



### National Pg 3 ERB to punish errant engineers



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## African NGOs reject EU anti-EACOP vote

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Union Watch (AUW), an independent Pan African body grouping non-government organisations, has called on the council of the European Union (EU) to disavow the recent 'abhorrent resolution' seeking that the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project be virtually disbanded.

"The African Union Watch is very much concerned by Resolution 2022/2826/RSP adopted by the European Parliament on 14 September 2022," it said, noting that the resolution effectively called on EU member states to punish Tanzania and Uganda for embarking on an ambitious pipeline project.

Bahame Nyanduga, the AUW chairman, said in a statement that the project is meant to extract crude oil from Uganda and transport it to foreign markets through the pipeline that is currently being built between the two countries.

The European Parliament resolution, if accepted, will in effect lead to frustration of African states' efforts to consolidate national independence and free the countries from dependence on donor funds especially from the former colonial powers, he said.

Pointing out that the European Parliament has no direct jurisdiction to discuss African implementation of economic development projects; he said that its excessive reliance on international human rights instruments to condemn the EACOP project "is a cover to negate the economic development aspirations of Uganda and Tanzania and their people."

The top activist conveyed a letter to the president of the EU Parliament, Roberta Metsola and of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen dated September 20.

Such discourse aims at holding Africa states and their people to perpetual poverty and is unacceptable, he stated, underlining that the African Union Watch "abhors the self-serving

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan accompanied by Mozambican President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi as she inspects an honour guard yesterday shortly after arriving at Maputo State House for a three-day official visit to Mozambique. Photo: State House

# Mozambique, Tanzania set out to reinforce ties

## Trade declined by half in the past year

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and Mozambique have agreed to team up in combating terrorism threats in

border areas, with presidents Samia Suluhu Hassan and Philip Nyusi pledging to cement bilateral ties between the two nations.

The two heads of state reviewed the political, economic, and social situation in the two countries, exchanging views on issues of common interest within Southern Africa, Africa and the world, a State House statement

noted. The two leaders witnessed the signing of bilateral accords on security and defence on one part and another in search and rescue operations.

They also agreed on Tanzanian teachers to give courses on the Swahili language in

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## 'TASAF relief targeted in ATM levy reviewing'

By Guardian Reporter

RESCINDING the recently introduced levies on electronic financial transactions was meant to provide relief to beneficiaries of funds from the Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN), the Treasury has explained.

William Mhoja, an assistant commissioner for policy analysis in the Ministry of Finance and Planning, made this observation on the reasoning of levy reduction, identifying the relief with beneficiaries of the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) coverage.

The government considered the majority poor Tanzanians especially those receiving funds from TASAF operations via their ATM accounts.

"We wanted to provide relief to TASAF beneficiaries; we have waived transaction fee on withdrawal of cash through bank agents and ATMs for transactions with a value not exceeding 30,000/-," he said.

Treasury is working to come up with new regulations which will specifically indicate the amount of levies being waived which ranges between 10 and 50 percent, set to be

released October 1, he stated.

He asserted that the decision followed a public outcry and a 'request' from the ruling party's central committee that the ministry should consider reducing or abolishing levies on electronic cash transactions.

Efforts are being taken to widen the tax base with emphasis being directed at ensuring voluntary tax compliance "where people also demand receipts whenever they purchase goods."

Announcing the levy charges reviewing, the minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba said the government had reduced the scope of charges to stimulate the use of electronic transactions to reduce carrying of cash. The idea was to simplify charges and prevent double taxation on the same income, he asserted.

The amendments removed levies for transferring money from banks to mobile networks and transferring money within a bank and between banks, which affects merchants rather than ordinary people.

Transaction levy on withdrawal of cash through bank agents or ATMs for sums not exceeding 30,000/- was removed.

**...we have waived transaction fee on withdrawal of cash through bank agents and ATMs for transactions with a value not exceeding 30,000/-**



NMB Bank Plc treasurer Aziz Chacha (L) receives the Sustainable Bond of the Year Award for 2022 from SME Finance Forum CEO Mathew Gamser at the awards ceremony held on Tuesday in the Cambodian capital, Phnom Penh. The event was organised by the International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group. NMB's JASIRI Bond was named Platinum Winner in the Sustainable Bond of the Year category. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Parliament wants internet local gateway sovereignty

## Decries cash transfer charges by mobile phone service providers

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

PARLIAMENT is demanding that the

government comes up with a strategy to ensure the country attains sovereignty of the local internet gateway.

Mussa Hassan Zungu, the deputy speaker of the National Assembly, said the internet

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## Parliament wants internet local gateway sovereignty

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gateway should be in the country and its revenues remain in the country, instead of the country paying abroad as it is now the case.

"This can also be decentralized in areas across the country and our youth can be service providers hence get employed," the Ilala MP affirming that there was little contribution of the internet to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Despite having internet services providers, the country still pays for internet services to foreign companies since there is no local internet gateway, he said.

"The money nowadays is on internet calls, and not voice calls as it was in the past, therefore we need to follow the money," he argued.

In other remarks, he appealed to the government to ensure that banks and mobile phone service providers reduce charges on electronic financial transactions "as they are higher than the government levy."

This appeal comes a day after the Treasury removed levies on electronic bank transactions apart from operating automatic teller machines for sums exceeding 30,000/- starting October 1.

In observations after the question and answer session, he said that complaints against the levies were directed to the government "while in reality were charging little compared to service providers.

"The government has decided to review the levies, but the general public is still complaining of government levies. They do not look at the charges made by banks and telecom companies," he stated, demanding the charges be regulated.

"You send money and service providers get a huge chunk of the charges while the government which constructs classrooms and health centres is blamed," Zungu bemoaned, pointing at a 'syndicate' creating a scenario where the government is put in negative light, "while the real revenue from the levies are collected by other people.

"So you have to sit down and decide on how to regulate this situation so that they also reduce the levies which they charge their customers," he declared.

People need to look at the breakdown of a transaction after sending money, as government levy was little compared to what services providers such as banks and telecom companies obtain, he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa speaks at the climax of the commemoration of International Day of Peace (Sept 21) held at national level in Moshi District, Kilimanjaro Region, yesterday. Photo: PMO

## African NGOs reject EU anti-EACOP vote

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European Parliament Resolution."

He said the resolution was a legal non-starter, as it is 'ultra vires' to its own powers (as an advisory representative body) and an unwarranted interference into African aspirations.

African states have the right to political and economic self-determination, the letter pursued, emphasizing that Uganda and Tanzania or any other African states have the right to extract and use their natural resources for their own development while enjoying their right to development.

"No wonder the debate in the West on African development characterizes Africa as a European backyard. This discourse is based on the presumption that Africa is a source of raw materials to the West in perpetuity."

He declared that the companies responsible for the EACOP project "have been implementing the project while observing high human rights and environmental standards."

The firms seek to ensure that the project does not pollute water sources and displace populations on a large scale from the land that the pipeline will traverse, and where necessary compensation has been paid or will be paid, the letter reminded EU MPs.

"We are very much aware of the effect of carbon emissions arising from the use of fossil fuels, and its effect on climate change," it affirmed, noting

however that Africa is not a major polluter compared to the developed world.

"We call on the European Parliament to ensure that the best technology is supplied to African states to ensure that they continue exploiting their resources," the top activist urged, elaborating that this would be positive multilateral cooperation, unlike condemning the project as done by the European Parliament.

"African countries suffer from disproportionate energy poverty and can only eliminate such deficiency if they deploy all the energy resources at their disposal, including the crude oil from Hoima," the letter asserted.

"We are aware that Europe is considering resumption of power generation using coal, because of the consequences of the conflict in Ukraine. If Europeans can resume the use of coal, a high pollutant, because of the conflict in Ukraine, so is the more reason that, faced with the challenges of development and poverty in Africa, we shall continue to use our resources to address those challenges."

"We wish to draw the attention of the European Parliament to the fact that since the early 1970s at the height of the southern African liberation struggle, Tanzania and Zambia built a pipeline that has continued to serve landlocked Zambia, without experiencing any such challenges that the EU Parliament is raising in respect of the EACOP project," it added.

## Government appeals for early diagnosis of infectious disease

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DEPUTY Minister for Health, Dr Godwin Mollel has appealed to members of the public to seek medical attention whenever they realise signs of the infectious disease such as tuberculosis.

He said the signs of the disease might not be very vivid as many people remain asymptomatic and only show signs when it has reached advanced stage.

The deputy minister was responding to a question asked by the Special Seats MP, Mwantumu Dau Haji (CCM), who had wanted to know why symptoms of the disease are not vivid at early stages.

"Why is it that symptoms of tuberculosis are not clear at early stages and people only realize the disease after it has advanced?" she asked.

The deputy minister in response explained that in some cases, symptoms might not develop until months or even years after the initial infection.

Dr Mollel added that early infection causes no symptoms as the body's

immune system protects against spread, and in many cases, it remains inactive.

"Early diagnosis and treatment is necessary to control the spread of the infection and I therefore appeal to people to seek medical attention once they realize any symptoms" said the deputy minister.

He said early signs of the disease include persistent cough, which lasts for more than two weeks, cough with blood in sputum fever for more than two weeks, pain in chest, weight loss, night sweats and loss of appetite.

He also urged members of the public to regularly go for health checks in effort to ascertain any health problems. According to the National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Programme (NLTLP), the TB incidence has fallen from 306 per 100,000 populations in 2015 to 222 per 100,000 in 2020.

This makes Tanzania being among the six TB high burden countries which achieved the End TB 2020 Incidence milestones; there has been a 52% percent reduction in TB deaths from 55,000 in 2014 to 26,800 in 2020.

## Mozambique, Tanzania set out to reinforce ties

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Mozambique, to make the language more commonplace in education and eventually in other institutions.

There are various sections of Mozambican people who wish they were able to speak the language. This accord will also facilitate the exchange of university students, and also propel investments in the gas and mining sectors.

President Samia's three-day state visit is anchored in historical ties of brotherhood, solidarity and various areas of cooperation in economic, social and cultural spheres between the two countries.

Ties between Tanzania and Mozambique will continue to thrive, helping to engender productivity in activities linking the two countries, she affirmed, noting that the visit will open a new chapter for prosperity via deeper cooperation efforts.

"In Tanzania, we share a border that is very long, and on that basis, we must have greater cooperation to continue to protect our borders. This is due to the fact that there has been an increase in border crime and terrorism, and in that environment, security cooperation is vital," she said.

Trade and investment need to be uplifted as recently a decrease has

been registered in such activities, she stated. "We have agreed to see how to use commercial opportunities, especially in agriculture and mining," she further affirmed.

The decline in trade between the two countries moved from 53bn/- to 26bn/- this year, a steep decline seemingly linked to the ravages of terror groups in Cabo Delgado Province which borders southern region of Tanzania.

Exchange of students in higher education was vital to enable young people to live together and reflect the partnership spirit to achieve success.

She also welcomed President Nyusi to visit Tanzania, so that the two sides can evaluate what has been achieved,

at the highest level.

President Nyusi said there was no border contention between the two countries, noting that Tanzania was among countries contributing to the country's ongoing effort to stem the surge in terrorism, trafficking and other forms of criminality.

"We thank Tanzania for its cooperation in fighting against terrorists, it has helped us a lot," he said, alluding to many terrorists surrendering and life returning to normal.

Mozambique and Tanzania are developing cooperation in tourism, one among key sectors in development efforts in the two countries, he added.



Dr Mahesh Swaminathan (R), the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention Country Director in Tanzania, has a word in Dodoma city recently with then Dodoma regional commissioner Anthony Mtaka L (since transferred to Njombe Region) shortly after discussing opportunities for collaboration in disease prevention. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Government to review 5-year development plan

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is committed to revise five year's development plan and incorporate a special youth programme that will create more employment opportunities in the country.

Deputy Minister, Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability) Patrobas Katambi said the programme will involve all ministries, government institutions and the private sector.

He said the programme is aimed to provide formal training to 100,000 youths by 2025/2026, adding that through the national programme some 22,296 youths, 3,349 women and 18,947 men throughout the country were reached and their expertise formalized by June 2022.

"This programme is intended to address the employment woes in the country and help to meet the target set by 2020-2025 ruling party's CCM election manifesto, which directs the government to create 8 million jobs," he said.

He added that the programme will also focus on major development projects currently being implemented by the government, whereby its execution must generate direct and indirect employment for youths.

He made the statement in response to a question asked by the Singida Urban MP, Mussa Sirma (CCM), who had wanted to know what the government was doing to help youth that acquired expertise in non-formal systems.

The objective, he said, is to ensure

that any internal government funds as well as funds from donors must be connected to youth's development projects since they command 55 per cent of the national labour force.

He said that the government is planning to continue empowering the private sector as it employs the majority of young people.

"We have to enhance the private sector's performance by abolishing several levies and continue reducing bank's lending terms and interest rates among other initiatives.

"A total of 145.8bn/- has been allocated countrywide in all councils to support women, youth and people with disabilities, and the ministry will continue to make close follow up to ensure the released funds reach and benefit the intended people," Katambi added.

He also said that all the councils countrywide have been directed to provide loans to approximately 14,134 youths who have undergone apprenticeship programmes, for them to create self-employment. He said the government has spent 9bn/- to provide such training.

Katambi said the government will also continue to improve sectors that employ a good number of youths. He mentioned the leading sectors which employed many Tanzanian youths as agriculture (63.1 per cent), service sector (28.3 per cent) and industrial sector, which command 8.6 per cent.

The reduction on the employers' luggage from 1 to 0.6 per cent, he said, was one of President Samia's efforts in ensuring that workers were benefiting from their rights.



Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe (R) in discussion with Regional Administration, and Local Government minister Innocent Bashungwa (L) and his deputy Anthony Mavunde in the National Assembly in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## ERB vows to take disciplinary measures on engineers who fail to comply with standards

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Engineers Registration Board (ERB) has vowed not to hesitate in taking disciplinary measures on engineers who fail to comply with the contract requirements.

ERB's registrar, Eng Benard Kavishe made the statement here yesterday, noting that at least 800 engineers have faced the board's wrath since its establishment 19 years ago.

He said actions normally taken by the board on those who violate the set standards include revocation of license, warning, suspension, among others.

However, he said out of those who have been punished, some 200 engineers have since been reinstated

after proving to have toed the line.

Eng Kavishe made the statement here during a press conference ahead of the 19th annual engineers' day (AED), held in Dodoma from today.

"While taking disciplinary measures to individual engineers or companies is a painful and disturbing act to the board, we have no option on those who do not want to uphold professionalism" he said.

He said the annual event will take place on 22nd and 23rd September 2022 at Dr Jakaya Kikwete Convention Centre, Dodoma.

The theme of the event is "Innovation and Skills Development in enhancing National Sustainable Economic Development: Engineering Perspective".

According to the registrar, some 3500 engineers have confirmed participation in the event that has also attracted participants from other countries of Uganda, Kenya and Zambia.

He said the major activities during the AED event will include paper presentations and discussions, feedback from the ERB Secretariat and exhibitions of technologies, whereby various organizations will exhibit their technologies and engineering goods and services.

Other activities also include awarding different engineering groups and firms as well as oath taking for professional engineers.

According to Eng Kavishe, all engineers, engineering technicians

and other stakeholders are invited to attend, adding that all professional and consulting engineers who will attend the event will have an added advantage of being awarded 16 Professional Development Units (PDUs) in their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program.

CPD is mandatory for all practicing engineers. During the event there will be parallel sessions for young engineers too.

He said the mission of the board is to regulate engineering practice in Tanzania and promote engineering excellence amongst local engineers and engineering consulting firms with a view to enhancing their competitiveness and professionalism in the engineering practice.

## TCCIA teams up with EEPC for transferring Indian engineering technologies into the country

By Francis Kajubi

TANZANIA Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (TCCIA) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Engineering Export Products Council of India (EEPC) that targets at transferring and adopting Indian engineering innovative technologies into Tanzania's market.

The partnership is being sealed at the time when over 90 Indian firms are in Dar es Salaam for three days to exhibit Indian engineering technologies through the India Engineering Exhibition (INDEE).

Briefing reporters on Tuesday, TCCIA President Paul Koyi said that the agreement targets at adopting and sustaining Indian technologies that will be showcased at the exhibition by the chamber members playing a part in localizing them.

"We intend to work together in knowledge and technology transfer. These technologies are those required by small scale and medium farmers, small businesses and small industry owners in need of new machinery and technologies they can afford to grow their businesses," said Koyi.

According to him, common people employed in agriculture, commerce and industry need affordable technologies that are efficient enough to flourish their businesses.

"The MoU is not limited to TCCIA members but we intend to collaborate with learning institutions such as the Vocational Education Training Authority and the College of Information, Communication and Technology as a way of taking these technologies to the ground," said Koyi.

Further, Chairman of EEPC India Mahesh Desai said the council is specialized in new technologies that can help SMEs, young graduates and peasants to afford low-cost machinery for production.

He said the INDEE in Dar es Salaam is not only about selling machinery but

strengthening relationships between Indian firms, Tanzania institutions and technology innovators and the EEPC itself.

"We want to share our experience in technology with Tanzania. EEPC has more than 10,000 members that Tanzania firms can choose to work with in the engineering sector. TCCIA and India go back to a mutual relationship," said Desai.

He said that the MoU has set a proper approach to expedite and carry forward the businesses and agreements that will emanate from the INDEE and ensure there is smooth take off.

Witnessing the signing of the MoU, Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania Binayak Srikanta Pradhan said Tanzania has a substantial share in India's engineering exports to East Africa which rose from 22 percent during 2020/21 to 27 percent during 2021/22.

He said this is the first time INDEE is being held in Africa and Tanzania is lucky to enjoy this privilege. The Tanzania edition of INDEE is being organised in line with other Indian exhibitions namely INDUSMACH Africa 2022, Tools and Hardware Africa, and East Africa International Trade Exhibition 2022.

"The shows are meant to provide the Indian manufacturers exposure to export opportunities in the Eastern and Central Africa," said Pradhan.

**“The shows are meant to provide the Indian manufacturers exposure to export opportunities in the Eastern and Central Africa”**

## USAID, foundation team up with govt to boost maternal health transport system

By Guardian Reporter

THE US Agency for International Development's (USAID) and Vodafone Foundation have teamed up with the Tanzanian government to expand a maternal health emergency transportation system that is securing hospital transit for thousands of women in Tanzania.

The move is part of the direct response to President Samia Suluhu Hassan's request for partnership in expanding this program to the entire country, which the two entities have committed \$15 million - \$10 million from Vodafone Foundation and \$5 million from USAID. The Tanzanian government, represented at the event by Vice President Philip Mpango, has committed to covering all transport costs and providing all dispatch staff from day one. These efforts will extend the program's coverage from two districts, home to about 1 million people, to Tanzania's population of 60 million.

Vodafone Foundation also committed an additional \$5 million to replicate this model in other countries in sub-Saharan Africa with high rates of maternal mortality, bringing its total commitment to \$15 million. USAID will explore additional partnership opportunities with Vodafone Foundation to reproduce Tanzania's successes elsewhere. Maternal mortality rates are stubbornly high in Tanzania. In rural

communities, an ambulance may only be available for 1 in 10 maternal emergencies. As part of a 2013-2020 maternal health program in the Sengerema/Buchosa and Shinyanga districts, Vodafone Foundation and USAID created a free ride-sharing program for pregnant women. Under the program, a woman undergoing a maternal emergency calls a toll-free number, a health worker records her information, the dispatch system locates the nearest hospital and nearest private taxi driver and the driver is paid upon delivery of the patient to the health center. The local governments

in both pilot districts are now fully funding the programs - which cost less than the price of one ambulance - and the programs have transported over 15,000 women and newborns to date.

Vodafone Foundation's commitment was announced by Vodafone Chief External and Corporate Affairs Officer and Trustee of Vodafone Foundation, Joakim Reiter, as part of an event chaired by Administrator Power - who announced USAID's commitment - highlighting how businesses and foundations can partner with burgeoning democracies.



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## Christine to lead KIA as CEO

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

CHRISTINE Mwakatobe has been named as a new chief executive officer of Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA) with immediate effect.

KIA, straddles between Arusha and Kilimanjaro northern regions, is a country's strategic gateway for close to 80 percent of 1.5 million tourists visiting the country annually.

Mwakatobe, an accomplished business administrator with solid training outside the country, becomes the first female to lead the 51-year-old airport.

"I'm thankful to my God, President Samia Suluhu Hassan, Minister for Works and Transport, Prof Makame Mbarawa and KADCO board for trusting me to steer this key facility," said Mwakatobe.

The government's nomination of a young and female CEO comes as a surprise move, signaling its resolve to change the way of running KIA in the face of myriad challenges facing the aviation, travel and tourism industry.

Key tourism industry players have received the news with triumph, saying Mwakatobe will bring new impetus not only at KIA, but also at the entire aviation, travel and tourism value chain.

"Christine is the right person at the right moment at KIA. Her communication skills are superb, easy to understand, collaborative, open-minded, approachable, transparent, and has a growth mindset, ethics as well as decisiveness," said Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO) CEO, Sirili Akko.

She joined the government executive arm, entrusted to run KIA and its parent firm, the Kilimanjaro Airport Development Company (KADCO), in 2011, with a determination to shape the future of Tanzania's aviation industry.

Indeed, she started working as a business development and corporate planning manager, with a hidden mission of turning the airport from a mere complex of runways and buildings for the take-off, landing, with facilities for passengers, into a

real commercial hub to leapfrog other businesses.

Mwakatobe's ability and her painstaking efforts to spur business and generate sufficient revenue to relieve the government of footing the airport's overhead costs, led her way up, rising through the ranks to the interim CEO at KADCO in 2020.

Official data indicates that, under her leadership stint, airlines operating from KIA have grown to 15, up from 13 carriers. Cargo traffic also sprouted by leaps and bounds, as KIA had posted a 26 percent upsurge in cargo volumes between 2019 and 2021.

In real figures, KIA handled a total of 4,426,336 metric tonnes in 2021, up from 3,271,787 metric tonnes in 2019.

"Growing an airport's cargo traffic largely relies on the ability to provide sufficient and quality air capacity," she explained.

An influential lady, with diplomatic traits, Mwakatobe is expected to turn the country's second largest airport into a fully-fledged commercial hub and state-of-the-art gateway, all-inclusive with cutting-edge technologies, to enhance its capacity to handle aircrafts, passengers and cargoes.

KADCO has developed a comprehensive master plan that would see the 110 sq km estates surrounding the airport transformed into a state-of-the-art, modern duty-free shopping city.

Apart from the air terminal, the KIA area, strategically placed at the meeting point of three Northern Zone regions of Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara, has for many years remained a wide stretch of unoccupied land as far as the eye can see, but this was bound to soon change.

According to the master plan, the location is to become a 'city' at the centre of Moshi and Arusha, where prospective investors are to establish massive shopping centres, high class tourist hotels, duty free ports, export processing zone, educational institutions, custom bonded warehouses, curio shops, golf courses and a large game ranch.



Shinyanga District Commissioner Jasinta Mboko distributes special lotion to albinism children living at Buhangija centre in Shinyanga municipality yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

## President's visit to Belgium bears fruits

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan's visit to Belgium has borne fruit after the country announced various opportunities for Tanzanians.

In a virtual press conference, Tanzanian Ambassador to Belgium and the European Union (EU) Jestas Nyamanga outlined opportunities available in the country in agriculture sector, infrastructure, fisheries, blue economy, infrastructure, tourism, education and investment.

He said Tanzania has got various

loan opportunities through the European Union and various banks in the country. Kigoma, Rukwa, Tabora regions benefiting more from these opportunities including the improvement of airports as well as getting the opportunity to raise it in the agricultural sector.

"At the moment we have started discussions with them to start another project that will take five years and Belgium has agreed to allocate 67bn/- to help with educational projects in the Kigoma region," he said, adding:

"We've a very big market here in Belgium for fish fillets, especially Nile Perch from Mwanza. Belgium imports between 50 and 60 tonnes every week and the rest of the European Union countries. But we can import more than 200 tonnes every week if we organise ourselves and the opportunity for Tanzania to export seafood is still there," he said.

Nyamanga also cited rice from Mbeya as another opportunity that Tanzania can benefit from.

"We are grateful that the visit of President Samia to Belgium has opened

up many opportunities, the president met with very big businessmen and after that we have started to see the opening of many opportunities. We have an order of 300 tonnes every month and we are also continuing to advertise another type of rice so that it can also enter the market."

The envoy also stated that Belgium is in high demand of cocoa from Kyela in Mbeya and Morogoro regions.

On avocado, the ambassador tasked Tanzanian farmers to venture more into avocado farming because of the ready market in Belgium.



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
TANZANIA INVESTMENT CENTRE  
(TIC)



### INVITATION TO ATTEND THE INVESTMENT FORUM DURING THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD TOURISM ORGANISATION MEETING

Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) invites you to participate at the 65th United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Meeting, scheduled to take place on 5th-7th October 2022 at Gran Melia Hotel Arusha, Tanzania.

The investment forum be preceded by Tourism meeting themed 'Rebuilding Africa's Tourism Resilience for Inclusive Social-Economic Development' will be held on 6th October 2022 at Gran Melia Hotel.

The forum is organized by TIC in collaboration with ZIPA and TPSF and it will bring together stakeholders from the Private and Public Sectors, Development Partners, Government agencies and partners from different African countries to dialogue on business and investment environment in Africa.

Key sectors for this forum include tourism, Transport, Infrastructure, Real Estate, Trade and Energy.

Those interested to attend should send an email the contact below or get more information from TIC through Ms. Latifa Kigoda, Mobile +255 715734444, Email [latiffa.kigoda@tic.go.tz](mailto:latiffa.kigoda@tic.go.tz) or Ms. Robertha Makinda, Mobile ±255 685 777794 email [robertha.makinda@tic.go.tz](mailto:robertha.makinda@tic.go.tz)

Interested investors are cordially invited to attend.

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## Government to transport SMEs to 22nd EA Kali Exhibition in Kampala

By Guardian Reporter

THE Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities), Prof Joyce Ndalichako has said President Samia Suluhu Hassan will help with the transportation of 250 small and middle entrepreneurs (SMEs) to take part at the 22nd East Africa Exhibition for SMEs popularly known as 'Jua Kali' that will take place in Kampala, Uganda from 8 to 18 December this year.

Among other things, for a long time the government has been contributing to transport goods for SMEs to various exhibitions. But

this year, the government plans to enhance its contribution by providing bus transport to SMEs to and from Uganda," Prof Ndalichako said.

She explained that the government, through the PM Office, will use the exhibition to empower the Tanzania SMEs to use the opportunity to access markets in EAC countries as well as enabling them in self-employment.

Briefing reporters in Dodoma yesterday, Prof Ndalichako said the office, in collaboration with the President's Office (Labour, Economy and Investment) of Zanzibar and other institutions including SMEs associations plan to make sure they produce serious youth, including those

with disabilities who will represent Tanzania at the exhibition.

The exhibition slogan this year is 'Buy Products or EA Africa's Services to build East Africa resiliently and sustainably.'

Meanwhile, the Chairman of Tanzania SMEs Association, who is also chairman of the EA SMEs association, Joseph Rweyemamu expressed his thanks for government efforts in making sure they participate in the exhibition.

Application forms and other vital information for the SMEs wishing to participate will be available beginning 26 September at the offices of local council directors countrywide.



Vice Chancellor of Hubert Kairuki Memorial University (HKMU), Professor Yohana Mashalla, presents a gift to the chairman of Public Health of Western Kentucky University USA, Professor William Mkanta during his visit at HKMU yesterday. Others right are Professor John Sunnnygard and Professor Tania Basta who is Dean College of Health and Human Services. Left is deputy VC Professor Godwin Ndosi. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole



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## Tanzanian government expresses its appreciation to Global Vaccine Alliance

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA has expressed its appreciation to the Global Vaccine Alliance (GAVI) for its support since the year 2000 reaching 1.3trn/- in health services systems and vaccines.

Ummy Mwalimu, Health Minister, said this after meeting with GAVI CEO Eseth Berkeley on the sideline of the 77th General assembly held in New York, USA. "We thank GAVI for the support to Tanzania reaching 1.3 trn/- since 2000. The support enabled the children under five years to be vaccinated against diseases like measles, polio and tuberculosis," she said.

She also thanked the Covax facility that enabled less developed countries including Tanzania to receive Covid-19 vaccine.

Mwalimu said so far, Tanzania has received over 20 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine.

She said evaluation conducted in 2020/2021 has shown that there is a drop in vaccine uptake to children under five years by 5 percent from 97 percent in 2018/2019.

The minister said a drop in vaccine rollout to children under five years was attributed to the emergence of the pandemic where the priority was given to the fight against the pandemic.

Also, the vaccine against cervix of uterus cancer dropped in the same period of time.

She however said that the government through the ministry of health has planned to improve vaccine services to children under five years and adolescent girls.

"The government has set strategies to scale up the rollout of vaccines through mobile services to meet community groups that are yet to get the vaccine, and conduct special awareness campaigns to increase vaccine rollout," she said.

GAVI CEO Eseth Berkeley said that the alliance will start providing malaria vaccines to children under five years after being satisfied with research conducted in Kenya, Malawi and Ghana.

He said GAVI will start receiving

applications from countries that have a disease burden next year.

"GAVI promises to collaborate with the Tanzanian government to increase vaccine rollout to children and adolescent girls against cervix uterus cancer," he said.

Recently, Mwalimu was quoted saying that Tanzania had managed to vaccinate 14 percent of the population aged 18 and above since vaccination began in July 2021.

She told the public through the televised event that in the third round demand creation and awareness will take place across the country at subnational levels and vaccination teams will move closer to people.

The new round targets to vaccinate over four million Tanzanians, across all 36 regions.

The campaign would involve massive demand creation and awareness through different channels including door-to-door sensitization.

Mwalimu insisted on continuing sensitizing the community on the benefits of the vaccine, targeting those who missed the second doses as well the elderly people with disabilities and those in marginalized areas.

Dr Zabulon Yoti, Acting World Health Organisation (WHO) Country Representative to Tanzania, reiterated the commitment to facilitate partnership and support the government of Tanzania in building a health system capable of efficiently responding to health emergencies.

He commended the Global Vax support to the new intensified campaign and emphasized the usefulness of vaccines as one of the key interventions to control COVID-19.

"We must consider approaches that take vaccination to where people are, such as the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair and similar gatherings to bring vaccinators closer to people," he said.

*"GAVI promises to collaborate with the Tanzanian government to increase vaccine rollout to children and adolescent girls against cervix uterus cancer"*

## CDC reiterates commitment to support Tanzania health sector

By Mary Kadoke

THE US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Tanzania has guaranteed commitment to support the government's health sector as it stresses its focus on public health disease prevention, health and information system strengthening, and improves workforce capacity to prepare for emergence and reemergence of health threats.

CDC Country Director, Dr Mahesh Swaminathan said among the set targets is strengthening Tuberculosis prevention efforts for people living with HIV, so as to build a sustainable, high impact national HIV response programme that accelerates progress through the Global Health Security Agenda.

"Our most significant partnership with Tanzania is on HIV/AIDS, which works deliberately to support early infant diagnosis, prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission, and psychosocial support for orphan and vulnerable children. We have also endorsed immunisation programmes with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Tanzanian government," he said.

Citing Covid-19 as an example, Dr Swaminathan said there is need towards system creation that can respond to the known of which are flexible and quick to respond to the next pandemic.

"Is COVID-19 not just for CDC Tanzania but for the world? I also had COVID but I healed quickly because I am fully vaccinated. The generation and creation of vaccines have been miraculous. I really think that human ingenuity and creativity really highlighted that we were able to work together to create these vaccines and move forward, challenge collectives. There are still other diseases like HIV, Malaria and recovering from the damage COVID-19 has done to us all."

Analyzing CDC HIV statistics, the agency works with the government of Tanzania to prevent HIV transmissions from mother to child. From January 2020 to June 2022, more than 48,000

women living with HIV received services at CDC supported health facilities, and these mothers delivered more than 43,000 HIV free babies.

In addition to supporting HIV positive mothers, CDC also supports children living with HIV. CDC is currently providing HIV medication and psychosocial support to more than 30,000 children living with HIV.

As a tactic to empower Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW), in 2016, CDC, its implementing partners, and the Ministry of Health supported special PEPFAR programme in Mwanza, Shinyanga and Kagera regions dubbed 'DREAMS' which literally means Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe has mentored and advanced more than 70,000, 15-24-year adolescent girls and young women have been enrolled in the programme since its inception.

The other support at hand is the provision of mentorship and economic advancement to young girls and women that provide comprehensive evidence-based interventions and services to reduce HIV risk and strengthen their capacity to mobilize communities for change.

CDC also supports Tanzania's Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programme (FELTP), which prepares graduates known as disease detectives that help track, contain and respond to outbreak of diseases such as measles, cholera, and COVID-19.

FELTP programme has graduated more than 800 residents across the three tiers. In his final remarks, Dr Swaminathan said, "We are planning to launch the National Tanzania HIV Impact Survey (THIS) 2022-2023 of which the original survey was done in 2016 and changed the landscape of HIV response 2022-23 likewise supporting the polio vaccine efforts."

Under the US Mission to Tanzania, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have worked in Tanzania for two decades. CDC established an office in 2001 to support HIV/AIDS prevention. The office expanded through (PEPFAR) in 2003.



Kifuta Ward residents in Mwanza District, Kilimanjaro Region participate at the launch of collaborative project to help reduce the effects of climate change implemented in three Mwanza Wards on Tuesday. The project is aimed to help farmers and breeders. Left holding the banner is the representative of philanthropists from Germany, Dr Regine Brandt and right is the coordinator of the development department of the Catholic Church Diocese in Same Pamela Mainda. Photo: Correspondent Asrajji MVungi

## Businesses ask TanTrade to improve infrastructures at Sabasaba grounds

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

BUSINESS stakeholders have appealed to Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) to improve infrastructures on the 47th Dar es Salaam International Trade fair (DITF) so as to ensure the business sector continues to contribute to the country's economic development.

Speaking yesterday during a stakeholders meeting aimed at gathering various opinions on how the 47th (DITF) known as Sabasaba can be improved, National Health Insurance

Fund Tanzania Marketing and Public Relation Manager Angela Mziray said that the current infrastructure is not businesswise satisfactory at all.

She further noted that the overall infrastructures in the buildings, especially latrines are worn out and do not cater for the needs of users and hence was a challenge for users.

She continued that apart from latrines, TanTrade needs to have a good layout of the building so that customers visiting the fair do not find it hard to locate the stalls of their interest.

"They need to place a map of the

business stalls at the entry gate and make it easier for customers looking for the relevant stall to go directly to it," she noted.

In the same vein, Joshua Mhando seconded the point by adding that there is need to layout businessmen according to their business in one line like, all the product involving agriculture should stay in one place, the same for clothes product, as well as utensils to give room for customers to find things with easy, he noted.

He further noted that it would be nice if TanTrade will reduce the stall

renting fee to make it easier for more businesses to afford and exhibit their businesses in the country.

Speaking on the same note TanTrade Acting Director Twilumba Melwa said that opinion shared are in sync since TanTrade is set to improve the infrastructure through the exhibition partners in the construction of twenty modern latrines, allocation of booth space electronically, as well as expanding the scope of cooperation with the private sector in coordinating and providing various services during exhibitions.



Treasury director of Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) Wenceslaus Fungantama (second left), hands over a computer and five wooden chairs for office use to the Coastal Regional Police Commander (RPC) Pius Lutumo to support police force fight and control crime network. On the left is Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) communications and relations manager Gloria Mutta and on the right is TCB Kibaha branch manager Juvestina Julius. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## Cooperative Unions in East Africa hatch regional society network

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE future of cooperative unions in Tanzania and other East African countries is in focus here as stakeholders from around the region discuss modern-day challenges facing such societies.

Cooperative Unions and their respective apex bodies from the seven countries making up the East African Community are gathering in Arusha, Tanzania to hatch the initiative of future cooperation and networking.

"We are discussing problems facing cooperative societies in our region, the way forward and how we can network to create seamless business activities between our members," said the

Executive Secretary of the Federation of Cooperative Societies in Tanzania, Alex Ndikile.

According to Ndikile, the Cooperative Conference taking place in Arusha is the first of the proposed annual gatherings of this nature to be taking place in each of the East African Community member states. It was officially opened by the Longido District Commissioner, Frank Mwaisumbe.

"We shall be using the platform to exchange ideas and identify business opportunities across the region," he added.

The leaders' meeting runs under the theme 'Harnessing East Africa potential through regional co-operatives collaboration to uptake opportunities

of East Africa community.

Earlier, from the Co-operative alliance of Kenya Silas Magut said the event brings together the Board of Directors of Co-operative Societies, Chief Executive Officers, County Executive Committee members (CEC), County Chief Officers of Co-operatives, County Directors of Co-operatives, and senior management staff.

The representatives of 31 such unions hail from Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Tanzania, South-Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Co-operatives in East Africa are distinctive economic and social businesses that are founded by individuals in accordance with cooperative ideals.

In order to modernize and commercialize colonial economies, cooperatives were first created during the colonial period in Africa.

They are member-owned, member-driven, and democratically managed organizations that offer solutions to their members and their communities, in contrast to other types of enterprises.

It was stated during the meeting that cooperatives operate in every area of economies and are essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The East African Cooperatives Conference held in Arusha aims to harness regional cooperative collaboration to build sustainable cooperative enterprises.

# How TANESCO beat the odds, Kigoma, Kagera now connected to National Grid system for the first time since the country's independence

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

The Tanzania Electric Supply Company (TANESCO) has successfully managed to connect to the National Grid system in four districts within Kigoma and Kagera regions, being in ongoing concerted efforts by the state-owned power utility to improve the accessibility of electricity across the country.

Among other initiatives, TANESCO is currently implementing a country-wide program to ensure all districts within the country are getting reliable electricity to the tune of being connected to the National Grid system, the move that has started to fetch good results.

For the maiden time since the country's independence in 1961, the residents of Kakonko, Kibondo and Ngara districts of Kigoma region, as well as those dwelling in Nyakanazi and Biharamulo districts in Kagera region are now in a 'new ray of light' and economic prosperity after being connected to reliable electric power, thanks to TANESCO.

For years, the districts used to access unreliable and low-voltage electricity generated from diesel-made generators, the situation which compelled the government to spend at least 22.4 bn/- annually to only serve the Kibondo, Ngara and Biharamuro districts.

In impressive and timely development, over the weekend, TANESCO managed to switch -off the said generators in Kibondo, Ngara and Biharamuro, and connected the economic- potential districts to the National Grid- from the Nyakanazi power cooling sub-station-, the achievement which has already been seen at least 10,000 new customers (citizens) connected to the reliable electricity from the National Grid.

TANESCO's Managing Director, Maharage Chande, expressed that in Kibondo per se, the development was now enabling TANESCO to rescue a total of 734m/- that was being annually used to cover for the



The 33/11 KV Kibongo Grid electricity receiving and Cooling Station at Kibondo.

cost of maintenance of the machines (generator) and procurement of needed diesel.

"In Kasulu, a total of 1.1bn/- was annually spent to finance maintenance of machines, whereby, at least 11.85n/- was for purchasing diesel," he added.

He said the development has proved that the government through the ministry of energy succeeded in practically implementing its pledge priority to prioritize the two regions of Kigoma and Kagera in a whole exercise to ensure more areas are connected to the National Grid system.

"On 2 June, 2022, energy minister January Makamba told the National Assembly that the parent ministry was working to implement diverse key power projects to speed up the pace of electricity generation, conveyance and distribution, among others, including a plan to connect to the National Grid the regions of Katavi, Kigoma and Kagera through Na-

tional Grid Stabilization Project," he informed.

Citing a vivid example, he unveiled, during his tour of Nyakanazi in July 2022, minister Makamba promised the residents that their area will be connected to the National Grid by October 2022, saying the pledge has successfully been made even before the framed time.

Giving more achievements so far attained by TANESCO, the company's spokesperson, Martin Mwambene, said TANESCO has completed with the construction of the 220 KV electricity conveyance line from Geita to Nyakanazi together with the inauguration of the Nyakanazi power receiving- cooling sub-station at capacity 220/33KV.

Serving tirelessly under the theme 'We Light Up Your Life', Mwambene further detailed that the company has also completed with the construction of the 33KV power conveyance line from Nyakanazi-Ka-

konko- purposeful for connecting the areas of Kakonko, Kibondo na Kasulu to the National Grid.

He expressed that completion of the vital projects (installation of the 33KV power line which connected to the National Grid) within the districts was prudent to help improve electricity services among the Tanzanians living in the newly connected areas, especially in stimulating different economic activities.

"With access and accessibility to reliable high-voltage power from the National Grid, the residents within Nyakanazi, Biharamulo, Kakonko, Kibondo and Ngara in Kigoma and Kagera regions will now be able to effectively engage in diverse income generating projects," he observed.

"Moreover, we have successfully managed also to complete with construction works of 33KV and 400 KV power conveyance lines within Geita and Kigoma regions," he added, saying the excelling company was now continuing with effective efforts to complete construction of a 33KV power line to Kasulu district and Kigoma municipality, the vital project that has been set for completion by the end of 2013.

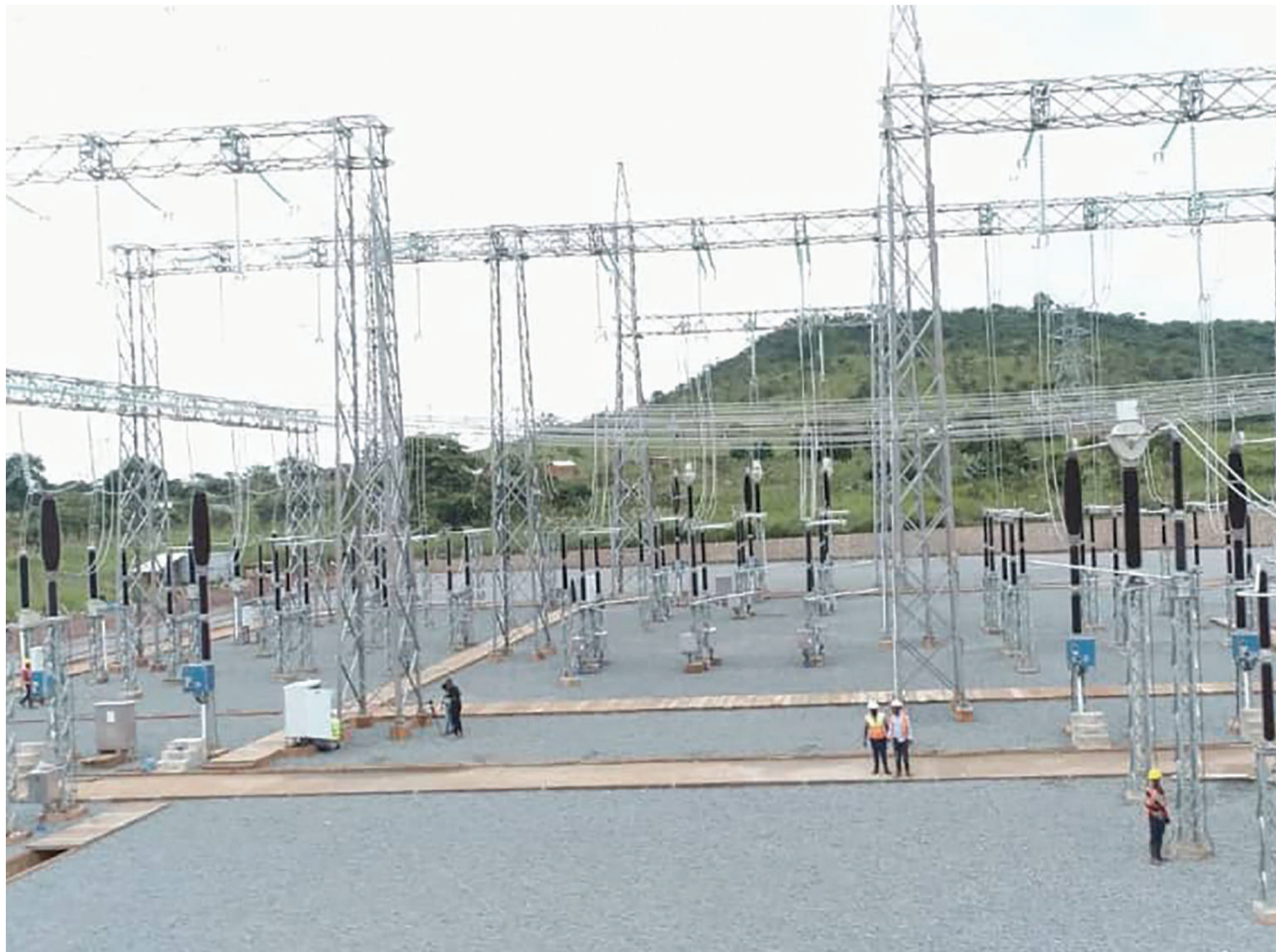
Impeccable statistics depict that electricity demand in Tanzania is expected to rise from 10,176 Gigawatt hours (GWh) this year to at least 28,663 GWh in 2030, the growth which represents a 13.82 per cent compound annual growth rate (CAGR), in order to meet the rising demand, TANESCO is currently working successfully to add-up to 9,000 MW of new generation capacity by 2030.

However, demand for electricity in Tanzania is estimated to be growing at an average of between 10 and 15 per cent per year, and with currently only 24 per cent of the total population having access to electricity, TANESCO is eyeing to increase the country's electricity generation capacity from currently 1,695MW to the tune of 5,000 MW come 2025.

According to TANESCO's Managing Director, Maharage Chande, other projects on the pipeline include an extension of Kinyerezi I Gas Power Plant with MW185, at a cost of 35bn/-, Rusumo Hydroelectric Project -MW27 (9.94bn/-), the 222MW's Rumakali hydropower in Njombe and the Malagarasi Hydro-power Plant, to generate 49.5 MW, to mention but a few.

"Other ongoing projects that will in a near future expected to play a meaningful role in help increase availability of electricity include a project for the construction of a conveyance infrastructure of 400 KV high voltage electricity from Singida - Arusha - Namanga, similarly, from Mbeya- Tunduma," the minister unveiled.

Minister Makamba informed that construction of the 400 KV high voltage power lines was in line with efforts to connect Tanzania with neighbouring countries, a strategic development which aims to enable the country to engage in electricity business with the surrounding countries in the future.



The 220/33 KV Msongo Grid electricity receiving and Cooling Station at Nyakanazi



[tanESCO\\_official\\_page](#)



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## World Maritime Day concerns us all in resources, seafarers or crime

VARIOUS international organisations and diplomatic missions have extended messages over social media to those they interact with, in view of the World Maritime Day that is globally marked on September 22. The World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) social media page had cables from local activists, one saying they hope to work with WWF as Tanzania has the same tremendous shared dreams for the conservation of natural resources. There is also a captivating gender angle.

The theme for this year's commemoration is "Empowering Women in the 'Maritime Community,'" where the relevant civil society organisation activist, says "@WWF, our partnership with Beach Management Units (BMU's) has tremendously contributed to increased women participation, representation and benefiting from marine resources," elaborating, "Together we conserve our maritime resources." That is an illustration of what world days mean, creating a forum where such hopes and expectations can be expressed for a wider forum.

There is also interactive activity tied to the British diplomatic mission in the country, where the messaging was linked with other organisations and focused on controlling maritime criminal activities. In an entry, @UK in Tanzania noted that "today is @UN Maritime Day, an occasion to recall the UK's contribution at sea in Tanzania," highlighting links with the Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) as well as the United States Africa Command, a branch of the US foreign-based military units helping the country's security organisations check maritime crime. Sometimes we hear of these links but they aren't too open or publicized.

Aside from the diplomatic mission there was also a cable from the National Crime Agency, explained as a national

law enforcement agency in the UK in the fight against organised crime and its distinct parts. These are chiefly the trafficking of humans, weapon and intoxicating drugs, and these days there is cybercrime; as well as money laundering.

The latter is increasingly tied up with cybercrime and fraud, as bleaching earnings from the trafficking of drugs in particular is a criminal specialized activity. It is such sophisticated crime networks that call for statutory links among law enforcement agencies, and the World Maritime Day is a moment of gathering as it were, around a fire, for an intense chat and comparing of notes.

A non-negligible aspect of the day is the working class and sea professional side of the matter; social media had remarks from the 'Union for the Mediterranean,' a union of seafarers apparently based in Southern Europe.

Traditionally this is the more noticeable of seafaring nations as the life of those nations is intimately linked with the world's most travelled sea, with dozens of countries dependent on its shores, substantially.

"The UFM joins the international community's efforts to spotlight seafarers' crucial role in the global trade and economy, as Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future" was the theme for last year's commemoration.

It says that their exceptional contribution, while facing unprecedented hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ensures the functioning of supply chains and the transport of vital commodities and products. Many seafarers were infected while battling at sea to keep the world supplied, and at times, safe. "Indeed, keeping supply chains open at all times, ensuring a continuous flow of maritime trade, while safeguarding health, safety and well-being of the maritime transport community, is essential for deeper regional integration and greater prosperity."

## Levy cut mood shows Treasury was too dependent on the tax

FOLLOWING a presidential directive and explicit CCM central committee intervention, to make the political position audible and clear, the Treasury has finally announced cuts on levies in money transactions. It removed inter-bank transaction levies as well as teller based transactions, that is, conducted directly at a bank or with a bank agent, retaining a levy on most withdrawals from automatic teller machines (ATMs). In actual fact there is no premise even for retaining the ATM aspect as whatever earnings are being accessed there, they are already taxed.

As a matter of fact the levy had initially appeared to take the image of excise tax, that is, the government earns something by using a phone to transfer money, but it ought to be absolutely minimal, not a tax on earning. That accessing money at an ATM may incur a levy is like taxing someone for taking money out of his pocket, which is hard to defend. But for the moment that will just be a facet of the debate.

In his remarks to MPs, the Finance minister admitted that there was duplication of taxable fiscal operations, qualifying the levy as "an unnecessary and costly burden in the process of establishing an alternative source of government revenue." Yet it appears that even bank transactions per se remain an alternative source of revenue that could not be put aside. The measures announced clearly sought to alleviate pressure on banks from their merchant clients, but retained 'double taxation' on workers, at source (upon their salaries) and then in accessing the pay at an ATM.

Exempting levy on ATM transactions not exceeding 30,000/- and placing a

sort of reduction on other levy charges was a sweetener to enabling MPs and the public to swallow that decision, and remove worries from banks as to what follows next. But it was easy to see that the minister's ideal situation would be to retain the levy as it stood earlier, citing the great contribution to public services. Expectations on sharp reduction in government spending to make up for the cuts in the levy aren't high.

The reason is that unless the top leadership actually comes up with a decision on such measures, the bureaucracy is incapable of pursuing such economies on their own, as they eat into their own expectations on a day to day basis. The minister vowed that from now the government will have to minimize disbursing funds meant for allowances, tea and seminars to direct them into development projects to fill the gaps emanating from the changes. That reference was emphatic to the core.

Outside such marginal expenditures the minister couldn't signal anything quite as substantial that could be economized in government expenditure. There are those who seek more ideas in that regard but as a matter of fact the best sphere where the government can raise big funds is to let go of the monopolies it has trouble finding people to run them efficiently or diligently.

Getting strategic investors for them and placing other shares on the stock exchange would cancel the growth of the national debt, which takes a third of government revenue, and it is rising. How about that not just as a point of departure but potential revolution in the balance of payments?

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## Lawmakers are eating the Liberia's wealth

By S. Karweaye

RECENTLY, the Liberian Senate passed the controversial pension and retirement bill for the legislature. Amid public outcry and condemnation that greeted the passage of the controversial pension and retirement bill, our Senators on September 8, 2022, made a dramatic U-turn to recall the instrument from the House of Representatives where it was sent for their concurrence as per legislative proceedings to reopen a new debate taking into account the existing pension and retirement scheme in force and the prevailing economic reality in the country.

The bill titled "An Act Adopting An Integrated Pension and Benefits Scheme for certain categories of officials of an annuity of the Government of Liberia and to repeal and or amend certain portions of Title 19, Legislative Act, Title 12, Executive Law of Liberia and Title 17, the Judiciary Law(1972) as amended 2003, was crafted to give bumper retirement and pension packages to top echelons in the three branches of government including members of the national legislature, and some other judges of selected categories of courts within the judiciary, etc. The bill proposed in clear terms what each of the top officials in the government will receive upon leaving public service and being in private life without any other form of employment will receive salaries and will continue to receive the benefits throughout their lives until death and in case of the death, their surviving spouses and or children will receive benefits until they are 21 years of age.

Why must taxpayers give the legislature and other bodies lifetime pensions? When public office holders enjoyed more than enough from the lean public purse. Readers of this article will agree that this is the most self-centered provision for people who have been benefiting from the public fund to continue now permanently to burden Liberia. This is at the expense of the deteriorating economy, lack of commensurate wages for hardworking Liberians, and also the expense of social services Liberians should be enjoying. These people should fear God and be fair to Liberia. Elective positions are meant to serve the people as seen in other countries, but in Liberia, it is seen as an avenue to milk Liberians dry.

This is unfair! Does our legislature know if this will increase the cost of governance? It will likely consume a huge amount of money and increase the cost of governance and an increase in the cost of governance will likely lead to deficit spending for the country. All of these are recurrent expenditures.



Liberian parliamentary building

If we look at the pension system in Liberia, some pensioners (teachers, health workers, police, immigration officers, military personnel, etc.) who have given a lot to public service and contributed a lot in terms of their pension are not able to get their pension when due. Yet, the lawmakers instead of coming to the aid of these people are pursuing life pensions for themselves. Liberia's democracy is not the government of the people for the people by the people. It is the government of the politician for the politician and by the politician.

In September 2019, a Liberian Senator, Darius Dillion told a press conference on Capitol Hill that each senator makes a gross salary of US\$15,325 plus LD29,700 as basic salary with US\$3,175 for transportation reimbursement. Additionally, he said each senator makes US\$2,150 cash for gasoline, concluding that each of them walks away with about US\$12,000 after tax deductions. While a Liberian Senator earned US\$183,900 gross salary the American Senator, for instance, only earns 174,000 annually (including bonuses).

The controversy that Dillion's disclosure generated only lasted a short while despite the clear absurdity surrounding the monetary compensation of lawmakers. Since it has gone unaddressed for a long time, many lawmakers are notorious for splashing these monies on political campaigns, which has become unhealthy in the country. It has given a convenient room for excess waste in government and deadly politics of interest. But until the procedures for electing lawmakers are changed, bad outcomes like electoral violence, corruption, and maladministration will continue to cripple Liberia's democracy.

### The Inappropriate Campaign Spendings

Liberian politicians especially those in government spend heavily on

political campaigns. Most-if not all of these campaigns-do not entail feasible manifestos that would address critical issues facing the electorates. Instead, they are fronts for slanderous shaming of opposition candidates and their parties. They go all out lavishing money on bribing local leaders and influential electorates and believe there will be enough resources for them to recoup when in office. For these politicians, it's a financial investment.

Even as Article 8.3 of the NEC campaign Finance regulations (2016) states that "political parties and candidates shall not utilize public resources for campaign activities and shall not receive any contribution resulting from an abuse of state resources," Candidates in government or from the ruling party typically utilize public resources for campaign activities. There has not been appropriate sanctioning of violators and neither has the National Election Commission (NEC) created realistic measures to check this violation which is sharply linked to electoral violence.

### Public Looting

When elected, these lawmakers do not only go home with fat paychecks, but they have glorious opportunities to embezzle national resources at different committee levels because of the lack of transparency with which the House of Senate and the House of Representatives operate. They focus on personal interests above the interest of their constituents, and there is often little to zero oversight by the judiciary or executive on their financial activities.

This is why they go to any length necessary to get elected. Imagine in the 2020/2021 national budget, the national legislature appropriated US\$44.6 million to themselves including US\$3.6 million for the so-called Legislative Engagement Fund with Senator and Representative taking home US\$30,000 each. In the 2022 budget, the legislature appropriated US\$64.3

million to include US\$3.6 million for the so-called Legislative Engagement and Public Accessibility, purchase of new official vehicles (US\$4.6 million), operational expenses (US\$18.7 million), gas for vehicles (US\$3.1), and legislative committee hearings (US\$729,000). The number of allowances received differs across ranks, with the Speaker (US\$2 million), Deputy Speaker (US\$1.5 million), Senate Pro Tempore (US\$2.1 million), etc.

But Liberia must make political offices less attractive in the first place. Cutting the allowances and salaries of these lawmakers by half should be the first step. It will not only deter future aspirants from spending heavily on elections since it will now be difficult to recoup any monies from the public treasury, but it is a way of saving the government some money, too. Despite the desperation to retain power at all costs, Liberian lawmakers have now entrusted their political ambitions with looting the national coffer through budgetary allocation, kickbacks on committees, etc., and using ill-gotten wealth during the election period to sway voters.

The consequence of this, of course, is the massive looting of the public treasury after winning elections. This has created a chain of corruption that now seems unsolvable, especially as it is taking more dangerous roots in politics. This is why some are calling for an increment in registration fees for legislative and presidential candidates.

### Transparency Becomes Difficult

The Liberian Legislature has a lot of power to make laws to suit her personal interests. Where the executive does not cooperate according to Article 35(1), the Liberian constitution allows lawmakers to re-pass a bill rejected by the President and upon achieving a two-thirds majority, the House can pass such a bill into law. Despite calls to the National Legislature for more transparency, legislators have refused to allow any. If not for Senator Dillion's revelations, Liberians would only live in speculation of how much their elected representatives truly earn.

Honestly, Liberian legislators are less concerned with the cost they incur in public service even though about 2.3 million of the 5.3 million citizens live in extreme poverty. Monies that can be used to help fight economic hardship through infrastructural development, especially in education, health, housing, and agriculture, are squandered. Whereas, cutting the salaries of legislators could influence salary cuts for executive officeholders and civil servant level, too. If this happens, it will help Liberia fight corruption and the money saved from excessive pay can be diverted into infrastructure.



# Conflicts should finally lead us to lasting peace and not more battles

By Thomas Lyimo

OUR world is fantastically advanced yet astonishingly primitive. Its mind boggling that at a time when space tourism is the new normal and internet has turned the world into a digital village, humans cannot resolve conflicts on the negotiating table.

Savages of the pre-enlightenment period used spears, arrows, machetes, snake poisons and the like to kill one another. We now use modern artillery, shells, machine guns, poison gas, tanks, aircraft and drones to mention but a few. What we have in common with savages is that we kill one another.

There are conflicts—big or small—in almost every corner of the planet earth. Millions are displaced. International laws are disregarded with impunity as criminal and terrorist networks profit from the division and violence. Women and children live in filthy conditions within refugee and transit camps.

People running away from conflicts and poverty take dangerous journeys in the attempts to reach worldly promised lands. Many die in the jungle or when boats capsize. Human trafficking is booming and traffickers make a killing.

The reasons for the outbreak of conflicts range from territorial disputes and regional tensions, to corruption, scramble for resources, bad geopolitics and climate change. But the mother of them all is failure to talk things out due to hegemony and ego.

One of the manifestations of wellbeing is presence of peace. The reality is that most of us hate conflicts and love peace. Another reality is that there must be an effort to be applied in order to attain peace which is considered a crown in a society or country.

Wondering is good as it stimulates more thinking. Our today's wonder is that conflict may lead to peace. Yes, conflict leads to attainment of peace through three stages. The first stage is



understanding the problem. Conflict makes the society understand the interests of individuals who have come into collision.

In this stage, it becomes clear that those involved in a conflict have their likes and dislikes. Conflicts force people to search for the reasons which caused them in the first place. We cannot solve a problem which we don't understand. Therefore, a conflict itself prepares for the process of attaining peace.

The second stage is mediation. This is concerned with doing away with the differences which have led to misunderstandings. Here we need to know the demands of one another

in order to avoid collision of interests which is the major cause of conflicts among people in the society.

Mediation is possible after understanding who is right and who is wrong regarding a certain base of justification. The mediator needs to create environment that makes the accuser forgive the accused and the accused accept the faults and ask for forgiveness.

When we discern the needs of one another, we look forward to creating means of avoiding unnecessary misunderstandings which cost us in many aspects of life such as economy and hence preventing us from develop-

ing. The third stage is setting up social rules.

The social rules are a set of rights, duties and responsibilities for an individual in a particular society. When we set up social rules, we say or show that conflicts sparked due to lack of clear rules to govern our conducts.

The reasons for setting social rules is protecting rights of everybody and hence allowing people to interact peacefully. It is not enough not doing something but also doing something when we need to maintain peace. We should have dos and don'ts. Social rules pave way for the rise of judicial systems

which administer justice which is necessary for peace.

The assessment of conflicts can be done by drawing examples which are real. One of those instances is when in recent years the Kenyan government restricted the Tanzanian tour operators from taking visitors directly from the Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi. The government of Tanzania reacted by reducing flights by Kenya Airways landing in the country.

After feeling the pinch, the Kenyan government extended the olive branch, calling for mediation and eventually the situation was resolved, allowing the smooth operation of economic activities. As I said earlier, it takes an initiative to attain peace.

This conflict between Tanzania and Kenya helped to reveal interests of both sides. Conflict occurs when one's pursuits seem to be neglecting others'. It is important to compete in life but with consideration of others' interests so as to enhance mutual intelligibility and cooperation.

Libya, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, Northern Mozambique, Ethiopia, and Cameroon's north-west and south-west regions are African conflict hotbeds. There is also the never-ending tensions in the eastern Democratic of the Congo.

The war in Afghanistan is officially over but the peace is not yet back. There are territorial disputes in the South China Sea as well as the East China Sea then come the tensions between the two Koreas, conflict between India and Pakistan, instability in Myanmar and the mother of them all: the raging war between Russia and Ukraine.

One lesson the Covid-19 pandemic taught humanity is that no-one is safe until we are all safe. We must sort out the mismatch between our amazing intellect manifested in inventions and wanting conflict resolution abilities.

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UNITED NATION

## UN agencies call to commit to transforming education in crises

Refugee youth advocate, Mary Maker, called on UN member states to honor their commitments to transform education from the foundation up to the top, starting with those living in the direst and fraught circumstances.

Maker, a South Sudanese refugee who fled her country and found hope while attending a school in Kukuma Refugee Camp in Kenya, chaired a session called "Education in Crisis Situations - A Partnership for Transformative Actions for Learners" on the final day of the Transforming Education Summit (TES).

The session focused on education and learning in crises and the forced displacement that often results from these situations.

"I am really excited about this session because this is my story. This is the story of so many other refugees," Maker, who also supports the UNHCR, said. "And as we've conversed over the last few days, I hope that this Call to Action becomes actually something we can implement after this session."

She spoke on the significance of the session, "given the increased displacement around the world, and the added need for collective effort to transform the provision and financing of quality education."

Member states affirmed their commitment to transforming education on the third and final day of the Transforming Education Summit. The TES Leaders Day, September 19, was dedicated to the Heads of State and Government to present their National State of Commitment to the summit's goals in Leader Roundtables. Concurrently, thematic sessions were hosted with



Mary Maker chairing a session on "Education in Crisis Situations - A Partnership for Transformative Actions for Learners" on the final day of the Transforming Education Summit. Credit: UN

the intent of cross-cutting priorities for transforming education and reaffirming commitments and plans for action from multiple stakeholders, including world governments, UN partners, and civil society organizations.

The session launched "Education in Crisis: A Call to Action," a commitment to transform education systems so that they can prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from crises and so that all crisis-affected children have access to continuous, inclusive, and safe learning opportunities. The Call to Action asks countries, multilateral organi-

zations, civil society groups, and education partners to work toward the agreement by improving education access and learning outcomes in equality and inclusivity; protecting and improving external financing; working together to build resilient education systems in the spirit of international cooperation; to scale and mainstream high-impact and evidence-based interventions into policy and programme efforts.

"This Commitment to Action is the result of extensive consultations with over 45 crisis-affected countries from five continents, more than 100

civil society organizations, as well as other stakeholders, including youth," Estefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General UNESCO, said.

UN agencies, represented by its leaders, emphasized the urgency of education in crisis. Filippo Grandi, High-Commissioner of UNHCR, spoke on the impact of compounding crises, such as climate change, famine, and armed conflict.

"Across all these underlying aspects of crises, forces of crises, you have forced displacement," he said. "People flee or are obliged to flee their homes because there is fight-

ing. They're obliged to flee their homes because there is hunger, and they are now increasingly obliged to flee their homes because of climate change. More importantly, all these factors are interlinked."

He added, "And all these faces of crisis are multipliers for vulnerability...These challenges, or crises as we should see them, challenge education." Due to ongoing crises, climate-induced disasters, and forced displacement, 222 million children and youth have experienced disruptions to their education, affecting their learning access or continuity. "We have reached a histori-

cal - a sad historical - number of forcibly displaced peoples, the highest number of peoples since World War II," said Yasmine Sherif, Executive Director of Education Cannot Wait (ECW), during a panel discussion.

"Despite the enormity of this challenge, we have to reach every one of these, and we have to make sure they have foundational learning," said Catherine Russell, Executive Director of UNICEF.

Appealing directly to Heads of State and Government, Russell asked them to prioritize education, especially its ac-

cess during times of crisis. "We need your help to deliver domestic and humanitarian funds to education. We need you to help prevent or stop attacks on education. We need your commitment to build resilient education systems so that they can withstand the future shocks that we know for sure are coming. And we need your commitment to safeguard education for the most vulnerable children."

Member states represented in the session, including Qatar, Ecuador, South Sudan, Pakistan, Norway, Switzerland, the European Commission, and the State of Palestine, affirmed their support of the Commitment to Action, and shared their states' implementations toward improving access to education.

"We know that education systems must be resilient enough to prevent, prepare, repel, and recover from armed conflict. Our Call to Action will hopefully do that," said Virginia Gamba, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, as she closed the spotlight session.

"The alignment between national priorities and international commitments is critical to making education systems more resilient and can ensure the protection of children and their rights, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child."

This spirit of international cooperation across multiple stakeholders will indeed be critical to transforming education on a fundamental level. In the global conversation, this will be revisited with the ECW High-Level Financing Conference, slated for 16 and 17 February 2023. The conference will take place in Geneva, with co-conveners South Sudan, Niger, Germany, and Norway.

# Refugees most vulnerable in ongoing food insecurity crisis - UN

UNITED NATIONS

Representatives from UN agencies and several countries called for more substantive action to support refugees and internally displaced people amid the ongoing global food crisis.

Co-hosted by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations, a panel discussion held on September 14, 2022, also explored innovative solutions to combat the food shortage and increase the capacity of refugees. It came ahead of a UN Security Council meeting on the global food crisis and protection.

Food insecurity has become an enormous problem. In 2019, WFP estimated that 145 million people were facing acute food insecurity. Now the organization predicts 345 million people are facing insecurity. The combination of climate change shocks, COVID-19, and conflict has pushed several countries, such as Somalia, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Yemen, to a very real risk of famine.

Action on food insecurity today is "more important than ever", Valerie Guarnieri, WFP Assistant Executive Director, said during the panel session.

Among those particularly vulnerable to the negative impacts of food insecurity are refugees and internally displaced people.

Raouf Mazou, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Operations and moderator of the event, explained that the increased vulnerability of refugees is primarily to the nature of displacement and the loss of community safety networks that accompany it.

When fleeing many refugees sell or are forced to leave behind their assets their journey to safety is often full of dangers. Family and community support systems breakdown. They usually lose their income and often find themselves with no option but to employ harmful strategies as coping mechanisms.

Coping mechanisms refer to tactics a family or community employs to compensate for a loss in income. In response to COVID-19 lockdowns, UNHCR reported instances of transactional sex, early marriage, child recruitment, and trafficking in person across its operations.

For Mazou, these challenges point to a need to center protection in efforts to address food security by governments and NGOs.

Special attention must also be paid to the specific plights of women and girls, he argued. In searching for food, displaced women and girls are at an increased risk of sexual violence, intimate partner violence, and child and forced marriages.

In Somali regions affected by drought, gender-based violence has gone up 200 percent since 2021, Mazaou noted. He pointed to several factors that may lead to violence when a community is facing food insecurity.

"Food insecurity increases the risk of violence, neglect and exploitation and abuse



Two refugees identified as Muhindo and his wife Harriet are among the new waves of people leaving the Democratic Republic of Congo following inter-communal clashes in South-West DRC. UN agencies have called for substantive action on refugees, especially regarding food security. Credit: UNHCR

of children. Girls may drop out of school at a higher percentage rate than boys when families are unable to afford school fees for all their children. Household sent children in search of food work on pasture for livestock exposing them to increased

risks." The food crisis is also affecting the ability of host countries to provide for refugees. Ethiopia, the third largest refugee-hosting country in Africa, is on the brink of famine. The country is reck-

oning with the historic drought hitting the Horn of Africa region, which is severely threatening its food networks. Yoseph Kassaye, Deputy Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the UN, underscored the crisis and

its strain on the nation's ability to protect refugees.

The drought has wiped away important nutrition sources that refugees rely on, such as cattle and water wells. Kassaye explained that the lack of natural resources means refugees can only rely on humanitarian assistance.

Yet, this is also at risk. As a result of funding constraints, in June, the WFP had to reduce its rations for refugees in Ethiopia by 50 percent.

"It is indeed troubling to learn that the level of support by international humanitarian agencies is reported to have decreased due to the funding shortages. In our view, urgent measures are needed if we're to respond to the people in need of assistance in a timely and effective manner," Kassaye said.

Citing related statistics, Guarnieri emphasized the importance of more humanitarian aid. But, she also underscored initiatives that increased the capacity of refugee populations and host countries.

"We have to do everything as WFP and UNHCR, as an international community to meet these urgent food needs and these desperate protection needs, but we're never going to be able to catch up with the situation unless we are also investing in building the resilience in supporting the livelihoods and strengthening the self-reliance of populations who have forcibly displaced population who are seeking refuge in other countries."

She also stressed the power of collaboration across sectors. One example of this was the WFP-UNHCR's Joint Hub, a collaboration between agencies and governments to support refugees through innovative solutions and policies.

Established in 2020, the hub has worked on several projects. One with the Government of Mauritania resulted in Malian refugees being included in its national social protection plan—making refugees eligible for cash transfer funds for vulnerable households.

Dorte Verner, the lead agricultural economist in the

Agricultural and Food Global Practice with the World Bank, brought up another innovative solution to boost food production: insect farming.

According to Verner, insect farming has enormous potential for tackling food insecurity in vulnerable communities as it requires no arable land and very little water and will not lead to any biodiversity loss. These characteristics mean it can even be practiced in refugee camps, Verner stated.

"Insert farming can provide displaced people with the skills that they need to produce where they are, and they can take these skills to human capital with them to where they go afterward. [It] can contribute to alleviating the world's food and nutrition insecurity for forcibly displaced people and the host community."

Closing the meeting, participants coalesced around the need to leverage the commitments being made to meaningfully tackle food insecurity.

Several participants also noted the opportunity to continue the conversation at the Security Council meeting to be held later that afternoon, where more concrete action on food insecurity could be examined.

A representative from Ireland stated that overall action from the Security Council was needed to meaningfully tackle the issue at its core.

"If we don't look at what's driving these prices in the first place, what's driving this insecurity in the first place? Then, you know, we're going to be chasing our tails all the time because the problems are getting worse."

He called for the Security Council to address the matter further.

"[The humanitarian] part of the UN system is playing its part, but the UN Security Council needs to play its part as well. That means responding early when we see the signs of crises coming, but it also means responding, particularly to protect civilians, and crises and meeting to make sure that things are put at the center of our response."



Yoseph Kassaye, Deputy Permanent Representative of Ethiopia, and Raouf Mazou, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Operations at the UN Headquarters in New York City. Credit: Juliet Morrison/IPS

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



BMF director Janeth John Kiko counsels girls who use their handsets unproductively during a forum in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo: Courtesy of BMF.

# Use talents to attain your goals, young Tanzanian girls advised

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

YOUNG girls have been urged to use their talents and time productively as they represent a tremendous potential development of human capital to a nation.

Janeth Kiko, Binti Makini Foundation (BMF) director made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during Fire side chat forum that brought together students several universities including the University of Dar es Salaam, Ardhi University, Dodoma University, Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy, and MUHAS University, Secondary and Primary schools students.

Kiko said that both her Organisation and Msichana Initiative organisation have joined hands in order to educate the youth, especially girls who are still studying and those who are out of school, on all matters concerning safe reproductive health rights, life skills and how they can utilise opportunities at their disposal instead of staying idle after completion of their studies while waiting for employments which are scarce.

She said that statistics have indicated that each year around 700,000 graduates enter the job market, but only few are employed.

So, Binti Makini Foundation's intervention is to see girls' discover their potential, dream, achieve a fulfilling future and defeat all gender barriers.

They are educating them about life skills, on how they use their skills and talents to create self-employment and even employ others. Binti Makini also educates these girls on how they have safe sexual and reproductive health rights, as a way to avoid getting deadly disease like HIV/AIDS and the like. How to avoid untimely deaths caused by unsafe abortion and unexpected pregnancies.

They also empower them with leadership skills and courage to resist

gender-based violence.

Kiko counseled girls not to spend most of their productive time on unnecessary things like chatting on mobile handsets and social media. Instead she urged them to spend their time productively.

"Use your handsets as an asset and precious time to generate income that will change your living standards," she urged.

She has advised them to use the little they earn to make important matters that will help them in future. "Put priorities in your life."

Msichana Initiative Organisation's administrative officer and forum co-

**“Use your handsets as an asset and precious time to generate income that will change your living standards,**

organizer, Agness Tillya concurred with her fellow of Binti Makini, saying the main objective of organizing and meeting youth from universities and outside universities was to familiarise and know each other. It also meant to learn from them their dreams, and the challenges facing them and how they are struggling to address them.

"We gathered these girls and some boys here at Ardhi University so as to educate them about life skills while at school/college."

Msichana Initiative, as to its vision, wants to see a Tanzanian society where the rights of girls are safeguarded and they enjoy recognition, dignity and excel to their full potential. They are reminding girls they have key roles in advocating for reforms

of discriminatory legal frameworks and enforcement of gender-sensitive approaches through engaging girls, community and relevant stakeholders.

Msichana Initiative's core values include: Integrity, professionalism, accountability, inclusion, partnership and teamwork.

Students' organisation at the Muhimbili University of Health Science and Allied Science (MUASSO)'s president Erick Ndaguzwa said that commended the organisers for that crucial forum for the youth.

He said: "Life skills are vital for youth for them to change their living standards", adding: "Financial freedom and mental health are vital factors of social excellence. If you are financially poor you are prone to be contracted HIV/AIDS and other social challenges. If you don't have money you will never live your dreams."

Yohana Matiko, a student at Ardhi University said that many graduates get difficulties in securing jobs because of a lack of practical, innovative skills.

So, he has called upon the government to reinstate life skills in the form of practical so as to capacitate the youth with life skills and other skills that can help them move from one step to another.

"Government needs to put in place policies that would help the youth reach their goals smoothly through utilising their life skills."

Sylvia Sostenes, Managing Director of Thamani Yangu Initiative Organisation advised the youth that if they wanted to attain their goals and live their dreams, they have to properly manage their time and plans.

She urged them to prioritize whatever they are doing; need to live within their budgets and have self-assessment at the end of the year to see where they succeed and improve where they failed. "Learn to be your own way, don't copy from anybody else," she urged, counseling the youth to know their positions in life.



## Vacancy Announcement

### ASA MICROFINANCE TANZANIA LIMITED Creating Hope, Changing Fortunes.

ASA Microfinance Tanzania Limited, incorporated under the Companies Act 2002 (No. 93819) of Tanzania and an affiliate of ASA International (www.asa-international.com), one of the largest microfinance companies in the world. We are hereby inviting qualified citizens of Tanzania to be part of our team for the following positions. ASA Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer who requires dynamic, loyal and committed young men and women who have passion for people's socio-economic development to fill in the following positions for immediate appointment.

#### Position: Chief Finance Officer (CFO) - 01 Post

##### Job Responsibilities:

- Oversee the monthly, quarterly and annual financial statement preparation and analysis and ensure the financial statements are prepared in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles and company policies.
- Provide advice and counsel to direct reports, senior managers and others relating to broad scope of responsibilities noted above. Provides financial analysis to a wide range of assignments, often under tight deadlines, to support numerous business processes and initiatives.
- Ensure the company-wide implementation of superior accounting, financial reporting and financial processes and internal controls. This includes developing appropriate processes, procedures and tools to ensure that deficiencies are identified and corrected in a timely fashion.
- Evaluate on an ongoing basis the accounting system, so that it reflects an accurate assessment of the operating revenues and expenses of the organization.
- Ensure compliance with all Federal / Government regulations, including taxation.
- Evaluate on an ongoing basis the purchasing system in coordination with department heads so that acceptable controls, approvals and time frames are responsive to the requirements of the organization and generally accepted accounting principles.
- Serve as a key member of the senior leadership team providing leadership and input to management peers regarding the financial implications of all major business decisions.
- Manages annual operating and capital budget process, through review with senior management and Board. Assists with the annual business planning process.
- Directs insurance portfolio for all property and casualty insurance, workers compensation, employee health and welfare benefit programs, player disability and contract guarantee insurance, etc.
- Manage relationships with bankers, auditors and league officials, as appropriate.
- Responsible for cash management system, including daily cash management and cash forecasting.
- Other duties as assigned.

##### Academic Qualification & Experience Requirements:

- Minimum bachelor's degree in accounting, Finance, or related subjects.
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA-T) is a MUST.
- MS/MBA will be an added advantage.
- Minimum 7 years professional experiences as CFO or relevant role is a MUST.
- Preferably Experience in working with NGOs/Financial Institutions/Banks/Consultancy firm.
- In depth knowledge of corporate financial law and risk management practices.
- Excellent knowledge of data analysis and forecasting methods.
- Proficient in the use of MS Office and financial management software (e.g., SAP).
- Ability to strategize and solve problems.
- Strong leadership and organizational skills.
- An analytical mind, comfortable with numbers.

#### Position: Microfinance Operations Manager - 05 Posts

##### Job Responsibilities:

- Monitoring and supervising microfinance operations.
- Selecting new working area for branch set up.
- Managing group as per company policy and making regular visit to groups.
- Preparing necessary report on operations and put necessary recommendation for further development.
- Managing fund for branch and use fund properly.
- Taking necessary action to train up and develop staff.
- Visit the Branch Offices to ascertain uniformity of their systems and controls with those of HQ.
- Report to the supervisor and upon authorization implement changes within the mission where non-compliance is evident.
- Perform physical checking to ensure that all HQ generated policies and procedures are followed and in compliance.
- Prepare detail monthly reports highlighting the internal control strengths/weaknesses and comments/ recommendations on operational improvements. Submit the report and related work file to supervisor for reviewing.
- Assist management in arranging training/workshop for the staff regarding audit and rules & regulations issues.
- Send regular report to the respective department on time and perform other duties as assigned, like investigations, spot checks, special review works etc.

##### Academic Qualification & Experience Requirements:

- Minimum bachelor's degree in Any field.
- Master's degree is an Added Advantage.
- Minimum 10 years professional experiences in relevant field.
- Preferably Experience in working with NGOs/Financial Institutions/Banks/Consultancy firm.
- Well conversant with Ms Office Package, Excel.

#### Position: Information Security Engineer (ISE) - 01 Post

##### Job Responsibilities:

- Work as a core member of Security Operation Center (SOC) and monitor and continuously optimize and maintain the configuration of security tools and ensure data feeds are continually available and trustworthy.
- Provide dedicated monitoring and analysis of cyber security events using a variety of tools and techniques to investigate, navigate, correlate and understand security incidents to Incident response (IR).
- Analyze and detect security threats using threat intelligence-based detection, user and attacker behavior analysis.
- Data mining of log sources to uncover and investigate the anomalous activity, along with related items of interest. Tuning of rules, filters, data feeds and policies for detection-related security technologies to improve accuracy and visibility.
- Processes security incident communications to include initial reporting, follow-ups, requests for information and resolution activity. Provide threat and vulnerability analysis as well as security advisory services.
- Analyze and respond to previously undisclosed software and hardware vulnerabilities.
- Investigate, document, and report on information security issues and emerging trends.
- Create a program development plan that includes security gap assessments, policies, procedures, standards, training and tabletop testing.
- Collaborating with management and the IT department to improve security.
- Documenting any security breaches and assessing their damage.

##### Academic Qualifications & Experience Requirements:

- BSc/MSc degree in Computer Science, Information Security, Cyber Security, or IT related fields is required.
- Professional Information Security Certification like CEH, ECSSA, LPT, OSCP, CCNA Security, CompTIA Security+ will be preferable.
- Minimum 3/5 years of Working experience in Information Security on incident monitoring and detection.
- Solid knowledge of various information security frameworks.
- Technical knowledge on Security Information and Event Management (SIEM), SQL, TCP/IP, computer networking, routing and switching, Programming languages, IDS/IPS, penetration and vulnerability testing, Forensics, Firewall and intrusion detection/prevention protocols, Windows, UNIX and Linux operating systems, Network protocols and packet analysis tools, Next-Gen AV, DLP, Email, Storage, Syslog, Windows Server, Identity Access Management.
- Prior experience detecting, analyzing, and/or responding to security incidents.
- Understanding of common security threats, attack vectors, vulnerabilities and exploits.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills. Self-starter, Works well in a team environment and independently and adjust to changing priorities, critical and strategic thinker, negotiator and consensus builder.
- Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills.

#### Position: Network Engineer - 01 Post

##### Job Responsibilities:

- Maintaining computer networks and systems including Servers, Routers, Switch, Firewall and other devices.
- Installing and configuring Network equipment to update or fix hardware or software issues.
- Updating virus protection software to keep data and communications protected.
- Monitoring computer systems to improve network performance for computer systems and networks.
- Fixing software and hardware configuration issues for users on-demand or from inspection of the systems.
- Identifying and solving any problems that arise with Computer Networks and Systems.
- Consulting with staffs to specify system requirements and design solutions.
- Budgeting and Billing for IT Infrastructure.
- Assembling new systems.
- Maintaining existing software and hardware and upgrading any that have become obsolete.
- Monitoring computer networks and systems to identify how performance can be improved.
- Communicate with vendor personnel for support relate issues.
- Monitor all operations and infrastructure.

##### Academic Qualification & Experience Requirements:

- BSc/MSc degree in Computer Science, EEE or IT related fields is required.
- Professional Certification like CCNA, CCNP, Microsoft 365, Azure Cloud, Windows and Linux Server Administration will be preferable.
- Minimum 3/5 years of Working experience in IT related fields is required.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills. Self-starter, Works well in a team environment and independently and adjust to changing priorities, critical and strategic thinker, negotiator and consensus builder.
- Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills.

#### Position: Loan Officers (LO's) - 100 Posts

##### Job Responsibilities:

- To build and maintain a substantial and high-quality loan portfolio.
- To conduct members recruitment and screening.
- To orient clients to the particular loan products and services.
- To make groups in all working days in a week, minimum Total clients will be 350.
- To process loan applications, verify client's income generating activities (IGA) and other related.
- Collect instalments from the clients in groups on regular basis and on time.
- To manage loan disbursements and monitor & collect loan repayments.
- Verify client's Guarantor's house and other necessary documents.
- To provide quality and good customer service to clients.
- To accomplish day by day activities as required.
- To accomplish all the documentations for the day as required.

##### Academic Qualification & Experience Requirements:

- Diploma/ Advance Diploma/bachelor's degree/Masters.
- Experience is not required but will be an added advantage.
- Willing to work in field level.
- Willing to relocate.
- Ability to work independently at minimum supervision.
- Sensitive to operational risks, self-initiative and decisive with high standard of integrity.
- Ability to work efficiently in a team environment and to demonstrate good negotiation skills.
- Good oral and written communication skills.

**Remuneration:** Attractive salary package will be offered relating to competencies and experiences.

##### General Requirements for Applicants of All Posts.

- Application Letter.
- Curriculum Vitae enclosing details of Work experience, skills and with postal and telephone contacts of Three Referees.
- One passport size photograph attached in CV.

##### Mode of Application

Applicants who consider himself/herself competent with the above-mentioned position, please send your application to [recruitment@asatanzania.com](mailto:recruitment@asatanzania.com) Or you can drop your Application in Our Head Office at House No. 01, Plot No.87, Serengeti Street, Kinondoni Road, Dar es Salaam before 1700HRS on 30th September 2022.

Only short-listed candidate will be contacted for interview. No phone calls are allowed for inquiry. No allowances will be admissible for interview.

# Towards more secure future through effective multilateralism

STOCKHOLM

As world leaders gather in New York for the opening of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly this week, the security horizon is undoubtedly dark.

From the geopolitical shockwaves of the war in Ukraine, to military spending, nutrition and food security, to our stewardship of the planet, far too many key indicators are heading in a dangerous direction.

We can, and must, turn them around. In the words of UN Secretary-General António Guterres in his 2021 report Our Common Agenda, 'the choices we make, or fail to make, today could result in further breakdown, or a breakthrough to a greener, better, safer future'.

Making the right choices requires political will and leadership, based on the best available knowledge. That last aspect is SIPRI's stock in trade.

### A 'watershed moment'

The theme for the 77th General Assembly session is 'A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges'.

Evidence of these interlocking challenges is everywhere: the floods in Pakistan, war and insecurity afflicting every region of the world, the erosion of arms control and stagnation in disarmament, rising hunger, the economic and political turmoil that has followed the Covid-19 pandemic, and the list goes on.

These interlocking challenges share some common features. Their consequences, and often their drivers, do not respect borders or alliances. They are characterized by uncertainty and volatility. They tend to cut



across traditional policy domains.

This has a clear implication: the only realistic path towards a 'greener, better, safer future' on this planet lies through cooperation. Countries, societies and sectors must work together to meet global challenges, put aside tensions and political polarization, and restore their faith in institutions and the rules-based international order.

Earlier this year, Secretary-General Guterres invited me to become

co-Chair of his High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism, alongside Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate and former president of Liberia.

The Advisory Board's task is to come up with concrete suggestions for how to improve cooperation at the multilateral level, how we can ensure it is fit to meet the challenges of an unpredictable future and the urgently needed transition to more sustainable, peaceful societies. To

accomplish this mission, we will rely heavily on science and expertise.

### Addressing the crisis of the biosphere

SIPRI's Environment of Peace report explores the most dangerous sets of interlocking challenges we face: the complex and unpredictable ways that climate change and other environmental crises are intertwining with more human-centred aspects of security.

Besides providing policy insights, the Environment of Peace report documents the indirect pathways linking climate change impacts and insecurity, and the interactions between climate, conflict and food security, thus continuing SIPRI's contributions to working out how UN peace operations must adapt to climate change.

The biosphere crisis can only be successfully addressed through cooperation. Countries need to share green technologies and innovative solutions.

They need to agree on fair ways to share vital natural resources and settle disputes peacefully. There must be give and take; action in one society to mitigate impacts on another.

Countries also need to agree on fair ways to distribute the burdens, costs and benefits of a green transition. From South Asia to sub-Saharan Africa to Indigenous communities around the world, those most vulnerable to the impacts of the crisis of the biosphere are often those least responsible for causing it—something illustrated starkly most recently by the devastating floods in Pakistan.

There is a clear moral case for wealthier, industrialized countries to meet their climate finance commitments and to compensate the most affected countries for loss and damage. But there is also a strong security case for doing so. Localized insecurity can quickly spread.

### From national security to common security

A logical response to such threats to their shared interests would be for countries to put differences aside and pull together. Instead, they have, by and large, followed a path of division and militarization.

Even before Russia's invasion of Ukraine this year, that was clear. SIPRI data shows large increases in global military expenditure in the last two years, as well as in arms imports to Europe, East Asia and Oceania.

All of the nuclear-armed states are modernizing or expanding their arsenals. At the same time, we are also seeing rapid and radical developments in weapon systems, technologies and even ways of executing a conflict.

A new, expensive and risky arms race is well under way. There is an urgent need to breathe new life into nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control.

Disappointingly, the recent 10th Review Conference of the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) ended without agreement on the way forward. However, there were signs of hope.

The conference produced much to build on in the next five-year review cycle. Notably, all of the five NPT-recognized nuclear weapon states (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States) agree on the necessity of measures to reduce strategic risks.

These will be important steps. However, what is needed most of all is a shift away from the pursuit of security through military capa-

bility to investing in peace and common security. Once again, cooperation will be key.

### How evidence underpins cooperation

Successful cooperation needs to be underpinned by reliable, non-partisan information and analysis. As Secretary-General Guterres declares in Our Common Agenda: 'Now is the time to end the "infodemic" plaguing our world by defending a common, empirically backed consensus around facts, science and knowledge.'

The Secretary-General correctly characterizes 'facts, science and knowledge' as a public good that it is in everyone's interest to protect. They provide valuable common ground for discussion—even when trust between the parties is lacking.

They inform effective solutions. They make it possible to verify that others are following rules and living up to commitments. They give early warning of emerging challenges and imminent dangers.

The Environment of Peace report highlights the fact that risks and uncertainty lie not just in the external challenges we face, but also in the actions taken to address them in the transition towards sustainability.

This transition needs to happen at unprecedented scale and speed, using novel solutions in an environment of uncertainty. There will inevitably be setbacks, unintended, unanticipated consequences of well-intentioned policies.

There will also be resistance, parties who need convincing that the costs justify the benefits.

To keep the transition just and peaceful will demand communication, cooperation, trust and agility to deal with unexpected risks and change course quickly to avert them.

For this, we will need to produce and disseminate even more reliable and verified information. SIPRI will continue to be a resource in this regard.

### Opportunities for change

The UN General Assembly has a highly ambitious agenda for transformative change. The landmark Summit of the Future, scheduled for September 2024, has been billed as 'the moment to agree on concrete solutions to challenges that have emerged or grown since 2015'.

The COP27—the 27th Conference of the Parties to the 1992 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change—coming in November, and the much-postponed 15th Conference of the Parties of the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity in December are other important opportunities to reduce future security risks at the multilateral level.

However important intergovernmental forums like this are, the task of tackling our interconnected challenges is continuous and society-wide. Solutions need to come at the multilateral, national and sub-national levels.

And they need to engage a broad range of stakeholders, from youth to Indigenous Peoples to the private sector. Reliable information and expertise must be available to guide all of this.

I am both proud and daunted to be picking up the mantle of Chair of the SIPRI Governing Board as we confront these difficult challenges ahead.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 361 00--

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

3 LETTERS: ART, HUI, RIB  
 4 LETTERS: COST, TING, LEAD, TASS, STAR, ROME, UNII, (7 WORDS)  
 5 LETTERS: ASIDE, DOORS, TSARS, SKULL GRATE (5 WORDS)  
 6 LETTERS: ENDURE, ARREST, BEAGLE, SERENE ASSIGN (5 WORDS)  
 7 LETTERS: MEXICAN  
 8 LETTERS: HARANGUE  
 10 LETTERS: CALAMITIES

CLUES: Across  
 1 able to operate independently  
 5 a list of meals  
 7 a tripod frame used to support  
 8 an artist's canvas  
 8 Chief city of Jordan  
 10 the whole quantity  
 11 an inlet  
 13 group of musicians playing together  
 15 an enzyme which breaks down RNA into smaller molecules  
 17 afflicted  
 19 the chief male character in a book  
 20 the chemical element of atomic number 68

Down:  
 1 an unspecified amount  
 2 former monetary unit of India  
 3 a thing that is borrowed  
 4 an instrument for sewing  
 6 community of Muslims  
 7 festival of the Christian church celebrating the resurrection of Christ  
 9 unusual  
 12 ended, stopped  
 14 person who donates something  
 16 beard in Kiswahili  
 17 exclamation expressing triumph  
 18 a kind of rock in which metal is found

By Magezi: 0755429240 | fahmagazi@gmail.com

# RADIO One 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 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.30 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23.00 HRS WEEK END MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11.00 HRS TOP 20 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS NAANI ZAIDI 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTOMOTO 16.30 HRS BONGO TEN 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.15 HRS CHEMASHA BONGO 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS RAFIKI I 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS RAFIKI II 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	



Thursday 22 September 2022

## Why bank's fixed deposit the best way to opt

By Guardian Reporter

Banks' customers who want to earn maximize earnings from their deposited from commercial banks and financial institutions should opt for time deposits than regular savings deposits.

This is because regular savings depositors in banks are earning little interest rates, compared with those depositing their cash in specific period, both short and long, The Guardian has learnt.

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) monthly interest rate report shows normal savings depositors are earning interest rate of less than two percent, which is equivalent to less than 20 percent of the earnings by time depositors.

This means that, on average, a regular depositor is earning 16.1/- for each 1,000/- deposited in commercial banks account in one year time, compared with 75.6/- earned by a person who deposit similar amount as fixed.

BoT report shows in January 2020, savings deposits rate was as high as 7 percent, before fell to 2.16 percent in

June last year, while time deposit for one year was 10 percent and other period ranged between 7 and 9 percent.

The recent BoT reports also show depositors are also shifting from demand deposits to fixed deposits, as the growth of money supply (M1), composing of demand deposits, other liquid deposits—which includes savings deposits, grows less annually than broad money supply M2 and M3, which comprise the time deposits.

The BoT monthly economic review for August shows narrow money supply (M1), which comprise regular deposited cash grew by 4.7 percent in July this year from 12.2 percent in July last year.

On the other hands, according to the report, broad money supply, which comprise of Broad money (M3) and Broad money (M3), comprises of deposits with an agreed maturity of up to two years, grew annually by 9.7 percent and 7.9 percent respectively in July this year.

This comes in a time when large number of banks, both big and small, intensified on deposits mobilization campaigns to raise cheaper funds, by



A regular depositor is earning 16.1/- for each 1,000/- deposited in one year, compared with 75.6/- from fixed.

offering interest rates of up to 13 percent per annum with no charges.

Similar funds are also used to lend into different sectors of the economy, in both short and long terms, of which banks are earning up to double of the amount paid as interest to depositors.

As fixed interest rates being at

a maximum of 14 percent, banks are earning up to 26 percent of as interest when they lend such deposited cash to borrowers.

Some few selected banks which offer higher annual interest on fixed deposits include NMB Bank (13 percent), Absa (13 percent), DCB Bank (14 percent), BancABC

(11 percent), CRDB Bank (13 percent), Access Bank (14 percent) and Yetu Microfinance (13 percent).

BoT report shows overall regular savings deposit rate reached 1.61 percent in July this year, the highest in six months from 1.55 percent recorded in July last year.

The lowest interest during the period of one year ending July according to BoT report was on April this year, where banks were offering 1.41 percent and highest was on November 2021 as well as January and July this year which were 1.61 percent.

This is contrary with the overall time savings deposit which gained to 7.56 percent in July this year from 7.35 percent recorded in July last year.

The BoT report shows bank's deposits for one month fetched an interest rate of 7.56 percent, the

highest in one year, from 7.97 percent recorded in July last year.

The report shows, depositing cash for two months translates into an interest rate of 8.55 percent, the highest in 13 months, compared with 7.86 percent recorded in July last year.

Interest rate for three months fixed deposit increased to 8.05 percent from 7.48 percent respectively while for six months the rate increased to 8.15 percent from 8.06 percent in July last year.

Depositors for one year earned handsomely at a rate of 9.05 percent, the highest in 12 months, although was lower than 9.12 percent recorded in July last year, while for those depositing for two year earned 9.57 percent from 8.95 percent respectively.

## African Women Fund launches \$60mn commitment

JOHANNESBURG/ NEW YORK

The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Standard Bank Group, with the support of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), the Motor Industry Retirement Funds (MIRF) and Copartes Pension Fund and the African Union Commission (AUC), have announced the African Women Impact Fund (AWIF) Initiative's achievement of its first commitment of \$60 million.

The announcement was made at the inaugural The Global Africa Business Initiative, held from 18 - 19 September during the week of the United Nations General Assembly in New York City.

The existence of gendered stereotypes and racial biases in society has detrimental effects globally.

This holds true within the investment space where these prejudices obstruct female entrepreneurship, appointment of women in leadership roles, and empowerment of female fund managers.

Of the \$69.1 trillion of financial assets under management globally, less than 1.3 percent are managed by women and people of colour.

It is increasingly alarming that only 7 percent of private equity and venture capital funding is allocated to women-led businesses in emerging markets.



The AWIF Initiative's primary purpose is to overcome the systemic barriers and investor biases in the asset management industry, by enabling and promoting women-owned and women-led funds on the African continent.

The AWIF is an Initiative of the Economic Commission of Africa (ECA) together with its partners: UN Women, the Office of the Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security of the African Union Commission, and the African Women Leadership Network.

It has been established in collaboration with the Standard

Bank Group as lead sponsor, MIDA Advisors as key strategic advisor, and RisCura as the investment manager and provider of manager development and support services.

The Initiative has a two-fold agenda of making a commercial impact for investors while empowering women financial leaders to drive growth in Africa.

With a bold ambition to raise up to \$1 billion over 10 years for women fund managers, who will in turn invest in high-impact sectors and projects across Africa, this first-of-its-kind initiative is well positioned to enable eco-

nomical stimulus through sustainable and gender-inclusive capital growth opportunities.

The Standard Bank Group sees gender equity as both a fundamental human right and a business imperative.

Lindeka Dzedze, Global Markets Head: Strategic Partnerships at Standard Bank and Chairperson of the AWIF Executive Committee explains: "Without the economic empowerment of women, the vision to raise Africa's financial output cannot be realised. Understanding this, Standard Bank supports the AWIF Initiative to raise the profile of established women-owned and women-managed funds that participate in listed and private markets, and short-term private debt."

The initial \$60m commitment to the Initiative includes \$15m from BADEA, and \$45m from The Motor Industry Retirement Funds (MIRF) and Copartes Pension Fund in South Africa.

MIRF and Copartes have agreed to bring their \$45m in assets recently allocated to developing start-up women fund

managers in South Africa under the AWIF Initiative.

Adam Essat, MIRF and Copartes Principal Officer explains: "Through our initial commitment of \$45m to the AWIF program, we hope to show that institutions on the African continent believe in and support this program and its objectives. We encourage global investors to take action and invest alongside us in facilitating diversity, development and empowerment in bright and unstoppable Africa."

These funds will provide capital to existing women owners and women fund managers across different asset classes and African regions.

Dr. Sidi Ould TAH Director General at BADEA says: "I believe this fund will accelerate fundraising and capital allocation by female fund managers on a transformative level. It is through barrier-breaking initiatives such as these that together, we can create a sustainable and scalable investment environment that drives inclusive growth for all who live in Africa."

## DRC banks are yet to attain capital requirement

KINSHASA

Banks operating in DR Congo are required to increase their minimum capital from \$30 million currently, to \$50 million, according to a recently released International Monetary Fund assessment report.

The capital increase is expected to be carried out following some regulatory milestones.

Banks operating in the Democratic Republic of Congo are required to have a minimum capital of \$35 million by January 2023, \$40 million by January 2024, and 50 million by 2025.

Four of the banks active in the country already have equity exceeding the 50 million mark. However, seven others are still below the \$30 million mark.

According to the IMF technical assistance report, the minimum capital requirement reform should have been effective from January 2022.

However, the Congolese central bank postponed its effective date due to the coronavirus pandemic.

To be able to attract enough funds to comply with the new rules by the new dates, the seven banks that still need to take action must show investors that their operations are profitable enough.

However, when compared to other African countries where the economy largely depends on mining activities (Tanzania, Zambia, and Guinea Conakry), the Democratic Republic of Congo is the country with the lowest return on assets and the lowest return on equity. In this context, it will be difficult to find investors for new capital increases.

In addition, the IMF notes that non-performing loans represented 8.5 percent of the overall bank loans in the country as of the time the assessment was made.

The capital adequacy ratio is 14 percent, far below the ratio in countries like Ethiopia which have a comparable population size.

## Azania Bank introduces own Point of Sale device

By Francis Kajubi

AZANIA Bank (T) Limited has expanded its digital merchant solutions by introducing its own Point of Sale (POS) devices that allow customers and non-customers to make quick withdrawal transactions.

The solution comes with a unique feature that allows consumers to just make a single tap to access the service. The device, however, allows consumers to swap their cards for the same purpose.

Addressing the press yesterday in Dar es Salaam during the launch of the product, Vinesh Davda, Manager, Digital Banking and Alternative Channels, said the POS are not for sale and one just needs to run a business with a minimum annual turnover of 5mn/-.

"Customers are not charged extra levies for using Azania Bank POS in commanding withdrawals. This solution is risk free, time saving, convenient and allows instant payments," said Davda.

According to him, the devices

allow near-field communications (NFC) that makes it easier for consumers to tap and go. It is an inclusive product that allows not only Azania Bank customers to make withdrawals but also consumers from other commercial banks.

"The product is already available in our bank branches across the country. We are convinced that this technology will contribute in paving a way towards a cashless society," he said.

According to him, so far Azania Bank has a network of 24 branches and issued more than 50,000 ATM cards include Visa, MasterCard, UnionPay and Umoja.

The bank has deployed more than 650 agents across the country to serve its customers and non-customers.

Allan Msalilwa, Azania Bank Marketing Manager said; "The bank is determined to invest in new technologies. We have enough POS devices to supply the supermarkets, shopping malls, petrol stations and other business places".



Azania Bank Manager Digital Banking and Alternative Channels, Vinesh Davda (center) displays Azania's POS device at the press briefing yesterday in Dar es Salaam. On the right is Allan Msalilwa Azania Bank Marketing Manager and on the left is Halima Semhunge, Azania Bank Public Relations Manager. Photo: Courtesy of Azania Bank.

INTERVIEW:

# TCCIA members to explore DRC, AfCFTA opportunities

In recent years, TANZANIA Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) initiated programs to enable its members to fully exploit local and foreign business opportunities. In an interview with **Francis Kajubi**, TCCIA Executive Director **Nebart Mwapwele** (pictured) explains the chamber future plans;



**Q: One of the TCCIA's major goals is to have own sources of income. What has been done so far in realizing this goal and what are these sources?**

**A:** As I speak, the main source of TCCIA revenue is through its members' annual subscriptions. Our target now is to widen the membership base so as to attract more revenues.

In making this a reality, we are advocating for universal membership to all business enterprises. This will ensure sustainable income from all businesses once they join membership.

However, to date, TCCIA operates Regional Chambers in 26 regions of Tanzania Mainland and over 120 District Chambers in the country, which are semi-autonomous in their operational activities.

With assistance from the Swedish International Development Cooperation

Agency (SIDA), TCCIA has played a vital role in establishment of the regional and district chambers especially in providing training, office equipment and mobilization or sensitization of the business community.

**Q: How TCCIA is helping its members to tap emerging potential opportunities in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)?**

**A:** We are very committed to ensuring that our members benefit from the continental market. The main strategy we are using is to raise awareness among our members and the business community as a whole.

We have emphasized the opportunities in the AfCFTA in all our meetings including the Annual General Meeting sat in June, 2022 which is the largest gathering of TCCIA representatives throughout the country.

When it comes to exploring opportunities, TCCIA works closely with both local and inter-

national organizations to benefit its members. Not only its members but TCCIA also works with different stakeholders from the private sector and initiates partnerships with the government for the same objective.

**Q: The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) recently became an official member of the East African Community. What are opportunities do you see?**

**A:** Absolutely, the DRC is the huge market for Tanzania and we stand a better chance to serve them through our Dar es Salaam port.

There are so many opportunities from DRC being the Member of EAC as they can access more products from Tanzania than before due to preferential treatments under EAC Common market protocol.

Far from DRC, our members stand to benefit from a number of markets that TCCIA is an active member of. For instance, TCCIA is the sole country member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Tanzania.

It is also a member of the East Africa Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (EACCIA), the Pan African Chamber of commerce and Industry (PACCI) and the East African Business Council (EABC).

**Q: What are your observations for Tanzania towards realizing the Malabo declaration targets?**

**A:** We commend the current government's initiatives to increase budgetary

support to agriculture more than twice the previous budget.

However, given the fact that our country depends largely on agriculture for GDP of contribution, employment creation and export earnings contribution, the amount is not enough as it is far below the 10 percent of total budget expenditure of 41.48trillion/-.

There is a need to increase budgetary allocation to meet the 10 percent of the entire budget as per Malabo declaration.

**Q: Are there any specific areas the current fiscal year budget increase is going to directly and positively affect TCCIA members and projects?**

**A:** Of course there are areas where this approach has directly impacted the agriculture sector. Speaking from my knowledge, so far the budget increase has improved availability of agricultural inputs including fertilizers, seeds and agro-machinery.

These farm inputs and equipment will possibly result in improved production. TCCIA members are likely to benefit more as they are well-coordinated and can easily access information regarding the support from the government.

**Q: In June last year, TCCIA signed a memorandum of understanding with the South African Business Forum (SABF) to enables members exploring market opportunities to South Africa and other Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries.**

**How this has benefited TCCIA members?**

**A:** We indeed look at the agreement as a game changer in our mode of operation. Some of the targets to this agreement have been realized and some are being organized and executed to see what will be the result.

So far, the agreements led to opening up an avenue of cooperation between the two countries.

However, little has been implemented due to the outbreak of COVID 19 pandemic that had severely hit South Africa and Tanzania as well. We are planning on re-summing the implementation of the agreements soon.

**Q: The Building Inclusive Competitive Horticulture Business in Tanzania's Southern Highlands (BICHOPS) of 2000 has crossed halfway to its completion. What successes recorded in implementing the project?**

**A:** As far as the project is concerned, it aims to improve horticultural products and facilitate market linkages in Southern highland regions including Mbeya, Njombe and Katavi.

The ongoing BICHOPS project which is being implemented by our regional chamber in Mbeya and other partners has brought remarkable improvement in the production and marketing of horticultural products mainly avocados where we see a lot of farms being established in project regions and improved supply of horticultural products to various markets

## South Africa's biggest banks are changing course

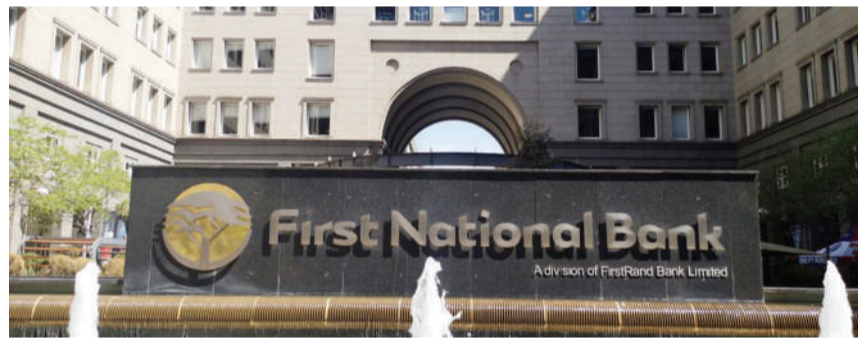
JOHANNESBURG

South Africa's major banks have successfully navigated complex economic terrain over the first half of 2022, but the outlook for the rest of the year remains uncertain.

Financial services firm PwC said that country's major banks spent the first half of 2022 focused on the customer experience through digitisation and, as a result, combined headline earnings soared passed pre-pandemic levels.

The major banks collectively now have more capital and risk provisions than ever before, which should help to shield against the effects of economic headwinds in the second half of 2022, it said.

This is one of the key findings in PwC's Major Banks Analysis, which looks into the combined local currency results of Absa, FirstRand, Nedbank



and Standard Bank.

Underpinned by strong transactional activity and revenue growth across product lines, industry sectors and banking franchises, combined headline earnings grew 19% (R48.3 billion) when compared to the year before, said PwC.

"For some of the major banks, headline earnings reached record levels. Strong balance sheet resilience across key capital, liquidity and provisioning metrics remained a consistent theme for all of the major banks."

Banks with a large regional presence outside the country also saw the benefit of diversification, with some benefitting from the higher rate environment, a recovery in international trade and strong growth in trading revenues, said the group.

PwC said that the second half of this year is expected to be volatile and uncertain as geopolitical risks remain tense and acute.

The firm added that a dramatic rise in inflation coupled with recessionary risks across several global economies serves as the basis for rapid monetary tightening in decades.

In South Africa, persistently high unemployment, the path towards an elective political conference in December and electricity supply constraints all serve as the backdrop for continued uncertainty, PwC said.

The country also currently faces a potential greylisting by the international watchdog, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which is a worrisome prospect, said PwC.

The group said that a greylisting would lead to increased monitoring by the FATF, more onerous companies and reporting requirements by correspondent banks, possible restriction on correspondent banking relationships and adverse impacts on funding costs.

In a recent interview with the Sunday Times, the CEO of FNB, Jacque Celliers, said that a possible greylisting of financial institutions in South Africa would be another own goal for the country.

Government has until the beginning of October to prove to the FATF that it has taken into account its recommendations to patch up loopholes within the economic and legislative framework that have allowed for money laundering and terrorist financing to occur.

Capitec said that the banking sector is taking active steps to work for hand in hand with the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) in light of the possible greylisting.

The banking industry as a whole is doing everything it can and is cognisant of the new tweaks, enhancements and additional requirements that are being put in place to mitigate financial crime in the country, said De Bruyn.

"If it were to happen, we are planning for what impact it may have," he said

## Women urged to establish empowerment basket fund

By Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIAN women are now advised to establish gender basket fund that will empower them in address barriers they face, bring transformative change in their localities and move women out of informal economy.

Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, Dr Dorothy Gwajima said this recently during the launch of the plan—'Beyond COVID-19: A Feminist Plan for Sustainability and Social Justice that provides a road map towards addressing gendered crisis and economic recovery and mitigation strategies.

"Let us see how we can set up our basket fund for empowerment and improve prosperity of women and girls," she said.

The minister said the ministry will provide all support required to ensure women are setting up a basket fund.

"There is need to embark on this because, women and girls all over the world are affected by war, conflict, gender based violence and at the same time they struggle to care for their families," she said.

"Number of women have lost their jobs and earnings due to the COVID-19 pandemic as result "We need to come up with strategies to help them."

She said while global billionaires' wealth increased by \$3.9 trillion, globally in 2019 and 2020, women lost more than 54 million jobs which is equal to a 4.2 percent decline in women's employment and a 3 percent decline in men's employment.

Also, across 45 countries, one in five women reported losing their job during the pandemic. According to her, global crises such as COVID-19, the economic impact of the war in Ukraine and the devastating effects of environmental degradation and climate change continue to affect millions of lives, destroying countless livelihoods and creating enormous economic damage to the world over.

According to the Rapid Gender Assessments issued by UN Women indicates that one in five women reported losing their job during the pandemic.

Partnered women with children were more likely to lose their jobs than their male counterparts and as the crisis has dragged on, many women have left the workforce altogether to care for children amid school and day-care centre closures.

High commissioner of Canada to Tanzania, Pamela O'Donnell added currently, women make up over 65% of the informal sector in Tanzania, making it more challenging for them to access financing and grow their businesses, and making them more susceptible to abuses of power. And, typically men are in most positions of power.

## World Bank warns of global recession in 2023

KAMPALA

The world is moving towards a global recession in 2023 and a string of financial crises in emerging market and developing economies that would do them lasting harm, a new study by the World Bank says.

The study reveals that several historical indicators of global recessions are already flashing warnings.

The global economy is now in its steepest slowdown following a post-recession recovery since 1970. Global consumer confidence has already suffered a much sharper decline than in the run-up to previous global recessions.

The World Bank study further points out that the world's three largest economies—the United States, China, and the euro area—have been slowing sharply. Under the circumstances, even a moderate hit to the global economy over the next year could tip it into recession.

Unless supply disruptions and labour-market pressures subside, policy rates that have been hiked by the central banks around the world, could leave the global core inflation rate (excluding energy) at about 5



VID MALPASS

to cut global inflation to a rate consistent with their targets, Central Banks may need to raise interest rates by an additional 2 percentage points, according to the report's model.

The World Bank said if this were accompanied by financial-market stress, global GDP growth would slow to 0.5 percent in 2023—a 0.4 percent contraction in per-capita terms that would meet the technical definition of a global recession.

"Global growth is slowing sharply, with further slowing likely as more countries fall into recession. My deep concern is that these trends will persist, with long-lasting consequences that are devastating for people in emerging markets and developing economies," said World Bank Group President David Malpass (pictured).

Mr Malpass added: "To achieve low inflation rates, currency stability and faster growth, policymakers could shift their focus from reducing consumption to boosting production. Policies should seek to generate additional investment and improve productivity and capital allocation, which are critical for growth and poverty reduction."

The study relies on insights from

previous global recessions to analyse the recent evolution of economic activity and presents scenarios for 2022-24. A slowdown—such that the one underway—calls for countercyclical policy to support activity. However, the threat of inflation and limited fiscal space are spurring policymakers in many countries to withdraw policy support even as the global economy slows sharply.

The World Bank found out that the 1982 global recession coincided with the second-lowest growth rate in developing economies over the past five decades, second only to 2020. It triggered more than 40 debt crises and was followed by a decade of lost growth in many economies.

In the Monetary Policy statement of August, the deputy Governor BoU Dr Michael Atingi-Ego said: "In the near term (12 months ahead), BoU forecasts that inflation pressure will continue to rise. While the current increases in the CBR are meant to bring back inflation to its medium term objective of 5 percent, these have had the indirect effect in lowering the depreciation of the exchange rate, which is expected to cushion the inflation pressure."

# Reasons the bank of Japan should fret about Fed

## SINGAPORE

A quadrillion yen is lying idle with Japanese households, ready to be shipped overseas when yields abroad turn more attractive, and that moment could arrive as soon as this week.

Later on Wednesday, the Federal Reserve will be raising rates again and by as much as a full percentage point. The following day, the Bank of Japan is certain to cement its standing as the lone global dove in developed markets by sticking to its negative rates.

The difference in yields between the two markets will hit 300 basis points (bps): an inflection point that analysts say will prompt Mrs Watanabe, a moniker for the famed Japanese retail trader, to ditch the yen and move money out.

"In terms of pure FX carry, the dollar will soon provide 3%, yen is still 0%, so that's a big difference," says Shusuke Yamada, chief forex and rates strategist at Bank of America in Tokyo. Those kind of yields are in-

centive for both institutional and retail investors to buy U.S. dollars and hold them, he says.

"Japanese households have a thousand trillion in yen deposits. I don't think it's going to move 1% a year, but even 0.1% is already one trillion, so even a small portion could have a meaningful impact. There is that potential," says Yamada.

The blow to the already battered yen, that's down 20 percent versus the dollar this year, should be cause for concern for the Bank of Japan.

Yield-seeking Japanese households have been notable absentees from global currency markets during the pandemic years as central banks pushed rates towards zero, squishing spreads between currencies and killing the pervasive yen-funded "carry" trade.

But household savings have been building up in the world's largest creditor nation. As of June, households had 1,102 trillion yen (\$77 trillion) in cash and deposits, while private non-financial companies had



FILE PHOTO: People buy their lunches from street vendors in front of the headquarters of Bank of Japan in Tokyo

325 trillion yen.

"There is a risk of what I call capital flight by Japanese households," said Tohru Sasaki, head of Japan markets research at J.P. Morgan Securities in Tokyo.

"We have been talking about that for a long time - actually more than a decade - but it never happened. But I think the current situation is really different.

"The generation is shifting, technology is improving, and Japan's situation is getting worse, so the possibility is getting higher of

seeing a kind of capital flight."

Citi's quant strategist Alex Saunders says carry trades in major currencies hadn't worked since 2008 as all rates converged to zero, and while they had revived this year, he hadn't seen much of that happening in the yen.

That could be changing. Sasaki points to the more rooted feeling among Japanese that they have been gradually losing purchasing power with such a weak currency, but also to how easy it has become even for the elderly to buy foreign

currencies with a smartphone.

He also highlighted recent developments such as the swift oil-driven widening in Japan's trade balance to a record deficit, and the yen's unprecedented weakness in real terms.

"And now yields start widening, and people start shifting their money abroad gradually. Basically whatever the level, there is a feeling that we need to hold some foreign currency, or that we need to hold dollars, to avoid the risk of a weak yen," said Sasaki.

"That's why I'm getting a little bit scared watching this. This time could be different ... so it's dangerous." At 300 bps, the "carry" on dollars funded by yen approaches levels last seen in the 2005-2007 bout of frenzied overseas investment by Japanese retail traders, and before that in 1996-1998. Anything less wouldn't compensate for the risks, although a weakening yen is a bonus.

In January 2006, when spreads between U.S. and Japan were at their widest at roughly 440 bps, Japanese households had 1,631 trillion yen of assets. By June, that had shrunk by 22.5 trillion yen.

"Even if the FX rate doesn't change, if you have this kind of yield spread, you're going to reap a benefit," said Takuya Kanda, head of the research department at Gaitame.com Research Institute, which serves mainly retail investors.

"So this week particularly, when the BOJ looks set to keep interest rates at extremely low levels,

and really it's only Japan now that still has negative interest rates, that is a very conducive environment for money to flow overseas."

In a survey of Gaitame.com clients on Aug. 23, about 60% said dollar-yen will continue to climb, and many forecast a rise to 145, he said. On Wednesday, it was just off 144. Bart Wakabayashi, branch manager at State Street in Tokyo, says typical retail Japanese traders like to roll over yen-funded foreign currency holdings every day to earn interest but also sometimes play for FX gains, making them far more willing to take on risks that institutions can't.

That makes it imperative the BOJ tries to stamp out speculation the yen is a one-way downhill bet, which it has with statements and monitoring of yen levels.

"The Bank of Japan is trying to change the conversation. People are saying 145 is the line in the sand. I don't believe that," said Wakabayashi.

## US banks threaten to leave Mark Carney's green alliance

### WASHINGTON

Wall Street banks including JPMorgan, Morgan Stanley and Bank of America have threatened to leave Mark Carney's financial alliance to tackle climate change because they fear being sued over increasingly stringent decarbonisation commitments.

In tense meetings in recent months, some of the most significant members of the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero have said they feel blindsided by tougher UN climate criteria and are worried about the legal risks of participation, according to several people involved in internal discussions.

"I am close to taking us out of these global green commitments - I'm not going to allow third parties to create legal liabilities for us and our shareholders. It is immoral and irresponsible," one senior executive at a US bank said. "What if we get it wrong, make a mistake or someone lies? Then the bank can be sued, that is an



Bank of China

unacceptable risk."

"We spent one hour in our last call discussing [US banks quitting]. It was extremely tense," one of the people involved in recent Gfanz bank talks said.

European banks including Santander have also expressed misgivings.

The potential loss of some of the world's biggest and most influential banks would be a serious blow for Carney's Gfanz group, which was formed last year and took centre stage at the COP26 climate talks in Glasgow in November.

More than 450 finance companies accounting for \$130tn of assets have joined Gfanz, which is co-led by the Canadian ex-Bank of England governor and current Brookfield Asset Management executive.

The banks' biggest concern is over strict targets on phasing out coal, oil and gas

introduced over the summer by the UN's Race to Zero campaign, a UN-led net zero standard-setting body that accredits pledges made by Carney's alliance.

The body will soon be able to take action against financial companies for failing to hit targets, which could lead to them being kicked out of Gfanz, the FT reported last month.

Banks' legal departments are particularly anxious about tougher US Securities and Exchange Commission rules around climate-risk disclosures and commitments proposed by SEC chair Gary Gensler in February.

The SEC will soon require formal disclosures in annual reports about governance, risk-management and strategy with respect to climate change. Companies will also have to disclose and be held accountable

for any targets or commitments made, with detailed plans on how to achieve them.

A European bank executive said that "there is no way we are joining any new ESG groups, we don't control them" and echoed their US counterpart's fears about lawsuits due to the SEC's renewed focus on ESG and emissions reporting.

Bankers say that the proposed SEC rules could add hundreds of pages to annual reports and require a small army of extra accountants and lawyers to produce and vet the data, which they contend is not yet reliable or properly codified.

Gfanz has faced pushback from lenders since its inception. Banks successfully resisted committing to the most explicit road map for cutting greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, refusing to end financing of all new oil, gas and coal exploration projects immediately. Bankers complain that the demands placed on them are not supported by equally robust government action on climate change, nor does the technology exist that hitting some of the net zero targets will rely on.

They also point out the lack of Gfanz members from China, Russia and India - three of the world's top carbon-emitting countries.

Of the 116 banks that have signed up to the Net Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA), the Gfanz banking subsidiary, none are from China or India, while Sovcombank is the only Russian lender. By comparison, Liechtenstein has three members.

## India, WB in talk to boost electric vehicles financing

### NEW DELHI

India's government and the World Bank are in talks to introduce a risk-sharing mechanism to compensate banks giving loans for electric vehicle purchases, an official said, as the country seeks to decarbonise the transport sector.

The risk instrument will help banks hedge against loan defaults and cut the cost of financing EVs, India's Group of 20 sherpa Amitabh Kant said on the sidelines of an industry event in New Delhi.

Mr Kant was chief executive of government think tank NITI Aayog until June this year, spearheading state policy decisions across the economy.

The switch to clean transport in the South Asian nation is slower than in the US and China in part due to the sluggish adoption of battery-powered vehicles.

The high cost of these vehicles and insufficient charging stations are major barriers, with BloombergNEF saying that by 2040, 53 per cent of new cars in India will be electric, well behind China at 77 per cent.

Banks in India have been reluctant to give loans for EV purchases at a time when the cost of insuring these vehicles is high and the resale market remains small, said Mr Kant, who was recently appointed India's main negotiator when it becomes the chair of the G20 countries in December.

The World Bank will set up a \$1 billion fund with an Indian bank that will be made available to all financial institutions, a senior NITI Aayog official working on the project said.

The fund will provide first-loss guarantees to lenders in case of loan defaults, said the official, who declined to be named as discussions are still private.

An India representative for the World Bank did not respond to calls and an email seeking comment.

India has been pushing to decarbonise its transport sector, which accounts for 13.5 per cent of the country's total emissions, as it looks to achieve its goal of becoming net carbon zero by 2070.

The government expects investments in the Indian EV industry to more than triple to \$20bn by 2030, from \$6bn in 2021.

## China's Central Bank to ease policy action

### BEIJING

China's current interest rates are "reasonable" and provide room for future policy action, the People's Bank of China said, adding to expectations it may resume lowering rates in coming months.

Real interest rates in the country are "slightly lower" than the pace of potential economic growth, the central bank said in a statement posted late Tuesday on its verified WeChat account. Such a situation helps make debt sustainable and provides the government with "extra" policy scope, it said.

The current levels of interest rates are "the best strategy that leaves room for the future," the PBOC said. The statement was the fourth in a series of articles published by the PBOC since the middle of September explaining its policy.

The central bank last week refrained from cutting its key interest rates as it defended a depreciating yuan. Banks followed by keeping their main lending rates unchanged on Tuesday, although speculation is growing they may ease in com-



ing months. Economists say the PBOC's pause was partly because policy makers are assessing the impact of previous easing measures. Further policy support is still necessary, they argue, since the economy is being dragged down by repeated Covid outbreaks, a property market slump and slowing exports.

"The PBOC tried to say that even though US interest rates are rising, it could cut rates again if necessary," said Louis

Kuijs, chief Asia economist for S&P Global Ratings.

China's lending rates are roughly in the 4%-5% range while time deposit rates are at 1%-2%, according to the PBOC's statement. The economy grew 2.5% in the first half of this year after expanding 8.1% last year.

Analysts have been steadily downgrading China's growth forecasts this year as economic risks mounted. The Asian Development Bank was the

latest to do so, projecting 3.3% expansion compared with 4% previously. That's lower than the consensus of 3.5% in a Bloomberg survey of economists and far below Beijing's official target of around 5.5% announced in March.

The PBOC said in the statement that it will further release the benefits of the loan prime rate reform and let the market-based adjustment of deposit rates "play an important role." China's biggest

## WORLD

## UN chief calls for solidarity to tackle global challenges

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Tuesday that the world is in big trouble and needs collective action across the board.

Our world is in big trouble. Divides are growing deeper. Inequalities are growing wider. And challenges are spreading farther," Guterres said while addressing the UN General Assembly before the opening of the General Debate.

"We need action across the board," he said.

At the same time, he warned that the international community is gridlocked in colossal global dysfunction, saying it is "not ready or willing to tackle the big dramatic challenges of our age."

He said crises like the conflict in Ukraine, climate emergency and biodiversity loss, and the dire financial situation of developing countries threaten the very future of humanity and the fate of the planet.

Progress on all these issues and more is being held hostage to geopolitical tensions, he added.

"Geopolitical divides are undermining the work of the Security Council, undermining international law, undermining trust and people's faith in democratic institutions, undermining all forms of international cooperation."

"We cannot go on like this," he said.

Even the various groupings set up outside the multilateral system by some members of the international community have fallen into the trap of geopolitical divides, like the Group of 20 (G20), he said.

"At one stage, international relations seemed to be moving toward a G2 world; now we risk ending up with G-nothing. No cooperation. No dialogue. No collective problem-solving," said Guterres.

"But the reality is that we live in a world where the logic of cooperation and dialogue is the only path forward. No power or group alone can call the shots. No major global challenge can be solved by a coalition of the willing. We need a coalition of the world."

This coalition of the world must urgently overcome divisions and act together. It starts with the core mission of the United Nations – achieving and sustaining peace, said Guterres.

"We are seeing the threat of dangerous divisions between West and South. The risks to global peace and security are immense. We must keep working for peace in line with the United Nations Charter and international law," he said.

At the same time, conflicts and humanitar-

ian crises are spreading. The funding gap for the UN Global Humanitarian Appeal stands at US\$32 billion, the widest ever, he said.

Upheaval abounds – in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Horn of Africa, Haiti, Libya, Iraq, Israel and Palestine, Myanmar, the Sahel, Syria. The list goes on, he noted.

Meanwhile, nuclear saber-rattling and threats to the safety of nuclear plants are adding to global instability. Last month's review conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty failed to reach consensus and a nuclear deal with Iran remains elusive, he added.

"We need much more concerted action everywhere which anchored in respect for international law and the protection of human rights. In a splintering world, we need to create mechanisms of dialogue and mediation to heal divides," said Guterres. "We are committed to make the most of every diplomatic tool for the peaceful settlement of disputes, as set out in the United Nations Charter: negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and judicial settlement."

"There is another battle we must end: our suicidal war against nature," he said.

The climate crisis is the defining issue of our time. It must be the first priority of every government and multilateral organization. And yet climate action is being put on the back burner, despite overwhelming public support around the world, he lamented.

Global greenhouse gas emissions need to be slashed by 45 percent by 2030 to have any hope of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050. And yet emissions are going up at record levels – on course to a 14 percent increase this decade, he noted.

"We have a rendezvous with climate disaster," warned Guterres. The hottest summers of today may be the coolest summers of tomorrow. Once-in-a-lifetime climate shocks may soon become once-a-year events.

The climate crisis is a case study in moral and economic injustice. The G20 emits 80 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions. But the poorest and most vulnerable – those who contributed least to this crisis – are bearing its most brutal impacts. Meanwhile, the fossil fuel industry is feasting on hundreds of billions of dollars in subsidies and windfall profits while household budgets shrink and the planet burns, he said.

Guterres called on all developed economies to tax the windfall profits of fossil fuel companies, and re-direct the funds to countries



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres (front) speaks during the opening of the General Debate of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly at the UN headquarters in New York, on Tuesday. XINHUA

suffering loss and damage caused by the climate crisis and to people struggling with rising food and energy prices.

"We need to hold fossil fuel companies and their enablers to account," he said.

He asked for a transition to renewable energy, which generates three times more jobs, is already cheaper than fossil fuels and is the pathway to energy security, stable prices and new industries.

Developing countries need help to make this shift, including through international coalitions to support just energy transitions in key emerging economies, he said.

He asked for assistance to developing countries in adapting to worsening climate shocks.

Resilience-building in developing countries is a smart investment – in reliable supply chains, regional stability and orderly migration, he said.

He asked for efforts to address loss and damage from disasters.

Vulnerable countries need meaningful action. Loss and damage are happening now, hurting people and economies now, and must be addressed now. This is a fundamental question of climate justice, international solidarity and trust, he said.

Guterres also stressed the need to address the biodiversity crisis.

The world must agree on a post-2020 global biodiversity framework – one that sets ambitious targets to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, provides adequate financing and eliminates harmful subsidies that destroy ecosystems on which we all depend, he said.

Guterres warned that a once-in-a-generation global cost-of-living crisis is fuelling social unrest.

Some 94 countries, home to 1.6 billion people – many in Africa – face a perfect storm: economic and social fallout from the pandemic, soaring food and energy prices, crushing debt burdens, spiraling inflation, and a lack of access to finance. These cascading crises are feeding on each other, compounding inequalities, creating devastating hardship, delaying the energy transition, and threatening a global financial meltdown, he said.

"Social unrest is inevitable – with

conflict not far behind," he warned.

It doesn't have to be this way. A world without extreme poverty, want or hunger is not an impossible dream. It is within reach. That is the world envisaged by the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," he said. "But it is not the world we seem to have chosen. Because of our decisions, sustainable development everywhere is at risk."

The SDGs are issuing an SOS. Even the most fundamental goals – on poverty, hunger and education – are going into reverse. More people are poor. More people are hungry. More people are being denied health care and education. Gender equality is going backward and women's lives are getting worse, from poverty to choices around sexual and reproductive health, to their personal security, he noted.

Guterres called for concerted action to help developing countries, which are getting hit from all sides.

"Today, I am calling for the launch of an SDG Stimulus – led by the G20 – to massively boost sustainable development for developing countries. The upcoming G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia, is the place to start," he said.

The SDG Stimulus has four components: multilateral development banks, debt relief, an expansion of liquidity, and the strengthening of specialized funds like Gavi (the Vaccine Alliance), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Green Climate Fund, said Guterres.

The divergence between developed and developing countries – between North and South, between the privileged and the rest – is becoming more dangerous by the day. It is at the root of the geopolitical tensions and lack of trust that poison every area of global cooperation, from vaccines to sanctions to trade, he said.

"But by acting as one, we can nurture fragile shoots of hope," he said. "So let's develop common solutions to common problems – grounded in goodwill, trust, and the rights shared by every human being. Let's work as one, as a coalition of the world, as united nations."

XINHUA

Agencies

## Putin announces partial mobilization, assures Russia's security in nationwide address

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin announced a partial mobilization in a televised address to the nation yesterday, pointing to the threats to the country's existence posed by the West and the inevitable nature of the special military operation in Ukraine.

The stretched-out front-line, the constant shelling of Russian borderline areas by the Ukrainian military and attacks on liberated regions required the call-up of servicemen from the reserve, Putin (pictured) explained.

Russia will call up reservists who have already served in the army and will arrange for their training. The reservists and Donbass volunteers will be entitled to the same guarantees enjoyed by contract-enlisted servicemen.

TASS has put together the highlights of Putin's address broadcast live by Russian TV Channels.



## Partial mobilization

The combat engagement line now stretches over 1,000 km in the special military operation in Ukraine while terrorist strikes from Western weapons are already being delivered against Russian borderline areas. "NATO is conducting reconnaissance actually across the entire south of Russia in real time, using advanced systems, aircraft and ships, satellites and strategic drones."

Nuclear blackmail has also begun to be used: "This involves not only the West-encouraged bombardments of the Zaporozhye NPP, which may trigger a nuclear disaster, but also the pronouncements by representatives of leading NATO countries about the possibility and the admissibility of using weapons of mass destruction against Russia."

As proposed by the Russian General Staff and the Defense Ministry, Russia will call a partial mobilization and these measures will begin already on September 21.

Russia will call up reservists, primarily those who served in the army. Mobilized citizens will undergo required training and enjoy the same guarantees that are given to contract-enlisted personnel. The Russian government and the Defense Ministry will equate Donbass volunteer formations to Russian servicemen in their status.

The Russian authorities will also immediately resolve all the issues related to the provision of defense industry enterprises with necessary supplies and financial resources.

## Special military operation as a required measure

"After the current Kiev regime publicly rejected the peaceful solution to the Donbass problem and, what's more, announced its claims on nuclear weapons, it became absolutely clear that a new large-scale offensive on Donbass, as was the case twice in the past, was inevitable. After that, an attack on the Russian Crimea, on Russia would have followed."

The peaceful resolution of the conflict in Ukraine that continued from 2014 did not suit the West and that is why the compromises reached at the Istanbul talks were rejected and the accords were disrupted "actually under a direct instruction from Western countries."

The Donbass republics and the liberated Ukrainian regions turned to Russia with a request to support the referendums and Moscow will do its utmost to ensure security and safety for residents of those territories to make their choice. "We will support the decision on their future that a majority of the residents of the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics, the Zaporozhye and Kherson Regions will make." The Lugansk People's Republic "has already been practically fully liberated from Neo-Nazis." The battles in the Donetsk People's Republic are continuing and "there the Kiev occupational regime has created a deeply layered line of long-term fortifications over eight years."

## West's threats are inadmissible

There have been statements in Western countries about the need of the disintegration of the Russian Federation, as was the case with the USSR in 1991, "into an array of fatally warring regions and areas." Russia has always stopped those who sought world supremacy and will do this again now.

Russia will also take urgent steps to preserve its independence. "Those who are attempting to blackmail us with nuclear weapons must be aware that the prevailing winds may also turn towards their side."

"Russian citizens must be confident: the territorial integrity of our Motherland, our independence and freedom will be ensured. Let me stress it again: this will be ensured by all of our available means".

Agencies

## Iran's Raisi calls for nuke deal guarantees, closure of IAEA inquiry

TEHRAN

IRAN needs reassuring guarantees as well as the closure of the ongoing inquiry into the Islamic republic by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) before a nuclear deal can be reached, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said on Tuesday.

According to a statement published on the Iranian presidency's

website, Raisi made the remarks in a meeting with his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Iran is ready to reach a "fair and stable" nuclear agreement, but considering the unilateral withdrawal of the United States from the 2015 nuclear deal, Iran's demand to "receive reassuring guar-

antees" is "completely reasonable and logical," said Raisi.

The Iranian president also described the IAEA's inquiry as "a serious obstacle to reaching an agreement," noting that "we believe that without the closure of Iran's cases, it is not possible to reach an agreement."

France said on Monday that there would not be a better offer for Iran to revive a nuclear deal

with world powers and it was up to Tehran to make a decision now.

As for Iran-Europe relations, Raisi said that the improvement of Iran's relations with Europe depended on the independence of the countries of the European continent from the will and opinion of the United States.

Iran signed the nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action

(JCPOA), with world powers in July 2015, agreeing to curb its nuclear program in return for removing sanctions on the country. However, former US President Donald Trump pulled Washington out of the agreement and re-imposed unilateral sanctions on Tehran, prompting the latter to drop some of its commitments under the pact.

Agencies

## Japan should destroy ACWs in China as soon as possible

A DELEGATION of over 40 members recently paid a virtual visit to China regarding the destruction of Japan's abandoned chemical weapons (ACWs) in China.

The delegation included Director-General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Fernando Arias, as well as diplomatic envoys or representatives from a number of countries to the OPCW.

During the visit, all the participants were briefed by China and Japan on the overall situation and destruction progress of Japan's ACWs in China, and took a virtual visit to Haerbaling, Dunhua, northeast China's Jilin province, the largest burial site of Japan's ACWs in China.

The delegation agreed that Japan's ACWs in China must be destroyed

as early as possible and said it would work for the early realization of "a world free of chemical weapons."

Japan employed a huge amount of chemical weapons during its aggression against China. To cover its crimes, it buried many of the chemical weapons on the spot or threw them into rivers and lakes before it surrendered.

Today, Japan's ACWs are found at over 120 sites in 18 Chinese provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities. It is estimated that around 330,000 pieces of such weapons remain buried in Haerbaling alone. Both the range of the burial sites and the number of the ACWs are astonishing.

Japan's ACWs are one of the monstrous war crimes committed by Japanese militarists. They have long threatened people's lives and health, as well as ecological security in relevant regions in China.

To comprehensively, completely and thoroughly destroy Japan's ACWs in China and eradicate the poisonous legacy of Japanese aggression is a solemn promise made by the Chinese government to the Chinese people, as well as an implication of the victorious outcome of the World Anti-Fascist War.

Since 1990s, China has launched negotiation with Japan over the destruction of Japan's ACWs in China. In 1997, the Chemical Weapons Conven-

tion (CWC) came into force. Under the efforts of China and the support of the international society, the CWC stipulates that the abandoning state party shall provide all necessary financial, technical, experts, facility as well as other resources to destroy the ACWs.

Under the strong pressure from politics, legal documents and public opinion, Japan had no choice but to admit its crimes. In 1999, China and Japan signed a memorandum on the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan, which marked the official start of the destruction work.

However, the destruction process didn't go very well.

According to the CWC, Japan should've destroyed all its ACWs before 2007, but the process has been significantly delayed as Japan was not paying enough attention to the matter and lacked investment. So far, Japan has only excavated and recovered over 90,000 items of the weapons and destroyed more than 60,000. This is clearly not satisfying for the Chinese people and the international society.

Japan has never provided China with complete and accurate information about its ACWs. Both the total amount and specific locations of Japan's ACWs in China still remain unknown today. These weapons have been buried for decades and caused

huge soil pollution in China, but the Japanese side refuses to fulfill its responsibility.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the normalization of China-Japan diplomatic ties, which provides an important opportunity for the two sides to review history and shape the future together.

The issue of Japan's ACWs tests whether Japan can face up to history. It is also a touchstone that tests whether the country can make contributions to regional peace, stability and development.

Japan should see clearly that saying one thing and doing another on the issue of ACWs will not work. The Chinese people will never let it go as long as Japan's ACWs in China are not completely destroyed.

People's Daily



## Russian diplomat praises 'successful' SCO summit in Uzbekistan

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Presidential Envoy for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization affairs Bakhtiyar Khakimov on Tuesday said the group's recent summit in Uzbekistan was a success, creating reverberations around the globe.

"The meeting in Samarkand was a success, to put it simply. In fact, the ramifications that we are still seeing around the world confirm that the meeting was very successful," the diplomat said at a news conference.

According to Khakimov, 44 documents were signed during the event, 22 of which were "adopted at the highest level."

"They encompass all areas of activity of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization," he said. "Politically-coordinated standpoints and approaches to global affairs, and priorities for further developing the SCO were agreed upon. In addition, issues of coordinat-

ing foreign policy steps and ensuring security were discussed".

According to the diplomat, the leaders signed off on a concept for the development of transport corridors.

"At the initiative of Russia and Kazakhstan, a roadmap was also adopted for the gradual transition to national currencies in mutual payments," he said.

Khakimov also said that some decisions were made that are aimed at expanding cooperation within the organization, and the group's strengthening had far-reaching consequences.

"I am referring to the continuation of formalities of Iran's membership in the SCO, the beginning of the procedure to accept Belarus to the organization, the registration of the status of a dialogue partner for Egypt, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the decision to grant the same status to Bahrain, the Maldives, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Myanmar," he said.

## Kenyan firm secures approval for second avocado shipment to China

NAIROBI

KENYA'S integrated agro-business firm Kakuzi confirmed on Tuesday it has secured pre-shipment approval from the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), the country's plant health regulatory agency, for its second fresh avocado shipment to China.

Kakuzi Managing Director Christopher Flowers said the company will be shipping several 20-foot container loads to China by sea before the end of this week amid a surge in demand for fresh Kenyan avocado.

"We received the pre-shipment clearance by KEPHIS last week and proceeded to load and dispatch the container to Mombasa over the weekend. The container is expected to leave the port of Mombasa for a 30-day voyage to China," Flowers said in a statement issued in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya.

The East African nation is currently enjoying a market advantage as it is the only approved African source market for fresh avocado fruits in China.

Flowers said shipments to China are providing much-needed growth leverage for Kenyan produce and Kakuzi

as it seeks to enhance its markets and product diversification strategy.

He said the order book with the Chinese buyers has been growing at an encouraging and steady pace in recent days. "While we have a full order book from our existing customers, an additional crop this year has enabled us to keep shipping at least one container weekly to China for the next two months even as the avocado harvest season ends," Flowers said.

The export of fresh avocados to China follows the early January signing of two protocols to facilitate bilateral trade, mainly the export of avocados and aquatic products from Kenya to China.

Kakuzi market agent in China, Halls Fresh Produce Representative Yu Lifan, said the firm is sourcing its supplies from approved countries, including Chile, Peru, New Zealand, and Mexico, using Halls' Responsibly Sourced Network of global partners who are carefully selected.

He said the Chinese market needs more supply of quality fruit and more options to enable consumers to purchase avocados 365 days a year at affordable prices.

Xinhua

## Ardern: Christchurch Call anti-hate project gets new investments

WELLINGTON

NEW ZEALAND Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern yesterday announced a new research initiative under a global project aimed at tackling online hate set up in the wake of a mass killing by a white supremacist in Christchurch in 2019.

Ardern said in a statement that as part of the Christchurch Call initiative, New Zealand, the United States, Twitter and Microsoft will invest an undisclosed sum in developing new technology aimed at helping researchers understand how algorithms affect internet users' experiences.

Partners in the initiative will work together to build and test a set of privacy-enhancing technologies that, once proven, could form the basis for infrastructure to support independent study of impacts of algorithms, according to the statement.

"This initiative won't tell us all we need to know about the outcomes algorithms are driving online, it will help us bet-

ter access data so researchers can answer these very questions," the statement said.

The Christchurch Call was launched by Ardern and French President Emmanuel Macron after 51 people were killed at two mosques in the New Zealand city while the shooter live-streamed his rampage on Meta's Facebook platform.

A simultaneous joint statement from the Christchurch Call said that since a 2021 summit new industry supporters and partner organizations have joined the initiative including game platform Roblox, video conferencing site Zoom, the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund and Tech Against Terrorism.

It said, however, many online service providers remain outside the Call, calling on some unidentified firms unwilling to meet the commitments to join.

## Experts urge Uganda to focus on prevention, no vaccine for rare Ebola strain

KAMPALA

HEALTH experts on Tuesday urged Uganda to focus on preventing and controlling the spread of the deadly Ebola virus, noting that there is no vaccine against the rare Sudan strain that broke out in the country.

This follows a Tuesday announcement by the country's ministry of health that the Ebola virus had broken out and has so far left one confirmed case dead and six other unverified deaths. Bayo Fatunmbi, head of disease prevention and control at the World Health Organization office in Uganda, told reporters here that the Sudan strain is rare and had only occurred in Sudan in 1976 and in Uganda in 2011.

"We have done something before in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, but we find that the vaccination that worked with the Zaire virus (strain) will not be useful for this particular Sudan strain," he said. He said there is another type of vaccine that is being tested currently.

Diana Atwine, permanent secretary at the ministry of health, said while the country has the vaccine for the Zaire strain, there is no vaccine for the Sudan strain. Atwine said a team of epidemiologists has been sent to the central Ugandan district of Mubende to investigate the source of the index case, a 24-year-old male who died on Monday. She said there is no need for countries to issue travel advisories to Uganda, noting that the government has the capacity to contain the outbreak.

Xinhua

# World leaders call for solidarity to tackle global challenges

UNITED NATIONS

WORLD leaders on Tuesday called for solidarity to tackle global challenges in their speeches to the General Debate of the UN General Assembly.

South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol said that threats to freedom and peace must be overcome through solidarity and fearless commitment to the framework of universal global norms consolidated over the years within the UN system.

The theme of this year's General Debate, "A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges," encapsulates the gravity of the global crisis, which underscores the solemn role of the United Nations, he said. "The first step in our journey to seek answers that will help us through these turbulent times begins with solidarity and deference to the universally accepted global norms, as well as the UN system established over the past decades," said Yoon.

To tackle the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Nations must play a central role in bringing the community of nations together to decisively step up their support for countries with limited fiscal space and technical expertise.

In pursuit of the global agenda for decarbonization, countries with leading green technologies must work to share new and renewable energy technologies with other countries. In the era of digital sophistication, one of the most urgent tasks for the global community and the United Nations is promoting global cooperation to narrow the digital divide which exacerbates polarization between nations.

"As we seek answers to the global crisis we are faced with, the viability of the UN system and the universal global norms architecture is under test," he warned. "Any attempt to turn away from the UN system and universal norms will divide the global community into blocs, further compounding the crisis and turmoil."

The international community must vigorously endeavor to share responsibility and join forces, whenever neces-



Photo taken on Sept. 20, 2022 shows the opening of the General Debate of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly at the UN headquarters in New York. The General Debate of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly opened on Tuesday with the theme of "A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges." (Xinhua/Wang Ying)

sary, to resolve the challenges it faces, he said.

"Once again, I call upon global citizens and leaders of the world for their resolute and enduring support for the UN system and universal global norms as we seek answers in this watershed moment."

Philippine President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos said climate change is the greatest threat affecting nations and peoples. There is no other problem so global in nature that requires a united effort led by the United Nations.

The effects of climate change are uneven and reflect a historical injustice: those who are least responsible suffer the most. This injustice must be corrected, and those who need to do more must act now.

"We call on industrialized countries to immediately fulfill their obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement to cut their greenhouse gas emissions, provide climate financing and technology transfer for adaptation for the most vulnerable and developing countries, to lead by example," he said.

Widening geopolitical polarities and sharpening strategic competition are transforming the international political landscape, said Marcos. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said one of the biggest lessons learned in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic was the importance of international solidarity in solving global problems.

# China sees rapid development of logistics equipment manufacturing

CHINA has ranked at the top of the world in express parcel volume for eight consecutive years since 2014. Its express parcel volume surged 18-fold from 5.7 billion pieces in 2012 to 108.3 billion pieces in 2021.

However, the capacity of express warehouses was often overwhelmed due to the rapid-growing business volume, which remained a serious challenge for the industry.

Since 2009, the industry has been flooded with express parcels during the Double 11 shopping festival, the largest and most popular annual global shopping festival in China that falls on November 11. The parcels were often stranded in transfer centers, terminal service stations and other links of the logistics system, which significantly prolonged the delivery.

To tackle the challenge, market players fell back on technology.

In May 2016, a cross-belt sorter for express parcels was developed by Li Gongyan and his team. In the same month, Li established Wayz Intelligent Manufacturing Technology Co., Ltd. (Wayz Intelligent), a solution provider of intelligent logistics systems, together with a Beijing-based investment company subordinate to the Institute of Microelectronics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

"The first step is always the most difficult, but we had a good opportunity," said Yao Yi, general manager of Wayz Intelligent.

In 2016, electronic shipping bills largely replaced handwritten ones, which laid a solid foundation for achieving automatic sorting of parcels. Besides, consumers' demand for faster delivery also urged courier companies to make a change.

STO Express, one of China's top delivery companies, was the first client of Wayz Intelligent. In November 2016, Wayz Intelligent's automatic sorting system was officially put into use in a distribution center of STO Express in Dongguan,



A man scans the code on an Express Parcel in a warehouse of a logistics company in Suining, southwest China's Sichuan province, September, 2020. (Photo by Liu Changsong/People's Daily Online)

south China's Guangdong province. With the system, the distribution center reduced its staff from 400 to 85, but increased its daily handling capacity from 400,000 to 500,000 pieces, and the accuracy has also been lifted to 99 percent.

Gradually, more and more intelligent logistics devices have been developed across China, which has accelerated the steps of innovation for the whole logistics industry.

In 2018, Libiao Robotics in east China's Zhejiang province developed a robot that shepherds the automatic sorting of the express delivery industry.

In Libiao Robotics' design, distribution centers are two-storey structures. Robots in the upper storey automatically identify shipping addresses and then drop parcels in designated sorting areas in the lower storey. The robots, after being unveiled, were soon put into use in STO Express' distribution centers in Zhejiang, Shandong and Henan provinces.

Ever since, China's logistics equipment manufacturing industry has entered a period of high-speed development. As of the end of 2019, the automatic production lines of China's courier industry added up to over 5,000 kilometers, which was equivalent to the total mileage of subways

across the country.

According to statistics, the Chinese automatic sorting equipment market was worth around 26 billion yuan (\$3.71 billion) last year, with an annual growth rate of 21.8 percent on average. The top 13 equipment manufacturers reported 14.81 billion yuan in revenue, a 44.2 percent increase year on year.

Code reading is the most important process for automatic sorting. When parcels are moving along sorting belts, their barcodes, which indicate their next destinations, should be timely recognized. This cannot be achieved without the intelligent vision system.

So far, Wayz Intelligent has achieved domestic development of the algorithm, structure and key units of its code scanner. The identification accuracy of the company's independently developed code scanner is 0.5 to 1 percent higher than that of its foreign rivals, and the scanner is able to recognize tainted, wrinkled, deformed and blurred codes with an accuracy of over 99 percent.

In recent years, courier companies have started cooperation with suppliers for synergetic development. For instance, another leading express delivery firm in China, YTO Express, has estab-

lished a joint team with suppliers for closer integration of digital tools and automation equipment. At present, a distribution facility of the company in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan province, is able to handle 190,000 parcels each hour with an accuracy of nearly 99.9 percent.

Besides, Alibaba's Cainiao Smart Logistics Network Limited, one of China's courier giants, as well as JD.com and SF Express have made great efforts to advance the development and manufacturing of radio-frequency identification, or RFID tags.

RFID tags are as soft as transparent tapes, said Xu Jun from the technology department of Cainiao Smart Logistics Network Limited. According to him, RFID tags call for lower standards of manufacturing techniques than smart phone chips, but have a higher threshold regarding algorithm.

Compared with retailing scenarios, logistics has a more complicated application environment and thus a higher requirement for the accuracy of identification. Therefore, Cainiao Smart Logistics Network Limited optimized the design, reader development and algorithm of RFID and lifted identification accuracy to 99.97 percent.

Besides, the company has joined hands with semiconductor suppliers to develop RFID tags exclusively for logistics scenarios. Thanks to their efforts, the unit price of RFID tags has been lowered to 0.1 to 0.2 yuan, which lays a solid foundation for the massive application of RFID tags in the logistics industry.

Xinhua

People's Daily



Simba SC interim head coach, Juma Mgunda.

## Simba SC tactician begins quest for progression to 2022/23 CAF CL group stage

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Simba SC interim head coach Juma Mgunda has begun monitoring his club's 2022/23 CAF Champions League's second preliminary round opponents, CD Primeiro de Agosto of Angola, via video footage ahead of the two clubs' first leg tie.

The first leg tie will have CD Primeiro de Agosto hosting Simba SC in Angola on October 7 before meeting the latter in the return leg in Dar es Salaam.

Mgunda has opted for the approach after successfully taking Simba SC from the first preliminary round stage to the second preliminary round of the CAF Champions League by defeating Malawi champions Nyasa Big Bullets on a 4-0 aggregate win.

Luanda-based CD Primeiro de Agosto beat Zambia's Red Arrows 2-1 on aggregate, commanding a 1-0 victory away and later notching a 1-1 draw at home.

The Angolan club, founded on August 1, 1977, is attached to the Angolan armed forces, its main sponsor.

Its main outfit competes in men's football, and its professional basketball team is also a force to reckon with.

The club's colors are red and black, the club won its first title in football, the Angolan Premier League, in 1979 and the basketball top honour in 1980.

The club's handball and volleyball squads have also won many titles.

In 2018, CD Primeiro de Agosto made it to the semi-finals of the CAF Champions League under Serbian gaffer, Zoran Maki, and was eliminated by the showpiece's eventual winner, Tunisia's Esperance de Tunis.

Coach Mgunda noted that the next step in the CAF Champions League is difficult and has its challenges, which require developing methods that will help his team excel in front of CD Primeiro de Agosto.

He said that CD Primeiro de Agosto is good and prominent in the African continent but they have started to monitor the Angolan side by looking at some of the games they have played recently to determine part of their methods and tactics to conquer.

The tactician revealed: "You know that every time you go from one stage to another, the challenge of the opposition is getting bigger."

The gaffer pointed out: "Our opponents are good and we have every reason to be worried by them because this is a battle, we have to find ways to win it."

Mgunda noted: "CD Primeiro de Agosto is a great team, we continue to follow them by looking at some of their games via video footage on which they played recently to assess strength so we can see how we are going to fight them in 180 minutes."

"After finishing our

## Azam FC midfielder dealt fresh injury setback

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM FC's Kenyan midfielder Kenneth Muguna's troubled season continues after he suffered a fresh injury setback that is expected to sideline him for an unspecified period.

The latest setback came after he picked up an injury in a training session at the Chamazi-based side.

Muguna has made only one appearance for Azam FC in the NBC Premier League this season.

He made a second-half cameo appearance in his club's 2-1 victory over Kagera Sugar on the opening day of the campaign, and he was a spectator in the tie against Geita Gold FC.

He last played for the ice cream makers last month in a friendly match against Djibouti's AS Arta Solar 7 at the Azam Complex Stadium, a game he started on the bench. In that friendly,

Muguna picked up a minor injury.

He was forced to miss Azam FC's 2-2 draw with defending champions Yanga and the subsequent away game against Mbeya City FC which ended with his side cruising to a 1-0 win to remain unbeaten in the league.

Muguna took to his official social media accounts to confirm that the latest setback suffered in training on Monday morning will keep him out for quite some time but remained confident of shaking it off and resuming training.

The Kenyan midfielder stated: "Just came back from a minor injury only to suffer another one in today's session. It's frustrating, but that's part of life we have to deal with in our job."

He disclosed: "I won't be available for some time but I'm positive I'll overcome it and get back to the pitch sooner."

The Kenyan international midfielder joined Azam FC from Kenya's



Kenneth Muguna. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

Gor Mahia. He joined the Chamazi-based club on a two-year deal last year.

After a trophyless first season that saw Azam FC finish third to stretch the league title drought to eight years, Muguna was optimistic about a good campaign this time round.

The footballer noted: "My first season was good, everything went well. The only thing we failed to achieve was to win one of the three trophies we were fighting for."

"In the coming season we are hopeful that we are going to change that and at least win something," Muguna said.

The 2016 Kenyan Premier League's Most Valuable Player (MVP) has previously featured for Kenyan Premier League side Western Stima.

In 2018, he moved to Albania's KF Tirana, but his stay on the European side was short-lived due to injuries and off-the-field issues.

He then rejoined Gor Mahia where he developed to become the club's backbone in the midfield.

Apart from winning the 2021 Kenyan Federation Cup title with his outfit, Muguna boasts of having helped Gor Mahia win four Premier League titles.



## Yanga coach Nassredine Nabi braced for tough opposition in 2022/23 CAF Champions League

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA'S Yanga head coach, Nassredine Nabi, has started assessing Sudan's Al Hilal of Sudan to make his outfit's program successful in this season's CAF Champions League.

Yanga is set to lock horns with Al Hilal in the second preliminary round of the CAF Champions League early next month.

The Tanzanian outfit has set the goal of securing progression to the showpiece's group stage

and has already cruised past the first knockout round with a 9-0 drubbing of South Sudan side, Zalan FC.

Coach Nabi stated after knowing his side's opponents in the following stage, he started closely monitoring the plans and strategies of the Sudan side which has a rich history in the East and Central African region.

He said Al Hilal is a big club and a legend in the continental competition, it knows how to fight and achieve the goals it has

set, so Yanga has to fight fully to prepare based on what it will find in its investigation against the Sudan outfit.

Nabi disclosed: "Al Hilal is a good team with good players and an experienced coach in Florent Ibenge, so to win against them one has to look at them with a careful eye, something that I have been working on since they took on Ethiopia's St. George away and then in the second leg at home."

"We continue to collect videos

of their games they played recently and before we return to the camp on Wednesday (yesterday) to start our preparations, we will have completed this, to start giving our players techniques," the Tunisian gaffer revealed.

Yanga will start the second preliminary round at home at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, taking on Al Hilal between October 7-9, and a week later move to Omdurman to play the return leg between October 14-16.

## Official hails impact of local football coaches on Simba SC

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S football giant Simba SC has hailed the impact of local coaches on the side's victory over Malawi's Nyasa Big Bullets in 2022/23 CAF Champions League's first preliminary round.

Simba SC Chief Executive Officer Barbara Gonzalez said the club is extremely delighted with the technical and tactical abilities shown by the outfit's technical panel comprising caretaker coach Juma Mgunda and his assistant Sulaiman Matola.

Mgunda replaced Serbian Zoran

Maki who parted ways with Simba SC four days before the premier Africa club competition's first leg clash. She said during the first leg duel played in Lilongwe, Simba SC's technical panel proved its worth, helping the outfit defeat Nyasa Big Bullets 2-0.

Barbara stated: "We have all seen for ourselves that we have good local coaches who are capable of delivering the desired results, the team played well today but it's not over given we have other 90 minutes of play."

The official noted: "We need to be in our shape so that we can win

the next game and proceed to the next stage."

She also attributed her club's ability to scale great heights in African football to the investment it has made in players and supporting staff.

The CEO said the investment targets to see to it the outfit reclaims the Mainland Premier League title, Federation Cup, and probably reaches the semi-finals of the continental competition.

"We always recruit the best players, the ones who can deliver the desired results, we also have competent and seasoned technical

staff, we have qualified coaches, a professional data analyst, a scout, a sports psychologist, and others who are helping the team achieve its goals," Barbara stated.

In another interview, coach Mgunda hailed his assistant Matola for giving him technical hints on the club's players.

He said without Matola being with him, it would have been difficult for him to execute his tactics.

The gaffer noted: "Today we have won 2-0, everyone knows that I joined the team two days before the encounter, I did not have enough time to train my charges

but things were made simple as Matola helped me with all the information regarding my players."

"I have been working with Matola for many years... I know his abilities hence I did not find anything difficult," he said.

Mgunda further said they need to work hard as they have other 90 minutes to play against the Malawi side.

The return leg held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, Dar es Salaam last week culminated in a 2-0 victory for Simba SC to have the Tanzanian side securing progression to the second preliminary round.

Simba SC for that matter put behind bitter memories of an early exit in the 2021/22 season's premier continental showpiece following a loss to Botswana's Jwaneng Galaxy FC.

After commanding a 2-0 win over Jwaneng Galaxy FC in Gaborone, Simba went into the return leg game at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium hoping to smoothly sail through to the second preliminary round. The visitors against all odds sprung a surprise on the hosts, cruising to a 3-1 win in the second leg to make it 3-3 and progress to the following via away goal-rule.

## Spain PM condemns Atletico over Vinicius racism incident

MADRID

SPANISH prime minister Pedro Sanchez condemned Atletico Madrid on Tuesday for not taking a stand against the racist chants from their supporters aimed at Real Madrid winger Vinicius Junior.

The club later released a statement saying the abuse was "unacceptable" and that they would will not stop until the culprits were found and banned.

Some sectors of the crowd chanted "You are a monkey, Vinicius, you are a monkey," before and during Real Madrid's 2-1 win at Atletico's Metropolitan stadium on Sunday, while missiles including lighters were thrown at him and Brazilian compatriot Rodrygo as they celebrated a goal.

"I'm a big supporter of Atletico Madrid, so I was very sad," Sanchez told Politico while at the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

"I expected a strong message from the clubs against this kind of behaviour, this is what I will ask of my team. I think it's important that football clubs take this kind of behaviour seriously and react."

La Liga will report the events to the Spanish Football Federation's disciplinary committee but Atletico did not comment until Tuesday afternoon.

"Atletico Madrid condemns the unacceptable chants that a minority of fans sung outside the stadium before the derby," said the club.

"A few cannot stain the image of thousands and thousands of Atletico fans who support their team with passion and respect for the opponent."

"The pain the Rojiblanco family feels for what happened is enormous. We cannot allow our fan base be related with this type of behaviour and question our values because of a minority who do not represent us.

"Our decision is firm and clear, and we will not stop until they are kicked out of the Rojiblanco family, because they cannot be a part of it."

The storm was sparked after Pedro Bravo, the head of the Spanish football agents association, said on television that Vinicius needed to stop 'acting the monkey' when dancing to celebrate goals.

Bravo apologised, saying he was using a phrase which was not intended to have racist connotations. The phrase is commonly used in Spain to mean 'playing the fool'.

Madrid mayor Jose Luis Martinez-Almeida, another Atletico supporter, has also criticised those chanting.

"They have no place, not just at a sporting event but in any sphere of life," said Martinez-Almeida.

"I think what we have to do is identify these people because I don't think they are worthy of coming in. It is absolutely reproachable and needs to be condemned."

AFP

## Storm clouds gather over France team ahead of World Cup defence

PARIS

JUST two months before France begin their defence of the World Cup, the mood around the team is in stark contrast to the celebrations that followed their win over Croatia in the 2018 final.

The clouds have been gathering over coach Didier Deschamps and his squad as key players struggle with injuries and personal problems.

Meanwhile the French Football Federation (FFF) is locked in a row over image rights with its biggest star and its president faces accusations of inappropriate behaviour.

It all threatens to derail France's campaign in Qatar.

More immediately, they go into their final matches before the World Cup this week against Austria and Denmark in the UEFA Nations League with a depleted squad.

Paul Pogba, a goal-scorer in the 4-2 win over Croatia in 2018, is among the players sidelined.

As the Juventus star battles to recover from knee surgery he has filed a complaint with Italian prosecutors saying he was the target of a 13 million-euro (\$13m) blackmail plot.

Pogba's brother Mathias is one of five people charged and detained in the case.

Paul Pogba reportedly told investigators he was effectively kidnapped by childhood acquaintances and threatened by two men in balaclavas carrying assault rifles, who accused him of not having helped them financially.

The ex-Manchester United midfielder also said the blackmailers wanted to discredit him by claiming he asked a witch doctor to cast a spell on Kylian Mbappe, another 2018 World Cup hero.

"It is his word against his brother's. I am going to trust my teammate," Mbappe said recently of Pogba and those claims.

"I think it's in the interests of the national team as well with a big tournament coming up."

- Mbappe dispute -

Mbappe himself is involved in a row with the FFF that risks damaging squad morale.

On Monday, their get-together at the chateau of Clairefontaine, an hour's drive from Paris, was overshadowed by Mbappe's refusal to participate in a photo shoot because of the FFF's unwillingness to modify an agreement regarding players' image rights.

The Paris Saint-Germain superstar has boycotted a shoot before, and on Monday the federation responded quickly, promising to "revise as soon as possible the agreement".

AFP

## Brentford star Mbeumo eyes World Cup place with Cameroon

LONDON

FRANCE-BORN English Premier League forward Bryan Mbeumo hopes switching national team loyalty to Cameroon can win him a place at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

Brentford star Mbeumo is one of many wanting to impress from Thursday as the five African qualifiers -- Cameroon, Ghana, Morocco, Senegal and Tunisia -- play two warm-up matches each.

Brighton defender Tariq Lamptey and Athletic Bilbao forward Inaki Williams, both born in Europe to Ghanaian parents, are among others taking advantage of a FIFA rule that permits changing allegiance.

An increasing number of footballers from Europe are choosing to represent the African country where their parents or grandparents were born.

Opponents for the African quintet between Thursday and Tuesday



Bryan Mbeumo

range from record five-time World Cup winners Brazil to Nicaragua, ranked 139th in the world.

Here, AFP Sport reveals how the qualifiers are shaping up for the last international window until club football halts just seven days before the World Cup kicks off on November 20.

### \*Cameroon

Apart from selecting Mbeumo for the first time, coach Rigobert Song has recalled Nicolas Nkoulou and George Mandjeck for matches in South Korea against the host nation and Uzbekistan.

Defender Nkoulou last lined up for the Indomitable Lions five years ago

and midfielder Mandjeck has not featured for the five-time African champions since 2019.

"We need experienced players like Nicolas and George, who will help our new generation of players grow. They are passionate and patriotic," said Song.

### \*Ghana

Ghana have included Lamptey, Williams and former Germany youth international Stephan Ambrosius and Ransford-Yeboah Konigsdorffer for matches against Brazil and Nicaragua in France and Spain.

There is also a place in the squad for Southampton defender Mohammed Salisu, who was born in Ghana but declined previous call-ups, saying he wanted to concentrate on his club career.

Coach Otto Addo, mastermind of a shock qualification at the expense of Nigeria, has picked five Premier League players, including Arsenal midfielder Thomas Partey

and Crystal Palace forward Jordan Ayew.

### \*Morocco

Most attention will be on Chelsea winger Hakim Ziyech when six-time World Cup qualifiers Morocco tackle Chile and Paraguay at Spanish venues.

He has been recalled by new coach Walid Regragui after being shunned by Bosnian Vahid Halilhodzic, who accused the Premier League player of being "untruthful" and "a trouble maker".

"We look forward to the Hakim that all Moroccans love, the one who fights on the pitch and gives everything for his country," said former international Regragui.

### \*Senegal

African champions Senegal have been hit by a string of blows before facing Bolivia and fellow qualifiers Iran in France and Slovakia.

Bayern Munich full-back Bouna Sarr will miss Qatar due to knee surgery and forward Kei-

ta Balde can only play at the World Cup after the second round due to an anti-doping violation.

A further concern for coach Aliou Cisse is defender Noah Fadiga -- the son of 2002 Senegal World Cup midfielder Khalidou -- who suffered concussion playing in France last weekend.

### \*Tunisia

Consistently poor World Cup performers Tunisia will face Africa Cup of Nations surprise packets the Comoros and star-studded Brazil in France.

"Tackling Brazil is a daunting task," admits captain and leading scorer Wahbi Khazri, "but it will be a great reality check, telling us where we are strong and where we must improve".

Tunisia have won only two and lost nine of 15 matches in five World Cup appearances, with 40 years separating victories over Mexico and Panama.

AFP

## World Cup, Euro 2024 already weigh on Nations League games

By GRAHAM DUNBAR and STEVE DOUGLAS

THE 13 European national teams going to this year's World Cup will play their last competitive soccer games in the Nations League this week, two months before the tournament starts in Qatar.

For the rest of continent's teams -- with the exception of Russia, which has been suspended because of the war in Ukraine -- next week's final Nations League standings will decide the playoff path some will need to qualify for the 2024 European Championship.

Elsewhere in Europe, World Cup-bound teams including Brazil, the United States, Ghana, Japan and Qatar will play warmup games.

### NATIONS LEAGUE

The group stage of the Nations League will be completed with 54 teams playing 53 games over seven days.

In the 16-team League A, the top team in each of the four groups will advance to the Final Four tournament. The current leaders are Denmark, Spain, Hungary and the Netherlands.

The Final Four tournament, scheduled for June 14-18, will be hosted by the winner of the group that includes the Netherlands and Belgium. Those two countries will meet in the decisive match in Group A4 on Sunday in the Netherlands.

Other standout games include: Portugal vs. Spain on Tuesday; Denmark vs. France on Sunday; and Italy vs. England on Friday.

Those last two games have relegation implications. World Cup champion France and England are currently in last place in their groups and could be relegated to the second tier for the next Nations League in 2024.

### HAALAND, UKRAINE RISING

Teams leading second-

tier groups and chal-



French soccer players warm up during a training session of the French national soccer team at Clairefontaine training center, south of Paris, France, Monday, Sept. 19, 2022. (AP Photo)

lenging for promotion include Norway -- led by Erling Haaland's five goals in four games -- and Ukraine.

Norway, which did not qualify for the World Cup, can earn promotion on Tuesday against Serbia.

Ukraine has been unable to host games in international competitions because of the Russian invasion and now has to play three Nations League games in seven days to earn promotion.

Ukraine, which lost in the World Cup playoffs and failed to qualify for the tournament in Qatar, starts on Wednesday in Scotland. The team then travels to Armenia on Saturday and finishes against Scotland again next Tuesday. Ukraine will host that game in Kraków, Poland.

Russia was removed from its second-tier group by UEFA and automatically demoted to the third tier for the 2024 edition, leaving Israel, Iceland and Albania to play in a three-team pool for promotion.

### EURO 2024

The qualifying group draw for the Euro 2024

tournament in Germany will be made Oct. 9 in Frankfurt and will be affected by the Nations League.

The four top-tier group winners next week will go into a Euro 2024 qualifying group of only five teams to clear their schedules for the Nations League Final Four.

The Euro 2024 qualifying draw is expected to have 53 teams, leaving out host Germany and suspended Russia. The draw is expected to have seven five-team groups and three six-team groups, with the top two in each advancing.

The 12 teams competing in the Euro 2024 playoffs for three places at the tournament will be selected according to Nations League standings. All group winners next Tuesday are assured of a playoff place.

### FRIENDLIES

Europe is playing host to a slew of top international teams who are playing what for most will be their final warmups ahead of the World Cup.

Brazil is playing Tunisia and Ghana in France, the country

where its star winger, Neymar, plays his club soccer with Paris Saint-Germain. The Tunisia game is at PSG's stadium.

Uruguay's players will head to Austria and Slovakia to play Iran and Canada, respectively.

The United States plays Japan in Germany on Friday and Saudi Arabia in Spain on Tuesday.

World Cup-bound teams like Senegal, Qatar, Morocco and Ecuador are also playing friendlies in Europe, where many squad members play their club soccer.

### TESTING SQUAD STRENGTH

The World Cup is taking place in the heart of the traditional European season for the first time, leaving national team coaches little preparation time.

Typically, teams have two or three friendly games in an extended build-up to a tournament. Not this time, with most World Cup teams having only one week together before group play starts.

This international break is key for coaches to put ideas in place and maybe test squad strength.

Brazil is testing out Pedro -- the Flamengo striker who is the top scorer in this season's Copa Libertadores -- as a new attacking option. France coach Didier Deschamps will have to dig deep into his resources after injury withdrawals including Hugo Lloris, Lucas Digne and Boubacar Kamara, added to the absences of star players Paul Pogba, Karim Benzema and N'Golo Kanté.

With Jordan Pickford injured, England coach Gareth Southgate must test another goalkeeper against Italy and Germany.

Indeed, for some players, decisive Nations League qualifiers essentially double up as trials to get into World Cup squads.

AP

## Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Brentford star Mbeumo eyes World Cup place with Cameroon

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## Serengeti Boys intensify preparations for U-17 AFCON qualifiers



Players making Tanzania's national U-17 football squad, Serengeti Boys, engage in drills at Black Rhino Stadium in Karatu, Arusha last week ahead of this year's U-17 AFCON qualifiers for CECAFA Zone slated for September 20-October 19 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

**T**ANZANIA's national U-17 soccer side, Serengeti Boys, has stepped up preparations ahead of 2023 U-17 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers for the CECAFA Zone.

The zonal qualifiers will take place between September 20-October 19, 2022 at the Abebe Bikila Stadium in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

After two weeks of residential training at JMK Youth Park in Dar es Salaam, the team moved to the Black Rhinos Academy in Karatu, Arusha to continue with preparations under head coach Kim Poulsen.

Speaking after Wednesday's morning training ses-

sion, Poulsen was content with the performance of the players in the training sessions thus far and how the squad is taking shape.

The Danish coach revealed: "We have just finished the morning session, the first out of two sessions today."

The gaffer said: "As always the pitch is very nice here, the weather is also good for training. The boys are taking to training very well, they are committed to the work."

"I can see from day to day, not only the individuals are growing but also the shape and structure of the team

is growing. The final part of our preparation here in Karatu will be two international friendly matches against South Sudan."

"We are looking forward to playing these matches because it is very important for us to play international friendly matches before the tournament in Addis Ababa. Friendly matches give us answers to the questions we have, that's where we can see where the players are at the moment."

"Preparation is going well and we are looking forward to the two friendly matches with South Sudan at the end of the week."

Serengeti Boys who finished second in the last edition held in Rwanda have been drawn in Group A alongside Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia and South Sudan. They will open their campaign against hosts Ethiopia on September 30 before taking on Eritrea three days later.

South Sudan will be their third Group stage opponents on October 6 before the final battle with Somalia.

Group B of the tournament has reigning champion Uganda together with Rwanda, Djibouti, Sudan and Burundi who missed

the last edition.

The best two teams from each group will qualify for the semi-final stage, the tournament finalists will earn automatic qualification to the 2023 U-17 Africa Cup of Nations to be played in Algeria.

Tanzania will aim to qualify for the continental finals for the fourth consecutive time, having done so in 2017 in Gabon, in 2019 as hosts in Dar es Salaam and in 2021 showpiece that was expected to take place in Morocco which unfortunately were cancelled at the last minute due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

**5 EATV THURSDAY**  
11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 WEEKEND MOVIE (r)  
13:30 Kati za Wana  
14:00 Bongo Hits  
14:30 Ujenzi (r)  
15:00 Runguka  
15:30 Ubongo Kids (r)  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:30 #HSHIAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 #Newz  
18:30 Bongo Hits  
19:00 EATV SAA (r)  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 NIRVANA  
21:30 TOP 10  
22:00 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa (r)  
23:05 EATV SAA (r)

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**  
NIRVANA

NIRVANA is hip and edgy. It explores the latest trends in fashion, art, style and recreational activities. NIRVANA speaks to the trend makers, shapers and observers. It's a one stop shop for everything trendy.

**eastafrika RADIO**  
06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Bluefins Club to field 26 swimmers in National Open Championships

By Guardian Correspondent

DAR ES SALAAM's Bluefins Swim Club has announced a strong squad of 26 swimmers who will represent the club in this weekend's National Open Swimming Championships which will be held at the International School of Tanganyika's swimming pool in the city.

Bluefins Swim Club, one of the leading swimming clubs in the country, has selected swimmers who have all qualified for the Open Championships.

Rahim Alidina, Bluefins Swim Club's founder and head coach, revealed: "Our swimmers have been under intensive training for these championships, and the team has been boosted by the arrival of the club's top swimmer Aaron Akwenda who is also the Tanzania's national team swimmer."

The tactician revealed: "He had been abroad for his studies but has just made it on time for this weekend's championships."

"His arrival has immensely boosted the morale of our swimmers who had been preparing for the championships."

"We also expect our other prominent swimmers Aminaz and Aliyana Kachra to arrive in the country this week and be part of our team for the championships," Alidina added.

The team also features top swimmers Sahal Harunani, Avinav Mahapatra, Jay Badiani, Salman Yasser, Kabeer Lakhani, Aaliya Takim, Burhanuddin Jivajee, and Zainab Moosajee.

Alidina said: "Our coaches have been preparing our swimmers with a very intensive training program and we expect the swimmers to perform well and get lots of PB's during the event."

"We have a good mixture of young and upcoming swimmers some of whom will be taking part in their first National Championship as we continue to offer young and upcoming swimmers opportunity, alongside our experienced swimmers, and we will have swimmers in all age categories starting from the ones aged nine and 10 up to the age category of 15 years and above," he said.

The full list of Bluefins Swim Club's swimmers for the National Open Championships comprises Aliyana Kachra, Zainab Moosajee, Fatema Manji, Aaliya Takim, Aminaz Kachra, Imaan Kimario, Zac Okumu, Abbas Abdulali, Jay Badiani, Kabeer Lakhani, and Sahal Harunani.

Also in the list are Adnan Hassanali, Avinav Mahapatra, Idris Zavery, Burhanuddin Mustansir, Mohammadhussein Imran, Moiz Kaderbhai, Kaysan Kachra, Mohamed Manji, Burhanuddin Jivajee, Qais Kanji, Zaeem Somji, Saalih Mbonde, Gervas Sayi, Salman Yasser, and Aaron Akwenda.

## Azam FC heads to Zambia for friendly against TP Mazembe

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's Azam FC departs for Zambia today to confront Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) football giant, TP Mazembe, in an international friendly tie to be played at Levi Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola tomorrow.

Thabit Zacharia, Azam FC's information officer, said all is set for the match he described as important to his side ahead of its NBC Premier League matches and 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup.

The side is expected back home on Friday and will, next week, come up against Tanzania Prison in a Premier League clash at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya.

Azam FC is set to, three days later, host Singida Big Stars at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

After the two domestic top flight ties, Azam FC will then travel to Tripoli, Libya to confront Al Akhdar in 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup second preliminary round's first leg.

TP Mazembe, CAF Champions League winners on five occasions, are in Ndola for a series of friendly clashes.

Mazembe will use the friendly against Azam FC to shape up for 2022/23 CAF Champions League's second preliminary round encounter against Vipers SC of Uganda.

"All is set for our trip to Zambia, we are really delighted with TP Mazembe's invitation for the game, it is a litmus test to our side ahead of NBC Premier League games and

international tournaments," he said.

The information officer also noted that the clash against TP Mazembe will help Azam FC's head coach Denis Lavagne assess some of his players who have been lacking playing time, impart his football philosophy and preferred brand of football.

"Our head coach has just joined the team, he did not have enough time to prepare his charges, impart his football philosophy, and his preferred brand of football to the team. The tie will also offer players who have been lacking playing time opportunity

to show their competence," he said.

The official noted Azam FC youth team's goalkeepers Anthony Remy and Bravo Bakari are expected to be part of the trip as first choice and second choice keepers respectively.

The move has come about as first team shot stoppers, Comoros national Ali Ahamada, has joined Comoros national squad, and his Tanzanian counterpart, Zubeir Foba had got call-up for Tanzania's national U-23 team now preparing for U-17 AFCON qualifiers for the CECAFA Zone.

French tactician Lavagne joined Azam FC three weeks ago and his

first assignment in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League was a tie against the league's defending champion, Yanga, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium and had the clubs locked to 2-2 draw. His second match in charge was 1-0 win away to Mbeya City FC at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya, with Congolese forward Idris Mbombo scoring the winner for the visitors.

Under Lavagne, Azam FC has seemingly improved, the squad is now playing with more confidence, can control the pace of the game, build up play from the back, and attack systematically.



Micasa Lounge & Bar Entertainment Affairs Manager, James Pokoso (L) hands over jerseys worth 200,000/- to the U.N Veteran team's manager Jeremiah Jhuri (2nd L) in Dar es Salaam over the weekend after the team emerged as the winner of a tournament, dubbed 'Veteran Afya Bonanza'. Others are (L-R) the tournament's organizer Eric Furaaha, who is also Iron Digital Marketing Director, and the team's coach Fikiri Christopher. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

ONCE  
USED TO RECORD  
WHAT TRANSPIRED  
(THINGS I DID)



NOW  
... FIX NEW APPOINTMENTS  
(THINGS TO DO)