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### ACCOUNTABILITY



**CLIMATE CHANGE TAKES HEAVY TOLL ON HEALTH IN TANZANIA PAGE 3**

### COMPENSATION



**EMPLOYERS URGED TO SUBMIT WORKERS' CLAIMS ONLINE PAGE 4**

### HEALTH



**MSD DISPATCHES MEDICAL PRODUCTS SIX TIMES A YEAR PAGE 6**

### EDUCATION



**UDSM TO HAVE HEALTH AND SCIENCE CAMPUS IN MBEYA PAGE 7**



## MCT alerts on AI 'fake news' ● Mukajanga quits after 15 years

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) has expressed concern over the advent of artificial intelligence in local media activities and the danger it portends.

Kajubi Mukajanga (pictured), the outgoing executive secretary, cautioned here yesterday at an occasion to mark the 'International Day for Universal Access to Information' that digital technology can be deployed to manipulate images, sound and videos to create false reports and fabricated events.

He said that it will be difficult for ordinary people to distinguish fact from fiction once artificial intelligence is deployed to produce genuinely looking reports, videos, images and even mimicking a particular person's voice.

The event was conducted to examine the importance of online space for access to information, where the MCT administrator



**...journalists still operate under a hostile environment, often facing threats, getting warned not to run certain types of stories, recalling the recent DP World port contract saga where discussions about the issue are being restricted**

noted that AI can be used to manipulate digital facilities to create falsified news or frame individuals.

Marking the international day went in synchrony with the MCT annual general meeting taking place for two days, with senior journalists getting to discuss, among other things, the current situation in the media industry.

Presenting the council's annual report, he stated that local journalists still face cumbersome impediments in seeking information especially from public offices, from communication officers, heads of institutions or political leaders.

He hailed Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi for organizing periodical meetings with members of the press at the Zanzibar State House, while expressing displeasure with the Electronic and Postal Communications Act for controls placed over online content.

The Cybercrime Act similarly inhibits the freedom of expression in the country's media landscape, as people are required to pay 500,000/- to run social media platforms providing YouTube accounts, blogs or

TURN TO PAGE 2

# Step in over drug use, PM appeals to clerics

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has asked clerics of various denominations to enhance collaboration with the government in the fight against drug trafficking and intoxicant abuse.

Standing in for President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the Maulid Baraza at the Jakaya Kikwete Conference Hall in the national capital, Dodoma the premier emphasized on the need to cooperate against drug trafficking.

The use of illicit drugs has affected sections of the youth who anchor the country's expectations in innovation, initiative and hard work, entailing economic, health and environmental problems.

He said that using illicit drugs similarly affects the ability of the user to think, urging religious leaders to ensure that they keep objecting to the decay of moral observance in the society.

Religious adherents should be urged to participate in income earning activities, a major requirement for the public to be able to safeguard the country's peace, the foremost need for development.

Living in peace and praying for our nation and its leaders was vital, he said, underlining that the government will take stern measures upon those found to be engaged in acts of corruption, embezzlement of public funds and abuse of office.

Alhaj Nuhu Jabir Mruma, the Muslim Council of Tanzania secretary general, expressed the council's satisfaction with President Samia's performance in economic, political and social sectors, including uplifting the country's democratic space.

He appealed to the government to expand the civic education scope by collaborating with religious leaders to enable Tanzanians understanding related to elections to fully participate in the civic elections next year and the General Election in 2025.



**...using illicit drugs similarly affects the ability of the user to think, urging religious leaders to ensure that they keep objecting to the decay of moral observance in the society**



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa represents President Samia Suluhu Hassan in addressing the Maulid Council at national level in Dodoma city yesterday. The event was among the highlights of the commemoration of Prophet Muhammad's birth anniversary. Photo: PMO

## African cities exchange green energy notes with Chinese city

By Mary Kadoke, Beijing

AFRICAN countries are keen on cooperating with China in exploring paths to green and low carbon energy sources, with Kenya showcasing its more than 80 per cent renewable sourcing so far.

This intention was expressed in the Chinese city of Shandong at the 2023 World Cities Forum and regional leaders' summit under the theme 'creating a green vision together for a better home.'

Benjamin Cheboi, the Baringo County governor in Kenya said keynote speech followed by an interactive discussion on the country's long-standing science and technology links with China.

He expressed his satisfaction working with



**This would deepen practical cooperation between Shandong and friendly cities worldwide, as it has capacity for self-driven links**

Chuanshan, a Chinese company licensed by the Kenyan government to harness diatomite resources in Tiaty Sub County in Baringo.

He said Kenya is committed to deepening and expanding cooperation in that field, creating a sustainable green economy, noting that more companies are welcome to partner with the various counties in using abundant renewable resources to establish green industries and solar powered irrigation schemes.

This would create stronger economies and a sustainable world for all countries, saying that Kenya has made rapid advances in that area, with Kenya expecting to generate 93 percent of its electricity from

TURN TO PAGE 2

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S manufacturers and exporters have been tasked to increase the use of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) with its unexplored opportunities.

Mwanahamisi Hussein (pictured), the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) acting managing director, issued this appeal in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a training session for manufacturers and traders it organised.

The trade bloc will help Tanzanian firms with market outlets, increase foreign earnings and build the wider economy, noting that the continental trade bloc offers opportunities that Tanzanians can't just ignore.

The training sessions are meant to expose local manufacturers and traders to the benefits and opportunities found in AfCFTA, especially for wider markets for Tanzanian products, where trading is conducted without tariffs, she

## TCCIA schools firms on AfCFTA procedure



said.

TCCIA expects local exporters to use this bloc to strengthen the country's industrial base, create wealth, jobs, earn foreign currency and strengthen the national economy, she stated.

The trading bloc offers a chance for Tanzania to earnestly engage in continental and world trade instead of being at the receiving end, she said, underlining the need to push for greater exports that are needed elsewhere, and not just an importer of products from outside.

"We want to export our products, especially using this free trade area," she said, noting that TCCIA has an obligation to support government efforts in the matter as the government is prioritising efforts and projects of the private sector.

Joshua Zuberi, a seminar participant, said the session has enabled participants to

TURN TO PAGE 2



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## African cities exchange green energy notes with Chinese city

FROM PAGE 1  
renewable resources soon.

"The figures only go up because of the huge potential of geothermal, wind and solar energy which presents massive opportunities for investment and partnership," he stated.

He said Baringo was a potential global Geopark in Africa after M'Goun, a mountain in Morocco and Ngorongoro Lengai, a mountain in northern Tanzania, with potential investors from Shandong Province and China generally likely to obtain opportunities there.

Bala Mohammed, the Bauchi State governor in Nigeria, said that China and Africa countries are destined to be good friends and partners based on the sense of a shared future and common interests.

Cooperation between China and Nigeria has seen development in various sectors being driven by "wheels of guiding strategies and contracted projects."

Lin Wiu, the provincial secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) opened the forum in a speech that underlined the Shandong example in green development and ecological protection.

Citing different business needs and purchasing intentions, he said the province offers opportunities for promotions, exchanges, trade negotiations and matchmaking with local business associations and corporate representatives.

This would deepen practical cooperation between Shandong and friendly cities worldwide, as it has capacity for self-driven links, he stated.

Shandong, sitting on the lower reaches of the Yellow River, is a coastal province in eastern China with a population of 102 million in 16 cities and 136 counties. The coastal zone led the way in China's business transformation since the start of modernization in the late 1970s as a special economic zone, analysts noted.



Milade Nabii Association Zanzibar chief advisor Sheikh Sherah Champsi (L) presents qasida (poem) on Islamic Year 1445 to Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi during Prophet Muhammad's birth anniversary celebrations at Maisara Suleiman grounds in Unguja District on Wednesday evening. Photo: Zanzibar State House

## MCT alerts on AI 'fake news'

FROM PAGE 1  
websites.

Shufaa Hassan, the MCT representative in Zanzibar, on her part said it was important for media personnel to hold regular meetings to address problems affecting their profession.

Participants said that journalists still operate under a hostile environment, often facing threats, getting warned not to run certain types of stories, recalling the recent DP World port contract saga where discussions about the issue are being restricted.

Veteran editors like Jabir Idrissa, Nassor Haji Mohammed and Khadija Yussuf aired views on the matter, and later, executive secretary Mukajanga announced his resignation forthwith, handing over office within three months, after leading the MCT for 15 years.

The MCT board of directors has appointed Ernest Sungura, former executive director of the Tanzania Media Fund (TMF) to the MCT position, with plans afoot for orientation activities to enable him work more efficiently.

## TCCIA schools firms on AfCFTA procedure

FROM PAGE 1

see in a more vivid way the various opportunities available in the

continental trade bloc, in particular its zero tariff aspect, as it benefits both exporters and their clients.

Maria Mtui, another participant, said the training session permitted a clearer understanding of how the bloc

operates and the sort of documents involved in conducting trade within the bloc.

## Tanzania to export sugar within the next two years

By Guardian Correspondent, Kagera

THE government has said that following mega investments done by local industries, Tanzania expects to export sugar within two years.

Dr Hashil Abdalah, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade made the remarks when he visited Kagera Sugar Factory to witness production progress.

Dr Abdalah was along with other two PSs who were Dr Natu Mwamba, PS in the Ministry of Finance and Gerald Mweli, PS Ministry of Agriculture.

According to Dr Hashil, the tour was implementation of the directives issued by Chief Secretary, Dr Moses Kusiluka who wanted the leaders to visit factories to inspect operations and production progress.

He said they are satisfied with the advanced technology used in the factory to produce the product and that the technology will help produce a large amount of sugar that will eliminate the shortage of the product in this country.

"President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan has worked hard to set policies and an enabling environment for the industrial sector and the private sector in general to flourish, and in June 2022, she came here to lay the foundation stone of the third phase of the expansion of this factory," he explained.

He said the visit of the PSs is one of the government's strategies to ensure that the country is self-sufficient in food and other products such as sugar to reduce imports.

He said that the government will continue to create a favorable environment for investors to construct sugar factories to increase production.

"The good thing is that the owner of this factory assured us that they will continue expanding operations and has assured us how they are going to increase production to cater the country's demand and even sell it abroad," Dr Hashil noted.

He said the expansion of the Kagera Sugar factory is going well using advanced technology which has increased production where in this it is expected to produce 15,000 tonnes

of sugar.

"However, the factory plans to produce 300,000 tonnes per year when it completes the expansion of the fourth phase, thereby making Tanzania not to import sugar abroad, increasing the level of employment and providing the nation with foreign currency," he added.

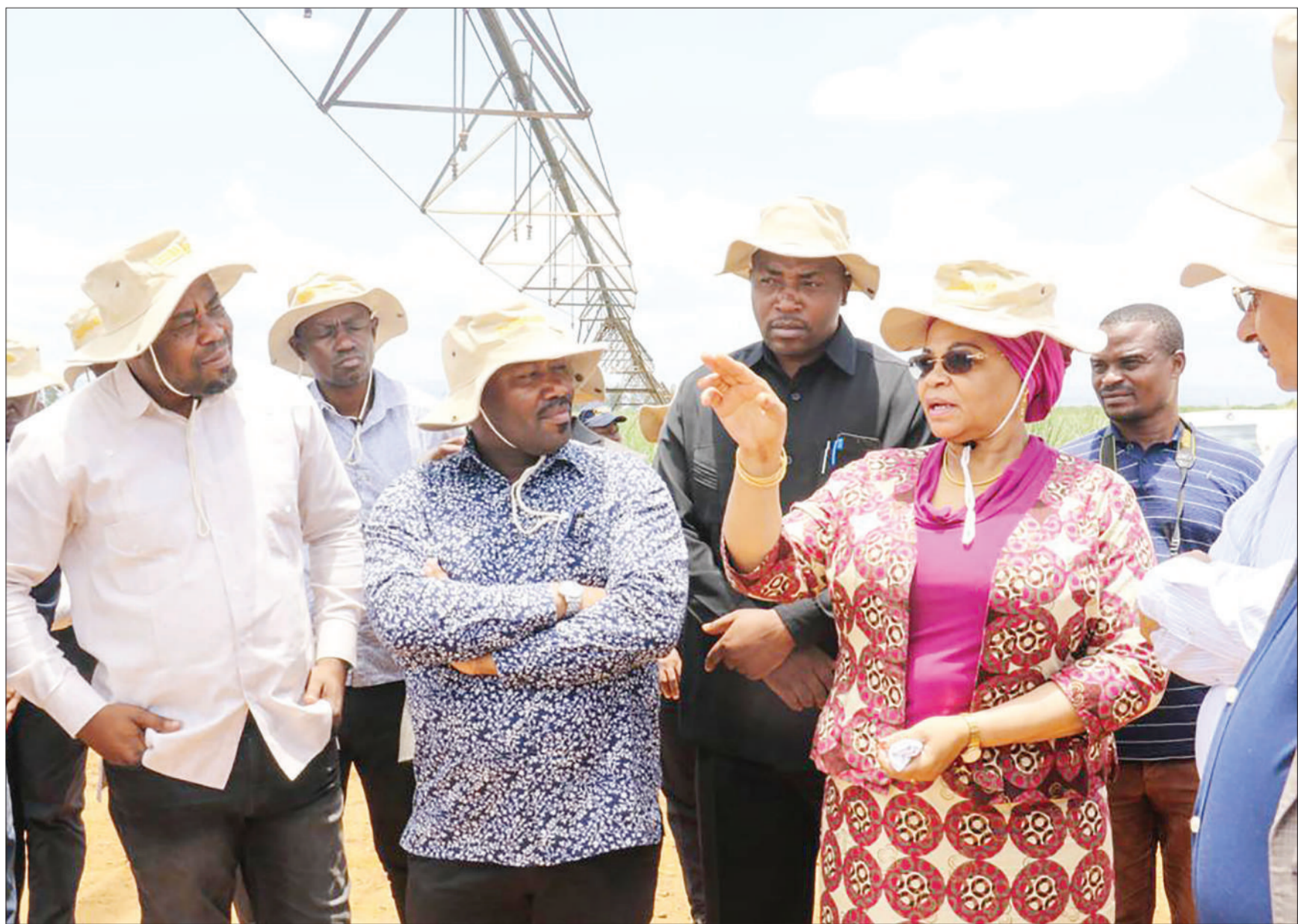
Tobi Nguvilo, Kagera Regional Administrative Secretary said that they were working hard to ensure that there is always a friendly environment for investors to operate commending Kagera Sugar for the major expansion initiative.

He said the factory has employed 115,000 people from the region and has been contributing to various social activities.

Self Ally Seif, owner of the factory and chairman of the Association of Sugar Producers commended the government for putting conducive environment for them to operate and assured that they will continue embarking on initiatives to bolster sugar production in the country.



**The good thing is that the owner of this factory assured us that they will continue expanding operations and has assured us how they are going to increase production to cater the country's demand and even sell it abroad**



Finance ministry permanent secretary Dr Natu El-Maamry Mwamba (R, gesturing) pictured with other permanent secretaries during a tour of Kagera Sugar factory in Misenye District, Kagera Region, earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Uganda announces new population census dates

By Peter Sserugo

THE cabinet last week passed a resolution to conduct the national housing and population census starting on May 10, 2024.

Speaking to journalists in Kampala, the minister for ICT and national guidance, Dr Chris Baryomunsi said by May next year, the government will have raised the required resources of over Shs130 billion to conduct the enumeration exercise across the country.

"Government has marked the night of May 9 as the new census night preceding the actual population enumeration that will commence on May 10," Dr Baryomunsi said.

According to him, May 10 shall be a public holiday and "the process will take a period of at least 10 days."

In July, Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS), the body in charge of the exercise postponed the census that was originally scheduled for last month (August) due to delays in the procurement of the required logistics, especially the tablets that were needed to facilitate the digital approach to the exercise.

The postponement of the sixth national census since independence was also predetermined by UBOS' failure to secure Shs134 billion from the finance ministry that is grappling with challenges of raising the money amidst looming funding cuts from

the international community as a result of the recently passed Anti-Homosexuality Law.

However, Dr Baryomunsi gave assurance that; "All is set for the country to carry out the census exercise because the logistical issues which caused the postponement have been sorted out."

"This is going to be the first census where we are using digital systems and we expect the release of results to be much faster compared to the previous manual exercises," he added.

The last census which took place in 2014 put the country's population at 36 million and it is currently estimated that the number has since surged to slightly above 45 million people.

The census figures play a critical role in guiding planning, policy formulation, programme implementation as well as monitoring development progress in line with the national goals and objectives of the National Development Plan (NDP III).

According to UBOS, approximately 120,000 people are expected to be recruited and deployed across the country to assist in the enumeration exercise.

The national housing and population census is a mandatory requirement to all UN member countries and it is supposed to be conducted after 10 years to ensure proper planning for the people in various respective countries.



Finance deputy minister Hamad Hassan Chande (3rd-L, foreground, in light-blue suit) pictured yesterday arriving for the opening of the Third International Transparency and Accountability Conference (ITAC 2023) in Arusha city. The event is organised by Wajibu - Institute of Public Accountability, whose executive director is former Auditor and Controller General Ludovick Utouh (holding bag). Photo: Sanula Athanas

## 'Climate change is taking a heavy toll on public health in Tanzania'

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

OVER 50 percent of all the medicinal drugs being imported in Tanzania are usually procured to address and treat ailments arising from effects of climate change.

That was revealed in Arusha by the Deputy Minister of Finance, Hamad Chande, at the ongoing conference on International Transparency and Accountability (ITAC) 2023 which runs under the theme of 'Strengthening Accountability for Climate Action.'

"Effects of climate change go beyond destruction on environment and hostile weather, they are now taking a

toll on people's health and costing the country huge expenses in treatment costs," pointed out the Deputy Minister. Ludovick Utouh is the Director of Wajibu Institute of Public Accountability, which organized the conference who said Tanzania's contribution to greenhouse gases is less than 1 percent, but still the country suffers the consequences of global warming and climate change.

He said even the cases of livestock and wildlife perishing in Northern Tanzania, especially Longido District; it was all the result of climate change, which happens to be the long-term alteration in Earth's climate and

weather patterns.

The extent of land degradation in Tanzania has increased from 42 percent in 1980 to over 50 percent by the year 2012 and counting.

Utouh who also happens to be the former CAG said the entire World and Africa in particular is currently experiencing severe weather extremes and that countries executing climate change programs must ensure accountability of related funds. "We cannot deal with the consequences, which means the only option for Tanzania and other African countries is taking preventive measures and these require huge funds that also must

be properly accounted for," said Utouh.

Since 2016, the Wajibu Institute of Public Accountability has been organizing International Conferences on Transparency and Accountability.

The 2023 Conference in Arusha is being attended by, among other countries, Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, and South-Africa.

One of the participants, Dr Chanililo Martin, the lecturer at the Arusha University said when it comes to climate change, it has always been just talks, and thus there is the need for countries to start taking actions.

The annual conferences have been used as a way of bringing together national and international experts to exchange experiences and best practices on better management and utilization of public resources.

This year, ITAC 2023 will focus on strengthening accountability for climate action.

## Study says anthropogenetic factors reduce water flow in Mbarali River

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbarali

WATER flow of the Mbarali River is drastically lessening due to increase of demand and other destructive human activities, according to a two-year study conducted by the Sokoine University (SUA) and the National Environment Management Council (NEMC).

The research was conducted under the implementation of the Sustainable Catchment Management through Enhanced Environmental Flow Assessment (EFLOWS) project. The project was meant to help strengthen protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities in Tanzania.

Presenting the study's findings at a stakeholders meeting held in Mbarali District, Mbeya Region recently, project principal researcher from SUA, Prof. Japhet Kashaigili said more coordinated efforts are still needed to strengthen protection of the country rivers.

"What we have seen in the research is that the amount of water in the river has continued to decrease, population growth being a major reason and increase of economic activities, expansion of farming and irrigation along the river, something which raises water demand at a time when the country is also facing climate change challenges. Drought that has been hitting the country in recent years has greatly impacted flow of water and the river ecosystem," Prof. Kashaigili said.

According to him, increasing human activities such as agriculture, livestock keeping, brick making at water sources and along the river have contributed significantly to the decline in water flows into the river.

The study shows that due to the major effects in the river that has reduced flow of water, Mbarali river is not contributing anything to the Great Ruaha River especially during dry season.

"The river's ecology and its sustainability has been affected and thus hampering achieving targets of both national and the global sustainable development goals in

conservation and protection of the river biodiversity," the Principal Researcher explained.

The during the study, implementers engaged in various activities to further restore natural vegetation to all the water sources, affected river banks, where the project has initially helped to establish two large nurseries of water-friendly trees in the district of Wanging'ombe Njombe Region and Mbarali in Mbeya.

In close collaboration with locals, SUA and NEMC succeeded in planting more than 45,000 trees on the sources and banks of rivers as well as initiating beekeeping to increase the income of the water user associations that manage watersheds as well as increase conservation.

An expert in aquatic sciences and micro-invertebrates from the Open University of Tanzania, Sherald Mkama who was monitoring the health of the river and water safety through the project said that the findings have shown that the water flowing in the river was safe that's why a number of organisms are attracted to live in.

The researcher asked the authorities to ensure that there is good management especially in farming schemes by controlling much use of chemicals which in turn come back to the river and may cause impacts to both humans and animals.

Dr Emmanuel Mwainunu from the Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORD) who was looking at the plants growing along rivers and water sources said that these plants were important as they help with the maintenance of the river health by absorbing fertilizer and making it flow slowly as well as preventing erosion of riverbanks.

This project carried out by SUA in collaboration with NEMC and implemented in the Rufiji River Basin within the Mbarali River catchment in collaboration with the Rufiji Basin Water Board, water user associations, Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS), Mbarali and Wanging'ombe Districts and communities, with funding from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

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## Dr Nchemba makes appeal to SwedFund for aid priority

By Guardian Correspondent, Stockholm

THE Minister for Finance, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, has appealed to the Swedish Fund for Development (SwedFund) to accord Tanzania priority in its assistance towards investing in the production sectors in order to boost employment opportunities and the nation's economic growth.

Dr Nchemba made the appeal here this week when he met and held discussions with SwedFund Projects Director, Stefan Falk during which they delved into crosscutting issues between Tanzania and the Fund.

He said that Tanzania's production sectors, including farming, livestock, fishing, tourism and minerals employ many Tanzanians, the youth in particular to which the government has decided to channel huge resources through its Budget and various programmes to boost the sectors.

Dr Nchemba said that when SwedFund is preparing its new five year development strategy early next year, it is important to look into how will contribute in to the government's plans as apart from boosting employment opportunities to a large section of Tanzanians, will also enhance production of crops that will earn the country the much needed foreign currency.

He said the plan should be clear

in enhancing benefits in the said sectors through essential value adding technology on crops and on how to reach the appropriate markets.

Dr Nchemba also used the occasion to thank the government of Sweden for its cooperation with the government of Tanzania by contributing to the country's development during the 60-year period of collaboration in various sectors including farming, health, energy, infrastructure as well as the fight against poverty through the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) construction.

For his part, SwedFund Projects Director, Stefan Falk said that Tanzania-Sweden relations is the one to emulate and that his country was ready to work on the recommendations and advice given by Dr Nchemba because the said sectors are important for the country's economic growth and the war on poverty.

He also expressed his surprise on huge development strides happening in Tanzania in the past short period apart from challenges facing the world at the moment and called on Sweden to take a leaf from Tanzania on how to control economic hiccups including high inflation.

Dr Nchemba has ended his visit in Sweden during which he met and held discussions with various officials from the country's strategic ministries including its financial institutions.

## Invest in education system that furthers distance learning, African nations urged

By Guardian Reporter

FORMER Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda has suggested the need for African countries to invest in education systems that facilitate distance learning.

He described the move as an important move as it ensures people easily access education, skills and knowledge for self-reliance.

According to him, the innovative and reliable education systems will help produce competent experts while providing people with skills to enable them establish projects and stimulate self-employment.

Pinda made the call at the 1st International Forum on reflection on Education systems for sustainable development held at Julius Nyerere Leadership School in Kibaha, Coast Region from September 27 to 29.

"At this time where there is a high number of students joining primary, secondary and then higher education, this wants universities and colleges to prepare themselves by constructing enough infrastructure to facilitate learning, and here open distance and online learning are seen as the best option to go with," he said.

Pinda who also doubles as

Chancellor of the Open University of Tanzania said that the institution has greatly invested in online learning and teaching infrastructure, something which enables many people to access education services wherever they are.

Prof Kenneth Hosea from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology said that the forum has come at the right time when the government is conducting major reforms in the education systems including policies, laws and curriculums.

"The ongoing reforms have reached a good stage and what is awaited are decisions from the relevant government bodies. The curriculum which we have suggested is a product of public opinion as we want to stimulate provision of education which will build students to be more creative, knowledgeable and independent and once graduated, he/she will be able to engage in self-employment to increase income," he explained.

Prof. Elifas Bisanda, Open University vice chancellor assured the ministry that the institution is well prepared to implement the new curriculum as it has always been at the forefront of innovation and establishing various programs that cater needs of the society.



Workers Compensation Fund director General Dr John Mduma (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday presenting working tools to Cecilia Assey, one of the participants of a WCF capacity building seminar on occupational health and safety risk management and occupational incident notification made possible through an online service portal. Looking on is WCF's Workplace Risk Assessment manager Naanjela Msangi. Photo: Correspondent

## Employers urged to submit workers' claims data online

By Guardian Reporter

EMPLOYERS in the country have been urged to use Information and communication Technology (ICT) in submitting details of an employee involved in accident, illness or death from his/her work through his/her work contract in order to simplify the compensation process.

The call was made recently by the Director General of Workers Compensation Fund (WCF), Dr John Mduma when opening a seminar for human resources officers and health safety officials at workplaces in Dar es Salaam Region.

He said from their responsibilities given by the firms they represent, the officials are an important link between the employers and WCF and that the Fund has simplified its service provision to go in tandem with technology changes and that at present all services are online via portal.wcf.go.tz. "Our experience shows that our services uptake is sufficient and obtained online, hence I urge on the use of WCF online services which are cost friendly and fast," he stressed.

He said WCF exists to deal with challenges facing employers at work places including social and economic challenges.

Dr Mduma further said the government established the Fund in order to carry the burden of serving an employee who is injured at work place or falls ill, while his employer remains with sustainable production from his firm.

Regarding issues discussed at the seminar, WCF Director of assessment services, Dr Abdulsalaam Omar said participants have learned how to submit online details of accidents or illness on employees at work places, including submission of claims, but also they learned on issues of safety and health of workers at their workplaces.

On their part, seminar participants

commended WCF for the procedure and called on the Fund to provide similar education to various groups in regard to workers' compensation.

Zainab Jereko, one of the participants, urged employers to abide by health safety issues at work places, saying even though WCF's task is to compensate workers, this, she said, does not remove employers' responsibilities to abide by health safety measures at work places.

She also commended the procedure to submit claims online saying "it has been of great help as it has simplified the issue of submission of details including removal of bureaucracy that cause unnecessary details."

In accordance with the Workers Compensation Act, every employer in Tanzania Mainland is required to register in WCF through portal.wcf.go.tz or apply by filling forms WCR-1 and WCR-2 and submitting them to the nearest WCF office.

## Ugandan mining experts learn innovative technologies at Geita Expo

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

THIS year's Geita Mining Technology Exhibition has drawn a diverse range of stakeholders,

including officials from the Ministry of Minerals in Uganda.

The officials had the opportunity to learn how Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) employs

modern technology in its underground and open pit mining operations.

The visiting Ugandans, headed by Morris Muheirwe Tabaaro, Inspector of Mines in the Directorate of Geological Survey and Mines for Eastern Uganda, visited the GGML booth at the ongoing sixth exhibition at EPZ grounds in Bombabili, Geita.

Tabaaro explained that their visit was not only to share experiences but also to gain knowledge about the company's methods for mineral research and mining, both in open pit and underground ways.

Emmanuel Njabugeni, GGML's Engineer 3-Long Term Planning UG Mining stated that the initiative demonstrates Tanzania's leadership in mining practices, following numerous well-established guidelines and even influencing the nation.

Njabugeni, with over 15 years of experience in mining activities, explained that during the exhibition they educated visitors, small miners and participants on modern technologies that help reduce mining costs and protect the environment.

"We have made significant progress in technology, including the Studio UG software for underground mining, as well as other technologies that we demonstrated to our Ugandan colleagues, highlighting the benefits they can reap.

"Our colleagues from Uganda have the opportunity to learn a lot from us here in Tanzania, particularly from GGML - the largest gold mine not only in Tanzania but in East and Central Africa.

"GGML is at the forefront of technology and environmental conservation, which is why I have instructed our Ugandan peers on how these practices are implemented in mining while preserving the environment. This approach has greatly benefited us, as well as the wider community," he concluded.

"I clarified that we employ research companies in Geita. For example at GGML, we rely on the services of Capital Mining Services to provide us with data which determines whether a profit or loss will be made. The price of gold, the equipment and the cost of human resources, as well as expenses like hole filling and environmental safety, all factor into this analysis."

This move comes at a time when the government is strengthening its efforts to implement the Vision 2030, initiated by the Minister of Minerals, Athony Mavunde, which aims to ensure that minerals are the wealth and livelihood of Tanzanians.

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SIX (6) VEHICLES are available for VIEWING in DAR ES SALAAM from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> of OCTOBER 2023 from 8 AM - 4 PM:

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Due to large interest the buyers should preferably ensure they register, get the bidding numbers, and pay the deposits latest by Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2023 before the auction day.

**THE AUCTION SHALL START at 11:00AM on 14<sup>th</sup> of OCT. 2023 at AIRD LOGISTICS BASE KIGOMA BIDDING AND DEPOSITS:**

- **ALL BUYERS MUST REGISTER & PAY A REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT IN ADVANCE TO PARTICIPATE.**
- You must have bidding number to participate in the auction. Interested buyers are required to pay a refundable deposit of **TZS 5,000,000/= per each vehicle** and **TZS 1,500,000/= for IT equipment/ small items**. The registration should be paid directly to the YONO AUCTION MART & CO LTD and is refundable within two working days after the auction (by 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2023) if the bidder is not awarded for any goods and/or does not buy any goods from the auction.
- **PAYMENTS** for all purchases must be in form of DIRECT DEPOSIT to the given auctioneer's bank account details.
- The declared buyer will have to pay 25% of the purchase price by the end of the AUCTION DAY (14<sup>th</sup> of OCT 2023) the remaining 75% will be paid within working 3 days after auction (18<sup>th</sup> of OCT. 2023 closing of Business time). Failure to pay the 75% will make the initial deposit be forfeited and the property will be re-auctioned.
- The declared buyers deposit (TZS 5 M/ TZS 1.5 M) will be applied to the purchase price and become a part of the 25% deposit and will NOT BE REFUNDED. NO second bidder will be taken into consideration.
- Sale is subject to confirmation based on reasonable reserved prices.

Please note that all motor vehicles were originally duty and tax exempted, hence it is the obligation and responsibility of the buyer to make sure he/she pays all TAXES and DUTIES within seven days after paying 100% of the price. All expenses and cost in respect of TAXES and CUSTOMS DUTIES shall be borne by the buyer.

In case the buyer does not clear the taxes in the period defined (max. 14 days after the auction date) the buyer will be charged for extra storage fee. Neither the AUCTIONEER YONO AUCTION MART & CO LTD nor our PRINCIPAL will be liable for any repairs, transport of the vehicles or refund of collected sales price.



## TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

ISO 9001:2015 Certified

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT

### PUBLIC NOTICE

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR CUSTOMS LICENCES FOR THE YEAR 2024

The following licences are open for application and the general public is hereby invited to apply:

1. Customs Agents.
2. Customs Bonded Warehouse.
3. Manufacturing Under Bond.
4. Transportation of Goods under Customs Control
5. Internal Container Depot.
6. Container Freight Stations

Every applicant should meet the General and Specific Conditions set forth in each licence category as follows:

#### A. GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR ALL LICENCE CATEGORIES

All Applicants are required to submit the documents and meet the conditions listed hereunder:

- (i) Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) Certificate for the Applicant (for new applicants).
- (ii) Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) Certificate for each Director (for new applicants and for renewals where there are changes)
- (iii) VAT Registration Certificate, if any
- (iv) Current Tax Clearance Certificate showing tax position for the current year.
- (v) Certified copies of Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company (for new applicants)
- (vi) Certified copy of Certificate of Incorporation (for new applicant).
- (vii) Business Name Registration Certificate (for transporters who are sole proprietors or partners).
- (viii) A recent passport size photograph (not more than one megabyte) of each director and staff duly certified by a Notary Public or Commissioner for Oath (for new applicants and for renewal, only where there are changes).
- (ix) A valid identity document for each director referred in (viii) above i.e. National Identification Card issued by NIDA or Passport (for new applicants and for renewals where there are changes).
- (x) Valid Work permit for non-citizens.
- (xi) At least two third (2/3) ownership and management of Customs Agency company should be Tanzanian citizens; and at least one third (1/3) ownership and Management of other licence categories should be Tanzanian citizens.
- (xii) No shipping Line, Shipping Agent or any person working as such shall qualify for Customs Licences.
- (xiii) Applicant with any affiliation, or in any way related with any Shipping Line, Shipping Agents or any person working as such, shall not qualify for Customs license.
- (xiv) A valid staff ID issued by applicant
- (xv) Submit relevant Customs security bond.
- (xvi) Certified copies of title deed and lease agreement for office and other premises whose duration is longer than the duration of the licence applied for.
- (xvii) Offices should be equipped with computing facilities capable of connecting to the Tanzania Customs Integrated System (TANCIS).
- (xviii) Non-existence of any outstanding matters related to Customs i.e. Audit query, unpaid or incomplete TANSADs, outstanding transit transactions or any other unresolved issues related to Customs.
- (xix) A letter from the Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA) stating the current status of the company's Directors and Shareholders; (for new applicants and for renewal where there are changes);
- (xx) Any person not being a director/owner/employee or duly authorized representative of the applicant shall not engage with Customs in any matter relating to Customs Licences.

#### B. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

##### I. Customs Agents

All applications shall be made and processed online through TANCIS.

New applicants shall be required to comply with the following:

- 1) Obtain online access which shall be required during the process of application. Access application forms are available at TRA website: [www.tra.go.tz](https://www.tra.go.tz/images/uploads/customs/F-ITD-067-B-Customs-License-Application-System-User-Access-Form.pdf) under EAC Customs Forms (Customs License Management System user access form) or <https://www.tra.go.tz/images/uploads/customs/F-ITD-067-B-Customs-License-Application-System-User-Access-Form.pdf>
- 2) The form shall be filled in duplicate and submitted to Customs registry at MAPATO HOUSE, Room No.129 then, the applicants will be invited for training prior to access issuance.
- 3) Training program for new applicants is scheduled to be conducted from 2nd October, 2023 to 20th October, 2023 at MAPATO HOUSE, TANCIS training Room No. 212.
- 4) Apply online for Customs Agency Licence and attach all required documents to the application including C.20 ([https://www.tra.go.tz/customs\\_forms/c20-application-customs-agents-licence-year.pdf](https://www.tra.go.tz/customs_forms/c20-application-customs-agents-licence-year.pdf)).
- 5) Pay USD 50 non-refundable application fee.
- 6) To have at least two employees in charge of clearance who are accredited with East African Customs Clearing and Freight Forwarding Practicing Certificate (EACFFPC). Other employees should have at least a diploma or certificate in Customs Management from a recognized institute or a minimum of five years' experience in Customs operations.
- 7) Submit an introduction letter affixed with passport size photograph of a competent staff who has met conditions specified herein to represent the Company in Interview. The letter should also contain email address and telephone contact of applicant.

##### Conditions for candidates:

- a) Must be a director or a permanent staff of the Company
- b) Must possess the East African Customs Clearing and Freight Forwarding Practicing Certificate mentioned under (vi) above.
- c) Should not be a director of a company whose Customs Agency Licence has been revoked.
- d) Should not be employee or director of existing licenced company.
- e) No candidate who previously successfully sat for an interview with another company will be allowed to sit for the interview.
- 8) Submit a signed declaration from Commissioner for Oaths with the following details:
  - a) That none of the directors of the company has previously been a director of any licenced company whose licence has been revoked in the last five years.
  - b) That none of the directors of the company is a director of an existing licensed company.
  - c) That none of the directors or shareholders of the company is an employee of TRA.
  - d) That the Company shall undertake to provide Customs services twenty-four hours daily.
- 9) Execute Customs Bond Security of Tanzania Shillings One Hundred Million (100,000,000/=) after passing the interview.

##### I. Applications for Renewal of Customs Agent Licence shall be processed through TANCIS and must be accompanied with:

- (i) Payment of non-refundable application fee of USD 50.
- (ii) Certificate of Registration for clearing and forwarding issued by TASAC
- (iii) Proof of affiliation or membership to a recognized clearing and forwarding association.
- (iv) A license with operations below the minimum of twenty-four declarations in the current year, shall not qualify for renewal.

##### NB:

- a) No physical files shall be received in our office for the purpose of this application.
- b) Only Short-listed Applicants will be contacted through TANCIS and Public Notice for Written Interview.

##### II. Customs Bonded Warehouse and Manufacture under Bond.

The following conditions shall apply specifically to applicant for Customs Bonded Warehouse and Manufacture under Bond licences in addition to the general condition specified in part (A) above.

Obtain application Form (C.18) on TRA Website ([www.tra.go.tz](http://www.tra.go.tz)) or

- 1) [https://www.tra.go.tz/customs\\_forms/c18-application-licence-premises-used-bonded-warehouse-bonded-factory-or-internal-depot.pdf](https://www.tra.go.tz/customs_forms/c18-application-licence-premises-used-bonded-warehouse-bonded-factory-or-internal-depot.pdf) to be filled, signed by applicant and submitted to Customs registry at MAPATO HOUSE, Room No.129 accompanied by certified documents as listed under item A.
- 2) Submit a certified copy of site plan professionally drawn showing size and location of the premises in relation to other premises and thoroughfares.
- 3) The minimum area for private bonded warehouse shall be square meters 1,000, and for general bonded warehouse or Manufacture Under Bond shall be square meters 2,000.
- 4) Premises should be located either in a Commercial or Industrial area.
- 5) The yard or storage area shall be made of rigid pavements, tarmacked or made of concrete finishing.
- 6) The premises shall have a parking space commensurate to the operations of the premises as the Commissioner may deem fit.
- 7) The premises shall be well secured with three-meter-high perimeter fence with electric security wire on top and lighting system.
- 8) The premises shall be well secured with 24hours security including security guards and electronic surveillance cameras.

- 9) The premises shall be equipped with fire-fighting system and conspicuous "NO SMOKING" signs.
- 10) Submit production formulae approved by Tanzania Bureau of Standards or other competent Authorities (for Manufacturing under Bond).
- 11) Submit Industrial Licence issued by the Ministry of Trade and Industry (for Manufacturing under Bond).

Upon fulfillment of the above, be able to execute bond security using the Customs Bond Form by a licensed and approved guarantor as follows:

- a) A minimum of Tanzanian Shillings Five Hundred Million (500,000,000/=) for a private bonded warehouse
- b) A minimum of Tanzanian Shillings One Billion (1,000,000,000/=) for a general bonded warehouse
- c) A minimum of Tanzanian Shillings Two Billion (2,000,000,000/=) for MUB.
- d) A minimum of Tanzanian Shillings One Hundred Million (100,000,000/=) transport Bond to and from respective bonded warehouses and MUB.

NB: Applications for renewal of licenses to operate CBW and MUB will be done online through TANCIS.

##### II. Vehicles Licence

All Applicants must observe the following specific conditions:

1. Apply and Obtain Certificate of Transporter (COT) as follows:
  - Obtain online access which shall be required during the process of application. Access application forms are available at TRA website [www.tra.go.tz](http://www.tra.go.tz) under EAC Customs Forms (Customs License Management System user access form) or <https://www.tra.go.tz/images/uploads/customs/F-ITD-067-B-Customs-License-Application-System-User-Access-Form.pdf>
  - Submit application through TANCIS, accompanied by certified documents as listed under item A above
2. Submit and upload proof of affiliation or membership to a recognized relevant association.
3. Execute and upload through TANCIS a Customs Security bond of Tanzanian Shilling Ten Million (10,000,000.00) for C.28, C.40 or both (C.28 and C.40) licences.
4. Submit and upload LATRA motor vehicle carrier's license, motor vehicle insurance cover, motor vehicle registration card, Calibration document (for tankers), and COT.
5. Carrying unit only shall be issued with C.28 or C.40 licence as the case may be, upon payment of licence fee of USD 200.00.

##### III. Internal Container Depot (ICD) and Container Freight Stations(CFS)

###### New Applications

The following conditions shall apply specifically to applicant for Internal Container Depot and Container Freight Stations licences in addition to the general condition specified in part (A) above.

- (i) Obtain application Form (C.18) on TRA Website ([www.tra.go.tz](http://www.tra.go.tz)) or [https://www.tra.go.tz/customs\\_forms/c18-application-licence-premises-used-bonded-warehouse-bonded-factory-or-internal-depot.pdf](https://www.tra.go.tz/customs_forms/c18-application-licence-premises-used-bonded-warehouse-bonded-factory-or-internal-depot.pdf) to be filled, signed by applicant and submitted to Customs registry at MAPATO HOUSE, Room No.129 accompanied by certified documents as listed under item A.
- (ii) Submit a certified copy of site plan professionally drawn showing size and location of the premises in relation to other premises and thoroughfares.
- (iii) Submit TASAC Licence.
- (iv) Submit Clearance Letter from TANROADS.
- (v) Security bonds: Upon fulfillment of the above conditions and prior to issuance of a licence, applicants shall have to execute Customs security bond as follows:
  - a) A minimum of Tanzanian Shillings Five Hundred Million (500,000,000.00) for removal of goods to and from the port.
  - b) A minimum of Tanzanian Shillings Two Billion (2,000,000,000.00) for ensuring compliance with customs laws and securing duties on goods deposited into an inland container depot (ICD)/ Container Freight Stations (CFS).
- (vi) The proposed premises shall meet the following requirements:
  - 1) Three-meter-high perimeter fence with electric security wire on top and lighting system.
  - 2) There should be two separate entry/exit gates.
  - 3) Parking space shall be outside the ICD/CFS boundaries for trucks waiting for loading.
  - 4) 24 hours' security including security guards and electronics surveillance cameras.
  - 5) The area shall be made of rigid pavements, tarmacked or made of concrete finishing strong enough to withstand traction of heavy trucks.
  - 6) Clear demarcation to separate verified goods and empty container
  - 7) Examination area should be roofed and with a capacity of handling at least 10 containers at a time.
  - 8) Transit shed of a reasonable size
  - 9) The size of Customs warehouse should be at least 300 square meters.
  - 10) Maintain sufficient labour force at all times during operations.

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- 7) Examination area should be roofed and with a capacity of handling at least 10 containers at a time.
- 8) Transit shed of a reasonable size
- 9) The size of Customs warehouse should be at least 300 square meters.
- 10) Maintain sufficient labour force at all times during operations.

- 11) The minimum sizes for each category should be as shown below:

S/N	ICD/CFS CATEGORY	TYPE OF GOODS	SIZE/CAPACITY
1	CFS	General Goods	10,000 Square Meters
2	ICD	Containers	20,000 Square Meters
3	ICD-V	Motor - Vehicles	10,000 Square Meters
4	ICD - Silos	Wheat	20,000 Metric Tons
5	ICD - Tankers	Edible Oils	20,000 Metric Tons

- 12) Customs office capable to accommodate at least five (5) Customs staff and should be suitably furnished, installed with computers, ventilated and with appropriate lighting, telephone, hygienic and other necessary facilities.
- 13) There must be appropriate equipment for cargo handling, stacking, examination, measurement etc. Specifically, there must be at least two reach stackers for smooth operations just in case one of them breaks down, Industrial Weighing Scale with capacity of measuring at least 2,000kgs, Bale clamp forklifts, and heavy duty Scissor and hummer for opening large wooden boxes.
- 14) Floodlights should be installed to light up the entire surface area to facilitate 24 hours' operations.
- 15) The Company shall undertake to provide Customs service's twenty-four hours daily.

##### I. Applications for renewal of licenses to operate ICD and CFS will be done online through TANCIS.

All applications must be submitted to the undersigned to the following address.

Commissioner for Customs and Excise,  
Customs and Excise Department,  
Tanzania Revenue Authority,  
Sokoine Drive, TPA Tower,  
P. O. Box 9053,  
Dar es Salaam.

NB: For new applications, kindly submit applications before 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. For renewal applications, the deadline for submission shall be 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023. Please note that applications received after the deadline shall not be processed.

All licensees are reminded that 2023 licenses shall expire on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2023 and shall be automatically suspended in our system by 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2024.

"Together We Build Our Nation"

  
Juma Hassan

Ag. Commissioner for Customs and Excise

## 'MSD dispatches medical products six times a year'

By Guardian Reporter

THE Medical Stores Department (MSD) has strengthened the distribution system where medical products are currently detached six times a year, contrary to four times as it was before.

The new development as assured health facilities in the country of steady availability of the drugs and tools.

Mavere Tukai, MSD chief executive director, unveiled this on Wednesday when briefing journalists on the department's performance for the past two years.

According to him, previously distribution of medical supplies was uncertain due to various challenges which was leading to the health centres to stay a long period without having the essential medical products.

"With the current situation, medical products are supplied every two months compared to four times for a year or every three months in the 2021/22 fiscal year," he said.

Tukai said the department has managed to purchase 16 trailers worth 2.6bn/- so as to speed up the distribution of health products.

This has witnessed an increase of distribution of health products and sales revenue by 373.4bn/- (16 percent) for fiscal 2022/2023 compared to 320bn/- collected during fiscal 2021/2022.

He also stated that MSD has managed to use collaborative IT systems (PoD) to ensure health products are received and monitored electronically in health care centres.

"We have also strengthened vehicle monitoring using systems as well as completed construction of the gloves factory located in Idofo, Njombe Region," he added.

Tukai said that the department engaged the private sector by identifying investment areas for

strategic health products of tablets (tablets), capsules, liquid, and products derived from the cotton crop and to announce the desire for cooperation between MSD and the private sector

"We have also completed registration and operation procedures of the N95 mask factory located in Keko where its production will meet the demand for masks in the country," he said.

The department has also managed to establish a subsidiary company "MSD Medipharma Manufacturing Company Ltd" which will manage the production of health products.

He similarly noted that the joint procurement system with member states of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) has also helped where practice in the first three years and attained 6.8bn/- sales revenue.

He said the countries that have used the joint procurement program: Tanzania, Comoros and Seychelles adding that the requirements of the following countries are in the process of completion: Zambia and Malawi.

Measures taken to increase efficiency; improving cooperation and increasing influence at the level of the SADC Secretariat, and at the level of the SADC countries through our embassies.

The director further said that MSD intends to establish and manage health product factories in collaboration with the private sector by building modern warehouses in the regions of Kagera, Dar es Salaam and Mwanza.

"We will increase cooperation with local producers to improve the availability of health products and improve the structure of the institution to be able to fortify efficiency," he said.

Other issues include the devolution of activities that were taking place at the headquarters to regional offices as well as seeking for alternative sources of funds to increase the institution's financial capacity.



Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation official Asiadi Mrutu (R), a coordinator with the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project, briefs journalists attending a seminar in Dodoma city yesterday on houses built by people paid compensation after voluntarily relocating to pave the way for the implementation of the project. Photo: Ibrahim Joseph

## Mining firm hands over school buildings in Sengerema District

By Guardian Correspondent, Sengerema

SOTTA Mining Corporation Limited (SMCL), developer of the Nyanzaga Gold Project has handed over finished buildings at the Lubungo Secondary School in Sengerema District, Mwanza Region.

The school buildings comprise 4 classrooms and 2 offices and is expected to accommodate 120 students.

Construction of the outfits started in July and completed this month.

The project was a demonstration of collaboration between SMCL and the local community, with land provided by the local government, contributions by the community to construct the foundation up to lintel, completion of

construction of the school undertaken by community-based organisation Wazalendo Group and funds contributed by SMCL.

Sengerema District Administrative Secretary Cuthbert B. Midala was in attendance at the event and hailed the company for its support to communities around the mining site.

SMCL's Chief Financial Officer, Isaac Lupokela stated: "Through what we are doing today, we are proud to be part of creating a brighter future for our kids and community that surround us," he said.

He said the company strives to create a strong business environment by working with the government in improving the facilities and quality of

education are essential ingredients for the long-term success of our business and the nation at large.

SMCL is a joint venture between the Government of Tanzania (16 percent) and Nyanzaga Mining Company Limited (84 percent), a subsidiary of OreCorp Tanzania Limited, to develop the 1.1 trn/- Project south of Ngoma in the Sengerema District, following the granting of a Special Mining License on 13 December 2021.

The Project is now on track to be the first large scale gold mine to be built in Tanzania in over a decade and the first ever large scale mine in the Sengerema District.

The Nyanzaga Gold Project is located in the Sengerema District

of the Mwanza Region in the Lake Victoria Goldfields. Once successfully developed, the Project will produce approximately 234,000 ounces (six tonnes) of gold per annum for an initial 10.7 years and will cost an estimated 1.1 trn/- to build.

The Project will deliver significant direct employment (1000 during construction and also 1000 during operations) and indirect employment opportunities and contribute significantly to the economy by way of royalties and taxes.

The Project will also deliver additional benefits to the region including education, health facilities and infrastructure via the Company's generous community enhancement scheme.

The Company continues to work with all levels of government to ultimately deliver Tanzania and all its stakeholders the first large scale gold mine development in over a decade.

## Women in cross-border trade want govt to boost business environment

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

WOMEN in cross-border trade have appealed to the government to improve the business environment for there are a lot of challenges facing them.

Some of the key challenges they outlined include non-harmonized tax regime, lack of sensitization of trade and insecurity in trade routes in between borders.

Others are language barriers, currency inflation and absence of gender desks in effort to ensure that women issues in cross-border trade are well explained. On the other hand, they argued that most of those traders are young women with little education and knowledge on trade between two or more countries.

They were speaking during a national policy dialogue on advancing women cross-border trade that brought together women from some six border points in the country.

The meeting was convened by the Eastern African Sub-Regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI) through its Tanzanian collaborative partners of Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA) and Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP).

EASSI is a feminist sub-regional Civil Society Organisation made up of committed individuals, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), coalitions and networks driven to transform gender relations globally and especially in the Eastern Africa sub-region. It is registered in Uganda as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO).

TAMWA's Executive Director Dr. Rose Reuben stressed on the need to look at challenges facing women involved in cross-border trade and how the solutions could be embedded in the policy.

She said TAMWA has been a member of EASSI for a long time just like TGNP and are working to help resolve challenges facing women in cross-border trade, which are quite similar in all East African Community (EAC) countries and beyond.

"Little is known on how difficult women find it to operate and doing business beyond their borders as some face sexual harassment, among

others" she said, adding that even health facilities are inadequate.

TGNP Executive Director, Lilian Liundi said that EASSI has been working together with both TGNP and TAMWA and others to promote women affairs in Tanzania, among them is women cross-border trade.

"We have been doing a lot of cooperative work with the government on tax barriers in effort to ensure that women involved in cross-border trade operate freely" she said.

She said the aim is to ensure review of gender policy, applauding EASSI and women at cross-border trade as well as the government for cooperation aimed at improving trade at border points.

Speaking while officiating the opening of the dialogue, Director of Trade Development Division at the ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, Christopher Mramba urged the women to openly speak on challenges facing them, adding that the government is always willing to listen to them.

"Always express your views, challenges and other matters affecting you cross-border in effort to help the government improve on issues affecting local and international business" he said.

While thanking the organizers of the meeting, Mrema underscored the importance of women empowerment, stressing on the need for more stakeholders involvement in finding solutions to challenges affecting them.

He said the government has been implementing policies that promote trade and business beyond borders, urging that cross borders traders should always let the government know if regulatory authorities hinder cross-border trade in any way.



**We have been doing a lot of cooperative work with the government on tax barriers in effort to ensure that women involved in cross-border trade operate freely**



Police officers in Muheza District scan the scene of an incident that saw an enraged mob burn to death Ramadhani Omari (24) of Tanganyika village in Lusanga ward on Wednesday after associating him with people yet to be identified said to have stolen cattle. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

## CMA director pledges swift end to wrangles at workplaces

By Correspondent Halfani Chusi

THE Director of the Commission for Mediation and Arbitration (CMA), Husekele Mpulla, has pledged to end disputes involving workers at workplaces in order for them to use more of their time for production than for finding solutions to their disputes.

Mpulla made the pledge on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam after he was sworn by Judge in Charge of the High Court, Labour Division, Dr Yose Mlyambina, before his appointment,

Mpulla is CMA Director for Dar es Salaam Zone.

Mpulla said as for now they have in place a robust strategy to end disputes involving public employees as well as those in the private sector within 21 days.

"Our priority is that all disputes should be finalised in time and through arbitration, but we shall continue to educate on the better way to end workers' disputes through placards, seminars and the media.

"In addition to the responsibilities

I have sworn to undertake, people anticipate achievements under my leadership, my expectation is to attain more achievements to satisfy the expectations of many," he stressed.

He said when a case is delayed, it adversely affects the employee in the performance of his duties and I want CMA that follows workers where they are to resolve their disputes.

Earlier, Dr Lyambila appealed to the new CMA appointee to work hard and realise the aims of the government in establishing the Commission.

He said he is supposed to understand that he has been appointed in order to carry big responsibilities, boost achievements and introduce positive strategies in resolving workers disputes.

Dr Lyambila further cited benefits for the country when the Commission performs well, such as including employers and employees to direct themselves in economic growth activities, end challenges, avoid undeserved awards and remove differences between the two sides.



In a World Rabies Day commemoration gesture, Kahama Municipal Council veterinary officer Dr James Nasari vaccinates a dog against rabies at the Kahama Prison grounds yesterday. Right is the dog's owner, Kashinje Dotto. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

## Health specialists launch haematology clinic in Dar

By Henry Mwangonde

TWO health experts have teamed up to launch the first ever private specialized haematology clinic and laboratory in Tanzania to be run by United Kingdom based company SerenOx Africa.

Co-founded by Prof Anna Schuh from the University of Oxford and Dr William Mawalla, a haematologist from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences - (MUHAS), the clinic will allow patients seeking a precise diagnosis of common blood disorders, including anemias, bleeding and clotting tendencies to access the

facility as walk-in clients.

"Precise diagnosis is essential in delivering the right treatment to the right patient and at the right time, many diseases that can be easily cured well controlled with affordable therapies are currently not being diagnosed for example, if left undiagnosed, 95-percent of children with sickle cell disease die within the first 5 years of life. For cancer, over 90-percent of patients can be cured in-country with treatment if diagnosed early," Prof Schuh said. By contrast, late-stage cancer is incurable, SerenOx Africa has established a testing facility for key underserved patient populations

in Tanzania to provide early cancer detection for high-risk patients and will ultimately expand its services to the rest of Africa.

Dr Lulu Chirande, a Paediatric Haematologist and Oncologist, also a Lecturer at MUHAS said, "We cannot over emphasise the importance of an accurate and timely diagnosis in the treatment of children with cancer and blood disorders," he said.

Most of our patients reach us late with advanced disease, we cannot afford further delays in diagnosis. We cannot start treatment unless we are sure of what we are treating.

Dr Mawalla, the Co-Founder, said,

"We are excited to launch SerenOx Africa and to offer our services to the people of Tanzania, we are committed to providing high-quality, affordable haematology diagnostic services to all patients, regardless of their background or ability to pay.

The launch of SerenOx Africa is a significant step forward for the diagnosis and treatment of blood disorders in sub-Saharan Africa. The company's commitment to providing high-quality, affordable services to all patients, regardless of their background or ability to pay, will make a real difference in the lives of people across the continent.



Hemed Fereji, recently named CCM's secretary for Liwale District in Lindi Region, introduces himself to members of the party's district political committee at a meeting held for the purpose earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## UN considering funding EAC mission in DR Congo

NEW YORK

THE United Nations has agreed to a proposal by the East African Community (EAC) to fund the latter's military mission in DR Congo, according to reports.

The EAC Regional Force (EACRF) in eastern DR Congo is funded by partner states in addition to donations from some partners.

Speaking to journalists after a meeting with the UN Security Council, in New York, which was also attended by the EACRF commander, EAC Secretary General Peter Mathuki said the arrangement could be finalised in

the near future after the withdrawal of UN peacekeeping mission in DR Congo (MONUSCO) by December.

Mathuki's office said the meeting with the Security Council "deliberated on extension of financial and technical support to EACRF."

"What has happened is that the UN Security Council is very keen and appreciative of the role of the EAC in supporting the security of the eastern DRC," Mathuki was quoted as saying.

"They have agreed to work a mechanism that will support our troops in DRC, and they said as MONUSCO closes down [or] reduces their numbers in DRC, they will wish

to strengthen the EACRF." "We have proposed funding the EACRF, and the UN Security Council said they are meeting in December in which we will be able to determine how much they can draw down from Monusco and how much they will be able to get to fund the EACRF," said Mathuki.

The EAC regional force was deployed to eastern DR Congo in November 2022 with a mandate of restoring peace and security and observing a ceasefire between the Congolese army and the M23 rebel group in North Kivu province.

The regional force, with troops from Kenya, Burundi, Uganda and South

Sudan, currently occupies the rebels' vacated positions.

Early September, EAC leaders extended the regional force's mandate by three months until December 8.

Eastern DR Congo, which is home to more than 130 local and foreign armed groups, has been volatile for nearly three decades.

Multiple interventions, including one of the UN's longest and largest peacekeeping missions, MONUSCO, failed to end the decades of violence. The 25-year-old UN mission in the country has been the target of demonstrations for failing to end the insecurity.

## UDSM given 1,000-acre plot for constructing Health and Science Campus in Mbeya

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) has been provided with a 1,000-acre land plot in Mbeya Region for building an inclusive Health and Science campus and a modern practical teaching hospital.

The plot of the former Tanganyika Packers company in Mbalizi Town near Mbeya has been provided by Mbeya region government following a request from the University's Chancellor, Dr Jakaya Kikwete who had requested for a 500-acre plot.

This was revealed by Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera early this week when he addressed Mbeya Region Elders Development stakeholders (WAMAMBE) at a meeting convened to discuss various issues of development in Mbeya Region.

RC Homera said earlier there was no land plot to provide to UDSM owing to the tussle in regard to the utilisation of the Tanganyika Packers area, but after the government allowed for the area to continue being used, they decided to apportion it.

He said Mbeya Region government was provided with 4,500 acres of land for investors and hence UDSM is among the main investors who were accorded priority.

"This project is among issues which Mbeya elders have been stressing from time to time, and now we have already provided the plot and I have the documents in my office, they also plan to build a drugs and medical devices factory in the area," said RC Homera.

For his part, WAMAMBE Chairman, Polisiya Mwaizeje, who had once been Member of Parliament for Mbeya Urban Constituency through NCCR-Mageuzi thanked Mbeya regional government for the decision.

He also appealed to the RC to urge President Samia Suluhu Hassan to lay

the cornerstone for the construction of the university campus in order to enhance enthusiasm in the project's implementation

He also advised the government to survey the area so as to provide UDSM with a map for the title deed, saying the project will be among projects that gives Mbeya Region respect.

"Formerly the area housed a meat production factory but did not operate, hence we hail the government for the decision to change its use," added Mwaizeje.

Speaking to the address by phone, UDSM Vice Chancellor, Prof William Anangisye said as for now they continue with the process to build the UDSM campus after being handed over the land plot.

**“This project is among issues which Mbeya elders have been stressing from time to time, and now we have already provided the plot and I have the documents in my office, they also plan to build a drugs and medical devices factory in the area”**

## DC instructs OCD to relieve Tarura manager of firearm for threatening govt officials

By Guardian Correspondent, Misungwi

MISUNGWI District Commissioner Paul Chacha has instructed the District Police Commander (OCD) SSP Oscar Mmole to seize a firearm in possession of the District TARURA manager, Eng. Bright Mdeme owing to his threat to shoot various government officials including the head of the PCCB in the district.

Mdeme is claimed to have threatened to shoot the officials when they went to him to investigate alleged bribery claims against him, that he was bribed by a road contractor for failing to implement a road project in time.

DC Chacha issued the instruction on Wednesday when he made an inspection visit of the Nyanshishi-Fela road project that was supposed to be completed on September 1 this year but the contractor has not said anything on this.

The DC explained that after the TARURA manager was visited by PCCB officials for investigations regarding receiving 15m/- bribe, he allegedly threatened them to shoot them, hence they withdrew after failing in their

mission. "And you, manager, when they came to you, you began cleaning your pistol saying whoever approaches you, you would either kill them or kill himself, hence the DC instructed the OCD to reclaim the weapon from the TARURA Manager and follow fresh procedure to own a firearm," DC Chacha said.

He also directed the District PCCB Commander to continue with their investigations on the TARURA manager on the alleged acts of corruption involving TARURA officials and the contractor awarded road tender and other projects.

"After realizing that the PCCB Commander was making a close follow up on the road project, TARURA officials allegedly offered 15m/- bribe to silence them, and when the contractor was located to explain the progress of the project he often claims to be busy, this contractor is no good at all," said DC Chacha.

He also instructed the District Administrative Secretary to make sure he investigates the 212m/-road project on which the government has already dished out 100m/-.

**“And you, manager, when they came to you, you began cleaning your pistol saying whoever approaches you, you would either kill them or kill himself, hence the DC instructed the OCD to reclaim the weapon from the TARURA Manager and follow fresh procedure to own a firearm”**

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## With reforms in the power sector, 400-mw shortfall would not exist

**H**ARDLY anyone expected that a decade into the commercial exploitation of our vast natural gas reserves and sources of hydropower generation, our country would be having a 400-megawatt shortfall at present.

Authorities in the giant national power generation and supply firm, Tanesco, may wish to ascribe the current situation the need for major repairs on their systems.

But experience shows that in a non-market economy or power supply system, things only go from bad to worse. The more outlays the corporation has in place, the less it is capable of keeping the system properly maintained.

A singular example suffices in illustrating the scenario: that when a road network is maintained by some private agency with fees paid by a local authority, maximum care is taken to ensure that there is no damage on that network so that there is some profit on the margin made.

When the network shifts to the public sector, supervisors benefit by regularly applying for sizeable funds to rebuild damaged roads. And, as a rule, they will keep the roads in that state to pressure for the disbursement of funds. It's much the same for power systems and the consequent repairs.

There was a time a mushrooming of power projects was noticed, to fill a similar gap as now obtains, and then the projects fizzled out after a few troubled contracts where the public felt that all these projects were corrupt.

Trouble is that at least some of these projects were not developed to supply directly to the public in actual competition with the national firm, but only as an addition to the latter's outlays.

Now, those outlays are being boosted by upwards of 2,000 megawatts from the Julius Nyerere hydropower plant (JNHPP) coming to berth soon, though that won't end the matter.

The newly installed Tanesco CEO is on

record as having declared just the other day that it is possible to reduce the 400-MW shortfall by 100 MW on average a month by fast-tracking current repair efforts. That would hopefully end the problem by next March.

However, it would be more useful looking over the longer term. As current production stands at 1,900 MW and is being doubled next year, maintaining the same structures implies possibly doubling the complications in due course.

The maintenance work shall be doubled while climate change impacts could go from bad to worse, depending on how deforestation is handled.

On the basis of the Tanzania Investment Centre's project registration and expectations of take-off, power supply demand could have doubled in five years' time.

Of course, Tanesco would not be sitting on its laurels and demanding twice the maintenance funds it now needs, just because JNHPP will soon be in business.

Let's we forget, massive outstanding debts in respect of large-scale projects over the past ten years will be maturing fast, or adding to already existing liabilities.

While is quite likely that things will have returned to normal by mid next year, those objecting to systemic reforms should figure out how many investment projects will fail to take off, particularly if foreign investment advisories change the power supply reliability data on our country.

Tanesco surely needs to have an oversupply of power so that it conducts regular maintenance work without disturbance to commerce and industry, leave out social life as such.

Returning to the generators we had safely put aside is a terrible turn of events, but maybe it was predictable.

So an investment downturn can be expected, a honeymoon after JNHPP starts while, when maintenance and climate change chaos is restored, things would only be worse.

## Let's hope nutrition remains stable after five-year project

**D**IPLOMATS from USAID and scores of Tanzanian government officials were lately winding down 'Sustainable Nutrition', a project widely described as a hallmark in the journey towards better nutrition across the country.

The project was a learning and resource channelling effort, where people are given the seed capital with which to organise domestic feeding differently, in the hope that when the project ends the work will stand.

Of course, that is what is expected, and it is also possible that there is a certain amount of behaviour change or resource stability in improving nutrition habits or enhancing capacities.

There is a snag in at least one area, though, in that the project covered only four regions, and even then not entire villages or districts.

The will maybe have been valid reasons for that being the case, while the problem remains as to how far there is need for such a project for behaviour change to occur, and if it will stabilise.

A publication unveiled at the wrapping-up ceremony nearly gave away the secret, merely in the need for documented testimonies that the project had introduced a certain amount of change in their lives.

There were suggestions that things could have been done better - but that was only to be expected. It is a mental construct, at best, but psychological needs arise from real shortcomings in life.

The profiling was said to reflect the five-year journey in four regions, where the project was used to champion sustainable practices like agroforestry

and livestock rearing.

The areas touched by the project have ample opportunity to persist with their engagements if they proved gainful, even without new project cash being disbursed.

A clear problem relates to how the project could cover other areas, as the need exists as well as trainers for such activities, but this calls for seed capital. The project was based on grants to NGOs working with local authorities across the given timeframe.

Typically in keeping with traditional mindsets at both these spheres of organisation, what might happen is figuring out how the project is extended to different areas - possibly, with the same aid agency.

Chances are that this will not be forthcoming as issues that need emergency attention pile up by the day and alternative ways of funding such projects are needed.

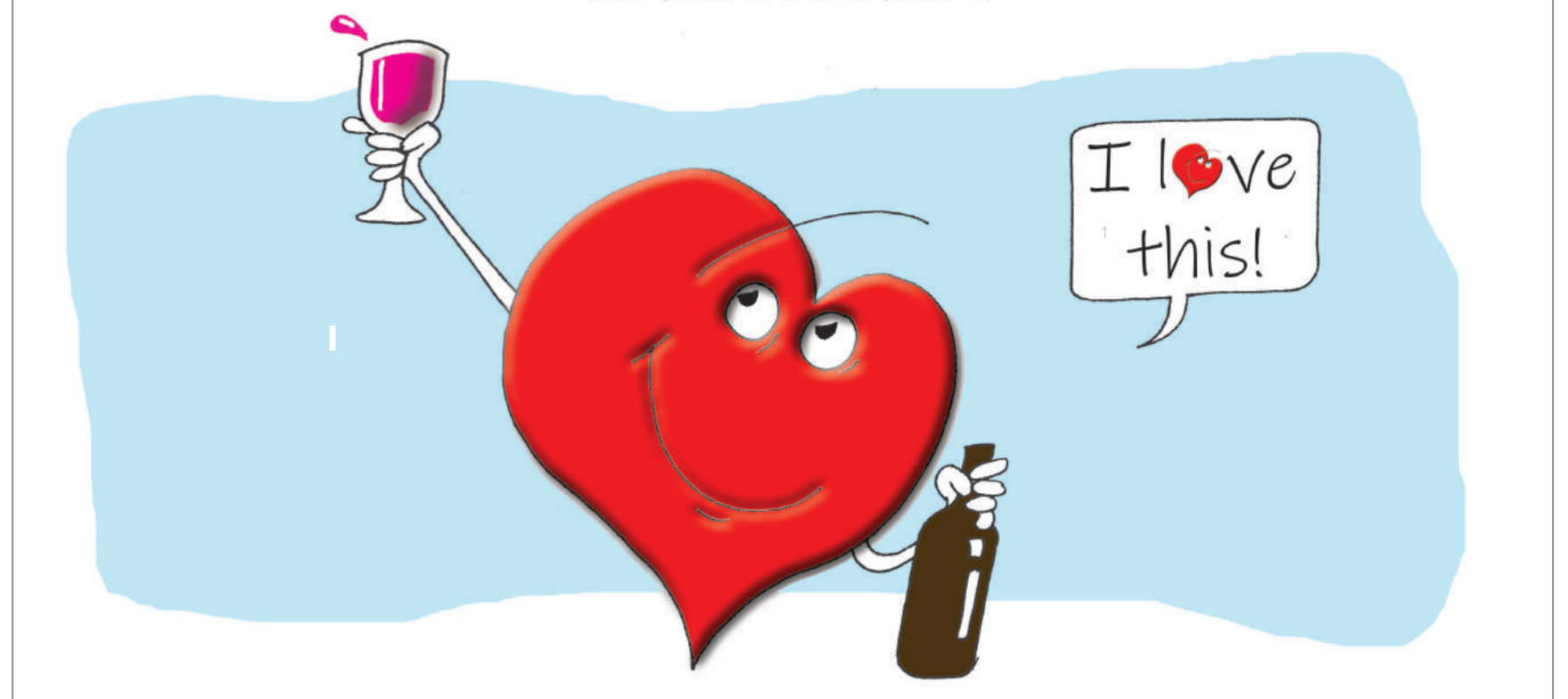
That is why funds would be more available if policy was designed to enable revolving funds to be set up for the purpose, so that those benefiting pay up to enable the same to be done elsewhere.

Looking at the buzz of activities where the key objective was to reinforce local nutritional efforts having partnerships with over 300 private entities, there is every reason for the efforts to be organised differently.

The key element is that a private agent puts the funds on the ground for designed activities and is paid by beneficiaries to return the cash to a bank account catering for such projects in a particular district or a zone. That stands to prove the recipe for the sustainable success of the projects concerned.

## World Heart Day!

Use Heart! Know Heart!



## With depression, we get by with a little help from our friends

By Catherine Sanderson

**F**ORTY-FOUR per cent of college students report experiencing symptoms of depression and 37 per cent report experiencing symptoms of anxiety.

This is according to the March 2023 Healthy Minds Survey, an annual web-based survey examining mental health among college students.

The study shows that 15 per cent report seriously considered suicide in the last year - the highest rate in the history of the survey. Similarly dim statistics show up in surveys of other young adults, and also adolescents.

For me, as a mother of three young adults and a professor who teaches many college students, these numbers are heartbreaking.

But the good news is that the current mental health crisis on college campuses and elsewhere around the US is decidedly not inevitable.

Empirical research, including work I have conducted in collaboration with my colleagues and thesis students, provides valuable insight into how parents, educators and peers can help foster better psychological well-being in college students and anyone struggling with depression or prone to its symptoms.

### Reduce stigma of mental health support

Many college students spend considerable time and energy trying to present themselves as thriving - academically and socially. Adolescents care deeply about fitting in with their peers and are highly motivated to hide any signs of weakness or insecurity.

This tendency makes it really hard for people to admit that they need help, especially when they think they are the only ones having trouble.

This tendency is often described as the "duck syndrome", the idea that people are paddling furiously under the surface to stay afloat while simultaneously presenting the image of a cool, relaxed individual, gliding on the water.

Duck syndrome is the "feeling that everyone is doing really well except for you", wrote Ishaan Singh, a student at Stanford University, where the term duck syndrome was first coined, "and the feeling that everyone around you is in total control but that everything is falling apart for you".

Of course, this feeling of isolation - "It's only me who is struggling" - makes mental health issues feel even worse.

To help correct such misperceptions, and reduce feelings of isolation, a thesis student of mine and I designed several brief mental health workshops for college students.

One workshop focused on correcting misperceptions about the prevalence of mental health issues on campus, given students' tendency to underestimate how many of their peers struggle with such issues.

A second workshop provided general information about mental health disorders and myths, while the third focused on improving mental health through stress management.

Two months later, we measured the effects of all three workshops on students' attitudes. We found that students clearly benefited from receiving accurate information about the prevalence of mental health issues on campus.

The workshop correcting misperceptions about mental health issues on campus was just as effective as the general education workshop at improving attitudes towards seeking professional help for mental health issues. This workshop was also more effective than the one on stress management.

Although our study did not find evidence that receiving accurate information about mental health norms led to an increase in actually seeking help, our follow-up period of two months may have been too short to see such an effect.

Prior studies demonstrating the role of attitudes in predicting behaviour suggest that these students might be more willing to seek therapy for mental health issues in the future. And given the epidemic of suicides among undergraduates, this kind of behaviour change could well help save lives.

### Build meaningful connections

Empirical research clearly demonstrates that developing meaningful social connections can go a long way towards improving psychological well-being.

People who are more socially connected to their communities are happier and physically healthier - and report fewer mental health problems. Such connections may be especially valuable for adolescents and young adults, who often prioritise social relationships above all else.

One of the most promising approaches to fostering such connections on college campuses is ProjectConnect, a programme designed to help small groups of

people get to know each other and build relationships quickly. It is specifically designed to build connections, and thereby reduce loneliness and improve well-being.

A thesis student of mine and I conducted a study to examine the immediate and longer-term effects of the programme on participants' mental well-being.

Participants (including 59 students and 22 staff) from Amherst College (a private liberal arts college in Amherst, Massachusetts) were randomly assigned to participate in the programme in the autumn semester, or to wait until the spring semester.

Those in the program participated in five weekly hour-long sessions, including: three sessions with guided conversation focused on increasing intimacy, one session with a community-building task, and one session with a casual meal and opportunity for programme reflection.

Results from the one-month follow-up revealed that people who participated in ProjectConnect showed decreases in loneliness, suggesting that even a relatively brief opportunity to build connections could lead to substantial benefits.

These findings are particularly encouraging, particularly considering that findings from a nationwide study of nearly 33,000 college students revealed that two-thirds of students report feeling lonely and isolated.

"Helping build stronger connections on campus may be the most powerful thing we can do to improve students' mental health and well-being," says Jessica Gifford, ProjectConnect founder and chief connection officer. She adds: "Every act of connection - large and small - makes a difference. When you connect, you protect."

### Train people to support friends in need

Like many other young people, college students spend considerable time with their friends: They eat together in common dining halls, attend classes and study together, and may even sleep together in the same dormitory rooms.

Friends are therefore likely to be among the first to recognize signs of mental health issues - and may be uniquely able to help students get mental health services.

In fact, a 2019 survey by the American College Health Association found that among students who seek help for their mental health, most initially did so after being encouraged

by friends.

College students often receive training in how to intervene in the face of different types of problematic behaviours, from binge drinking to sexual assault.

Two students of mine and I therefore conducted a study to examine different strategies for increasing college students' willingness to help a peer struggling with mental health issues.

One hundred fifty college students were randomly assigned to one of three brief (15-minute) online workshops.

One workshop provided specific skills and knowledge to help a peer struggling with mental health, such as active listening techniques and campus mental health resources.

A second workshop provided information correcting commonly held misperceptions that inhibit people from helping a peer struggling with mental health, such as that asking a friend about suicidal feelings would make the situation worse.

The third workshop meanwhile provided strategies for empathetic listening and responding to a peer struggling with mental health.

Our findings from a three-month follow-up reveal that even brief online interventions can play a role in reducing the mental health crisis.

Students who received training in specific skills to help a friend, or who got information correcting common misperceptions about mental health, reported less fear that intervening would hurt their friendship.

This fear often inhibits people from intervening when they worry that a friend needs help. Alleviating the fear may help someone intervene when she or he sees a friend who is struggling.

Our research suggests that increasing help-seeking behaviour among college students likely relies on their willingness and ability to speak up when they worry that a friend needs help.

Increasing training in bystander intervention for mental health concerns may play an important role in linking peers to on-campus mental health resources and improving college students' psychological well-being.

**\* This article is part of a Wise & Well Special Report: The United States of Depression. If you are - or a loved one is - depressed, it is vital to talk about it because depression increases the risk of suicide. Catherine Sanderson is an author and a psychology professor.**



# Basic procedures of dealing with civil cases in court (4)

## Trial stage

Litigation in adversarial system is not to seek the truth but a skill of testing evidence which is in one's possession within the parameters of the law which governs an issue in dispute.

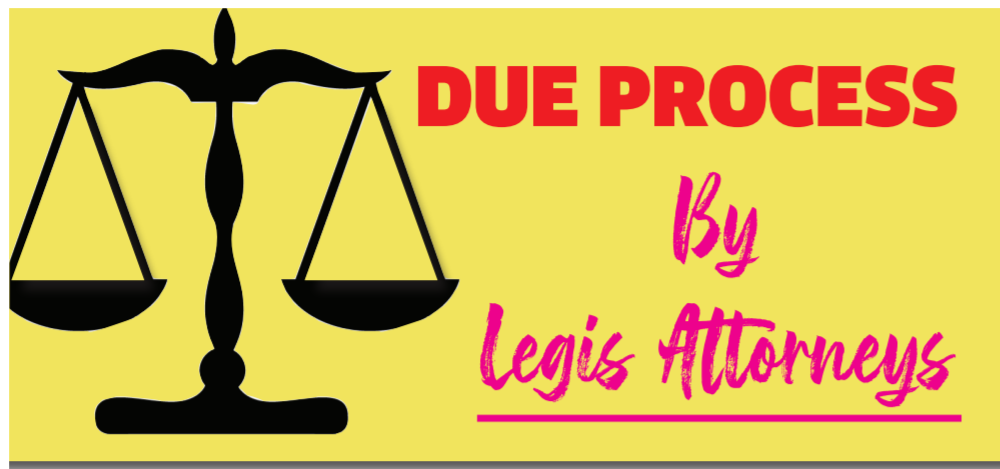
So it is one's duty to convince a judge or magistrate to believe their facts and not to tell the truth as many people think. That is why we still believe this task can only be properly performed by a trained person such as an advocate who is in a position to control the flow of evidence in a case in accordance with the law.

Litigation is not an issue of telling a story as many people think. Rather, it is to convince the bench so that they believe that what you present is the truth. Therefore, selection of material facts is one of the very important tasks which need to be adhered to when conducting a trial.

Trial stage can be divided into six phases, namely (i) opening statement, (ii) examination in chief by plaintiff (iii) cross examination of the plaintiff (iv) examination of the defendant (v) and cross examination of the defendant.

## Opening statement

Essentially, this is the summary of the parties in the case whereby the court is provided with general scope of what the case is all about and the nature of witnesses required to be summoned. It is one of the very important stages where the court gets general picture of the case before dealing with specific issues in dispute between



the parties.

This is a stage in which one pursues the court by simply by trying to show the roadmap of the case and provide brief demonstrations of the nature of evidence intended to be tendered during substantive hearing of the dispute.

This phase is not available in the Civil Procedure Code and it is not common in our jurisdiction but in some other civil laws such as High Court Commercial Rules under Rule 45 and in labour laws.

## Examination in chief of the plaintiff

This is the stage where the claimant or plaintiff establishes his or her case by production of evidence and exhibits. It is a matter of law that a case must be proved by primary evidence and not hearsay.

Therefore, the one who is summoned to testify before a court should not stand on the dock and testify hearsay evidence. Rather, it must be a person who actually participated or is actually aware of the facts he or she is presenting.

Hearsay evidence is prohibited and it cannot be used by the court in composing a judgment. This principle is extended even

to the tendering of exhibits in that the law demands that a case should be proved by primary evidence or exhibits and in case a party intends to use secondary evidence, then there must be good and sufficient reason as to why secondary evidence should be accepted by the trial court.

Due to current development of law in our jurisdiction, particularly on the Civil Procedure Code Vide GN No. 760 of 2021, upon application by parties, then evidence in chief shall be given orally or by witness statement.

Availability of the said law does not change the law. Rather, instead of proceeding with the production of evidence in chief orally, the same can be given in written form and later on the court concentrates on admission of exhibits listed in the witness statement while taking into account requirements of the law.

A person composing witness statement should be very careful because once one opts to testify by this way, they are not allowed to add anything during hearing. Instead, their appearance in court will be for tendering exhibits, cross examination and reexamination and not for examination in chief un-

less leave is obtained from the court of law upon showing good reason as to why that request should be accommodated.

In short, it is very important to build your case while testifying in examination of chief because after closing the same, you will not have automatic right to redo it, unless leave of the court is granted.

## Cross examination

This is a process in which the Plaintiff is being asked questions by the opposing party. The major aim is to challenge or test the credibility, knowledge or consistency of the witness's testimony.

For practicing lawyers, this is always the stage in which they completely destroy the plaintiff's case while maintaining or demonstrating that what was pleaded in the defence is the right thing.

Most of the questions asked at this stage are not demonstrations. Rather, they tend to be leading questions whereby the opponent suggests the answers are recorded in court proceedings through the plaintiff and not otherwise. So, one needs to be careful at this stage because a good case can be destroyed during cross examination.

## Reexamination

This is always done after cross examination. That means if there is no cross examination, then there is no need for reexamination because it is a process involving either provision of clarification or rehabilitation of contradictions which arose during cross examination so that the court can be in a better position to get the real picture.

It is always limited to matters raised during cross examination and one cannot introduce new issues at this stage. It is advisa-

ble in most cases that if you have a weak case or weak witness, then do not conduct reexamination because it could further destroy your case by further exposing yourself during that stage. Therefore, this process should only be done when necessary and in very few circumstances.

Once the process of tendering evidence is done by the plaintiff by summoning all witnesses, then the plaintiff closes his or her case and paves the way for the defendant to proceed with defence.

In some circumstances, the court either on its own motion or on application by the defendant may make a ruling whether the plaintiff's case is made or not (prima facie case).

This is very common in criminal cases but its applicability in civil cases is through case law. In case the court makes a finding that a case is not made by the plaintiff, then the case is dismissed at that stage.

It should be known that a plaintiff's case cannot in either way be built on the weakness of the defence. Rather, the law requires the plaintiff to prove his or her case on balance of probabilities. In the case of failure to meet the above threshold, then the case is dismissed without even summoning the defendant.

Examination in chief by the defendant

This stage is where the defendant presents his or her defence of the case preferred against him or her. It should be within the parameters of law in connection with what is pleaded in the written statement of defence.

Parties are bound by their own pleadings. Therefore, the defence tendered during the hearing should flow from the pleadings. Once the said process is done, then the plaintiff is called to cross examine the defendant and always the rule is to destroy the defence while trying to indicate that what was stated by the plaintiff is right and has not been destroyed by the presented defence.

Examination in chief can also be by way of witness statement. Therefore, once the plaintiff's case is closed, that is when the defendant's witness statement

can be filed within seven days or if more time is granted by the court.

## Post-trial

After the defendant closes his or her case, parties may opt to file closing or final submissions. This can be orally or by way of written submissions. However, in case of a written submission, the same needs to be filed in court by both parties at the same time.

It is not mandatory to file the same and in case an order is issued, then failure to file by either of the parties cannot bar the court from delivering the judgment. Rather, the court may proceed to compose the judgment through evidence and exhibits already tendered.

This is a very important stage in court proceedings because it is a stage in which each party to the case tries to convince the court that all evidence and exhibits tendered during hearing are in support of the case based on the statutory law or case law.

In most cases, circumstances of a case are not new because a similar case might have already been decided by the same court or the higher court. Therefore, under the law of precedent, a subordinate court is required to follow the same which makes it a very important stage where one makes changes of the case or notion of the court on particular things. The remaining two stages of judgment and appeal will be covered in the next article.

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

You can send questions or comments to our email [info@legisattorneys.co.tz](mailto:info@legisattorneys.co.tz) or postal address Managing Partner, Legis Attorneys, P. O. Box 3750, DSM. You can visit our website [www.legisattorneys.co.tz](http://www.legisattorneys.co.tz)

By Ashfaq Yusufzai

“WE are under extreme stress about skyrocketing prices of essential edible commodities and the cost of gas and electricity. The situation is becoming worse because every day. We must pay more for wheat flour, sugar, tea, milk, oil, etc.,” Azizullah Khan, a civil servant, says.

Khan draws a monthly salary of 30,000 rupees (USD100), but the cost of living is increasing daily, making it hard for his family of eight to survive.

The electricity bill for August was 20,000 rupees (USD67), and two-thirds of his salary went into paying that, while the remaining 10,000 rupees (USD33) is meant to pay for gas and other family expenses, which, he says, is next to impossible.

“Now, we are seriously thinking of selling the small house we inherited from our parents because we have to repay loans to the shopkeepers and pay the school fees of three children,” says Khan, 30. He lives on the outskirts of Peshawar, the provincial capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, one of Pakistan's four provinces.

Pakistan's leading economy and business analyst, Khurram Hussain, told IPS that the country has been seeing relentless and unending pressure on the exchange rate and price levels for more than two and a half years.

“The present bout of exchange rate volatility began in May 2021 and has continued unabated since then,” Hussain says. The dollar had from around 150 rupees to the dollar to about 300 to the dollar, he says.

Quoted in Dawn, a newspaper in Pakistan, he noted: “It took ten years for the dollar to double in value from 75 to 150 rupees, from 2008 till 2019. It took less than two and a half years to double again from May 2021 till today.

At the same time, inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, started to skyrocket a few months after May 2021 and has risen relentlessly until now, with a few interruptions.

Muhammad Raees, 28, a daily wage, is severely hit by the cost of living.

“One year back, the price of 20 kg wheat flour was Rs1300, which has now increased to Rs3000. I don't find work every day because the construction ac-

# Skyrocketing inflation puts food security in Pakistan at risk



Jamaat-i-Islami party stage protest in Peshawar against price-hikes. Credit: Ashfaq Yusufzai/IPS

tivities have nosedived due to cement, iron, marble, and tile prices, and most of the contractors have stopped work.” Raees, a father of two, says.

“Many times, I have thought of committing suicide, but then I think of my children and wife,” he says.

At least ten people have committed suicide in the past two months.

“They were unable to pay electricity bills. Now, the government is mulling about jacking up the gas price by 50 percent. The poor population is the worst hit,” he says.

Javid Shah, a vegetable seller in Nowshera city adjacent to Peshawar,

is fed up with life. “Cost of transportation has increased, and so the prices of vegetables and, as a result, sales have declined. Many who bought 1 kg of tomatoes, lady fingers, and potatoes daily are now taking half a kg,” he says. “I have to discard rotten vegetables daily for lack of sales.”

Akram Ali, a fruit seller in a tiny shop, also constantly complains of high inflation and devaluation of rupees. Ali says his business has reached a standstill as people no longer buy fruits due to high prices.

“As a result, I am going to close shop and start the business in a hand pushcart to save on rent.”

“My two sons are going to

school, but the last one and half years have been tough, and I cannot pay their fees. Both have quit schools and sit at home,” he complained.

Saleem Ahmed, a local economist, tells IPS that pulses, considered poor men's diet, are so expensive they are out of reach of many.

“All pulses are imported in dollars, so their prices have increased. The people are struck by inflation, and they cannot buy items, like pulses, which used to be cheap,” he said.

Prices were stable until former Prime Minister Imran Khan was removed in April 2022 in a no-confidence vote at the National

Assembly.

“People have been running from pillar to post for two square meals. As if inflation wasn't enough, huge smuggling of sugar, wheat flour, pulses, oil, etc. to neighboring Afghanistan have hammered the last nail in the coffin of the poverty-stricken masses,” he said.

Ahmed says the government is taking loans from the IMF, the World Bank, and other lenders with high interest rates, impacting the cost of living.

In such a scenario, Afghan refugees living in Pakistan are jubilant over the rising Afghan economy under the Taliban, and many are weighing options to return to

their country.

“In Pakistan, the US dollar is equal to 300 rupees while it is traded for 75 Afghani back home,” Muhammad Mustafa, an Afghan with a sanitary business in Peshawar, says.

Mustafa says he had sent his elder son to Kabul to search for the rented shop so he could shift his business there.

“All my family live in Kabul, and we want to be there. The time is ripe for us to shift (back) there,” he says.

Petrol is being sold at 312 rupees (USD1.5) per liter in Pakistan, while its rate was 80 Afghani (USD1.02) in Kabul.

# Navigating challenges in development of Indonesia's future capital

By Omar Sidiqie, Diani Sadiawati and

Diandra Pratami

**M**ANY nations are engaged in ambitious urban planning endeavors and the creation of new capital cities. Nusantara, Indonesia, is the latest in a series of modern cities that have sprung up across Asia.

The government aims to create a model capital city based on the principles of liveability and green urban development on the island of Borneo.

Indonesia seeks to relocate its capital due to flooding, land subsidence, overpopulation and congestion in Jakarta, located on the island of Java, where 60 per cent of the country's population of close to 280 million lives.

Nusantara will also play a role in rebalancing the country's economy, and redistributing economic growth outside Java. But how can the government get such a complex endeavor right?

In this article, we explore how planners of Nusantara are leveraging a UN-supported mechanism, called the Voluntary Local Review (VLR), to promote sustainability and uphold human rights. VLRs are typically performed by authorities of existing subnational administrative areas such as provinces and cities.

Nusantara will be the first VLR for a new city ever undertaken - in order for authorities to integrate sustainability actions and key principles such as leaving no one behind already during the development stage.

## Valuable lessons from other new Asian cities

Malaysia's sustainable approach: Putrajaya, just south of Kuala Lumpur, was designed as an intelligent garden city. Its planning emphasizes green and sustainable development. Rather than separating indigenous residents from their traditional land, it incorporated existing Malay villages into the plan. The lesson here is that new capital cities should prioritize local land rights and sustainability through green infrastructure. Such initiatives contribute to a better quality of life and environmental preservation.

Republic of Korea's phased development: Sejong City's incremental approach to its development as an administrative capital is a testament to the advantages of not rushing construction and drawing from lessons learned throughout the process. It was created to decentralize economic and political power away from Seoul. It also showcases the importance of designing new capital cities with resilience to climate change in mind, given the increasing threats of extreme weather events.

Kazakhstan's sustained investments: Astana's development and transformation as a capital city involved substantial investment in infrastructure, including the futuristic Norman Foster-designed Khan Shatyr Entertainment Center and the Bayterek Tower. One key lesson is that comprehensive urban planning, including spatial integration of transportation, housing, green spaces and public services, are crucial. Astana's transformation into a thriving city of 1.3 million



Credit: Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing, Republic of Indonesia

demonstrates the importance of having a clear, long-term vision.

Seven key takeaways for Nusantara's way forward

Nusantara is learning from these examples by leveraging sustainability in its master planning and closely working with ESCAP, the UN Country Team in Indonesia and the Asian Development Bank to prepare a baseline VLR report as a tool for fostering inclusive, sustainable and rights-based develop-

ment.

Transparency and accountability

The VLR promotes transparency by providing detailed information about the progress and challenges faced in implementing the new capital. This transparency can help build trust among stakeholders, including the public, investors and government agencies. The VLR can demonstrate how the new capital's development aligns with global goals.

Assessment of progress

The VLR can evaluate the sustainability of the new capital, including its expected environmental impact and efforts to promote sustainable practices. Nusantara aims to be a "sustainable forest city" with 25 per cent built up urban area, 65 per cent tropical forest through reforestation and 10 per cent parks and food production areas. The plan aims to conserve much of Nusantara's tropical forest, allowing the city

to be a net carbon sequestration sink before 2030 along with the goal to be a carbon neutral city by 2045.

Data-driven decision making

By collecting and presenting data on the new capital's development in one place, the VLR can facilitate integrated data-driven decision-making. It can help policymakers identify trends and make informed choices regarding resource allocation and policy adjustments. In this process, the VLR requires municipal government departments to effectively work together and break down silos.

Stakeholder engagement

Indigenous communities live on the site, including approximately 800 families of the Balik people. The VLR can highlight the importance of involving local communities in the planning and implementation process. It can document community feedback and demonstrate how their input has been considered and make recommendations for institutionalizing stakeholder engagement processes.

Attracting investment

The cost estimate for Nusantara is \$33 billion (Rp466 trillion), with the state budget only able to cover up to 19 per cent of the cost. Investors often look for transparent and well-documented information when considering investments. A VLR can serve as a tool to attract both domestic and international investors by showcasing the potential and progress of the new capital.

International collaboration

Sharing a VLR report with international organizations and other countries can open avenues for benchmarking, collaboration and support. This can include financial aid, technical assistance, and knowledge exchange.

Risk mitigation

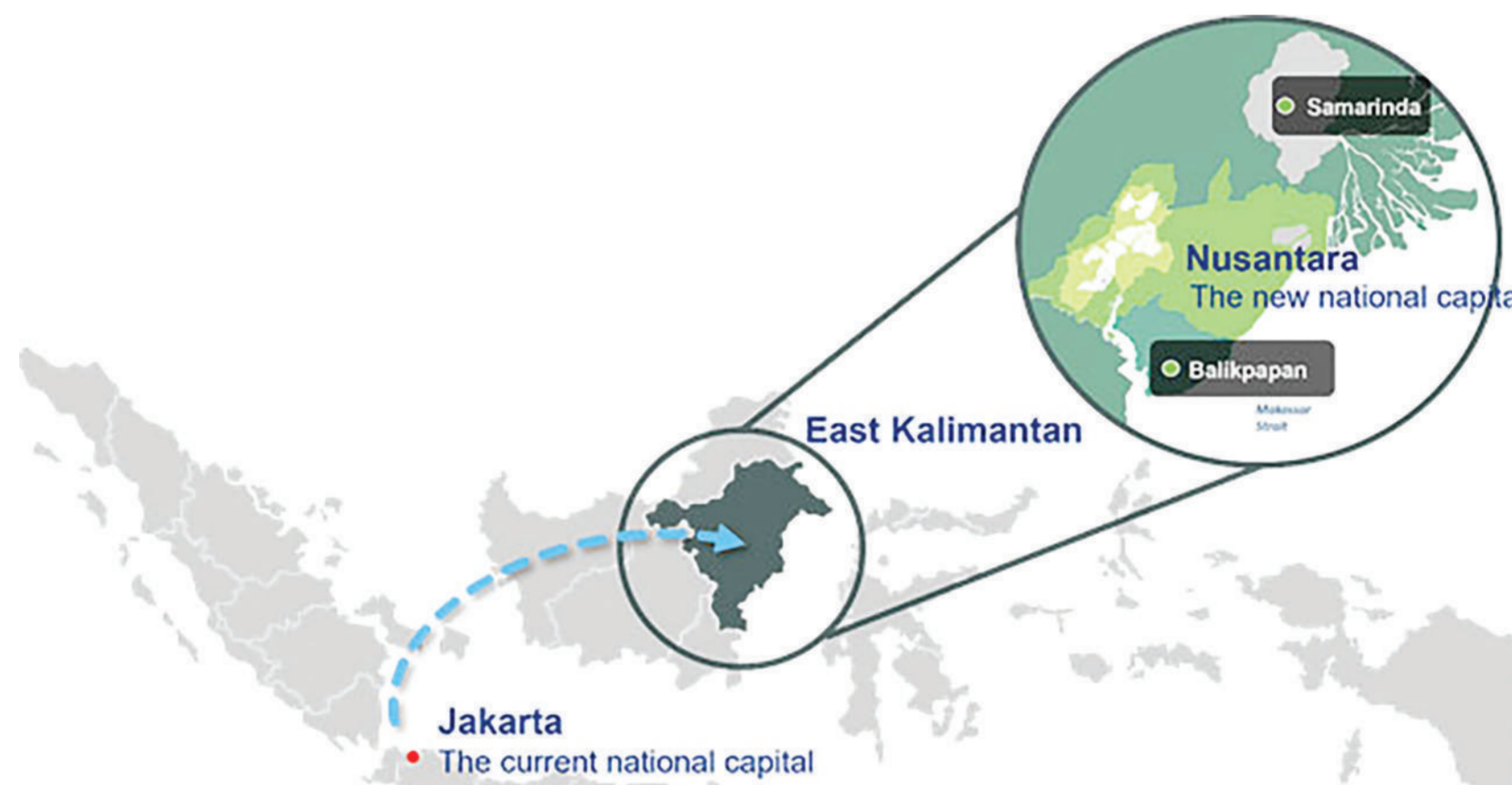
Identifying risks and challenges in the VLR allows for proactive mitigation strategies. This can help prevent delays and cost overruns in the development process.

While significant attention is focused on Nusantara, it's clear that relocating administrative functions may not address all social and environmental problems in Jakarta, especially for those most vulnerable.

The development of Nusantara has the potential to help Jakarta address its longstanding problems by relieving population pressure, improving infrastructure and setting an example for sustainable urban development. However, the success of this endeavor will depend on careful planning, infrastructure investment, and effective governance.

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IPS UN Bureau



Credit: Asian Development Bank

## 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
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

# International Safe Abortion Day is commemorated amid appeals for raising of voices on a 'basic right'

By Guardian Reporter

AS the world marked International Safe Abortion Day on September 28, Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights Africa (WGNRR Africa) and its partners have taken action and speak out for the right to safe abortion.

WGNRR Africa and its partners met in Dar es Salaam to discuss issues related to the promotion of safe, legal, and accessible abortion services and the advocacy for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and the day carries profound significance in the ongoing struggle for women's rights and the pursuit of gender equality.

"This year, we are also highlighting how young people are themselves a powerhouse of unstoppable forces, taking leadership in the movement. This September 28, we celebrate diverse young people and how they are fearlessly taking and creating spaces and employing innovative advocacy strategies to champion safe abortion rights and reproductive justice. Young people's active engagement and valuable contributions are indispensable in advancing our shared objective," the Regional Director of WGNRR Africa, Nondo Ejano said.

He added: "The leadership of young women in the safe abortion rights movement is not just inspiring; it is essential. As such, we join them in calling for the support and empowerment of young leaders through equal access to opportunities, resources and platforms."

He pointed out that International Safe Abortion (September 28) is deeply rooted in the global movement dedicated to advancing women's reproductive rights and promoting gender equality.

"It primarily champions the cause



of reproductive rights, with a specific focus on the right to safe and legal abortion. This emphasis underscores the utmost importance of empowering women with control over their bodies, choices, and futures," he said.

He noted: "This Day plays a vital role in raising awareness. It serves as a powerful educational tool on a global scale, shedding light on the alarming prevalence of unsafe abortions and the severe consequences they entail. It also emphasizes the urgent necessity of ensuring universal access to safe

abortion services."

He also pointed out that this year, WGNRR Africa, in alignment with the call to action, has chosen to unite with its partners in commemorating this day by coming together as this year's theme, "Unstoppable Movement: Movement building, solidarity, and justice for the right to safe abortion." The objective is to harness collective strength and amplify advocacy efforts.

Some of the participants have urged Tanzania and other East African Community (EAC) member states

to ensure that all women and girls, regardless of their backgrounds, have access to safe abortion care.

"We are calling Tanzania and countries in the regional bloc to make sure that all women and girls are accessing safe abortion care," Nasra Juma said.

Other participants who attended online, Nancy Baraza from Nairobi, Kenya said that in many African nations, abortion rights have been surrounded by stigma and silence hence calling for an access to safe abortion services and

ways to mobilize public support for post-abortion care.

On her part, Anitha Samson from a Mwanza based Non-Government Organization-Wadada Solutions on Gender Based Violence said the community should have the same voice so as to make women and girls receive reproducing rights including the rights to safe abortion.

Other participants said that there is a need for the community to have collective strategies so as to enhance solidarity in advocating for improved

abortion services.

The event was designed as a hybrid gathering, seamlessly combining in-person participation in Dar es Salaam with a dynamic online component. This inclusive format ensures wide-ranging accessibility and engagement, bridging geographical distances and fostering a global conversation.

During the one-day event, participants took part in a panel discussion that consisted of representatives from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda who shared their experience of working on abortion under restrictive legal environments in their respective countries and will conclude with the way forward of planning for the Jointly strategy on advocating for safe abortion in the region.

"It is a good thing that the participants have gained a deeper understanding of the history of September 28 and partners have shared experience on working on abortion under restrictive legal environments," Organizers of the event WGNRR - Africa's official Fabiola Odira said.

She added: "The participants have got time to enhance understanding of Sept 28 among participants and create solidarity in the campaign for expanding safe abortion access. Partners shared their experience on working on abortion under the restrictive environment."

"At the end of the one day workshop, participants were able to develop Joint Strategy that will strengthen the unstoppable abortion movement as well as promote the MimiCare App among Dar es Salaam stakeholders so that they can collaborate with WGNRR Africa during their youth-related activities," she observed.

The event was attended by 38 participants who included YouCAN partners, SRHR Allies, Health and Legal professionals, survivors of unsafe abortion, CSOs, media personnel and Youths champions.



## Zimbabwe ramps up efforts to eliminate malaria

KADOMA, Zimbabwe

ZIMBABWE Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC) with support from World Health Organization (WHO) and other partners conducted a Malaria quarterly review and planning meeting to assess the progress made in malaria control efforts over the third quarter of 2023.

The meeting evaluated the 2022/2023 National Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) campaign to determine the effectiveness and its impact, measure the reduction in malaria transmission rates and identify any potential areas for improvement.

The Chief Director of Public Health in MOHCC, Dr Mu-

nyaradzi Dobbie, acknowledged the support from partners in tackling malaria in the country.

"We truly cherish the support from all our partners who have helped us achieve immense gains in our response to malaria and we hope the training will enhance expertise in carrying out the forthcoming IRS programme and we are looking forward to seeing a decrease in cases going forward," he said.

Prof Jean-Marie Dangou, WHO Representative to Zimbabwe said: "We continue to applaud the work being done by the Government of Zimbabwe in strengthening malaria intervention, and review meetings such

as these ones. The above-mentioned meeting is key in taking stock of progress and coming up with innovative improvements that can bring better results."

The review meeting provided valuable insights into the coverage and compliance levels of IRS interventions, identified resource needs, and ensured that this essential intervention reaches vulnerable communities and contributes significantly to the global efforts of eradicating malaria.

Malaria remains a serious public health problem, with more than 5 million people at risk of contracting malaria annually in Zimbabwe.

It accounts for about 40 percent of outpatient at-

tendances in the moderate to high transmission districts, especially during the peak transmission period.

By August 2023, the country had recorded 144 508 positive malaria cases with Provinces like Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland East, Manicaland, Matabeleland North and Masvingo contributing 97 percent of the cases. While the country is doing well and has made progress towards making malaria services accessible to many, Zimbabwe, like the rest of the world, is also faced with growing insecticide resistance, and this calls for increased investments towards finding alternative interventions for malaria control and elimination.

## African nations urged to raise use of new technologies in agriculture

GABORONE

AFRICAN countries cannot ignore the adoption of new technologies in research and development, said Botswana Minister of Agriculture Fidelis Molao, who stressed the importance of establishing strategic collaborations aimed at enhancing resilience and increasing agricultural productivity.

Speaking on Tuesday at the 8th All Africa Conference on Animal Agriculture, scheduled from Sept. 26 to 29 in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, Molao urged both organizers and participants to seize the opportunity presented by the conference to find solutions that can enhance food security in

Africa.

Research and development are pivotal to improving livestock and poultry production, Molao said. He also emphasized the need for adequate funding of research and extension services in Africa to address the challenges facing the agriculture sector.

Molao said that according to the African Development Bank's 2022 report, most African countries allocate less than 1 percent of their gross domestic product to research and development, while the global average stands at 1.7 percent.

This underscores the necessity for all countries to shift their approach and increase funding for research and development, he added.

The government of Botswana has initiated various projects to transform the agriculture sector, create employment opportunities, and sustain the livelihoods of the people in rural areas who rely directly and indirectly on agriculture. These initiatives include breeding and disseminating high-quality livestock breeds to farmers and employing assisted reproductive technologies to enhance livestock quality.

The conference, themed "Sustainable African Animal Agriculture: Challenges and Future Prospects," takes place every four years to provide a platform for animal science professionals and the farming community to stay informed about the latest developments in animal agriculture.



A farm employer distributing feedlot feeds for cattle in Mmamashia village, about 15 kilometers north of Gaborone, Botswana

# Nigerian women challenge 'colonialist' patriarchy

By Promise Eze

**B**UKES Saliu wakes up very early every workday to beat the gruesome Lagos traffic to head to a job quite unusual for a woman to engage in Nigeria. She is a forklift operator in one of the busy depots in the coastal city, a task traditionally meant for men in the West African country.

In a country where women are seen as second-class citizens and whose roles are expected to be confined to the kitchen, Saliu is not letting patriarchal norms put her in a box.

"People are always thrilled when I tell them what I do. Sometimes I get snide remarks from some men I work with, but I don't allow that to get to me," Saliu says.

In August 2022, her curiosity was piqued when she came across a post on WhatsApp from her friend featuring a woman confidently posed beside a forklift machine. That ignited her interest in the job. Soon after, she enrolled in training to become a skilled forklift operator.

"It was a change of career path for me. I used to be a project manager with a non-profit, but I left the job to be a forklift operator. The first day I started work, I was a bit afraid, but now I operate the machine like any other man would do. I believe that women should be allowed at the table because it brings different perspectives, ideas, and experiences," she adds.

### Patriarchy lives in Nigeria

Discrimination against women has been a serious problem in Nigeria. Women still grapple with an array of challenges and are marginalized despite the Nigerian constitution providing for gender equality and nondiscrimination.

Women face a heavier burden of violence, and different types of bias, which creates significant obstacles in their quest for gender equality. This is frequently caused by unfair laws, religious and cultural traditions, gender stereotypes, limited education opportunities, and the unequal impact of poverty on women.

Although the government has attempted to tackle these deep-rooted issues, the pace of progress remains sluggish. Women's representation within politics and decision-making spheres remains poor. For example, out of a total of 15,307 candidates in the 2023 general elections, only 1,550 were women. Only three women were



**Bukes Saliu, a forklift driver, is a Nigerian woman who is challenging stereotypes. Credit: Promise Eze/IPS**

elected as senators as against nine in the last election, and only one woman emerged as a presidential candidate.

Women are often excluded from economic prospects. Within Nigeria's populace exceeding 200 million, a mere 60.5 million people contribute to its labor force. Among this workforce, around 27.1 million women participate, a significant portion of whom find themselves involved in low-skilled employment. Nigeria's position on the World Eco-

nomc Forum's Gender Gap Index is a lowly 123rd out of 156 nations.

### Swimming against the tide

A limited number of women are challenging conventional gender norms for the purpose of livelihood, stepping into roles that are male dominated in Nigeria. However, this transition is often met with resistance and negative reactions.

In 2021, Iyeyemi Adediran gained wide-

spread attention for her exceptional mastery of driving long-haul trucks for oil companies. However, despite her remarkable skill, she then 26-year-old shared that she faced derogatory remarks for daring to break gender norms associated with truck driving—an occupation traditionally considered male-dominated.

In 2015, Sandra Aguebor, Nigeria's first female mechanic, gained widespread attention for her all-female garages across the country.

However, she revealed that her mother initially did not support her ambitions, believing that fixing cars should only be done by men.

Faith Oyita, a shoemaker in Benue State, Nigeria, is not letting patriarchal norms stop her. Despite Abuja, a growing men-led market in southeast Nigeria, dominating the shoemaking industry, Oyita has been determined to make a name for herself since 2015, even though she resides kilometers away. She says she has trained over 300 other people on how to make shoes.

"When I first started, I didn't care about the challenges that came with shoemaking. I had a deep passion for it, and I wanted to beautify people's legs. Even though it was a skill dominated by men, I was determined to do things differently. I knew that greatness doesn't come from convenience. In the beginning, many people questioned why I chose shoemaking. Even the man who taught me was hesitant and doubted my potential. I was the only female among all his apprentices, and many assumed that I came because I wanted to date him. Despite all the negative remarks, I never gave up," she tells IPS.

### Patriarchy came through colonialism

"A lot of what is happening today is not how we originally lived our lives as Nigerian women. Patriarchy actually entered our society during the colonial era. Before colonization, both men and women were able to do things without being restricted by gender. Historically, women were involved in trading goods and services, and they could even marry multiple wives for themselves.

"However, when the colonialists arrived, they distorted our culture and, using religion, promoted the idea that men held more power. We should strive to correct this narrative. It's unfortunate that we have been socialized to believe that men should always be in leadership positions and that women should only be in a man's home," says Anuli Aniebo Ola-Olaniyi, Executive Director, HEIR Women Hub.

Speaking further, Ola-Olaniyi argues that women who want to break gender norms must have a change of mindset and be ready to face challenges.

"The country that colonized us has their women driving buses and flying planes. They have progressed from where they colonized us. But Nigeria has failed to empower its women. When a Nigerian woman does something that is traditionally seen as only for men, it is seen as a big accomplishment. However, she has always been capable of doing those things. It's just that the opportunities were not available. I don't even think it's a switch in gender roles. I believe that women are simply starting to realize their potential," she tells IPS.



Works in areas such as construction are a preserve of men in Nigeria and other African countries.

IPS UN Bureau Report

# 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 07:15 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOSI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABABU NYEPESI 07:50 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABABU NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABABU NYEPESI 08:20 AM HABABU NYEPESI 08:30 AM HABABU NYEPESI 08:40 AM HABABU NYEPESI 08:50 AM HABABU NYEPESI 09:00 AM HABABU NYEPESI 09:10 AM HABABU NYEPESI 09:20 AM HABABU NYEPESI 09:30 AM HABABU NYEPESI 09:40 AM HABABU NYEPESI 09:50 AM HABABU NYEPESI 10:00 AM HABABU NYEPESI 10:10 AM HABABU NYEPESI 10:20 AM HABABU NYEPESI 10:30 AM HABABU NYEPESI 10:40 AM HABABU NYEPESI 10:50 AM HABABU NYEPESI 11:00 AM HABABU NYEPESI 11:10 AM HABABU NYEPESI 11:20 AM HABABU NYEPESI 11:30 AM HABABU NYEPESI 11:40 AM HABABU NYEPESI 11:50 AM HABABU NYEPESI 12:00 AM HABABU NYEPESI	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 07:15 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

# CHINESE INVITED TO INVEST IN REAL ESTATE IN DODOMA

Correspondent James Kandayo

**P**RIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has invited Chinese business community to invest in different sectors of the economy, specifically real estate in the country capital city of Dodoma.

The premier made a call this week in Dar es Salaam when officially closing the China-Tanzania Business Forum that brought together over 120 Chinese business delegations.

He said the demand for residential and commercials is now increasing and therefore, the Chinese can see the opportunity.

The Tanzanian housing demand is estimated at 300,000 houses annually and a total housing shortage of more than 3 million houses.

The demand has been boosted by easy access mortgages, with the number of mortgage lenders in the market increasing from 3 in 2009 to currently 31, and the average mortgage interest rate falling from 22 percent to 15 percent.

The premier cited the ongoing construction of Magufuli city in Dodoma, noting that real estate investment was very crucial and therefore it was potential for them to join on board.

The premier further said good economic policy and business environment, abundant natural resources, geographical location and political stability are the major incentives for

investors in real estate.

"The government has already put in place enabling business environment for investors who are showing interests and will never be obstacle to implement their business activities," he said.

"We are committed to support investors wherever they have shown interest to invest in our country. I therefore welcome more Chinese investors to explore business opportunities and invest."

According to him, for decades, China has remained great and valued partner to Tanzania, as its investments have created a number of jobs ranging from construction, manufacturing and textiles sectors.

"Let me assure you that Tanzania is a land of opportunity. The government has eliminated bureaucracy to enable investors to smoothly conduct their business activities," he said.

"In addition, the governments will cooperate and interact with you to ensure no obstacles to implement their endeavour."

According to Bank of Tanzania (BoT), housing sector's fast-growing demand is mainly driven by strong and sustained economic growth with GDP



Nyerere Square in Dodoma city. Demand for housing is increasing in the national capital, which requires massive real estate investment. File Photo

growth averaging 6-7 percent over the past decade, the fast-growing Tanzanian population.

It is estimated that the population will more than double by 2050, which needs efforts by the government in

partnership with global non-profit institutions and foreign governments to meet the growing demand of affordable housing.

However, cumbersome processes around the issuance of titles (especially unit titles) continue to pose a challenge by affecting most Tanzanians eligibility to access residential mortgages.

Efforts to develop housing projects by developers continue with a special focus on Dodoma Capital City as the government has relocated its administrative functions there, which has increased demands for housing, both residential and commercial.

Demand for housing and housing loans remains extremely high as it is constrained by inadequate supply of equitable houses and high-interest rates charged on housing loans.

Most lenders offer loans for home purchase and equity release while a few offer loans for self-construction which continue to be expensive and beyond the reach of the average Tanzanians.

While interests on residential mortgages improved from 22 - 24 percent in 2010 to 15 - 19 percent offered today, market interest rates are still relatively

high hence negatively affecting affordability.

Further, competition in the market has led to emergence of other products that are impacting mortgage market growth as the products have favorable terms than mortgage product and are used for housing purposes. These products are competing with mortgage in terms of loan amount and to some extent tenor as they are offering consumer loans for the tenor of up to seven years amounting to around 120mn/-, an amount enough to buy a housing unit.

The competition comes from the ease with which competing products, specifically, consumer loans is available relatively easily compared to lengthy process experienced in mortgage loans as well as additional costs in mortgage loans including registration and valuation fees as well as insurance costs which are not applicable in consumer loans.

On her part, Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania Chen Mingjian said China has been a great business partner to Tanzania with a number of projects specifically in construction sector.

She said China and Tanzania have enjoyed cordially diplomatic and economic relationship since the founding of the two nations.

The Planning and Investment Minister's Prof Kitila Mkumbo promised to ensure the Chinese new investment becomes fruitful.

# NBC launches home loan campaign to boost access to housing

By Guardian Reporter

NBC Bank has launched a home loan campaign in order to improve access to better housing in Tanzania.

The campaign offers Tanzanians the opportunity to access loans ranging from 20m/- to 1bn/-, with the flexibility to repay the loan gradually over a period of up to 25 years.

The primary goal of the lender's initiative is to accelerate the availability of improved housing options throughout the country.

The campaign launch event, took place in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday and was attended by various stakeholders such as the Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited (TMRC), CPS, a real estate developer in Tanzania, Nabaki Afrika Limited, retailers and wholesalers of building products and construction materials,

government officials, customers, and employees of the bank, Elibariki Masuke, NBC's Director of Retail who represented the bank's MD, Theobald Sabi.

During the event, Masuke highlighted that the campaign aims to do more than just offer Tanzanians the chance to become homeowners. It also seeks to stimulate economic growth and development within society by providing secure housing options. Furthermore, the initiative aims to bolster the commercial real estate sector within the country.

"Building homes creates employment opportunities for a wide range of individuals, from construction workers to building materials vendors. This, in turn, stimulates economic circulation through the purchase of materials and generates revenue for the government through taxes on water and electricity usage within these homes.



NBC Bank's Director of Retail Banking, Elibariki Masuke (4th L), and Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited (TMRC) Chief Finance Officer Oswald Urassa (5th R), display a special logo featuring a house, symbolising the launch of the NBC Housing Loan campaign on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam. Other stakeholders include CPS CEO Sebastian Dietzold (3rd R) Nabaki Africa CEO, Russell Stuart and NBC Bank employees. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

As a result, this campaign presents vast economic opportunities across the entire construction industry value chain," he explained.

Masuke outlined the loan options associated with the plan, which include the purchase loan, the renovation or completion loan, and the home guarantee loan.

"Through our home purchase loan, we have collaborated with various companies, including CPS, a real estate developer in Tanzania to

provide customers with the opportunity to buy homes at a reduced interest rate. The loan range varies from 20m/- to 1bn/-, with repayment lasting up to 25 years, allowing the bank to offer up to 85 percent of the home's value."

"With regards to the renovation or completion loan, NBC gives customers the chance to complete the construction of homes that they had started but were unable to finish due to various reasons. In this category,

we have established partnerships with stakeholders, including dealers of construction materials like Nabaki Afrika, where NBC customers will receive discounts on purchases made through them," he added.

Masuke further elaborated on the home guarantee loan, which enables customers to use their property as collateral when obtaining a loan. The funds can be utilized for various development projects, such as

investing in businesses or government bonds. Additionally, the loans include property and life insurances to ensure the safety and security of the loan recipient and their families at all times.

TMRC Chief Finance Officer, Oswald Urassa, noted that the current rate of affordable housing loans in the country is still below 1 percent, compared to neighboring countries like Kenya with 1.8 percent and Rwanda with 4 percent. He commended NBC Bank for introducing a service that will boost the availability of decent housing in Tanzania.

"TMRC is well-prepared to work closely with NBC to achieve this important plan, which is in line with the government's goal of improving housing for its citizens. This loan can attract more people, especially considering the 25-year repayment period, during which borrowers

can repay the loan amount equal to or less than the amount they pay for their house rents. I urge Tanzanians to seize this opportunity," Urassa said.

CPS, Chief Executive Officer, Sebastian Dietzold, cited economic challenges among Tanzanians as one of the major obstacles to achieving adequate housing. He identified the NBC Housing Loan as a crucial solution to this problem.

Meanwhile, CEO of Nabaki Afrika, Russel Stuart, revealed that through the NBC Housing Loan program, the company plans to offer discounts ranging from 5 percent to 15 percent on certain building materials for customers who benefit from the loan.

The NBC Housing Loan campaign comes at a time when statistics show a demand for 200,000 new homes each year in the country, while there is a current shortfall of three million housing units.

# Consider timber in urban social housing projects

By Helena Tourinho

Housing is a fundamental aspect of architecture, providing shelter, which is essential for everyone. In urban environments, addressing the housing challenge is both urgent and complex.

Social housing initiatives aim to provide a substantial portion of the population with access to this fundamental architectural concept: a home.

Social housing poses a dual challenge: it serves as a canvas for architectural experimentation on both medium and large scales, exemplified by projects like Affonso Eduardo Reidy's Pedregulho, con-

temporaneous with Le Corbusier's Unite d'Habitat, or the ill-fated Pruitt-Igoe by Minoru Yamasaki. Simultaneously, it reflects the voracious and commodifying aspects of the real estate market, often prioritizing cost-efficient construction materials and execution quality.

As the field of architecture ideally centers around a social ethic, serving the needs of its occupants, and operates within a multidisciplinary framework, relying on resources from various fields and embracing innovation in both form and materials, it is essential to examine how these principles are applied in the context of social housing.



ing. In the context of economic challenges, particularly in Brazil, and the pressing environmental concerns, the question arises: Can we employ cost-effective materials that align with sustainability while creating architecturally significant projects? Presently, there is a reevaluation of 'vernacular' construction methods, encompassing a reconsideration of

materials employed in building practices.

When evaluating environmentally sustainable construction materials, wood emerges as a viable option. Can this material effectively meet the demands of large-scale and cost-effective social housing projects? While it seems possible, adopting this stance requires a reevaluation of construction and design principles, along

with an examination of their associated implications.

While wooden houses have a history in Brazil, they have ceded ground to the versatility of concrete. It is important to choose building materials that have a lower impact on nature during production and disposal if the goal is to combat environmental degradation.

This is where timber can take center stage as the primary construction material. Because it is lighter than concrete, it demands less foundational support, potentially resulting in cost efficiencies during construction. Additionally, sourcing wood from planted forests can contribute to carbon sequestration, which aligns with the forthcoming discussions about the carbon market. It's worth noting that the carbon market involves complex considerations and geopolitical intricacies, but it presents an opportunity for reforestation efforts.

Timber is not the first choice for

prefabricated construction, but there are industrial processes that use it to create easily assembled panels and structural elements. Cross-laminated timber (CLT) is quite common in several global northern countries. Additionally, the platform system, widely used in the United States, involves a combination of structural elements, uprights, and panels made from solid timber and OSB panels. Prefabrication offers advantages such as faster construction and a cleaner construction site environment, both of which can be particularly beneficial for social housing projects.

Moreover, an 'assembly' construction system offers the flexibility to reconfigure and expand spaces, aligning with the concept

of incremental construction popularized by Alejandro Aravena in his work 'Elemental.' This approach combines prefabrication using sustainable materials, which reduce the overall construction material required, with the potential for gradual expansions by residents themselves over time.

This integration addresses the technical, economic, and symbolic aspects of construction. The resulting visual diversity, shaped by residents' contributions, adds richness to larger housing developments, bringing them closer to the dynamic reality of non-uniform cities. These three elements are presented as a proposal, a design challenge, and a possible prototype for future construction systems.

# TANZANIA, OTHER AFRICAN STATES OUT TO ENHANCE INCLUSIVE INFORMATION ACCESS

By Carlos Banda

The Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology has pledged the government's continued efforts in collaboration with other African partners in enhancing the inclusive access to information as a fundamental component towards digitalization.

This was revealed yesterday by the Information, Communication and Information Technology Minister, Nape Nnauye as he officiated a 2-day Forum on Internet Freedom in Africa 2023 an event hosted by the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA) in Dar es Salaam.

"The presence of a diversity of government officials from various African countries, private sector representatives, civil society and the media illustrates the importance of finding common ground to have informed discussions on digital transformation, digital inclusion and digital access in Africa," he noted.

In his address, Minister Nape

hailed the long-standing partnership between Tanzania and other African countries to look for more ways to work with policy makers in the region to strengthen Africa's role in the global innovation society and the presence of Africa's vibrant internet ecosystem noting the move by businesses going online and finding ways to market.

"The presence of a diversity of government officials from various African countries, private sector representatives, civil society and the media illustrates the importance of finding common ground to have informed discussions on digital transformation, digital inclusion and digital access in Africa," he noted.

The minister pointed out that with Africa sitting at the forefront of continental internet expansion, it is now positioned to help drive the future of the global internet to the right place adding that, it is important to set up the necessary collaboration to improve the internet infrastructure and foster resilience sensitivity.



Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Nape Nnauye (2nd L) shares insights during a panel discussion on the State of Internet Freedom in Africa after officiating the launch of the Forum on Internet Freedom in Africa 2023 hosted by the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA) in Dar es Salaam, yesterday. Photo: Carlos Banda

"As Africans we need to collaborate in improving the infrastructure, close the digital divide and foster resilience sensitivity. As Africans, we need to ask ourselves how

do we harness the benefits of digital technologies while limiting the potential arms to the citizens, enterprises and indeed governments. How do we ensure digital inclusion of all people in this dynamic and how do we mitigate the risks associated with reaching large numbers of people online," said Nape.

On his part, Dr. Wairagala Wakabi, Executive Director of CIPESA highlighted that the Forum has over the years served as an avenue for key deliberations of opportunities and concerns informing the African technology policy landscape.

"Many states in Africa have ramped up their digitalisation efforts in a bid to enhance social, economic and political transformation. These efforts reflect the continued commitments by African States at improving access to information, innovative strategies, inclusion, privacy and data protection, and collaborative initiatives employed by media organisations, tech compa-

nies, civil society and governments to safeguard the integrity and opportunities of the information society," he said.

This year's forum on Internet Freedom in Africa (FIFAfrica) has come to serve as a key convening in Africa where the constant developments in technology policy are discussed amongst a broad spectrum of participants from Africa and beyond.

It is the tenth edition being hosted by the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA) alongside the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology (ICT) of the United Republic of Tanzania, whereas the previous editions being hosted in Ghana, Ethiopia, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia.

The government of Tanzania, joins those of Ethiopia (2019) and Zambia (2022), as well as the Slovenia Presidency of the European Union (2021), in partnering with CIPESA to co-host FIFAfrica.

## BRAC expands its footprint to thirteen regions

By Guardian Correspondent

Mary Godfrey

BRAC Tanzania Finance Ltd (BTFL), one of the largest microfinance institutions in the country has further expanded its branch network this year moving forward on its mission of providing financial services responsibly, especially to women living in rural and hard to reach areas.

BTFL has increased its network with 13 new branches in including Mbeya, Songwe, Iringa, Ruvuma, Morogoro, Coast, Manyara, Arusha and entered for the first time in Kigoma region with three branches in three districts of Kasulu, Kigoma Ujiji and Kibondo.

Speaking during the official launch of the Ujiji branch in Kigoma region, the District Administrative Officer Dorah Buzaiile, commended BRAC for bringing its services to the women entrepreneurs of Ujiji and she also urged the women of Kigoma to take advantage of the financial services and use the funds for intended purpose of growing their businesses and not otherwise.

"I believe that any good and thriving family is created by a woman who is strong and resilient. Therefore, with this initiative geared to empower women, we expect to see families being empowered socially and economically. I urge BRAC to also provide financial literacy to the clients, so they may be able to use the funds for the intended purpose and increase their incomes," said Buzaiile.

Meanwhile, BTFL Regional Manager for Kigoma Tusajigwe Benard said, the expansion aligns with BT-

FL's commitment to bring financial services closer to customers especially women and increasing financial inclusion among the unbanked population in Tanzania.

"At BRAC we believe that every person has the ability to reach their potential once they are empowered. And therefore as microfinance, we are committed to providing reliable financial services that are easily accessible to the people at the bottom of the pyramid, especially women, with the expectation that they will use our services to overcome their socio-economic challenges. In cognizant to that, our group loan has very few friendly conditions that all women are able to meet," said Bernard.

As part of its efforts to achieve its social goals each year, BTFL participates in a Lean Data Impact Survey conducted by 60 Decibels, an independent company to measure the impact of its services with the intention of improving its product offering to achieve the overall mission of creating social and economic impact for its clients.

As of the Lean Data Impact Survey of 2022, it shows 94 percent of BTFL have improved their quality of life, while 92 percent have made better financial decisions and have increased their earnings.

BTFL currently boasts a client portfolio of over 350,000 people across its 177 branches located in more than 80 districts in 24 regions of mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Of the client portfolio, 98 percent are women who engage in small businesses and farming activities.



BTFL has expanded its network with 13 new branches



## AfDB, partners launch large-scale solar project in Tunisia

TUNIS

The African Development Bank and the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA), in partnership with the International Finance Corporation and UAE's AMEA Power, have heralded Tunisia's first privately-financed solar project.

This initiative is set to revolutionise the nation's energy scene by cutting power generation costs, significantly trimming greenhouse gas emissions by over 90,000 tons annually, and bolstering Tunisia's green transition.

The partners signed project launch papers on Tuesday this week, at the government headquarters in Al Qasba, Tunis. This initiative stands as one of Tunisia's most impactful infrastructure projects in over a decade.

The 100-megawatt, \$86 million solar plant located in Tunisia's Kairouan governorate will benefit from up to \$26 million in debt financing from the African Development Bank, including \$13 million sourced from SEFA, a multi-donor fund that provides finance to unlock private sector investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency. The financing scheme is designed to ensure the holistic development, financing, operation, and maintenance of the plant, located roughly 150 km south of Tunis, in El Metbassta.

The plant is central to Tunisia's strategy to reduce its reliance on natural gas. It aims to bolster the nation's renewable energy share to an ambitious 35 percent by 2030, thus the Kairouan Solar project is not just about power generation; it is about regional transformation.

Hela Cheikhrouhou, IFC's Regional Vice President, Middle East, Central Asia, Türkiye, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, emphasized the venture's broader impact. "This project represents a positive stride towards Tunisia's green transition.

South-South investments such as this one underscore the essential role that private sector partners can play in the energy transition. This project is in

line with our strategy to enable South-South investments, including from Gulf Cooperation Council countries to emerging markets," she said.

Sérgio Pimenta, IFC's Vice President for Africa, further added, "This ambitious, renewable energy project will not only bring more affordable, clean energy to the people of Tunisia, but it will help Tunisia achieve its energy goals and attract more private investments into future green projects. Through the project, we're proud to build on our partnership with AMEA Power to expand their operations across North Africa, helping address the effects of climate change in the region."

Reflecting on the landmark agreement, Dr. Kevin Kariuki, Vice President of Power, Energy, Climate, and Green Growth at the African Development Bank, stated, "We are thrilled to achieve this pivotal moment as we sign the first solar IPP project in Tunisia. This achievement results from AfDB's unwavering commitment to fostering sustainable energy solutions on the continent. Today's success is the result of a strong partnership between the Government of Tunisia, AMEA Power, the Bank, SEFA and the IFC. It embodies our joint commitment to help move the country close to its 35% clean energy target."

AMEA Power's Chairman, Hussain Al Nowais, said: "We are delighted to reach financial close on this 120MW solar power plant in Tunisia, our first project in the country. This is a significant milestone for AMEA Power and for Tunisia, as it represents the largest solar project fully developed in the country to date. Despite all the challenges that the market has been experiencing since the COVID pandemic, we are proud that we are delivering this project and honouring our commitment to supporting Tunisia's transition to clean energy. We are grateful for the strong support of our lenders and the Tunisian government in making this project a reality."

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Speaking during the official launch of the Ujiji branch in Kigoma region, the District Administrative Officer Dorah Buzaiile, commended BRAC for bringing its services to the women entrepreneurs of Ujiji and she also urged the women of Kigoma to take advantage of the financial services and use the funds for intended purpose of growing their businesses and not otherwise.

"I believe that any good and thriving family is created by a woman who is strong and resilient. Therefore, with this initiative geared to empower women, we expect to see families being empowered socially and economically. I urge BRAC to also provide financial literacy to the clients, so they may be able to use the funds for the intended purpose and increase their incomes," said Buzaiile.

Meanwhile, BTFL Regional Manager for Kigoma Tusajigwe Benard said, the expansion aligns with BT-

FL's commitment to bring financial services closer to customers especially women and increasing financial inclusion among the unbanked population in Tanzania.

"At BRAC we believe that every person has the ability to reach their potential once they are empowered. And therefore as microfinance, we are committed to providing reliable financial services that are easily accessible to the people at the bottom of the pyramid, especially women, with the expectation that they will use our services to overcome their socio-economic challenges. In cognizant to that, our group loan has very few friendly conditions that all women are able to meet," said Bernard.

As part of its efforts to achieve its social goals each year, BTFL participates in a Lean Data Impact Survey conducted by 60 Decibels, an independent company to measure the impact of its services with the intention of improving its product offering to achieve the overall mission of creating social and economic impact for its clients.

As of the Lean Data Impact Survey of 2022, it shows 94 percent of BTFL have improved their quality of life, while 92 percent have made better financial decisions and have increased their earnings.

BTFL currently boasts a client portfolio of over 350,000 people across its 177 branches located in more than 80 districts in 24 regions of mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Of the client portfolio, 98 percent are women who engage in small businesses and farming activities.



BTFL has expanded its network with 13 new branches



## AfDB, partners launch large-scale solar project in Tunisia

TUNIS

The African Development Bank and the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA), in partnership with the International Finance Corporation and UAE's AMEA Power, have heralded Tunisia's first privately-financed solar project.

This initiative is set to revolutionise the nation's energy scene by cutting power generation costs, significantly trimming greenhouse gas emissions by over 90,000 tons annually, and bolstering Tunisia's green transition.

The partners signed project launch papers on Tuesday this week, at the government headquarters in Al Qasba, Tunis. This initiative stands as one of Tunisia's most impactful infrastructure projects in over a decade.

The 100-megawatt, \$86 million solar plant located in Tunisia's Kairouan governorate will benefit from up to \$26 million in debt financing from the African Development Bank, including \$13 million sourced from SEFA, a multi-donor fund that provides finance to unlock private sector investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency. The financing scheme is designed to ensure the holistic development, financing, operation, and maintenance of the plant, located roughly 150 km south of Tunis, in El Metbassta.

The plant is central to Tunisia's strategy to reduce its reliance on natural gas. It aims to bolster the nation's renewable energy share to an ambitious 35 percent by 2030, thus the Kairouan Solar project is not just about power generation; it is about regional transformation.

Hela Cheikhrouhou, IFC's Regional Vice President, Middle East, Central Asia, Türkiye, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, emphasized the venture's broader impact. "This project represents a positive stride towards Tunisia's green transition.

South-South investments such as this one underscore the essential role that private sector partners can play in the energy transition. This project is in

line with our strategy to enable South-South investments, including from Gulf Cooperation Council countries to emerging markets," she said.

Sérgio Pimenta, IFC's Vice President for Africa, further added, "This ambitious, renewable energy project will not only bring more affordable, clean energy to the people of Tunisia, but it will help Tunisia achieve its energy goals and attract more private investments into future green projects. Through the project, we're proud to build on our partnership with AMEA Power to expand their operations across North Africa, helping address the effects of climate change in the region."

Reflecting on the landmark agreement, Dr. Kevin Kariuki, Vice President of Power, Energy, Climate, and Green Growth at the African Development Bank, stated, "We are thrilled to achieve this pivotal moment as we sign the first solar IPP project in Tunisia. This achievement results from AfDB's unwavering commitment to fostering sustainable energy solutions on the continent. Today's success is the result of a strong partnership between the Government of Tunisia, AMEA Power, the Bank, SEFA and the IFC. It embodies our joint commitment to help move the country close to its 35% clean energy target."

AMEA Power's Chairman, Hussain Al Nowais, said: "We are delighted to reach financial close on this 120MW solar power plant in Tunisia, our first project in the country. This is a significant milestone for AMEA Power and for Tunisia, as it represents the largest solar project fully developed in the country to date. Despite all the challenges that the market has been experiencing since the COVID pandemic, we are proud that we are delivering this project and honouring our commitment to supporting Tunisia's transition to clean energy. We are grateful for the strong support of our lenders and the Tunisian government in making this project a reality."

## WORLD

## Expansion of NATO called out as great risk

HONG KONG

THE United States-led NATO expansion and confrontational attitude have been called out for posing great risks to the Asian region, as the 78th United Nations General Assembly came to a close in New York on Tuesday.

Representatives from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Syrian Arab Republic blamed the US for its self-interest geopolitical interests, which have led to destabilization and insecurity, as well as exploitation of Syria's natural resources.

During his speech, Kim Song, ambassador and permanent representative of the DPRK to the UN, accused Washington of trying to create "the Asian version of NATO". The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was formed in 1949 in response to the emerging Cold War. The military bloc includes European nations, the US and Canada.

Kim said the US made 2023 "an extremely dangerous year" by trying to provoke a nuclear war. He denounced leaders of both the US and the Republic of Korea for their "hysterical remarks" of confrontation, like the "end of the regime" and "occupation of Pyongyang", in flagrant violation of the principles and purposes of the UN Charter.

"The DPRK remains steadfast and unchanged in its determination to firmly defend the national sovereignty, security in-

terests and well-being of the people against the hostile threats from outside," Kim said.

Lakhvinder Singh, director of the peace program at the Asia Institute in Seoul, said that he "strongly agrees" with Kim's view that the UN Security Council needs to be reformed and Asian countries should be given due representation in the decision-making process.

"So far, Western countries have mainly used it to promote their own narrow national interests," Singh said.

Syrian Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Bassam Sabbagh said the "policies of creative chaos" adopted by successive US administrations "in our region" serve their geopolitical and selfish interests, and this "led to destabilization and insecurity".

Sabbagh blamed "systematic American plunder" of the Syrian people's national wealth, such as oil and gas, that has deprived his country of its resources.

## Emergence of terrorism

He said the US has spent billions of dollars demolishing and destroying development achievements made over past decades, contributing to the emergence of a phenomenon of extremism and terrorism.

Furkan Halit Yolcu, a researcher at Sakarya University's Middle East Institute in Turkey, said that the US aimed to establish a power vacuum in northern Syria for oil



Kim Song, ambassador and permanent representative of the DPRK to the UN, addresses attendees during a news conference at UN headquarters on Tuesday. AP

exploitation in Deir ez-Zor and succeeded. It formulated a state-like entity "that will ensure the longevity of this vacuum and it succeeded". But he said the US "failed to reach a peaceful state in the Syrian war", which is the main reason for US presence.

"Once again in US history, the US intervened in another country's affairs in the name of democracy and peace, but these did not happen," Yolcu said.

Jawaid Iqbal, chairman of the Department of West Asian and North African Studies at Aligarh Muslim University in India, said that recent speeches at the UNGA by Syria and the DPRK "unveil the dark underbelly of the US-centric international 'rules-based' order".

US unipolarity has been marked by the US empire's violent military interventions in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, and Yugoslavia, he said.

"Beyond military actions, the US wages an economic warfare through unilateral sanctions imposed on countries like China, the DPRK, Iran, Syria, Cuba, Venezuela,

Nicaragua, Eritrea, Zimbabwe, and others," Iqbal said.

Arhama Siddiqua, a research fellow at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad in Pakistan, said the recurring pattern observed across the Middle East "underscores a troubling trend". External interventions often result in widespread chaos, with little consideration for the ensuing humanitarian crises, leaving neighboring nations "burdened with the fallout".

Siddiqua said those advocating corrective measures often find themselves facing significant constraints. What is urgently required is a heightened sense of accountability, and a willingness to shoulder responsibility for the consequences of interventions.

"How the US' intervention in the Middle East ... has often been perceived as a manifestation of a confrontational foreign policy posture, is one that has raised concerns about regional stability and the well-being of Asian countries," Siddiqua said.

Agencies

## COP28 president-designate praises China's green transition

SULTAN Ahmed Al Jaber, president-designate of the COP 28 United Nations climate change conference, praised China for its leadership role in facilitating the world's green transition and promoting renewable energy, and said he has received "overwhelming support" from the Chinese government.

Such support is crucial to make the summit a historic one with unprecedented results to be delivered, he said in Beijing on Tuesday in an exclusive interview with China Daily.

"China has always been an active participant in the COP process and a strategic partner to the UAE," said Al Jaber, also the United Arab Emirates' special envoy for climate change and minister of industry and advanced technology.

Al Jaber made the remarks half way through a two-day visit to Beijing, his second trip to China this year in the run-up to the 28th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, or UNFCCC.

Commonly known as COP 28, the global climate summit will take place from Nov 30 to Dec 12 in Dubai, a constituent emirate of the UAE.

Al Jaber said that fossil fuels will continue to be drilled to ensure global energy security despite "alarmist" calls to end their use overnight. However,

countries - rich and poor alike - must fast-track an orderly transition from oil and gas to cleaner energy sources ranging from solar to wind to hydrogen to avoid climate disasters.

"The world cannot unplug from the current energy system before we build the new energy system. Instead, we want to continue to decarbonize the oil and gas sector," he said.

He noted that fossil fuels cannot be eliminated even in the most progressive plan to reducing the world's carbon footprint. "Oil and gas will continue to be needed to meet the global energy requirements."

Al Jaber cited the decarbonization drive targeting the conventional energy sector in UAE - now an oil-producing country with the lowest carbon intensity - as an example to illustrate the more "pragmatic" and "results-driven" approach that he has advocated to ensure the success of the upcoming meeting.

Over the past two decades, UAE made its oil industry more climate friendly through methods such as electrifying operations and adopting carbon capture and storage technologies, and commercialized renewable energy, he said.

"I want solutions. I don't want an alarmist type of approach. I want to strike a balance between passion and realism,"



Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber (right), president-designate of the COP 28 United Nations climate change conference, receives an interview of China Daily.

he said, adding that the world needs to triple renewable energy supply and bolster efficiency in the conventional energy sector to achieve a "fair, just, equitable and responsible" transition to climate-friendly energy sources.

To make the transition viable, the president-designate said that the climate finance system must be revamped so that the global south can deliver their emission-reduction objectives.

He said he also counts on the developed country to deliver a promise they made in 2009 to give their developing counterparts \$100 billion a year to help fulfill their green transition.

"The fact that finance has not been made available, accessible or affordable has delayed

progress... and that's why the Paris Agreement has not been implemented very much," he said, referring to the agreement reached by world leaders in 2015 to best keep global temperature increases below 1.5 C compared with pre-industrial levels.

The UNFCCC Secretariat earlier this month released a report on the first Global Stocktake, which measures progress towards meeting the goals of the Paris Climate Change Agreement since 2015.

The report said that the window to raise ambition and implementing existing pledges to limit warming to 1.5 C above pre-industrial levels is narrowing rapidly, and international public finance must be strategi-

cally deployed to avoid climate disasters.

Al Jaber said: "Unfortunately, it has been proven that there has not been much progress. We are way off track."

He said he wished to restore confidence at COP 28, and use the event as a vehicle to turn rhetoric into actions and workable timelines, in the hopes of successfully reducing 22 gigatons of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, which Al Jaber said was his "north star" and the baseline requirement to keep the 1.5 C target within reach.

"We should no longer be pointing fingers at anybody thinking they are the problem. Our enemy is emission," he said. *Xinhua*

CHINA'S State Council Information Office on Sept. 26 released a white paper titled "A Global Community of Shared Future: China's Proposals and Actions."

The white paper comprehensively introduces the ideas and practices of building a global community with a shared future for mankind, showcasing China's active efforts in and contributions to promoting the building of a global community with a shared future for mankind.

It is of great significance in enhancing international understanding and comprehension, fostering broad consensus, and promoting closer collaboration among countries to build a global community with a shared future for mankind.

The decisions made at the crossroads of history concern the overall interests of humanity and test the wisdom of all countries.

Ten years ago, Chinese President Xi

## To jointly create better future for all of humanity

Jinping propounded the idea of building a global community of shared future, answering a question raised by the world, by history, and by the times: "Where is humanity headed?" His proposal lights the path forward as the world fumbles for solutions, and represents China's contribution to global efforts to protect our shared home and create a better future of prosperity for all.

From "the five-point proposal" to "the five goals," the concept of a global community of shared future, with its deep roots in China's profound cultural heritage and drawing on the outstanding achievements of all other civilizations, pursues openness, inclusiveness, mutual benefit, equity and justice.

It has its direction and path, and is about

countries with different social systems, ideologies, histories, cultures and levels of development coming together to promote shared interests, shared rights, and shared responsibilities in global affairs.

It introduces a new approach for international relations, provides new ideas for global governance, opens up new prospects for international exchanges, and draws a new blueprint for a better world.

Over the past decade, China has contributed its strength to building a global community of shared future with firm conviction and solid actions.

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a vivid example of building a global community of shared future, and a global public good and cooperation platform provided by China to the world.

The Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, and Global Civilization Initiative proposed by China guide the advance of human society across the three dimensions of development, security and civilization. Resonating and complementing each other, they have evolved into a crucial cornerstone for building a global community of shared future, offering China's solutions to major challenges pertaining to peace and development for humanity.

China has proposed a range of regional and bilateral initiatives on building communities of shared future, and is working with stakeholders to build consensus and expand cooperation, thereby playing a constructive role in promoting regional peace and development.

China has boosted international cooperation in all areas and made unique contribution to solving global problems.

Confronted by the rampant Covid-19 pandemic, China proposed to build a community of health for all. To address disorder in cyberspace governance, China has proposed the concept of a community of shared future in cyberspace. Concerning the fundamental issues in global nuclear security governance, China proposes to build a community of shared future on nuclear security. Faced with increasingly complex maritime issues, China has proposed to form a maritime community of shared future. Faced with the severe and growing global climate challenge, China has proposed important concepts such as building a community of life for humanity

and nature and a community of all life on Earth. Today, Changes of the world, of the times and of history are unfolding today in ways like never before. While we live in an age full of hope, which highlights the foresight and value to the times of building a global community of shared future.

President Xi pointed out, "Amidst the raging torrents of a global crisis, countries are not riding separately in some 190 small boats, but are rather all in a giant ship on which our shared destiny hinges. Small boats may not survive a storm, but a giant ship is strong enough to brave a storm."

Faced with profound changes unseen in a century, countries must adhere to peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation, and jointly build a global community with a shared future for mankind in order to overcome difficulties and create a better future together. *People's Daily*

## Political convenience must not determine response to terrorism, says Jaishankar

NEW YORK

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday said that "political convenience" should not be countenanced in determining responses to terrorism and extremism in an apparent reference to Canada amid a diplomatic standoff between the two countries.



Addressing the United Nations General Assembly, Jaishankar (pictured) also said that respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs cannot be exercised in cherry picking.

He said there is a thrust on the promotion of a rules-based order and respect for the UN Charter is also invoked and that rules will work only when they apply equally to all.

"But for all the talk, it is still a few nations who shape the agenda and seek to define the norms. This cannot go on indefinitely. Nor will it go unchallenged. A fair, equitable and democratic order will surely emerge, once we all put our minds to it. And for a start, that means ensuring that rule-makers do not subjugate rule-takers. After all, rules will work only when they apply equally to all," he said.

He referred to "vaccine apartheid" and also said that climate action too cannot continue to witness an evasion of historical responsibilities.

"The power of markets should not be utilized to steer food and energy from the needy to the wealthy. Nor must we countenance that political convenience determines responses to terrorism, extremism and violence," the minister said.

"Similarly, respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs cannot be exercised in cherry picking. When reality departs from rhetoric, we must have the courage to call it out. Without genuine solidarity, there can never be real trust. This is very much the sentiment of the Global South," he added.

The relations between India and Canada have plummeted over the activities of Khalistani activists including their threats to India's High Commission and Consulates in Canada.

There has been diplomatic tit-for-tat following Canada's decision to expel an Indian diplomat. India said last week that no information has been shared by Canada regarding the killing of a Khalistani terrorist following allegations by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Answering queries during a press conference last week, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said that if there is any country that needs to look at reputational damage, it is Canada.

"I think it is Canada and its growing reputation as a safe haven for terrorists, for extremists, and for organized crime. And I think that's a country that needs to worry about its international reputation," Bagchi had said.

The spokesperson said terrorism is being funded and supported.

"We know this for some time, from our western neighbour Pakistan. But the issue of safe havens and places to operate is being provided abroad, including in Canada... The question is, do we have the political will to address terrorism? Or we want to justify it and condone it," Bagchi had said.

In his remarks at the UNGA, Jaishankar said the United Nations will be hosting the Summit of the Future next year.

"This should serve as a serious opportunity to drive change, champion fairness and reform multilateralism, including the expansion of the Security Council memberships. We must address global challenges imbued with the conviction that we are one earth and one family, with one future," he said.

Jaishankar said India has entered the Amrit Kaal, a quarter century "where greater progress and transformation awaits us".

"We are confident that our talent and creativity, now so visibly unleashed, will power us forward. The world saw a glimpse of what is to come when our Chandrayaan-3 landed on the moon.

"Today, our message to the world is in digitally enabled governance and delivery, in the widening ambit of amenities and services, in rapidly growing infrastructure, and in our energetic Startup culture. It is visible too in vibrant cultural expressions, such as in the arts, yoga, wellness, and lifestyle. Our latest assertion is in a pathbreaking legislation to reserve one-third of the seats for women in our legislatures," he said.

Jaishankar said he represents a society where ancient traditions of democracy have struck deep modern roots.

"As a result, our thinking, approaches and actions are now more grounded and authentic. As a civilizational polity that embraces modernity, we bring both tradition and technology equally confidently to the table. It is this fusion that today defines India, that is Bharat," he said.

ANI



## Israel reopens Gaza crossings, lets Palestinians back to work

GAZA

ISRAEL reopened crossing points with Gaza yesterday, allowing thousands of Palestinian workers to get to their jobs in Israel and the West Bank, after nearly two weeks of closure prompted by violent protests along the border.

Around 18,000 Gazans have permits from Israeli authorities to work outside the blockaded enclave, providing an injection of cash amounting to some \$2 million a day to the impoverished territory's economy.

The move comes amid stepped-up international efforts by Egypt and the United Nations to defuse tensions and prevent a new round of armed conflict in the enclave.

For around two weeks, protestors throwing stones and explosive devices have faced off against Israeli troops who have responded with live fire, killing at least one man and wounding dozens more.

Protests on Wednesday were less intense, and so was the Israeli response. A Palestinian official familiar with mediation efforts told Reuters the development came "upon the request of mediators to de-escalate tensions".

Desperate to go back to their jobs, workers began to flock to the Palestinian side of the crossing soon after Israel made the announcement late on Wednesday.

"We want to go to work and earn a living for our children because the situation was too bad for us the past two weeks," said Khaled Zurub, 57, who works in construction in Israel.

Cogat, the Israeli Defence Ministry agency that coordinates with the Palestinians, said security assessments would determine whether the border remained open.

Hazem Qassem, a spokesman for the armed Islamist Hamas group that rules Gaza and opposes peace deals with Israel, said Israel was constantly violating Gazans' fundamental right to freedom of movement with repeated border closures and the blockade of Gaza.

Israel blocks many goods from entering Gaza with Egyptian backing, citing security concerns, and also reserves the right to restrict exports.

According to IMF figures, per capita income in Gaza is only a quarter of that of Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. The World Bank says unemployment is nearly 50 percent.



A Palestinian police officer checks the documents of Palestinian workers as they enter the reopened Erez crossing to Israel, after Israeli ends a ban on workers from Gaza, in Gaza City yesterday. REUTERS

## Scientists have discovered potential treatment for nicotine addiction

WASHINGTON

ACCORDING to recent research from the University of Missouri School of Medicine, there may be another approach to cure cigarette addiction.

Researchers observed that theta-burst transcranial magnetic stimulation (TBS), which uses powerful, rapidly fluctuating magnetic field pulses to influence brain activity, can promote self-control, reduce cravings, and, as a result, lead to reduced smoking.

People with nicotine dependence tend to have significant structural and functional differences in the brain, compared to healthy non-smokers. Smoking cigarettes has been shown to be associated with less grey matter, which means they have less neurons and other cells in the brain.

Research suggests these differences may affect inhibitory control (IC), which is our control over automatic urges and response to stimuli - what enables humans to stop an impulsive reaction to something.

"Having difficulties with IC may make it harder to avoid smoking when the urge arises, in response to all the cues and contexts in the environment that trigger the behavior to light a cigarette," said lead author Brett Froeliger, PhD, professor of Psychiatry.

TBS refers to when magnetic pulses are applied to the brain in bursts of three and come in two forms: continuous TBS (cTBS) and intermittent TBS (iTBS). cTBS consists of applying these three bursts repeatedly for 40 seconds, whereas iTBS applies the same number of pulses irregularly for more than 190 seconds.

Magnetic stimulation has been used to treat other mental illnesses and disorders. cTBS has been experimentally tested to treat generalized anxiety disorder, whereas iTBS to the left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex - a part of your brain responsible for cognitive processes - is FDA-approved for treating major depressive disorder.

The study involved 37 participants, mostly in their late 40s, and examined

the effects of both cTBS and iTBS to the right inferior frontal gyrus, a brain region heavily involved with IC. Researchers found that cTBS improved IC, whereas both cTBS and iTBS reduced cravings and, subsequently, smoking.

"Identifying treatments that improve IC may help reduce smoking and can potentially help with preventing relapse following when a person attempts to quit smoking," Froeliger said, adding,

"Treatments that improve IC may also help disrupt the cycle of drug use among individuals with other substance use disorders; however, further research is needed to examine the clinical value of TBS for treating substance use disorders."

"Effects of Hyperdirect Pathway Theta-Burst Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation on Inhibitory Control, Craving, and Smoking in Adults with Nicotine Dependence: A Double-Blind Randomized Crossover Trial" was recently published in Biological Psychiatry CNNI. ANI



**Magnetic stimulation has been used to treat other mental illnesses and disorders. cTBS has been experimentally tested to treat generalized anxiety disorder, whereas iTBS to the left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex - a part of your brain responsible for cognitive processes - is FDA-approved for treating major depressive disorder**

## UN humanitarian workers concerned over clashes in Mali as peacekeepers withdraw

UNITED NATIONS

WHILE UN peacekeepers withdraw from Mali, UN humanitarian workers express deep concern over escalating clashes in northern and eastern parts of the country.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said Wednesday that it was concerned about escalating tensions and clashes in Timbuktu, Gao, and Menaka regions.

The humanitarian office said agencies this year assisted 1.2 million people across the country. But they are only a fraction of the 9 million people in need.

Aid agencies need safe and unimpeded access to affected communities to maintain operations and scale up the humanitarian response.

"They also urgently need additional resources to ensure critical enabling services are in place for humanitarian action, including logistics and mine action activities," OCHA said. Stephane Dujarric, the chief



Forces from the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) patrol in front of the Great Mosque in Timbuktu [File: Florent Vergnes/AFP]

spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, said peacekeepers will continue drawdown and withdrawal by year-end in accordance with Security Council Resolution 2690.

"The peacekeepers in Mali are continuing to draw down and withdraw from the country in an extremely challenging security environment, to say the least," he said. Citing reports from colleagues in Mali,

Dujarric said clashes in recent weeks in Gao, Kidal, and Timbuktu regions are impacting the mission's drawdown and withdrawal plan.

However, he said contingency plans are also in place in case the security situation continues to deteriorate as it executes the next phase of the drawdown and withdrawal plan. "Up until now ... Ogossagou, Ber, Gundam, and Menaka have been va-

ated and handed over to the competent Malian authorities," he said.

"From Oct. 1 onwards, the mission will use its remaining capacities to focus on its safe and orderly drawdown and withdrawal." In line with the Security Council resolution, the spokesman said the mission will no longer be authorized, nor will it have the means and capacities to respond to imminent threats of violence against the civilian population or to contribute to the safe civilian-led delivery of humanitarian goods and services. Dujarric said the 2023 humanitarian response plan for Mali, which requests 752 million U.S. dollars, is only 22 percent funded, with critical sectors facing even more significant funding gaps.

For example, food security is 18 percent funded; health 17 percent funded; water, sanitation and hygiene only 14 percent funded. "We need more cash," said the spokesman.

Xinhua

## Traditional malls in China accelerate digital transformation

AS dusk fell, Sanlitun, a popular destination for shopping, dining, and entertainment in Beijing's Chaoyang district, was teeming with visitors. There, the crowds encountered various types of "intelligent" elements.

It was the peak time for dining. Robots were seen guiding diners to queue and leading the way in many restaurants.

In parking lots, there was no line waiting at the exit. With WeChat mini-programs on their mobile phones, consumers could park intelligently, inquire about free parking length and pay parking fees. They could even order valet parking and other services on these mini-programs.

In a beauty store in the TaiKoo Li Sanlitun complex, customers were trying makeup in front of augmented reality-enabled "magic mirrors," which were able to show before-and-after images. These "magic mirrors" clearly displayed makeup effects, providing customers with better references in selecting and buying suitable cosmetics.

Shopping malls and districts are important parts of a city's business infrastructure, serving as carriers to promote circulation innovation and nurture emerging consumption.

At present, many brick-and-mortar stores in China are adapting to new changes in demands for consumption upgrades by employing new technologies like 5G, internet of things, big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality, in an attempt to construct smart stores, innovate consumption scenarios, and improve consumer experiences.

At the audio-video experience section of a flagship store under leading Chinese retail company Suning in Xinjiekou, Nanjing, east China's Jiangsu province, various products manufactured by different brands were displayed together, bringing an immersive shopping experience.

In addition, the store also introduced home furnishing and decoration services so as to provide consumers with a complete set of home audio-video solutions. Such new and smart experiences significantly drove consumption. According to statistics, passenger flow at the flagship store jumped 56 percent from a year ago between July 28 and Aug. 18.

Green and intelligent home appliances were favored by customers. During the period, the sales of smart sweeping robots, intelligent all-in-one washer dryers and energy-saving refrigerators surged 165 percent, 118 percent and 73 percent year-on-year, respectively.

"I came here with my child to experience the naked-eye 3D display in the mall. It feels like we were in a science fiction world," said consumer Li Li at the JD Mall in Xi'an, northwest China's Shaanxi province, a complex run by Chinese e-commerce giant JD.com focusing on providing an immersive omnichannel shopping experience to customers.

## Adults with intellectual disabilities are at risk for dementia

OKAYAMA

INTELLECTUAL disability (ID) is thought to be associated with an increased risk of dementia and its onset is influenced by both inherited and acquired factors. It is also known that a lower cognitive reserve—the capacity for thinking developed by learning and deliberate mental effort—increases the risk of dementia in the general population.

It is hypothesized that dementia is more common in people with ID given the likelihood of a shorter educational lifespan and a reduced intellectual capacity.

The prevalence of dementia among individuals with ID without Down syndrome (DS) in comparison to the general population is unknown, and the risk variables that affect dementia risk aren't fully understood.

Recently, researchers uncovered the prevalence of dementia and identified the risk factors that can lead to dementia among people with ID in Japan. The

team was led by Professor Shintaro Takenoshita, Assistant Professor in the Department of Neuropsychiatry at Okayama University Hospital, Japan. Their findings were published in the journal *Alzheimer's Research & Therapy* on 18 July 2023.

"Diagnosing dementia in people with ID is difficult owing to the mixed effects of innate cognitive decline and the cognitive decline that occurs over time due to dementia. However, it is quite possible to diagnose dementia if cognitive and lifestyle functions are assessed chronologically based on information from family and other support persons. We believe that even in persons with intellectual disabilities, dementia needs to be properly evaluated," explains Prof. Takenoshita regarding the group's motivation to pursue the study.

The team surveyed the severity of ID, educational history, and comorbidities across 1,831 participants in residential treatment facilities spread across Japan. The relevant data was collected by interviewing caregivers of all the

participants, and a direct examination was performed using clinical criteria for dementia and neurocognitive disorders for participants suspected of having cognitive decline.

Emphasizing the report's key findings, Prof. Takenoshita says, "We found that 6.44% of the participants were diagnosed with dementia. Furthermore, our analyses revealed that dementia was more prevalent in younger people with ID compared to the general population. Lastly, we pinpointed seven factors with significant links to dementia. These were hypertension, depression, stroke, age, severity of ID, duration of education, and traumatic brain injury."

These findings are expected to enable better screening for dementia and improve the support and medical care for people with ID. It is important to note that some of the risk factors are modifiable. Therefore, depending on a patient's profile, providing adequate education, preventing head trauma and stroke, and making hypertension and depression medications readily

available could be the first steps in preventing the onset of dementia in people with ID.

"This is the largest study that explores the prevalence of dementia in a population with ID. Additionally, we minimized the study's bias by surveying participants from a wide geographic range. This implies that the risk factors we identified are reliable targets for designing interventions intended to minimize the risk of dementia in people with ID," explains Prof. Takenoshita.

Moving forward, Prof. Takenoshita is confident that future studies can build on the scope of his team's work. As the understanding of dementia evolves, public health recommendations in medical policies can be developed specifically for people diagnosed with ID. Along these lines, the insights on the modifiable risk factors can potentially help catch the onset of dementia and ensure that people with ID do not miss out on treatment or interventions that are readily available.

ANI



A robot patrols in Beijing's TaiKoo Li Sanlitun complex. (People's Daily Online/Luo Wei)

This 40,000-square-meter shopping center is filled with trendy and technological elements, from its overall design to interactive experiences, making it a well-known destination in the local consumer market.

The exterior wall of the mall features a giant naked-eye 3D screen, providing an immersive, realistic 3D experience. Inside the stores, holographic projections, VR equipment, intelligent robots, virtual live streaming rooms, transparent circuit rooms, and other high-tech installations and facilities were equipped, bringing a refreshing experience.

To improve efficiency and reduce costs through digital transformation is also an important consideration for smart mall construction. At Raffles City, a shopping mall in southwest China's Chongqing municipality, the implementation of intelligent operation and maintenance systems such as intelligent power control, environmental monitoring, and energy management monitoring has greatly reduced the mall's management costs and improved efficiency.

"The intelligent control of air conditioning and lighting saves about 30 percent of energy consumption," said an executive of the mall.

The mall has also built passenger flow analysis and membership management systems. By profiling and categorizing consumer behaviors, it has achieved digitalized management and services for hundreds of thousands of members.

The essence of smart mall construction is el-

evating consumer experiences through service optimization. Surveys show that many malls have provided consumers with various digital services by utilizing marketing tools like mini-programs and apps.

For instance, the Yu Garden in east China's Shanghai has launched a mini-program, which allows one-click access to comprehensive services including navigation, information, interaction, and marketing. Since the mini-program was launched, it has integrated dozens of cultural and tourism sites and consumption scenarios, giving citizens and tourists better experiences.

Zhang Jihang, deputy director of the market research department of the Academy of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, told *People's Daily* that the development of brick-and-mortar retail is impacted by various factors such as rising operating costs, structural adjustment of consumer demand, and the rapid growth of online retail.

However, backed by the huge Chinese market, the future of physical stores is still full of hope, he said. He explained that, unlike online shopping, offline shopping at physical stores can satisfy the social demand for shopping, entertainment, leisure, dining and tourism, and the consumers' instant demand for face-to-face shopping and use of goods.

He believes that by focusing on the increasingly diverse and personalized needs of consumption, shopping malls are sure to inspire new vitality.

People's Daily



Bluefins' swimmer Sahal Harunani in action at last weekend's Tanzania National Open Championships held in Dar es Salaam. Harunani went on to smash three national records in the championships. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Bluefins swimmers shine in 2023 National Open Championships

By Guardian Correspondent

A prominent swimming club in Tanzania, Bluefins, held sway in the just-ended Tanzania National Open Championships held at the International School of Tanganyika (IST) swimming pool in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Bluefins' swimmers secured a total of 47 medals in the championships. Apart from collecting many medals, the outfit's three swimmers managed to break three national records in the event, which attracted more than 10 clubs.

According to the results, the club's swimmers managed to win three gold medals, 21 silver medals, and 23 bronze medals.

The club's high-flying swimmer Kaysan Kachra, who is just 12 years old, won two gold medals before taking home two silver medals and one bronze medal.

The outfit's other top swimmer Sahal Harunani who is 15 years old won one gold medal, four silver medals, and two bronze medals.

Sahal also set a new national record in the men's open 400m Individual Medley event after completing the race in a new record time of 5:31:16 and breaking the old record of 6:11:98 which was held since 2017.

The swimmer went on to break the record in the men's 15 and over in 100m Backstroke after completing the event in 1:08:94 to smash the old record of 1:09:84 held since 2021.

Sahal was also part of the Bluefins' Relay team which broke the record in

the mixed 15 and over mixed Medley Relay with the record time of 2:15:98.

Other swimmers who were part of the record-breaking relay team were Aaliya Takim, Avinav Mahapatra, and Aliyana Kachra.

The old record time was 2:21:08, held since 2021, and was coincidentally held by Bluefins as well.

Zainab Moosajee, who won five silver medals and two bronze medals, and Aliyana Kachra with three silver and two bronze medals also won medals for Bluefins.

Aaliya Takim and Aminaz Kachra both won one silver medal and four bronze medals apiece, Abbas Abdulali had one silver medal and two bronze, and Avinav Mahapatra and Shuneal Bharwani ended with one silver medal and one bronze medal apiece to prolong Bluefins' dominance.

Also on the list are Burhanuddin Jivajee and Saalih Mbonde, who both managed to win a silver medal, while Adam Patwa, Imaan Kimario, Hassan Harunani, and Anan Hassanali all won a bronze medal each.

The club's swimmers Kaysan Kachra and Zainab Moosajee were also winners of the overall age group trophy in the age category of 11-12 as first and second runner-up respectively.

Hussein Abbas, Sakina Abdulali, Burhanuddin Huzeifa, Zahra Alibhai, Jay Badiani, Muskan Gaikwad, Burhanuddin Jafferjee, and Uzair Harunani are, moreover, swimmers who made Bluefins' team and improved their PBs.

## Singida Fountain Gate FC confident of downing Future FC in 203/24 CAF CC rematch

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

A confident Singida Fountain Gate FC was scheduled to fly out of Dar es Salaam on Wednesday afternoon for Cairo, Egypt for the CAF Confederation Cup first-round clash against Egyptian side, Future FC.

The contingent of 23 players, technical staff, and team officials led by Board of Directors Chairman, Japhet Makau, were expected to arrive in Cairo by Ethiopia Airlines Ethiopia Airline Thursday.

The Tanzanian representatives will come up against Future FC on Sunday in the return leg after beating the latter 1-0 in Dar es Salaam last week.

Forward Elvis Rupia scored the winner with a well-placed shot from inside the area eight minutes into the second half.

Singida Fountain Gate FC will qualify if they avoid defeat, depending on the away goal rule they can also qualify with defeat. The outfit's information officer, Hussein Masanza, oozed confidence ahead of departure to Cairo.

He said: "Preparations on our side have been good, and we know what we are going for. We will have three days of further preparations in Egypt. The coaches know what is needed and how crucial the game is for us."

"The players also know this is an important game and our target is to qualify for the CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage. We are travelling to Egypt with the confidence of putting up a fight to get the desired results," Masanza added.

Singida Fountain Gate FC earned a spot in the second round of the preliminary stage after garnering a 4-3 aggregate victory over JKU SC of Zanzibar in the first preliminary round held last month.

The travelling squad has three goalkeepers, Beno Kakolanya, Ibrahim Rashid, and Benedicto Haule.

South African coach Thabo Senong, currently working with the interim head coach Ramadhan Nsanzurwimo, has drafted seven defenders in the squad including former Simba SC and Young Africans SC man Gadiel Michael, Laurian Makame, Biemes Carno, Hamad Waziri, Kelvin Kijiri, Yahya Mbegu, and Mukrim Issa.

The coaches will be spoilt for choice in midfield which has Morice Chukwu, Aziz Andabwile, Yusuph Kagoma, Deus Kaseke, Dickson Ambundo, Duke Abuya, Bruno Gomes, and Nicolaus Gyan.

striking department has Elvis Rupia, Francis Kazadi, Thomas Ulimwengu, and Marouf Tchakei on board for the trip.

# Motsepe's vision for rotation gives 'EA Pamoja Bid' triumph for 2027 AFCON hosting

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi & Agencies

**D**URING the previous African Nations Championship (CHAN) held in Algeria, CAF president Patrice Motsepe hinted at a vision for the regional rotation of the Africa Cup of Nations tournament hosts.

Motsepe, like many football-loving Africans, must be tired of the recent dominance by North and West African nations when it comes to the showpiece's hosting.

The mindset of the most prominent man at CAF gives hope to the joint bid, dubbed 'East Africa Pamoja Bid', given the region has not hosted the AFCON tournament since 1976.

Motsepe noted: "We cannot assign the organization successively to the same region."

However, that could be undone by CAF secretary-general Veron Mosengo-Omba, who said such rotation may not always be possible.

The official noted: "Today, only five or six countries out of the 54 Caf members can apply to host (AFCON). Consequently, it will not be possible to make this alternation."

At last, CAF announced that Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania will host the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations, beating out bids from Egypt, Senegal, and Botswana.

Although the 'East Africa Pamoja Bid' received recommendations from several nations, it was ultimately chosen by the CAF Executive Committee.



Confederation of African Football (CAF) president, Patrice Motsepe.

As all things are constant, the 'East Africa Pamoja Bid' faced opposition from Senegal who were regarded as front-runners for the hosting rights for two reasons.

East Africa has never hosted the continental event and would be viable for CAF to reward the region with the 2027 event.

Senegal enjoys the fact that its FA president Augustin Senghor doubles up as the CAF vice president and could pull the strings to earn his country rights to host the showdown, even though they would be required to build five new stadiums before then since they only have a single facility that meets CAF's international standards.

In East Africa, some football enthusiasts have poured cold water on the region's ambition to host the rest of Africa in four years while others remain optimistic about getting the nod from CAF.

Among the five bids before the CAF Executive Committee members, it is only Egypt and Algeria whose bids seemed viable on paper due to readily available infrastructure.

The 'East Africa Pamoja Bid' was up against Egypt (emergency hosts in 2019) after failure by Cameroon, AFCON holders Senegal, Botswana, and Zambia from the Southern part of Africa following the withdrawal of Algeria.

Angola and South Africa have hosted the AFCON

tournament in the Southern region of Africa.

Morocco had for a long time been rumoured to be the favourite to get the 2025 AFCON hosting approval and, as that came into fruition, it dented Egypt's and Algeria's aspirations to stage the 2027 edition considering that it is yet another North African country.

Egypt, a record African Cup Nations winner, was seeking to host the competition for the fifth time, the recent being the 2019 edition that Algeria won after thrashing Senegal in the final. Algeria has sampled the hosting pudding before in 1990.

These nations always want to reaffirm their position as some of the continent's football powerhouses.

They have stadiums that meet the CAF minimum requirements and the political goodwill and they also successfully hosted the last edition of the CHAN.

Football fans in the East African region have been skeptical about the lack of facilities to stage monster competitions of AFCON caliber.

Much as such fears could be the sad reality at the moment, Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania have made tremendous steps in upgrading available stadiums and concentrating on the construction of new facilities.

Kenya is constructing a new football-only stadium,

Talanta Stadium, which will have a 50,000 capacity to catapult its aspirations.

Kasarani and Nyayo stadiums have been closed for top-notch renovations to achieve the recommended class.

Tanzania already has the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, only needing minimal polishing to be set while Amani Stadium in Zanzibar will be ready for use in December.

The country is also developing new venues with a 30,000 capacity in Arusha and Dodoma.

Uganda is also way ahead in infrastructure shaping. Works at the Nelson Mandela Stadium in Kampala are in top gear as well as the Akii Bua Stadium in Lira. There is a proposed new stadium in Hoima.

The 'East Africa Pamoja Bid' has been fronted by all three heads of state thus giving it political goodwill for consideration when CAF officials retired to make the decisions.

Recently in an interview, Tanzania Football Federation president Wallace Karia who is also CECAFA president, said the region's bid had met all requirements needed by CAF.

The TFF president revealed: "We have six venues already intact, supported with training grounds. We have an adequate transport system and hospitality

# Specialized K&P B cricketers lift 2023 DC 20 Overs Cup tourney title

By Guardian Reporter

BURUGADDA Venkata Sudershan Satwik put on solid batting displays as Specialized K&P B clinched the 2023 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) 20 Overs Cup tournament trophy with a 17-run win over Strikers B in the final that took place recently.

Specialized K&P B won the toss and elected to bat in the clash at Annadil Burhani ground, recording 125/9 in the scheduled 20 overs.

Nikhil Guntupalli (28 runs) and Chinmay Deshpande (30 runs), forming the outfit's opening batting pair, put solid shots to show, putting the batting side in control early on.

They experienced a drawback brought about by an early dismissal of the top-order cricketer, Mohammed Simba, making his way back for duck in his first knock.

The most meaningful batting contribution came from the other top-order cricketer, Satwik, as he ended three runs short of half-century whilst boasting of a not out showing.

The remaining members of the club's batting unit found it difficult to keep Strikers B bowlers in check, having been dismissed in quick succession.

Youthful player, Jonathan Nyambo, had the best bowling figures for Strikers B, having ended with a four-wicket haul whilst leaking 21 runs.

Fellow bowler, Raymond Francis, piled pressure on Specialized K&P B, ending his bowling spell with three wickets and conceding runs.

Despite chasing a modest target of 126 runs, Strikers B could not live up to expectations given they ended with 108/4 in the al-



Cricketers making Specialized K&P B team pose for a picture with a trophy upon the conclusion of this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) 20 Overs Cup tournament's final, which saw the squad lift the showdown's title after commanding a 17-run win over Strikers B recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

lotted 20 overs.

The openers, Abdulrazak Mohamed and Nyambo, gave the squad a good start with their respective two-digit figures, as Mohamed notched 30 runs and Nyambo grabbed 27 runs.

There was an early exit of Muzammil Kassum that dealt the batting squad a blow, Krishna Amarshi (14 runs not out) and Arif Khatri (17 runs), nevertheless, ensured it piled more

runs having posted two-digit figures.

Thirteen extra runs given away by Specialized K&P B's bowlers - made up of one bye and 12 wides - boosted the batting team's score.

Simba, Satwik, Raj Kishore Kothapalli, and Damodar Mannem took a wicket each for the tie's eventual winners.

Nikhil Guntupalli (Specialized K&P B) lifted the Best Batter of the Tour-

nament award, whereas his teammate Markundi Nagappa was voted as Best Bowler of the Tournament.

The showdown's Best Upcoming Player award went to Specialized K&P B's Mohamed Simba, and fellow cricketer Burugadda VS Satwik was voted as Man of the Match in the final.

Specialized K&P B commanded a comprehensive 66-run win over Malabar Cricket Club (MCC) in the

last four to secure progression to the final, whereas Strikers B thrashed Zanzibar Cricket Club by 10 wickets in the stage to make it to the final.

Thirteen squads battled it out in the showpiece, which got underway on January 15, locking horns in a league format, with DC hosting it to improve cricket standard at the domestic level.

## Soccer player Paulinho won't let intolerance of his Afro-Brazilian religion stop his faith

LAGOA SANTA, Brazil

WHEN Brazilian soccer player Paulinho scored a goal at the Tokyo Olympics, he celebrated by pointing an imaginary arrow at the flashing cameras as homage to a deity in his persecuted Afro-Brazilian faith - and taking aim at religious intolerance.

Shortly after, he lost more than 10,000 followers on social media for his public gesture paying tribute to Oxóssi - a godly archer who uses his bow to hunt and feed the hungry.

But he says he gradually gained new fans in his soccer-crazed South American country for representing his Afro-Brazilian religion Candomblé and challenging religious intolerance. His religion has faced a rising tide of harassment, sometimes linked to Brazil's fast spread of evangelical Christianity.

"Some players ask me about my religion, they want to know what it's like, ... I always tell them, they listen. But it's still a small minority in soccer," the 23-year-old player for Brazilian club Atletico Mineiro said in an interview at his home outside the southeastern city of Belo Horizonte. "I...get messages about the way I express myself about the faith, some from people who also believe in the faith, but who aren't too outspoken. And it's nice to feel they see something good in what I do."

Just a small minority in Brazil practices Candomblé. But in recent years there have been increased reports of incidents of religious intolerance against them, particularly at the hands of members of Pentecostal and neo-Pentecostal churches, which focus on spreading faith among nonbelievers.

While most proselytizing is peaceful, some members of African-influenced religions have faced verbal abuse, discrimination and even the destruction of their temples and forced expulsion from neighborhoods.

Growing up in Rio de Janeiro, Paulinho said he suffered prejudice because of his faith -- like his mother and grandmother before him.

Although he wasn't as involved with Candomblé at the time, he said he also felt targeted after he started his professional career at popular club Vasco da Gama in 2017.

His mother, Ana Christina Sampaio, recalled feeling offended when parents of other players suggested that her son was thriving on the soccer field only because he was being helped by Afro-Brazilian sacrificial rituals.

"They dismissed Paulinho's talents and effort," she said. "There's religious intolerance, of course, but in Brazil it looks like religious racism against Candomblé."

As Portuguese Catholic colonists brought enslaved Africans to Brazil, those men and women developed blends of their traditional religions with Catholicism. Currently, those faiths are practiced by less than 1% of the 210 million Brazilians.

Academics and religious-freedom advocates say that Afro-Brazilian religions are sometimes demonized in neo-Pentecostal churches. In rare instances, pastors have been found explicitly directing radicalized evangelicals to dispense violence.

"Candomblé has always been persecuted, the only place in Brazil where their followers are the majority is at Carnival," said sociologist Reginaldo Prandi. He was making note of the popular traditional samba school competition where lyrics citing Candomblé deities, or orixas, have been a constant for decades.

In recent years, samba schools have made a plea to accept people of Afro-Brazilian faith and end religious abuse.

"Prejudice is not enough to annul his soccer skills. If he turns out to be a great player, everybody forgets about his religion. That's Brazil's tradition," Prandi said. "But when he doesn't do well it will naturally be one of the first things people will say."

Paulinho said some of the prejudice he endured, prompted him to leave Brazil for European soccer. In 2018, he moved to German club Bayer Leverkusen in a transfer worth \$21 million. He played 79 matches and scored nine goals in four years. His faith, he said, was never an issue there.

Paulinho now plays for Brazil's Atlético Mineiro, a club that during the 1980s had some of the first outspoken evangelical soccer players in the country. He still dreams of playing in England or Spain.

In Brazil, though, he has become a powerful voice for an often-marginalized religious group.

"People realize that I have a greater understanding and knowledge about our religion," he said. "Looking back... Candomblé has been present in every phase, showing us the way. And now, I can speak with greater confidence."

Earlier this year, Paulinho once again showed his pride in Candomblé during a game, again stirring his critics and emboldening his supporters. After scoring a goal, he took off his shirt and showed a new tattoo. It read "Áse -- or 'energy' in Yoruba, or as Brazilians know it, Axé, which is key to Candomblé."

The backlash came soon after: "Get out of our club, macumbeyoi!" an Atletico Mineiro fan said in a posting on Paulinho's Instagram account. That term is sometimes derisively used to describe members of Macumba, which is defined as "a polytheistic religion of African origin ... practiced mainly by Black Brazilians in urban areas."

In the same post, another club supporter said: "You care more about candomblé and politics than soccer, you shouldn't be here."

## Man City out of the League Cup after 1-0 loss at Newcastle. Liverpool, Arsenal and Chelsea advance

BY GRAHAM DUNBAR

MANCHESTER City seems to win every competition it enters these days except the English League Cup.

Newcastle beat Man City 1-0 on Wednesday in the third round of the League Cup which also eluded Pep Guardiola's team during its storied treble last season. Guardiola's agitation showed by getting a yellow card in the closing minutes for dissent to the match officials.

"No problem, I accept everything," Guardiola told the BBC of his booking. "Congratulations to Newcastle for the victory."

Newcastle's reward in the fourth-round draw made 30 minutes after the final whistle is a trip to Manchester in the fourth round to face United. It's a rematch of last season's final with Man United.

Guardiola left star starters Erling Haaland, Kyle Walker and Phil Foden on the bench, yet Man City still dominated the first half without making its possession count with a goal.

Alexander Isak struck in the 53rd for Newcastle which also made sweeping lineup changes to rest key players for another mid-



Brighton's goalkeeper Bart Verbruggen, left, makes a save in front of Chelsea's Ian Maatsen during the English League Cup third round soccer match between Chelsea and Brighton at Stamford Bridge Stadium in London, Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2023.

week fixture sandwiched between two Champions League challenges.

The goal was created by Joeltint's dribble into and across the penalty area past four City defenders before squaring a pass that found Isak alone at the far post.

Foden and Jeremy Doku came on in the second half but could not find a leveler as Haaland stayed on the bench among the unused substitutes.

Man City won the League Cup five times in six sea-

sons through 2021 and now has been eliminated in three straight seasons.

Guardiola's team already won the UEFA Super Cup last month, still has Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup trophies to defend, and there is a first Club World Cup to play for in December in Saudi Arabia.

**LIVERPOOL COMEBACKS**

Liverpool is making a habit of conceding the first goal in games but is still

unbeaten this season after beating Leicester 3-1 with three second-half goals.

A third-minute goal by Leicester's Kasey McAteer made it five times in eight games that Liverpool trailed 1-0, and the second time it fell behind in the opening minutes at Anfield.

It would be Leicester's only shot on target as Liverpool rallied with 29 goal attempts, 10 of them on target, and goals for Cody Gakpo, Dominik Szoboszlai and Diogo Jota.

Szoboszlai's was the pick in the 70th, a rifled shot from 20 meters that glanced off the underside of the crossbar on its way to the net.

**ARSENAL, CHELSEA ADVANCE**

Arsenal and Chelsea came through games against Premier League opposition as all nine matches on Wednesday were won in regulation time and did not go directly to a penalty shootout.

Arsenal won 1-0 at Brentford thanks to Reiss Nelson's goal in the eighth minutes after poor passing in the home defense.

At Stamford Bridge, Chelsea fielded three players -- Marc Cucurella, Robert Sanchez, Moises Caicedo -- who were signed from Brighton in a 1-0 win over their old club.

Nicolas Jackson scored in the 50th for the Senegal forward's second goal of the season.

**TOP-TIER TEAMS WIN**

Everton reversed a 4-0 loss at Aston Villa in the Premier League last month to take a 2-1 win at Villa Park. James Garner scored in the 15th and Dominic Calvert-Lewin in the 50th for Everton, which now has two away wins in five days after a troubled start to the season.

There were routine wins for Fulham and Bournemouth at home to second-tier teams.

Fulham's foundation for a 2-1 win over Norwich was a 12th-minute goal by Carlos Vinicius. Bournemouth struck twice in a three-minute spell early in the second half to beat Stoke 2-0.

West Ham needed a 70th-minute goal by Tomas Soucek in a 1-0 win at third-tier Lincoln.

The highest scoring game saw Blackburn beat Cardiff 5-2 in a clash of second-tier teams.

**FOURTH-ROUND DRAW**

In a draw stacked with all-Premier League matchups, Liverpool will go to Bournemouth and Arsenal is at West Ham. Chelsea got a favorable game hosting Blackburn.

Everton coach Sean Dyche will welcome his long-time former club Burnley, and Fulham must go to improving second-tier side Ipswich.

Fourth-tier Mansfield will host third-tier Port Vale to ensure at least one underdog will be in the quarterfinals. Third-tier Exeter hosts second-tier Middlesbrough.

AP

## Newcastle end Manchester City's quadruple hopes to leave Pep Guardiola frustrated

By Luke Edwards

SO that is the end of the annual can Manchester City win the quadruple debate, a conversation swiftly, decisively and quite brilliantly finished by Newcastle United.

City are out of the Carabao Cup and deserve to be. Newcastle were better, smarter, and hungrier. They were more aggressive, which led to the rare sight of a Manchester City team being bullied physically. Mentally, too, they did not seem to be able to cope with the pressure Newcastle put them under at the start of the second half, roared on by a crowd that sensed the dominant force in English football was there to be beaten.

It means there is at least one trophy the rest of English football can fight for amongst themselves. Whether they are willing to say it publicly or not, the rest of the country will be relieved.

This was the least important competition for City this season, it always is, but this was still a defeat and will hurt. City made eight changes but had senior international players all over the pitch, including £100 million man Jack Grealish and their much vaunted centre-back, summer signing Josko Gvardiol.

As for Newcastle, they reached the final of this competition last season and will have to face the team that beat them at Wembley, Erik ten Hag's Manchester United, in the fourth round. It is not a kind draw but they will fancy their chances of beating anyone after this.

This was a statement victory for Eddie Howe, his first as manager in 14 attempts against Pep Guar-



Pep Guardiola

diola and a triumph for his tactical intelligence.

Dare you say it, he fooled the great Spaniard, totally changing approach at half time, shifting from passive to aggressive with the flick of an invisible switch. Howe played it down afterwards, but the change in style stunned City's players.

Newcastle deserved their win, City did not even force a save of note from goalkeeper Nick Pope after Alexander Isak had given Newcastle the lead in a scintillating start to the second half.

There have not been too many better wins under Howe. It was a useful reminder to his players they are good enough to stand toe-to-toe with the best.

"The only way you get the belief you can compete with the best is by winning," said Howe. "I'm delighted we have managed to do that against an excellent City side."

"It was a tough first half,

his first start for the club since his £35m move from Southampton in the summer. The England Under-21 international dominated his personal duel with Grealish, who was reduced to whining and moaning to the fourth official.

For most of the first half we were treated to a familiar sight when City play. Newcastle tried to contain, play on the counter and look for set pieces in and around the area. City dominated possession, patient, prodding and probing for a way through.

Moving the ball from side to side, quick one touch passing, City controlled the game, but could not create much.

Indeed, despite the contrasting styles, both teams managed one clear chance and one shot apiece in the first half.

Nick Pope saved with his feet to deny Julian Alvarez and Stefan Ortega denied Jacob Murphy from a similar position.

The shift in the second half was remarkable. Howe sent on Anthony Gordon for Lewis Hall and Bruno Guimarães for Lewis Miley.

The impact was immediate. Newcastle suddenly packed a punch. St James' Park found its voice. Sitting deep before half time, Newcastle activated their swarm press, roughing up and rattling City. It was like a boxer switching from a conventional stance to southpaw midway through a fight.

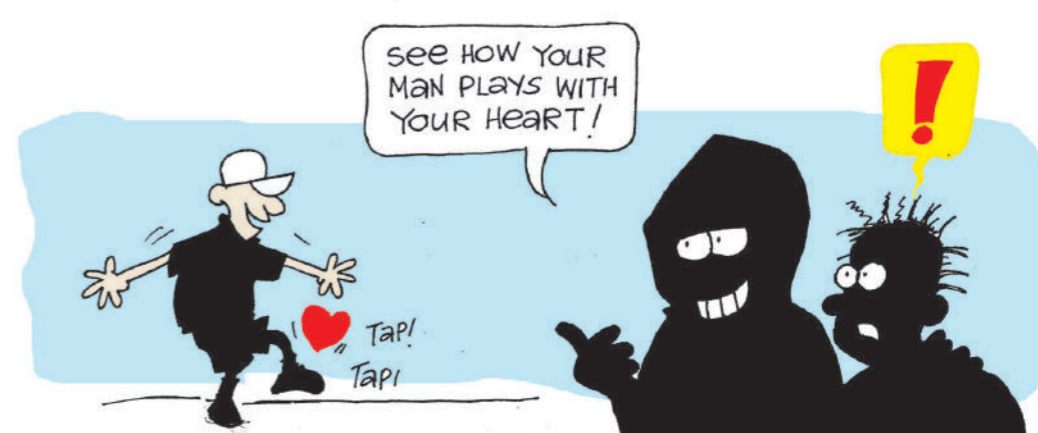
A lovely pass from Lascelles taken on the half turn by Murphy, the ball moved on to Joeltint, who drove into the area, before whipping the ball back across goal for Isak to tap home at the far post.

"We were there, brilliant in the first half," said Guardiola. "I think Newcastle increased the rhythm, their intensity, their kicking. They were more aggressive. Congratulations to them, they deserved it."

"You think the target was to win the quadruple? We compete really good, we still compete in the Super Cup and we are more than satisfied to win the treble. We have three other competitions we can try to win."

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Newcastle end Man City's quadruple hopes to leave Pep Guardiola frustrated

PAGE 19

## JKT Tanzania seeks redemption in PL match vs Kagera Sugar



JKT Tanzania's midfielder, Hassan Kapalata (R), keeps Namungo FC's midfielder, Hashim Manyanya, in check during the 2023/24 NBC Premier League duel at Majalwa Stadium in Lindi on August 15. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NAMUNGO FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

**T**HE opening fixture of the weekend in the 2023/24 NBC Premier League has the makings of being a great game as JKT Tanzania welcomes Kagera Sugar to the Kambarage Stadium in Shinyanga today.

The match will kick off at 4 pm and the hosts begin this round of matches sitting 11th having collected three points while the visitors are one place above thanks to a superior goal difference.

After the opening victory over Namungo FC, JKT Tanzania found the going tough. The army club has suffered back-to-back defeats against Yanga and Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

They are now just one point above the relegation zone, which is an indication of how quickly things can change at this stage of the

season.

On a positive note, playing the first home fixture of the campaign provides them with a chance to move to the lofty heights of fifth place.

JKT Tanzania's head coach Malale Hamsini will inevitably ring changes after the defeat to Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

They will line up in a familiar 4-4-2 formation, with David

Bryson, Wema Sadoki, Edson Katanga, and George Wawa sitting in front of goalkeeper John Mwanda.

Edward Songo will seemingly be in line to be restored down the middle of the attack, receiving attacking support from Sixtus Sabilo and Hassan Nassoro.

As for Kagera Sugar, they make the trip to Shinyanga having edged Geita Gold FC 1-0 at home

in the third round.

The only goal of the game was scored in added-on time by Ugandan striker Dissan Galiwango and that was enough to take maximum points for Kagera Sugar.

It was the first victory of the season for head coach Mecky Mexime and his boys.

They opened their league campaign with back-to-back losses against Mashujaa FC and

Ihefu SC. They will aim to build on from their hard-fought late victory over Geita Gold FC.

Mexime will be tempted to stick with the same starting XI that instigated the last outing's victory.

Ramadhan Chalamanda is expected to keep his place between the posts. Galiwango impressed in his first game for the Sugarcane Millers, scoring on his debut against Geita Gold FC, and the Ugandan is likely to keep his place in the left full-back while Datus Peter will cover the right full-back position.

Deus Bukenya and Mohamed Salim should also find themselves part of the central defensive pairing again.

Hijjah Shante was an enforcer in the engine room for Mexime's men, and the 18-year-old is set to start alongside Ally Ramadhan in the hosts' midfield.

New signing Obrey Chirwa will continue to lead the attacking force, with midfielders Cleophae Mkandala and Dickson Gideon offering attacking support to the Zambian striker, leaving highly-rated youngster, Ismael Doukoure, to anchor the midfield.



Coastal Union's head coach, Mwynyi Zahera. PHOTO: COURTESY OF COASTAL UNION

## Coastal Union desperate to stop rot, hosts Tabora United

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

COASTAL Union will be looking to move off the bottom three of the 2023/24 NBC Premier League table when they take on Tabora United at the Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga today evening.

The hosts have made a poor start to the season which sees them head into the weekend placed second from bottom place.

Their winless run stretched to three matches on Wednesday last week, when they lost 3-0 away to Simba SC at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

However, they will overtake 12th-placed Singida Fountain Gate FC if they emerge victorious.

Playing in front of their fans for the first time this season, Coastal Union is motivated to taste the squad's first victory of the campaign.

Forward Haji Ugando is serving the first of his two-game suspension for Coastal Union and is ineligible to play any part in Friday's contest.

The former Ruvo Shooting striker was sent off for a dangerous foul on Simba SC defender Henock Inonga.

With Ugando suspended, Maabad Maulid might be handed a starting berth as head coach Mwynyi Zahera goes in search of much-needed goals.

Midfielder Ibrahim Ajibu is expected to keep his place in the middle of the pitch and he might be key to a crucial victory for Coastal Union.

Former Namungo FC midfielder Lucas Kikoti could be one of the fringe players to come in as Zahera may make some personnel changes.

At the opposite end of the table, Tabora United occupies the seventh spot, therefore, victory against Coastal Union could lift them to fourth place on the table.

With Coastal Union in desperate need of a win, they will likely go all out for three points on home territory.

Nevertheless, that should only play into the hands of the visitors, who will look to exploit the spaces and show a ruthless streak in the final third.

Tabora United is heading into Friday's showdown on a two-game unbeaten streak. After an opening-day defeat to Azam FC, they returned to action with a 0-0 draw with Singida Fountain Gate FC before securing a 3-1 victory over Tanzania Prisons last time out.

They have no suspension concerns and are yet to report any injuries coming into this encounter.

John Nakibinge has been leading the way in terms of goals for Tabora United this term, with the Ugandan winger bagging a brace in the 3-1 victory over Tanzania Prisons last Friday.

## Magdalena vows to bring Olympics gold medal to Tanzania

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA's new national marathon record holder, Magdalena Shauri, has vowed to bring home a gold medal from the 2024 Olympics to be held in Paris.

Speaking in Arusha where she got a standing ovation and grand reception after winning a bronze medal during the recently held Berlin Marathon, the ace runner from Arusha said she is confident of earning a gold medal in France in 2024.

Magdalena participated in the Berlin Marathon in which she finished third in the women's race and, upon landing in Arusha, the athlete said her next major feat is the forthcoming Olympics.

The female runner won the bronze medal after covering the 42-kilometer showdown in Berlin recording 2:18:41 and breaking a national record in the process. She finished third, following Ethiopian and Kenyan female runners.

Magdalena, an athlete from the Arusha base of the

Tanzania People's Defense Forces, said it is all about her practicing hard now in preparation for the big event slated for next year.

The Tanzania female runner has automatically qualified to participate in the forthcoming Olympics in Paris.

The marathoner disclosed: "I appeal to Athletics Tanzania (AT) to set up a proper preparatory base for the country's Olympics team to ensure that the local athletes get fully equipped to bring home medals".

At the moment, Tanzania has three qualified athletes who will be representing the country in the Paris Olympics next year. The Games are to be held from July 26 to August 11, 2024.

The other two sports envoys happen to be males, Alfonse Simbu and Gabriel Geay both from Arusha, just like Magdalena.

Simbu also promised to work hard to ensure that a gold medal from Paris comes to Tanzania next year in his bag.

However, Simbu said the

country needs to support sportsmen and women instead of just waiting for them to win and then come forward to congratulate them.

Arusha Regional Athletics Association (ARAA) secretary-general, Rogath Steven, said Tanzania still has ample time to enlist more local runners to participate in the Paris Olympics.

"We have until May next year to submit the list of athletes that will represent Tanzania to the Olympics 2024 in France, we therefore need more support from stakeholders in the preparation of the national team," Rogath revealed.

He explained that in the next eight months, Tanzania needs to send more athletes to participate in a series of international events so that they may qualify for the Olympics in 2024.

Arusha Regional Commissioner, John Mongella, promised to support the Olympics-bound national athletics team should the AT decide to set preparatory camp in Arusha.



Tanzanian marathoner, Magdalena Shauri. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

