



National Pg 4 Ambitious plan to plant trees



National Pg 5 African judicial dialogue opens in Dar



National Pg 6 New training modules on agriculture



Ministry hails World Bank's aid to 'Digital Tanzania' drive

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has expressed appreciation to the World Bank for its \$150m loan financing for the Digital Tanzania Project, saying it will enhance economic transformation.

In June 2021, the lender approved the Digital Tanzania Project with the financing from its soft loans window, the International Development Association (IDA).

Eng. Andrew Kundo (pictured), the deputy minister for Information, Communications and Information Technology made the remarks at a press conference after he had talks with Dr. Tim Kelly, head of a visiting team from World Bank headquarter, and noting that implementation of the Digital Tanzania Project will spearhead the country to harness its digital potential.

The project will help to ensure that people across the country and businesses access to high-quality internet and low-cost connectivity, he stated.



Our development partners including the World Bank have immensely assisted the success attained thus far by supporting us with grants and soft loans in the ICT sector and priority areas of our economy

Dr Kelly is a lead ICT policy specialist with the global lender's ICT sector department and information development, leading programmes on creating sustainable businesses with the use of ICT in Africa and elsewhere in the world.

He said the delegation was pleased with the on-going preparations aimed at making the project successful, with the deputy minister explaining that the project is intended to increase access to broadband internet services and improve the government's capacity to deliver digital public services.

He expressed the government's appreciation for the project to the visiting team, which is examining implementation readiness and paid a courtesy call at ministry head offices yesterday.

Project implementation has just started, designed to promote digital development as a key enabler of economic growth and

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Govt speeding up LNG project talks

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha



President Samia Suluhu Hassan has an audience with African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA) executive secretary Joy Phumaphi (L) at Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday. ALMA is a groundbreaking coalition of 49 African heads of state and governments working across national and regional borders to eliminate malaria by 2030. Photo: State House

FRESH hopes are being kindled for the implementation of the delayed \$30bn/- liquefied natural gas project as the Ministry of Energy clears obstacles ready for work to start on the highly anticipated venture.

The minister, January Makamba, yesterday held further talks with officials of international energy companies including Shell, Ophir, Equinor, Pavillion and ExxonMobil for the LNG scheme to take off, slated to be executed in Lindi Region.

"For the past two months we have been working behind the scenes to get there," he said, affirming that he was confident a final investment decision will be accomplished soon.

At a press conference here lately, the minister stated that the LNG project was vital to the country's economy as well as energy sector, noting the emphasis placed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan upon taking office and appointing top ministerial officials, to expedite negotiations.

She directed the ministry to fast-track delayed investments, including plans for an LNG plant on the southern coast and a pipeline connecting offshore fields under



The government had finalised compensation procedures with more than 600 residents near Lindi town allowing space for the project to go ahead

consideration since 2014.

A similar project initiated in neighbouring Mozambique under the French concern, Total was put on hold as insurgency spread in the area. Some experts feel that Tanzania can fill the vacuum with its LNG project, but it also faces threats in the same environment.

The government had finalised compensation procedures with more than 600 residents near Lindi town allowing space for the project to go ahead, the minister noted.

Companies like Royal Dutch Shell plc, Exxon Mobil Corp., Ophir Energy Ltd. and Pavilion Energy plc had earlier discussed a two-train onshore LNG plant for exporting gas to other countries, he affirmed.

A pipeline network to distribute gas to more than 10,000 homes and factories in the commercial hub of Dar es Salaam is pivotal to the project, whose overall prospects made Tanzania and Mozambique take the profile of foremost gas frontier-investment destinations in sub-Saharan Africa, with over 100 trillion cubic feet of gas resources within their coastal basins.

After natural gas exploration for around 50 years, discovery gas fields in 1974 on the Songo Songo Island of Lindi and then in 1982 at Mnazi Bay area of Mtwara Region, it started exploiting these resources in the past two decades, while the known natural gas fields appear to be widening, as of 2016 the total potential was being put at 57 trillion cubic feet, officials say.

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Germany gives 82bn/- to Victoria Basin regulator

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

GERMANY has granted 82bn/- to the East African Community to enable the regional secretariat to execute a number of development projects in the region.

The \$35m grant will among other things support activities of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission and disaster management across the EAC.

Ambassador Regine Hess, head of mission at the German embassy in Dar es Salaam, said that Germany realizes that Lake Victoria basin is an important component in the economy of East African countries, as the source of close to



We have reached a stage now that it is hard to separate the people of East Africa and those caring for their efforts in Germany

40 percent of the EAC domestic product (GDP).

Germany was also marking 60 years of cooperation with Tanzania, since the days of Tanganyika and will continue to work closely with the East African country, the envoy noted, elaborating that Germany values efforts to ensure clean, safe and quality water from the lake and boosting economic activities around it.

This explains the support Germany has been making to the basin's environmental management, which EAC Secretary General Dr Peter Mathuki said

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Faulty wiring: House catches fire, five dead

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

FIVE people in one household have died from a blaze that engulfed the house while they were asleep late on Sunday night in Igoma East area, Nyamagana District in Mwanza Region.

The region's Fire and Rescue Force commander, Ambwene Mwakibete (pictured), confirmed the incident yesterday, noting that two among the deceased were guests who visited the



family on that day and spent the night there.

He said the disaster was caused by an electrical fault, he said, noting that those who perished include the owner of the house, Lameck Benedicto, his wife, and their child, while names of the two visitors were not immediately available.

Initial investigations showed that the house's electrical system was overwhelmed and caused a fault, the rescue commander noted, explaining that heavy smoke engulfed the victims that made it difficult for them to find the way out.

Regional Police Commander Ramadhan Ng'anzi confirmed the five fatalities, saying the fire erupted well into

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Tanzania bans wildlife exports

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government has announced a ban of wildlife exports, saying exports will only be for diplomatic and research matters.

However, a three months grace period will be given to exporters of live wild animals which are in their custody before the ban comes into effect.

Deputy Minister for Tourism and Natural Resource Mary Masanja said in the National Assembly yesterday, noting wild animals exports will be those that have been dried and packaged or their products.

She was responding to a question by Special Seats legislator, Mwanaisha Ng'anzi Ulenge (CCM) who wanted to know when the government was going to lift a 2016 ban on exportation of live animals business.

The Deputy Minister highlighted that the business of exporting dried wild animals will be conducted by people who have wild animal processing projects to promote the business and wild animal keeping.

"We will issue a three-month grace period for exporters to export live wild animals which were in their custody before the ban came into effect," she said, the decision has been reached after an evaluation conducted by the government on the business which showed some illegal businesses were being conducted including transporting wildlife animals in the name of the business.

She said the government has compensated exporters with 173.2m/- as levies and fees paid before the ban was issued.

The government banned transportation of all live animals outside the country in March 2016 until proper procedures were made

to ensure only approved animals were transported.

The decision sparked anger from exporters who complained that the ban was a surprise decision to them as it was made just a month after they were given licenses for exporting the animals.

The Tanzania Wildlife Exporters Association (TWEA) has on several occasions complained of incurring losses amounting to billions which included battling lawsuits in foreign courts from their clients who decided to go the legal way after an agreement between the two sides to deliver the animals in time was not honoured.

The traders claimed that Tanzania has painted a bad image in a business full of competition that involves various countries including the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zambia and many others saying it will take time to restore the trust from customers.

The exporters said they were given a one year license to export live wild animals on the first of January 2016.

In the announcement the government cited irregularities in the way the business was conducted.

The animals are sold to zoos in the United State of America (USA), Europe and Asia.



We will issue a three-month grace period for exporters to export live wild animals which were in their custody before the ban came into effect



Home Affairs minister George Simbachawene (gesturing) speaks in Dodoma city yesterday at a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security, specifically on the performance of the National Identification Authority (NIDA). Photo courtesy of National Assembly

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industrialisation, job creation, service delivery and government efficiency, the deputy minister underlined.

The project was vital for achieving the national development vision since implementing national strategies and plans clearly requires coordination of efforts at national at international levels, he stated.

"Our development partners including the World Bank have immensely assisted the success attained thus far by supporting us with grants and soft loans in the ICT sector and priority areas of our economy," he elaborated.

The Five-Year Development Plan

Ministry praises World Bank's aid to 'Digital Tanzania' drive

stretching to 2025/2026 affirms that digital economy creates many new economic opportunities and paves the way for Tanzania to leverage digitization in growing the digital economy component as a whole, he further noted.

The plan sets an 80 per cent target of broadband internet access for the public, with universal mobile broadband coverage, and raise

estimated contribution of the communication sector towards three per cent of GDP by 2025, he stated.

ICT helps in accelerating economic transformation as it plays a leading role in the fourth industrial revolution, based on artificial intelligence appliances to ease penetration of markets, effecting payments and making products

known to the wider or global public.

The Digital Tanzania project shall help to minimize the digital gap and harness the benefits of digital transformation, in the country and globally, Dr Kundo emphasised, expressing the ministry's ardent commitment in ensuring effective implementation of the project and timely delivery of expected development outcomes.



Zanzibar First Vice President Othman Masoud Othman (L) exchanges ideas with former Zanzibar President Amani Abeid Karume (2nd-R, back to camera), Zanzibar politician Ismail Jussa Ladhu (R), former Prime Minister Judge Joseph Warioba (C) and Zanzibar businessman and politician Mohammed Raza Hassanali Dharamsi (2nd-L) shortly after the launch of the Seif Sharif Hamad Foundation in Zanzibar at the weekend. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

EABC pushes for partner states to adopt 35pc tariff as maximum CET

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Business Council (EABC) has urged the EAC partner states to adopt a 35 per cent maximum Common External Tariff (CET) rate so as to attract investments in industrial value chains and transform the bloc into an export-led, industrialized economy.

EABC statement issued yesterday show that adopting the 35 per cent maximum tariff rate is set to incentivize industrial development; protect nascent industries exposed to unfair competition and safeguard industries against cheap and subsidized imports and jobs.

"The proposed 35 per cent tariff rate provides an adequate tariff differential required to incentivize industrial development in the EAC region," the regional formal apex business body said

"The proposal of 30 per cent will create just a 5 per cent tariff differential with the 3rd tariff band of 25 per cent while the 35 per cent will create a tariff differential of 10 per cent which will safeguard products that are sufficiently produced in the region against similar cheap imports. A 10 per cent tariff differential is needed to safeguard and retain existing investments which operate the regional value chain as well as attract new investments to transform the EAC industrial sector by transforming secondary intermediates into finished products," the statement reads in part.

According to EABC analysis, the products to be assigned Maximum CET Rate (4th tariff band) by the regional task force are sufficiently available or produced in EAC. Based on the agreed criteria for classifying and categorization of goods, the products

identified and assigned in the 4th band are only those manufactured in sufficient quantities in the EAC region. It should be noted that the EAC partner states submitted 1,448 tariff lines to be assigned a rate above 25 per cent. Out of this submission, it was agreed that 571 tariff lines should be retained at their current rates.

It noted that as of 23rd October 2021, when the RTF held its last meeting only 459 tariff lines have been assigned to the 4th tariff band which represents 8.06 per cent out of the existing 5,688 EAC total tariff lines.

The remaining products which are under consideration of being assigned maximum CET rate are 325 tariff lines which the Partner States have failed to reach consensus.

"These tariff lines consist of 5.71 per cent of the EAC total tariff line. Even if all remaining tariffs are agreed to be assigned the 4th tariff band which is very unlikely, the 4th band will consist of just 784 tariff lines which are just 13.78 per cent of EAC total tariff lines. This will consist of a very small percentage of EAC tariff lines which can have negative consumer welfare. In addition, it should not be noted that products to be assigned maximum CET rate are sufficiently available/produced in the region and hence will be traded across the partner states at 0 per cent import duty.

EABC is proposing a 35 per cent tariff rate to promote the consumption of locally manufactured goods and strengthen the regional value chain. Most of the products which have been considered to be assigned a maximum CET rate (4th Band) are under the EAC priority value chains as provided for in the EAC Industrialization Policy (2012-2032). Some of the products include textiles, iron, steel and motor vehicles.

Germany gives 82bn/- to Victoria Basin regulator

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Germany has been supporting right from the beginning.

"We have reached a stage now that it is hard to separate the people of East Africa and those caring for their efforts in Germany," he said, praising the brotherly relations linking the two, underlining that in disaster management, Germany has been active in assisting EAC member states combat the Covid-19 pandemic.

The partner states have designated Lake Victoria and the basin surrounding it as an area of common economic interest and a regional economic growth zone where

several projects of joint interest are being implemented by the commission

Lake Victoria basin provides the headwaters of the White Nile, forming part of the lifeline river system for Sudan and Egypt, apart from Uganda where the river flows out.

Berthed in an area of 194,200 square kilometers, the basin is a prominent landmark in Africa, a dynamic element in regional integration among the partner states.

Victoria, also known as Lake Nyanza, is the second largest freshwater lake in the world, after Lake Superior in North America, covering 68,800 square

kilometers, featuring a perimeter of 3,460 kilometers long shoreline.

The Lake is bordered by Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda while its basin takes up much of Burundi and Rwanda as well, but essentially covering much of Uganda.

Lake Victoria is fed by a number of rivers including Mara, Kagera, Yala, Nyando, Bukora and Katonga, while the White Nile is the only river flowing out of the lake.

Kagera River drains the mountains of Burundi and Rwanda and is the furthest and most remote headstream of the Nile River, and for this reason it is also considered as the source of the Nile.

Faulty wiring: House catches fire, five dead

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the night when the occupants were asleep, naming the deceased as Lameck Benedicto (32), Leyah Lameck (26) and Yuniith Lameck (1). Two visiting male youths also perished, but didn't have their names as yet.

Lameck's house had a room and sitting room, both gutted down, with bodies of the deceased preserved at the Sekou Toure Referral Hospital.

Residents recalled that two weeks ago, a popular entertainment joint in the city, 'The Cask and Grill' was reduced to ashes after a fire outbreak that destroyed properties. The 5:00

pm fire outbreak on Sunday, October 24, sent customers rushing to safety.

A rescue unit arrived at the scene in a short while, managing to prevent the fire from spreading to nearby shops inside Rock City Mall. An evaluation team was continuing to assess the effects of the fire and the possible cause, Mwakibete noted

The Cask Bar and Grill manager Emmanuel Masangu said the fire burnt down the liquor store, furniture, food and drinks stored inside.

Assessing the damage was still being done but the commercial unit didn't save anything apart from chairs, tables and drinks that were outside the bar, he added.



Japan International Corporation Agency officials and representatives of the Works and Transport ministry hold urban railway transport talks in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. The ministry was represented by assistant director (Railways) Benjamin Mbimbi, Salum Mandali and Zaddock Marusuri, who said they were impressed by JICA's support to Tanzania's transport sector, notably Dar es Salaam's commuter train services. Story on Page 4. Photo courtesy of JICA

CCM hails Dr Mwinyi's one-year success story

By Guardian Reporter

MEMBERS of the Central Committee of CCM's National Executive Committee under its chairperson President Samia Suluhu Hassan have congratulated Zanzibar President Hussein Ali Mwinyi for marking one year since he took office.

Conveying her compliments with Central Committee of CCM's National Executive Committee before the start of the meeting at Chamwino State House in Dodoma on Sunday also hailed President Mwinyi's speech saying it reflected many accomplishments.

"Our pledge to you is that we shall continue supporting you to accomplish all the issues which the citizens want us to implement, bravo, we are fully supporting you and may God bless you with good health to enable you serve the people," President Samia said.

CCM's Central Committee members of the national executive committee led by the chairperson expressed their satisfaction of President Mwinyi's one-year accomplishment as Zanzibar President.

Meanwhile top CCM leaders,

including all regional and district secretaries attended a special dinner hosted by the national CCM chairperson, President Samia.

Earlier, when departing Zanzibar to Tanzania's capital, Dodoma, Zanzibar President Hussein Ali Mwinyi was presented with various awards by the management of Tropical Air Services for completing one year as Zanzibar President.



Our pledge to you is that we shall continue supporting you to accomplish all the issues which the citizens want us to implement, bravo, we are fully supporting you and may God bless you with good health to enable you serve the people

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

Govt sets aside 54.0bn/- for internship and youth apprenticeship programmes

THE government has set aside 54.0bn/- for internship and apprenticeship programmes which will see 150,000 youth graduates receive job training in various sectors including agriculture.

State Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability) minister Jenista Mhagama made the remarks in House yesterday when responding to a question by Special Seats legislator Dr Thea Ntara.

In her question wanted to know what the government was doing to increase interest in agriculture courses among the youth.

The minister said the government was running various youth programmes through the graduate internship programmes where 12,580 youth from 17 regions including agriculture graduates have been empowered with training on modern farming techniques.

Apart from that, the minister said the government has been sending youth graduates abroad for internship in collaboration with the Sokoine University Alumni and 703 youth

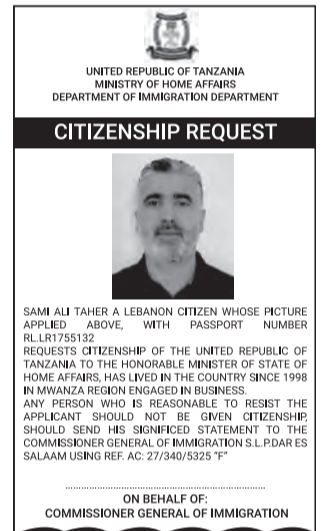
had gone to the United State of America and Israel for the same. "Out of the number 311 had returned home and employed themselves in various sectors of our country," she said.

The minister said through TADB and loans from local government authorities youth have been given 170m/- for starting businesses in agriculture.

Minister Mhagama said through incubation centres in regions of Morogoro and Coast

whereby 1,000 youth graduates have been trained on agri-entrepreneurship.

The minister added that through block farming, 39 graduates have been given the opportunity to start businesses agriculture while 30 of them have been given an opportunity to participate in cultivation at a 1,500 hectare in Mvomero, Morogoro region and nine graduates have been sent to cultivate at tea plantation farm in Songwe. Ends



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Speaker directs committee to investigate exam leakage

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

NATIONAL Assembly Speaker Job Ndogai has directed the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Social Welfare and Community Development to sit down and find a solution to the recently leaked medical examinations for middle-level colleges.

The Speaker made the directives yesterday after the end of the question and answer session directing that two sides should do so before Friday.

"The two sides should sit and find a solution before Friday and come up with the way forward on this matter," said Ndogai.

The Speaker said the leakage of the examination was dangerous as the profession deals with the lives of people.

Recently the National Council for Technical Education (NACTE) has annulled results for theoretical examinations in respect to all subjects in the Medical Level 5 Programme and directed the examination's re-sitting in six weeks'

time beginning November 1 this year.

Also, the Ministry of Health has instructed heads of all medical colleges to convey the message to enable students prepare themselves for the exams.

In his remarks when commenting on the matter, the government chief medical officer, Dr Aifello Sichelwe said the government was going to investigate the matter.

He said the step has been reached after an inquiry panel formed to probe into the issue submitted its report that proved the existence of fraud at some colleges that were investigated through students' mobile phones.

He further said during its inquiries, the panel found that examination papers have been distributed via social networks and seen in some mobile phones belonging to students.

He also said when interrogated, the students confessed to have received the examinations through social networks started by the students for the purpose of informing each other for discussion.



Contractors Registration Board registrar Rhoben Nkori closes a three-day business skills training for southern zone Tanzanian contractors in Iringa municipality at the weekend. He is with southern zone manager Ally Mwita (L), assistant registrar David Jere (R) and training coordinator Neema Fuime. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Waitara instructs TANROADS to install street lights in Katesh

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

WORKS and Transport Deputy Minister Mwita Waitara has instructed the Manyara Region's TANROADS manager to install street lights in Katesh Town to simplify night services delivery and curb muggers.

Waitara gave the instructions here yesterday when addressing Hanang District residents following the request for the street lights raised by the Hanang District Commissioner, Janeth Mayanja.

"With lights during night time even a with will never roam about," Waitara said.

He said with lights installed it will be convenient for the people do

business even during the night.

The Deputy Minister told Hanang District leaders and residents that he will do all he can, in collaboration with the Ministry's Permanent Secretary to make sure the 70kms Katesh-Hydom road is built at tarmac level and the 400km Hydom-Karatu-Simiyu-Shinyanga road is also built at tarmac level to ease transport in the area.

Earlier, welcoming the Deputy Minister, Hanang District Commissioner Janeth Mayanja said the main complaint was darkness in Katesh Town during the night due to lack of street lights.

She said another complaint is the issue of road infrastructures in rural areas that are virtually impassable.

For his part, responding to complaints raised, the Manyara Region TANROADS Manager, Eng. Bashiri Rwesingisa said the street lights were currently in the procurement stage.

He said they will install more than 16 street lights in Katesh Town to lighten up the town.

Special Seats Member of Parliament Asia Halanga also used the occasion to request for street lights for Endasaki and Nangwa towns while calling on TANROADS to employ youth from the area in the big projects they were implementing.

Meanwhile, Deputy Minister Waitara instructed the Region's TANROADS Manager to address the ministry for a special request for funds for construction a hazardous area on Mt Magara that has a winding road.

JICA and govt set to improve commuter railway transport

By Guardian Reporter

THE Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Works and Transport, has embarked on a special study aimed at collecting data for the improvement of urban transport by utilizing conventional railways in Dar es Salaam.

The survey is set to begin soon as JICA, Ministry of Works and Transport and Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) organized a kick-off meeting on November 4, to discuss the implementation plan.

A statement from JICA availed to the media yesterday identified that the meeting which brought together officials from JICA Tanzania Office, the Ministry of Works and Transport, TRC and Consultants from Japan and Tanzania proposed

an improvement plan on tracking, signaling, rolling stock, stations, station plaza and transportation planning to the existing commuter train lines.

The four-month study that ends in February 2022, will examine the existing commuter railways in Dar es Salaam (Pugu line and Ubungo line) and propose measures to improve them.

The formulated study team will also discuss with Tanzanian government officials to revise the Dar es Salaam Urban Transport Master Plan supported by JICA in 2018. The Master Plan projects Dar es Salaam to hit more than 10 million of population as early as 2030, suggesting that road transport alone will not be able to provide safe and reliable mode of transportation due to worse

congestion and lengthy travel time within the city.

The meeting recommended improvements to the existing railways system for the well-planned and balanced transport development. Further discussion meetings will be held, whenever necessary, until the completion of the survey in 2022.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been supporting the transport sector for over 40 years.

The four-month study that ends in February 2022, will examine the existing commuter railways in Dar es Salaam (Pugu line and Ubungo line) and propose measures to improve them

TEC now launches 13-year tree planting programme

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

TANZANIA Episcopal Conference (TEC) has launched a 13-year tree planting programme in various areas countrywide to make Tanzania green.

The launch took place yesterday in Mwanza City at a meeting that brought together all the country's Roman Catholic Bishops.

TEC Secretary, Rev Charles Kitima said the programme will also involve the government and the community in all stages starting from family level, homesteads and villages.

Rev Kitima said planet Earth was created by God and given to human beings to take care of it and that the strategy aims at preserving the environment by planting trees.

He said Tanzania's population is about 60 million and that if every person plants three trees, it will greatly assist in environmental protection.

He added that every Parish in the country will allocate an area for planting trees and their congregation will be mobilised to do so.

Rev Kitima added that they will send experts to coach the people needing to plant trees in their areas to do so correctly.

Meanwhile, Rev Kitima said next year Tanzania will be host to a conference of 120 bishops from eight African countries.

He added that the conference will discuss issues on environment in order to mobilise the community,

irrespective of their religious affiliations to engage themselves in environmental preservation.

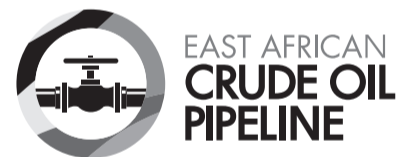
He said the Bishops will come from South Sudan, Ethiopia, Zambia, Malawi, Uganda, Kenya, Eritrea and host Tanzania, and added that the conference will be held in July for 10 days.

Earlier, TEC President Gervas Nayisonga, speaking at Kawekamo Roman catholic grounds in Mwanza, said the aim of the next year's conference is to remind the society on the importance of environmental preservation.

He appealed to all Catholic Church followers in the country to work together to protect the environment to make Tanzania a safe place to live today and in the coming generations.



Members of the National Service head for their farm at the Mgambo camp in Tanga Region at the weekend to plant sisal seedlings. Photo: Correspondent Renatha Msungu



EAST AFRICAN
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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE PROVISION OF SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF OFFICE FURNISHINGS REFERENCE: 0010007217

TOTAL East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, requires the services of an experienced and reputable contractor(s) to provide and install office furnishing for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 kilometers (km), of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK:

EACOP requires the services of experienced and reputable companies or organizations to provide and install office furnishings for up to 300 personnel that includes a mix of:

- Desks, working tables; adjustable height work stations
- Meeting room tables and chairs (standard and boardroom level)
- Adjustable, ergonomic office chairs
- Credenzas, filing cabinets, etc
- Storage cabinets

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to submit documentation of their:
 - Experience, performance, and capacity in supply and installation of office furnishings outlined above at a large scale in Tanzania, in compliance with national and international standards (including International Finance Corporation Standards (IFC), with at least 5 years' experience / performance of similar services within Tanzania or internationally.
 - Key suitably qualified and experienced personnel experienced in installing office furnishings for corporate offices.
 - Application for registration with the EVVURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended
 - Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
 - Evidence of organization QHSE policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
 - Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
 - Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to ecop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com (not exceeding 20Mbs) on or before **17:00 hours** East African Time (EAT), on **19th, November, 2021**. Email subject should be **0010007217**.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.



Ummu Mwalimu (L), Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (C), and Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi pictured in Dodoma city yesterday displaying documents on agreements relating to the implementation of a land planning, surveying and ownership programme under which the government has extended a total of 50bn/- to 55 councils in loans. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR) yesterday began its 63rd Ordinary Session in Dar es Salaam bringing together judges and other experts to examine a number of applications during the four-week period that will close on December 3, 2021.

Speaking during the opening of the session, president of the court, Justice Imani Aboud said the Court will deliver judgments of the submitted 15 applications on December 2.

She said that the session will be chaired by a panel of 11 judges from various Member States, who will, among other things, issue ruling of the cases. The 11 judges are from Tanzania, Congo Brazzaville, Kenya, Tunisia, Cameroon, Nigeria, Algeria, Malawi, Mali, South Africa and Rwanda.

Justice Iman said that 70 percent of the cases are from Tanzania. She commended the judges of the Court for their contribution in handling cases and making decisions.

Justice Iman assured all Judges and staff of the registry that the Court is and

AfCHPR begins 63rd ordinary session in Dar

will remain alive and that it has already made the right decision to undergo the path of self-reform.

"Self-reform indeed has the advantage of the much desired foresight and control over the process as opposed to alter or external reform. Furthermore, a tendency to self-assessment holds greater chances of success as it tends to yield greater trust and keenness from the other stakeholders," she said.

She also appreciated Judges of the Court for an additional reason, which is their constant support in the process spearheaded by the Bureau to open up a new era of judicial diplomacy aimed at Member States and organs of the African Union.

"The reason why judges should be congratulated is their sense of responsibility and courage, which are two main features required for individuals and institutions to undertake self-assessment. Self-assessment and self-reform always come with an

apprehension of uncertainty of the unknown, that is the unknown unfolding of the process but also the unknown outcome thereof."

She noted: "The most recent illustration of this has just been given last week when the Court received a breath of fresh air through the two very timely adherences of the Republic of Niger, and the Republic of Guinea Bissau. I am fully aware of the challenges inherent in the fresh start with Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Tanzania. The most difficult part of any new departure is the first step; and we have succeeded in reconnecting with Benin, which can encourage other withdrawing states to join the reform talks. Moreover, the Niger and Guinea Bissau recognitions will serve the critical purpose of a sharp break from the row of withdrawals and reinstate our previous advocacy for more states to join the Court."

By Guardian Reporter

African Judicial Dialogue deliberates on efficiency and effectiveness of judiciary

THE two-day African Union 5th African Judicial Dialogue, under the theme Building Trust in African Judiciaries conducted in Dar es Salaam, bringing together over 100 top judicial officials from across the continent to discuss questions of efficiency and effectiveness of the judiciary.

Held from November 4, the dialogue was attended by Chief Justices, Constitutional Court Presidents and Judges in attendance.

Officiating the dialogue, Vice President Dr Phillip Mpango called on African Union (AU) Member States to work together to build

the confidence of their citizens in regional courts.

"The choice of the theme for this Dialogue is in itself an admission of the limited trust and confidence that our people have in the African judicial system. Therefore, in order to earn their trust, you have to work hard to find a cure for the strongest factors and concerns that diminish trust in the Africa judiciary", he said.

He cited some of the unpleasant and shocking experiences with the

courts with cases left pending for years, unbearable cost of litigation, court summons and judgments written in foreign languages, cumbersome court procedures and discrimination against women, children and the poor.

"Some people lose cases due to lack of legal know-how. Victims of such malpractices will have little trust in the judiciary", said Dr. Mpango.

Dr Mpango said the independence and impartiality of the judiciary

are paramount and challenged participants of the Judicial Dialogue to draw from their own experiences in the judiciary and deliberate on obstacles to building public trust without jeopardizing the processes of delivering justice.

He further said specific focus should be on tackling bottlenecks such as corruption which fosters criminality, harnessing the use of ICT in judicial service delivery to increase transparency and that the Court sets realistic standards in

considering these obstacles as some of the ways to retain the confidence of the African people and also come up with solid and actionable recommendations.

He thanked the African Union for the decision to have the seat of the Court in Tanzania and pledged continued cooperation of the Tanzania government.

In her welcome remarks, the President of the African Court, Justice Imani Aboud thanked the government of Tanzania for the

continued support afforded to the Court as its host.

She observed that the discussion on judicial independence is important because it is so intimately connected to social behaviour that it cannot possibly be assessed and debated away from non-legal parameters such as sociology, psychology, idiosyncrasy and even religion.

"While these parameters belong more to the personal and individual sphere, one should not lose sight of the fact, even acting under the guise of the institutional body of a bench, courts of law are only the result of merged individual and personal agents influenced by the same parameters, she underlined.



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROVISION OF HEALTH INSURANCE SERVICES

Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation—Tanzania (simply Baylor-Tanzania) is a National NGO funded by the USAID. Baylor Tanzania works in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children (MOHCDGEC) to improve provision of services for HIV and other diseases affecting children in the Lake and Southern Highland zones of Tanzania. Baylor-Tanzania is affiliated with the Baylor College of Medicine International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (BIPAI) network, a program operating out of Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, Texas, USA. Baylor-Tanzania has two Centre's of Excellence (Mwanza and Mbeya) which provides pediatric HIV and other diseases prevention, care, and treatment program with the goal of reducing HIV/AIDS-related morbidity and mortality among infants, children, and adolescents in Tanzania.

Baylor-Tanzania works closely with partner organizations and healthcare providers to ensure delivery of high-quality services, empowerment of health care workers, and health system strengthening at supported facilities throughout our regions and zones.


Baylor Tanzania is pleased to invite eligible Health Insurance firms to take part in the competitive Tender process for provision of Health Insurance Services to her staffs and families for initial period of one year commencing on 01/04/2022.

Interested and eligible Health Insurance Firms are invited to submit their application in accordance to the conditions detailed in the Request for Proposals found on <http://jobs.baylortanzania.or.tz/hi.pdf>

Applications should be electronically to procurement@baylortanzania.or.tz

Deadline for submission of the proposals is **Friday 10th December 2021**

216559701



**PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

PUBLIC NOTES

The Government of Tanzania, through the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) and the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication (MoWTC) is in preparation phase of the Msimbazi Basin Development Project with credit financing of International Development Association (IDA) credit (i.e., the World Bank). The project will be implemented by Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) in collaboration with Dar es Salaam City Council, Kinondoni Municipal Council, Ubungo Municipal Council and Kisarawe District Council and Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) on behalf of the respective ministries mentioned above.

The project intends to undertake the following.

- Flood Protection and Prevention:** Drainage and flood water containment works to enhance river discharge capacity and eliminate spillover into surrounding neighborhoods (to be implemented by PO-RALG) will include strengthening riverbanks at critical locations upstream for erosion control; sand traps at strategic locations upstream; creation of land terraces in the lower Msimbazi flood plain; flood protection and multiple use terraces infrastructure, sites and services for use as wetland park, multi-use recreational area and commercial and housing redevelopment; downstream and upstream river maintenance depots; resettlement of flood affected communities; dredging and widening of the river channel.
- Resilient Transport Infrastructure:** Upgrading of transport infrastructure to accommodate increasing intensity of rainfall events and increased storm water runoff resulting from rapid urban development in wider catchment. This includes raising and widening of Jangwani Bridge (to be implemented by TANROADS) and Upgrading/Rehabilitation of roads and bridges to improve mobility while reducing erosion and flooding risk (through greening and other erosion reduction measures) linking with Msimbazi Valley (to be implemented by PO-RALG-TARURA & Dar es Salaam City Council, Kinondoni Municipal Council, Ubungo Municipal Council and Kisarawe District Council).
- Erosion/Sedimentation/Litter Control and Urban Greening:** These measures are intended to protect against clogging of river channel due to erosion/sedimentation and solid waste dumping – and will be delivered in part through a public works campaign that provides training and employment for women and youth (to be implemented by PO-RALG). Activities include reforestation of upstream forest reserves; urban greening along riverbanks and tributaries via public works campaign; revitalization of mangrove area; reinforcement of riverbanks in middle and upper basin (main channel and tributaries); solid waste management collection and litter control program; and routine sediment removal and management.
- Urban Planning, Services and Management:** Interventions to implement and sustain the land uses identified in Msimbazi Opportunity Plan as appropriate for each respective terrace level in lower Msimbazi Basin and strengthening of city-wide emergency response. This includes participatory land use planning for Msimbazi Special Planning Area within upper and middle basin; and strengthening its development controls as well as management of public urban park in Lower Basin.

This is to notify the public and all stakeholders of Msimbazi River Basin that a team of experts from the implementing agencies, in collaboration with consultants for carrying out feasibility study, preliminary design and detailed engineering design, will be consulting stakeholders using various methods that include meetings, interviews and questionnaires. Dates and venue for consultation will be communicated accordingly. It should be noted that all COVID-19 protocols will be observed.

PERMANENT SECRETARY

**PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**For views, concerns and further information please contact:
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CISTI project facilitates review and approval of six training modules on agriculture production

By Getrude Mbago

THE execution of the Curriculum Implementation Support for Training Institutes (CISTI) project has facilitated review and approval of six new training modules for agriculture production on certificate and diploma levels.

The move facilitates production of more competent graduates who will help bring solutions to various agriculture challenges, but also promote organic farming.

The new improved courses include crop production, horticulture, irrigation engineering, land use management, food technology and human nutrition as well as agro-mechanization.

The project is implemented by the Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, CISTI project is aimed to support public and private training institutions to produce graduates with enough knowledge, skills and expertise in climate change, environmental management and organic farming.

Kashindye Salum, assistant project manager from SAT said the three-year project benefits students and tutors from 29 agricultural Training institutes in the country.

Addressing journalists recently in Morogoro, Kashindye said the project intends to ensure that every year, more than 3,000 Tanzanian students acquire the necessary skills so as to spur organic and sustainable farming in the country.

He said the project is carried out from 2020 to 2022 and it is funded by the Liechtenstein Development Services (LED) and coordinated by the government.

According to him, the project also involves training tutors and garden-attendants on organic gardens' management using natural botanical extracts so as to enable them to impart the knowledge to their students easily.

"SAT is working closely with the ministry of agriculture, especially the Division of Training, Extension Services and Research (DTER). The division supervises, oversees, advises, and controls the quality of curriculum implementation in the Ministry of Agriculture Training Institutes (MATIs)," he said.

He highlighted that with the changes, organic farming will become one of the new modules taught to all students of agriculture at 29 agricultural training institutes in Tanzania. These institutes will put into practice revised curriculum, which signposts a remarkable step towards more sustainability and equality in the vital economic sector. Students will profit from six completely new modules that comprise ecological and socio-economical

aspects.

"The project has supported construction of 16 demonstration gardens with screen houses, open field gardens with drip irrigation systems and backyard gardens for practical lessons in nine Agricultural Training Institutes (ATIs). 5,178 students participated in practical activities as well as 2,090 farmers have been reached with education on organic farming through Farmers' Open Days," he said.

Kashindye further said that the project has also reached 1,867 people with organic farming education through public lectures as well as printing 3,000 copies of five Training Manuals and distributed to 29 ATIs.

The project has also supported 77 farm/garden managers to get hands-on organic gardens management training at SAT Farmer's Training Centre in Vianzi, Mvomero District.

He said a total of 222 tutors got capacity building on Competence Based Education and Training (CBET) and got official certification as tutors.

According to him, the long-term impact goal of the CISTI project is to have competent technical personnel who work effectively to meet the demand of Tanzania's agriculture sector, increase climate resilience and strengthen livelihoods of small holder farmers, thus alleviating poverty and food insecurity for sustainable development.

"At outcome level, the project purpose is to support public and private training institutions to produce graduates who are in line with the need of the country through successfully integrating and implementing organic agriculture, gender, environmental management, cooperatives and communication skills through the new training curriculum for agriculture on certificate and diploma levels," he said.

The review of the curriculum is taken as a high-end process that would bring remarkable changes in the agricultural sector in terms of the education provided to the devotees of agriculture and the practical skills instilled in them and having these skills earned cater for the demands in the agricultural field, cooperatives and gender related issues, while securing income and alleviating food insecurity.



SAT is working closely with the ministry of agriculture, especially the Division of Training, Extension Services and Research (DTER).

Digitise journals and study results, books to easy access, MoCU DVC calls upon researchers, librarians

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

MOSHI Cooperative University (MoCU) Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) Prof John Safari has challenged researchers and librarians to digitize their journals, research findings and books to expand and simplify access to the documents.

Opening of the 3rd Consortium of Tanzania University and Research Libraries (COTUL) scientific conference and workshop 2021 yesterday, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) at Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU) Prof John Safari said there are many research findings, journals, books and papers that are in hardcopy form, hence the need to change them into e-resources.

He said with technological changes, libraries are overwhelmingly looking forward to adopting new technologies, mostly the use of e-resources due to its potential for cost savings in operations, management and collections.

"E-resources are digital objects containing electronic representation of books, journals and other forms of reading materials converted into a digitalized form to be read through a computer. Many Library resources are now available electronically and can be accessed via the web. You can get the information you want, when you need it, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week," he explained.

"My challenge to all of us is to create awareness on the importance of using e-resources for sustainable availability of our learning materials worldwide through digitization," Prof Safari added.

Prof Safari said the development of computer and network technology is changing the education pattern and transforming

the teaching and learning process from the traditional physical environment to the digital environment.

He added that the libraries should have a good number of resources for teaching, learning and research work. E-Resources offer creative possibilities for expanding access as well as changing learning, teaching and research work.

"Contents of e-resources can be accessible, at any place regardless of time, to be read on personal computers. E-books would never go out of print, and new editions can be easily created," he enlightened.

Chairman of the COTUL, Prof Frankwell Dule said the workshop has attracted librarians, researchers, and academicians from various higher learning institutions from both public and private universities in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar as well as Kenya.

The conference theme was 'Research and Scholarship in the wave of Digital Transformation: The Changing role of Libraries and Information Professionals'.

Dule said the aim of the conference was to create awareness and improve knowledge management challenges for library and information professionals among librarians, researchers, and academicians from higher learning institutions.

COTUL is a formal association of academic and research institutions for the purpose of engaging in joint information provision activities particularly; Acquisition of electronic information sources, research, training, consultancy and others deemed critical in the attainment of academic excellence in learning, teaching and research in academic institutions.



Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister Dr Dorothy Gwajima pictured at a meeting in Dodoma city yesterday presenting a chronological progress report on the ministry since Tanganyika's Independence on December 9, 1961. It's all part of routine by government ministries during the countdown to the upcoming commemoration of Independence Day. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

TIRA, BoT commend Exim Bank for new bancassurance services

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) and the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) have commended Exim Bank Tanzania Limited for its new bancassurance product that will contribute to further penetration of insurance services.

Dubbed as "Bima Tu, Malipo Tuachie," - the product targets at encouraging the bank's customers and the public to draw for different insurance covers offered by the bank in collaboration with its partners.

Speaking at the weekend in Dar es Salaam during the launch of the product, TIRA licensing and marketing manager Hillard Maskini said in implementing the new service, Exim Bank has partnered with 10 major insurance companies in the country to provide its customers with the best Insurance services including, Health Insurance, Travel Insurance and Life Insurance.

"This ongoing partnership is the best step forward in the history of providing insurance services in the country. That is why we as stakeholders and senior managers of the Insurance industry are highly commended by financial institutions including Exim Bank for their continued support as through such partnerships will help increase access to insurance services," said Maskini.

He said the current intention of the

government is to expand the scope of the penetration to provide insurance services to the Tanzanian community which currently has only 28.6 percent access to the service.

Financial Institutions Manager at BoT Nassor Omary said the partnership would, among other things, increase the scope of access to customers and the general public and thus boosts the insurance industry while improving banking services in the country.

"The increase in the use of Insurance services in the country through financial institutions, as well as other direct benefits to the citizens themselves is also a benefit to stakeholders such as banks, insurance agencies and the government," said Omary.

Speaking earlier at the event, Exim Bank Chief Executive Officer Jafari Matundu said that in making the service a success, the bank has already prepared or some of its specific staff for providing services in collaboration with 10 insurance companies that partner with the bank to operate.

"Not only have our staff been given special training to make this program a success but they have also been approved by the relevant authorities to be mature in assisting our clients especially in providing education on the insurance services they need ... so we are well prepared," said Matundu.

Elaborating on the service, the bank's

Acting Head of Insurance Services, Melichizedec Muro said through the service Exim bank will provide loans that will enable payments for insurance services of various kinds via 10 insurance firms that work together with Exim bank and borrowers will continue to slowly repay the loans while benefitting by the insurance services provided.

"That is the reason we decided to come up with "Bima Tu Malipo Tuachie" Muro said while mentioning the firms that work together with Exim bank as including Jubilee Insurance, FIST Assurance, Heritage Insurance, GA Insurance, Alliance Life Assurance and Britam Insurance.

Others are UAP Insurance, ICEA Lion General Insurance, Strategies Insurance, and Alliance Insurance Corporation.

Muro further said that in providing the service, Exim bank has mobilised itself to make sure it provides adequate education to the people on insurance services in order to remove challenges due to lack of education on the subject by their customers.

The event was also attended by various stakeholders including representatives from Insurance firms that participate in making the service a success, including the chairman of the Association of Tanzania Insurers (ATI), Khamis Selemani, customers and other Exim bank workers.



Grape farmers in Dodoma Region seek clarification from Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute extension officers at the TARI pavilion during the Dodoma Wine Festival held in Dodoma city at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Agricom Africa, CRDB Bank dish out 2.6bn/- power tiller loans to farmers in Mbarali

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

FARM equipment distributors Agricom Africa Company, in collaboration with CRDB Bank have provided loans for 241 power tillers to farmers in Mbarali District, Mbeya Region to enable the increase crops production.

Speaking at the event to hand out the 2.6bn/- loan, Agricom Africa Managing Director, Alex Duffar said the loan is the part of continuing efforts to assist the farmers get modern farming equipment.

He said last year they also provided loans for 161 power tillers, but due to high the tillers' high demand by farmers, they decided to increase the number of the tractors to 241.

"Apart from providing the loans for the equipment, we shall also provide special training for the farmers on how to use them to enable them last long," Duffar said.

He said as for now, they have discovered that farmers in the District have high demand of modern equipment for irrigation hence they have decided to bring in such equipment next year and loaned to them.

He further said the company has plans to establish the warehouse receipt system to assist farmers to sell their crops at good process that will conform with production cost.

For his part, CRDB Bank representative Cornelius Msigwa said the Bank has been dishing out many loans to the farming sector especially in Mbeya Region for developing both cash and food crops.

He said during the last season, CRDB Bank dished out 150bn/- loans to farmers in Mbarali District alone.

He said they have also been providing loans to the tobacco farmers in Chunya District, as well as to avocado and tea farmers in

Rungwe District totaling 30bn/-.

Receiving and handing out the loans to the farmers, Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera thanked the managements of Agricom and the CRDB Bank for the loans saying they will assist in improving farming.

He said the loans will assist farmers in abandoning crude farming equipment that undermined rice production.

He also assured rice farmers that the rice market was now reliable as the crop has obtained market thereof in Kenya following recent talks between Tanzania President Samia Suluhu Hassan and her Kenyan counterpart Uhuru Kenyatta.

"At the moment more than 15 huge each day trucks transport rice from Mbeya to Nairobi, Kenya, hence I advise you to increase rice production to tap that lucrative market," said RC Homera.

KAGERA COOPERATIVE UNION (1990) LTD



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR DEVELOPING FIVE YEARS STRATEGIC PLAN

Bid No. KCU/21/C/005

Date: 09.11.2021

INTRODUCTION

This request for expression of interest (Eol) for developing a five years Strategic Plan follows the need to have consulting firms that will undertake developing the KCU (1990) Ltd Strategic Plan.

KCU (1990) Limited has set aside funds for above mentioned services. The fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the contract for which this expression of interest is issued.

OBJECTIVES.

Objective of the consulting assignment is to Develop Five Years Strategic Plan

SCOPE OF THE REQUIRED SERVICES.

KCU (1990) LTD now invites eligible qualified consultants to express their interest in participating and submitting the expression of interest to provide the following consulting services:-

1. Analyse the Union's existing assets vs revenue generation
2. Conduct survey to determine the current and future needs of the shareholders
3. Establish strategic pillars
4. Develop a five years strategic plan
5. Follow up the implementation of the plan.

Eligible Interested Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to participate in providing the services above (brochure, Registration documents and licenses, description of similar assignments, description of experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills amongst staff) by providing Eol, Technical and Financial proposal.

SELECTION

A successful consultant will be selected in accordance with eligibility criteria described in paragraph above.

Eligible Interested Consultants may obtain further information at the address below from **09:00 to 16:00 hours local time (Monday to Friday) exclusive of public holidays: KCU (1990) LTD, Head Office P.O. Box 5, Bukoba, Tanzania. Tel: 028 222 0229.**

Expression of Interest (One (1) and Four (4) copies) with accompanying materials should be submitted to the address below before or at **13:00 hours local time on 30th November, 2021. KCU (1990) LTD, P. O. Box 5, Bukoba, Tanzania. Tel: 028 222 0229**

Eol, Technical and financial proposal proposals are required to be submitted by the eligible interested consultants, the consultants are supposed to submit one original copy of the Eol, Technical and financial proposal in one sealed envelope, and Four copies of the same in another sealed envelope. Each envelope should be written its name on top of the envelope and addressed to the said address given. KCU (1990) LTD will prepare a shortlist of consultants who had submitted the Eol and proposals and then after make evaluation. The won consultants based on merits will be called to execute the assignment.

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF OPENING

The documents for the Expression of Interest, technical and financial proposal to be submitted to the above address will be opened publicly at **KCU (1990) LTD's HQ immediately after 13:00 hours local time on 30th November, 2021.** Late submission of the documents, portion of documents, electronic documents and documents not received, documents not opened at the opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances

GENERAL MANAGER KCU (1990) LTD.



Fish mongers attend to customers at Majani Mapana market in Muheza District, Tanga Region, yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

DC Kheri praises best Std 7 student

UBUNGO district commissioner, Kheri James has commended the best student in Standard Seven national examination results, Eluleki Haule from St. Anne Marie Academy.

DC James made the remarks during the function organized by the school to congratulate the young boy.

"I commend you for this marvelous performance others should follow this steps. Study hard to ensure that your dreams come true," DC Kheri said, urging parents and guardians to mold take care of their children in a way that they would adhere to ethics and concentrate in academic matters so that they can be beneficial to the future of their nation.

"I take this opportunity to congratulate you for being Tanzania one. You have raised the image of St Anne Marie all over the country.

This is your start and we hope you will continue doing better and better in your secondary education," said Kheri

School director, Dr. Jasson Rweikiza told the school graduate not to relax with the marvelous school performance in standard seven results but pull up their six to ensure they do better and better in their secondary education.

He said Haule lead over one million students all over the country and he promised to take him in parliament with his parents.

Dr. Rweikiza promised to pay his school fees from form one up to form six and put his photo in 51 St

Anne Marie Academy.

" This Achievement did not come accidentally it is because there are teachers who don't sleep I commend teachers and all staff who made this possible because they did a lot to ensure we get good results in standard seven," he said.

Dr Rweikiza who is also the Bukoba Rural MP, said apart from paying his school fees for six years the school will offer him 3,000,000/-

He also commended the school head Gladius Ndyetabura for his good management which make the school shine day to day in all national examinations from primary to secondary school.

NGO to hold twin festivals in Dar

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

EDEN Twins Foundation, a non-governmental organisation expects to hold twin festivals as a way to mobilise the society understand and identify challenges facing families with twins.

The remarks were made by the Foundation's chairperson, Diana Joy Mbena during her visit to this paper's offices in Mikocheni, Dar es salaam, saying the festival will be held Thursday this week in Dar es Salaam.

"Eden Twins Foundation is a new organisation serving twin children, because many children come from poor families and face many challenges," she said.

She said during the festival, the Foundation is set to show the society how some families with twins face difficulties in serving them, so that at the end of the day, the foundation may come to their assistance.

"Almost many families with twins are poor, and that is why I decided to establish the organisation whose aim is to make these families

recolonize its existence so as to assist them." She added.

Diana explained that some families with twins have no ability to cater for the twins in regard to food, medical treatment or even education and that Eden Twins Foundation would like to make these obstacles known.

"My call to Tanzanians is for them to come up in big numbers on November 11 at TTCL grounds, Kijitonyama, Dar es Salaam for the Twins Festival and put up strategies on how to assist them," she said.

TUESDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2021

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Cut down conditions for using Liganga, Mchuchuma resources

USING the coal and iron deposits in the once fabled Liganga-Mchuchuma field is taking on a new urgency, with Njombe Urban MP Deo Mwanyika, a veteran of the mining industry, raising the matter in the legislature lately. He urged the government to finish interminable talks with prospective investors so that the resources start being out to use in earnest, which is precisely what President Samia Suluhu Hassan directed top level appointees upon taking office. Yet bureaucracy appears to be stuck as usual.

There was a time that higher state authorities had to intervene in a dispute on using the resources, between notable southern circuit investor Aliko Dangote and the state electricity firm, TANESCO. The key issue was that holding corporations which oversee these sectors, like the National Development Corporation and the State Mining Corporation, apart from TANESCO or other, have a set frame of reference as to costing and terms of use, which investors don't consider to be inviting. The result is that investors seek other options while perennially the holding organizations expect to contract a resource user on their terms.

For once, there is a contention of priorities - apart from prices - on how potential power generation from the Liganga site should be directed, by individual users for their own power stations for factories, or in a larger programme for connection with the national grid. Obviously if it is TANESCO that is investing in the programme it would privilege

the latter, but it has so much on its hands at the moment it isn't easy to see it generating 600MW all of a sudden from the site. And it always had more urgent things to do in the past, for instance contracting heavy fuel power generators for emergency use as Liganga talks stalled.

The total power generation potential for Liganga coalfields stands at around 600MW, and then one takes note of the fact that a series of 100MW contracting using heavy fuel and lengthy capacity use contracts were constructed during the quarter century up to this moment.

It is easy to see the massive opportunity loss as the site represents six such contracts put together, and there is no need even to remind ourselves what the projects were. But the same habits are still there, and the fields may remain unused for years.

One helpful way out is to change the terms of using the resources, from holding corporations to land allocation and local levies for use of resources, investment incentives and the rest is determined by the market. Parastatal strategic projects (like producing 600MW of power for the national grid, instead of say 50MW for own industrial use) must be put aside, so that investors chip in to use the resources. Similarly the iron has substantial local and global market outlets but only when structural incentives apply, hence our holding entities be removed for minimal taxes to apply in working the fields. Without incentives, the resources lie idle as investors balk at the conditions.

Empowerment attitudes abet faulty loan exposure

CENTRAL Bank Governor Prof Florens Luoga has unveiled a regulatory control move to train the light on lending decisions by commercial bank executives - which presumably focuses on entities where the state has substantial share holding - unwittingly exposing the banks to excessive exposure to unpayable loans. The governor raised suspicions that bribes are at times involved in the issuing of unpayable loans, as they can be seen from the start that they aren't likely to yield the results required, in which case the lending entity willingly risks money for a project or borrowing need that is clearly unprofitable. It is possible that wrongdoing is also involved, but a glance at our financial sector history shows otherwise.

For once, the government can be said to have a properly designed bank for unpayable loans, categorized as an investment bank, and the terms for which a new agricultural development bank has been formed are quite similar to the mode of operation of the decades-long industrial investment bank. In most cases the loans involved related to state-linked entities that touch interests of breadth of the population, thus the wish to believe that the borrowers will succeed and return the money was privileged, at the expense of fabled 'due diligence.' In that case state-linked entities have benefited most from this sort of exposure.

At the same time, willful derogation of lending criteria to suit this or that consideration usually at the sectoral level but in a politically

tinged manner opens the 'floodgates' for applying the same flawed criteria or consideration for private sector borrowers. As in this case no such public sentiments are involved, the matter (for managements or board members) comes down to the level of faulty exposure increment, and chances are that it will scarcely come to ten percent of such faulty loans. It is the same scenario in the foreign debt, that anything up to 90 per cent is public sector debt, and not quite profitable.

Without insisting on this hypothesis, it is altogether possible that the central bank notices that 11.5 per cent of faulty loans say in the Tanzania Investment Bank or in due course the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank as private sector based, and acts. This could also apply to the more established state-linked commercial banks despite their positive balances, as they may also have 'actable anomalies.' Such a move would have credible foundations from a due diligence point of view but scarcely at the macro-economic level, acting on 11.5 per cent faulty loans and saying nothing on 88.5 per cent faulty loans.

This kind of ethical campaign on private borrowers while state-based borrowers bask in the sun with faulty loans isn't helpful in the project for enhancing operational equality of the private sector with the state-linked sector. Let us look at bad debts and solve them, without discrimination. It is likely to be the best option as campaigns against the private sector damage economic stability more than some experts or top level bureaucrats appear to realise.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

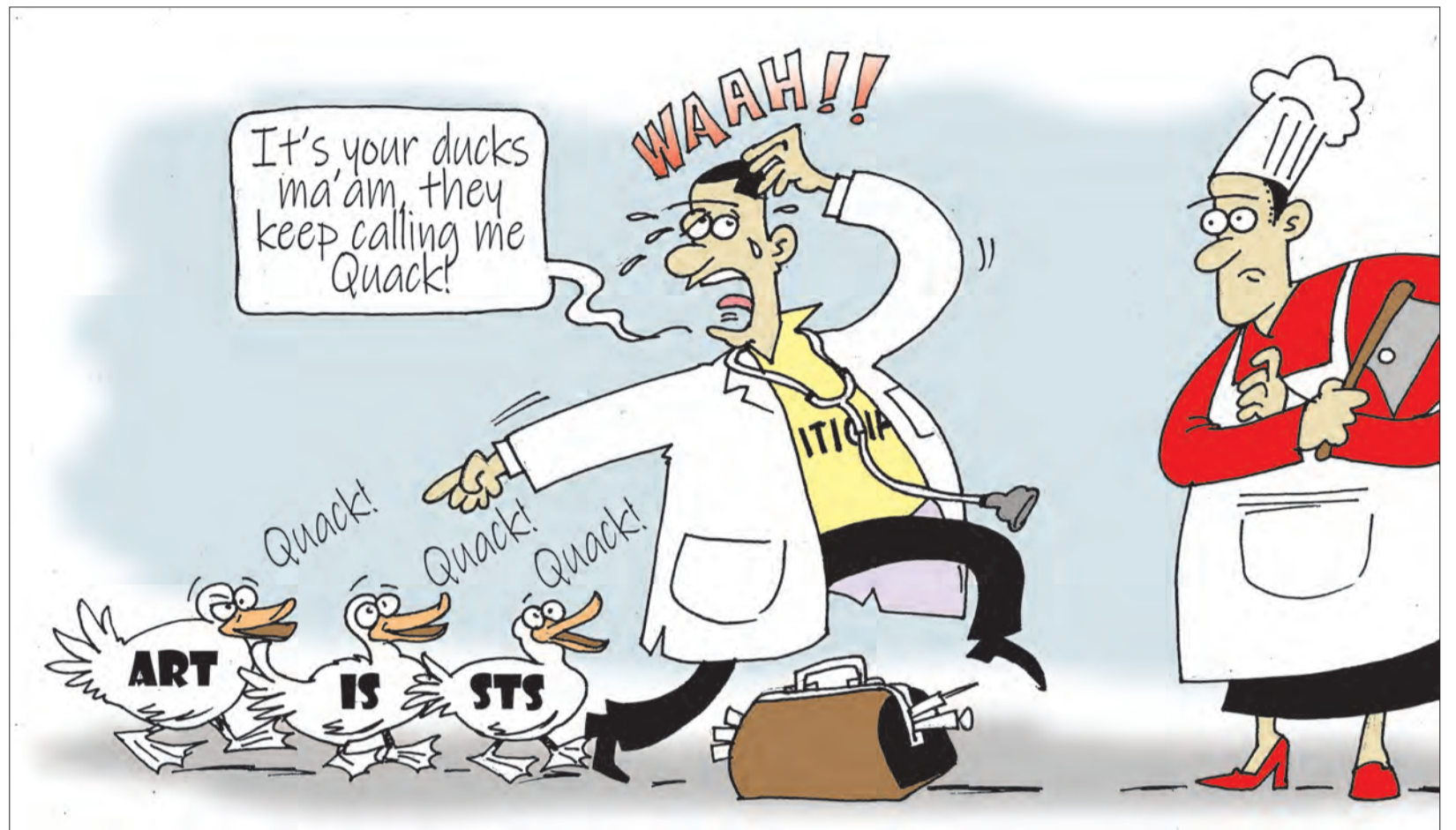
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By Scott C Dunn

Does an efficient economy necessarily create billionaires?

SCRATCH a conservative and they will tell you that capitalism is the best system for allocating scarce resources. I'm not sure about that. How about capital? I'm not so sure about that, either.

We don't have very many useful metrics for understanding wealth. We're not in the habit of using them, either.

Here's a metric that I like for the number: one billion. One billion seconds is about 30 years. That's how long it would take you to count to a billion.

To put that number in perspective, one million seconds would elapse 11 days, 13 hours 46 minutes, and 40 seconds. That's a useful metric for understanding the scale of the numbers we use to describe wealth.

When we talk about the economy, we're talking really big numbers. We fling around words like million and billion and trillion like playing cards. We need a way to put these numbers in context.

Rarely do we discuss the cost of a programme in the US federal government budget as a per cent of the total budget. Well, I found one economist who consistently hammers on this point: Dean Baker at the Centre for Economic Policy and Research.

Back in 2019, he had this to say: "Polls consistently show that the public hugely overestimates the share of the budget that goes to items like SNAP (food stamps), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and foreign aid. People will typically give answers in the range of 20 to 30 per cent of the budget for these categories of spending. In reality, the shares are 1.5 per cent for SNAP, 0.4 per cent for TANF and 0.4 per cent for foreign aid."

Here we see an economist who undertook the task of putting these numbers in perspective. In the same article, Baker expresses some concern that if we are spending a lot of money on poor people and we still have a lot of poor people, those programmes may be perceived by voters as not very efficient.

Huh. There's that word, efficient. So I began to wonder if it is more efficient to create billionaires through capitalism or to give the money to poor people so that they won't starve. Maybe we could use that money to clean up our environment. I think I can make the argument for the latter cases.

Here, I would like to consider a metric that we could use for understanding what a billion dollars is. Then we could frame that metric in terms of demand. I would like to develop a simple metric that we can use to better understand what a billion dollars can do.

Let us start with the federal minimum wage which at present is US\$7.25 an hour. Many cities and



Jeff Bezos



Elon Musk



Bill Gates



Mark Zuckerberg

states are raising that figure to US\$15 an hour. Various jurisdictions are raising the minimum wage because the federal minimum wage is not a living wage.

I have found numerous researchers that have reached the following conclusion about the minimum wage: If the minimum wage had kept pace with inflation and productivity, it would be about US\$24 an hour - that would be about US\$48,000 a year. So let us use a metric of US\$50,000 a year to represent one job.

Now let us use that metric to understand billionaire wealth. The total estimated wealth of all 745 billionaires in the United States is estimated to be US\$5 trillion. That's enough money to put 100 million people to work for a year at US\$25 an hour.

Now let us break it down a bit. US\$1 billion divided by US\$50,000 is 20,000. That's a nice round figure. What that implies is that if one person acquires US\$1 billion in one year, she or he must be that much more efficient than another person. How much more efficient? 20,000 times more efficient, talented or just industrious.

Elon Musk's wealth grew by US\$184 billion in the last 19 months

alone. That is an average of US\$9.6 billion per month or US\$115 billion for one year. That growth alone implies an efficiency of 2,300,000 times that of a normal person. But our genes only differ by less than 1 per cent.

I am aware that these are unrealised gains. We are talking about the paper worth of someone we don't really know. Musk would have to sell the shares to realise the gain.

But Musk can borrow money at a very low interest rate against his shares of stock to support a very nice standard of living, and pay it back later just by selling a few shares. He can write off the interest paid on the loan against his tax liability. Neat.

Now let us frame this as demand, and we will just use US\$1 billion as a metric. US\$1 billion will be enough to pay 20,000 people US\$50,000 a year to work. Who will create more demand in the economy? 1 billionaire or 20,000 people living paycheck to paycheck?

I think we can make an educated guess that 20,000 people will spend that money in the economy a lot faster than Musk would. They will create more demand for the economy than any single billionaire would want to. So I am not so sure

that the existence of a billionaire is evidence of an efficient economy.

I would argue the other way around. I would say that billionaires are evidence of a very inefficient economy. Billionaires are the kind of thing that classical economists like Henry George, David Ricardo, John Stuart Mills and Adam Smith sought to avoid.

Note to the conservatives: Karl Marx was a big fan of Adam Smith. I would even go further to say that billionaires appear to be taking advantage of inefficiencies in the economy to get rich.

Now I like some of the things that Elon Musk is doing with his money. I think he is working towards a good cause with renewable energy.

I'm not so sure about the space race he is engaged in. I'm not so sure that he's engaged in an efficient allocation of capital or resources in orbit. But I am sure that he is not the one creating the demand in the economy. The rest of us are.

• A dispatch by GEN, a Medium publication about politics, power, and culture. Scott C Dunn is a husband, father, worker, philosopher and observer plumbing the depths of consciousness to find the spring of happiness.

Zimbabwe's high-risk cross-border trade

BULAWAYO

THIRTY-SIX-YEAR-OLD Thandiwe Mtshali* watched helplessly as her informal cross-border trading (ICBT) enterprise came to a grinding halt when the Zimbabwean authorities closed the border with South Africa as part of global efforts to stem the spread of the deadly novel coronavirus.

"That was last year, and I had no idea what to do next," Mtshali told IPS.

Before the lockdown, she made up to four trips each month to Musina and Johannesburg in neighbouring South Africa to buy goods ranging from clothes to electrical appliances for resale in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second city.

And by her account, the money was good.

"I could rent a full house in the suburbs, and my long-term plans have always been to build my own home," she said.

After months of being idle in Bulawayo, a colleague tipped her about what appeared to be an easy route out of her money troubles: truckers had not been banned from transporting goods between South Africa and Zimbabwe.

As truckers got stuck at the Beitbridge border post for weeks waiting to get their consignments processed by port authorities, it presented a new venture for informal cross-border traders such as Mtshali: sex work.

Today, Mtshali, who has two young children back in Bulawayo, rents a small shack in the border town where she "entertains" truckers and other men willing to pay for sex.

Commercial sex work is illegal in Zimbabwe, but COVID-19 has turned the sector into a necessity for many women who were made redundant by lockdown measures imposed by the government because of public

health concerns.

"I do not want to do this, but it is better than sitting and waiting," Mtshali said.

"My kids are with my mother, and all they know is that I am working in Beitbridge. As long as I send them money and groceries, they don't need to know anything else," she told IPS.

Local residents, however, complain that despite the lockdown restrictions that banned travel across cities, there appeared to be an influx of sex workers to the border town, each seeking to make a living.

"We have always had a problem here with sex workers, young and old competing for clients. But now we see even more after borders closed," said Dumisani Tlou, a resident and taxi driver.

"Every tenant knows they can rent any available backroom to the women who entertain truckers and other illegal dealers, but no one seems to be doing anything about it," he told IPS.

While the Zimbabwean authorities have made efforts to provide bailout stipends for informal traders, this has been criticised for being too little to improve the lives of millions on the fringes of official economic activity.

Many more, like Mtshali, missed out on the bailouts because they are not registered with any informal traders' association.

"There is a need to consider special exemptions that will allow cross-border traders to import goods during the lockdown and border closures," said Fadzai Nyamandepangeti, International Organisation for Migration - Zimbabwe spokesperson.

"It is also important for women cross-border traders to formalise their businesses, to make them less likely to be impacted by shocks caused by the pandemic," she told



COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions meant that many informal sector traders lost their jobs. Not eligible for compensation, some have turned to sex work.

IPS.

However, for many here at the border town, sex work comes with challenges. While borders were closed in line with public health safety measures, this has exposed sex workers to concerns about HIV/Aids.

"These women have no social protection or insurance or any other mitigation measures to cushion them in times of disasters such as the current pandemic," said Mary Mulenga, a representative of the Southern Africa Cross-border Traders Association (SACBTA).

In a submission to the UN Special

Rapporteur on Health ahead of the UN General Assembly in October, the Global Network of Sex Work Projects (GNSWP), which brings together sex worker-led organisations across ninety-six countries, says, "during the pandemic, there has been a (global) drop in the availability of HIV treatment services due to the prioritisation of treating and stopping the spread of COVID-19."

"As a result, sex workers living with HIV have experienced even greater challenges in accessing HIV treatments, further endangering their health and ability to work," the net-

work says in its brief to the UN.

Truckers have for years been identified as an HIV/Aids high-risk group in southern Africa, raising concerns among campaigners, such as the GNSWP, that while resources are being directed toward addressing the spread of COVID-19, both old and new entrants into the sex trade such as Mtshali are being left out.

According to the UN's International Organisation for Migration (IOM), informal cross-border trade accounts for up to 40 percent of southern Africa's intra-trade estimated USD17 billion annually. Still, border closures

have upended this due to COVID-19.

Despite these disruptions brought by the novel coronavirus, the once-thriving informal cross-border trade could present more public health concerns: an increase in those living with HIV/Aids.

In recent months, Zimbabwe's First Lady Auxillia Mnangagwa launched countrywide self-sufficiency projects for sex workers. Still, with the industry continuing to take in new entrants such as Mtshali, it could be a race against daunting odds as global health experts see no easy end to COVID-19.

Finance nature-based solutions to quiet nature's wrath – experts

Glasgow

CLIMATE change experts and leaders from the Commonwealth member states rallied behind calls to accelerate climate finance for nature-based solutions to arrest the pace of climate change, land degradation, and biodiversity loss.

Featuring prominently at the global COP26 climate talks during a high-level event hosted by the Commonwealth Secretariat, in conjunction with the government of Zambia and Namibia, speakers emphasised at the heart of the nature-based solutions approach is human survival and well-being.

Titled 'Accelerating Climate Finance for Nature-based Solutions-Climate, Land and Biodiversity Targets', participants heard that nature-based solutions play an essential role in stopping and reversing the unprecedented loss of ecosystems while building resilience against climate change.

Patricia Scotland, the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, lauded nature-based solutions as an effective and immediate remedy to pressing societal and development challenges.

"Many societal changes and challenges are now presenting to us, and we are currently facing them boldly and bravely. They touch on human health, climate change, biodiversity loss, food and water security, and environmental degradation not just on our land but in our ocean," Scotland said.

"They are all tied to state and functioning of the natural environment. So multi-impact scenarios, like those that the world has experienced over the last two years, have unfortunately shown us what happens when this in-extricable link is broken."

The high-level panel in-

cluded representatives from the Governments of Zambia, Namibia, Seychelles and Australia. It was followed by a second-panel discussion with partner organisations, including the Green Climate Fund, World Wide Fund for Nature, the Development Bank of Rwanda and the Department of Climate Change of Mauritius.

Nature-based solutions, panellists said, involve actions that protect, sustainably manage, and restore all ecosystems, including oceans and forests. In this regard, sustainable land management, for instance, is prioritised to tackle land degradation and promote climate-resilient land use.

Within this context, discussions centred on identifying gaps, challenges, and solutions for advancing sustainable financing mechanisms around nature-based solutions for climate action.

Australia was the first country to contribute to the Commonwealth's Climate Finance Access Hub. In a statement, Australia's Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, reiterated the country's unwavering commitment to advancing nature-based solutions.

Morrison said that Australians understood the need to act against climate change and get to net-zero by 2050, and the country had a plan to do it, and nature-based solutions were an essential part of this plan.

He stressed the significant benefits of adopting nature-based solutions such as reaching net-zero within a set timeline, boosting agricultural productivity, protecting biodiversity, and supporting communities and job opportunities.

Pohamba Penomwenyo Shifeta, Namibia's Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, said Namibia was not far behind because



Experts underline the need to accelerate climate finance for nature-based solutions in step with the pace of climate change, land degradation and biodiversity loss.

the Southern Africa nation was implementing an interconnected approach to land management, climate change and biodiversity conservation.

"Namibia has so far accumulated significant knowledge and experience from ongoing projects and initiatives that can be scaled up to build resilience at the community level and ecosystems," he said.

Scotland said the time to act was now - especially in light of the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group I contribution to the sixth assessment report, which "provides further irrefutable evidence of the immense threat confronting us all."

She also spoke of the 2021 Emissions Gap report "released just last week and is yet another thundering reminder of the need to act urgently to curb emissions."

In this regard, the high-level panel emphasised the urgent need to deploy an array of sustainable solutions to benefit people and the planet.

One approach, Scotland said, is through nature-based solutions, which offer a cost-effective way to simultane-

ously tackle the interlinked climate, biodiversity, and land degradation crisis.

Scotland said that is especially critical in the COVID-19 pandemic as the world strives to adopt blue and green recovery strategies.

Speakers called for coordinated and urgent action to boost biodiversity conservation, reduce land degradation, and enhance land-based climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts through sustainable development.

Participants heard that climate change amplifies biodiversity loss and land degradation. Despite nature-based solutions gaining visibility and traction across Commonwealth countries, there is still not enough up-take and, specifically, not enough financing to quiet nature's wrath.

According to experts in a recent UN report titled 'State of Finance for Nature', \$133 billion per year is directed towards nature-based solutions, representing 86 percent public financing and 14 per cent private sector finance.

This falls significantly short of the annual investment required to meet cross-cutting targets under the three

Rio Conventions targets on biodiversity, climate change, and desertification.

To meet these targets, estimates show that up to \$8.1 trillion worth of investment in nature-based solutions was required, representing \$536 billion worth of funding every year.

The UN experts say reaching an annual funding target of \$536 billion translates to tripling investments by 2030 and quadrupling by 2050.

Climate financing experts this is possible and that these estimates are cost-effective. Benefits include nations being able to meet human needs such as food and water security and accelerate long-term social and economic development.

For instance, nature-based solutions can positively contribute 37 per cent of the mitigation effort required up to 2030 to limit temperatures below 2 degrees Celsius. This is mainly within the agriculture, forestry, and land-use sectors as per 2019 estimates by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

Nevertheless, there are critical steps in the right direction. In addition

to Australia, the UK and current Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting Chair-in-Office has committed to spending at least £3 billion worth of its international climate finance on nature-based solutions.

Under the Commonwealth Finance Access Hub, the Commonwealth Secretariat has already supported its member states to mobilise more than \$44 million of climate financing, including for nature-based financing. More than \$762 million worth of projects are in the pipeline.

Scotland said that there would be significant progress if every single member state who would wish to have a climate finance advisor were able to.

When curtains fall on COP26 Summit, experts say that protecting communities and natural habitats through concerted efforts towards the protection and restoration of ecosystems will be one of the critical goals.

Nine uncomfortable truths you should accept early in life. First, they might hurt, but then...

By Sinem Günel

WE all want to know the truth, but if the truth is uncomfortable, we get annoyed and wish we never heard about it at all.

The reality is that most people don't want to face the uncomfortable truths of life, even if they say they do. They just want to live with their blinds on and avoid as many problems and difficulties as possible.

While this might first sound comfortable, it eventually leads to an unfulfilling and repetitive life.

And in the worst case, denying the uncomfortable truths will make it harder for you to take responsibility and design your own life.

If you constantly choose comfort over courage, you will end up being the puppet of others. If you however manage to embrace the following truths, you might be able to design an extraordinarily fulfilling life.

One: You should either have a partner who supports your dreams or no partner at all. Being around people who're trying to keep you small is painful. And if it's your partner who's trying to ignore your dreams, it hurts even more.

One of my best friends has recently been in a relationship where his goals were way more important than hers. He didn't care what exactly she wanted to achieve or do. All that mattered was that she made it as easy as possible for him to move forward.

If she ever talked about her ambitious career goals, he laughed at her and told her why her dreams were unachievable.

Even though we sometimes cannot choose whether we fall in love or not, we can indeed choose whether we stay with someone.

If your partner is constantly trying to talk you down and discourage you, it is probably the wrong partner.

A rich relationship should be full of support and encouragement. If someone doesn't want to see you win, she or he will probably also fail to be by your side when you need her or him most.

That is why you should always surround yourself with people who can cheer for you and support you in becoming your best self but who are also there for you when you hit rock bottom.

Two: Life isn't fair. If you expect life to be fair, you will be disappointed.

Shit happens, and sometimes, there's no reasonable explanation for why things happen or why people do what they do.

Focus on the things you can control and let go of the rest. Worrying about the things you cannot control is a pure waste of time and energy.

Three: Money rules the world. No matter if you like it or not - money matters. The vast majority of the global population spends 40+ hours per week working for money. And they do so for the majority of their lives.

Most people hate their jobs, but they have no other choice because they need to pay the bills. And even though we all spend such a significant part of our lives working for money, most people deny the importance of money.

However, the painful truth is that saying "I don't care about money" just makes it worse. You do care about money because you have bills to pay. The earlier you embrace this truth, the easier your life will be.

Stop denying the power and importance of money and start learning how to use money to your advantage. Track your income and expenses. Stop wasting your income on useless things. Live below your means. Learn how to use your money, so that it works for you instead of against you. Money isn't everything, but it certainly makes lots of things easier and more fun.

4. Just because a relationship has lasted a long time doesn't mean that it is working.

According to a study from the National Opinion Research Centre at the University of Chicago, only 60 per cent of those polled reported being very happy in their relationships in 2014.



And even though global divorce rates are soaring, we often overlook that millions of people across the globe don't leave their toxic or unfulfilling relationships.

But what is worse is that we often think of the duration of a relationship as an indicator of happiness. The truth, however, is that millions of people stay in relationships they would love to leave - and this merely because they are used to such a life.

They think they already invested so much into the relationship and end up being trapped in the Sunk Cost Fallacy, which makes things even worse: They don't want to end the relationship because they already invested so much time.

Yet, nothing changes, and they are unhappy and dissatisfied. But with each new attempt, they invest even more time and energy, so they become even more attached to the relationship, and the cycle repeats itself for years, decades, or a lifetime.

In the end, both partners end up having wasted way more time and energy than needed, and they would both be better off by just parting their ways when they first realised there's a mismatch.

Five: There won't ever be a better time to start. Most people waste their lifetimes procrastinating instead of living their desired life -

and this merely because they think that there will be "a better time to start".

The truth, however, is that working on your dreams will never be easier, and the best time to start was yesterday.

You never know how much time you have left, and life is certainly too short to postpone the things you are most looking forward to.

Six: Making a wrong decision is better than making no decision. When was the last time you struggled to make a decision?

This morning when choosing what to wear? Last night when deciding what to eat for dinner? Or last week when you had to make a significant decision that could shape your entire life?

Whatever it was, I bet that it was not long ago and that you are struggling to make small decisions every day.

And it is not even your fault. With endless possibilities, opportunities and choices than ever before, it became significantly more difficult to decide. A few decades ago, you could order a black coffee, or coffee with milk, and decide if you wanted to have sugar. Today, you can spend half an hour reading the menu of Starbucks. And that is still only one of the most insignificant choices of our lives.

Now, Starbucks Corporation is

an American multinational chain of coffeehouses and roastery reserves based in Seattle, Washington. As the world's largest coffeehouse chain, Starbucks is seen to be the major representation of the United States' second wave of coffee culture.

Most people are so afraid of making a wrong decision that they don't decide at all. They end up being trapped in analysis paralysis and waste a significant part of their lives thinking about their decisions instead of just taking action.

But here is the painful truth: Overthinking isn't productive. It's just a form of procrastination because you are afraid of making the right decision.

Six: You only get stronger by doing hard things. Staying in your comfort zone and doing what you have always been doing sounds appealing, yet, it is exactly why you might be failing to move forward.

If you only do things that feel easy, you will end up living an ordinary life and fail to turn your ambitious goals into reality.

Achieving something worthwhile always takes courage, discipline and risks. Doing the easy things will never lead to satisfaction. Doing the hard things, however, isn't easy, but it'll ultimately be worth it.

Seven: Nobody is flawless. ...and if someone pretends to be perfect, you need to be extra careful. We all have flaws - and make mistakes. That's what makes us human and what makes life so interesting.

Yet, one of the biggest strengths is to be self-aware and reflect on your faults. If someone pretends to be perfect and cannot ever talk about her or his weaknesses, it is a sign that she or he lacks self-awareness.

These people constantly tell you what you are doing wrong but fail to see their own mistakes.

Social media are stealing your time and energy - but it does not have to be so.

Eight: Social media are not bad. Most people just don't know how

to use them - and become their victims. You can decide whether you use social media to make your life better or if you end up wasting your time scrolling through useless posts.

You can decide whether you are a creator or a consumer of content. Being a creator is fulfilling and energising, and can even be profitable. Being a consumer, however, will cost you time, energy, and probably even money.

The #1 goal of every social media platform and website is to keep you glued to your screen for as long as possible. It is up to you to break that cycle and use technology to your advantage.

Final thoughts. Life is not always easy, but it is good. Even though you might be facing challenges and difficulties, it is a privilege to be alive.

If you can stop chasing shiny objects and focus on the few things that actually matter, you can indeed live a simple and good life. Keep in mind that nobody really cares about you or your problems and that you are the only one responsible for the life you lead.

Make sure that you are surrounded by people who support your dreams - or at least don't put you down. Keep in mind that money matters, and make sure that you don't waste it.

Avoid staying close to people just because you have already been close to them for a long time.

Don't expect life to be fair. Create your own rules. Don't forget that making quick decisions is always better than making no decision.

Start as early as possible. Do the hard things, so you can become more experienced and stronger.

Don't believe in anyone being perfect. We all make mistakes. Use the social media to make your life better and richer. The more time you spend ignoring certain truths, the more time you ultimately waste. Allow yourself to break that cycle and embrace the truths that might first be a little painful. In the end, it's those truths that will help you live a rich life.

Medium

Architecture-themed activities held in Hong Kong showcase the region's development with strong backing from Chinese mainland

By Cheng Long, Feng Xuezhi

ASERIES of architecture-themed activities, including a thematic exhibition on the history of Chinese architecture and the achievements of China's construction industry and media tours of major projects launched to improve people's well-being in China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), were held in the region in late October.

When learning about touching stories about projects China has built to improve the well-being of Hong Kong residents during the activities, people from all walks of life in Hong Kong expressed confidence in Hong Kong's development with the support of the Chinese central government and their sense of pride as members of the Chinese nation in China's great strides in social and economic development.

They believe that the Chinese mainland always provides the strongest backing for Hong Kong and that

the region will certainly embrace a brighter future with the strong support of the Chinese mainland and the central government of China.

Since the beginning of last year, Hong Kong has been struck by four waves of the COVID-19 pandemic. After the third and also the worst wave of the pandemic broke out in July 2020, the region's public health system was under great strain and its negative pressure rooms almost fully occupied.

At the moment of crisis, Carrie Lam, chief executive of the HKSAR, sought help from the central government of China, which promptly initiated projects to assist the region in building a temporary hospital which was later named North Lantau Hospital Hong Kong Infection Control Centre and a community treatment facility at Hong Kong's AsiaWorld-Expo (AWE). The municipal government of Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province, was in charge of the implementation of

the two projects, while construction tasks were undertaken by China State Construction International Holdings Limited (CSCI).

"We had to race against time in advancing the two projects," said Zhang Yi, general manager of a subsidiary of CSCI that engages in health care services and also the individual chiefly responsible for the construction of the two projects. Zhang shared stories about the construction of the projects at Hong Kong Polytechnic University during one of the architecture-themed activities.

The temporary hospital, which covers an area of 3.2 hectares near the AWE, was designed to provide negative pressure rooms with over 800 beds and other medical facilities, Zhang said.

It was built according to high standards for permanent structure and the construction time was only four months, which posed great challenges to constructors, recalled

Zhang, who believes that the delivery of the project on schedule mirrored the strength of China's construction industry.

"From the two projects, we felt more strongly that the Chinese mainland has always provided the strongest backing for Hong Kong," Zhang added.

"I will always remember the experience of participating in the construction of the temporary hospital," noted Ho Wing Yin, director of the Architectural Services Department of the HKSAR government.

The project has effectively improved Hong Kong's capabilities to fight the pandemic, she said, adding that the new technologies and methods used during the construction are very important to the development of Hong Kong as they can be applied to the construction of projects concerning people's well-being in the future.

At the Tseung Kwan O Area I37 in Hong Kong, the construction of a

seawater desalination plant phase I project is proceeding in an orderly manner. The project is expected to become Hong Kong's first seawater desalination plant using reverse osmosis technology, according to Zhang Ming, assistant president of CSCI.

The plant can produce 135,000 cubic meters of freshwater per day, which accounts for 5 percent of Hong Kong's current fresh water demand, Zhang said.

A project aimed at moving the existing Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works in Sha Tin district of Hong Kong to caverns in the Turret Hill, which nestles beside the Shing Mun River in Sha Tin district, is being advanced vigorously.

The project has adopted many advanced technologies, pointed out Li Yifeng, manager of the project with CSCI. The arms of an intelligent rock drilling machine are equipped with microsensors, which can significantly improve the accuracy of

blasting operation; and a small robot is used as the "vanguard" for probing caves after the blasts, according to Li.

The relocated plant will employ the advanced moving bed biofilm reactor technology, which will not only help solve such problems as bad smell and environmental pollution caused by aging facilities of the old plant, but handle the treatment of sewage for one-tenth of Hong Kong's population, according to Leung Ka Chung, chief engineer of the Cavern Projects Division of the Drainage Services Department of the HKSAR government.

Fueled by technologies, the new plant will become the largest underground cavern project in Asia upon completion, the official said with pride.

CSCI has been deeply involved in the construction of a series of projects in Hong Kong, which cover infrastructure, people's well-being and residential buildings, according to Chen Cheng, spokesperson of CSCI.

People's Daily

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Minister Mwambe speaks on Tanzania's bumpy road to transforming herself into attractive investment country

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

WHEN on November 3, 2021 Geoffrey Mwambe, Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office tasked with the Investment portfolio, addressed the media and told the world that in the last 60 years Tanzania successfully travelled on a bumpy road to become a country foreign and local people want to invest in, skeptics smiled in scorn, but keen observers supported the minister and wished him well. Nonetheless history proves correct the minister's argument.

On December 9, 1961 Tanganyika became independent of Britain and became a republic on the same date the following year. Free Tanganyika had no industry to talk of. Colonial Britain left Tanganyika with very few private small agro-industries processing sisal, maize, curing coffee; beer brewing plant and another plant generating and supplying electricity.

On April 26, The Republic of Tanganyika formally united with the People's Republic of Zanzibar forming the United Republic of Tanzania. Practically the entire population of nine million at independence in 1961 lived abysmal poverty, with very few schools and tertiary institutions but no university, very few dispensaries, health centres and hospitals. The task ahead to develop Tanzania was frightening. Efforts to develop Tanzania hinged on two factors: paying very serious attention to agriculture development and guided investment.

In 1967, the government published a policy investment document it called the Arusha Declaration. The document was the first government blue print on the direction of investment in Tanzania. The blue print said 'commanding heights' of the economy shall remain in the hands of state; meaning very few sensitive enterprises with a big bearing on the national economy shall be wholly public-owned.

Subsequent documents, like Socialism and Rural Development,

threw more light on domestic direct investment and foreign direct investment inflows. It was explained that in the second category of ownership, you find sensitive enterprises too. But this time the private sector owns 'a controlling share majority' of 51 percent of the shares and the state shall own 49 percent or minority control. The third category was 50 percent public and 50 percent private. Fourth category of ownership was 51 percent private capital and 49 percent owned by cooperatives or worker's organisation or vice-versa. The fifth category of ownership small enterprises: either 100 percent privately owned or 100 percent public-owned.

In 1973-74 the world faced dreadful oil crises doing terrible harm to world economies; poor countries' economies were hit most. Tanzania's economy suffered too. As if this was not enough in 1978 Idd Amin of Uganda, attacked Tanzania, triggering off a very costly two-year war to defeat the aggression. After the war, Tanzania's economy was, naturally, in shambles. The world economy was in bad shape too. To survive, in all the 1980s and 1990s Tanzania adopted a wholesale liberalization policy. It seriously re-encouraged local and foreign investments and promised the business community of deep reforms.

In 2001, the late President Benjamin Mkapa made a formal statement on the kind of world Tanzanians were living in, a statement worth quoting here. President Mkapa wrote:

"Trends in today's world have created opportunities and challenges for governments and business firms in both developed and developing countries. The globalization of economic activities, the liberalization of trade and the fierce competition to which local firms are exposed; the poor performance of state-owned enterprises and the consequent rise of interest in the private sector in creat-



Geoffrey Mwambe, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment)

ing the wealth of a nation have all combined to compel governments in Africa to search new models of economic management.

"In Tanzania, the government has embarked on a fundamental restructuring exercise meant to bring the country to a point where it will be able to swim in the main stream of the emerging global economy. The Government has for long realized that the growth of the economy depends ultimately on a dynamic and robust private sector. Its ability to solve problems such as poverty alleviation, employment creation and overall welfare of the people also depends on a growing economy. A healthy private sector increases Government revenue. The private sector, on its part, has been calling for a less constrained operating environment, a more business friendly public service, and a platform for expressing its views in the process of planning and implementing the developing of Tanzania..."

It is against this background the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) and the Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC) were formed.

Again, it is against this backdrop that Minister Mwambe on Wednesday told Tanzanians that in 1990 the government adopted the National Investment Promotion and Protection law. Seven years later the Tanzania Investment Act was enacted.

Minister Mwambe said as a result of concerted efforts the government has been making, domestic direct investments (DDI) and foreign direct investments (FDI) have increased annually. Minister Mwambe named the yardsticks to that effect as gross capital formation to GDP ratio, foreign direct investment inflows and fixed capital formation.

The minister explained that gross capital formation to GDP capital rose from 14.7 percent in 1997 to 39.7 percent in 2019. "These growths are in no way small," the minister told the nation in a televised conference, "and this fact can be well understood by comparison with other rates: in other African countries gross capital formation ranged between 21 and 22 and in the developed world it was between 23 and 25," he explained.

He said foreign investment also rose, explaining that in 1996 some

0.73 billion US dollars was received by Tanzania in form of investments, rising to 2.18 billion dollars in 2013, and 1.01 billion dollars last year.

In a bid to create an investment friendly environment, the government has established a one-stop facilitation centre that has offices of ministries and 12 institutions the investors need. In this spirit, he explained, the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) has registered roughly 43 projects valued at 12,278.00 million US dollars. These projects are expected to generate 130,720 jobs.

He told Tanzanians that it was important to appreciate the fact that having investment projects that are approved by government agencies has a lot to do with poverty alleviation and creation of jobs. "Look at what we are talking about. We are talking of registering in Tanzania investment projects costing 3.5 billion US dollars or 8.050 trillion/- to establish. These projects will create 38,000 direct jobs." The minister also explained that now a total of 1,606,193.40 hectares have already been set aside countrywide for investors and can be found in an investment databank.

Minister Mwambe also highlight-

ed the 100 percent tax amnesty on fines and penalties that was granted between July 2018 and December 2018 as an illustration of the government's good intentions in promoting investment and in creating a business friendly environment. He also said 17 investment centres have been established in following regions and in the following manner: Singida (1), Shinyanga (1) Kigoma (6) Dodoma (7) Rukwa (1) and Geita (1).

The minister explained that because of government's openness and sincerity before the world, outsiders have appreciated that fact and are ready to invest in Tanzania. He gave three examples of big projects that have a huge bearing on the national project: he named Elsewedy Company expected to be built at a cost of 3 billion US dollars, SJ Sugar project and ITRACOM FERTILIZERS LIMITED, a project for natural fertilizers.

Tanzania belongs to the top ten clubs of African countries where people want to invest. In Tanzania the government and the private sector are taking collaborative measures to address the skills challenges.

Farming season becomes 'walking a tightrope' for children in Kigoma

By Correspondent Adela Madyane,

Kigoma

AT the age of 14, Yunus Kigwinya, became a teen mother. This happened when her parents left home for six months. They went for farming in an area located 70km from Makere village Kasulu District, Kigoma Region.

Yunus was left home with seven siblings to take care of with 2,000/-, 1.5kg of beans and 20kg of maize to be used for the first two months. Her parents went to the Kagerankanda area to do farming. To make things go as planned, Yunus decided to do small business during the market days and sometimes do casual work to get money, which wasn't enough to cater for family needs.

Between September and March is a farming season in this part of Kigoma Region. In this area, villagers desert their homes and go farming, where they grow different crops—maize and beans. So, in September 2019, Yunus' parents did the same and came back home in March 2020 after harvesting their crops. The situation exposes children to stunting, psychological torture, regular and periodical school dropout, teen pregnancy, physical and sexual violence suffered by both girls and boys in the district.

During the entire period they left all the children in the hands of Yunus—the first born in the family of eight children. She could do everything for her siblings to get something to eat.

Life for Yunus who is at 16 now, was too tough, she was always busy looking for money to take care of her younger brothers and sisters.

But, in that struggle, the desperate girl met with a man, who entered her life and promised to help her by giving her some money to support her family. The journey of the duo was too short as the girl

found to be pregnant and thereafter, the man disappeared.

When her parents came back from the farm they chased her away to the man who impregnated her who was nowhere to be found. Both parents quarreled to divorce.

Early 2021, child rights activist groups in Makere village under supervision of social welfare officer in Kasulu District intervened the matter and made sure the parents bring back the child with her child under their supervision and together they must take care of their children, so the mother had to return to her husband to carry on with parenting responsibilities.

Kasulu District social welfare officer, Pelimina Msuta said child abandonment during farming period is an issue of concern not only in Kasulu, but the entire Kigoma Region that calls for action.

She said in recent years, most parents have resolved on farming camps after the soil in nearby villages lost its fertility resulting in poor harvest.

"This is what pushes villagers to go as far as 70km from home where there is still virgin land for more production," she says, adding the move disrupts family bonds as parents leave children to raise themselves.

She asked the government to lower prices of fertilizer and other farm inputs to enable farmers to continue conducting their agricultural activities within the village.

Kasulu District Educational Officer, Joseph Maiga said the most effect to children is school absenteeism during farming period, the thing that results in poor academic performance and failure in their examinations.

According to Maiga, school absenteeism is a two-way traffic, being parents taking an elder child with them or an elder child to stay home taking care of the younger children.



"When children are left alone without guidance, boys are tempted to engage in gang groups to get money while girls are tempted into sexual work. In 2019, we conducted an organized campaign where we visited farms and collected children and got them back to school," said Maiga, noting the exercise was conducted in collaboration with local government officers.

He added: "Children must not be left alone or taken to farms; they are supposed to be in school learning. There is a need for increased awareness among stakeholders at grassroots level; people must be informed on the negative impacts of abandoning children."

On the issue of stunting, Kasulu District Medical Officer, Robert Rwebangira blamed parents who leave their children for farming. He said most of them leave children without enough food.

He said a child cannot raise another child, cannot

understand how to mix food varieties and make a complete meal.

"We have enough food in our region, but parents are not taking initiatives to ensure children eat a balanced diet. We are planning to come up with by-laws which will make sure parents have full responsibilities," said Rwebangira.

Nyakitonto village chairperson, January Msalasi said leaders must take the leading role in fighting child abandonment for farming and make sure they provide children with the necessary food requirements.

"We have seen the impact of farming camps on our children; school drop outs have increased and some of them are opting for casual work to raise income. Local governments must educate people on good parenting as well as ensuring supervision of the by-laws," said Msalasi.

One of the parents, Philemon Banuba blamed par-

ents for irresponsible parenting, calling upon leaders to supervise implementation of the by-laws.

Samuel Muhoja is a law officer from Women's Legal Aid Centre (WLAC), he said Chapter 16 of the Penal Code Section 166 states that any person who, being a parent or guardian or any other person in the legal custody of any child under the 18 years, has responsibility to care for the child. Refusing to take care of the child without good reasons or abandoning the child is an offense.

Muhoja called upon the public to report child abandoning incidents to social welfare officers for parents to be held accountable.

Afghanistan and Ethiopia: War or peace?

By Greg Mills

TWO events stand out for me this year.

The first was on 18 June when I visited Mekelle, the capital of the Ethiopian province of Tigray. Ethiopian Airlines had resumed a scheduled flight service after the rebels of the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front (TPLF) had retreated into the hills in the face of an invasion by the Ethiopian National Defence Force (ENDF) at midnight on 3/4 November 2020.

The war came after months of simmering tensions between the government of Prime Minister Ahmed Abiy and the TPLF, which refused to join his new Prosperity Party, a successor to the ruling Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), which had ruled Ethiopia since the collapse of the Marxist Derg regime in 1991.

I took a (very) battered taxi around Mekelle, which had to be bump-started, the driver always positioning it carefully on a slope whenever we stopped. "No parts", he said of the ancient Toyota, though no money was a more likely reason, given its state. The driver filled up from small bottles of petrol bought on the side of the road, two litres at a time, literally a hand-to-carburettor existence.

My meetings with the UN humanitarian office and the university done and dusted, and having successfully stayed out of the way of the ultra-aggressive ENDF patrols, I made my way back to the airport for the return to Addis. There I stopped at a small kiosk selling Tigrayan trinkets. Business had been "very slow", said the assistant, "since the war". Having bought something which I explained was for my daughters, he thrust two small wooden crucifixes into my hand. "These are for your children," he insisted, "since you have been kind to me. Thank you."

Prime Minister Abiy had declared the war against Tigray to be over on 28 November with the fall of Mekelle to his ENDF, working in conjunction with Amhara "special forces" militia and, though denied at the time, Eritrean troops.

Just 10 days after I was in Mekelle, the rebel Tigray Defence Force (TDF) retook the city and advanced across the Tigrayan borders into the Amhara and Afar regions. Since then, TDF military gains have increased in tempo from steady to rapid.

In spite of Abiy's latest attempt to launch an offensive against the TDF this October, today the rebels are less than 350km from Addis Ababa, threatening to cut the capital's trade lifeline with the port of Djibouti to its northeast. This led Abiy to declare the State of Emergency this week, calling on residents to take up arms to defend the city against the rebels' advance which was, he said, "pushing the country to its demise".

In early July, I was in the prov-

ince of Bamiyan, Afghanistan. I went there to meet the governor and to film near the Buddha statues which were infamously blown up by the Taliban in 2001 after declaring that they were unacceptable "idols". I was working in the Arg, the Presidency, as part of an attempt to determine a fast-track method for regional peace – an effort best summarised as "too little, too late".

In Bamiyan, near the foot of the cavern that once housed the largest statue, the 55m Solsol, was a shop selling, again, local crafts. In charge of the contents of the 7m container was a young Hazara woman, aged 17. It didn't take much imagination to contemplate her future under the Taliban; for one, she would, on the Islamic movement's prior record, not be allowed to leave home alone, let alone conduct commerce unveiled, as she was.

In Afghanistan, just the following month, the 400,000-strong armed forces and police collapsed in the face of a Taliban advance. Between 9 July, when we left Kabul, the Taliban's control of districts was at 90 out of 398; by 16 August, all but seven districts were under Taliban authority. By 31 August, it was all over; the US and its allies had left, and the Taliban was in charge.

In both cases, Ethiopia and Afghanistan, the speed of the collapse of government forces was (and is) remarkable. The reasons for this are complex, with differences between the two situations, along with some similarities.

In Afghanistan, despite the numbers of government forces, at least on paper, much of the fighting was done by a small number of special forces, around 10% of the total. A combination of their exhaustion, malign regional actors (if for different reasons) in both Iran and Pakistan, an inability to manage Afghan materiel resupply by air, and the suddenness of the US pullout (the nadir of which was the departure from Bagram Air Base in the middle of the night on 2 July without informing their Afghan allies), reinforced a self-fulfilling prophecy of collapse, as one district after another folded.

In the end, the Taliban won the psychological war as much as the military contest.

In Ethiopia, Abiy's attempts to bolster his forces by employing Eritreans along with Amharic militia and, latterly, fresh recruits from among the youth and retired soldiers, have served to demonstrate his weakness while scarcely adding to his military capability. Addis Ababa's military reliance on the national arch-enemy in Eritrea at critical moments has hardly elevated Abiy's popularity. In Afghanistan, of course, the regime was dependent on external support in the US; when that went away, it collapsed, spectacularly.

The presence of the US also turned the struggle into a regional religious jihad. But the post-Taliban project after 2001 suffered from the strength of the pull of tribal and religious identities over Afghan nationalism.



Ethiopian refugees from Tigray region wait to receive aid at the Um Rakuba refugee camp, the same camp that hosted Ethiopian refugees during the famine in the 1980s, some 80 kilometers from the Ethiopian-Sudan border in Sudan, 30 November 2020. File photo

Ethiopia has faced the same challenges, where internal peace has been rare and the history between different ethnic groups – the Oromo, Amhara, Somalis and Tigrayans among them – less a source of unity than division. One group's national hero is another's imperialist conqueror and land grabber.

While government efforts have endeavoured to promote the functioning of a central, federal state through state-led infrastructure and a growing economy, the absence of a national cause at least as coherent (or as existential) as that of the Tigrayans has indubitably shaped their political direction as much as their relative martial prowess. The cause of Ethiopian nationalism has not been helped by widespread inequalities along ethnic, urban-rural and religious lines, frictions heightened by social media. Economic contraction and rising unemployment haven't helped, now over 29%, with inflation touching 27%.

While both countries have been brutalised by their experiences, the psychological war is also important. Abiy has lost this battle, just as President Ashraf Ghani did in Afghanistan. In the last major towns to fall, Kombolcha and Desie, just 350km to the north of Addis Ababa, the ENDF gave up without a fight, getting into their (and other people's) vehicles and fleeing south. This is partly because the TPLF has proven to be so much better at the media battle, but also because Abiy has not enjoyed a good relationship with the press, not least given the government's tendency to turn the internet on and off to suit its ends, which has backfired badly. His increasingly belligerent rhetoric, which includes calling on citizens to "bury" the rebels, has undermined his credibility internationally, a perception worsened, ironically, by his award of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019.

For Ethiopia, as Afghanistan, the components of a negotiated peace include the realisation by the conflicting parties that they have more to gain by ending fighting than continuing with it, that the international community pushes them to the table, and method, timing and leadership.

Both countries have faced a restive region. Kabul's problems related directly to Pakistan's support of the Taliban and that was rooted in Islamabad's relationship with India and with its own domestic tangle inside Pakistan. Iran had its own interests, centring on the removal of the US at whatever cost.

Ethiopia is in the centre of a particularly difficult and increasingly complex region. Sudan has just suffered a military coup (again), where the military component of a joint government removed its civilian counterparts from power, a putsch supposedly supported, inter alia, by Egypt. Both allegedly support the TDF against Addis, not least given mutual fears about Ethiopia's Grand Renaissance Dam on the Nile. Eritrea's role is well known, in part because of historical enmities between the Tigrayans and President Isaias Afwerki in Asmara, while Ethiopian troops have reportedly used weapons supplied by China, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates, among others, to strike Tigrayan targets.

And there is the question of leadership failures and frailties.

Ghani failed to consolidate his military forces and give them reason to keep fighting. Abiy has relied on increasingly belligerent rhetoric to inspire dramatic acts of heroism and bravery against the advancing TPLF, one so far unmatched by military training, discipline and, it seems, motivation.

In between bouts of intellectual pomposity, Ghani tried to get a peace process going, but was let down by his US allies, who made peace with the Taliban in Doha in February 2020 while exclud-

ing Kabul. Abiy has been far less willing, talking up war rather than peace, not least since any acceptance of a negotiation process would involve tacit acceptance of the status of the opposition, weakening his legitimacy and credibility as the government in place.

The role of the international community in Ethiopia is different, though the country receives more than \$5-billion in annual aid. It is not overwhelmingly dependent, as Afghanistan was, on one external actor (in the US), or vulnerable to one malign neighbour (Pakistan). But this does not entirely discount the role to be played by outsiders in urging both parties to the negotiating table through a measure of carrot and stick, including sanctions, and in placing their weight behind African mediation efforts. For instance, if Abiy does not play ball, mention of the rescinding of his Nobel Peace Prize might help to focus his mind.

Abiy so far has lacked strategic nous, reacting to events rather than having a grand plan for peace. Like Ghani, he is a reluctant peacemaker, making concessions only under duress. Both leaders' handling of the military has been chaotic and amateurish. Abiy's ethnic profiling of Tigrayans in business, in airport queues and in carrying out atrocities has not only undermined his cause, but ensured deep-seated enmities.

It is said that competent people choose to have smart, challenging folk around them. The Arg became a notorious echo chamber of ideas, Ghani surrounding himself with kinsmen and acolytes, some of whom were notorious for seeking rent through government connections. From all accounts, Abiy lacks the feedback loops that make leaders sensitive to events and receptive to good ideas. But he does not lack for messianic

certainty.

Still, it's difficult to negotiate a peace settlement from a position of weakness, no matter the level of confidence on the part of leadership. This is a lesson for Abiy as much as it was for President Ghani.

A military stalemate in Ethiopia would now require a stiffening of ENDF resolve and a consolidation of forces hitherto unseen. But it would be necessary if a peace process is to take root, since victorious armies generally don't see the point in making peace when they are advancing – as the Taliban showed.

The way forward for peace in Ethiopia has to centre, first, on acceptance of a ceasefire by all sides in exchange for various confidence-building measures including the restoration of humanitarian access and services such as banking and electricity to Tigray. Getting to this point, however, demands mediators being allowed to freely travel to Tigray to shop these suggestions, which until now Abiy has been reluctant to do, out of fear of undermining his own position.

Thereafter there is a need for a settlement. Whether this allows Abiy to remain in office is one key question, one that is increasingly unlikely given the brutality of the occupation of Tigray. Any deal will also have to involve Oromia opposition groups, which have linked up with the TDF. This has to entail opening further lines of communication with plausible Oromo intermediaries, some of whom are in jail. Thus, releasing political prisoners would be another confidence-building measure.

Finally, all this would have to be thrashed out at some sort of national dialogue, implicit in which is an acceptance by the government that it is prepared to accept and facilitate a peaceful handover. Most likely this would have to be based on a Tigrayan acceptance of a subordinate role that would leave the TPLF in control of Tigray itself, but without major strength in the federal government.

Such a peace process will depend on a coordinated international effort in getting behind an indigenous process, involvement that is willing to hold Ethiopian feet to the fire.

Ghani missed several opportunities to make peace with the Taliban. The most notable was after the 2019 national election, when he was elected with less than 10% of nearly ten million registered voters. If he had used that moment to reset national politics, and to form an inclusive government, how different things might have been.

Abiy, like Ghani, fears that negotiation means equivalence of the cause of the national government with the rebels. So far, his favoured approach to nation-building has only worsened the political crisis, in so doing never failing to miss an opportunity.

Like Ghani, Abiy risks making himself dispensable to the interests of peace. **DM**

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATU - JUMAPILI

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Hundreds of firms subscribe to an accounting and management platform to ease operations

By Beatrice Philemon

In a bid to improve operations, 231 small, medium size enterprises have subscribed to a new accounting and management platform dubbed 'Bizzyn,' developed by Fintech Startup Company in Dar es Salaam.

Fintech Startup Company's founder and CEO, Emmanuel Kimaro said in Dar es Salaam last week while officially launching the platform that Bizzyn is a business management system that helps SMEs to digitise their operations including accounting.

"We developed this software in February this year but had to go through different regulatory vetting and approvals before introducing it into the market," Kimaro said adding that because of its convenience and efficiency, the platform has attracted many businesses.

He said many of the SMEs that have subscribed to the platform are from Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mbeya and Morogo. "They come from a diverse of sectors in the market including retail, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, restaurants and individuals business people," he explained.

Kimaro said Bizzyn has proved to be popular in the market because it is helping streamline SMEs operations, management and accounting across all sectors of the economy. "It is a cost-effective solution that automates the majority of your accounting tasks, which cuts down on time and the po-



Fintech Startup Company's CEO, Emmanuel Kimaro (L) explain how Bizzyn works to clients during the launch in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

tential for human mistakes," he added.

With Bizzyn, business owners, managers and executives can follow their trends online across the country but also abroad by follow-

ing sales made directly through their smartphone, computer and tablets, among others.

The platform also monitors finance, sends invoices, tracks expenses, manages inventory, produce sales reports, manages clients and sends email campaigns to potential clients and other platforms.

"This platform also helps business owners, managers, sales supervisors and store keepers switch from manual record keeping of their daily sales and operations to electronic or digital record keeping," the Fintech Startup founder and CEO noted.

Backing his boss, the company's Chief Technology Officer, Abas Musa said Bizzyn is convenient and user-friendly because it doesn't require a lot of information to get started. "You can either follow along with the instructions provided on the platform of get one of our consultants to assist you get started," Musa said.

He stated that with Bizzyn, one can access inventories

to know when products are low in stock, track and control movement of goods from one warehouse to another or to the customer. "At the end of these processes, Bizzyn produces goods delivery note and goods received note which means that everything is monitored by the system," the CTO noted.

Musa explained that the software can also help provide all necessary documentation to assist with soliciting of a business loan or line of credit with ability to also generate a projected balance sheet, profit and loss statement.

"You will always be able to see where you are business wise, no need to worry about the health of your business because it's readily accessible," he noted adding that affordability makes the software popular among SMEs.

JICA-funded study on state of commuter train transportation gets underway in Dar

By Francis Kajubi

A study on Dar es Salaam's city commuter train improvement project being undertaken jointly by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Ministry of Communication, Works and Transport and Tanzania Railways Corporation will start later this month.

The four-month study that will end in February 2022, will examine the existing commuter system plying between Pugu to city centre and Ubungo to the central business district in order to come up with recommendations on how to improve them.

Speaking at a stakeholders meeting held in Dar es Salaam this week,

TRC Civil Engineer, Felician Hechei said the Ubungo and Pugu commuter trains need investments to rehabilitate them to improve service delivery.

"Data collection survey on improvement of city train transport utilizing conventional railways in Dar es Salaam funded by JICA is targeting to improve infrastructure for the existing commuter trains," Eng Hechei said.

Stakeholders at the meeting that was attended by participants from JICA Tanzania Office, the Ministry of Transport TRC and consultants from Japan and Tanzania, also proposed an improvement plan on tracking, signalling, rolling stock and stations of the existing com-

muter trains.

An Assistant Director for Railways from the Ministry of Transport, Benjamin Mbimbi appreciated JICA's initiatives to assist improve the city's commuter train transport system which has proved to be popular in recent years.

Mbimbi said the study team will also discuss with government officials on the need to revise the Dar es Salaam Urban Transport Master Plan of 2018 which was also financed by JICA.

"The master plan projects that the population of Dar es Salaam will hit more than 10 million as early as 2030 which means that road transport alone will not be able to provide safe and reliable move-



Passengers struggle to board a Pugu bound commuter train in Dar es Salaam.

ment for people and goods hence the need for a better alternative," he noted.

Further meetings will take place upon completion of the survey in 2022 with the possible massive in-

vestment in the area by JICA which has been supporting the transport sector for the past four decades.

Rwanda, Burundi lawyers legally blocked from practising in Kenya

NAIROBI

PARLIAMENT has blocked Rwanda and Burundi lawyers from practising in Kenya until local advocates are allowed to work in the two countries on a reciprocal basis.

The National Assembly's Justice and Legal Affairs committee wants all East African member States to address the matter before Kenya can open trade in legal services to Rwanda, Burundi and South Sudan. Tanzania and Uganda lawyers are currently allowed to practice law in Kenya in accordance to provisions of sections 12 and 13 of the Advocates Act.

Thirteen Kenyan lawyers who are currently practicing advocates of the Rwanda Bar Association (RBA) have petitioned Parliament to fast track the inclusion of Rwanda and Burundi in the Advocates Act to enable the Chief Justice to swear and enroll practitioners from the two countries to practice in Kenya.

Parliament through the Statute Law (Miscellaneous Amendment) Act, 2012, amended Section 12 and 13 of the Advocates Act to include Rwanda and Burundi but the Court of Appeal in 2019 struck down the changes effectively locking out the two countries.

The Law Society of Kenya (LSK) sued the Attorney General arguing the amendment to section 12 of the Advocates Act to open up trade in legal ser-

vices for non-Kenyans without a reciprocal access for Kenyan advocates was a violation of Parliament's legislative powers.

The House committee has backed concerns by the Judiciary and the Council for Legal Education on the lack of uniformity in the qualifications for admission to study law degree and to join the respective bars of the East African Community member States. "Without mutual and equivalent harmonisation, there should not be reciprocity," the committee said.

The Chief Registrar of the Judiciary Anne Amadi and the CLE told MPs that there is an urgent need to amend the Legal Education Act and the Kenya School of Law (KSL) Act to clarify the minimum secondary school qualifications for entry into the Bachelor of Laws (LLB) program in Kenya.

The changes will further clarify eligibility and minimum requirements for non-Kenyans who are already admitted to practice law in the EAC or the Commonwealth and beyond before seeking admission to practice law in Kenya.

The reforms of the two laws seeks to prescribe the applicability of the minimum secondary school qualifications for persons who obtain their LLB degrees abroad before returning to join KSL. It will also spell out the applicability of the minimum secondary qualifications to Kenyans who are



Chief Registrar of the Judiciary, Anne Amadi.

already admitted to practice law in other countries before returning to petition to join the Kenyan bar.

JUMO raises US\$120m in latest funding round

ACCRA

FINTECH firm JUMO has secured US\$120-million from new and existing investors. The round is led by Fidelity Management & Research Company, LLC, and represents their first investment in emerging markets Fintech.

JUMO said the funds will support the scaling of its platform capacity, and support its international expansion in new markets such as Cameroon and Nigeria. According to the company, the platform has been used to make 120 million loans, totalling US\$3.5-billion, to more than 18 million people and small businesses in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Pakistan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.

Integrating with eMoney operators has allowed JUMO rapid scalability and exceptional segment reach.

This is a model the company can replicate with payments providers anywhere in the world. JUMO has the opportunity to disburse US\$29-billion a year, according to the current number of eMoney subscribers on its platform with access to loans. In 2022, according to the company, this is set to grow to an annual lending volume of US\$40-billion, following market launches in Cameroon and Nigeria.

Andrew Watkins-Ball, JUMO Founder and CEO, said: "It's exciting to be part of the wave of US capital being invested in payments and Fintech on the continent - there are some great businesses being built and we are proud to play a role supporting capital providers to reach customers with great products.

We are really grateful for the vote of confidence from our new investors and will continue to work hard to improve our products for our partners and customers."

Absa debuts state of the art equipped health club for its affluent customers



Absa Bank Tanzania's head of Global Markets, Esther Maruma (L), presents a gift to one of the bank's clients, Flavian Kinunda at the launch of an affluent customers health club in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo courtesy of Absa.

By Smart Money Reporter

AFFLUENT customers banking with Absa Bank Tanzania will have access to well equipped health club developed with support from leading health-related service providers in the country.

Unveiling the prestigious service in Dar es Salaam this week, Absa Bank Tanzania said the trend setting facility for the banking industry, is aimed at keeping customers and staff health by taking them to new heights.

The bank's acting Director of Retail Banking, Ndabu Lilian Swere said the club, which incorporates assorted health amenities, is assigned to provide health solutions to customers and their families and Absa staff.

"The launch of this health club is fair proof that our mission is not merely to be custodians of customer funds and to focus on the commercial side of dealings, but that we assign value to the health of our customers and their families," Swere said.

She assured customers that Absa Tanzania is unceasingly dedicated to

offering products and services that satiate their needs. The Absa Tanzania Director further noted that the health club, which is dedicated to special customers, will feature various indoor and outdoor health-boosting activities from jogging, cycling, walks to yoga, topping it up with training and counselling on physical and mental health issues.

"Obviously, most of you have lingering memories of the recent statistics that portrayed an alarming scenario in our lives, pointing out the steep rise in cases of mental malaise. Our customers stand to get access to advice on how to avoid the problem," Swere noted.

The Dar es Salaam based lender has partnered with Assemble Insurance that will handle counselling on health and nutrition; and Mukti that will offer Yoga drills to customers and their families thrice a week, free of charge.

Other co-managers of the health scheme are fitness icons, Fitness

Centre, which will hand out gym costumes at a discount, while Cool Blue, a household name in drinking water dispensing solutions, will provide water at gym sessions.

A nutrition specialist from Assemble Insurance, Jestina Nyondo said at the event that regular intake of balanced diet integrating vital ingredients from the major food categories, is important to nurture vibrant health for any individual.

Nyondo said a prudent arrival at the balance is to organize the portion into four parts with a quarter reserved for protein and starch each, and half allotted to fruits and vegetables. "Water is indispensable as it facilitates proper use of food components in the body," she noted.

One of the customers who attended the event, Robert Lowassa from Tan Communication Media, commended the bank for establishing the health club, noting that it will help to maintain customers and staff health while fostering good relations among clients.

ENI considers farming to produce biofuels to offset carbon footprint in Mozambique

MAPUTO

OIL company ENI is discussing the possibility of farming to produce biofuels in Mozambique, Claudio Descalzi, the company's CEO, announced Friday during a visit to Maputo. The idea follows the example of similar discussions by ENI with other African countries on "land that is not used for food production agriculture," he said.

Descalzi pointed to castor beans as one of the fruits that could be used to produce biofuel. Descalzi was speaking after a meeting with Mozambican President, Filipe Nyusi, which marked the resumption of face-to-face meetings between the parties after restrictions imposed by Covid-19.

During the meeting other strategies for carbon capture were also discussed to offset ENI's gas exploration projects in Mozambique. The Italian oil company is part of the Area 4 consortium in the Rovuma basin, off Cabo Delgado. Descalzi confirmed that the reserves in that area will start to be explored as of the first half of 2022.

The wells that will feed the project have been drilled and the Coral Sul floating platform is due to leave shipyards in South Korea soon, heading to Mozambique. This will be the first unit to explore the Rovuma reserves, ranked among the largest in the world. ENI is also expected to start prospecting activities off Angoche, central Mozambique, in mid 2022.

Meanwhile ENI will start pumping liquefied natural gas off the coast of northern Mozambique in



ENI's CEO, Claudio Descalzi.

the first half of next year, the government has announced. The announcement came after ENI chief executive Claudio Descalzi met president Filipe Nyusi in Maputo to discuss the project. According to Mineral Resources and Energy Minister Max Tonela, offshore drilling at the Coral South project was completed last week.

"It is expected that construction of the platform will be finalised this year, so the outlook is positive that, by the end of the first half of 2022, Mozambique will start to produce and export LNG," Tonela said. The ENI project is

located offshore from Cabo Delgado province, cushioning it from the four-year Islamist insurgency that has killed more than 3,400 people and displaced around 800,000 others.

In March, militants launched an attack on the gas hub and coastal town of Palma, halting the construction of a \$20-billion liquefied natural gas project led by French group TotalEnergies. Descalzi said the ENI project was the first "to produce the large gas reserves that we have discovered in Mozambique." All of the gas at the site will be sold to Britain's BP.

Over 4,000 African entrepreneurs set to be unveiled by Tony Elumelu Foundation

By Smart Money Reporter

SOME 4,800 Africa entrepreneurs from 54 countries on the continent including Tanzania will be unveiled this week by Tony Elumelu Foundation.

In a statement this week, the TEF said the event which will be live-streamed from Lagos in Nigeria, marks the end of a rigorous vetting process for the 2021 cohort of the annual event sponsored by Nigerian billionaire, Tony Elumelu.

This year's beneficiaries have been chosen from a pool of over 400,000 applications, selected based on their innovative and impactful business ideas. In line with TEF's mission to catalyse entrepreneurship in Africa, the selected beneficiaries will consist of both new start-ups and existing young businesses in varying operational stages across different sectors.

"This year, with support from our global partners, we will be scaling our impact and empowering nearly 5,000 entrepreneurs. A major priority for us at the Foundation for 2021 remains the economic recovery of small and medium scale enterprises following the coronavirus disruption to economic activities," said TEF's CEO, Ifeyinwa Ugochukwu.

As part of TEF's objectives to ensure that African entrepreneurs are well equipped to build investable and profitable businesses, each beneficiary has undergone world-class business management training and mentorship conducted exclusively on TEFConnect, the Foundation's proprietary digital

platform that provides capacity-building support, advisory and market linkages to over one million Africans.

"We are very excited to be unveiling the 2021 cohort of the Tony Elumelu Entrepreneurship programme. I believe the US\$5,000 we are giving to each entrepreneur will address some pressing demands and reduce the burden brought about by the pandemic," Ugochukwu stated.

The platform's unique training curriculum covered insightful topics such as Starting your business, Business management and fundamentals, Leadership and business growth, Marketing strategy, Product design, and Selecting and Building a team, among others. "Year after year, we are greatly inspired by the tenacity and quality of business ideas that come out of Africa. This only proves that young Africans need organisations like the Tony Elumelu Foundation who are willing to take a chance on them and their ideas," she concluded.

Through the US\$100million donated by Elumelu in 2015, the TEF Entrepreneurship Programme empowers thousands of entrepreneurs annually, who benefit from mentorship, business management training, access to new markets, a US\$5,000 in non-refundable seed capital, and networking opportunities to promote their businesses to a global audience. Since the programme's inception, TEF has trained over 1.5 million young Africans and funded over 10,000 entrepreneurs across all 54 African countries.



TEF's CEO, Ifeyinwa Ugochukwu.

There's enough room for e-Naira, says Luno's GM

LAGOS

THE launch of Nigeria's central bank digital currency (CBDC) e-Naira is a positive move and does not present a problem for cryptocurrencies, according to Marius Reitz, General Manager for Africa at Luno crypto exchange.

Reitz says the move recognises the potential of blockchain technology, but it won't be easy to convince stakeholders (including banks, merchants and businesses) to readily adopt the currency in order for it to gain early traction.

He believes it could take up to a decade for the entire country to adopt the e-Naira. "The main consideration for the CBN is that it may take a very long time to move from the pilot phase to legislation (potentially 10-20 years) and cryptocurrencies could have a considerable rise in popularity during this time."

According to Reitz, in the meantime the CBDC and cryptocurrencies can co-exist - like fiat and digital currencies do today, despite their different mechanisms (open vs. closed systems). He adds that in a free market like Nigeria, value will always "flow to the system that is most useful and valuable to people."

On 25 October Nigeria became the largest economy to date to launch a CBDC pilot and the first in Africa. Despite a rocky start and poor reviews of the Android version of its app, the situation seems to have normalised and the currency seems steady.

President Muhammadu Buhari said the e-Naira would improve remittances, cross-border trade and financial inclusion. He projected an improvement in the country's economy and an increase in GDP by US\$29-billion over the next ten years.

Energy ministry directorate outlines various social and economic gains JNHPP promises

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

THE government and other stakeholders have outlined several socio-economic benefits and other potential returns that will be accrued from Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project.

So far implementation of the project which is valued at over 6.5trn/-, is going on well with implementation for works related to electricity generation (critical paths) reaching 55.6 percent.

Speaking at a stakeholders policy dialogue on the benefits of the project in Dar es Salaam last week, a Director from Ministry of Energy, Oscar Kashaigili said the project has so far created 8,600 jobs of which 7,700 of the employees are Tanzanians. Kashaigili said that, in addition, there also has been improvement in tourism activities at the Selous Wildlife Reserve because the environment has improved for animal due to presence of water.

"We have increase national income from tourism activities around the project, increase investment and production in industrial sector and other sectors of the economy and opened up sustainable fishing opportunities at the dam controlled by official public institution," he said.

He further explained that the project has increased small entrepreneurs' activities, thus reducing unemployment in the country while the dam has provided sufficient water for use in Dar es Salaam and Coast Regions.

"The Julius Nyerere dam will also reduce the impact of Rufiji River flooding in the downstream," Kashaigili noted. The Ministry of Energy Director explained that other potential opportunities include that local companies are selling goods and services to the contractors hence increasing government revenue from their sales while also providing employment.

The project will facilitate the selling of excess electricity through the Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) and Southern Africa Power Pool (SAPP) systems and thus contribute to growth of gross domestic product.

Kashaigili noted that the mega



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has a first hand account of construction work of Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project along Rufiji River mid this year.

project will also create a 914 square kilometres reservoir and provide the fishing sector with enough area to operate. The huge dam will also provide an opportunity for aquaculture with introduction of different fish species to expand the sector.

"The socio-economic activities undertaken on upstream of the dam can be shifted to the downstream for the purpose of maintaining hydrological flow in the Rufiji Basin," he explained while noting that downstream fertile land in Rufiji and Kibiti of Coastal region; and Kilwa in Lindi region is suitable for the cultivation of a variety of crops.

He urged respective government agencies, departments and ministries to seize opportunities available in various sectors and work with the public and private sectors to invest and exploit such potentials. "It is therefore important to start planning and budgeting for the development of identified opportunities," Kashaigili added.

Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHPP) is located at Nyerere National Park (NNP) along Rufiji River. The JNHPP

include the reservoir at a height of 188 metres above sea level. The JNHPP is expected to produce 2,115 megawatts with annual energy production of 6,307 gigawatts per hour (GWh).

The project involves construction of main dam, powerhouse, employer's operational villages, saddle dams, switchyard, roads and bridges.

The government through Tanesco contracted M/S JV Arab Contractors and Elsewedy Electric of Egypt in December 2018 with a completion schedule within 42 months including six months of material mobilization and 36 months of construction work. The contract commenced on 15th December, 2018 and is due for completion in June, 2022. The contractor has, as of October 2021, been paid a total of 2.99trn/- or 100 percent of all the work performed. The payment is equivalent to 45.6 percent of the total contract value of 6.558trn/-.

Deputy National Authorizing Officer for European Development Fund, Jonathan Mpuya said it is important that different stakeholders understand the benefits of the mega project so that they can

exploit such opportunities.

"The government should now create a conducive environment for the private sector participation and this should include the surrounding communities made of smallholder farmers and artisanal fishermen.

Seconding Mpuya's remarks, Deputy Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Amina Khamis Shaaban said the policy dialogue is part of development framework under the supervision of the ministry aimed at mobilizing stakeholders to seize opportunities at JNHPP. "These activities will be implemented for eight years until 2025 and its in line with Tanzania Development Vision of 2025," Shaaban said.

Minister for agriculture Prof. Adolf Mkenda explained that upon completion of the project, Tanzanians should expect reliable but cheap power supply including surplus that will be sold to neighbouring countries.

Firms hire, raise salaries after end of night curfew

NAIROBI

KENYA'S private sector hiring increased in October and firms also increased workers' pay, partly helped by the government easing some restrictions aimed at containing the spread of Covid-19, findings of a monthly survey show.

In late October, President Uhuru Kenyatta lifted a night-time curfew that had been in place since March 2020, a move that was expected to spur economic activity. Stanbic Bank Kenya's Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) found that companies increased their workforce for six months in a row, with salaries growing fastest as a form of staff motivation and compensation against inflation.

The increased hiring last month was meant to boost production capacity and clear orders from previous months said the survey— which tracks performance in key economic sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, construction, wholesale and retail, services and mining. The sustained hiring is a boost to jobseekers, especially the more than one million young people who graduate from colleges and secondary schools in search of low-cadre positions like clerks.

Nearly 730,000 jobs were lost last year when Kenya imposed coronavirus-induced lockdowns that led to layoffs, pay cuts and unpaid leave. The pay rise is also a departure from last year when average earnings for workers in the private sector grew at the slowest pace in a decade.

"Following the trend for new business, Kenyan companies hired additional workers for the sixth month running in October," said the survey. "However, the pace of job creation slowed from the previous month and was modest, as some respondents cited delays in filling open positions."

Agriculture, construction and services posted increased employment in October, while manufacturers – who have been the hardest hit by constraints in the global supply chain – slowed the pace of hiring for the first time in eight months.

Findings of the latest Economic Survey by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) show companies raised average monthly pay by 3.82 percent to Sh67,490 in the year ended June 2020, a steep drop from the 8.16 percent raise to Sh65,006 the year before.

That was the slowest rise in earnings since 2011 when firms raised average pay by 3.48 percent, and nearly half the average 7.41 percent in a decade before last year. The Markit Stanbic Bank Kenya Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 51.4 in October from 50.4 a month earlier. The 50.0 mark separates growth from contraction inactivity.

"Business activity expanded at the fastest pace in the past five months, driven by higher demand and output. The improvement in domestic demand was driven by increased client spending primarily in wholesale and retail trade," said Kuria Kamau, Fixed Income and Currency Strategist at Stanbic Bank. The Treasury forecasts an economic growth rate of six percent this year compared with a 0.3 percent contraction in 2020.

The economic recovery has been overshadowed by higher taxation measures, global oil prices and persistent disruptions in global supply chains, which pushed cost pressures to a 16-month high during the peak in July.

Input costs last month rose at the highest pace since July on the back of a weak supply of materials as a result of constraints at major ports in China and the US, the rising cost of energy and higher value-added tax (VAT), according to the PMI report.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Africa must react or risk losing huge mobile money opportunity

JOHANNESBURG

GLOBALLY, as well as in Africa and South Africa, the payments industry suffered a much-smaller-than-anticipated impact from the COVID-19 crisis and has returned to growth with renewed momentum, according to a new report, titled Global Payments 2021: All In for Growth, by Boston Consulting Group (BCG).

This 19th annual analysis by BCG of the global payments industry reports that the sector responded quickly to challenges posed by the pandemic, from e-commerce adoption to accelerating cash-to-noncash conversion. Global payments revenues declined by only 2.5% from 2019 to 2020, to US\$1.5-trillion, and they could reach US\$2.9-trillion by 2030.

BCG's five-year outlook suggests that global payments revenues will expand by a healthy 7.3% from 2020 to 2025. All regions are likely to see strong growth over the next five years, with the Middle East and Africa expected to enjoy a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6.9% from 2020 to 2025. This follows closely behind the global leader, Asia-Pacific, which is expected to have a CAGR of 8.8%.

"This growth forecast makes the Middle East and Africa one of the world's strongest frontiers for payments. This is a huge region, however, with very different market characteristics from one sub-region to another - and despite challenges around less developed banking infrastructure in Sub-Saharan Africa as a whole, we believe that Africa is poised to see significant payments growth," says Tijsbert Creemers, Managing Director and Partner at Boston Consulting Group, Johannesburg, and co-author of the report.

Harnessing a rich digital payments ecosystem

In Africa, this growth has been and will continue to be augmented by high mobile

penetration driving digital ecosystems and platform solutions. Like payments front-runners China and India, the continent's explosive digital payments evolution will be driven by local dynamics that include strong consumer interest in using mobile money and low card and banking penetration, BCG states.

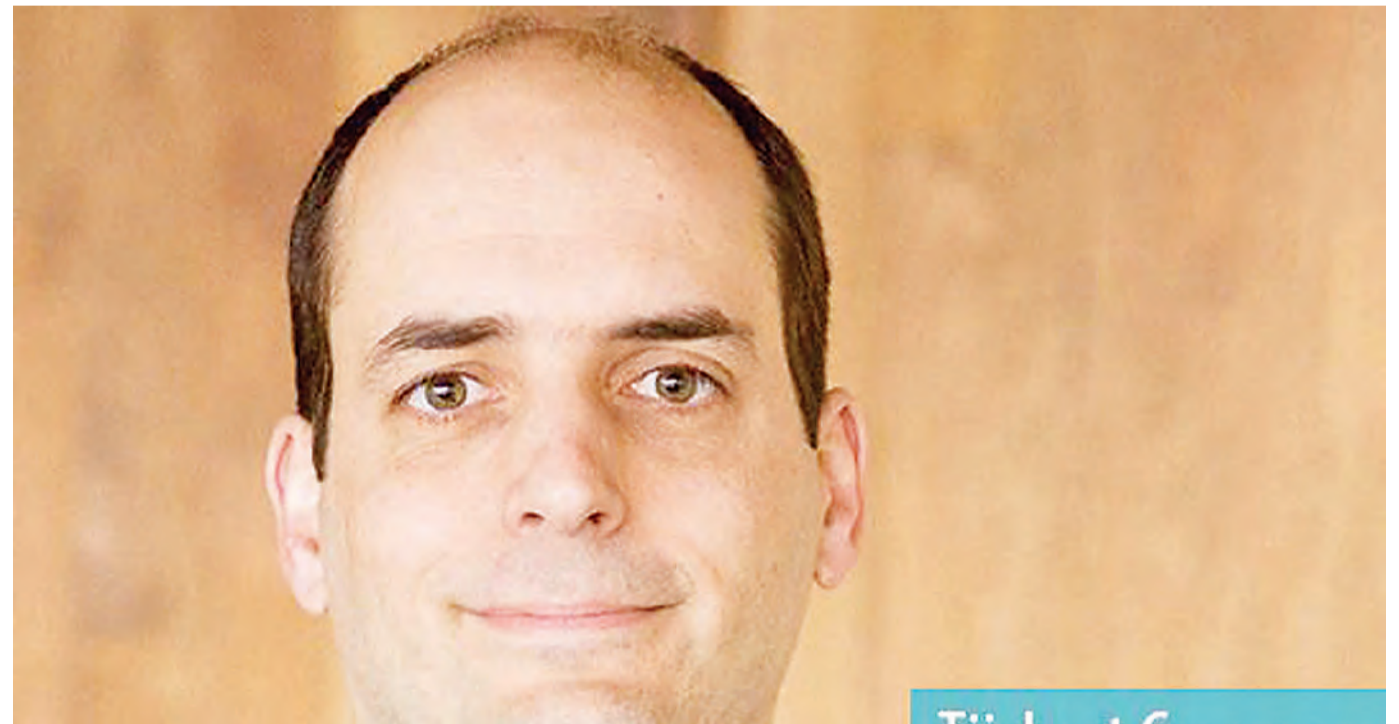
The business strategy and tech solutions consultancy says South Africa is a mature market in terms of payments infrastructure. Most major banks in the country have enabled digital wallets such as Apple Pay and Samsung Pay, and the country's retail real-time payments system is expected to launch in 2022.

In countries like Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, and Côte d'Ivoire, mobile wallets and money have already largely displaced cash - which is costly and dangerous to carry - and opened access to financial services products, driving financial inclusion in a region where this has traditionally been a challenge.

"With the right strategies in place and ongoing investment in creating a rich customer experience that meets customer needs, mobile payments players in Africa should continue to see strong growth in this highly competitive space," says Creemers. These opportunities extend to ecosystems, which have expanded rapidly in the past few years, too, with payments players capturing as much as two-thirds of the region's fintech funding in 2019.

Both banks and Fintechs in South Africa and across the rest of Africa have consistently continued to innovate to address challenges in critical sectors such as agriculture, education, and healthcare, as well as in driving financial inclusion across the continent - and, in line with global trends, after years of strong growth, Fintechs are entering a stage of more mature development.

"There is plenty of movement in this high-value area, in terms of innovation



Tijsbert Creemers, Managing Director and Partner at Boston Consulting Group in Johannesburg.

and in terms of industry consolidation and M&A, as banks increasingly acquire Fintechs and start-ups to achieve greater scale and improve risk modelling capabilities to accommodate growth in payments and finance products," says Creemers.

Re-engaging in payments as a strategic play

Banks and networks across the continent have shown they are not standing idle in the face of rapid innovation and competition from mobile network operators and Fintechs - they are re-engaging in payments as a strategic play to acquire data and create rich interactions with customers.

In addition to deal-making through M&A, consolidation and merchant acquiring, they are modernising their payments technology and leveraging their geographical footprint to introduce innovative payments services.

They are also increasingly using insights from payment data and transactional behaviour to provide a rich customer experience and to add value by offering personalised services and solutions that are built around customer behaviour.

These advances are accompanied by emerging trends around faster adoption of digital currency activity, and focusing on regulations around payments. "Globally, the intensity around digital currencies is growing, and although it isn't a major trend in South Africa or the rest of Africa yet, it is going to require scale in the next five to 10 years when it becomes more mainstream, and banks will need to have a digital currency strategy incorporating risk mitigation in place," says Creemers.

Likewise, banks and payments players will need to focus on evolving regulations, and finding the balance between speeding

up payments innovation by removing unnecessary red tape and maintaining the integrity of payments through sound regulatory frameworks.

"As it stands, the payments ecosystem is thriving in South Africa and across Africa, and the opportunity to increase adoption of digital payments across the continent could allow Africa to leapfrog more mature markets, where cards remain the primary instrument for some time. This will require a clear strategy around where to invest to capture future valueables that deliver innovation, growth, customer value and financial inclusion," says Creemers.

WORLD

Ethiopians denounce US at rally to back military campaign

ADDIS ABABA

TENS of thousands of Ethiopians rallied in Addis Ababa on Sunday to support Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government as federal troops fight rebellious forces threatening to march on the capital.

Some demonstrators denounced the United States, one of the foreign powers that has called for a ceasefire to a year-long war, which has intensified amid advances by rebellious forces in the past week.

The UN Security Council, the African Union, and Kenya and Uganda have also called for a ceasefire in the conflict that has killed thousands of people.

Canada, calling the situation in Ethiopia "rapidly evolving and deteriorating", has withdrawn the families of its embassy staff and non-essential Canadian employees, the foreign ministry said on Sunday. Its embassy remains open in the capital.

Abiy's government, which has pledged to keep fighting, said on Friday it had a responsibility to secure the country and urged foreign powers to stand with Ethiopia's democracy. The state-appointed Ethiopian Human Rights Commission said on Sunday the authorities appeared to be using a state of emergency declared on Tuesday to arrest people based on ethnic identity.

"In some police stations, the families are denied access to the detainees, and they can't deliver food and clothing. On top of that, elders and mothers with children are among the detainees," the commission said in a statement.

The government spokesperson Legesse Tulu and federal police spokesperson Jeylan Abdi did not immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment.

Police spokesperson Fasika Fante denied on Thursday that arrests were ethnically motivated, saying those detained "directly or indirectly" backed the Tigray People's Liberation Front, an outlawed party that was once part of Ethiopia's government and is now battling federal forces.

Some of those gathered for the rally in Meskel Square in Addis Ababa draped themselves in the national flag.

"Shame on you USA," read one placard, while another said the United States should stop "sucking Ethiopia's blood".

'They will never succeed'

US President Joe Biden's administration on Tuesday accused Ethiopia of "gross violations" of human rights and said it planned to remove the country from a US trade pact.

The conflict in the north of the country started a year ago when forces loyal to the TPLF seized military bases in the Tigray region. In response, Abiy sent troops, who initially drove the TPLF out of the regional capital, Mekelle, but have faced a sharp reversal since June this year.

Some demonstrators voiced anger over a US call for the government and TPLF to negotiate. "They want to destroy our country like they did to Afghanistan. They will never succeed, we are Ethiopians," said 37-year-old Tigist Lemma.

Addis Ababa Mayor Adanech Abiebe ad-



Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed

dressed protesters and cited Ethiopia's history of resisting colonial power to justify the war. The conflict has killed thousands of people, forced more than 2 million from their homes and left 400,000 people in Tigray facing famine.

UN aid chief Martin Griffiths travelled to Mekelle on Sunday and met women affected by the fighting and humanitarian partners, the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said.

OCHA said he "engaged with de facto authorities on the need for humanitarian access and protection of civilians through all areas under their control, and respect for humanitarian principles."

'Ask for reconciliation'

A humanitarian source in Ethiopia and one person familiar with the matter told Reuters that the AU's special envoy to the Horn of Africa, Olusegun Obasanjo, was also on the trip.

The AU and government spokesperson Legesse did not respond to a request for comment. TPLF spokesperson Getachew Reda told Reuters that Griffiths and Obasanjo visited Mekelle.

At the Addis Ababa rally, pop-

ular musician Tariku Gankisi, whose songs call for Ethiopian unity, urged restraint.

"Let no youth go to the front lines to fight, let the elders go holding the fresh grass and ask for reconciliation," Tariku told the crowd, before his microphone was switched off, it was unclear by whom. Fresh grass is a symbol of peace in Ethiopia.

Under a state of emergency declared on Tuesday, the government can order citizens of military age to undergo training and accept military duties.

Reuters has not been able to confirm independently the extent of the TPLF advance. The TPLF and their allies told Reuters last week they were 325 km (200 miles) from the capital. The government accuses the group of exaggerating its gains.

The government has also complained about foreign media coverage of the conflict and some people at the rally held signs denouncing "fake news" in Ethiopia.

Billene Seyoum, Abiy's spokesperson, said on Twitter on Saturday: "Orchestrated media propaganda against Ethiopia is escalating ... Despite it all Ethiopia will overcome!" **Agencies**

Iraq's prime minister says he knows who committed attack against him

CAIRO

IRAQ'S Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi has said that the country's authorities know the names of those who carried out an attack against him early Sunday and vowed that they would be apprehended in the near future.

"We will pursue those who committed yesterday's crime. We know them well and we will expose them," he said, according to a statement from the prime minister's office. "There are those who are trying to tamper with Iraq's security and want it to be a gang state, but we will not let this happen."

Al-Kadhimi said that certain forces in Iraq were opposed to the ongoing democratic change and struggle against corruption.

He stressed, "We prevented Iraq from slipping into a regional war and were able to take the country to safety. We fought corruption, and we will not stop pursuing the corrupt. They will not escape justice."

The assassination attempt against Iraq's prime minister took place in the early hours of Sunday. Al-Kadhimi's home in Baghdad's tight security Green Zone, where foreign embassies and government offices are located, was attacked by bomb-laden drones. Al-Kadhimi said in Twitter he remained unhurt.

According to the television broadcaster Al-Arabiya, the drones were launched from Baghdad's northern suburb approximately ten kilometers away from the "green zone." At least seven people were injured in the attack.

Putin to speak at APEC virtual summit on November 12 - Kremlin

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin will take part in the summit of the leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies that will run via a videoconference on November 12, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told TASS on Sunday.

"Yes, it is being planned," Peskov said in response to a question about whether the Russian leader was expected to deliver a speech at the APEC summit on November 12.

As APEC announced on its website, the summit of the association's leaders will be chaired by Prime Minister of New Zealand Jacinda Ardern. This year, APEC held an extraordinary meeting of its leaders via a videoconference on July 16 to discuss measures to combat the coronavirus pandemic and overcome its consequences.

APEC comprises 19 countries. Among them there are 12 founding states (Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, the US, Thailand, the Philippines, South Korea and Japan), as well as China (joined in 1991), Mexico and Papua New Guinea (1993), Chile (1994), and Russia, Vietnam and Peru (1998). In 1991, two Chinese territories also joined APEC - Xianggang (Hong Kong) and Taiwan.

Considering the specifics of the association that includes both states and territories, the APEC members are traditionally referred to as "economies."

Tech sector: Israel approves permits for Palestinian workers

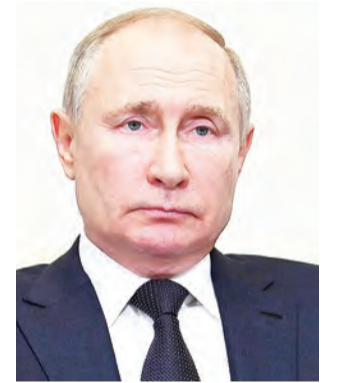
By Bloomberg

THE Israeli cabinet approved for the first time on Sunday the issuing of a limited number of permits for Palestinians to work in the technology sector in Israel.

Until now, the government had mainly signed off on construction, agriculture, industry and services workers. Israel's technology sector has been suffering from a shortage of trained workers in recent years. The program will allow company to employ Palestinian workers with advanced skills as an alternative to outsourcing to other countries, such as those in Eastern Europe.

Permits for as many as 200 workers will be issued in 2022, with an additional 200 in 2023, and 100 more in 2024. According to the plan, the salary of a Palestinian in the technology sector will not be less than 150 percent of the average salary in Israel.

The initiative "opens gates not only to low-salaried workers in services and industry but also to white-collar workers in a leading sector that has been suffering from a severe personnel shortage," said Esawi Frej, Israel's Minister of Regional Cooperation. **Agencies**



Johnson faces UK Parliament grilling over lobbying furore

By Bloomberg

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson is battling a mounting backlash over his attempt to protect a Conservative lawmaker found to have broken lobbying rules, with Parliament set to hold an emergency debate yesterday.

Johnson (pictured) was forced to perform a U-turn following widespread condemnation - including from fellow Tories - of his decision to try to tear up Parliament rules rather than accept the suspension of Owen Paterson, who was found guilty of paid advocacy on behalf of two companies.

The maneuver was attacked by Tory-leaning newspapers, and John Major, a former Conservative prime minister, accused the Johnson government of being "politically corrupt." The opposition Labor Party is expected to call for



Johnson to apologize when lawmakers in the House of Commons debate the Paterson case and standards later today.

Johnson himself is unlikely to attend the debate in person, Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan told Sky News on Monday.

"He will, no doubt, as we all do, have the House of Commons on in his office as he is dealing with many, many other

issues that only a prime minister can deal with," Trevelyan said. Speaker of the House of Commons Lindsay Hoyle will make a statement on how to tackle the issue, she added.

Sleaze

The episode has reignited allegations of sleaze against the Conservative Party, British media shorthand for questionable actions ranging from corruption or secretive financial arrangements to sex scandals. More than a dozen Tory members of Parliament defied Johnson and voted against the government last Wednesday, and many more abstained. Paterson, who has denied wrongdoing, resigned after Johnson was forced to back down.

"I want MPs to be able to do their job properly," Chris Bryant, the opposition Labor chairman of Parliament's

Committee on Standards. "I have some Conservative friends I disagree with about almost everything but they're trying to change the world for the better. If there is corruption in the British political system you can't do that."

The risk is that the scandal hurts Tory support among working-class voters in northern districts, whose switch away from Labor in 2019 helped Johnson win a powerful parliamentary majority.

Ratings slump

Johnson's approval rating slumped to a record low in the wake of the botched attempt to spare the former government minister, according to an Opinion poll for the Observer newspaper, while the Conservatives' lead over Labor fell to just a single percentage point. **Agencies**

Conservatives start ROK campaign with support at record

By Bloomberg

THE Republic of Korea's President Moon Jae-in's support rate neared a record low while the conservative opposition's hit a new high, a worrying sign for the leader's progressive camp as the campaign to replace him heats up.

Moon's support rate dropped to 34.2 percent, about a percentage point above the record low reached in April, according to a Realmeter weekly tracking poll released Monday. The support rate for the main conservative People Power Party, which held its primaries last week to

pick its presidential nominee as the poll was being conducted, rose to a record 46 percent, it said.

Moon's Democratic Party is battling to keep power in a March election against the resurgent conservative opposition, which on Friday picked former top prosecutor Yoon

Seok-youl as its nominee. Yoon wants to implement a 100-day emergency rescue plan for a COVID-19-hit economy that would provide a quick and hefty financial injection, he told the Yonhap News Agency soon after being nominated.

Opinion surveys have shown that the top concerns among

voters are high urban housing prices, where the average price of an apartment in Seoul has soared by about 90 percent during Moon's presidency. Another major issue is an inequality gap worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic and highlighted in the TV series "Squid Game." **Agencies**

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US court halts Biden's vaccine mandate for companies

WASHINGTON

A US federal appeals court ruled Saturday to temporarily halt a mandate by President Joe Biden's administration that required employees of large companies to get vaccinated or undergo frequent testing.

According to the mandate, employees of companies with a workforce of 100 or more must be fully vaccinated by Jan 4. Unvaccinated employees must submit weekly negative COVID-19 tests to enter the work-

place after the deadline, and have to wear masks indoors at their workplaces starting Dec 5.

Issued by three judges from the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit who were appointed by Republican presidents, the order reasoned that "there are grave statutory and constitutional issues with the Mandate" and suspended the mandate "pending further action by this court."

The court order came after a joint petition against the mandate from several Republican-

led states as well as several private companies.

In response to the petition, the Labor Department's top lawyer, Seema Nanda, said Friday that the department was "confident in its legal authority" to issue the mandate, which will be enforced by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

OSHA has the authority "to act quickly in an emergency where the agency finds that workers are subjected to a grave danger and a new standard is

necessary to protect them," she said, adding the administration was "fully prepared to defend this standard in court."

Costa Rica

Costa Rican children aged five and up must get COVID-19 vaccinations, according to a new health ministry mandate, making the Central American country one of the first to adopt such a requirement for kids.

The move would add COVID-19 to a list of other infectious diseases in which vaccines for

children have for years been required, including for polio and smallpox.

"Our basic vaccination scheme has made it possible to subdue many of the viruses that cause suffering and health consequences and even fatalities in the underage population," Health Minister Daniel Salas said in a statement issued on Friday, announcing the addition of COVID-19 to the scheme.

Coronavirus infection rates in Costa Rica have been trending down recently, with con-

firmed COVID-19 deaths totaling more than 7,000, according to official data, out of a population of around 5.1 million.

So far, nearly three-quarters of the country's 12 to 19-year-olds have received at least one vaccine dose, while about 54 percent of all Costa Ricans have been fully vaccinated.

Croatia

New COVID-19 cases in the past 24 hours in Croatia hit a new record high of 7,094 and resulted in 50 fatalities, which

was also a new daily record since the start of the pandemic, Croatian COVID-19 crisis management team said in a statement on Saturday.

As of Saturday, there are 31,689 active cases, including 1,786 hospitalized patients, 234 of whom are on ventilators, the statement said.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, as many as 497,168 people have been infected with the virus, and the total death toll has risen to 9,450 in the country. **Agencies**

CIIE to open new markets, create new opportunities

By Tian Hong, Ju Yunpeng

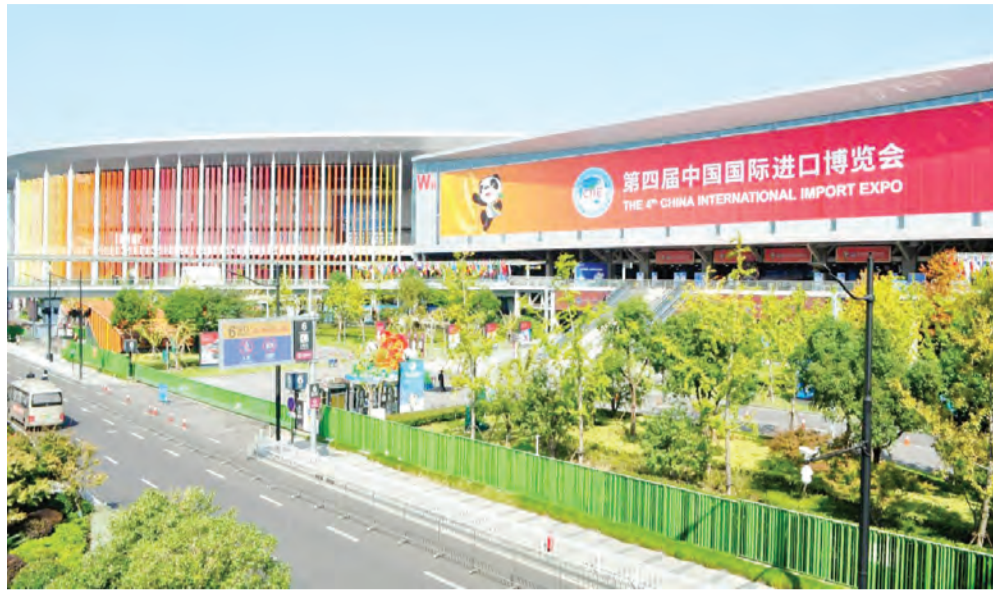
THE Chinese market is a huge magnet for foreign small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

At the ongoing 4th China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, 1,200 businesses among the 3,000 joining the event come in delegations.

There are nearly 50 foreign delegations, and their members are from over 40 countries and regions who are mostly SMEs and are engaged in a wide range of industries.

Besides, more than 30 least developed countries have attended the event to exhibit their agricultural and consumer products.

An official with the CIIE Bureau told People's Daily that a number of enterprises from Belt and Road countries and regions, Central and Eastern Europe, as well as Africa joined this year's CIIE despite the impacts from COVID-19, which has further enlarged the "circle of friends" of the event and highlighted the event's nature as an international public good for the world to share.



The exterior of the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai), a main venue for the fourth China International Import Expo. (Photo by Yan Daming/People's Daily Online)

Polish dairy company Vici Group entered the Chinese market in 2019 at the 2nd CIIE. According to statistics, the sales of Polish milk, powdered milk and cheese products in China surged 70 percent in 2020, making China the fastest-growing market for Polish dairy exports.



The CIIE benefits the whole world, said Andrzej Juchniewicz, chief representative of the Polish Investment and Trade Agency in China who has encouraged some 30 Polish companies to join the 4th CIIE.

The Japan External Trade Organization established a trade delegation consisting of over 100 enterprises to the CIIE this year, and a Japanese commodity base opened to consumers earlier this month at the Hongqiao Import Commodity

Exhibition and Trading Center in Shanghai, a permanent trading platform of the CIIE.

Among the 46 exhibitors that came to the 4th CIIE with the Singapore Business Federation, 18 are engaged in finance, logistics, infrastructure and education sectors.

The members of the delegation organized by the German Chambers of Commerce Abroad are mostly engaged in frontier sectors. Clas Neumann, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of

the German Chamber of Commerce in China, said that the CIIE is a platform where German enterprises can demonstrate their ability to make constant innovations to Chinese consumers.

The CIIE is also a fruitful event for purchasers, too. "Last year we purchased \$10 million worth of equipment at the CIIE, and our newly increased output value this year is expected to exceed 200 million yuan (\$31.26 million)," said Liu Zhongjie, a project manager of HISEMI Electronic Technology in Chizhou, east China's Anhui province.

Liu said the CIIE is a timely information platform for enterprises that enables the latter to follow the trend of industries. "Before coming to the 4th CIIE, we have negotiated with several foreign enterprises, and we are planning to purchase over 100 million yuan worth of equipment this time," Liu said.

"Enterprises have witnessed the development of industries and frontier technologies at the annual event, and learned advanced technologies and standards to make better commodities, technologies and brands of their own," said Wang Beilei, an offi-

cial with Xiangcheng district, Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu province.

She believes that to promote the upgrade and innovation of Chinese enterprises by applying new equipment, commodities and services in their development is an important part of the CIIE's spillover effect. This year, Xiangcheng district has organized a trade delegation of over 1,000 people to the CIIE, and its 230 participating enterprises are expected to reach deals totaling over \$60 million.

Yao Hai, an official with the Shanghai municipal government, noted that since the 1st CIIE, Shanghai and its districts, as well as their industrial parks and enterprises have been working together to turn exhibits into commodities, exhibitors into investors, and purchases into traders, and a series of major projects have been implemented in Shanghai, the Yangtze River Delta and even other larger areas.

This year, the cooperation and communication office of the municipal government of Shanghai has established a purchasing group, which is joined by over 300 enterprises, to make the spillover effect of the CIIE benefit more cities, enterprises and people, Yao said.

20 years since entry into WTO, China wins widespread recognition for honoring promise

By Ouyang Jie

CHINA puts a lot of effort into and carefully makes arrangements for the World Trade Organization (WTO) trade policy review every time, and takes seriously every question from WTO members, which fully manifests China's commitment to multilateral trading system and indicates that it attaches great importance to the reviews of the WTO, China's Ministry of Commerce (MOC) said at a recent press conference.

China has laid great stress on WTO's trade policy review all along since its accession to the international organization in 2001, said Wang Shouwen, China's vice minister of commerce and deputy China International Trade Representative, at a press conference on WTO's eighth trade policy review of China.

"Trade policy review is one of the three major functions of the WTO, and the other two are acting as a forum for trade negotiations and handling trade disputes between its members," Wang said, explaining that according to the existing rules, the WTO reviews China's trade policies every three years and that the organization has conducted the eighth trade policy review of China recently.

During the latest trade policy review, China's commerce minister Wang Wentao pointed out in his keynote speech that through untiring struggle and efforts as well as adherence to its reform and opening-up policy, China has achieved leapfrog economic development, providing huge opportunities for the world and making outstanding contributions to global economic development.

The commerce minister noted in his speech that over the past two decades since its entry into the WTO, China has strictly followed WTO rules, earnestly fulfilled its WTO commitments, and been a firm supporter of, active participant in, and important contributor to multilateral trading system. He also stressed that China has contributed to the global fight against the COVID-19 pandemic with practical actions.

"A total of 65 representatives of WTO members spoke at the conference session of the eighth WTO trade policy review of China. And they made positive comments about



Photo taken on Oct. 12, 2021 shows a busy container terminal of Lianyungang Port in Lianyungang, east China's Jiangsu province. (Photo by Si Wei/People's Daily Online)

China," Wang Shouwen said.

These representatives affirmed that China has actively participated in WTO activities, earnestly fulfilled its WTO commitments, actively taken part in WTO negotiations on fisheries subsidies, led the way in promoting negotiations on investment facilitation, and constructively participated in negotiations on e-commerce, according to the vice minister of commerce.

They spoke highly of China's important role in international anti-epidemic cooperation and praised China for supporting the WTO in making an early decision on waiving intellectual property rights for COVID-19 vaccines, he said.

Representatives of WTO members also expressed gratitude to China for granting zero-tariff treatment on imports from the least developed countries and helping other developing members and the least developed na-

tions integrate into the multilateral trading system, according to Wang.

Representatives fully affirmed China's efforts to voluntarily lower tariffs, shorten its negative lists for foreign investment access, continuously expand market access, actively promote facilitation and liberalization of trade and investment, and offer a broad market to WTO members, Wang said.

They believe that the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) gains huge potential for boosting trade and economic cooperation among relevant countries and has brought more opportunities for development to cooperative partners of China, he added.

"This year marks the 20th anniversary of China's accession to the WTO. If you look at the timetable for China's WTO obligations, you can see that we have fully fulfilled our obligations under the WTO as well as our commit-



Photo taken on May 19, 2021 shows workers of a healthcare product manufacturer based in Wenzhou, east China's Zhejiang province, are busy producing massage equipment to be exported to countries along the routes of the Belt and Road Initiative. (Photo by Su Qiaojiang/People's Daily Online)

ments to the organization. And several directors-general of the WTO and the vast majority of WTO members have given full affirmation and wide recognition to our performance in this regard," Wang said.

China has made active efforts to align itself with the WTO rules, according to Wang, who disclosed that after China joined the WTO, the central government of China has reviewed more than 2,000 trade-related laws, regulations, and departmental rules, and local governments across the country have reviewed over 190,000 trade-related local policies, laws, and regulations.

Meanwhile, the country has made sure that its newly-formulated policies, laws, and regulations are completely in conformity with WTO rules, Wang noted.

The country has made consistent efforts to open its market to the rest of the world, Wang said, explaining

that when China joined the WTO, its import tariffs stood at 15.3 percent on average, and it promised to reduce its average tariff level for imported goods to 9.8 percent. Now the country's overall import tariff level has been cut down to 7.4 percent, lower than that of all developing members and close to that of developed members of the WTO, according to Wang.

The WTO accession protocol and relevant working group reports stipulated that China needed to open 100 sub-sectors in nine categories in 2007, while the country has so far actually opened nearly 120 sub-sectors, overfulfilling its commitments, Wang said.

China has abided by WTO rules over the past two decades, according to Wang, who said that China has reported the introduction, adjustment to and the implementation of domestic laws to the WTO in a timely manner, with the number of relevant reports exceeding 1,000.

Robots empower various industries in China

By He Juan

CONSTANTLY evolving in terms of form and function, robots are altering people's mode of production and lifestyles and embracing broad prospects in China.

The 2021 World Robot Conference held in Beijing in September this year has gathered a wide variety of robots, including a giant robotic arm designed for space station that has a large load bearing capacity and can transfer astronauts in a wide range, an intelligent robot that can carry out tasks such as automatic sorting, identification and assembly, a medical robot that is able to perform precise operations under remote control and conduct minimally invasive surgery, and an intelligent fire-fighting robot that can work continuously in high temperatures of 1,000 degrees Celsius.

Achievements in the research and development (R&D), production and application of robots reflect a country's strength in sci-tech innovation and high-end manufacturing.

Industrial robots have unique



A subway attendant interacts with a robot to be put into service along Line 14 in Beijing, Sept. 15, 2021. (Photo by Chen Xiaogen/People's Daily Online)

advantages in modular, repetitive and precise production and can be applied in low-temperature, high-temperature, toxic and other dangerous environments, not only improving production efficiency and lowering labor costs, but pushing manufacturing toward a higher level of informatization and intelligentization.

In recent years, industrial robots have been widely adopted in 129 industries of 47 major categories in China, witnessing

a rapid increase in market size in the country.

China's production of industrial robots grew by 63.9 percent year on year during the first eight months of the year. The industry has become an epitome of the faster digital and intelligent transformation of Chinese manufacturing companies.

Besides manufacturing, robots have also played an increasingly important role in the service sector.

Service robots are seen giving directions at malls, supermarkets and hotels, taking care of the elderly at people's homes, assisting with medical diagnosis and treatment, and helping with teaching and learning.

More and more robots have been applied to scenarios including medical and health care, assistance for the elderly and people with disabilities, as well as education and entertainment in recent years, bringing better services and experiences to users while pushing back the boundaries of human imagination.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the advantages of contactless delivery robots and disinfection and temperature measuring robots have been brought into full play for epidemic prevention and control, generating more opportunities for the development of service robots.

By better satisfying people's daily needs, the robotics industry is expected to witness continuous emergence of new business models and forms.

The integration of new-generation information technol-



Photo taken on Oct. 12, 2021 shows a delivery robot in Huai'an city, east China's Jiangsu province. (Photo by Zhao Qirui/People's Daily Online)

ogy into the robotics industry and support from China's super-large market have contributed significantly to the increasingly important role of robots in boosting the development of various industries in China.

Integration with big data, cloud computing and other new technologies and the application of cutting-edge technologies including machine learning and bionic perception and cognition have

made robots become increasingly intelligent, with their abilities to learn and respond to external information continuously enhanced.

At the same time, the huge demand of the Chinese market and rich application scenarios have provided huge opportunities for the development of the robotics industry, and boosted continuous transformation and upgrading, as well as breakthroughs

and innovations in the industry.

China's robotics industry, which began from scratch and is growing stronger, has seen the formation of a relatively complete industrial chain and become an important pillar of the world's robotics industry.

However, it should be noted that the country's robotics industry is still at an early stage of development, with further breakthroughs required in many key core technologies.

As the new round of scientific and technological revolution and industrial revolution picks up speed, China's robotics industry is expected to embrace high-quality development with the country's efforts to strengthen basic research and technological breakthroughs and continuously expand the breadth and depth of innovation, and inject strong momentum into the transformation from "made in China" to "intelligently manufactured in China".

SPORT



Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon organizers request President Mwinyi to back insurance for men suffering prostate cancer

Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon organizers request President Mwinyi to back insurance for men suffering prostate cancer

By Steven Maira

THE 2021 Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon Organizing Committee has requested Zanzibar President, Hussein Ali Mwinyi, that funds to be raised from the race should, from next year, support insurance for men suffering prostate cancer.

After the four-kilometer march led by President Mwinyi, and the 21km and 10km races, the Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon Organizing Committee's Chairman, Abdallah Idrissa Majura, said they had opted for the move seeking to take a leaf from NMB Marathon's book.

The NMB Marathon is an annual race that seeks to help women with Fistula ailments.

"NMB Bank has good initiative for the community, we have to congratulate the institution because we have recently witnessed the Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa, receiving a 400m/- check for CCBRT Hospital so that the money can help Fistula treatment, this is a very good feedback," Majura noted.

He said he believed that health insurance for men treating prostate cancer would be a great help to them as the cost of treatment is as high as 2m/- depending on the stage the patient has reached.

"President, fortunately, you are a doctor, we believe that you know prostate cancer, the cost of treatment for the disease is very high, many people with the disease can hardly manage to meet treatment costs and they as a result are left unattended, we have felt we should present health insurance to back the patients in our social responsibility initiative," Majura stated.

He said the health insurance funds are expected to be received from the sponsors of the Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon, an event that organizers have requested to be held annually.

He disclosed he appealed to President Mwinyi the next year's race should take place in Pemba for what the Organizing Committee Chairman claimed as both parts of the Isles should benefit from the race.

He also said he does not remember when the half marathon was held in Pemba.

Efforts to obtain statistics on prostate cancer from Zanzibar's Ministry of Health have been unsuccessful.

However, technical reports indicate that most men have prostate cancer from the age of 50 onwards, an ailment that however breaks down frequent urinating.

This year's Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon's funds will be directed to starting the construction of the Fumba Fish Market, with the committee having donated 200 bags of cement, 200 roofing tiles, 50 stone trucks, and five large sand trucks.

The Organizing Committee Chairman also asked the President from next year each of the Isles' government ministry should contribute 300m/- to ensure that the race is held annually as relying on sponsors has challenges.

"President, we know your good intention in controlling government revenue, we, as a result, did not ask for any money from the government for this year's competition, since these races are very beneficial to Zanzibar, we ask you to agree to donate 42m/- that will give us the guarantee prior to depending on sponsors."

He said the fact that the Revolutionary Government has 14 ministries giving the Organizing Committee the amount will give it a guarantee of running the race every year, including inviting international athletes for it.

"President, Kili Marathon and Mwanza's Rocky Marathon are currently major races in Mainland Tanzania, now the NMB Marathon is coming up. We have planned that Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon should eventually develop into a prominent race in Tanzania set to promote Zanzibar and the blue economy."

He said they have reached the stage of submitting the request due to the challenges they faced in organizing this year's race.

Majura pointed out some had promised sponsorship for the race but until the day of the event, they had not deposited the money, others presented cash to the committee two days before the race.

He said some preparations need to be done in advance, for example, preparing medals that are imported from South Africa.

The official pointed out medals' producers want to be paid one month before the race so they can have time to prepare and transport them.

"We spent 8m/- to prepare the medals, we paid for them one month before the race but they were in Dar es Salaam two days before the event," Majura revealed, adding the delay left them worried.

Majura, whose committee is organizing the race for the first time, asked the sponsors who had confirmed to sponsor them but could not fulfil their promises, to honour their pledge, including the construction of the Fumba Fish Market which will start immediately after obtaining a building permit from the government.

“

President, fortunately, you are a doctor, we believe that you know prostate cancer, the cost of treatment for the disease is very high, many people with the disease can hardly manage to meet treatment costs and they as a result are left unattended, we have felt we should present health insurance to back the patients in our social responsibility initiative

SPORTS

FIFA could investigate 'counter promotion' in Simba SC fixtures

By Correspondent John Kimbute

TANZANIA Premier League perennial holders Simba SC seem to have an abnormal season this year owing to the intensity of the rivalry with their next street traditional rivals, with a sheer drop in the civility of the rivalry, to compare with negative rivalry in traditional society.

Often the latter is associated with witching, but it isn't the routine 'technical team' habits that worry club officials, team handlers, and players there but a different facet of things.

It is a readiness to use any means possible to outwit the Msimbazi Street side, where other teams are richly rewarded by local standards if they can do the job.

Some articulate observers pointed out in commentaries after the Simba SC-Namungo FC match at midweek that that players of the visiting side were crying after the final whistle, which is difficult to explain my usual reasoning, as it was not either a cup final or a deciding match for continental competition, etc.

Yet for players to cry there must be the clear and visible loss they comprehend to have suffered, with the emotional level depending on how intensely a particular player may have looked forward to that gain.

If this was the case it would fit squarely with what Msimbazi Street club insiders are saying as to the techniques in place.

There were at least two other incidents that are tell-tale signs of what is taking place, namely a situation where a premier league side is told that if they defeat the reigning champions they will share around 30m/- between them, and if they draw, half of that amount will be shared between them.

That sort of reward is not habitual, first because playing Simba fetches the same points as playing anyone else, and nobody would go out of their way to motivate their players so hard, except if there is a third party.

And when that sort of reward is announced by the regional commissioner could one doubt it?

When the first regional commissioner



Simba SC players participate in training in Dar es Salaam to prepare for past Premier League fixtures. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

made mention of such a reward either for a win against Simba or for a draw, some social media contributors from among the fans expressed amazement at the fact that the RC has no such funds in place, so the supposed motivation looked bizarre.

But then another RC made the same remark when their regional team was preparing to tackle the reigning champions, and definitely, he does not ordinarily have such funds either, it was an additional piece of evidence, it's a hallmark if you want, that there was a conspiracy.

Someone was ready to pay for a win or a draw against the Msimbazi Street side by all means, fair or foul, for a hefty extra reward of labour.

That is where the proper investigation would start, from the US fiction writing wisdom of 'follow the money,' as to who is ready to pay through the nose so that upcountry clubs do all they can, fair or foul, to obtain a good result against Simba, even it is ordinarily way out of proportion to

imagine they could do it.

The searching obviously wouldn't have to pursued far and wide, the likely choirmaster is just around the corner, and either alone or with a few friends he would have deep enough pockets to make that promise is realized.

The question is what that means for local soccer and the premier league as a whole, if it is worth keeping as it is or it ought to be reformulated to make it less chaotic, more professional.

Arguably there are no easy answers in that direction but it would have to take an investigation by the international federation (FIFA) to determine if there was foul play at an organizational level or not.

Local agencies can't do the job because each one of us is either a fan of Msimbazi Street or Jangwani Street club sides, and no professional panel can be formed whose members will stick to the rules and seek out the truth in what has been taking place.

But it would take a complaint from the reigning champions that some work is done in that direction, either sending a FIFA official as it happened in the past or engaging a competent legal firm to make head and tail of what happened, to report back to FIFA.

The point of departure of such investigation could plausibly be a proper explanation from the RCs as to how they made credible announcements of excessively generous rewards for good results against the club champions as if this mattered.

In a sense, such an appeal to players was pointless as a lower end and middle-level clubs would naturally hold back against the champions, except at most a thin victory for the top contenders, but not fight tooth and nail as if it was their very last day in the competition.

Yet that is what the players were being told to do, and they would also explain to a FIFA panel or battery of lawyers.

If someone is playing foul, pushing 24 fouls against Simba players in the last match, a stiff penalty beckons.

Taifa Stars to face a tough test against DR Congo



Senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' players participate in training in Dar es Salaam yesterday ahead of their African Qualifiers for 2022 FIFA World Cup's Group J fixture against DR Congo. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

WHILE it is not reasonable to expect that the Taifa Stars will hand out a veritable shellacking to DR Congo in their imminent World Cup qualifier here in Dar es Salaam, there are still grounds nonetheless to expect that our home team will emerge victorious against such a fearsome foe.

For one thing, the Stars will be hosting DR Congo, which means that the influence of the 12th man, that is, the home supporters, will hopefully help to tip the scales in our favour.

Granted, it is a bald fact that DR Congo is one of the continent's trickiest opponents to overcome.

That being said, though, as they head into the arduous encounter, the Taifa Stars are comfortably ensconced in the driver's seat of their World Cup qualifying pool, which is Group J, and this fact should arm the Stars with

confidence.

The thing about confidence, however, is that it is often a double-edged sword, meaning that appropriate levels of confidence can work to one's advantage but excessive levels of this same emotion can swiftly lead to disastrous self-destruction.

This then means that the Taifa Stars will have to be confident without displaying any traces of braggadocio, and it is hoped that this strategy will lead them to what would be a vital victory at a critical moment in the world cup qualifiers.

Let us sally forth now onto the perennially interesting terrain of our top-flight competition, the Mainland Premier League.

Thus far, Yanga is the team that has emerged the quickest out of the starting blocks, which is obvious as the Jangwani street side are presently sitting prettily atop the table with a 100 percent record

in the league so far after five games having been played.

However, apart from Yanga's virtuoso displays, another major talking point to have emerged from the league thus far has been the ferocious competition witnessed in the championship.

Indeed, this no-holds-barred competition has captured the imagination of football fans and it has caught the eye of football coaches too.

For example, the Dodoma Jiji FC head coach Mbwana Makata has remarked that there are no league matches that are like a piece of cake, and this sentiment was similarly expressed by the Namungo FC head coach Hemed Suleiman 'Morocco'.

At this critical juncture, it should be noted that a competitive national football league makes for a superb and classy national football team.

Thus, one hopes that this trend of increasing competition is strengthened during the unfolding season.

Fans finally return in Seville for Spain's 'Gran Derbi' like no other

MADRID

IT could have been the whistles from inside the Benito Villamarín as Sevilla's players jogged out to warm up or the whistles outside in the streets, as more Real Betis fans decided to join in.

It could have been the chanting and clapping and shouting as thousands draped in green and white walked towards their gates, or the hooves against the ground, horses patrolling, with police perched on top.

There were flares smacking on pavements and helicopters in the sky, feet climbing steps and hands slapping on backs.

"Just listen to that," said Real Betis fan Jose Maria, pointing behind him. "That's the sound of a football match."

It was 728 days since the last Seville derby had been played with fans, another welcome reprieve for supporters in Spain but this one perhaps the most welcome of all.

If the Clasico between Real Madrid and Barcelona is La Liga's most famous fixture, 'El Gran Derbi' between Sevilla and Real Betis is the one most synonymous with supporters, a celebration of devotion and loyalty to two teams situated just four kilometres apart.

"I took a boat and a bus to get here," says Juan Carlo, who has been a Betis socio for nearly 50 years. "Without fans this game was terrible, to be honest it was nothing. With fans, it's the best game in the world."

It was also the first match without any fans at all, the starkest demonstration of what had changed and what had been lost.

On June 10 last year, Sevilla faced Real Betis as football resumed in spite of the pandemic, in front of empty seats, with players arriving in kit and people locked down at home.

'Absence of magic' - "To return is to win," ran La Liga's slogan but even if the victory was necessary and better than nothing, it felt hollow.

Amid nervousness about coming back, Sevilla midfielder Ivan Rakitic was among the loudest voices in favour.

"I have heard a lot of talk about us having to play for economic reasons but I haven't heard anyone talk about the fans, the people, for whom their club is a part of their life and it's been taken away from them. We have to step forward," he said.

Drab draw with Everton shows task ahead for Conte at Tottenham

LONDON

ANTONIO Conte said Tottenham have a "lot of space for improvement" after his first Premier League game in charge of the club ended in a drab 0-0 draw at Everton on Sunday.

A game short on clear-cut chances could easily have ended in Spurs' sixth defeat in eight league games but for a controversial intervention from VAR to overturn the decision to award Everton a second-half penalty.

Giovanni Lo Celso nearly snatched all three points for Tottenham when his shot hit the post late on before Everton had to see out stoppage time a man down following Mason Holgate's straight red card.

Conte can point to a first clean sheet in the league since August as the first sign of progress since replacing Nuno Espirito Santo earlier this week. However, their struggle to score goals goes on as Harry Kane has still netted just once in the Premier League this season.

"For sure we can improve. We have a lot of space for improvement: tactically, physically and also mentally," said Conte. "But today I have seen the heart and passion of my players. The will to sacrifice, to fight, to understand there were moments of difficulty, and to see this type of reaction makes me more confident for the future."

"I think when you want to be

There were two more derbies, including the 100th in the top flight, and all of them felt diminished, like games everywhere, but perhaps in this game more than anywhere else.

"In the absence of magic, all that was left was metal studs," wrote El Mundo.

Joaquin, Real Betis' iconic forward, who joined the club aged 16 and turned 40 in July, even renewed his contract for another season, determined not to retire without people in the stands. "It would make me sad if my last year was like this," he said.

With Betis 2-0 down, Joaquin came on as a substitute in the 89th minute on Sunday, applauded by those home supporters that were left.

Just over an hour earlier, hundreds of green and white flags fluttered around the pitch as 50,534 fans, minus Sevilla's 600, sang the Betis anthem.

"Hay una leyenda que recorre el mundo entero," goes one line, "a legend that runs throughout the whole world."

In the afternoon, clouds of red smoke had covered the Sevilla team bus as thousands waited to greet the players arriving at the doorway of the Lebreros hotel.

On Saturday, they had waited to serenade them after a last training session at the Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan.

"Tomorrow the essence of the derby returns, the fans," said Monchi, Sevilla's sporting director.

"Betis and Sevilla fans were born with this feeling. Let's show the world what our derby is: 90 minutes of passion and dedication for the colours, for our coexistence, and respect for the rest of the season."

Sevilla, in third, were took strong for Betis, in fifth. Shortly after half-time, Marcos Acuna rifled a shot into the top corner and with nine minutes left, Hector Bellerin diverted into his own net, prompting Betis fans to turn for home.

At almost 11pm local time, with most of the stadium empty and the final whistle long gone, Sevilla's players skipped back out onto the pitch.

In the far right corner they danced, the last sound of the match Sevilla's fans high up above them and still there, celebrating the night the derby returned.

AFP

Klopp frustrated as Liverpool lose at inspired West Ham

LONDON

LIVERPOOL's 3-2 defeat at West Ham came as a surprise given they were the Premier League's last unbeaten team, but there was a moment midway through the second half when manager Jürgen Klopp knew it was coming.

With the game delicately poised at 1-1, play came to a standstill close to his technical area just after the hour mark and the Liverpool boss' agitation was palpable with a team that looked ragged and was losing shape, while trying to force the issue having dominated possession.

Klopp shouted at right-back Trent Alexander-Arnold, instructing him to stay closer to the flank rather than drift infield. The manager circled the air with his hands, desperately telling his players to resume playing in a more controlled manner.

He readied substitute Thiago Alcántara to help them do just that, but before the Spanish midfielder could come on, West Ham retook the lead. Sadio Mané lost possession and Liverpool were exposed. Jarrod Bowen burst forward and timed his pass to perfection, releasing Pablo Fornals for a low shot that Alisson should arguably have saved.

These are heady days for David Moyes and West Ham. In the euphoria that followed, Liverpool lost their composure and Kurt Zouma added a third with a far-post header from Bowen's corner. Divock Origi halved the deficit, but the Hammers held on for a deserved win.

Although the result sees them drop to fourth – leapfrogged by Sunday's opponents – the recriminations shouldn't be too brutal for Liverpool. After all, they had not lost for 25 matches across all competitions and sit just four points behind leaders Chelsea and one adrift of Manchester City.

But the Hammers were supposed to be the team struggling to cope with the additional demands of European football, not a Liverpool side that wore the effects of a draining



Jürgen Klopp

week, which began with a 2-2 draw against Brighton before an authoritative 2-0 Champions League win over Atletico Madrid.

"We should have controlled the game still in the second half and for whatever reason, it looked a little bit for me like we lost patience," Klopp said. "We didn't have enough clear-cut chances, so we wanted to change the wrong things. Our passing changed too early. We had to do it higher up the pitch as then you are better protected, but we were in situations where we lost the balls."

Perhaps that second-half slump suggests injuries are starting to catch up with the Anfield club. Up front, Diogo Jota struggled to offset Roberto Firmino's absence, but the issue is more prevalent in midfield.

This was Fabinho's second start in five days after missing the last five games with a knee problem. Meanwhile, with Naby Keita (hamstring) joining James Milner, Curtis Jones and Harvey Elliott on the sideline, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain has not convinced he can pin down the central midfield role he has long coveted.

Thiago only returned from six

weeks out with a calf injury as a substitute against Atletico and has been inevitably rusty. As such, the decision by Liverpool not to replace Georginio Wijnaldum, who left as a free agent after last season, feels particularly relevant on days like this.

And yet, what came before and after West Ham's quick double strike, which proved the defining passage of the game, threatened to deliver a different outcome.

West Ham took a fourth-minute lead when Angelo Ogbonna's challenge on Alisson from Fornals' corner survived a lengthy VAR check, first for a foul and then handball. Under pressure from Ogbonna, Liverpool's goalkeeper got the final touch as he fell backward, diverting the ball into his own net via the far post.

"It is a clear foul on Alisson," Klopp said. "How can it not be? The arm from Ogbonna is there. You always have to say the ref (Craig Pawson) maybe in the game can see it but when you see the dynamic of the whole situation, when they all go down, how close they are."

"They are in each other, how can that not be a foul already without pushing the arm of Alisson? But

the ref made it easy for himself and thought 'come on, let's see what the VAR is saying.' VAR [Stuart Attwell] had a look and said 'not clear and obvious,' and gives the goal which is really strange."

Liverpool's response was impressive. After Aaron Cresswell survived another VAR check for a high tackle on Jordan Henderson – described by Klopp as a "reckless challenge" worthy of a "clear red card" – the visitors began to monopolise possession, albeit without initially testing goalkeeper Lukasz Fabianski.

That changed four minutes before the break. Mohamed Salah went down rather easily under a challenge from Cresswell and, after shifting the ball right and a touch from Salah, Alexander-Arnold delivered a pinpoint free kick that curled inside the left-hand post and left Fabianski rooted to the spot.

And after Fornals and Zouma turned the game in West Ham's favour, Liverpool rallied again. Alexander-Arnold's persistence led to a loose ball that substitute Divock Origi volleyed home after a superb turn; it was Alexander-Arnold's 46th Premier League goal involvement (nine goals, 37 assists), surpassing John Arne Riise as the most by any Liverpool defender.

Two more superb deliveries gave Liverpool chances to snatch a point, but Mané headed wide from six yards, then Origi could only head tamely at Fabianski.

After his 1,001st match as a manager, Moyes revelled in celebrations that were witnessed by Czech businessman Daniel Kretinsky. He remains in talks to buy a stake in West Ham – the price may have gone up a little after this result – while Klopp focused his frustration on Pawson.

With the international break upon us, Liverpool's leader has plenty of time to calm himself. More significantly, ahead of a clash with Arsenal on Nov. 20, he has two weeks to get players fit again. Sunday proved how important that could be.

ESPN

Colombia looking to James Rodriguez for spark

By Tim Vickery, ESPN South America correspondent



JAMES Rodríguez was the first of Colombia's players to report for international duty ahead of this week's World Cup qualifier against Brazil. He was clearly keen to return.

It has been a year since Rodríguez played for his country, in the astonishing 6-1 capitulation to Ecuador that brought to an end the reign of Portuguese coach Carlos Queiroz. Under replacement Reinaldo Rueda, the team have gone eight rounds unbeaten but have won just two games. Last month they fought out three consecutive goalless draws, hence the return of Rodríguez.

With just four games behind him for his new club, Al Rayyan of Qatar, Rodríguez can hardly be in ideal physical condition. But Colombia need him. They are simply not the same side without him.

One of the outstanding performances of Russia 2018, by any team, was Colombia's destruction of Poland. It was also the only time they had a fit Rodríguez. Without him, they looked ordinary in the last World Cup and they have looked ordinary ever since. And ordinary might not be enough to get them to Qatar 2022.

Thursday's opponents, Brazil, are all but mathematically guaranteed a place. The only team they have so far failed to beat is Colombia, who held them to a 0-0 draw last month in the steaming afternoon heat of Barranquilla. A win in Sao Paulo on Thursday will carry Brazil over the line. Colombia will presumably be happy with another draw. But looking at future games – they host Paraguay the following Tuesday – they are in desperate need of attacking inspiration. Hence the recall of Rodríguez, and the shudders felt at the weekend after the news that in form Radamel Falcao had picked up an injury in Spain. Porto winger Luis Díaz will surely recall the stunning goal he scored against Brazil in the recent Copa America,

and coach Rueda is also widening his net, having a look at fresh options such as LAFC striker Cristian Arango.

But as he prepared to take on Brazil, the methodical Rueda will have concerns at the other end of the field. The defence that has kept three consecutive clean sheets will need to be reconstructed. Centre-backs Yerry Mina and Carlos Cuesta have formed a fine combination. Both are injured, along with right-back Stefan Medina. Colombia will have to patch up a back four and send it out against the runaway leaders, hoping that Wilmar Barrios can win the midfield battle and keep the Brazilians at bay.

With Brazil all but over the line and Argentina not far behind them, most of the spotlights now seek out the teams in the dogfight behind them. With the big two seemingly assured of a World Cup slot, that leaves two and a half places up for grabs – and everyone, with the exception of bottom of the table Venezuela, is still in the hunt.

Colombia lie fourth, ahead on goal difference of Uruguay, the team who currently sit in the play-off spot. Uruguay have spent nearly 16 years under the command of Oscar Washington Tabarez, and it is indeed possible that these next few days might mark the end of his epic reign.

After collapsing last month against Argentina and Brazil, Uruguay may already have changed their coach had the next two games not been so tough. On Friday they host Argentina, followed four days later by the feared trip to

points against the big two, then Ecuador will be more comfortable in third place if they can win at home to Venezuela. On paper this should be a banker. But Venezuela did manage to beat Ecuador in Caracas last month and, at last, they have Salomon Rondón back to lead the attack. Ecuador, moreover, have been hit by injuries and suspensions.

In order to have a look at some of his alternatives, Ecuador coach Gustavo Alfaro fixed up a friendly against Mexico, and was pleased with several players after a 3-2 win. Rongy striker Djorkaeff Reasco, the son of a former international left-back, came off the bench to set up the winner, and retains his place in the squad. Failing to beat Venezuela at home would be a huge blow to morale. This game, then, is a fascinating test of Ecuador's young side.

Bolivia also arranged a recent friendly, and came away encouraged from a 1-0 win over El Salvador last Friday. After wins in the last two qualifiers, Bolivia have picked up some momentum – but to have any chance of making the cut, they must pick up more points away from home, starting with Thursday's visit to Peru. There is no way that both of these teams can make the cut. But one of them might, which makes this game almost a cup final.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**Klopp frustrated as Liverpool
lose at inspired West Ham**



Fred Felix 'Minziro'. PHOTO: COURTESY OF GEITA GOLD FC

**Geita Gold FC
leadership
delighted
by Minziro's
work ethic**

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE 2020/21 NBC Premier League debutant Geita Gold FC's leadership says it is satisfied by the services that the club's interim head coach Fred Felix 'Minziro' is offering to the club.

Minziro was unveiled as the Geita-based outfit's interim head coach, replacing Burundian Etienne Ndayiragije who was sacked due to poor results the club had registered.

Geita Gold FC's Information and Communication Department's Head, Ahmed Kivuyo, said the club's management is happy with the team performance under Minziro's tutelage.

He said although the team has not recorded any victory under Minziro's mentorship, the management has trust in him.

"He is performing as expected, we are happy with him and his assistant, Waziri Mahadhi, who also happened to be the club's manager," he said.

Kivuyo could not say when the team will name a new head coach and the fate of Minziro.

Minziro is the one who led the team to garner promotion to 2021/22 NBC Premier League but he was demoted to the post of assistant head coach.

Ndayiragije, former senior national football team 'Taifa Stars' head coach has become the first domestic top-flight coach to be sacked in the unfolding season.

Before the start of the campaign, he was among the list of coaches forecasted to excel at the club.

Geita Gold FC is making its maiden appearance in the domestic top-flight league after getting a promotion last season.

The outfit moved to NBC Premier League alongside fellow debutant, Mbeya Kwanza FC that is having a fairly good ride so far into the contest.

Geita Gold FC opened its campaign in the showdown on the wrong foot losing 2-0 to Namungo FC away and thereafter going down 1-0 to Yanga.

The top flight's third round fixtures witnessed Geita Gold FC notch 1-1 draw with regular campaigners Mtibwa Sugar.

In the fourth league tie, Geita Gold FC again went on to notch a 1-1 draw with Mbeya City FC.

The NBC Premier League's newly-promoted squad, later on, suffered a 1-0 loss to Azam FC.

“

He is performing as expected, we are happy with him and his assistant, Waziri Mahadhi, who also happened to be the club's manager

Unguja trounces Kilimanjaro in CRDB Taifa Cup tournament

By the Guardian Reporter

UNGUJA was yesterday too good for Kilimanjaro in this year's National Basketball Tournament, known as 'CRDB Taifa Cup' commanding 53-36 win over the latter in a clash held at Chinangali courts in Dodoma.

The match attracted hundreds of fans as winners took command of the match from the onset.

Mwanza also beat Mtwara 77-55 as Coast Region thrashed Shinyanga 82-61.

CRDB Youth's girls' squad cruised to a 41-40 win over Mwanza girls. Unguja leads the tournament's men's Group A by four points followed by Mwanza with three points.

Dar es Salaam hoops team leads Group B with four points while Manyara leads Group C.

Hosts Dodoma enjoys the driver's seat in Group D with four points as well.

In the women's discipline, hosts Dodoma leads Group A with four points while Dar es Salaam is leading Group B with two points while group C is being led by Tanga with three points.

Over 20 regions have flocked to Dodoma Capital City for the much anticipated second edition of the CRDB Taifa Cup that started recently.

The ultra-modern city courts host more than one match at a time, hence enabling more matches to be played in a day.

The regions are fielding teams in both men and women categories. The event will last for a week.

"We are here again in Dodoma for the tournament, thanks to CRDB Bank for coming on board again this year to support accommodation, transport, and other costs," said Tanzania Basketball Federation (TBF) president, Phares Magea.

The previous edition took place at the same venue. Mbeya won men's category top honour, as Dar es Salaam was crowned winners in the women's discipline.

Traditionally, the tournament is being used by basketball technical experts to select both men's and women's teams ahead of various international tournaments.

Among others are the East and Central Africa Club Championship, and African Basketball Championships.

"We need to have strong teams that will pose a stiff opposition to other countries when competing against other countries in the international events," he said.

He said the selection of the players will principally base on their individual best performance and discipline in and out of the field.

"It will be two weeks of fully packed actions with players showcasing their talent in dribbling, passing, and scoring," he said.

Apart from selecting the national teams, he said the event will also expose new talent.

"We expect to see a big number of young talented players who will be exposed and later promoted to a level of international competitions," he said.

TTA unveils squad for 2022 Davis Cup tourney



Arusha Gymkhana Club's Omary Sulle is one of the players forming Tanzania's tennis team which will feature in the 2022 Davis Cup.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Tennis Association (TTA) has unveiled six players who will represent the country at the Davis Cup tournament slated for next year.

TTA president, Dennis Makoi, mentioned the six players as Frank Manaki, Yusuf Lawrence, Omary Sulle, Abuu Risasi, Rashid Swalehe, and Dismas Felix. He said the tennis players' head coach will be unveiled soon.

Makoi revealed: "The national tennis team, which will represent the country at the Davis Cup set for next year, was selected last week in Arusha."

"We are confident that the squad will perform well at the event, this is the first time that the country will compete at the Davis Cup," he said.

Before the team selection, TTA conducted a clinic which was done by United States of America (USA)-based coach Micheal Ray Pallares.

At the Davis Cup, Tanzania will be represented by 12 players (four men) and four women (Billie Jean King Cup), while the remaining will make the reserve team.

So far International Tennis Federation (ITF) has not communicated the dates of the event.

In the previous interview, Makoi said, TTA plans to discuss with Pallares the possibility of the coach to host many clinics and coaching

courses regularly.

Pallares is one of the USA's top tennis professional coaches and he donated tennis equipment to coaches and players.

The coaches were also offered internationally recognized certificates.

The Davis Cup is the premier international team event in men's tennis.

It is run by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and is contested annually between teams from competing countries in a knock-out format.

It is described by the organizers as the 'World Cup of Tennis', and the winners are referred to as the World Champion team.

The competition began in 1900 as a challenge between Great Britain and the United States. By 2016, 135 nations entered teams into the competition.

The most successful countries over the history of the tournament are the United States (winning 32 titles and finishing as runners-up 29 times) and Australia (winning 28 titles, including four with New Zealand as Australasia, and finishing as runners-up 19 times).

The current champions are Spain, who beat Canada to win their sixth title in 2019.

The women's equivalent of the Davis Cup is the Billie Jean King Cup, formerly known as the Fed

Cup.

Australia, the Czech Republic, and the United States are the only countries to have won both Davis Cup and Fed Cup titles in the same year.

The Davis Cup allowed only amateurs and national registered professional players (from 1968) to compete until 1973, five years after the start of the Open Era.

The 16 best national teams are assigned to the World Group and compete annually for the Davis Cup.

Nations that are not in the World Group compete in one of three regional zones (Americas, Asia/Oceania, and Europe/Africa).

The competition is spread over four weekends during the year. Each elimination round between competing nations is held in one of the countries and is played as the best of five matches (four singles, one double).

The ITF determines the host countries for all possible matchups before each year's tournament.

The World Group is the top group and includes the world's best 16 national teams. Teams in the World Group play a four-round elimination tournament.

Teams are seeded based on a ranking system released by the ITF, taking into account previous years' results.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV
TUESDAY

TONIGHT @ 9:00

NIRVANA

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)
13:30 Kall Za Wana
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi
14:30 BBall Kings Highlights (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 5SPORTS (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 5SELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)

Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

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RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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