over and we went to thank our Venezuelan supporters," he said.

Ferraresi said another player had handed his jersey over to fans, and he was about to throw his to the crowd when the police blocked him.

"Then others got angry, I don't know what happened, and (the police) took out their batons to hit us. They hit me twice... but it's not a serious injury."

Videos of the incident, which show Peruvian police officers brandishing their batons against the players, have gone viral on social media.

AFP

# As Qatar World Cup glory fades, Arab legacy remains

DOHA

ONE year after the Qatar World Cup, billboards emblazoned with the tournament's official slogan, "All is now," still stand by Doha's roadsides.

As the months have passed, the signs, in Qatar's trademark maroon, have steadily faded in the relentless glare of the desert sun.

Calm has returned to Doha, 12 months after the gas-rich emirate attracted hordes of fans -- and rancorous debate -- for the first World Cup in the Muslim world.

At the Corniche, the shore-hugging thoroughfare through central Doha, crowds, big screens showing the action on the pitch and loudspeakers have been replaced by orderly traffic and a somnolent atmosphere.

"It's very difficult to beat the World Cup. That is for sure," Jassim Al Jassim, head of operations for Qatar's organising committee, told AFP on Monday, one year to the day since the opening game. "This time last year it was a very, very tense day," he said. "But I think overall, we were very happy and we were very proud of what we achieved as a country."

Qatar was hit by a storm of criticism over the World Cup, starting with the 2010 bidding process which was tainted by accusations of corruption -- denied by Qatari officials.

The rights of migrant workers, women's equality, laws against homosexuality and the availability of alcohol also became flashpoints for the wealthy emirate, which countered by accusing its critics of racism.

Some experts believe the confrontations improved Qatar's image among Arab nations and helped pave the way for neighbouring Saudi Arabia to



Lionel Messi holds the World Cup trophy next to Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani after Argentina's victory in 2022. Agencies

emerge as host of the 2034 World Cup.

The "Gulf has moved to the centre of global sports", said Danyel Reiche, a Qatar-based expert on politics and sport.

The successful Saudi bid "might not have been possible if there had not been already a successful World Cup in 2022", he added.

- 'Absolutely worth it' -

Tiny Qatar was transformed for the tournament, with a new metro, airport expansion, upgraded roads and new hotels, plus eight world-class stadiums, at a cost of \$220 billion.

It was billed as the most expensive World Cup in history but organisers reject that tag, saying much of the infrastructure expedited for the tournament was already budgeted.

"The \$220 billion spent in the country for infrastructure is worth it, absolutely worth it, but it was not done solely for

the World Cup," Jassim said.

Seven of the stadiums were constructed at a cost of \$7 billion, Jassim said.

The venues, including the flagship Lusail Stadium, were slated to be downsized and the 40,000-capacity 974 Stadium, built from shipping containers, was supposed to be packed up and relocated.

These plans, a principal part of Qatar's World Cup offering, are on hold after Qatar stepped in to host the upcoming football Asian Cup when China, the original organisers, pulled out last year.

"The future right now for Lusail Stadium is the opening and closing ceremony of the Asian Cup," Jassim said, without elaborating on its future after the January-February tournament.

Jassim also declined to give details of the "dismantling" of 974 Stadium, which will not be used in the Asian Cup,

although he said an announcement would be made "very soon".

- 'Attack on Qatar' -

Last week, rights group Amnesty International accused Qatar of "continued failure" on workers' rights and said it had fallen short in enforcing employment legislation changes.

In response, Qatar's International Media Office said the World Cup had "accelerated" the country's labour reforms and left a "lasting tournament legacy".

Jassim dismissed the criticism surrounding the World Cup as "just an attack on Qatar" by people who he said "felt we were not worthy of hosting such a tournament".

Hisham Hellyer, a Middle East expert, said what was viewed as aggressive targeting of Qatar had "boosted Doha's standing and image" in the region.

The University of Cambridge academic said it was framed "as a campaign against Qatar for being Arab and Muslim".

"When the criticism is framed in that way, then there is going to be rallying to Doha from Arab and Muslim populations worldwide."

Reiche, the Qatar-based specialist on politics and sport, said the row had burnished Qatar's reputation in the region, improving relations after Saudi Arabia led a blockade of the peninsula by its neighbours from 2017-2021.

"When we see the emir wearing a Saudi scarf after Saudi won against Argentina and everyone rallying behind the Moroccan team... I think the World Cup itself contributed to what I would call a revival of pan-Arabism," he added.

AFP

# Lionel Messi warns Argentina-Brazil fan trouble 'could have been a tragedy'

By Jamie Braidwood

Lionel Messi said there "could have been a tragedy" after police clashed with fans during Argentina's World Cup qualifier against rivals Brazil at the Maracana in Rio.

The match was delayed by half an hour following crowd trouble in the stands, which started before kick-off and during the national anthems. In response, Brazilian police charged at the Argentina fans, with the fighting taking place in a section of the stadium that contained the visiting players' families and friends.

Some Argentina supporters ripped up seats to throw at the police, who were wielding batons, while others attempted to escape the scene.

Led by Messi, the Argentina players went over to try and calm the situation. Images showed the Aston Villa goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez trying to grab a baton from a police officer's hand as the Argentina players appealed for the fighting to stop.

The World Cup winners then left the pitch and returned to the dressing room for more than 10 minutes. When the match eventually resumed, Argentina won a bad-tempered qualifier 1-0 to leave Brazil in crisis after suffering their third straight defeat.

The clashes in the stands occurred just two weeks after similar scenes at the Copa Libertadores final between Brazilian side Fluminense and Argentine giants Boca Juniors, which



Goalkeeper Martinez attempts to grab a police officer's baton. (Reuters)

was also held at the iconic Maracana stadium.

"It was bad because we saw how they were beating people," Messi told reporters after the match. "The police, as happened in the Libertadores final, were once again repressing the people with night sticks."

"We went to the locker room because it was the best way to calm everything down, it could have ended in tragedy."

"You think about the families, the people who are there, who don't know what's going on and we were more concerned about that than playing a match that, at that point, was of secondary importance."

The Argentina players were joined by Brazil captain Marquinhos as they appealed for calm in the stands. The defender said: "We were

worried about the families, women and children that we were seeing in panic up there in the stands."

"Down on the pitch it was hard for us to understand what was going on, it was a very scary

situation." On the pitch, Argentina took a huge step towards qualifying for the 2026 World Cup as Nicolas Otamendi's header secured a 1-0 win, but the match was littered with fouls, skirmishes and cards. Brazil

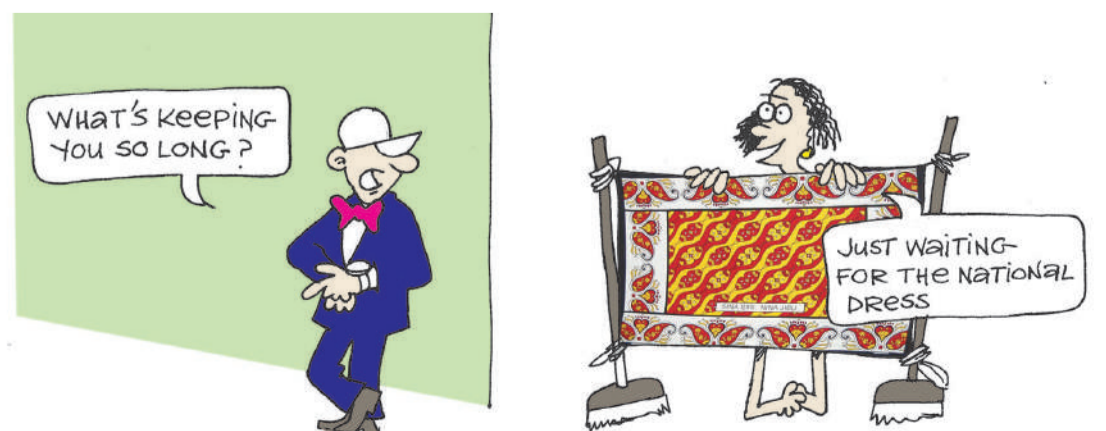
finished with 10 men after Newcastle's Joelinton was sent off for hitting Argentina's Rodrigo de Paul in the face.

Brazil have now lost successive matches to Uruguay, Colombia and Argentina and

are eight points behind the world champions in the qualifying table. The five-time World Cup winners sit sixth, which is the last spot that guarantees qualifying for the finals, after six rounds.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

As Qatar World Cup glory fades, Arab legacy remains

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Former Simba SC winger, Pape Sakho.

## Simba SC receives FIFA ban over Pape Sakho transfer fee

By Guardian Correspondent

SIMBA SC has become the latest Tanzanian club to be banned from making transfers by the world football governing body, FIFA.

FIFA has slapped Simba SC with an international transfer ban for failing to pay sell-on entitlements to Senegalese international Pape Ousmane Sakho's former club, Teungueth FC of Senegal.

Sakho, aged 26, joined Simba SC, alias 'Msimbazi Reds', from Teungueth FC in August 2021 but left the former in August this year after two seasons in Tanzania. Simba SC sold him to French Ligue 2 side, Quevilly Rouen Métropole (QRM).

"Simba SC has reached an agreement with the Quevilly Rouen Métropole (QRM) club in France to buy our player Pape Sakho. We wish Sakho all the best in his new team," a statement from Simba SC read.

Upon Sakho's transfer to Quevilly Rouen Métropole (QRM), Teungueth FC approached the Msimbazi Street-based club for the sell-on clause entitlements.

When they were not forthcoming, the Dakar-based club took the case to FIFA and the world football ruling body ordered Simba SC to pay the Senegalese club within 45 days.

After Simba SC failed to pay within the stipulated period, the Senegalese club requested the implementation of a transfer ban on Simba SC and FIFA has duly obliged.

The ban has now been communicated to Simba SC by the football mother body and confirmed by the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF).

"NBC Premier League side, Simba SC has been banned from registering new players until it pays the demands of Senegal's Teungueth FC regarding Pape Ousmane Sakho."

"The decision has been made by the International Football Federation (FIFA) after the club won a civil case against Simba SC due to the sale of Sakho," the TFF statement read.

"Before joining Simba SC, Sakho who is currently playing for Quevilly Rouen Métropole in France, was a Teungueth FC player," TFF disclosed.

"The club filed a case with FIFA against Simba SC demanding part of the payment from the sale of Sakho."

"Simba SC was supposed to have implemented the decision within 45 days since it was issued, but it did not do so."

"While FIFA has banned the club from making international transfers, the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) has banned Simba SC from making domestic transfers," TFF disclosed.

If Simba SC fails to reach a settlement agreement and settle the outstanding amounts, the side will probably be unable to register players during the upcoming December-January transfer window.

This development aligns with recent bans imposed on other Tanzanian teams, including Singida Fountain Gate FC.

The Singida club had been punished for failure to pay Ghanaian player, Nicholas Gyan, leading to a player registration ban, Tabora United which has had multiple bans, and Fountain Gate Academy.

# Yanga kicks off 2023/24 CAF Champions League Group Stage campaign



Yanga's players are pictured participating in drills in Dar es Salaam recently in preparation for the 2023/24 CAF Champions League Group D tie against Algeria's CR Belouizdad which will take place at Stade du 5 Juillet in Algiers tonight. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC will kick off the club's CAF Champions League Group Stage campaign tonight in Algiers against CR Belouizdad.

Chadian referee Alhadji Allaou Mahamat will be at the center and will be assisted by his countrymates Bogola Issa and Issa Yay as assistant referees. Pousri Armi Alfred is the match's fourth official.

Both clubs are seeking a win to get their CAF Champions League campaigns up and running. Hosts CR Belouizdad have a recent good history in the tournament.

Young Africans SC, popularly known as Yanga, is trying to make a mark in the competition for the first time in 25 years.

The Tanzanian representatives are in good form. They have played 15 matches in all competitions so far this season, going unbeaten in 14 of those matches. Their only loss was a 2023/24 NBC Premier

League defeat to Ihefu SC. They are on a five-match winning streak and getting stronger including a 5-1 demolition of arch rivals Simba SC. Yanga, runners-up in the CAF Confederation Cup

last season, won all four CAF Champions League qualifiers to book a Group Stage ticket for the first time since 1998.

The outfit is led in goals by Stephane Aziz Ki and Max Nzengeli, all of whom have scored seven times in the NBC Premier League. Both should play a part against CR Belouizdad.

As for the hosts, 'The Grand Chabab' as they are fondly known, are one of the most successful clubs in Algeria, having won the domestic league title eight times.

The outfit has moreover won the Algerian Cup eight times, one Algerian League Cup, two Algerian Super Cups, and the Maghreb Champions Cup a record three times.

Last season, CR Belouizdad won yet another Algerian Ligue 1 title to book their place in the CAF Champions League.

A dramatic late hat-trick registered by 21-year-old Cameroonian striker, Leonel Wamba, fired CR Belouizdad to a 3-1 second leg victory over Sierra Leone's

Bo Rangers and sealed their place in the Group Stage for the fourth consecutive time.

The Algerian champions overturned a first-half 1-0 deficit to triumph 6-2 on aggregate against the Sierra Leonean club.

They have reached the CAF Champions League quarterfinals in the three previous seasons.

They head into today's clash on the back of a 1-0 victory over JS Kabylie on Sunday.

Marcos Paquetá's side has made a good start to Algeria's Ligue 1 season, recording four wins and two losses so far.

As a result, CR Belouizdad has found itself positioned third in Ligue 1 after six matches, with table-topping MC Alger and Paradou all above the former in the standings.

With Egypt's Al Ahly and Ghana's Medeama also bidding to advance from Group D of the premier continental showpiece, CR Belouizdad and Yanga will both be eager to get off to a strong start.

## Azam FC chases third straight PL win, hosts struggling Mtibwa Sugar

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM FC will chase a third straight win in the NBC Premier League when the club hosts Mtibwa Sugar at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the evening, with kick-off penciled for 7 pm.

Hosts Azam FC claimed a second victory on the bounce when the club defeated Ihefu SC 3-1 in Mbarali, Mbeya on November 4.

Defensive midfielder, Sospeter Bajana, drilled in a brace, and offensive midfielder Feisal Salum scored another goal to secure three points for Azam FC on the road.

The ice cream makers have claimed 12 points from five home matches this season, with their last result as hosts being a shocking 3-1 loss to Namungo FC on October 27.

With nine matches in the books, Azam FC is positioned second in the top-flight table having collected 19 points.

Azam FC assistant coach Bruno Ferry highlighted the importance of their bounce-back victory after back-to-back losses to Young Africans SC and Namungo



Azam FC attacker, Ayoub Lyanga (L), negotiates his way past Mtibwa Sugar's left-back, Issa Rashid, as the sides took on each other in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League clash at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam on April 7, 2023. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

FC threatened to derail their title ambitions.

The French tactician said: "We are happy to take six points in the two away games because it was a little bit difficult for us after losing the last game at home."

"Now it is important to come back home, tomorrow (today) will be another game, another fight. We know we will meet a good team once again and we have to be at 100% to have a chance to win," Ferry revealed.

Mtibwa Sugar has won once at home this season, having walloped Geita Gold FC 3-1, and lost 2-1 in a tie against JKT Tanzania in their recent two fixtures.

They come into today's match having suffered their sixth defeat

of the league season.

Zubeir Katwila-led Mtibwa Sugar was beaten 2-1 at home by JKT Tanzania on November 3. The Turiani-based side has managed just one league victory so far this season.

The main issue in the

club's league campaign has been poor defensive displays, as the outfit has conceded more goals than any other side this season.

Head coach Katwila said the international break has given them ample to prepare and fix their issues on and off the pitch.

"We have prepared well during this time when the league stopped for the international break. We have had a good time preparing against Azam FC and other matches. We have had about two weeks to put things right," Katwila pointed out.

In head-to-head stats, Azam FC and Mtibwa Sugar have met in 26 league matches since 2009/2010.

Azam FC has claimed 14 wins compared to five for Mtibwa Sugar, while seven matches have been drawn.

Azam FC did the double over Mtibwa Sugar last season, claiming a 4-3 away victory before snatching a 1-0 home win.

In Azam FC's last five games against Mtibwa Sugar, the former has registered a win.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

