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Guardian BUSINESS NMB forges strategic networking partnership with legal fraternity

TCM, Water Ministry embark on campaign to boost compliance and promote safety

Invest in quality infrastructure to bring about economic growth, producers told

Completion of Dar commercial hub open huge market to SMEs

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Cleaner cooking solutions campaign taken up by Z'bar

By Getrude Mbago

THE government has declared its intention to intensively promote the use of clean cooking energy in order to protect the environment and fight poverty.

Dr Doto Biteko, the Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister, issued this affirmation in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the ministry and the Water, Energy and Minerals ministry of Zanzibar to cement collaborations in that area.

It covers research, policy development, law amendments, data management, expertise sharing and building capacity on improved management and supervision of the energy sector as a whole, he said.

The MoU is part of efforts for the realisation

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NO RESPIRE YET... After a let-up of sorts lasting two or so days, largely as recently forecast by the Tanzania Meteorological Authority, the rains were back with a vengeance in Dar es Salaam and its environs most of yesterday. This is but part of the evidence - from the city's Tegeta suburb - of the havoc it wreaked. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Displaced valley dwellers appeal for aid as floods engulf Dar streets

We have completed preliminary assessment and people will be compensated to make way for the road project and deepening of the draining capacity of the Msimbazi seasonal river

By Guardian Reporters

HEAVY rains that pounded Dar es Salaam Region from midnight to noon yesterday brought business and other activities to a standstill in many parts of the city, with the troubled Jangwani patch of Morogoro Road being closed off.

More than 20 houses are known to have collapsed on the two sides of the Msimbazi Valley, taking portions

of Kigogo, Tabata and Vingunguti in Ilala District.

A snap tour of the flooded areas showed water overpowering small bridges, damaged and shops while people were battling to save what they could in the situation, scores of them compelled to leave their usual habitats.

Sophia Rashidi, popularly known as

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Cadena hails international break as turning point for Simba

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Hazina school begins to nurture pupils' talents

Ilala District is happy with the opening of the vehicle fuel use conversion center as it has upwards of 1.6m residents, nearly a third of inhabitants of the city of Dar es Salaam ...

DPM launches Dar gas fuelling station

By Guardian Reporter

AN integrated compressed natural gas (CNG) filling station and conversion centre trading as "Master Gas" has been opened along Nyerere Road in Dar es Salaam. Dr Doto Biteko, the Deputy

Prime Minister and Energy minister, launched the filling natural gas for vehicles and garage for installing a natural gas refueling system.

The filling station will have the capacity to fuel upwards of 800 vehicles on a daily basis, he said of the station built by Egyptian firm

TAQA Arabia and JCG Oil & Gas (earlier known as Japan Gasoline Co.).

The project is part of the implementation of the government

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Asia Mkini (L), a social worker with Dar es Salaam's Mwananyamala Regional Referral Hospital Social, pictured in the city on Saturday receiving various items including children's clothes from Eden Twins Foundation chairperson Diana Mbena. The foundation also extended similar assistance to the city's Temeke and Ilala regional referral hospitals as well as Muhimbili National Hospital. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

'Govt anti-poaching vigilance facilitates rise in lion numbers'

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Cleaner cooking solutions campaign taken up by Z'bar

FROM PAGE 1

tion of the national clean cooking strategy climaxing 2033, to realize 80 percent use of clean cooking fuels in households countrywide, he explained.

Implementing the strategy needs building public awareness to transform people's mindsets, encouraging them to adopt clean cooking energy and protect people's health, he stated.

The ministry is undertaking to implement the strategy in various parts of the Mainland where in collaboration with the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), initiatives like distributing gas stoves. The plans is to widen the drive to Zanzibar, to be provided with the cooking stoves and user instructions, he further noted.

Ministries responsible for energy and their institutions in both the Mainland and Zanzibar are developing synergies in various fields to enhance productivity and efficiency in energy sector management and development for economic and social uplift, he elaborated.

"We are all aware of the importance of reliable, safe and cheap energy in the development of any nation," he said, citing the development of agro-processing industries.

These industries would take up the processing of agricultural products, fishing, breeding, mining, forestry and others, thus requiring

reliable energy supply. In addition, the provision of good social services including health, education, clean water, communication and transport requires access to reliable and affordable energy," he explained.

"This is why the two ministries had to join forces through various collaborations to ensure that expectations of all stakeholders are met and the energy sector is well managed, operated and developed to increase productivity and efficiency."

Executives and staff in both parts of the Union must synchronise their work to ensure that all the goals highlighted in the MoU are reached, he stated, pointing out that the power deficit in the country has declined from 460 megawatts to 240MW "and all will be well in the near future."

Shaibu Hassan Kaduara, his ministerial counterpart in Zanzibar, praised President Samia Suluhu Hasaan and Zanzibar President Hussein Ali Mwinyi for having positive mindsets helping to increase collaborations between ministries and institutions on both sides of the Union, thus accelerating development.

"This MoU is going to cement our relations and collaborations which have been there for years, adding more effort in research, data sharing and capacity building to further address various gaps in the sector and stimulate development," he added.



Dodoma district commissioner Jabir Shekimweri inspects a passing-out parade mounted by members of the militia in Kizota ward, Dodoma Urban District, on Saturday. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

DPM launches Dar gas fuelling station

FROM PAGE 1

policy of stimulating the use of natural gas and inviting more investments in the country's energy sector, he stated.

The government is placing plenty of energy into shifting to natural gas use for motor vehicles and industries, so the launch shows the determination to ensure that the gas available in Tanzania is to be used first

within the country, he declared.

The station has six pumps that will fill gas for three minutes at most for an average car, a big station that will help change cars and make them use gas instead of oil, he stated.

TAQA Arabia and its investing partner expect to build 12 CNG stations in Dar es Salaam in order to have more gas filling stations for cars, meanwhile as it expects to team up with the Tanzania Petroleum De-

velopment Corporation (TPDC) for similar projects across the country, he affirmed, reiterating government support for these initiatives to stimulate the use of cleaner and cheaper energy.

Dr Wellington Hudson, the TPDC oil and gas director, recently talked of two stations built around the airport and Sinza, to be ready before the year ends, with facilities for converting vehicles to CNG use

Edward Mpogolo, Ilala district commissioner, expressed satisfaction with how the Energy ministry was implementing the country's energy shift vision, underlined by President Samia Suluhu Hasaan.

"Ilala District is happy with the opening of the vehicle fuel use conversion center as it has upwards of 1.6m residents, nearly a third of inhabitants of the city of Dar es Salaam, estimated at 5.3m people," he added.



Aidana Rassova (L), a legal officer with the Kazakhstan office of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, pictured at the weekend briefing a visiting delegation of Tanzanian court officials on the role of the court. Led by Chief Court Administrator Prof Elisante ole Gabriel (in striped tie), the team was on an experience-sharing tour on ways to resolve investment and trade disputes. The ICC Court is an autonomous body of the International Chamber of Commerce established in 1923. It is based in Paris but has offices all over the world. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Displaced valley dwellers appeal for aid as floods engulf Dar streets

FROM PAGE 1

Mama Ali who is raising her son with disability, said gushing waters had swept part of her house including the toilet.

Residents in the neighbourhood at Mfaume Street at Tabata Liwiti area were expecting their local government officials to take up the situation with the office of the regional commissioner, for assistance in the disaster.

They were already expecting the RC to visit the area at any time, meanwhile as residents made efforts to seek support from relatives or well-wishers.

Sophia with her son had obtained support from a Good Sa-

maritan she described as a fellow church goer in Mbagala "as there is no relative to seek for help."

Appealing for support from state authorities for at least a single room to stay with her son, she said she finds the situation unbearable as she has to spend most of her time taking care of the child.

Edward Mpogolo, the district commissioner, said a total of 21 houses collapsed at Tabata Liwiti, on the lower reaches of Msimbazi Valley, with many houses being besieged with water, while roads and bridges were also damaged.

The district was yet to receive any report on the harm to resi-

dents, he said, repeating appeals to those living in low lying areas to leave.

Low lying areas in the northern parts of the city like Boko, Mbeni Teta and Mbeni Village in Kinondoni District saw houses being water logged, traders closing shops and abandon their houses while some furniture sailed on the water.

Hezron Eliudi, a resident of California area said the major challenge the residents face is the lack of drainage trenches to take water from the streets.

The noted that the government had secured funds for the second phase of the Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Develop-

ment Project (DMDP) involving the construction of feeder roads at tarmac level as well as quality drainage structures.

For the Jangwani area, there is already a project to build an elevated bridge at a cost of 600bn/- which will not be reached by water at the seasonal floodwater catchment when there are massive downpours.

"We have completed preliminary assessment and people will be compensated to make way for the road project and deepening of the draining capacity of the Msimbazi seasonal river," he said, citing expert affirmations that if the Jangwani area is well built, flood will not be causing

harm.

He similarly referred to uplifting the capacity of disaster committees for streets and wards in order to provide close support to people facing flooding challenges.

The Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) on Saturday forecasted another five-day period of heavy rains over some areas including Dar es Salaam Region.

In a statement, TMA indicated periods of heavy rains over Tanga, Coast, Mafia Island, Morogoro, Dar es Salaam and Lindi regions, along with Zanzibar and Pemba islands.

'Govt anti-poaching vigilance facilitates rise in lion numbers'

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha



We know where the animals are found, which will greatly help tourism authorities ...

CONSERVATION and anti-poaching initiatives taken by the government in collaboration with various stakeholders have produced positive outcomes, with an increase in the population of big game, especially lions.

Dr Ernest Mjingo, the Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) director general, made this affirmation here at a weekend press conference here, ahead of the 14th scientific conference slated for December 6 to 8 in the northern tourist capital.

Under the theme "Human-wildlife coexistence for biodiversity conservation and socio-economic development," the conference is expected to bring on board participants from over 20 countries.

Efforts have seen the number of lions in various national parks increasing to 17,000 in total, making Tanzania the world leader in the number of lions.

Efforts to strengthen wildlife protection have started to produce noticeable outcomes, he said, noting that researchers and conservationists from various institutions are still processing the data.

Approved findings on lions and other big game will be released in due course, he said, noting that TAWIRI has a better picture of the numbers and distribution of wildlife around country.

"We know where the animals are found, which will greatly help tourism authorities in the pursuit of the goal of attracting more visitors to these areas," he said, urging conservation stakeholders and tour companies to attend the conferences.

This will give them a wider understanding of attractions

that we have and where they are found, he said, elaborating that the conference will discuss take up issues like impacts of animals in disease outbreaks, invasive plants plus human-wildlife conflicts.

Upwards of three quarters of diseases affecting humans are transmitted from wild and domestic animals, he asserted, explaining that the situation in that regard will be discussed by scientists and stakeholders to see how conservation initiatives can help in such issues.

Dr Julius Keyu, the TAWIRI director of research, said the recent studies have helped to demonstrate hitherto unknown types of butterflies, snakes and monkeys.

A butterfly that has high demonstrated wide attractiveness the "Caracrae mtuyae," seen in the Kihansi valley that once yielded a rare toad bringing about worldwide scientific attention.

A snake with two horns on its head was discovered in the national park at Udzungwa Mountains, he said, identifying the new type of monkey with its local name (Kipunji) without a scientific classification as yet.

The monkey type is found in the Rungwe and Livingstone mountains, with conservation authorities seeing in these attractions the likelihood of an increase in tourists and researcher numbers, he added.

Committee satisfied with pace of ongoing SGR power fixing system

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy and Minerals has expressed its satisfaction of the development of electrical infrastructure for Standard Gauge Railways SGR in Morogoro Region.

Dr. David Mathayo, committee chairman lauded the government for providing funds for the completion of the electrical infrastructure construction for the SGR from Kinyerezi Dar es Salaam to Kintiku area in Singida Region.

"We have been told that the construction project for the electrical infrastructure for the operation of the railway and high-speed train from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro has been completed 100 percent this is good move," Dr. Mathayo said, adding that the project to provide electricity from Morogoro to Kintiku Singida has reached 99 percent.

"We as the Energy and Minerals Committee are very satisfied with the investment that the government has made," he said, urging Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) to increase management to ensure the remaining 1 percent of the construction of the electrical infrastructure for the SGR from Morogoro to Kintiku, Singida is completed early.

Deputy Minister of Energy, Judith Kapinga assured the committee that the ministry will continue to manage electricity infrastructure projects for SGR with all their strength.

She also instructed the contractor who is carrying out the construction of the expansion of the Msamvu cooling and receiving power station, Morogoro to complete the construction by the 31st of December 2023 in order to improve the availability of electricity in Morogoro region.



Aristid Kanje (standing), Principal of Dar es Salaam's Civil Aviation Training Centre, welcomes visiting Uganda Air Force Deputy Commander Brig Gen Stephen Kiggundu during the centre's graduation ceremony held in the city at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzanian, Canadian universities to work on global climate change effects

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE Aga Khan University has linked five institutions of higher learning in both Tanzania and Canada to jointly conduct a series of research with the aim of addressing negative effects of climate change in the world.

The Five institutions of higher learning in the country inked the special memorandum of understanding in Arusha, through which they are jointly going to undertake extensive series of research on climate change and related sciences.

With the Aga Khan University as the core institution, the MoU involves three other local colleges including the Sokoine University of Agriculture of Morogoro, the Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology and the

University of Dar-es-salaam that will be conducting environment and climate studies in association with their Canadian counterparts.

"It is high time our institutions of higher learning take an international approach in training and research," said the Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Prof. Adolf Mkenda who graced the occasion in Arusha.

"About two thirds of our population depend on agriculture and climate change makes it difficult to guarantee food security and livelihoods. We believe that scientists can do a lot to minimize this impact and maybe in the long run solve the problems," added Minister Mkenda.

The four Tanzanian institutions of higher learning pivoted by the Aga Khan University, will be working together with the Simon Fraser

University (SFU) of Canada to realize the academic goal.

"Climate change is a big deal across the globe and there are more concerted efforts towards environmental sustainability across the world therefore the Aga Khan University through its Arusha Climate and Environmental Research Centre (AKU-ACER) is at the forefront of pioneering ground breaking research to combat climate change," the AKU President Sulaiman Shahabuddin revealed.

Together, the institutions are conducting research aimed at advancing climate change adaptation strategies and providing valuable insights to inform policy decisions in Tanzania.

"We have expanded our partnership to include Simon Fraser University (SFU), University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) and Sokoine Uni-

versity of Agriculture (SUA).The collaboration includes field school opportunities with students and faculty from our university partners," Shahabuddin stated.

In that respect, the Aga Khan University (AKU) has therefore signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST), and Simon Fraser University (SFU) of Canada to collaborate for environmental research aimed at dealing with the impact of climate change.

The AKU President said the initiative addresses the search for solutions to the problem of climate change and environmental sustainability and the commitment to partnering with institutions that

share our desire to generate new knowledge that helps the people of Tanzania and East Africa to thrive on a warming planet.

The universities will utilise AKU's Arusha Climate and Environmental Research Centre (AKU-ACER) as a 'living laboratory' and the results of the research will inform policy and advance environmental stewardship.

AKU-ACER will be open for scientists to conduct collaborative projects as well as faculty and student exchanges.

Building on AKU's existing MoUs, Simon Fraser University also entered into a strategic alliance with NM-AIST, creating a seamless network for collaboration among the four universities.

"We are looking forward to the outcome of this collaboration," said the President of Simon Fraser

University (SFU) Dr Joy Johnson adding that the joint venture will enable knowledge to be shared across the four universities as they innovate together on strategies for climate protection.

"I am thrilled that SFU students will have the unique opportunity to study in Tanzania and engage with the local community to advance climate education and community resilience," said SFU President Joy Johnson

As part of the collaboration, AKU is running the first cohort of a field school for students from SFU to investigate the impact of climate change on communities. This has been a practical experience for the students to explore environmental concerns through an interdisciplinary approach that ties to historical and contemporary issues in human-environmental interactions.



THE CENTRE FOR COUNSELLING, NUTRITION AND HEALTH CARE, (COUNSENUH)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Centre for Counseling, Nutrition and Health Care (COUNSENUH) is a Tanzanian national non-profit, Non-Governmental Organization that was established in 1998 (Reg. 9495) with headquarters in Dar es Salaam. COUNSENUH's vision is to have a Tanzania whose people, particularly women, children, adolescents and other vulnerable have optimal health and quality of life. Its Mission is to achieve these through innovative, cost-effective, evidence-based actions, that enhance positive behaviors towards health, nutrition, WASH, gender equality and women empowerment early childhood development, education performance improvement, climate change adaptation, youth employability and gainful engagement, through active community participation; multi-sectoral collaboration, good governance; advocacy and lobby; and active engagement of citizens.

Sustainable, Targeted, Responsive Approach to Optimize Nutrition and Growth for Adolescent Girls and Young Women (STRONG) is a five-year project (2023-2028) which will be implemented in partnership between Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and COUNSENUH. The Goal of STRONG is: **Adolescent girls and young women live healthy, productive lives and break the cycle of intergenerational malnutrition.** The project which will be implemented in Mbeya and Kigoma regions, seeks to empower adolescent girls and young women to protect and promote their own health while, at the same time, strengthening and protecting the future families of participating young people by improving their knowledge of and access to infant and young child nutrition and health support.

COUNSENUH invites suitable qualified Tanzanian citizens to fill the following positions:

Post Title: Project Officer - Nutrition (2 positions)
Duty Station: Kigoma and Mbeya regions

POSITION SUMMARY

The Project Officers will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of nutrition component of the project in Kigoma and Mbeya regions. The applicants should be capable of working with the Local Government at Region and Council level, community, and also people of different nationalities and cultural backgrounds. They must have very good interpersonal skills, highly motivated, creative, team player with high degree of integrity and they must be fluent in both written and spoken Kiswahili and English.

Specific Responsibilities:

- Work with the Program Manager, Project Coordinator and other team members in coordinating and facilitating implementation of project activities.
- Work closely with the Local Government Authorities, including the Council Multisectoral Nutrition Committee and the District Nutrition Officers in planning and implementing nutrition activities in the districts.
- Provide technical support to the District Nutrition Officers, the district technical teams and other stakeholders implementing the project.
- Assist in capacity building of project's lower-level implementers including community health workers
- Follow up closely the implementation of activities under the project as scheduled in the plan of action.
- Prepare and timely submission of monthly, quarterly and annual project reports.
- Undertake any other duties as assigned by supervisor.

Required Qualifications and Experience

- The applicant must:
- Hold a Bachelor degree in Nutrition
 - Have at least 2 - 3 years working experience in nutrition or related projects/programs.
 - Have experience in community engagement/mobilization and capacity building process.
 - Have experience of working with Government institutions, the local government, civil society organizations and community partners.

Mode of application:

Interested applicants should send their application via email **addressed to:**

The Executive Director,

The Centre for Counseling, Nutrition and Health Care (COUNSENUH),

E-mail: info@counsenuth.or.tz together with up to date curriculum vitae (with three professional references) and copies of academic certificates not later than **23rd November 2023.**

All application should be sent via EMAIL only.

Please indicate the position title on the subject line of your email.

COUNSENUH is an equal employer which strives to achieve overall balance in its staffing patterns.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.



JOB VACANCY - CONSULTANT

The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) mission is to protect the lands and waters upon which all life depends.

As a science-based organization, TNC uses innovative, on-the-ground solutions to the world's toughest challenges to create a world in which people and nature thrive. In the United Republic of Tanzania, TNC is working with communities, local government, and other stakeholders to advance community-based management of fisheries resources around Lake Tanganyika.

Studies from other places of the fisher communities including Lake Tanganyika itself, report less voice and engagement of women in leadership of fisheries and other natural resources management. TNC recognizes that mainstreaming gender in environmental conservation and livelihood development is inherently a social process that relies on engaging the needs and interests of both men and women.

To understand better the dynamics, The Nature Conservancy, through its Lake Tanganyika Program, wishes to hire a consultant to assess the current state of gender integration, key challenges, and opportunities related to advancing women's role in fisheries resources management and conservation in Nkasi District Council.

The purpose of this consultancy is to assess the **current women's leadership status, identify the leadership needs** of various women groups, and **propose needed leadership skills** that will enable them to form/join and participate in the conservation umbrella in fishing and coastal communities of Lake Tanganyika in Nkasi DC.

Interested and technical vendors are encouraged to reach out to TNC to get the full request for a proposal.

E-mail : procurement.lake@tnc.org



Rorya district commissioner Juma Chikota pictured at the weekend setting ablaze fishnets said to have been used in Mara River wetlands without permission and recently voluntarily surrendered by more than 50 fishermen in Kwibuse Village. Photo: Correspondent Mathias Marwa

Govt collects 9.06trn/- in first quarter of 2023, PM tells MPs

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government collected 9.06trn/- in the first quarter of 2023 from domestic and foreign sources which is equivalent to 89.6 percent of the target for the period, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said yesterday.

Speaking when winding up the parliamentary sessions in Dodoma yesterday, Majaliwa said, out of the collections, domestic revenues were 6.94trn/- equivalent to 96.2 percent of the target.

He said the increase will help the country develop further economically due to various steps taken by the government including strategic investments in sectors of manufacturing, social services and infrastructure.

PM Majaliwa said the increase was also a result of the efforts by the government to strengthen revenue collection and strengthen payment of tax.

"Also the increase in revenue will help the government to offer social services through improvements of social services including construction of hospitals, health centres, the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and rural electrification among others," he said. In another development, PM Majaliwa directed the planning department in the ministry of president (Planning) to work with other institutions such as the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) to improve the use of communication technology to identify areas which are a focus to register potential investors willing to invest in Tanzania.

He also directed TIC to strengthen its ICT to enhance the use of technology so that the investment guideline is available to investors timely. The PM directed Regional and District Commissioners to administer registration of school pupils who will join schools in this academic calendar.

"Let me use this opportunity to remind parents and guardians to ensure they take their children to school so that all eligible children are enrolled into schools by January 2024.

The PM also called upon stakeholders and development partners to participate to create awareness to ensure that all children, all who are eligible, should start schooling.

He said the government has been doing efforts to ensure that children who enrol into schools are received with prepared infrastructure including construction of classrooms where a total of 1,206,995 pupils are expected to join form one in January, 2024.

"I call upon all Regional Commissioners to ensure that the construction of education infrastructure is completed by 30 November, 2023, the government will take serious disciplinary measures against those who will fail to accomplish this directive by the said dates," he stated.

He said the government has sent funds to implement the directives saying there was no need for the local authorities not to complete the projects timely.

Tanzania to benefit from carbon harvesting project

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

TANZANIA is set to benefit heavily from the implementation of a carbon harvesting project that will be conducted in various forest reserves in the country, it has been said.

The country has more than 30 million hectares of forests.

Yves Hauser, head of operations from a Swiss-NGO-Association for Development of Protected Areas

(ADAP) made the statement in Dar es Salaam yesterday when addressing a news conference on the forthcoming international conference aimed to create awareness on that project.

She said the international conference's theme is: Building an Impact Economy on Nature-Based Solutions, to be held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. According to her, the project will benefit Tanzanian's citizens

through natural resources, including forests, land, and renewable energy sources that can be harnessed to combat climate change through locally tailored climate finance and carbon trading mechanisms

"Our international conference serves as a showcase of Tanzania's dedication to formulating ecologically balanced solutions that ensure local economic resilience in the face of global climate change and biodiversity challenges," she said.

He said: "The event will convene industry leaders and policy makers from Tanzania, across Africa, and the world to strategize cooperative measures aimed at unlocking and advancing sustainable development opportunities in this vital sector."

Yves said, Africa is impacted by climate change but there are some countries like Tanzania, that protect the climate through natural

resources as it has forest reserves including mangrove found on the Indian ocean coastline. The project area that can benefit at least can have 1,000 kilometers of forest, but if you have one or three trees you can't be benefited. An example of a good area for the project is Usambara Mountains are good at storing a lot of carbons," said Yves.

"Cost of certification of the project is about \$100 to \$150 and not all

forests restore the carbon. The best area is in mangroves because of storing more carbon," he added.

Cosmas Tungaraza, operations manager Africa Carbon Agency, said that the conference will gather more than 200 participants from inside and outside the country, among them are international investors from South Korea, Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, the United States and the United Arab Emirates.

Dar firm develops programme to empower young single mothers to meet their dreams

By Beatrice Philemon

CAKE making company—Ola Delicious Company has come up with a programme aimed at training young single mothers to be creative, meet their dreams and become best entrepreneurs.

Scolastica Sultan, chief executive officer of Ola Delicious Company's unveiled this at the just-ended 15th Gender Festival Exhibition that took place at Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) grounds.

She said during the implementation, young single mothers will be trained on how to use the art of cake to show their creativity, produce different cakes to earn income as well as educate people about various issues relating to social, economic and political issues through storytelling.

"As company we want to help them to become economically independent, make different cake from different customers that tell different stories so that people can learn from there and later on brought positive changes in the communities as well as consoling them for what have gone through and tell them that don't give, they can learn and have better life similarly to others," she said.

She lauded Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFTT)

for supporting her to participate at the 15th Gender Festival Exhibition that took place at TGNP ground to show the public on how young single mothers can use cake art through storytelling and make different cakes that educate the community in accordance with people or customers' needs.

"During the on-going exhibition I managed to bring cake's sculpture that highlights a true story from a single mother to enable people see how the art of cake can be used in different ways to make positive changes to the community," he said.

She also thanked Nafasi Arts Space, Embassy of Switzerland and Norway to Tanzania for supporting young mothers in Tanzania so that they can meet their dreams and use cake art to convey messages to bring positive changes in the society.

"Through both embassy, we have been able to receive 19m/- through Nafasi Arts Space to implement 'Ndoti ya Karista' project that will be implemented by Ola Delicious Company for six months from June to December this year to educate single mothers about entrepreneurship skills, how to use cake art to make different cake through storytelling and later on earn cash to improve their livelihoods," she said.



Songwe regional administrative secretary Happiness Seneda (3rd-R, gesturing) seeks explanation at the weekend from Janta Construction Co. Limited contractors in connection with obstructing the flow of water distributed under the Msangano-Naming'ong'o project. Photo: Correspondent Yasin Ibrahim

China vows to work with judiciary in Africa to ensure people's justice

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AFRICAN Chief Justices will be making an official visit to Beijing next May, 2024, in the ongoing initiative to link the judiciaries on the continent to their counterparts in China.

That was revealed during the working visit to Arusha by the Deputy Chief Justice and Vice-President of the Supreme People's Court of China, Justice Yang Linping who paid a courtesy call to the African Institute of International Law in Arusha, with the aim of strengthening cooperation.

Justice Yang Linping expressed the commitment

and determination of the Supreme Court of China to work with the African Institute of International Law. It was also revealed that the Arusha-based African Institute of International Law will be cooperating with legal entities in China in fighting for environmental justice at the time when the whole world is facing negative effects of climate change.

Deputy Chief Justice and Vice-President of the Supreme People's Court of China, Justice Yang Linping who recently visited the African Institute of International Law in Arusha, held talks with Professor Mathias Sahinkuye, the AAIL Di-

rector, to that effect.

Explaining the purpose of her visit Justice Yang Linping explained that the aim was to get to know the Institute and discuss various issues and areas of cooperation between the Judiciary of China and the Tanzanian legal institute.

Justice Linping described her background in the Judiciary of China and the growing involvement of their courts in the protection of the environment, pointing out that a closer relationship with AAIL was needed.

"Especially when it comes to environmental justice to protect nature and prevent human activities from exerting more damages

on the surroundings," said the Deputy Chief Justice and Vice-President of the Supreme People's Court of China.

On his part the AAIL Director, Professor Sahinkuye listed the Institute's achievements through its historical background, as well as current activities and future prospects, including the envisaged cooperation with China and Chinese institutions.

"Our cooperation with Chinese institutions has contributed to the positive development of the AAIL," he stated.

Justice Yang Linping explained the similarities between the Judiciary of

China and AAIL with regard to the promotion of the rule of law and she made suggestions on areas of cooperation, in addition to African Chief Justices visiting China as in research on ecological and environmental laws, exchange of Information and Capacity building.

Justice Linping was accompanied by Judge Liu Zhumei, Chief Judge and President of the Environment and Resources Division of the Supreme People's Court of China, Ms. Li Wenwen, Division Chief of International Cooperation Department, the Supreme People's Court of China, Judge Zhu Jing, Senior Judge of the Environment and

Resources Division of the Supreme People's Court of China, Qiu Yanjun, Assistant Judge, the Environment and Resources Division of the Supreme People's Court of China, Huang Zheyu, General Office of the Supreme People's Court of China, Liu Mengxing, Senior Programme Manager, Liu Mengxing, Interpreter, ClientEarth and Jiang Boya, Lawyer of Climate and Nature, ClientEarth.

On the AAIL part, Professor Mathias Sahinkuye was in the company of Mr. Asah Mwambene as Master of Ceremony for this visit, Mr. Samir Din, Finance Manager, Ms. Aron, Chief of Protocol, Mr. Felix Mhagama,

Logistics Manager, Ms. Faith Damian Muriyo, Secretary and Chinese interpreter, and Mr. Gilbert Alex Media Officer.

The African Institute of International Law was established in 2012 by the African Foundation for International Law in close cooperation with the Government of Tanzania, to contribute towards better knowledge of international law, the public law of Africa and African Union Law as a means of strengthening peace, socio-economic development and security in the Continent, and promoting rules-based economic and political integration among African States.



Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko witnessed by senior executives from TAQA Arabia, JCG and TAQA Dalbit as he cuts the ribbon in Dar es Salaam on Saturday to launch an integrated compressed natural gas (CNG) filling station and conversion centre. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

900m/- to rehabilitate German-built district hospital in Ulanga

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE government has pumped in 900m/- to rehabilitate the dilapidated Ulanga District Hospital in Morogoro Region. The hospital was built by German colonial administration in 1905.

Saida Mahugu, Ulanga district executive director unveiled this new development here over the weekend when explaining the implementation of various development projects in the district.

DED Saida said that the hospital was faced with the lack of X-ray machine since 2019, but in 2022 it was bought by the government.

"When there was no X-ray machine, patients had to travel 80 kilometers from Mahenge to Ifakara in Kilombero district to get this service," said Saida, applauding the government for improving health care in urban and rural areas by building health-care facilities.

Rehema Bwasi, Malinyi District Council executive director mentioned the success of the health sector in the district including building a district hospital with 13 buildings worth 3.3bn/- from the central government.

Rehema also said 792m/- was given and three health centers were built, also 500m/- was given for the con-

struction of seven dispensaries, which are currently providing services and being able to bring closer to the people.

She also said that it is about 387km to reach Morogoro regional referral hospital from Malinyi District Council, giving hard time for people to get referral services in times of needs, "that's why it's important to boost services closer to people."

The council also received 1.6bn/- for the purchase of medical equipment and they have been distributed in the district hospital to be able to provide X-ray, ultrasound and surgical services, dental services and eyes

Morogoro Municipal executive director, Ally Machelo, explaining the success of the health sector for the Municipality, congratulated the central government for bringing more than 2bn/- for the construction of the Municipal Hospital.

"We have received more than 200m/- to buy medical equipment," said Machelo

He said the hospital is expected to open at the end of this month as all the important buildings have been built.

He mentioned the completed buildings including the OPD building, the mother and child building, the surgery building, the laboratory building and the dressing room building.

NGO relieves thousands of villagers in Singida MC

By Correspondent Thobias Mwanakatwe, Singida

NEARLY 40,000 residents in 12 wards of Singida municipality are currently accessing reliable clean water services following major rehabilitation done in 38 water wells by a non-governmental organization-Empower Society Transform Lives (ESTL).

The NGO has implemented the initiative with support from Mo Dewji Foundation.

Joshua Ntandu, ESTL chief executive officer said that before the recovery and repair was carried out, the organization did a feasibility study and discovered that there are 45 water wells that were dug but not working.

"In our daily activities, including the fight against female genital mutilation, we saw the issue of health and hygiene for the people as an important issue and in monitoring the issue we found that out of 45 wells, only 38 wells can be revived and repaired to start providing water service for the people," he said this yesterday soon after completing the renovations.

He said the plan to revive the wells was short-term and that the current strategy of the organization has agreed with the Singida Sanitation and Sanitation Authority (SUWASA) to connect the water provided by that authority to the wards that are on the outskirts of the city.

Ntandu said that the plan will help to increase the network of access to water in Singida Municipality from 86.4 percent to 96.4 percent by the year 2026 and that the water of all the wells that were revived and repaired were tested in the laboratory and found to be suitable for the use of the people by 93 percent.

The executive officer added that another existing plan is for ESTL and Mo Dewji Foundation to cooperate with the Rural Water and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) in Singida Region to expand the scope of water availability in all the districts, wards and villages.

In addition, Ntandu urged the residents to take care and protect the water wells so that they can last for a long time and to make a good plan that will be used to repair them when they face the challenge of damage because they will no longer be involved in the maintenance.

Edward Barnaba, ESTL water engineer said the wells have been damaged after being filled with sand and stones.

Janeth Mashauri from Mo Dewji Foundation also asked the citizens whose wells have been revived to take care of them because they are their property.

Unyambwa ward resident, Mwajuma Mohamed thanked the institutions for reviving the wells but said that some residents living in the outskirts of the ward's centre are still facing water shortages.

Ugandan army officers sacked for cowardice in attack on Somalia's Bulo Marer Atmis base

KAMPALA

A UGANDAN military court has found two officers guilty of cowardice as Islamist fighters stormed an African Union base in Somalia in May.

Colonel Deo Akiki and Major John Oluka ran away after they came under attack by al-Shabab in Bulo Marer, south of the capital Mogadishu.

At least 50 Ugandan soldiers were killed, officials say.

Uganda is part of the African Union force helping Somalia's government fight al-Shabab, an al-Qaeda affiliate.

The attack on Bulo Marer was one of the deadliest for the African Union force, Atmis, since it launched a new offensive against al-Shabab last year.



JOIN OUR WINNING TEAM

Job Title: Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
Company: National Bank of Commerce Ltd (NBC Bank)
Location: Head Office, Dar es Salaam
Type: Full-Time
Reports to: Managing Director

About NBC Bank:

The National Bank of Commerce (NBC Bank) is Tanzania's longest-serving Bank, with an extensive service network of branches and agents (NBC Wakala) and a growing digital presence. Committed to delivering financial solutions that empower its customers, NBC Bank is now seeking an experienced and dynamic Chief Financial Officer to play a crucial role in the Bank's long-term strategic growth.

Overall Job Purpose:

As the Chief Financial Officer, you will be responsible for the Bank's long-term financial performance and growth. You will play a pivotal role in strategy formulation & execution, maximizing shareholder returns, overseeing accounting operations, and strategic decisions on resource allocation within the business. You will be an integral member of the Country Management Committee, providing analysis, insights and providing timely financial information to support business monitoring and decision-making.

Key Accountabilities:

- Plan, implement, and manage the overall financial strategy of the Bank.
- Continuously suggest ideas for improvement and process optimization to drive efficiency.
- Oversee and manage the company's financial accounting and reporting system.
- Set targets for finance and accounting personnel and monitor their performance.
- Coordinate training, coaching, and professional development for the team.
- Design, plan, implement, and monitor internal control operations relevant to the finance and accounting function.
- Ensure adherence to accounting, tax, and financial regulations and guidelines.
- Coordinate compliance with Bank of Tanzania reporting regulations.
- Prepare periodic reports on product/customer segment performance, regulatory returns, and statutory accounts.
- Coordinate statutory audits.
- Abide by internal NBC Bank policies, procedures, and standards.
- Coordinate NBC Bank compliance with tax laws and regulations.
- Manage external stakeholders, including primary and secondary regulators.

- Serve on the NBC Bank Board as an Executive Director of Finance.
- Exercise central responsibility for the Bank's management information systems and ensure compliance with laws, regulations, and internal policies.
- Drive the Bank's financial performance as measured by profitability and shareholder returns.
- Collaborate effectively within the Country Executive Committee, contributing to the Bank's overall success.
- Provide advice to the executive team on operating cost management, project and investment decisions, and pricing strategy for the Bank's products and services.
- Leverage digital technology when leading the finance function.
- Develop frameworks and policies for all company financial investments.

Role/Person Specification:

Education and Experience Required:

- Professional Accounting Certification as recognized by NBAA.
- Senior-level banking experience in finance/accounting/auditing function of not less than ten (10) years.
- In-depth knowledge of international financial reporting standards.
- Experience in a risk function (Market Risk, Operational Risk) will be an added advantage.

Knowledge & Skills Required:

- Entrepreneurial and commercial thinking.
- Relating and networking.
- Adapting and responding to change.
- Excellent diagnostic skills and a rigorous approach to problem-solving.
- Excellent communication and sound financial skills.
- Excellent comprehension skills to understand and interpret industry data and economic trends.
- Strong formal presentation skills
- Strong leadership and teamwork skills.
- Basic IT knowledge.

NBC Bank is in an equal opportunity employer committed to creating an inclusive work environment and ensuring gender balance within our workforce. We strongly encourage applications from female candidates and individuals living with disabilities for this position. NBC Bank does not levy any charges related to the application and recruitment process.

How to Apply:

Please submit your resume and a cover letter explaining your qualifications and why you are the ideal candidate for this position to www.nbc.co.tz/vacancies **Deadline is Friday, 3rd December 2023.**



Shahista Adams (R) and Selemani Aziz pose with the 'Best Current Account Provider, Best Customer Service' and 'Digital Banking Excellence' trophies during the Tanzania Banking Awards gala held in Dar es Salaam mid-last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tulia to officiate TASWO annual general meeting

By Correspondent James Kandoya

NATIONAL Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson is tomorrow expected to grace the Tanzania Association of Social Workers (TASWO) annual general meeting aimed to discuss and find best ways to fight violence against women and children.

Salma Fundi, TASWO Vice president, told reporters in Dar es Salaam at the weekend that the annual general meeting will be conducted for three days from November 14 to 16 in Mbeya Region.

She said the meeting was an important platform to discuss issues of gender and will attract participants from inside the country and abroad.

Salma said that the meeting will draw participants from the President's office, Regional Administration and Local Government and the Ministry of Community Development, Women, Gender and Special Groups.

She said that during the meeting there will be discussions on issues such as gender equality, HIV/AIDS and youths, women and old people.

She also said that the VP said that there will be topics and

presentations on mental health, impact of violence to improve social welfare systems and politics and social welfare systems. We want to build a community where human dignity is highly respected, living together peacefully and respecting each other," she said.

TASWO Secretary General Danstan Haule said female and child harassment was still a big challenge and is attributed mostly to unhealthy family relations and difficult life.

"Concerted efforts to end mental health challenges in the country are highly needed to reduce the problem," he said.

Hilda Maja, TASWO Treasurer said that increased community awareness about their rights and review of some laws is very important.

She said that TASWO embarks on prevention and control of the problem to reduce its impacts in the community.

"I urge religious leaders to increase efforts and be part of the ongoing initiatives of changing the community behaviors that have always been leading to killings, injuries and violence of human rights," she said.

Tanzanian youth urged to invest in research to help cut disease burden

By Getrude Mbago

TANZANIAN youth have been urged to invest in research and innovation which will help come up with solutions that provide answers to various health challenges facing the society.

Dr Twaibu Msigwa, a local researcher and traditional doctor on HIV/AIDS made the call in Dar es Salaam at the weekend when speaking to journalists ahead of the commemorations of the World Aids Day.

According to him, more efforts

are needed to support young researchers to focus on coming up with solution-based studies and innovations which will help address various challenges in the health sectors thus reducing disease burden.

He called for improvement of policies and laws in order to widen opportunity and attract more private researchers to engage in productive studies which will help fight diseases.

He said that Tanzania has been blessed with a number of plants, trees, fruits and other resources

which if well researched and packaged, will greatly help treat various diseases facing the society.

He encouraged the youths to think beyond their traditional boundaries and come up with innovative ideas that would help solve various problems and contribute to the country's development.

According to him, the country has thousands of young people who have ideas that are aiming at changing the nation into a smart one by transforming the old ways of doing things and bringing tech-

nological solutions but many are not ready to commit and act.

He noted that youth can come up with more innovative ideas aimed towards finding practical solutions to challenges in the health sectors including fighting both non-communicable and communicable diseases.

Dr Msigwa commended President Samia Suluhu Hassan for putting conducive environment to facilitate implementation of various initiatives aimed to support development in the country.

"The good support of the sixth

phase government under President Samia has encouraged many of us to increase efforts in researching and coming with solutions to help address various diseases including HIV/AIDS," he said.

He said that under his Clinic, Tanzanians and foreigners are benefiting from various services which help them improve their health, especially those living with HIV/AIDS.

"Through a well-researched herbal medicine of A49, a number of HIV/AIDS patients have been supported with their health improving

enabling them to engage in various economic activities," he said.

Adopting an integrated approach to supporting young people across all relevant sectors – both through specific sectoral policies and integrated youth strategies at the appropriate levels of government

"The advent of 4A9 medicine can help a person by 70 to 80 percent to reduce some diseases, making the patient feel great relief in his journey to solve health challenges. Many people have been helped with this traditional nutritional medicine," he said.

Farmers in Kahama benefit from farm inputs loans to boost crop production

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

A TOTAL of 90 farmers in Kahama district, Shinyanga Region have benefited from agricultural inputs loans issued by the Barrick Buzwagi Mine to help improve crop and livestock production in the area.

Before getting the loans, beneficiaries trained at the Mwendakulima Agricultural Resource Centre on the best farming practices to increase productivity. The centre is the brainchild of Barrick Buzwagi mine to assist people around the closed mine—Buzwagi.

Speaking during the handing over of the farm inputs to beneficiaries, Kahama District Commissioner, Mboni Mhita asked them to repay the loans on time in order to make the programme sustainable and continue to benefit more farmers.

"There has been a behaviour of some farmers taking loans and disappearing without repaying them, this is not good because it goes affect the lending projects leading them to stall, so I am asking you to pay back the loans," she said.

He lauded mine for building the center that continues to benefit the people for a long period of time even after closing their activities completely.

Jeremia Inegeja, head of agriculture unit at Kahama municipal said that the inputs given to the farmers include subsidized fertiliser, improved maize, rice and sunflower seeds and pesticides, all with a value of more than 70m/-

that will be used in 300 acres in Mondo and Mwendakulima ward in this year's farming season.

He said that the project to empower farmers since its inception has helped to increase the crop production compared to before the use of inputs.

"Previously before the farmers started to receive the inputs, their maize production was five sacks per acre, but now after using the inputs, production has increased to 25 sacks per acre," Inegeja said.

He also said rice crop production has increased from 12 sacks per acre to 30 sacks, while sunflower production has also increased from the initial six sacks to 12 sacks after the use of inputs.

Yusuf Sifaeli, agricultural officer at the Mwendakulima Agricultural Resource Center said: "So far we have been able to teach about 4,200 farmers since 2019 on the best cultivation of maize, rice and sunflower crops, and the farmer who used to produce three to five sacks of maize per acre now gets 25 sacks."

Bertha Yohana, one of the center's beneficiaries in Mwendakulima ward praised Barrick Buzwagi mine for designing and bringing an input lending system that continues to benefit them.

Adulrahman Hassan, Mwendakulima Ward Councilor has thanked the Municipality of Kahama MC and Barrick Buzwagi mini for starting the project and promised to mobilize the farmers when they harvest their crops to ensure that they return their loans.



Kahama district commissioner Mboni Mhita (3rd-L) pictured at the weekend presenting one of 90 farmers with agricultural inputs donated by Barrick Gold and issued by Kahama Municipal Council. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Dodoma-based fertiliser plant expands wings in Ruvuma more by inaugurating warehouse

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

THE Dodoma-based Itracom Fertilizers Limited (IFL) has launched the company's fertiliser warehouse in Msamala area on the outskirts of Songea Municipality in Ruvuma region.

Dr. Keneth Masuki, IFL business and marketing director said that the fertiliser plant has the capacity to produce over 1.5 tonnes of fertiliser and soil conditioners per year, thus meeting the needs of fertiliser in the country, which is between

600,000 to 700,000 tonnes per year.

He said that the idea to have the fertiliser plant in Dodoma started in 2020, noting: "It's one of the largest plants in African continent."

"There is no such large fertiliser factory in the continent, our organo-mineral fertilizers (FOMI) are formulated with the latest advancements in agricultural science, ensuring that they enhance crop yield while also promoting soil health and environmental sustainability," he said, noting: "We had a similar factory in Burundi."

Songea District Commissioner, Kapenjama Ndile thanked the factory for placing a large warehouse of this fertiliser in the region and the decision is wise based on the fact that the region has the most maize farmers and the biggest fertiliser consumers in the southern highlands' regions.

DC Ndile said the installation of the warehouse is the effort of President Samia Suluhu Hassan who made efforts to convince the Investor to ensure that a fertiliser factory is established in the country to meet the needs of farmers.

He stressed that the opening of the warehouse in Songea is an opportunity to open many other fertiliser warehouses in rural areas where there are many farmers.

"I have been told that ITRAFOM produces three types of fertilizers which are planting fertiliser – planting, fertiliser for growth-top dressing and fertiliser for production. I hope that farmers will be empowered on how to use this fertilizer so that production has productivity," he emphasized.

He said that in the season of 2022/2023,

farmers in Ruvuma region have produced 1,870,800 tonnes of food, commercial and vegetable crops and equal to 95 percent of the harvest target of 1,965,072 tonnes.

He also noted that for food crops alone, 1,598,163 tonnes were harvested during that period and a total of 94,741 tons were harvested for commercial crops.

According to him, the large production of crops in the Ruvuma region was due to the large use of fertiliser where in the season of 2022/2023 the region used more than 71,000 tonnes of fertiliser.

Africa risks losing 15% of GDP to climate change, says AADFI

By Damilola Aina

DEVELOPMENT Finance Institutions under the auspices of the Association of African Development Finance Institutions have called for actionable plans to incorporate climate-resilient products into African business models as part of solutions to address climate finance needs and derisk sustainable investments in the region.

This was as it revealed that Africa may lose 5 per cent to 15 per cent of its projected GDP by 2050 if immediate actions are not taken to mitigate the effects of climate change in the region.

The financial institutions made this known at the ongoing Joint International CEO Forum of the Association of African Development Finance Institutions and the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific hosted by the Bank of Industry in Abuja.

The event attended by bank CEOs from 33 countries across four continents was themed, "DFIs' Strategic Role towards a Climate Smart Future."

Thabo Thamane, AADFI Chairman unveiled that when delivering his address, underscored the severe consequences that least developed countries, particularly those in Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America, could face.

Painting a gloomy picture of the issue at hand, the AADFI Chairman noted that the adverse effects of climate change threaten human health and safety, food and water security, and sustainable socio-economic development globally and ideas.



Irene Lyimo (with microphone), Dar Ceramica Centre's northern zone manager, briefs Arusha regional commissioner John Mongella (L) during the launch of the company's branch in Arusha city at the weekend. Right is the firm's head of sales and marketing, Raymond Nkya. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

AU health and social development experts discuss modalities to reduce drug demand

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Union Commission Department of Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development (HHS) organized the continental technical experts' consultation on drug demand reduction.

During the meeting, countries expressed their commitment to identifying new responses to jointly work towards drug demand reduction in Africa.

The consultation on drug demand reduction was strategically formulated to delve into the 2023 Pan-African Epidemiology Network on Drug Use (PAENDU), a report which aims to improve

health security, and socio-economic well-being of Africans by addressing substance use and treatment.

Speaking at the opening of the experts' consultation, Nason Banda, Director General, Drug Enforcement Commission, Republic of Zambia, shared some of the comprehensive findings of the Zambia Epidemiology Network on Drug Use (ZENDU), as a testament to the dedicated efforts of the Zambia Drug Enforcement Commission and its various stakeholders.

He said the ZENDU study gathered data from multiple sources, including records from drug and alcohol treatment demand

centers, psychiatric and mental health hospital records.

"We are collectively failing in our efforts to prevent drug use and provide treatment. It is only by working together that we can find practical solutions and forge partnerships, leverage resources, and mobilize the necessary political will to make a tangible difference in the lives of our youth, women, and children.

If we do not address the drug problem, we will not reap the demographic dividend that Africa aspires to through the AU Agenda 2063," underscored Banda.

Angela Martins, Acting Direc-

tor for Social Development, Culture and Sport of the African Union Commission said: "While efforts to combat drug trafficking and supply are undeniably important, we acknowledge that addressing the demand side of the equation is equally critical.

By focusing on prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration, we can break the vicious cycle of drug use and dependency, and create healthier and more resilient communities."

She underscored the significance of the consultation as a platform for dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and collaboration among experts, policymakers,

civil society, and stakeholders recognizing that no single country can effectively tackle the drug menace alone, but by developing comprehensive strategies that address the root causes and consequences of drug use through collective action and international cooperation.

Brian Morales, Branch Chief, Counternarcotic, International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Bureau (INL), US Department of State said people get into drugs for many reasons including being wrong group of friends, experience some trauma and find drug one of the way to forget and growing up in a family where there is neglect or par-

ents use drugs.

"We need strong families, safe schools, and healthy communities. And it begins with us - your ministries and the AU support.

The U.S. is proud to support your efforts and partner on Drug Demand Reduction initiatives because when it comes to children, we care about your children as we care for our own," said Morales.

The experts' consultation was marked with presentations of member states reports on treatment, illicit drug seizures, drug control legislation, policies and strategies as well as awareness of emerging threats in new psychoactive substances, opioids, and related synthetic drugs.

AFDB lifts financial sanctions off

Gabon after Bongo removed in coup

LIBREVILLE

GABON says the African Development Bank has lifted financial sanctions on it after President Ali Bongo was removed from power in a coup in August.

Bongo served two terms as president after the death of his father in 2009, who himself ruled Gabon for 41 years.

In a meeting last week officials from the government and the AFDB met in Morocco to agree on resuming work together.

The bank tries to achieve sustainable economic development in Africa and at the same time reduce poverty.

Two weeks ago U.S. President Joe Biden announced he would stop Gabon participating in the African Growth and Opportunity Act trade programme. It allows Gabon duty-free access to the U.S. market for its exports.

President Biden cited the country's inability to establish or make consistent progress in safeguarding political pluralism and the rule of law.

Gabon is a member of OPEC but its oil wealth is concentrated in the hands of an elite.

Nearly 40 percent of those aged 15 to 24 were unemployed in 2020, according to the World Bank.



Mary Maganga (R), Permanent Secretary in the Vice President's Office, pictured in Dar es Salaam last week opening a regional workshop on the use of the western coastal zone of the Indian Ocean. Hosted by Tanzania, it attracted delegates from ten countries implementing the Nairobi Convention for the Development, Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Deforestation in Brazilian Amazon falls to lowest since 2018

BRASÍLIA

A FIRST in Brazil since 2018, less than 10,000 square kilometers of forest cover were destroyed in the Brazilian Amazon from August 2022 to July 2023.

If President committed to achieve zero deforestation by 2030, the environment minister listed challenges inherited from the previous adminis-

tration.

Brazilian Amazon deforestation fell 22.3 percent in the year through July, hitting a five-year low, officials said as President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's government fights to curb destruction of the world's biggest rainforest.

Satellite monitoring found 9,001 square kilometers (3,475 square miles) of forest cover was destroyed in the Brazilian

Amazon from August 2022 to July 2023, according to national space agency INPE's annual deforestation tracking program, PRODES.

It was the first time the figure came in at less than 10,000 square kilometers since 2018, before the presidency of far-right ex-leader Jair Bolsonaro (2019-2022), who presided over a sharp increase in clear-cutting in the

Amazon.

Under Bolsonaro, there was "an explosion of crime, following a complete dismantling of the government's environmental structures," Environment Minister Marina Silva told a news conference.

Since taking office on January 1, the Lula administration has dramatically increased anti-deforestation operations and fines for environmental

crimes.

However, Silva admitted the government faces a tough battle to fulfill Lula's commitment to achieve zero deforestation by 2030, citing "a mix of drug- and arms-trafficking, land grabs, and illegal mining and fishing" that are fueling the destruction of the rainforest.

The Amazon is a key resource in the fight against cli-

mate change, with hundreds of billions of carbon-absorbing trees that help curb global warming.

But experts say it is increasingly fragile, and risks hitting a "tipping point" where large portions die off and turn to savanna.

"This is a forceful result that seals Brazil's return as a partner in the fight against climate change," Marcio As-

trini, the head of the Climate Observatory, a coalition of environmental groups, said in a statement.

But conservationists urged the government to step up its crackdown on environmental crime.

"This is still a high rate" of deforestation, said Mariana Napolitano, of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Brazil office.

MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2023

**Taking A New Look
At The News**
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Oil imports: Price reductions will be relative to necessary premiums

POLICY planners at the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) are in the thick of brainstorming on how to enable effective competition in the sale of imported fuel.

One idea being floated is having more companies participating in bulk oil importation, not just a few as has usually been the case.

The agency is seeking greater participation in the petroleum bulk procurement agency platform, which implies obtaining lots more than the country needs and thus making it rather impractical to hoard and push up prices, assuming none is re-exported again.

Five oil importers have thus far featured in the bidding - this out of 18 firms registered as capable of participating. The agency says that this makes the competition sub-optimal and that, implicitly, this is what pushes up prices. It further notes that it needs one to look at background documents to the bidding process and what happens in the bidding, as it is plausible to suggest that no importer would quote low premiums and thus lower prices at filling stations.

That is precisely what EWURA seems to be pursuing; while its overall logic is evident, the details suggest a sort of tightrope. The summary explanation by top EWURA officials that the fewer the number of bulk importation participants, the higher the price eventually becomes, is a unique prolongation of the phenomenon of competition.

It would serve for EWURA to take care of other factors informing price rises, which have of late been softened by low pressure in demand owing to sluggish growth around the world. It is clearly worth noting that there are vast efforts to shift to green or cleaner sources of energy, which may blunt price rises.

One indicator that this method isn't altogether appealing to the oil importation industry is that it doesn't appear to arise from within their midst that they wish to join the bulk procurement modality.

It is, on the contrary, EWURA that is directing the procurement agency to mobilise other large importers to join in the bidding.

It is the same logic that the regulatory agency uses in setting fuel prices, working on the premise that it fixes indicative prices, which facilitates 'competition' for retailers to sell at lower levels. The idea is that they thus get more clients.

Another positive factor the regulator cites is the participation of the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) in oil procurement, where it has won some of the contracts for next month - December.

The state firm can possibly afford to be less sensitive to price margins, as it may be having deep pockets, if for a while. Conversely, it needs the competition so that corporate costs don't touch off inflation - as has happened in the past. And where TPDC can't bid less, will large firms do?

There is still a licence leverage that the regulator maintains, to stoke the other firms to participate. However, when the bidding platform hits rock bottom in terms of anticipated prices, the crisis of price formulation won't be that of large importers but that of EWURA. The regulator would then have to convince the government and the public that its methods are working as, otherwise, a range of stakeholders including parliamentarians have at times demanded that the market be liberalised.

At that time, TPDC would constitute some form of buffer importer dangling the lowest price quotation to bring down cartel price hikes.

Sixth-phase industrialisation strategy working, as Mlandizi project takes off

MORE than 50,000 people likely land jobs in the newly unveiled industrial complex within the wider reaches of the Kibaha District, specifically at Mlandizi.

Extending the commercial capital Dar es Salaam's industrial agglomeration first to Kibaha and now to Mlandizi says plenty about what is changing, beginning with the rising export of capital to Coast Region owing to the launch of the continental trade area. Again, with regional arrangements of that sort, investors know that there will be far less room for policy backsliding - the kind Africa has experienced for most of 60 years.

Elsewedy Electric, a big-name Egyptian company already involved in the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHPP) is the brains behind the project, where it expects to pull numerous firms from Egypt and the neighbourhood to invest in the area.

Building more than 100 industrial entities will be a big boost for all manner of suppliers as well as those seeking gainful occupations after engineering and various other studies.

As media reports suggested, it is all the fruit of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's visit to Egypt in late 2021 - building on extensive existing foundations. At a launch back in Cairo a while ago, the company explained its industrial complex initiative in a ringing endorsement of present-day Tanzanian investment policies and business climate.

A top executive said 'millions' of Tanzanians will get jobs courtesy of this investment, which is vastly higher than the more technical observation of 50,000 jobs expected.

Yet the difference can be bridged if one talks about beneficiaries from the project, including ancillary industries and jobs in the wider service industry arising from 100 factory sites.

It may appear surprising to some local observers seeing the bureaucratic outlay as somewhat conservative when Egyptian executives rooting for free trade zones intimate that Tanzania's current environment is a role model for the region.

We are usually familiar with imports of Chinese electrical apparatus flooding our shops and may not exactly be aware that Tanzania exports electrical apparatus and equipment to the rest of the region - from Egyptian investments in the coastal industrial complex. Nor can it be said that confrontations between locals and foreign investors in connection with land occupancy are substantial. Of course, reports on a few cases find their way into the media but most are then resolved. As the meeting in Cairo assessed, 100 industries constitute in part what new facilities like Coast Region's Kwana dry port and the standard gauge railway need to function regularly.

Our cargo transportation arrangements with Zambia have in recent weeks solidified, while infrastructure improvement in the southern corridor from Mtwara port promises to improve uptake for other countries in the SADC zone. Much of this is tied to the Tanzania government's outward-looking policy, making a re-cast of earlier inward-looking strategies and building on their 'big results now' initiatives too.

The difference all the same is that earlier policies were geared at meeting major expectations of local interest groups. Currently, neighbouring countries are key stakeholders just as are far-off trading partners using recent regional integration protocols for their own strategic paths to the future. It is altogether noteworthy that Tanzania was a leader in decades of the liberation drive and a role model in wider integration.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER: DENNIS NTAITA

Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757 154767
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Cel: + 0677 020701 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: Ippmedia.com, epaper.ippmedia.com



Africa CDC unveils China-aided reference laboratory



Jean Kaseya (2nd L), the director-general of the Africa CDC, and Hu Changchun (2nd R), head of the Chinese mission to the AU, unveil a China-aided reference laboratory of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on Nov. 10, 2023.

ADDIS ABABA

THE Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) has unveiled a China-aided reference laboratory at its headquarters in Ethiopia.

The Africa CDC said over the weekend that the completion of the laboratory marks a milestone in its pursuit of a strong continental public health institution that will support African Union (AU) members in improving disease diagnosis, surveillance, and outbreak response.

Senior officials from the AU Commission and the Africa CDC, diplomats from the Chinese mission to the AU, and high-level dignitaries witnessed the unveiling ceremony inside the premises of the Africa CDC headquarters in the southern suburb of Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital.

Jean Kaseya, the director-general of the Africa CDC, commended the Chinese government for its support of the realization of a new public health order and architecture in Africa that can prevent, detect, and respond to any kind of public health threat in the continent.

"The reference laboratory that we are inaugurating will elevate the Africa CDC's role in addressing multiple public health events timely and effectively. It will be one of our major outputs in terms of a new public health order that we are promoting to make Africa CDC a world-class organization," the Africa CDC chief said.

"China is supporting the African agenda for public health," Kaseya said. The laboratory is fully equipped and

will promote collaboration on capacity building of member states to have strong laboratory systems and networks to improve clinical care, support surveillance and outbreak response, and facilitate technology transfer to African institutions.

The laboratory facility, equipped with two biosafety level (BSL)-I, four BSL-II, two specialized BSL-II (BSL-II plus) and two high containment laboratories (BSL-III), aims to address significant gaps in laboratory systems in Africa, the Africa CDC said.

Hu Changchun, head of the Chinese Mission to the AU, said the inauguration of the Africa CDC's new headquarters earlier this year and the unveiling of the new laboratory will open a new chapter in the public health cause in Africa, and inject new momentum into China-Africa health cooperation.

"The Africa CDC headquarters is a flagship project announced at the 2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. In just 25 months, the two sides have gone through tremendous challenges and successfully completed the project. This demonstrates our strong determination and action in solidarity to overcome difficulties together," Hu said.

According to the Africa CDC, less than 5 percent of African laboratories can reliably diagnose priority diseases in their countries, trans-

port specimens safely, and meet international standards.

Against this backdrop, expanding clinical and public health laboratory systems and networks in Africa is deemed to be one of Africa CDC's top priorities for the 2023-2027 period. The agency said the China-aided laboratory will play a crucial role in achieving this goal by ensuring the expansion of laboratory services and in conducting pathogen research and epidemiology in Africa.

Shen Hongbing, vice administrator of the China National Administration of Disease Prevention and Control and director-general of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC), said the Chinese government has always attached great importance to China-Africa cooperation. He reiterated that the China CDC, as a national public health institute, has been committed to promoting technical exchange and collaborations in public health between China and African countries.

According to Shen, since 2017, the China CDC has sent five experts to the Africa CDC to support its infectious disease surveillance, laboratory networking, information system strengthening, and the design of its headquarters layout, among others.

"These collaborations at the institutional and expert level over the years are instrumental to

the rapid development of public health capacity building in Africa and contribute to reinforcing the long-term China-Africa friendship," Shen said.

As a center of excellence, the laboratory is expected to house antimicrobial susceptibility testing for surveillance of antimicrobial resistance across the continent, biochemical analysis, multiplex molecular diagnosis capacity, biobanking, and advanced pathogen genomic sequencing including metagenomic sequencing capacity for identification of unknown pathogens.

It is also expected to serve as a training and quality assurance center and will provide support for the evaluation and validation of diagnostic technologies and tools, facilitate research and development, and play an important role in outbreak confirmation.

The reference laboratory that we are inaugurating will elevate the Africa CDC's role in addressing multiple public health events timely and effectively. It will be one of our major outputs in terms of a new pub-

Breaking the vicious cycle of poverty occasioned by climate change (1)

By Frank Abel

CLIMATE change is no longer a distant concern but an immediate global crisis with far-reaching implications. Its impacts are felt in every corner of the world, but its consequences are often most severe for developing nations like Tanzania, a country renowned for its breathtaking natural beauty and rich biodiversity.

In Tanzania, the effects of climate change are increasingly evident, from erratic rainfall patterns to rising temperatures and more frequent extreme weather events. These changes are not isolated phenomena; they are intricately linked to poverty. Thus, addressing the twin challenges of poverty and climate change in tandem becomes imperative.

Understanding climate change and poverty

Climate change, at its core, refers to long-term shifts in weather patterns. These shifts encompass rising global temperatures, altered precipitation patterns, and a higher frequency of severe extreme weather events. These changes are primarily driven by human activities, such as the burning of fossil fuels for energy, deforestation, and industrial processes. These activities release greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, which trap heat and contribute to global warming, ultimately leading to disruptions in climate patterns.

In the context of Tanzania, as in many other developing countries, poverty is a multifaceted issue. Poverty can be defined as a state in which individuals and communities lack the financial resources, access to basic necessities, and opportunities needed for a decent standard of living. This includes insufficient income to afford adequate food, clean water, shelter, education, health care, and other essential services. Poverty in Tanzania often manifests as a lack of access to productive assets, high unemployment or underemployment rates, and limited access to social services.

The vicious cycle of poverty and climate change

A pernicious interplay exists between poverty and climate change, constituting a vicious cycle with profound global implications. Impoverished communities, typically lacking financial resources and basic infrastructure, are ill-equipped to cope with the escalating impacts of climate change. They face a disproportionate vulnerability to extreme weather events, water scarcity, and reduced agricultural productivity, all of which further erode their economic prospects and living conditions. Concurrently, environmental degradation fuelled by poverty-driven activities like deforestation perpetuates climate change.

Consider the plight of smallholder farmers in rural Tanzania, who heavily depend on rain-fed agriculture for their livelihoods. With climate change altering rainfall patterns, they face increased uncertainty and the risk of crop failures. Limited access to credit and resources means they cannot easily adopt more resilient farming practices or invest in drought-resistant crop varieties. As a result, they remain trapped in a cycle of poverty, vulnerable to the impacts of a changing climate.

Similarly, urban slum dwellers in Tanzania's rapidly growing cities often lack access to basic services, clean water, and adequate housing. These marginalized communities are disproportionately affected by the urban heat island effect, which raises temperatures in densely populated areas, exacerbating health problems and energy demands. Their economic opportunities are constrained, and they often resort to informal, environmentally damaging activities to make ends meet.

Comprehensive strategies for change

Solving the intertwined challenges of poverty and climate change simultaneously requires a multifaceted approach which includes green economic growth, climate-resilient infrastructure, education and awareness, resource management, social safety nets, access to clean energy, global cooperation, inclusive policies, research and innovation and community engagement.

This article delves into discussing how green economic growth can be used strategically in solving the intertwined challenges of poverty and climate change simultaneously. Promoting green economic growth involves implementing activities and policies that stimulate eco-



nomically while minimizing environmental harm. The ultimate goal is to forge a path toward a more just and sustainable future for Tanzania and the world. Here are some examples of intervention activities:

Renewable energy investments

Governments and private sector entities can invest in renewable energy sources like wind, solar, and hydropower. This creates jobs in the renewable energy sector while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. For example, subsidizing solar panel installations or wind farms can encourage adoption and generate employment.

Several countries have successfully embraced renewable energy as a means to stimulate economic growth while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Germany is a notable example. Through its Energiewende (energy transition) policy, Germany has become a global leader in renewable energy production and consumption. The country has heavily invested in wind, solar, and biomass energy sources, creating jobs in the renewable energy sector and reducing reliance on fossil fuels. This transition has not only reduced emissions but also promoted economic growth, with renewable energy accounting for a significant share of Germany's GDP.

Energy efficiency programmes

Implement energy efficiency initiatives in industries, buildings, and transportation. Retrofitting buildings with energy-efficient technologies and promoting fuel-efficient transportation options, such as electric vehicles, vehicles which are using Condensed Natural Gas (CNG) which is available in Tanzania or using public transport can save money and reduce carbon emissions.

Singapore has made significant strides in energy efficiency, demonstrating how urban centres can reduce their carbon footprint while spurring economic growth. The city-state has implemented stringent energy efficiency standards for buildings, appliances, and industrial

processes. This has not only lowered energy consumption but also attracted investments in green technologies and created jobs in energy auditing and retrofitting industries.

Green infrastructure development

Invest in green infrastructure projects like urban green spaces, sustainable urban planning, and eco-friendly transportation systems. These not only enhance the environment but also improve the quality of life for residents. The good work which is done by Government of Tanzania on construction of Rapid Buses infrastructure is commendable but the speed of expansion of these infrastructure networks must be increased as the population is growing very faster.

China's investment in green infrastructure, including high-speed rail networks and urban green spaces, has not only improved the quality of life for its citizens but also bolstered economic growth. The expansion of public transportation and green urban planning has reduced congestion, lowered emissions, and enhanced environmental sustainability. These initiatives have positioned China as a global leader in green infrastructure development.

Carbon pricing

Implement carbon pricing mechanisms like carbon taxes or cap-and-trade systems. This incentivizes businesses to reduce emissions while generating revenue that can be reinvested in climate-friendly projects or redistributed to lower-income populations.

The success of carbon pricing mechanisms in reducing emissions and generating revenue is exemplified by British Columbia and Canada. Since implementing a revenue-neutral carbon tax in 2008, the province has seen a significant reduction in per capita fuel consumption and emissions, while the revenue generated has been used to reduce other taxes and support low-income households. This approach demonstrates that carbon pricing can both reduce emissions and be economically beneficial.

Green jobs training

Provide training and education programs for individuals to acquire skills needed for green jobs. This can include vocational training for renewable energy technicians or green construction workers. If Tanzania can capitalize on this area, it can reduce the unemployment challenge in both urban and rural area. We can establish short courses in our Vocational Education and Training Authorities (VETA) and subsidized the courses so that many Women and Youth who are mostly affected by both climate change and poverty can get some skills in green jobs which can help them to save the society at the same time increase their income.

Denmark's experience in green jobs training showcases the potential of upskilling the workforce for a sustainable future. The country has invested in vocational training programs to equip its workforce with the skills needed for the renewable energy sector, resulting in a thriving wind energy industry and job creation.

Support for sustainable agriculture

Promote sustainable farming practices, such as organic farming, agroforestry, and soil conservation. These practices not only mitigate climate change but also increase agricultural resilience and income for farmers. If we empower our farmers to practice sustainable agriculture including horticulture which is very promising industry will help to tackle both climate change and poverty challenge.

Brazil's efforts to promote sustainable agriculture in the Amazon rainforest demonstrate the potential for mitigating climate change while improving livelihoods. The country has implemented policies to discourage deforestation and encourage sustainable land use practices. This has not only preserved critical ecosystems but also supported the livelihoods of local communities through sustainable farming practices and forest conservation.

Circular economy initiatives

Encourage the adoption of circular economy principles, where products and materials are reused, recycled, or repurposed to reduce waste and environmental impact. This can create new business opportunities and jobs in recycling and repurposing industries. On this area we need to invest in innovation which can reduce the mismanaged solid waste and the project like taka ni mali (waste is wealth) which was conducted by Amref Tanzania in Ilala Municipal need to be scaled up to the region and national level.

The Netherlands has been at the forefront of circular economy initiatives. The Dutch government, in collaboration with businesses, has championed circular design, waste reduction, and recycling programs. These efforts have not only reduced waste but also created new business opportunities and jobs in recycling and repurposing industries.

Green finance and investment incentives

Offer financial incentives, such as tax credits or low-interest loans, to businesses and individuals who invest in environmentally friendly projects. This can encourage more sustainable investments and economic growth.

Costa Rica has successfully leveraged financial incentives to drive sustainable investments. The country offers tax breaks and other incentives to businesses and individuals investing in renewable energy, reforestation, and eco-tourism. This approach has attracted significant foreign investment and positioned Costa Rica as a global leader in sustainable tourism.

Research and development funding

Allocate funding for research and development in green technologies and innovations. This can drive technological advancements and create opportunities for businesses in emerging green sectors.

Sweden's commitment to research and development in green technologies has yielded impressive results. The country has invested heavily in innovation and has seen the emergence of a thriving green technology sector. This has not only reduced emissions but also created export opportunities and high-quality jobs.

Public-private partnerships

Collaborate with private sector organizations to develop and implement sustainable solutions can be the best option for Tanzania in addressing this Vicious Cycle of climate change and poverty. For example, partnerships between governments and corporations can lead to large-scale renewable energy projects or sustainable supply chain initiatives. Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) can take a lead on this as co-ordinator of this partnership with close collaboration with Commission of Public - Private Partnerships (PPP)

The success of public-private partnerships in advancing sustainability is exemplified by the Netherlands' Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH). IDH collaborates with governments, businesses, and civil society to develop and implement sustainable supply chain initiatives, particularly in the agriculture and forestry sectors. These partnerships have contributed to more sustainable production practices, improved livelihoods for smallholder farmers, and reduced deforestation.

In conclusion, the entwined challenges of poverty and climate change require a concerted effort to break the vicious cycle. Green economic growth being one of the strategies require Tanzania to invest in renewable energy, initiate energy efficiency programs, invest in green infrastructure development, initiate carbon pricing practice, encourage and support green jobs trainings, support f sustainable agriculture, invest in circular economy initiatives, encourage green finance and Investment Incentives and invest in research and development. All of these interventions will be possible if there will be strong public-private partnerships.

Frank Abel is Senior Programme Accountant at Amref Health Africa Tanzania and a stakeholder of sustainable development focusing on effect of climate change. The views explained here are those of the author and do not necessary represent the view of Amref. He can be reached on 0753 73 23 55.

Eradicating hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean a sure shared responsibility

By Mario Lubetkin

THE figures published by the latest Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition 2023 are cause for great concern. The document is clear: hunger continues to significantly affect Latin America and the Caribbean.

The reasons are varied; consequences of the pandemic, armed conflicts, climate crisis, economic slowdown, rising food inflation, and income inequality have all generated a difficult scenario that requires immediate action.

Our region has an opportunity that we must not miss. Only with stability and peace will it be possible to achieve development and resolve food insecurity.

According to the Regional Overview 2023, although Latin America

and the Caribbean registers a slight drop of 0.5% in hunger levels when compared to the previous measurement, it is essential to remember that, despite this progress, we are still 0.9 percentage points above the hunger levels of 2019, prior to the outbreak of COVID-19.

But hunger does not affect the region uniformly. In South America, there was a reduction of 3.5 million hungry people between 2021 and 2022, but there are still 6 million additional undernourished people compared to the pre-COVID-19 period. In Mesoamerica, the prevalence of hunger has barely changed, affecting 9.1 million people in 2022, representing 5.1%.

The situation is worrisome in the Caribbean, where 7.2 million people experienced hunger in 2022, with an alarming prevalence of 16.3% of the population. Between 2021 and 2022,

hunger increased by 700,000 people, and compared to 2019, the increase was 1 million people, with Haiti being one of the most affected countries.

While hunger figures continue to concern us, overweight in children under five years of age continues to rise, exceeding the global estimate, and a quarter of the adult population lives with obesity.

FAO recognizes the urgency of addressing this issue and is committed to updating the CELAC FNS Plan for food and nutritional security. The recent Buenos Aires Declaration of the VII CELAC Summit reaffirmed the commitment of the 33 member states to food security, agriculture, and sustainable development.

This declaration emphasized the importance of updating the plan in accordance with the new international context and the challenges facing the region, with the technical



Some 6.5% of the population of Latin America and the Caribbean suffers from hunger, or 43.2 million people. Credit: FAO

assistance of global organizations like FAO and regional organizations such as ECLAC, IICA, and ALADI, to achieve a comprehensive solution.

The update of the food plan takes into account national commitments related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, evidence-based policies and good practices in the region, providing a mechanism that contributes to the eradication of poverty, hunger, food

insecurity and malnutrition.

Eradicating hunger is a shared responsibility, and together we must redouble our efforts to ensure that no citizen of Latin America and the Caribbean goes hungry. Food security is essential for the well-being of our communities and the sustainable development of the region, and we must continue to work together, leaving no one behind. FAO is fully committed to this challenge.

Healthcare crisis follows deadly earthquake in Nepal

By Tanka Dhakal

EMERGENCY health services are grappling with the enormous challenge of providing essential care to individuals affected by a deadly earthquake that claimed the lives of at least 153 and around 400 people wounded in western Nepal.

At midnight of Friday, November 3, a powerful 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck the remote district of Jajarkot in western Nepal, and rural communities are dealing with physical destruction, loss of life, and a lack of basic healthcare services, which pose a significant threat to public health in the aftermath of the earthquake.

"Affected families are living under the open sky in this cold winter, and we are struggling to manage basic services, including food, clean water, and healthcare facilities," explained Bir Bahadur Giri, President of Baretkot Rural Municipality, which was the epicenter of the earthquake.

"Emergency responses are still ongoing, and we are witnessing incidents of cholera infections. We need dedicated support from all stakeholders to address this threat before it worsens."

Families, having lost their homes that were either completely destroyed or damaged, are struggling. There is a shortage of clean drinking water, food, and warm shelter.

Giri, who is also a local resident, stressed the need for a robust focus not only on emergency support but also on immediate responses to public health concerns, including psychological counseling for affected families. The earthquake and subsequent aftershocks have affected the historically vulnerable Karnali region, making it more prone to public health outbreaks. The risk has increased significantly due to the latest disaster.

'We are ready to respond'

In the face of the crisis, the government is trying to console and keep the affected community hopeful about the assistance they will receive from the agencies. The Ministry of Health and Population claims that it is in continuous contact with the emergency medical team (EMT) and stakeholders to understand the situations on the ground. The Ministry stated, "There is a possibility of a public health-related impact after this hazard, and we are preparing for an effective response."

As the central agency, the Karnali Province Government said it is monitoring the situation in real-time and ensuring that the response reaches the community on time. According to the Health Service Directorate of the provincial government, their current focus is on monitoring and preparing for potential health risks.

Dr Rabin Khadka, Office Chief at the Directorate, further explained, "Yes, we are facing shortages of resources and manpower, but we are trying to be ready for possible health risks. We are aware that there is a high possibility of an outbreak, and we are preparing for it, but we need help from all."

Karnali Province, including severely affected districts like Jajarkot and West Rukum, is prone to diarrhea, cholera, and other water-borne diseases. According to the Directorate, around 500 people have died due to these diseases in the past ten years in the province.

The fear of water-borne and cold-related health risks is concerning for locals, especially when affected families are struggling to access clean water despite government agencies claiming they are prepared.

Concerning reality

Sagar Budhathoki, a Kathmandu-based journalist who covers healthcare and is currently reporting from the earthquake-affected area, explained that the ground reality for affected families is heart-wrenching. "Getting primary healthcare and accessing very basic needs is itself a huge battle for the locals here," Budhathoki shared his observations. "The majority of healthcare centers are also destroyed, and now these families are fully dependent. We don't see any effective preparedness to tackle a possible public health crisis."

At least 14 health posts or healthcare centers have



Earthquake-affected families in Chamakhet village, Jajarkot, are staying in temporary shelters. Credit: Barsha Shah/IPS

been either destroyed or damaged by the earthquake. Dr Pratikshya Bharati is leading health services at the Jajarkot district hospital, and her major concern is how remote villages will function during this challenging and demanding time when they are also hit by the earthquake.

"Healthcare facilities in the villages

are struggling to maintain normal day-to-day health services," Dr. Bharati said, "For the first few days, our focus was on rescue and emergency treatment, but now there is a fear of potential public health concerns, and we are not fully equipped."

According to her, even the district hospital is only able to provide primary

care and refer patients to hospitals in nearby cities, including Surkhet and Nepalgunj, which take at least 3 to 5 hours to reach. "If we were able to provide more services, we may be able to save a few lives," Bhattarai shares her disappointment.

In addition to that, regular immunizations and breathing facilities are also

affected. "Home delivery rates will rise because birthing centers are also destroyed," she explained, "Institutional delivery is only at 52 percent here, and now there is a fear that risky home deliveries will increase, which is another area we need to be careful about."

IPS UN Bureau Report



Spurred by the green revolution, agriculture has provided a path-breaking solution to feed India's burgeoning population since the 1960s. Credit: WFP

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Hike in production of soy in Brazil linked to higher child cancer deaths, finds study

By Susan Chacko

A New study has found links between an increase in soy production in Brazil's Amazon and Cerrado biomes and an increase in paediatric deaths from cancer. Soy production in these biomes has increased up to 20 times in the last two decades and the associated pesticide use has also risen dramatically.

The researchers found a statistically significant correlation between a rise in soy production and acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) deaths in children between 2008 and 2019. Timely access to treatment, however, mitigated this link.

The study, conducted by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in collaboration with the University of Denver and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, used 15 years of disease mortality data to estimate the relationship between increased soy production and related community pesticide exposure on childhood cancer incidence.

The pesticide exposure likely occurred through water supply penetration, the paper suggested.

A 10 percentage point increase in soy plantation area was found to be associated with an additional 0.40 deaths from ALL in children under the age of five per 10,000 population,

the study found. There were an additional 0.21 deaths for children under 10 per 10,000 population.

In other words, a 10 percentage point increase in municipal area for soy farming increased the likelihood of a single child under the age of five dying from ALL by 1.3 per cent. For children under 10, the likelihood increased by 1.6 percent. Out of a total of 226 reported deaths from ALL from 2009-2019, 123 children under 10 died from ALL associated with pesticide exposure in the same period, the paper said. Previous research has identified the effects of prenatal pesticide exposure on foetal development and adverse birth outcomes. However, the new one found evidence of this relationship beyond foetal development and into infancy and childhood.

The research showed a strong and persistent relationship between the arrival of high-intensity agriculture in the region and adverse human health outcomes. On the other hand, it added, access to high-quality healthcare systems could lessen these links. ALL is a highly treatable cancer conditional on timely and high-quality care and access to a paediatric oncology centre within a daily drive (100 kilometres) mitigated significant increases in fatal outcomes. The study is only the tip of the iceberg, according to the researchers. The results did not account for the non-



Soybeans in the pod in Brazil.

fatal health implications of environmental pesticide exposure, including cases of ALL that are successfully treated, other forms of cancer, and noncancerous diseases that result from pesticide exposure. The area of soy in the Cerrado tripled

from 5 million hectares in 2000 to 15 million hectares in 2019. While in the Amazon, the increase was 20-fold, as soy increased from 0.25 million to 5 million hectares. Pesticide use in biomes also increased 3-10 times.

As one of the world's largest importers of agrochemicals and exporters of agricultural goods, Brazil sets a record for pesticide consumption, according to Pesticide Atlas 2022. A significant part of the pesticides used there are produced in the

Somalia likely to join EAC wagon this month

By Chinedu Okafor

THE East African Community (EAC) Secretary-General Peter Mathuki has said that Somalia may be granted membership in the group this month.

At the Ordinary Heads of State Summit, which is set for November 23-24 in Arusha, the presidents of the surrounding

countries are anticipated to support Somalia's admission.

Dr. Mathuki stated before a panel on November 9 at the Africa Investment Forum in Marrakech, Morocco, that Ethiopia has indicated interest in joining the bloc, which is aiming to reach the whole Horn of Africa, after Mogadishu. "The East African Community is one of

the building blocks of the African Union and it's fast-growing. We have DR Congo as the latest member, plus Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Burundi, Rwanda, and Uganda. That is a market of around 300 million people. And this November, we are likely to admit Somalia into the Community. The coastline of the East African Community will

stretch almost 500,000 kilometers. And we look forward to more expansion; we are looking at Ethiopia, which has shown interest in joining the Community. So, at the end of the day, we are looking at a market of close to 700 million people," he said.

The panel, which included leaders of the Southern African Development Community, Eco-

was, Comesa, EAC, and Comesa, discussed the goal of integrating Africa.

Dr. Mathuki emphasized the importance of the private sector in promoting intraregional trade and integration and stated that the EAC is people-centered. According to him, intra-EAC commerce has increased from less than 10 percent to almost 20

percent during the last ten years.

Speaking during the meeting, prominent figures praised the importance of transport corridors for uniting Africa and accelerating the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area, or AfCFTA.

The standard gauge railway that will run from the port of Dar es Salaam to Burundi and

the Democratic Republic of the Congo, according to the country's minister of infrastructure Dieudonne Dukundane, will revolutionize trade and the exploitation of the rich mineral potential that all three share. Once completed, the railway will save Burundi roughly \$70 million in transportation expenses.

Somalia floods: UN warns of 'once-in-a-century event'

MOGADISHU

MORE than 1.6 million people in Somalia could be affected by the recent unusually heavy seasonal rains, the United Nations has warned.

The UN has released \$25m (£20.5m) in aid, describing the floods as a "once-in-a-century event."

Authorities say at least 29 people have been killed and more than 300,000 displaced, with more rain to come.

Somalia and neighbouring countries in East Africa have been hit by heavy rains since early October.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said the downpours had been worsened by the combined impact of two climate phenomena - El Niño and the more localised Indian Ocean Dipole, referring to differences in sea surface temperature in opposite parts of the ocean.

The agency warned that some 1.5 million hectares (3.7 million acres) of farmland could potentially be destroyed.

Martin Griffiths, the UN's Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief coordinator, said: "Extreme weather linked to the ongoing El Niño risks further driving up humanitarian needs in already-vulnerable communities in Somalia and many other places."

"We know what the risks are, and we need to get ahead of these looming crises."

The UN humanitarian agency said rescue efforts were being delayed because roads had been cut.

Aid groups have also warned that camps for people displaced by an Islamist insurgency and the recent drought had also been flooded, causing people to flee for a second time.

Children wading through flood water at a camp with makeshift huts for internally displaced people in Somalia

Aid groups say camps for people displaced by the drought and an Islamist insurgency have been flooded

OCHA warned that more rain is expected in the com-



Aid groups say camps for people displaced by the drought and an Islamist insurgency have been flooded

ing days, and that the forecast shows very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall is expected in southern Somalia.

Somalia is considered one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, and the country is experiencing heavier than normal rains after emerging from one of its worst droughts in four decades.

The flooding began last month after heavy rains raised water levels and caused the overflowing of the Juba and Shabelle rivers.

Flash floods have also killed dozens of people in neighbouring Kenya and Ethiopia.

Earlier this week, Somalia declared an emergency in the

clones, drought, and wildfires.

Many factors contribute to flooding, but a warming atmosphere caused by climate change makes extreme rainfall more likely.

Carbon market greenwashing systems deepen inequalities in global south - experts

By Joyce Chimbi

SOMALIA, DRC, Chad, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Syria, Afghanistan and Yemen, are the 10 countries at greatest risk of climate disaster globally despite collectively contributing just 0.28 percent of global CO2 emissions. A climate-induced humanitarian crisis continues to unfold across these countries and many others in the global South, including Kenya, which declared drought a national disaster in September 2021.

Flash floods, failed rainy seasons, severe food insecurity, and climate-induced health disasters such as cholera are becoming frequent, and their debilitating effects are increasingly difficult to mitigate. In late 2022, for instance, floods caused extensive damage to farmlands in Nigeria, and projections show 25 million Nigerians could face high levels of food insecurity by the end of 2023.

Against this backdrop, there is growing concern that the carbon market has failed Africa and other developing countries in the global South. Governments and companies created carbon market systems to address their greenhouse emissions - a trading system in which carbon credits are sold and bought. One tradable carbon credit is equivalent to one tonne of carbon dioxide, or the amount of different greenhouse gases reduced, sequestered, or avoided.

Fadhel Kaboub, a Tunisian economist based in Nairobi, a senior advisor with Power Shift Africa and the President of the Global Institute for Sustainable Prosperity, tells IPS, "Carbon credits are pollution permits that allow global North polluters to continue polluting while offering financial crumbs to the global South. They displace vulnerable communities from their ancestral territory and pastoral land. They enrich middlemen and speculators."

Kaboub, who is also an Associate Professor of Economics at Denison University, says, "Through the dominant market power of the corporations that buy these pollution permits, they pass the cost of the carbon credits on to their customers, many of whom are actually in the Global South, so we end up paying for it indirectly."

There are experts, however, such as those powering the Africa Carbon Markets Initiative (ACMI), who are proactively promoting the carbon market systems as a powerful tool to deliver carbon justice. And for developing countries to accelerate socio-economic development by leveraging on selling carbon while transitioning to a low-carbon economy.

ACMI seeks to capture more of Africa's potential in carbon markets by addressing the challenges to voluntary carbon market growth and building the foundations for a thriving voluntary carbon market ecosystem in Africa by 2030. Its priority areas are "not only on driving decarbonisation activities but also on driving economic development by supporting energy access, scaling the clean energy transition, protecting forests, improving agriculture, and creating new income sources."

However, a recent report found that "ACMI's growth target would allow big private companies to emit an additional 1.5-2.5 Gigatonnes CO2e per year by 2050, more than the total emissions from fossil fuels from all of Africa in 2021 and double the entire annual CO2 emissions from all of sub-Saharan Africa."

IPS reached out to ACMI for comment, but it had not come back to us at the time of publication.

This week, JSE Ventures launched South Africa's first carbon market at the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

But carbon trading is not universally seen as a panacea to addressing global warming.

South African-based Dr Shehnaaz Moosa, the director



Kenya's extensive coastline has been fronted as a hub for carbon trading due to its lush mangrove forests. But now experts caution that carbon markets are exploitative greenwashing systems. Credit: Joyce Chimbi/IPS

and head of finance hub at SouthSouthNorth, which is a climate change non-profit organisation, tells IPS that carbon markets have the potential to either reinforce or mitigate historic structural inequalities between the global North and South.

"But given the dismal failure of the Clean Development Mechanism and the greenwashing of the voluntary carbon market, I am in the camp that believes it will reinforce these deep inequalities. The carbon market allows big polluters to keep doing so with no overall reduction in their emissions. Local projects in the global South that reduce carbon are exploited with no real benefit accruing to the communities."

Moosa, who also lectures in Chemical Engineering at the University of Cape Town, says carbon trading must be seen for what it is, "a lot of hot air to legitimise the continued production of greenhouse emissions. We keep hearing the rhetoric that depending on how the market is structured, it will be of benefit, which is a Northern narrative, and there is no way to structure exploitation that will make it equitable because it is exactly what carbon trading is: exploitation."

Kaboub affirms, citing a recent investigation that found that the majority of carbon offset projects essentially amount to greenwashing fraud - making false or misleading statements about the environmental benefits of a product or practice - that does nothing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Stressing that this is one of the most disturbing climate finance false solutions and dangerous distractions.

Moosa and Kaboub emphasise that the cause of disagreement is that carbon markets are attractive to high polluters as they enable wealthy industrialised nations and corporations to maintain carbon-intensive and climate-warming practices while transferring their emission reduction duties to Africa. Stressing that it is time to explore other climate financing mechanisms and bring into full effect the Polluter Pays Principle - one of the key principles underlying the European Union's environmental policy.

The principle demands that polluters bear the costs of their pollution, including the cost of measures taken to prevent, control and remedy pollution and the costs it imposes on society. As such,

polluters are incentivised to avoid environmental damage and are held responsible for the pollution that they cause. It is also the polluter, and not the taxpayer, who covers the cost of remediation.

Moosa is particularly focused on Loss and Damage, "while the Loss and Damage funding arrangements are being designed, we do not need to be distracted by a concept that only works for the big polluters. The developing countries' energies should be directed to Loss and Damage and Adaptation finance because there cannot be climate justice until climate injustice is addressed. The global North has a long way to go to address these injustices, and carbon markets are not a way to do it."

Kaboub agrees, calling for a need to steer clear of the carbon market as African countries that have not contributed to climate change and who are, in fact, the victims of climate-induced shocks are now being forced to give up territorial sovereignty over large swaths of land to foreign corporations to issue pollution permits - adding that this is a new form of colonialism.

IPS UN Bureau Report



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



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BUSINESS

NMB forges strategic networking partnership with legal fraternity

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank has vowed to continue working more closely with local law firms and the whole legal fraternity due to their critical role in all aspects of human life, including national building efforts.

Ruth Zaipuna, bank's chief executive officer (CEO) made the commitment over the weekend during its first ever networking meeting with lawyers where it also stressed the importance and need for integrity in business partnerships.

She said the dinner gala with Dar es Salaam based lawyers signified NMB's desire to forge strategic cooperation partnerships with local legal practitioners.

Similar gatherings will be sustainably conducted across the country, she stated, highlighting the key role of the legal profession in ensuring peace and tranquility in the country.

"The legal sector is one of the most important sectors in the prosperity of businesses and growth of the national economy that deserves support and promotion," Zaipuna noted.

According to her, the profession plays a critical role in crafting quality laws, policies and rules of investments, productive activities and commercial engagements that are key aspects of a competitive and independent economy.

She also commended the government through the Ministry of Constitution and



Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister Dr Pindi Chana (L), NMB Bank's CEO, Ruth Zaipuna (C) and Zanzibar Trade and Industrial Development Minister, Omary Said Shaaban discuss something at an event organised by the bank, bringing together the bank and the Law firms in Dar es Salaam Region, as part of their ongoing collaboration. Photo: Guardian Correspondents

Legal Affairs for undertaking reforms to improve the business environment that have made Tanzania a top investment destination.

Zaipuna said the conducive business terrain, including the supportive legal practice have flourished the banking sector with NMB excelling not only in offering highly innovative services but also delivering strong financial results.

"NMB has undergone tremendous operational transformation and investment in systems, human resources and good governance, which have

made it a big, strong and best bank in the country," she pointed out.

She told the gathering that the bank's 1.9 trn/- was the biggest capital base in the industry, adding that it currently serves the country through over 230 branches and more than 24,000 agents.

The event was graced by Constitution and Legal Affairs Minister Dr Pindi Chana who lauded the lender for the extensive market outreach and said the networking meetings with the legal fraternity was an innovative idea that should be emulated

by other financial institutions.

According to her, collaborations between banks and law firms are vital in serving the many investors the country is currently attracting largely due to implementation of the 4Rs agenda of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's administration.

"The country has enough advocates who now number about 11,000 and more are being trained therefore there is no longer any need to use foreign legal services," she said, noting that partnerships between banks and

lawyers will benefit both the government and the private sector.

The novel meeting was also attended by Zanzibar Minister of Trade and Industrial Development, Omar Said Shaaban, who said networking forums like these are constructive engagements for exchanging ideas and building relationships.

The Friday function was also attended by resource persons from Tanzania Revenue Authority, the Mining Commission, Brela, and Tanzania Investment Centre.

TCM, Water Ministry embark on campaign to boost compliance and promote safety

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Chamber of Mines (TCM) and Ministry of Water have embarked on a campaign to train mining and water stakeholders on Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) and Water Dam Instrumentation management to enhance compliance and promote safety.

The training workshops which are expected to begin from November 28th to 30th, 2023, in Mwanza and Bulyanhulu Gold Mine, Kahama in Shinyanga aims at equipping stakeholders with the latest technologies and skills in TSF instrumentation management.

Through the knowledge gained will increase the confidence in managing the stability of the targeted embankments hence reducing the chances of unwanted failures.

Leading the Way in Responsible Mining Tanzania boasts some world class designed Tailings Storage Facilities in the mining industry, including but not limited to those at Geita Gold Mine, Bulyanhulu, North Mara, Buzw-

dams used for water storage, irrigation and many others designed and built to suit the intended purposes.

TCM Chairman Filbert Rweyemamu said the training was important as failures of the associated dams would significantly disrupt businesses and affect human lives, economy and the general environment.

"It is crucial to emphasize that ensuring the safety and integrity of these dams is fundamental for promoting sustainable economic practices. Alarming global statistics on TSF and dam failures emphasize the magnitude of the challenges that require our immediate attention," he said.

Of late, in November 2022, Tanzania witnessed the necessity for comprehensive TSF management, as exemplified by the Williamson Diamonds Mines TSF in Kishapu Shinyanga, which experienced a significant failure.

Although no serious injuries were reported, but, around 130 people had to be evacuated and resettled, the discharged tailings contaminated neighbouring areas, including the New Alamas Fresh Water Dam, which was subsequently abandoned.

The repercussions extended to economic losses, as production only resumed in July 2023, leading to the loss of revenue to the Central as well as Local Government, not forgetting nearly 1,000 staff members and their families.

In another instance, in 2020, the North Mara TSF in Tarime faced a different challenge related to water storage, resulting in seepage issues. This seepage led to underground water contamination, causing harm to fish and animals.

Furthermore, in 2016 the Nyarugusu Gold Mine in Geita District also experienced a dam failure, causing a loss of properties.

The aforementioned incidences underpin the urgency of our collective mission to enhance TSF and Dam management practices in Tanzania.

These incidents collectively serve as stark reminders of the economic and societal consequences that can result from TSF and DAM failures.

The Imperative of Comprehensive TSF Management: Managing TSFs and Water Dams effectively throughout their lifecycle is not merely a choice but an imperative.

It is crucial to emphasize that ensuring the safety and integrity of these dams is fundamental for promoting sustainable economic practices. Alarming global statistics on TSF and dam failures emphasize the magnitude of the challenges that require our immediate attention

agi, Williamson Diamonds Mines, Stamgold, New Luika Gold Mine as well as Singida Gold Mine.

There are also numerous Water Retention Dams that are for hydroelectric power production such as the Mwalimu Hydro- Nyerere Water Dam, Nyumba ya Mungu, Kihansi, Mtera and others.

Not forgetting other prominent

Invest in quality infrastructure to bring about economic growth, producers told

By Guardian Reporter

PRODUCERS and service providers from both in the public and private sector have been urged to invest in quality infrastructure as this is one of the most important areas needed to contribute to economic growth and the development of the industrial sector and investment.

Sempeho Nyari, director of industrial development in the Ministry of Industries and Trade made the call in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during the commemoration of the World Quality Week.

He said that this year's theme of "Quality: realizing your competitive potential aligns with the country's plans and strategies meant to stimulate investment in quality infrastructure for production of quality products to serve the local and international markets.

He said that in order for the country to benefit from various market opportunities in East Africa, Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCTA), having products with exceptional attractiveness and quality standards is important.

Nyari said the use of standards, quality control and certification helps to



Dr Athuman Ngenya, TBS director general

protect the market of products and services thus improving the goods positions in the competitive market.

She said the 6th phase government was making efforts to ensure that businessmen and investors have a better and enabling environment to do business

productively and thus stimulate national economic growth.

The commemorations also went along with provision of awards by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) to industrialists, traders and stakeholders for their outstanding performance in the sector.

The awards were in various categories which include Best company of the year, best product of the year, best service of the year, best international trader of the year and the best person adhered to standards.

TBS board chairman Prof Othman Chande urged producers to continue investing in more creative initiatives in order to perform well in the sector.

"We are happy to see people competing well to produce quality and attractive products, we have seen major improvement every year during these commemorations," he said.

Dr Athuman Ngenya, TBS director general, said the commemorations of the World Quality Week has great benefits, as it helps encourage and stimulate production of quality products to compete well in the international market.

He said the institution will continue monitoring and supervising to ensure that producers and service providers produce quality products that adheres to all the required processes.

Completion of Dar commercial hub open huge market to SMEs

By Mary Kadoko, Shanghai

CONSTRUCTION of the East African Commercial & Logistics Centre (EACLE) in Dar es Salaam will be completed between April and June next year.

Dr Lisa Wang, centre's chairperson, said this here at the weekend when speaking during the just-ended 6th China International Import Expo (CIIE).

She said the commercial center is now to the final touches of its construction missioned to create a

market to small business owners to nearby East African countries.

"The ceiling side of the East African Commercial & Logistics Center, the former Ubungu Bus Terminal is almost complete. Having China Civil Engineering Construction Cooperation (CCECC) as the main contractor, the project is set to its completion between April and June next year. Our aim is to open market to small business people countrywide to neighboring countries," she said.

Wang said the project completion will be in line with what Tanzania

will showcase on the 60 achievements it has gained from its cooperation with China in 60 years.

She added: "We are ready to support business people all over the country as we link their businesses with the East African Commercial & Logistics Center.

Tanzania ambassador to China Khamis Omar said its time business people in the country likewise those in Zanzibar utilize on the sea food market as it's what is loved most by Chinese.

"One of the most preferred things

in China is sea food. Its high time Tanzanians and those in Zanzibar utilize the resources basing on the market availability hence promote the economic sector," he said.

In a recent interview CCECC manager under the enterprise culture department Wen Kai, pledged to support and fully accomplish the ongoing projects in the country such as bridges, water supply as they implement the Belt and Road initiative (BRI) globally.

He said with the long-standing (BRI) cooperation between the two

states, China will keep accelerating cooperation in infrastructure connectivity and build a high-quality development path, highlighting Kigongo-Busisi bridge as one of the mega ongoing projects. The Belt and Road initiative was launched in 2013 by Chinese President Xi Jinping, aimed at expanding the country's cooperation with other nations to accelerate cooperation in infrastructure connectivity likewise building a high-quality development path that is inclusive and beneficial to all.

The (CIIE) is a trade fair held

in autumn annually since 2018 in Shanghai, China. It is the world's first import themed national-level expo featuring exhibitions of multiple countries.

It was personally proposed and announced by President Xi Jinping and currently hosted by the Ministry of Commerce of China and the Shanghai Municipal government including partners like World Trade Organization, United Nations conference on Trade and Development and United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

Report on social responsibility of Chinese enterprises in Africa launched in Kenya

NAIROBI

THE 2023 corporate social responsibility report for Chinese enterprises operating in Africa was launched on Thursday in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, highlighting their contributions to the continent's socio-economic and ecological renewal.

The report said that since the beginning of this century, Chinese enterprises have participated in the construction of over 6,000 km of railways in Africa. Additionally, Chinese firms have aided in the construction of nearly 20 ports, 80 large-scale power plants, and 6,000 km of highways on the continent.

Compiled by the Alliance of Chinese Business in Africa for Social Responsibilities (ACBASR), the report aims to provide the international community with data and case studies showcasing the contribution of Chinese enterprises to livelihood transformation in Africa.

Launched on the sidelines of the China-Africa Sustainable Investment Summit in Nairobi, the report underpinned the prioritization of the welfare of local communities and the conservation of natural assets by Chinese enterprises.

Diao Chunhe, the executive chairman of ACBASR, said "Chinese enterprises have achieved remarkable results in fulfilling social responsibilities in Africa which is reflected in key aspects like promoting local employment, abiding by local laws, paying attention to green development and improvement of employee welfare."

China, emerging as Africa's largest trading and investment partner, has



Daniel O'Malley, head of the Regional Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Nairobi, speaks during the 2023 China-Africa Sustainable Investment Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, on Nov. 9, 2023.

deployed about 9,000 medical personnel to the continent and offered over 100,000 training opportunities, creating more than 4.5 million jobs through various projects, including hospitals, schools, stadiums and agricultural initiatives, according to the report. "The majority of Chinese businesses in Africa focus on helping

Africa cultivate endogenous growth capacity and actively promote the process of poverty reduction and development in Africa," the report said.

Liu Zhonghui, the executive secretary-general of ACBASR, said that Chinese enterprises support programs that advance capacity building as well as inclusive and green

growth in Africa.

Daniel O'Malley, head of the Regional Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Nairobi, commended the corporate social responsibility ethos of Chinese enterprises, which are aiding poverty alleviation and responding to climatic shocks in African com-

munities.

Yuan Chunkun, the general manager of China Road and Bridge Corporation's Kenya Office, cited mega infrastructure projects like the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway as examples of Chinese firms contributing to sustainable development in Africa.

UN-Women, Sasakawa Africa supports Yobe women with modern farm tools

By Special Correspondent

DETERMINED to ensure women empowerment and reduce unemployment, UN-Women, Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA) in partnership with Yobe State Agricultural Development Programme (YOSADP) has trained and distributed start up kits to vulnerable women group in Damaturu and Bade local Government Area of Yobe state.

Presenting the mechanised farm implements to the beneficiaries in Damaturu, Program coordinator, Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA) Mallam Idriss Saidu Garko, explained that the materials consist of 5 unit of groundnut grinding machines, 4 unit of groundnut extraction machines, 5 unit of knapsack sprayer, 5 unit of water pump, 5 unit of tube wells, 10 bags of fertiliser, rice seed and herbicides.

Garko stated that the programme was aimed at empowering the women to ease their livelihood challenges as well as to build them up and help them become self-reliant.

He noted that, "the programme initiated by UN-Women funded by the government of Japan was implemented by Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA) in partnership with Yobe state agricultural development programme (YOSADP) in Yobe state.

"It's to support the vulnerable women and adolescents girls to build climate resilience Livelihood and enterprises to promote their economic recovery and become self reliance", he said.

He charged the beneficiaries to utilize the items for the purpose intended.

In his remarks, the Programme Manager, Yobe State Agricultural Development Programme, represented by the Director Agric Service, Muhammad Malum, said the intervention will complement the state government's efforts of ensuring better living for women in the state.

Also speaking, the Representative of UN Women Dr. Zara Yusuf, said her role is to ensure that dignity of women is being protected.

Highlights of the event were exhibition on how to extract ground oil using the modern machines and the symbolic presentation of the tools to the beneficiaries.

Review suggests few oil, gas companies committed to renewable energy

DUBAI

THE United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP28, is due to get underway in Dubai at the end of this month.

Nearly 40 oil and gas companies sent delegations to last year's summit which aimed to move the world away from burning fossil fuels like oil and gas.

Ironically, some might say, the UAE appointed Sultan al-Jaber, chairman of the nation's oil company, as president of this year's edition of the talks.

Faced with criticism about their presence at negotiations, oil and gas companies claim they are actively taking part in the transition to renewable energies.

News agency, Associated Press (AP), conducted a review of how much these companies invest in green energies, along with the priorities laid out in their annual reports.

It says it doubts that oil and gas companies are genuinely committed to a transition to renewable energies.

"After looking closely at all the oil companies that attended last year's conference, we came to the conclusion that for the most part, they don't have large energy transition plans," says Peter Pregelman, AP's climate and environment news director.

"Many are token, many are not discussed at all. And some that are dis-



cussed in detail really rely on things like hydrogen production, carbon capture, things that are developed but far from scale. So we could argue that these are really not green energy transition projects," he said.

The bulk of the investments worth billions of dollars, by companies the AP reviewed, are in further exploration, extraction, and refining of oil.

In some case, these plans are over

the next decades, long beyond when scientists say the world must move away from fossil fuels.

"These companies plan to keep oil and gas at the centre of their business for the most part. That is who they are. And most don't plan to fundamentally change what is at the core of their business," says Mary Katherine Wildeman, AP's climate and environment data reporter.

And the AP says that, in notes to their investors, some of the companies strike a reassuring tone about the durability of fossil fuels.

Pregelman says that while there is a real push for them to make the transition, and to use their capital and know-how to do that, they get a lot of pushback from shareholders.

"You see that in the rollback of some of the most ambitious plans,

because shareholders look at it and say, hey, that means you're going to make less money over the next 5 years, 10 years, and we've got to ramp up production."

The review also found that most of the companies only have small, if any investment in solar or wind power, the most established green technologies.

South Africa turns to army in nationwide clampdown on illegal mining

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's president has ordered thousands of military personnel to assist in a nationwide operation against illegal mining, an activity that is estimated to cost the country billions of dollars each year.

The president's spokesman Vincent Magwenya announced that 3,300 army personnel would partner with police in "an intensified anti-criminality operation against

illegal mining across all provinces".

The mission will run until April 2024 as part of President Cyril Ramaphosa's "Operation Prosper" to instil law and order, he added.

Ramaphosa previously deployed the army to the Western Cape province in 2019 to fight gang violence as part of the same operation.

Illegal gold mining has been a continuing threat in South Africa for decades, with poverty,

unemployment and crime driving the underground industry. The activity has hurt the country's investment pull and cut into mining companies' profits, mining industry representatives say.

Informal miners have been dubbed "zama zamas" - the Zulu term for people who try their luck - as they risk their lives in disused mines and rudimentary tunnels, scraped into the earth without safety measures.

A gas explosion in May killed approximately 31 miners working illegally in the city of Welkom, trapping their bodies underground. Recovery efforts were stymied by high levels of methane in the mine - and the threat of further explosions.

In July, 17 people including three children were killed in Angelo Tivani, a settlement of about 200 people just outside Johannesburg.

Estimates place the number of abandoned gold mines in the

country at about 6,000, and environmentalists have warned that industrial mining has left a legacy of poverty and health problems in nearby areas.

The informal mining that has cropped up in its place has also been blamed for a rise in gang violence and turf wars, as would-be miners jockey for the best dig sites. The Institute for Security Studies estimates that at least "30,000 illegal miners work in and around thousands of disused

and active mines across South Africa".

The black market mining also poses a challenge to legally operating mines, costing them as much as 7 billion rand (\$376m) annually, mining industry body Minerals Council South Africa says.

The activity also causes South Africa's economy to lose out on tens of billions of rand in export earnings, taxes and royalties, the council estimates.

WORLD



Prime Minister Narendra Modi poses for a picture as he celebrates Diwali with the security forces at Lepcha village yesterday. ANI

PM Modi reaches Himachal's Lepcha to celebrate Diwali with forces

LEPCHA

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi reached Lepcha village in Himachal Pradesh to celebrate Deepawali with the security forces.

"Reached Lepcha in Himachal Pradesh to celebrate Diwali with our brave security forces", Prime Minister Modi said in a post on X.

Troops of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police and the Indian Army are stationed at Lepcha near the border with China

Himachal Pradesh shares a 260-km border with China. Of the total length, 140 km is in tribal Kinnaur district, while 80 km is in the tribal Lahaul and Spiti district.

Five ITBP battalions deployed in 20 posts that guard the border with China.

Last year, Prime Minister Modi celebrated the festival of lights with soldiers in Kargil and said Diwali means the "festival of end of terror" and that Kargil had made it possible.

The Prime Minister has been celebrating the festival with soldiers for several years now. In 2019, the Prime Minister celebrated Diwali with sol-

diers in the Rajouri district along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir.

He had called soldiers as his family and lauded them for guarding the borders even during festivals. He had exchanged Diwali greetings with the Indian Air Force (IAF) personnel at Pathankot Air Force Station.

In 2018, Prime Minister Modi celebrated Diwali with jawans of the Indian Army and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), at Harsil in Uttarakhand. Following that he had offered prayers at the Kedarnath shrine.

In 2017, the Prime Minister celebrated the festival of light with army soldiers and Border Security Force (BSF) personnel in the Gurez Valley of Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipora District. In 2016, the PM went to Himachal Pradesh to celebrate the festival with Indo-Tibetan Border Police personnel at an outpost. He visited the Punjab border to celebrate Diwali with soldiers in 2015.

In 2014, Prime Minister Modi spent Diwali in Siachen with soldiers. Notably, PM Modi has been visiting soldiers on Diwali, ever since he was the Chief Minister of Gujarat. ANI

WHO loses communication with Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza

GENEVA

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) on Sunday said that it has lost communication with Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City, stressing that those who fled the hospital have been reportedly shot, wounded or killed.

This comes after it was reported that the hospital has been facing repeated attacks.

Sharing this on X, the WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said that according to the latest reports, the hospital was surrounded by tanks.

Moreover, WHO is gravely concerned about the safety of health workers, hundreds of sick and injured patients, including babies on life support, and displaced people who remain inside the hospital.

WHO further called for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza, as it is the only way to save lives and reduce

the horrific levels of suffering, the WHO director-general said.

"WHO also calls for the sustained, orderly, unimpeded and safe medical evacuations of critically injured and sick patients," the post added.

Additionally, the WHO raised concerns about hostages, stating that all hostages must receive appropriate medical care and be released unconditionally.

The war between Israel and Hamas has intensified in the last days, and reportedly, Israel said that Hamas's terror group has been maintaining a major command centre as part of its vast network of tunnels, according to The Times of Israel.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem has urged Al-Shifa Hospital's staff and patients, along with other Gazans, to flee to the south to avoid being attacked as Israeli forces continue to attack Hamas in the Gaza Strip. ANI

EU does not conceal plans to push Russia out of Central Asia - Lavrov

MOSCOW

THE European Union (EU) does not conceal its plans to push Russia out of Central Asia and the South Caucasus, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said yesterday.

"The European Union does not conceal its intentions to restrain [Russia] in every possible way and push it out of Central Asia and the South Caucasus. These attempts are futile. We have been historically present here and will not disappear anywhere. Both our partners and our allies are well aware of that," Russia's top diplomat said in the Moscow, Kremlin. Putin program whose fragment was posted by journalist Pavel Zarubin on his Telegram



channel.

Commenting on an article that appeared in the Western media after French President Emmanuel Macron's visit to Kazakhstan, in which the Central Asian country was

called [Russian President Vladimir] 'Putin's backyard,' Lavrov said that Western leaders "allow themselves quite boorish pronouncements."

"French President Macron publicly said during his visit to Kazakhstan that he was glad that that country would never be anyone's vassal. This is also quite coarse for the diplomatic language," the foreign minister said.

Earlier, Macro said following his meeting with Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev that Kazakhstan "refuses to be a vassal of any power states and builds a balanced partnership with several of them for the benefit of the Kazakh people," noting that this philosophy was close to France.

Clash expected over production limits at UN plastic treaty talks

AS the world's nations enter another round of talks this week on creating a first-ever treaty to contain plastic pollution, officials are bracing for tough negotiations over whether to limit the amount of plastic being produced or just to focus on the management of waste.

Working with a document called a "zero draft" that lists possible policies and actions to consider, national delegates to the weeklong meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, will be debating which of those options to include in what eventually would become a legally binding treaty by the end of 2024, officials involved in the negotiations said.

"We are at a pivotal moment in this process," said David Azoulay, a managing attorney of the Center for International Environmental Law who is an observer to the negotiations.

The world is currently producing about 400 million tonnes of plastic waste every year, with less than 10 percent of it being recycled, according to the UN Environment Programme, choking landfills and despoiling oceans. That produced amount is set to surge in the coming decade, as oil companies, which often also produce plastics, look to new sources of revenue amid the energy transition away from fossil



fuels.

Today, about 98 percent of single-use plastic - like bottles or packaging - is derived from fossil fuel, according to the UN Environment Programme.

The European Union and dozens of countries, including Japan, Canada and Kenya have called for a strong treaty with "binding provisions" for reducing the production and use of virgin plastic polymers derived from petrochemicals and for eliminating or restricting problematic plastics, such as PVC and others containing toxic ingredients.

That position is opposed by the plastic industry and by oil and petrochemical exporters, who want to see plastic use continue. They argue that the treaty should focus on recycling and reusing plastics, sometimes referred to in the talks as "circularity" in the plastics supply.

The United States, which initially wanted a treaty comprised of national plans to control plastics, has revised its stance in recent months. It now argues that, while the treaty should still

be based on national plans, those plans should reflect globally agreed goals to reduce plastic pollution that are "meaningful and feasible," a US State Department spokesperson said in a statement to Reuters.

The International Council of Chemical Associations wants the treaty to include measures "that accelerate a circular economy for plastics," according to council spokesperson Matthew Kastner.

"The plastics agreement should be focused on ending plastic pollution, not plastic production," Kastner told Reuters in a statement.

For oil, gas and petrochemical producers and exporters, a strong treaty is liability that could curb the sale of fossil fuels, said Bjorn Beeler, international coordinator of the International Pollutants Elimination Network.

Countries will also be debating whether the treaty should set transparency standards for chemical use in plastics production.

Environmental groups said they

More insight into risk factors for new-onset interstitial lung disease in systemic sclerosis

GEORGIA

NEW research on the prevalence and risk factors for new-onset interstitial lung disease (ILD) among individuals with systemic sclerosis who previously tested negative for ILD.

Research was presented at ACR Convergence 2023, the annual conference of the American College of Rheumatology (ACR).

One of the main side effects and causes of death for patients with systemic sclerosis (SSc) is interstitial lung disease (ILD). While the yearly incidence and risk factors of ILD in individuals who test negative on baseline screening tests are well documented, the frequency and risk factors for the illness are not as well characterised.

Liubov Petelytska, MD, PhD, a postdoctoral researcher at the University Hospital in Zurich, and her colleagues used data from

the European Scleroderma Trials and Research (EUSTAR) group, an international scleroderma research network, to answer these concerns.

Results showed that new-onset ILD occurred in 1,075 or 20.2 per cent of patients with a median of 3.8 years follow-up. Overall incidence was 3.83 per 100 person-years and could occur anytime during a 10-year observation period from baseline.

"We included both smoking and ethnicity in our prediction models and, surprisingly, they were not statistically significant," Petelytska said.

"That might be an influence of the EUSTAR database, enrolling over 99 per cent of Caucasian patients and underrepresenting African Americans. The reproducibility of our results in other races and ethnicities is limited, and it should be replicated and validated."

The biggest surprise, Petelytska says, was that disease duration was not a significant predictor of new ILD.

"It is commonly believed that ILD [mainly] appears in the early years of systemic sclerosis onset. Instead, we found that the onset of ILD was independent of disease duration, which was not included in the prediction model. To confirm this surprising result, we performed a sensitivity analysis, dividing patients with early and late disease onset, and this still showed similar incidence rates. These results indicate that screening should be repeated during follow-up, possibly on a yearly basis, together with screening for pulmonary hypertension and routine clinical observation."

Petelytska says the study has several limitations, especially the heterogeneity of patients included in the analysis.

"We had patients having two to 10 follow-up visits, as well as patients observed from one to 10 years after baseline," she said.

"In addition, not all patients with ILD-negative status on baseline had follow-up HRCT information available, which might bias the results of our incidence rate of SSc-ILD."

Registry data with missing values and decentralized reading and lack of knowledge about medication can also lead to possible bias, Petelytska said.

The next stage of the project is to study different medications to determine whether they can effectively prevent ILD.

"It is our plan to include both immunosuppressants and vasoactive and vasodilating drugs, which are among those most commonly administered to SSc patients," Petelytska said. ANI

House Republicans eye plan to avert govt shutdown

WASHINGTON

US House of Representatives Speaker Mike Johnson unveiled a Republican stopgap spending measure on Saturday aimed at averting a government shutdown a week from now, but the measure quickly ran into opposition from lawmakers from both parties in Congress.

Unlike ordinary continuing resolutions, or "CRs," that fund federal agencies for a specific period, the measure announced by Johnson (pictured) would fund some parts of the government until Jan 19 and others until Feb 2. House Republicans hope to pass the measure on Tuesday.

"This two-step continuing resolution is a necessary bill to place House Republicans in the best position to fight for conservative victories," Johnson said in a statement after announcing the plan to House Republicans in a conference call.

The House Republican stopgap contained no supplemental funding such as aid for Israel or Ukraine.

The House and Democratic-led Senate must agree on a spending vehicle that President Joe Biden can sign into law by Friday, or risk a fourth partial government shutdown in a decade that would close national parks, disrupt pay for as many as 4 million federal workers and disrupt a swath of activities from financial oversight to scientific research.

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said in a release that the proposal was "just a recipe for more Republican chaos and more shutdowns." She said "House Republicans are wasting precious time with an unserious proposal that has been panned by members of both parties."

Johnson, the top Republican in Congress, unveiled his stopgap a day after Moody's, the last major credit ratings agency to maintain a top "AAA" rating on the US government, lowered its outlook on the nation's credit to "negative" from "stable," citing political polarization in Congress on spending as a danger to the nation's fiscal health.

The Louisiana Republican appeared to be appealing to two warring House Republican factions: hardliners who wanted legislation with multiple end-dates; and centrists who had called for a "clean" stopgap measure free of spending cuts and conservative policy riders that Democrats reject.

The legislation would extend funding for military construction, veterans benefits, transportation, housing, urban development, agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration and energy and water programs through Jan 19. Funding for all other federal operations would expire on Feb 2.

But the plan quickly came under fire from members of both parties.

"My opposition to the clean CR just announced by the Speaker to the @HouseGOP cannot be overstated," Representative Chip Roy, a member of the hardline House Freedom Caucus, said on the social media platform X.

Agencies



UAE renews its support for the goals and programs of UNESCO during COP28

PARIS

SHEIKH Salem bin Khalid Al Qasimi, UAE's Minister of Culture and Youth, called on member states of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to join the efforts of the UAE and its friends in leading climate change to save the planet, on the occasion of the country's hosting of The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) will take

place from November 30 to December 12 in Expo City, Dubai.

This came in the UAE's speech delivered by His Excellency, during the 42nd session of the UNESCO General Conference, which was held yesterday at the organization's headquarters in Paris, in the presence of ministers of education and culture from 195 countries around the world, in addition to representatives of international organizations.

At the beginning of his speech,

he conveyed the greetings and wishes of Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE, may God protect him, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President of the UAE, Prime Minister, and Ruler of Dubai, may God protect him, and Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice President of the State, Deputy Prime Minister, Head of the Presidential Office, and their brothers, members of the Supreme Council of the Federation and Rulers of the

Emirates, to the participants in the conference.

Sheikh Salem bin Khalid Al Qasimi said: "We call on all member states of UNESCO to join us in this group of friends who are leading climate change to save the planet, during the UAE's hosting of the COP28 conference at the end of this month in Dubai," noting the efforts "The UAE in the field of environmental sustainability, and its keenness to empower its children and train them to be fully pre-

pared to face the requirements of the digital age in which we live today, pointing out that the UAE proposed to the General Conference of UNESCO an item that was accepted, regarding allocating a World Day of Programming and celebrating it globally on October 29th. Every year, with the aim of supporting digital transformation."

He touched on the state's efforts in developing culture, education, and preserving wealth, stressing that the UAE

government has developed its strategies as required by the determinants of the future and according to stable pillars that enhance the renaissance and development of the state, and is centered around building the foundations of comprehensive development for various sectors, foremost among which is culture and education of its various types, including... Digital education.

Sheikh Salem bin Khalid Al Qasimi renewed the UAE's sup-

port for UNESCO's programs in preserving, maintaining and restoring archaeological sites in the world, as is the case in Iraq, when the organization launched a pioneering initiative entitled Reviving the Spirit of Mosul, to rebuild the Al-Nuri Mosque, the humpback minaret, two churches and other archaeological sites. The UAE was the first financier and partner of this initiative, and allocated an amount exceeding fifty million US dollars to it. ANI

Chinese vice-premier holds talks with US treasury secretary

SAN FRANCISCO

CHINESE vice-premier and the Chinese lead person for China-US economic and trade affairs, He Lifeng, held several rounds of talks with US Secretary of Treasury Janet Yellen in San Francisco.

He is in the United States for a visit at the invitation of the US side.

The two sides made efforts to implement the important common understanding reached between their heads of state, to make preparations for the economic outcome of the upcoming meeting between the two heads of state in San Francisco, and to push China-US economic and trade relations back to a healthy and stable track.

The two sides exchanged views on China-US economic relations, the economic situations in their countries and the global macroeconomic situation, ways to tackle global challenges, and each other's concerns.



Chinese vice-premier He Lifeng, also the Chinese lead person for China-US economic and trade affairs, holds talks with US Secretary of Treasury Janet Yellen in San Francisco, California, the United States, Nov 9, 2023. XINHUA

The Chinese side unequivocally raised concerns over US restrictions against China on two-way investment, sanctions and suppression of Chinese enterprises,

export controls against China, and extra tariffs, and demanded earnest action from the US side to address China's concerns.

The talks were candid, practical, in-depth and constructive.

The two sides agreed to enhance communication, seek consensus, manage disputes, and avoid misunderstandings that may lead to unintended escalation. They welcomed the formation of the economic and financial working groups, which are headed by officials at vice-ministerial level and report to the lead persons for China-US economic and trade affairs, and the meetings of the working groups.

The lead persons for China-US economic and trade affairs agreed to communicate directly on a regular basis.

The two sides stressed that they do not seek to decouple their economies, and welcomed the objective of a healthy economic relationship that provides a level playing field for companies and workers in both countries and benefits the two peoples.

Xinhua

All criminality must be met with full and swift force of law - Sunak

LONDON

WEIGHING in on the violence at pro-Palestinian rallies on Armistice Day in the UK, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Saturday said all criminality must be met with the full and swift force of the law.

Calling the incident "unacceptable", Sunak (pictured) condemned the violence saying the fear and intimidation the Jewish community that the country saw over the weekend was deplorable.

"All criminality must be met with the full and swift force of the law. That is what I told the Met Police Commissioner on Wednesday, that is what they are accountable for and that is what I expect. I will be meeting the Met Police Commissioner in the coming days," Sunak said.

"I condemn the violent, wholly unacceptable scenes we have seen today from the EDL and associated groups and Hamas sympathisers attending the National March for Palestine. The despicable actions of a minority of people undermine those who have chosen to express their views peacefully," stated an official release from 10 Downing Street, quoting the PM.

He added that "remembrance weekend" is a time for the community to remember those who fought for the nation.

The statement quoted Sunak as saying further, "It is a time for us to come together as a nation and remember those who fought and died for our freedoms. What we have seen today does not defend the honour of our Armed Forces but utterly disrespects them."

"That is true for EDL thugs attacking police officers and trespassing on the Cenotaph, and it is true for those singing anti-semitic chants and brandishing pro-Hamas signs and clothing on today's protest. The fear and intimidation the Jewish community has experienced over the weekend is deplorable," the UK PM added.

Sunak denounced "antisemitism" earlier as well after a series of pro-Palestine protests in the UK.

"This weekend we saw hate on our streets. Calls for Jihad are not only a threat to the Jewish community but to our democratic values. We will never tolerate antisemitism in our country. And we expect the police to take all necessary action to tackle extremism head-on," Sunak posted from his official handle on X, formerly Twitter.

Earlier, Sunak visited Israel in the wake of the October 7 Hamas attacks in southern Israel. During his visit, he affirmed the UK's support for Israel's right to defend itself in line with international law and its ongoing fight against Hamas.

Sunak said he was "sorry" to visit Israel in "such terrible circumstances", adding, "In the last two weeks, this country has gone through something that no country, no people should have to endure, least of all Israel."

ANI

Medvedev says US was interested in exporting Afghan heroin to Russia

MOSCOW

THE Taliban (outlawed in Russia) has contributed more to the fight against drugs in Afghanistan in the past year than did a two-decade effort by a coalition led by the United States which was interested in exporting Afghan heroin to Russia and other countries, Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev said.

The Russian politician referred to the Afghan Opium Survey 2023 released by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) earlier this month. According to it, opium production in Afghanistan saw a 95% decline, from 6,200 tons produced in 2022 to 333 tons in 2023.

"In less than a year, the Taliban, no matter how we may feel about it, did what the US-led NATO coalition, which was allegedly fighting terrorism in the country, failed to do over a span of 20 years. That's what happens when those who were, in fact, interested in exporting heroin to Russia and other countries leave the region," Medvedev wrote on his Telegram channel.

The United States completed the withdrawal of its troops from Afghanistan in the summer of 2021, marking the end of a military operation that was launched in 2001.



Chinese envoy urges immediate ceasefire between Israel, Palestine

UNITED NATIONS

CHINESE permanent representative to the United Nations, Zhang Jun, on Friday called for an immediate ceasefire between Israel and Palestine.

"A ceasefire and an end to the fighting cannot be delayed. A ceasefire is by no means a diplomatic statement. It is the only hope for the people of Gaza to survive," Zhang told the UN Security Council emergency meeting on the Palestinian-Israeli situation.

Noting that the current round of conflict has been going on for 35 days and the situation continues to deteriorate, he said: "We call on all parties, especially the major power that has a unique influence on the parties, to put aside all geopolitical considerations and double standards and focus all efforts on the goal of a ceasefire and an end to the fight. We urge Israel to curb the intensifying settler violence in the West Bank so as to avoid the concurring hotspot and the spread of conflict."

"When tens of thousands of people, including more than 4,000 children, have lost their lives; when more than 1.6 million people have been forced to flee their homes; when 2.3 million people continue

to be cut off from water, electricity, fuel, food and medicine; and when hospitals, schools, refugee camps, and UN facilities have been frequently targeted, this is not only a humanitarian crisis, but, as described by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, a crisis of humanity," he added.

Zhang said he met with representatives of Palestine and other Arab countries and those from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation earlier in the day.

"From our conversation, I was deeply struck by the pain they have deep in their hearts, by their hope for the resumption of peace, and by their expectation for the Council to take effective actions," he said.

"In the face of all this, the world must speak out together: Enough is enough," Zhang said, adding that "the Security Council must do away with the obstruction and interference of some members and take immediate, responsible, and meaningful action to uphold justice and maintain peace."

Stressing the importance of protecting civilians, the envoy said, "We condemn all violence and attacks against civilians. We express our grave concern over and strong opposition to the clear violations of international humanitarian law in



Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, speaks at a meeting of the United Nations Security Council at the UN headquarters in New York on Oct 16, 2023. XINHUA

Gaza." "We urge an end to the collective punishment of civilians. We demand the safety and humanitarian needs of hostages be guaranteed and call for diplomatic efforts to facilitate their early release," he added.

More than 1,300 children and their families are trapped in the rubble with their lives at stake, Zhang said, adding, "We support the Council to take emergency actions in this regard to facilitate a sustained truce of multiple days and an immediate opening of a green corridor for specialized agencies and equipment to enter Gaza to carry out search and rescue operations, so as to do our utmost to save children."

The Council should also respond to the joint appeal made by the Director-General of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, and Marwan Jilani, Director General of the Palestine Red Crescent Society, to establish a medical evacuation mechanism so that pregnant women and the seriously injured and sick in Gaza can be transferred and treated promptly, he continued.

Zhang also called for the delivery of supplies to resume, noting it "cannot be delayed."

"We call on Israel to immediately lift the siege and completely remove restrictions on livelihood supplies, especially fuel delivery to humanitarian and medical institu-

tions and livelihood facilities," he said.

Over the past two weeks, just over 500 trucks have entered Gaza through the Rafah crossing, a drop in the bucket for the people of Gaza who are struggling on the brink of death, Zhang said. "All crossings into Gaza should be utilized, and the Kerem Shalom crossing should be opened as soon as possible."

"These days, we also hear frequent discussions about the day after for Gaza. Regarding this, it must be pointed out that no arrangement for Gaza can be imposed on the Palestinian people," said the ambassador, adding that "No solution to the current situation can deviate from the two-state solution. The future of Palestine must be and can only be decided by the Palestinian people themselves."

The ambassador pledged that China, as president of the Security Council for November, would continue to work with the international community to bring an early end to the fighting and alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

China supports a peaceful co-existence between the Palestinians and the Israelis and long-term peace and security in the Middle East, he said.

Xinhua

TEHRAN

IRANIAN President Ebrahim Raisi stressed on Saturday that the country "sees no obstacle to expanding relations with Egypt."

Raisi made the remarks in a meeting with his Egyptian counterpart Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi on the sidelines of a joint Arab-Islamic summit on the Palestinian issue held in the Saudi capital of Riyadh on Saturday, according to a statement published on the website of the Iranian president's office.

Describing Egypt as a "friendly country," the Iranian president highlighted the need for greater

Raisi: Tehran sees no obstacle to boosting ties with Cairo

unity among Muslim states.

Turning to the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza, he said that the popular demand worldwide was for the opening of the Rafah crossing in Egypt so that supplies could be sent to the Palestinian coastal enclave.

Raisi blamed the United States and Israel for "stonewalling" the opening of Rafah crossing.

The Egyptian president, for his part, said his country had a political will to establish "real relations" with Iran.

To this end, relevant Egyptian



ministers have been tasked with the mission of following up on the establishment of deep relations between the two countries, said Sisi.

Turning to the issue of Palestine, Sisi said Egypt had been harmed

more than any country from the repercussions of the ongoing situation in Gaza.

Earlier in the day, Raisi also met Chairman of Sudan's Transitional Sovereign Council Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan and voiced Tehran's readiness to exchange diplomatic delegations with Khartoum and expand relations in different areas.

Al-Burhan also expressed his country's willingness to reconstruct and resume relations with Iran, which "will be in the interests of the entire Muslim world."

Iran and Egypt severed diplo-

matic relations in 1980. In recent months, both countries have announced a willingness to mend bilateral ties by settling differences on certain issues.

Iran and Sudan last month announced the resumption of their diplomatic ties, seven years after they were severed in 2016 following Saudi Arabia's move to cut ties with Tehran in the same year.

Saudi Arabia cut its diplomatic relations with Iran in January 2016 after the kingdom's embassy in Tehran was attacked. The storming of the Saudi Arabian embassy happened after the kingdom executed a Shiite cleric.

Xinhua

West's guilt, aid to Gaza. What leaders said at Riyadh summit

THE West is responsible for the humanitarian disaster in the Gaza Strip by supporting Tel Aviv's actions, the participants of the extraordinary joint summit of the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Riyadh said. According to them, it is necessary to stop Israel's military operations as soon as possible, organize the delivery of aid to the peaceful population and create functioning security mechanisms.

TASS has gathered the main statements and initiatives of the leaders at the meeting.

What West is guilty of

The participants of the meeting were unanimous in their public statements, calling the Western countries a direct accomplice of "Israeli aggression." Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, for example, directly blamed the United States for the lack of a political solution to the Middle East conflict. "We will prosecute war criminals at international courts, and the United States will be held responsible for the failure to resolve [the crisis]," Abbas said.

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi made



a similar point: "America is constantly sending a message to Iran and some other countries that the scope of the war should not be expanded, but this statement is not in line with America's actions. America has blocked the ceasefire in Gaza and is expanding the scope of the war."

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan expressed regret that "Western countries, which always talk about human rights and freedoms, remain silent in the face of the continued killing of Palestinians." He said: "The West and Israel, which behaves like a spoiled child of this West, should compensate for the damage, the

destruction caused to the Palestinians."

Suspension of hostilities

The speakers agreed that the first step to ending the conflict should be a suspension of hostilities in Gaza. As Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud said, it is necessary to cease Israeli hostilities, force the radical Palestinian movement Hamas to release hostages and put an end to the forced displacement of the population of Gaza.

The first priority is a permanent, not temporary, ceasefire in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict zone, the Turkish president said. "The most urgent thing is not a pause in hostilities for a few hours, but

a permanent ceasefire," he said.

Crown Prince of Kuwait Salem Abdulrahman al-Jaber al-Sabah pointed out that the entire world community, and in particular the UN Security Council, should "assume its direct responsibility and immediately stop the bloodshed in the Gaza Strip."

Mechanism to guarantee security

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi said that Cairo insists on the formation of a concrete mechanism to achieve a just settlement of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict based on the idea of two independent states. "It is also the

turn of the international community to exert maximum efforts to establish an independent Palestinian state," he said.

Erdogan said that Ankara is ready to participate in the establishment and operation of a security guarantee mechanism for the Palestinians, including a system of guarantor countries. The Turkish leader noted that the guarantee system "will be able to provide security not only for the Palestinians, but also for the Israelis and the entire region."

Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas, for his part, called on the UN Security Council to approve Palestine's full membership in the organization and to

convene an international peace conference dedicated to the reconstruction of Gaza and the protection of the rights of the Palestinian people. The Palestinian National Authority, he said, "is ready for general parliamentary and presidential elections that will cover the entire territory of Palestine, including Jerusalem."

Measures against Israel

A number of world leaders have suggested increased pressure on Israel. Syrian President Bashar Assad said that "effective steps, not verbal rhetoric, are needed at this moment" to stop the war. "Arab countries must limit their contacts with Israel in order to stop the fighting in Gaza," he pointed out.

The Iranian president, for his part, called for using "all means" to force the US and Israel to stop the fighting in Gaza, including suggesting that Islamic countries arm the Palestinians to fight Israel if the fighting in the enclave does not stop.

Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani called on the UN to send an international investigation team to Gaza to determine the extent of Israeli responsibility for attacks on civilian targets, including health facilities.

Agencies

Trying again: Simba SC model's stern test after members sign up for meeting

By Correspondent John Kimbute

WHETHER the current seismic tremors in Simba SC shall lead to anything remains to be seen, but chances are that it will end in a stalemate as there is no credible evidence about anything, especially about negligence by the leadership.

There are credible arguments here and there concerning the vitality of the players but they lack a premise as they arise from the 5G negative loss to archrivals Young Africans SC, and were nowhere to be seen against Al Ahly. It's a technical dispute.

There are similarly a few discernible observations by both fans and pundits on the state of the team on the 5G day, notably the charge apparently raised by former club chairman Aden Rage now grouped into an advisory council.

He said that a number of players were not in camp on the night before the match, which at first instance looks like a serious breach of discipline, until one remembers that on

Friday there was a festival. Chances are that it had ended late, so training was light on the following day, and they remained somewhat relaxed when leaving the pitch.

While that will not be easy to set out, as people react on impulse rather than analyze the specific moment, it remains clear that there was an overall atmosphere of celebration well ahead of the match and into the day, hours before the match.

The problem is hence that the players participated in the festivity, organized on account of its perfect exit in the Africa Football League where it drew twice in encountering Egyptian giants, Al Ahly.

Other observations being mentioned were slightly noticeable up to that point, but the margin now makes them crucial issues.

Even experienced people like the former club chairman opted to take a sling at the leadership instead



Simba striker Kibu Denis controls the ball surrounded by Yanga players during their NBC Premier League match at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on November 5, 2023. Yanga won 5-1. PHOTO: JUMANNE JUMA

of seeing it as one of those things, where the club side is caught napping, as it were.

The napping by close look wasn't the inability of team management to control the players, leaving out the leaders, but really a club's fault as a whole for having built a celebratory atmosphere ahead of the match, instead of waiting to do so afterward.

The side was at the height of confidence and that is why it threw caution to the winds, especially with the 2-0 win on Yanga earlier in the season.

The Jangwani Street side's defeat to Ihefu and the glee at Msimbazi Street capped it all, making it virtually impossible to restrain the side in its all-out festivity. The result was thus what can be called a well-deserved drubbing later on.

What the fans demanded right away was that the top-most leaders give way, notably members' chairman Murtaza Mangungu and board chairman Salim Abdallah, also known as Try Again.

The ground was rather thin for that measure and instead the club leadership tried to calm down the fan base by dispensing with the services of Roberto Oliveira or Rober-tinho, as his 'objective' in the Dar derby was in a mess.

Yet the anger was not quenched, and one wonders if the reason was indeed the drubbing or if it was another

platform for continuing earlier battles that a broad section of the members lost, namely a situation where the members call the shots.

Some upper-level critics close to the leadership pointed out that if Mangungu were to resign, someone else would take over, and rapidly it appears it is the one whom the incumbent defeated during the polling earlier.

Again as some pundits pointed out, raising a finger at the board chairman is implicitly to lay accusations against the honorary club president, for putative reasons which can't be listed on the fingers of one hand. It brings the club to a reckoning, a suicidal drive if unchecked.

That is why the use of the constitutional premise of one thousand signatures to call an emergency meeting, even if it is successful, will not come to anything visible because it isn't related to a train of negative results but a single match. Trying to overthrow the leadership, and worse, putting its decision-making mechanisms at issue due to the results of one match, which is entirely possible even if just one player was out of the mood, is close to madness.

There is no setup where a single big loss in a series of vital matches is avoided, that the club side can't lose by as many goals.

In the final analysis, the hue and cry among the fan base is a reminder that the club isn't as yet a company, and the more the so-called members continue pushing the matter, the easier it will be to shake off the dual character for a single structure of decision-making.

That will be a nominated board from among the club members or from past leaders the way honorary president Mo Dewji issued a list of names of advisory council members, who can actually serve as a leadership team.

There is already a club management and a board, and the membership structure is just a tail to what is otherwise an evolved species that no longer needs its all-powerful tail.

If it comes to choosing between a members' club and an owner's club the latter shall win, for the so-called 51 percent ownership by members is honorific, as only the 49 percent issues the working capital.

What is a bit vexing is the brand, namely Simba SC as such, but it is disputable if it is owned by members, as different from the fan base as a whole.

If Estadio de Lupaso takes 60,000 fans, why should 1,000 members disrupt the club when the board can do without their dues?



Hazina Primary School pupils show their talents during the school's graduation ceremony that was held over the weekend in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: JOSEPH MWENDAPOLE

Hazina school begins to nurture pupils' talents

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

HAZINA Primary School of Mago-meni in Dar es Salaam has started to nurture pupils' talents in various arts such as fashion, acrobatics, basketball, music and football.

The school has said that the pupils have shown that they have talents in various areas and that is the reason why it was attracted to start bringing out those talents and developing them.

Speaking during the graduation ceremony at the school over the weekend, Omari Juma, the principal of the school, said that they had a sports program to check the various talents of the pupils.

He said sports apart from improving the health of pupils can also help those with talents to use them as a source of income like it is to some successful artists.

He said apart from academic excellence, the school will continue to

bring out and nurture pupils' talents so that they can help them in their daily lives as there is evidence of people who have succeeded due to their talents.

"You could find a pupil who may be normal in the class, but he has a great talent that if he develops it, he could become a great artist and earn a lot of money. So the process of raising talents should be sustainable for many schools," said Juma.

One of the parents who attended the graduation, Asha Aboubakari, commended the school for running a program to nurture the talents of the students as they witnessed how the pupils showed their skills in art.

"In fact, we have seen ourselves the skills of Hazina pupils in various arts and styles, from acrobatics, fashion and design, singing and dancing, so talents must be nurtured. We have seen many talents that, if nurtured, can help their future," she said.

TFF must deduct points from clubs displaying unsporting behaviour - Tiboroha

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

RESPECTED local football administrator Dr Jonas Tiboroha has called the Tanzania Football Association (TFF) to impose stiff penalties on soccer clubs that display unsporting behaviour including Juju beliefs.

In a monitored Radio Interview, Tiboroha, who once served as Dar es Salaam Young Africans (Yanga SC) secretary general, said it is now becoming a nuisance, advising TFF to take strong measures that will deter the teams from practicing unsporting behavior.

"Juju beliefs are now becoming mayhem in the game of football. I am asking the local football gov-

erning body (TFF) to impose stiff penalties on teams that practice Juju beliefs. The penalties should include a points deduction. I am suggesting a three-point deduction because if the fine is 10m/it's hefty to other teams, but to teams like Yanga, Simba, Azam and others it's a small fine that they can easily pay. But when it comes to points deduction they will be afraid of losing the much-needed points," he said.

Dr Tiboroha, who is a Senior Sports Lecturer at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), further said there is no need for clubs to undertake hilarious actions in the sole belief that magic will hand them wins, saying teams win

matches because they prepared well.

Tiboroha's remarks came recently after video clips of NBC Premier League players and Championship teams showing them practicing unsporting behaviors which include jumping the fence to enter the field of play, pouring liquid substance on players from the opponent's side and spraying charms on the ground went viral on social media.

Some sections of football lovers have echoed Tiboroha remarks, saying the rising cases of juju beliefs in local football is a recipe for violence.

A social media commentator Michael Msemakweli said it is sad

that issues of juju are getting out of hand, saying juju belief is killing our football. Juju is just superstition.

He suggested that there is a need for clubs to do more in educating their players and supporters to refrain from juju beliefs.

"It's now becoming a big issue, our clubs need to stress to their players and supporters that juju does not win matches. Juju is just psychological and teams end up paying a lot of money to traditional doctors, but fail to get the required three points," he said.

Last year during the CAF Confederation Cup match between Simba and Orlando Pirates, which took place in Soweto, South Af-

rica, Simba players were seen gathered together burning some substances.

In that game, Simba, who were carrying a 1-0 lead from the first match which was played in Dar es Salaam, only needed a draw to proceed. But they ended up being eliminated 4-3 on post-match penalties.

However, mid this year, Kenya media reported that former Azam FC Kenyan midfielder Kenneth Muguna, has denied the existence of juju, or black magic, in Tanzanian football.

Muguna emphasized his belief in talent and hard work as the driving forces behind success on the field.

His comments come in response to rumors and speculations regarding the use of juju in Tanzanian football, a topic that has sparked debates and controversies in the past.

The talented Harambee Stars midfielder made it clear that he had never witnessed any instances of juju during his time in Tanzania and firmly stated that he would never partake in such practices.

"I don't know if there is juju in Tanzanian football because I have never witnessed it, and I can never do it," Muguna affirmed. "I believe in talent and hard work," he was quoted.



Tambaza Secondary School's students present the topic through drama in the ongoing tax clubs competition held at the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA)'s Institute of Tax Administration at Mkochoeni in Dar es Salaam on Friday. Students from 59 schools from Dar es Salaam and Coast regions participated in the competition organized by TRA with the aim of encouraging tax education in schools. (PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA)

Morocco name 26-man squad ahead of Tanzania WC qualifications match

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi and Agencies

MOROCCO men's senior national team head coach Walid Regragui has named a strong squad ahead of their opening Group E CAF 2026 World Cup qualifications match against Tanzania on November 21.

Morocco will be hosted by Taifa Stars at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Initially, Morocco, known as the Atlas Lions, were scheduled to host their first game on Thursday against Eritrea who withdrew from the competition qualifiers due to financial constraints.

All of Eritrea's matches

have been canceled while the rest of the match schedule for Group E remains unchanged.

In Group E, apart from Morocco, Taifa Stars also have Niger, Congo and Zambia in their pool, with only the top team automatically qualifying for the World Cup finals to be held in United States, Canada and Mexico.

Many observers are betting on Morocco as a favorite to qualify to the World Cup finals.

The Atlas Lions became more entrenched as favorites following their spectacular performances during the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, where they finished in a historic fourth place.

The latest ranking from FIFA puts Morocco as the 13th best national team in the world, and the best one in Africa, leading teams like Senegal, Tunisia, Algeria, and Egypt.

Morocco have named 14 out of 26 players that went to the World Cup last year in Qatar with also three players playing in their Moroccan league (Botola Pro).

The players are Wydad Casablanca captain Yahya Jabrane, and FAR Rabat's Benabid El Mehdi and Ayoub El Amloud.

The lineup also includes a first-time call up, Sofiane Diop, who plays for OGC Nice. Last December in Qatar, Morocco became only

the third country outside of Europe and South America to reach the World Cup semi-finals, emulating the United States and South Korea.

They shocked Belgium and held Croatia in the group stage, then eliminated Spain and Portugal in knockout matches before falling to France.

In 16 pre-Qatar World Cup matches spanning five tournaments, the North Africans had won only two and suffered nine defeats.

Morocco were given little chance of surviving the first round in Qatar, especially after a change of coaches with local Walid Regragui succeeding Bosnian Vahid Halilhodzic.

Raphael Dwamena: Ghana striker dies aged 28 after on-pitch collapse

GHANA striker Raphael Dwamena has died aged 28 after collapsing on the pitch during a league match in Albania.

Dwamena was playing for Egnatia against Partizani on Saturday.

"Despite the immediate intervention of specialist doctors he unfortunately passed away," said the Albanian Football Federation (AFL).

Dwamena was the leading scorer in the Albanian league this season with nine goals. He had won nine caps and scored two goals for his country.

Saturday's match was abandoned and the federation has postponed all games scheduled in Albania this week.

"The AFL expresses its deepest condolences to the Dwamena family and the Egnatia club for this great loss that has shocked the entire Albanian football community," the federation added.

The Ghana Football Association (GFA) said it sent "our deepest condolences to his family at this difficult moment".

"He served his country well and showed class any time he represented Ghana," GFA president Kurt Edwin Simeon Okraku said in a statement.

In 2017 a proposed £14m move to Brighton fell through after Dwamena failed a medical. He went on to represent Levante in La Liga and also played for Real Zaragoza on loan.

In 2021 he collapsed during a cup match in Austria between his side Blau-Weiss Linz and Hartberg, but recovered and continued his playing career.

He reportedly had a heart operation and had an automatic defibrillator implanted.

"Our thoughts are with his family and his loved ones in these difficult moments. His legacy in our club will last forever," Levante said on social media.

Zaragoza also paid tribute, saying: "We are devastated by the sad news of the passing of our former player Raphael Dwamena. You will always be in the memory of Zaragoza's fans. Rest in peace."

BBC

US star Rapinoe departs football with injury and defeat in NWSL final

NEW YORK

US women's football icon Megan Rapinoe limped out of the final game of her storied career Saturday, suffering a suspected torn Achilles tendon less than three minutes into the National Women's Soccer League Final which her OL Reign team lost to NJ/NY Gotham FC.

No other players were near Rapinoe when she went down on the pitch, a stunned crowd at Snapdragon Stadium holding their breath as medical staff attended her.

After several minutes, the dejected OL Reign star limped off the field, fans giving her a massive ovation as she was replaced by Bethany Balcer.

The 38-year-old American had vowed the match was "really the last one," in a career that included World Cup titles in 2015 and 2019 and gold at the 2012 London Olympics.

Despite her many achievements, Saturday's defeat means Rapinoe retires from the game without an NWSL championship title.

"It was a tough one. Definitely not how I envisioned this last one going," a tearful Rapinoe said after the game. "I am pretty sure I tore my Achilles."

"Just thank you to everyone who's been on the journey for all this time. It's been amazing, maybe besides this, I couldn't have written it any different," she added.

Celebrated for her off-field activism as well as her success on the pitch, Rapinoe announced earlier this year it would be her final season.

The 2019 FIFA Women's Player of the Year ended her epic national team career with 63 goals, earning 203 caps over more than 17 years and played her final international game in September.

Rapinoe's club career did include one title, winning the French league with Lyon in 2013 and with Reign she also won three NWSL Shields, awarded to the team with the best regular season record.

"So thankful" - "I am just super proud of my whole career and really thankful for all that it's given me and for how long I've been able to play," she said. "So even though it was a tough night, it was still amazing and so thankful to be here and again, so proud of our group."

Rapinoe's World Cup career also ended with bitter disappointment as she missed a penalty in the round of 16 exit defeat to Sweden in New Zealand in August - and she reflected upon those moments.

"I mean, I don't deserve this, I'll tell you that much, I am a better person than this. I thought about that a little in the last two hours. This one feels different from missing the pen in New Zealand but that's life, it's part of the game," she said

AFP

Man U ease pressure on Ten Hag, Spurs, Newcastle stunned

LONDON

MANCHESTER United eased the pressure on under-fire boss Erik ten Hag with a nervy 1-0 win against Luton on Saturday, while Tottenham conceded twice in stoppage time to lose 2-1 at Wolves.

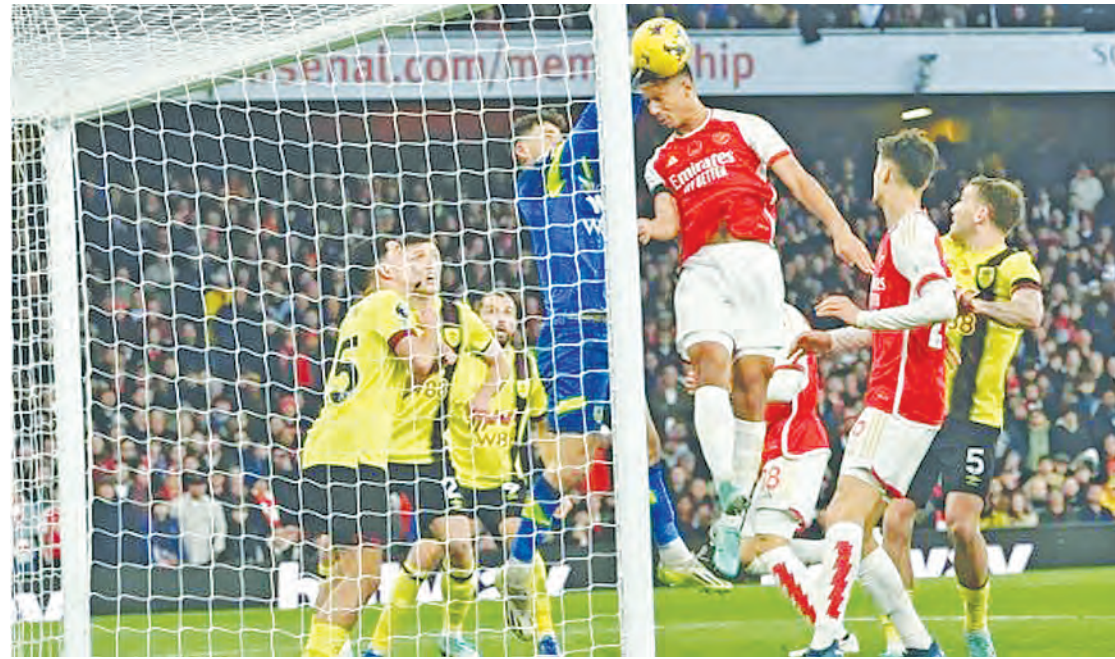
Newcastle also crashed to a shock defeat as Dominik Solanke's double took Bournemouth out of the relegation zone.

Rocked by Wednesday's devastating Champions League group stage loss in Copenhagen -- the latest embarrassment in a season of low moments -- United gave Ten Hag some much-needed breathing space thanks to Victor Lindelof's second-half winner.

United had suffered five defeats in their previous 10 home games this season, their worst start to a campaign at Old Trafford since 1930-31 when they also lost five of 10 and were relegated from the top flight.

They were also reeling from three losses in their last four games in all competitions as the heat was turned up on Ten Hag.

Against that depressing backdrop, and with the latest 'Glazers out' protests from fans outside Old Trafford before kick-off, struggling Luton's first visit to United since 1991 was well-timed for Ten Hag and his troubled team.



Arsenal defender William Saliba (C) scores against Burnley. Agencies

Sixth-placed United made their pressure count in the 59th minute as Bruno Fernandes' corner was cleared to Marcus Rashford, whose cross fell kindly for Lindelof to lash home.

"It is a good day. We needed the win and we got it, but we could make life more easy by scoring early on and getting a second," Ten Hag said. "I have to compliment the team that they kept going, kept organised and didn't give anything away."

Wolves' stunning late show denied Tottenham the chance to return to the top of the table.

Brennan Johnson's first goal for Tottenham since his move from Nottingham Forest put Ange Postecoglou's side ahead in the third minute. But Wolves dominated after that and earned a memorable victory thanks to the incredible finale.

Pablo Sarabia finally bagged the equaliser in the first minute of stoppage time when he smashed past Guglielmo Vicario from Matheus Cunha's pass.

Missing injured stars James Maddison and Micky van de Ven, Tottenham were well below their best and Mario Lemina made them pay in the 97th minute, meeting Sarabia's cross with a cool finish from 12 yards.

"We ran out of legs" - After starting the season on a 10-game unbeaten run, it was Tottenham's second successive defeat after Monday's 4-1 loss against Chelsea when they had two players sent off.

"Wolves are always going to come on strong and we ran out of legs at the end," Postecoglou said.

"It is understandable, a lot of those guys haven't played. They

scored a couple of good goals. It's a hard one to take."

Arsenal took advantage of Tottenham's stumble as they beat Burnley 3-1 to move one point above their north London rivals into second place.

Leandro Trossard opened the scoring with Arsenal's 1,000th goal at the Emirates Stadium since their move from Highbury in 2006.

Burnley levelled in the 54th minute when Josh Brownhill fired home via a deflection off Arsenal defender Gabriel. But William Saliba's close-range header three minutes later put Arsenal back in control and Oleksandr Zinchenko volleyed the Gunners' third in the 74th minute.

Arsenal were reduced to 10 men in the 83rd minute when Fabio Vieira was shown a

straight red card after catching Brownhill on the knee.

An injury-ravaged Newcastle paid for their exertions losing away to Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League in midweek.

Solanke fired home from close range twice in 13 second half minutes to secure Bournemouth's second league win under Andoni Iraola in a 2-0 victory.

Newcastle have now failed to win half of their 12 Premier League games this season and remain seven points off the top down in seventh.

Everton climbed away from the relegation zone with a 3-2 win at Crystal Palace.

Vitaliy Mykolenko, Abdoulaye Doucoure and Idrissa Gueye scored for the Toffees, who move eight points clear of the bottom three.

Meanwhile, Mikel Arteta side-stepped a fresh VAR row after 10-man Arsenal ignored Fabio Vieira's red card to beat Burnley 3-1 on Saturday.

Arsenal midfielder Vieira was sent off in the closing stages at the Emirates Stadium for a high challenge on Josh Brownhill.

It was the kind of flashpoint that could have provoked another angry reaction from Arteta.

The Gunners boss is waiting to discover if he will face a Football Association charge after he criticised the officials following last weekend's controversial 1-0 loss at Newcastle.

AFP

What is VAR, how does it work and what are the biggest problems?

By Karl Matchett

THE use of technology in football has been on the increase over the past few years but none seems to create as much heated debate and questioning as that of the Video Assistant Referee (VAR).

By and large, it is felt that minor and visible calls are improved across the course of the season with on-pitch referees getting extra help. However, there have been several high-profile incidents of late that have led to clubs, or personnel within them, complaining about the eventual decision or decision-making process, with the most recent coming in the Champions League.

Manchester United boss Erik ten Hag felt aggrieved that a number of calls went against them in their 4-3 defeat to FC Copenhagen, including a decision to send off Marcus Rashford for serious foul play.

Here's everything on VAR you need to know, including the latest causes for complaint against it.

*What has gone wrong?

Most recently, Man United complained about Rashford's red card, given out for stepping across and onto the foot and shin of an opponent in a Champions League encounter. Ten Hag insisted his side had seen three "very debatable" penalties go against them in four games and called his forward's sending off "very harsh".

In domestic football, Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta complained over "unacceptable" er-

rors from on-pitch and VAR officials as his team lost to Newcastle, while Wolves boss Gary O'Neil labelled a penalty decision given against his team and upheld by VAR as "scandalous" - also against Newcastle.

Ange Postecoglou suggested recently that clubs have to shoulder part of the blame for long stoppages for VAR, saying: "Some of it is self-inflicted because if we come out every week complaining about decisions that is what will happen, every decision gets forensically checked and we will be sitting around for a long time in every game trying to figure out what is going on."

However, it must be noted that the vast majority of these are subjective opinions and where Arteta sees fault, another manager, supporter or, indeed, official may see justification in decision.

One incident which was not subjective, but instead a quite clear mistake, came with Luis Diaz's goal for Liverpool against Tottenham being ruled out for offside and then allowed to stay disallowed, despite the VAR officials running their processes and showing the forward was outside. The "significant human error" came as a result of the official, Darren England, appearing to forget that offside rather than a goal had been awarded in the first place.

To another extreme, Millie Bright criticised the fact there was no VAR in the first edition of the Women's Nations League, after a clearly offside goal was allowed to stand against England which would have been simple to rule

out.

Further clear VAR errors which PGMOL have had to apologise for include no penalty being awarded to Wolves against Man United after Andre Onana clattered Sasa Kalajdzic, a Brentford goal against Arsenal not being checked properly with no offside lines drawn and a West Ham late equaliser being ruled out for a foul, where none was apparent.

"What has gone right?"

In truth, a lot. It's overlooked when three or four calls are spot-on, when one causes serious complaint or at least is a subjective call which a majority seem to disagree with.

As an example, in the incident-packed Tottenham vs Chelsea fixture, several goals were correctly ruled out for offside through use - or checking - of VAR and the penalty awarded which saw Cristian Romero sent off was also a result of VAR intervention.

Generally speaking, these calls that are widely accepted as correct do not get highlighted, partially because the technology exists for

that very reason: it's expected to help officials make the right calls with a second look.

That doesn't mean they don't occur, though. The Premier League reported that 82 per cent of decisions were correct in the season before VAR was introduced, rising to 94 per cent being correct in 2019/20.

*What is the process for VAR checks?

From the Premier League website: VAR will be used only for "clear and obvious errors" or "serious missed incidents" in four match-changing situations: goals; penalty decisions; direct red-card incidents; and mistaken identity.

When any of those match situations occur or potentially occur, VAR is constantly rewatching and monitoring match footage from the hub at Stockley Park.

If there is a decision to be made, the VAR or Assistant VAR (AVAR) will relay to the referee that play should be halted while checks are made, before recommending either an overturn, a pitchside check of the monitor for the ref or a continuation of play

with the on-pitch original decision.

The video officials have until the ball goes dead to inform the referee that a check is underway if play is already ongoing.

The referee can then either check the monitor or accept the VAR recommendation. Upon reviewing the pitchside monitor, they may then stick with their own initial assessment or overturn the original, before communicating their new decision to the crowd.

*What have PGMOL said?

The refereeing chief of Professional Game Match Officials Limited, Howard Webb, took over the role last year to improve the standard of officiating in the English game and to help oversee a smoother use of technology.

PGMOL confirmed to the League Managers' Association "they are actively looking at how best to incorporate VARs into match-day refereeing teams, to ensure the dynamic between on-field referee and VAR is conducive to producing positive outcomes."

After the Diaz incident, the organisation "acknowledged[d] a significant human error occurred" and brought in additional processes to ensure no repeat happened. They also released the audio of that incident, an "unusual step" according to Webb, "to show everybody what was very quickly pretty apparent to us, a human error and loss of concentration."

Webb has suggested the pool of VAR-specific officials will be increased but Lee Mason presents a cautionary tale. The former referee was appointed a full-time VAR for 2022/23, but departed the role last season after the aforementioned error over Brentford's goal against Arsenal.

Mason, who had already been stood down from the officiating list that campaign previously for wrongly disallowing a Newcastle goal, was labelled a "serial offender" by ex-PGMOL boss Keith Hackett - however, at the start of the current campaign, Mason was re-hired as a referees' coach for the lower leagues.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Man U ease pressure on Ten Hag, Spurs, Newcastle stunned

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Zanzibar 2nd vice-president to grace SOT workshop today

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ZANZIBAR Second Vice-President Hemed Suleiman Abdulla is today expected to open a three-day Unified Champion School Project workshop which will be held in the Isles, Special Olympics Tanzania (SOT) disclosed.

SOT director Charles Rays said the workshop has attracted 25 participants from 16 countries. He named the countries as Angola, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, the United States of America, Zimbabwe and the hosts Tanzania.

He said the workshop instructors are from Special Olympics Africa and Special Olympics International (SOI).

The SOT director further said each program will be represented by the national director in addition to five staff members from the Africa region and three staff members from Special Olympics International headquarters in the USA.

He said Special Olympics Tanzania has been selected to host the workshop due to its outstanding leadership and commitment displays and he said Special Olympics Africa region is certain that by hosting this workshop it will increase SOT visibility.

"The three-day regional workshop, which will also be used to launch the expansion of the Unified Champion Schools project gets underway tomorrow (today) in Zanzibar. We are happy that the Second Vice-President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar Hemed Suleiman Abdulla will grace the opening of the workshop," said Rays.

SOT has been outstanding in its activities as its athletes have been competing at various local and international events. Last year at the maiden Pan African Special Olympics Games played in Egypt the country collected eleven medals.

Also recently, the country was represented by 20 athletes at the Summer Special Olympics Games which was held in Berlin, Germany where local athletes won medals.

At the German Special Olympics Summer Games the country athletes competed in mixed unified volleyball and athletics.

The athletes were selected from SOT subprograms and regions and others at the national championships which was held in Mwanza last year.

The team was sponsored by the government, Azam Football Club, Azam Media and Sibusiso Foundation among others.

The athletes, who represented the country at the games, were:

Males:
Sheha Hassan, Abdulahmani Salim, Neverson Minja, Herith Suleiman, Mathias Makanyange, Duncan Lucian, Luquman Salum, Ali Juma, Oswald Kipoto and Ibrahim Mabeche.

Females:
Fatuma Omari, Shakira Miduma, Johari Ng'ombe, Rebecca Sumwendeti, Elizabeth Kisaka, Aziza Mtamila, Dorcas Msapu, Recho Siwambe, Maimuna Ali and Salah Bwege.

It was the first time that Germany hosted the World Special Olympics and more than 700 athletes with intellectual disabilities from 170 countries competed.

The Special Olympics World Summer Games are held every four years and are the World's largest inclusive sports event.

Cadena hails international break as turning point for Simba



Daniel Cadena (Agencies)

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC interim head coach Daniel Cadena has said that a two-week international break will help them return to their best form towards the CAF Champions League matches.

The two matches of the Premier League in Tanzania were enough to change the trend of the Simba's fine form following their loss against Yanga and a one-all-draw against Namungo.

Cadena, who is the goalkeeper coach, has been appointed to fill the position temporarily while the club leaders are looking for a replacement for

coach Roberto Oliveira 'Robertinho' who was fired earlier last week after a 5-1 defeat from Yanga.

The African Football League also highlighted

Simba's former coach, Robertinho's capabilities, where they were thrown out of the continent's newest club competition by the renowned Al Ahly SC of

Egypt. Simba secured a 2-2 draw against Al Ahly in Dar es Salaam and managed another 1-1 tie in Egypt. Unfortunately, they were edged out in the quarterfinals on

the away goals rule.

As Robertinho exits, Simba stands third in the league table, accumulating 18 points after seven games.

His departure marks a significant transition for Simba Sports Club as they navigate through the current season.

"Our international break now will be meaningful for us. The players will rest for about several days and then return to the camp for preparations," he said.

"Due to the past results and then the head coach leaving, it was difficult for us for a few days. I was not in a good position to change something, but after the international break we will come back better and make some adjustments and look forward to having three consecutive Champions League matches. One at home and two away," he added.

They are just five points shy of the leaders Yanga with Simba having an extra game to their advantage.

Simba are currently looking for a head coach with the club getting busy before November 25 when they host ASEC Mimosas at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

JKT Queens pick lessons in CAF Champions League exit

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

JKT Queens head coach Esther Chaburuma has highlighted valuable lessons for her side after being knocked out of the ongoing 2023 Women's Champions League by Morocco's Sporting Club de Casablanca at the group stage of the competition.

All they needed to advance to the semi-finals was a draw and that was on course until the 28th minute when Happiness Hezron Mwaipaja, committed a strong foul on Chaymaa Mourtaji inside the penalty area.

After consulting VAR, Rwandan referee Salima Mukansanga pointed to the penalty spot and sent off the Happiness. Meryem Hajri made no mistake in opening the floodgates, making it 1-0 from the spot in the 30th minute.

The Moroccans used the numerical advantage to the fullest and only took nine minutes to extend their lead through Chaymaa Mourtaji.

N'Guessan Nadège Koffi made it 3-0 at the stroke of halftime.

With the damage already done, Stumai Abdallah scored the consolation goal for JKT Queens in the 57th minute.

Adjoa Sylviane Kokora put the final nail on JKT Queens a minute later to make it 4-1.

JKT Queens finished the game with just nine players after Anastazia Simba was also sent off two minutes to normal stoppage time.

A day into the game, the squad was weakened by the withdrawal of six players in-

cluding Winifrida Gerald and Alia Salum who scored in the win against hosts Atletico Abidjan on Wednesday.

The six players traveled back to Dar to join the Tanzania U-20 team that is facing Nigeria in the World Cup qualifiers.

Tanzania and CECAFA region representatives finished third with three points

one point shy of second-placed Sporting Casablanca who joined group leaders Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies to the semi-finals.

They have conceded seven goals and scored three to finish with a negative four-goal difference.

Coach Chaburuma reiterated they have been inspired by the continental experi-

ence they have gained at the tournament and will definitely improve and come back stronger.

She commended her players for a job well done and said they now shift focus to defending their Tanzanian Women's Premier League title.

"We are happy nevertheless despite this result. We

will improve next time. We take away many lessons, and we will improve next time.

"I congratulate my players for the game they produced during the 2023 Women's Champions League. We will go home and prepare for the national championship and come back next time," she said.



Edson Julius (R) dribbles past Juvenali Erzandar during a basketball training session at the Jakaya Kikwete grounds in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: JUMANNE JUMA

Flexibles by David Chikoko

SPELL 'CROCODILE'

C-L-O-C-K-D-I-A-L

YOU ARE WRONG!

ACCORDING TO WHOM?

