




Farmers stop rice farming owing to climate change
Page 2



Tabora municipality 'awaits' city status
Page 4



Govt to improve infrastructure in hilly areas
Page 6



BUSINESS
NCO spurs local share index increase on week's opening
I&M appoints new CEO for Ugandan subsidiary
Local fintech firm attracts thinkers, problem solvers
Kenya shilling exchange rate against dollar hits 150

Page 13

'Get ready for business via improved Dar port'

National leaders have a role to strongly focus on finding durable measures to bring peace in various conflicts to facilitate smooth life, trade and investments for sustainable development

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has called on members of the Zambian business community to seize in Tanzania investment and trade opportunities as the government is currently modernising the port of Dar es Salaam and other transport infrastructure.

Addressing a massive rally to mark 59 years of Zambia's Independence, she said that

TURN TO PAGE 2



President Samia Suluhu Hassan and her Zambian counterpart, Hakainde Hichilema, cut a cake at a function held in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, yesterday to mark the 59th Independence anniversary of the neighbouring country - where she has been since Saturday for a three-day State Visit. Photo: State House

Govt mulls education investments blueprint

It is therefore expected once the blueprint comes into use, some of the concerns will be addressed amicably

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is thinking of a mini blueprint for education in an effort to attract more private sector investments

Prof Adolf Mkenya, the Education, Science and Technology minister, made this observation here yesterday at a meeting with private sector investors in education, saying that the aim is to attract more investors in education.

In the document, the government and private investors in education will be able to solve some persistent challenges, as the document is to be prepared after thorough consultations with various stakeholders plus education investors, he said.

The blueprint aims at harmonising taxes, levies and other matters for private education investments, on a similar format as the then Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment, which prepared a blueprint for regulatory reforms to improve the business environment back in 2019, he stated.

The blueprint provides the government's main framework for enabling a holistic review of a business enabling environment (BEE) to improve the climate of doing business in Tanzania, a theme emphasized for years by the World Bank.

The envisioned document will follow a similar approach, coming at a time when private school investors are raising complaints against multiple taxes collected on their establishments by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

The Tanzania Association of Managers and Owners of Non-Government Schools and Colleges (TAMONGSCO) regularly complains of the taxes, despite various tax exemptions the government extends, as section 64(8) of the Income Tax Act says an institution is tax free upon obtaining charitable status ruling (CSR) from the commissioner of domestic revenues, which exempts education providers from that particular tax.

Private schools are required to pay more than 10 taxes including property, land, corporation, value added tax (VAT), local government levies, work permits along with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration

TURN TO PAGE 2

NEWS Page 5



TMRC invites bank as its new shareholder

Page 7



Involve people in water projects

'DART is not offering good enough services'

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government has instructed the Dar Rapid Transit (DART), to find other bus service providers to enhance competition, eliminate congestion of passengers and reduce complaints on its services.

Mohamed Mchengerwa, the Regional Administration and Local Governments state minister in the President's Office (PO-RALG) issued this instruction in Dar es Salaam yesterday, at a meeting with

the DART management within an inspection tour of bus rapid transit (BRT) routes.

He said that DART staff need to be creative and to stop the 'business as usual' attitude, cautioning that he will not tolerate complaints about buses being late at stations. Firing all people involved in such negligence is an obvious option, he stated.

Asking the DART CEO to pay attention to his remarks, he alerted the audience that he means business in what he is say-

ing, citing lateness of buses at major stations, and lack of information as to when a bus is to be expected.

He did not directly address the passing of buses already full and people waiting even for hours before a bus with space stops at a particular point, observers noted.

"Improvement of bus services is not a debate for me; it is a must and fortunately I am a person who takes action, I will not hesitate to take action against

TURN TO PAGE 2

SME representatives from across the EAC region developed a two-year roadmap to enhance SME participation in EAC and AfCFTA agreements

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Business Council (EABC) has announced a new partner-

EABC-GIZ ink a second key partnership accord

ship set up with the German development agency (GIZ).

Annette Mutaawe Ssemuwemba, the EAC deputy secretary general for Customs, Trade and Monetary Affairs, witnessed the signing of the grant agreement valued at €250,000 where John Kalisa, the EABC executive director signed for the regional apex organisation alongside Björn Richter, GIZ-EAC cluster coordinator.

The accord focuses on support to the East African integration programme as phase II of enhancing effective private sector participation in the EAC and Af-

CFTA integration processes, the accord summary states.

The EAC Secretariat pledged collaboration to support the implementation of the Phase II project, with the top official expressing satisfaction that the project focuses on harnessing opportunities under AfCFTA.

The growth and resilience of the EAC bloc results from unified policies with the private sector playing a fundamental advocacy role, she asserted, noting that the new EABC-GIZ partnership builds on the remarkable achievements of Phase I.

TURN TO PAGE 2



'Get ready for business via improved Dar port'

FROM PAGE 1

Tanzania has embarked on modernisation of the Dar es Salaam port to ensure the port is efficient, timely and seamlessly coordinating with clients and shipping agencies in its activities.

She said the government has allocated 20 hectares of land for the Kwala dry port in Kibaha, Coast Region for consignments destined for Zambia and other transit goods to further ease clearing and removal of goods from port.

Zambia will be facilitated with a longer storage period, reduce congestion and delays, by extension reduce costs for doing business in Zambia, she said, noting that the change will boost trade for the two countries and with the rest of the world.

"I wish to assure our Zambian sisters and brothers that Tanzania will remain an extended family member, a reliable friend and strategic partner much as it was during the struggle for political liberation, we will continue to complement each other in the drive to transform our economies," the president declared.

She said while in Zambia, the two sides will explore ways to strengthen the joint rail, oil pipeline and road highway facilities, while placing a favourable environment to ensure free movement of people and goods.

The geographical borders will simply remain as administrative lines between two people with a shared history, kinship ties between

tribes and a common culture, she said.

President Hichilema said Tanzania and Zambia are twins who are conjoined by historical relationships and are keen to deepen the partnership and collaboration in various sectors for mutual benefit.

The two countries wish to strengthen strategic cooperation and create a friendly environment for investment and business to spur economic growth, he said, advocating a focus on security in the region, to support stabilisation in conflict ridden states.

National leaders have a role to strongly focus on finding durable measures to bring peace in various conflicts to facilitate smooth life, trade and investments for sustainable development, he added.



...while in Zambia, the two sides will explore ways to strengthen the joint rail, oil pipeline and road highway facilities, while placing a favourable environment to ensure free movement of people and goods

EABC-GIZ ink a second key partnership accord

FROM PAGE 1

It builds on promises to enable the private sector, including MSMEs, to learn how to trade under the EAC and AfCFTA markets, with a population of 300m and 1.3bn people respectively, she stated.

The EABC director said that key achievements of the EABC-GIZ Phase I project include developing a team of AfCFTA private sector master trainers on AfCFTA's protocol on trade in goods.

It was bent on improving knowledge of private stakeholders in manufacturing, agriculture and SMEs on using the AfCFTA protocol; by pursuing national sensitization workshops, he said.

SME representatives from across the EAC region developed a two-year roadmap to enhance SME participation in EAC and AfCFTA agreements, he elaborated.

Interventions of the EABC-GIZ Phase II partnership include capacity building for EAC private sector players in Burundi, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on AfCFTA, she explained.

It will also focus on trade in services, where the EABC will conduct sensitization workshops on the AfCFTA protocol on trade in services and its annexes enacted in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanza-

nia, he specified.

The second edition of EABC barometer on trade in services will comprise unexplored sectors such as transport (road, internal waterways, pipeline, rail and maritime); communications (postal, courier and audio); business (distribution, computer and related services) along with research and development services, leasing or rental services plus franchising services, he affirmed.

Readiness workshops for SMEs and youth entrepreneurs will equip participants with AfCFTA and export skills to seize opportunities offered by AfCFTA and publicizing the EABC Policy Advocacy Agenda for 2023/24, are also envisaged in the pact.

The agenda outlines private sector policy priorities for governments of the EAC partner states to address, promote a conducive business environment, underlining the work of EABC-EAC technical working group meeting to review progress in resolving private sector issues.

The EABC-GIZ partnership is a significant step toward fostering deeper private sector engagement in East African integration and AfCFTA processes, heralding a brighter economic future for the entire region.

Govt mulls education investments blueprint

FROM PAGE 1

(OSHA) levy.

The government was working on complaints from education investors but in the meantime they are required by the law to remit the relevant taxes, the minister underlined.

Private school owners have also time and again stated that TRA was reluctant to provide them with taxpayer identification numbers (TIN) and CSR listing under the schools' names and instead issued them under owners' names "so as to tax the

schools separately."

TAMONGSCO has similarly urged the government to scrap work permit fees imposed on teachers from East Africa Community member states with teaching licenses from the relevant responsible departments.

"It is therefore expected once the blueprint comes into use, some of the concerns will be addressed amicably," officials said, with the minister has since directed the permanent secretary to start working on the issues.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan lays a wreath at the grave of Zambia's founding president, Kenneth David Kaunda, at the presidential burial site in Lusaka yesterday. Photo: State House

FROM PAGE 1

someone who is negligent, starting today when I leave your office. I do not want to hear any complaints, do your job and be more creative," he stressed.

It is surprising to see that Tanzania has many plans that have caused some countries to send officials to see how they can implement them in their countries and bring good results "while in Tanzania those plans simply remain on the shelves," he asserted.

He said most public officials just follow what they do on a daily basis instead of seeking to solve problems, urging the DART management to 'get out of the box' and work to implement the vision of President Samia Suluhu Hassan to render the best services to the people.

"People should enjoy BRT services so that many Tanzanians ride

'DART is not offering good enough services'

these buses instead of using their own transport, I want to see the waiting time for the BRT bus be reduced," he said.

"People are complaining daily about the congestion of passengers at bus stations," he said, noting that the buses do not follow the schedule, so DART management must plan to have buses that are sufficient for all routes.

He similarly asked DART to manage the service provider UDART to ensure that all damaged buses are repaired and put on the road in order to remove complaints of passenger congestion.

"I order you to find more than one service provider for rapid buses and this step will help competition in this service. We want a service provider having adequate capital," he

directed.

He asked DART to monitor all electronic systems to ensure that they are working to monitor the progress of buses arriving at stations on time, pointing out that some buses are complaining of not following the schedule and causing congestion.

He also asked DART to look into the possibility of using their routes as toll roads for private motorists to pay to pass along those roads, boosting revenues to repay the World Bank loan with which the BRT infrastructure was built.

He hesitated to qualify private users of the roads as misuse of BRT infrastructures by private cars, figuring out how such users can help the government repay the loan as it has spent a lot of money to build

those roads.

"Think commercially because this is a World Bank loan that we will have to return it, so we must have a strategy to collect a lot of money and return this loan as soon as possible, but for now, educate people not to use these roads because it is dangerous for them," he stated.

He asked the BRT bus service provider UDART to orient the discipline of drivers before they are employed as many cause accidents by reckless driving, and even bring BRT buses to collide.

He cautioned that the BRT bus workshop at Jangwani is not suitable due to floods occurring during heavy rains, thus the service provider needs to speed up the search for other places to move the workshop, quickly enough.



Mohamed Mchengerwa (2nd-L, foreground), Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), exchanges greetings with Dar Rapid Transit (DART) CEO Dr Edwin Mhede shortly after arriving at the agency's offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The minister had spent part of the day travelling by DART bus. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Guardian Correspondent, Kishapu

Farmers in Kishapu stop rice farming due to climate change

RICE farmers in Kishapu District, Shinyanga Region have stopped growing the crop in the area due to the effects of climate change, that has caused prolonged drought in their areas, plunging them into abject poverty.

In separate interviews, some farmers explained that the reasons for abandoning farming are due to continuing to farm at a loss where they have been investing a lot of money in farming but after a while the rains stop falling completely and the crops are damaged.

One of the rice farmers in Mihama village Mihambo Njile said that there is an importance to start irrigation farming to enable the farming to be done reliably without depending on rain all the time.

"Many farmers here gave up rice cultivation because of the drought, but now we have an irrigation pro-

ject, where the water from the rivers will enter our fields directly and have a lot of water," said Mihambo.

Another farmer Kabeya Joseph of Mwijiginya village said they are grateful to the government for implementing the irrigation project in the village and they will use the project to grow rice crops in abundance to increase the availability of the crop in the market.

Mihama village executive officer (VEO) David Joseph, said farmers in the village were not cultivating rice due to the drought and lack of sufficient water in the fields.

Kishapu District irrigation officer, Mwinula Ntwangi said that 22 villages have already been put in

the strategy of being given an irrigation project to get rid of agriculture that depends on rain all the time.

He said the people of Kishapu will now officially return to rice farming as the government had already provided enough funds for the implementation of irrigation farming projects and to stop relying on rain.

Acting Kishapu district executive director, Sabinus Chaula said that the government had already provided funds and started implementing irrigation projects for 22 villages in the district.

Chaula said that until now they have implemented irrigation projects in seven villages by making

irrigation channels, which will be releasing water from the rivers and sending it to the fields, and finally the people will grow rice in abundance.

He said that apart from the construction of the canals to take the water to the rivers and lead to the fields, they have also invested in the construction of water dams that will also be used in irrigation agriculture and watering livestock.

He said in the village of Beledi they have built a water dam at a cost of 260m/-. Mugunda 15m/-. Kiloleli 300m/- and Mihama village 125m/-. where the people will use the water for irrigation and water for livestock.

Govt promises continuity in opening borders to goods

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

THE government has assured Tanzanians that it will continue to open borders to allow export of produce abroad enabling Tanzanians to utilise opportunities in regional markets.

Exaud Kigahe, deputy minister for Industries and Trade made the commitment when opening the 4th Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) exhibition, which at national level is being held in Njombe municipality.

Kigahe said it is high time now Tanzania producers to seek and utilise fully all the market

opportunities abroad for their development.

"Let me assure you that if we connect agriculture and processing industries, we will be able to develop the domestic market, but also reduce goods importation. We can produce for our own use and industry too and the surplus export for the foreign markets," the deputy minister said.

He added: "First of all, you are the witnesses, we have regional markets, the East African community and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) market haven't been exploited. We also have the African Continental Free Trade

Area (AfCFTA), which also needs to be explored especially for the value-added products as well as agricultural crops."

Kigahe said the government has robust plans to stimulate production of various value added products in order to feed the African continent and the world at large.

"It is not a time to export raw avocados, corn, sunflowers and others, we need to invest in processing technologies to add value to our products for them to compete well in the international markets," he stressed.

He tasked SIDO to cooperate with the councils to ensure that young

people get the technology to be able to do commercial farming.

Josephine Kulwa, NMB Bank communications manager said the exhibition was an opportunity for small entrepreneurs and business persons in Njombe Region to get education on various things including the services provided by NMB Bank.

"We have sponsored the exhibition to provide opportunities for entrepreneurs, farmers and business people to be aware of the existence of the fairs. We are here

to provide entrepreneurial and financial education and enable you to see how you can access credit from various banks," Josephine said.

Njombe District Commissioner, Kissa Kasongwa thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for subsidising fertiliser and other farming inputs to increase production of food crops.

"Subsidies in farming have helped us to increase food production and production of commercial crops, so I believe these exhibitions will help

us with small technologies that will help us shape production in the Njombe region," said Kissa.

Prof. Sylvester Mpanduji, SIDO general director said they are planning to provide education through mobile phones to reach more Tanzanians who will be motivated to start industries.

Nassoro Mtavu, Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA) assistant registrar said they continue to provide education to the public to formalise their businesses.



Five-day entrepreneurship and capacity building training for people with disabilities well under way at the Songambele Initiative Organisation offices in Moshi municipality at the weekend. It has been jointly organised by the local CSO and a US-based charitable organisation known as Together with Tanzania under the motto: "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

Tanzania to attend COP28 next month

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

YOUTHS in the country have been urged to put the environment agenda at the forefront so as to help the country in averting all possible impacts of climate change.

The call comes as a group of young men and women from Tanzania prepare to participate in the 28th United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP28).

The call was made here by the Minister of State in the Vice-President's Office (Union and Environment), Dr Selemani Jafo, when he officiated at a one-day seminar on unlocking youth potential towards effective participation in the National and Global Climate Action.

Organised by Youths for Climate Action Tanzania, the young persons from Tanzania under the Green Samia Initiative convened in the country's capital to discuss several matters regarding environmental management, preservation and protection, ahead of the COP28

scheduled for next month in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The Green Samia Initiative is a forum engaging youths and the community at large to combat climate change and protect the environment.

The young persons from both the mainland and the Isles requested a training seminar so that they are well prepared to participate effectively. Through the Vice-President's Office, the government gave a greenlight to their request.

Speaking when opening a one-day seminar, Dr Jafo insisted that the government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan is well committed to empowering and amplifying the voices of young persons who are uniquely positioned to drive impactful and innovative initiatives addressing the pressing climate challenges facing the nation.

"The youth have every reason to drive the development agenda as well as suggest every possible measure likely to avert the effects of climate change," said Dr Jafo,

also asking the youth to grab every opportunity that came as a result of climate change.

Climate change poses significant challenges globally, including Tanzania. The impacts of climate change are already being felt across the country, affecting agriculture, water resources, health and ecosystems.

Therefore, according to the minister, it was crucial to mobilise efforts to mitigate these impacts and develop innovative solutions to adapt to a changing climate.

Tanzania is among the countries that are expected to attend the COP28 next month. Nearly 200 countries gather each year for the two-week "Conference of Parties" - referred to as COP - to agree joint efforts to tackle climate change.

This year will mark the 28th such conference, or COP28, and will kick off on November 30 in Dubai. The conference is expected to be attended by over 70,000 delegates, including the youth from all over the world.

Grandmothers taking care of orphans appeal for loans

By Guardian Correspondent

GRANDMOTHERS who are taking care of children whose parents died from HIV/Aids-related illnesses have appealed to be enjoined as beneficiaries of loans issued by local government authorities (LGAs).

They made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking at the symposium organised by the International Grandmothers Gathering under funding from the Canadian Stephen Lewis Foundation.

The symposium involved three NGOs—Maasai Women Development Organisation (MWEDO) from Manyara Region, Kimara Peers Educator of Dar es Salaam, (UMWI) and Rainbow Centre of Kilimanjaro.

Pfiriael Kiwia, chairperson of the symposium said: "We have various challenges including taking care of the children, we're living hard-hitting lives and should be enjoined in the loans offered by district, municipal and city councils."

Pfiriael said the group has been facing serious economic challenges because taking care of the children needs funds which the women who are also aged do not have.

Kolumba Mirao from Mwedo said the loans will help the groups to overcome their challenges to sustain lives, noting that most of the institutions, which offers loans demand collaterals which most of the women do not have.

"We are taking care of the children which is a contribution to the country but we need to be identified by financial institutions so that we also benefit from poverty alleviation programmes," she said.

Dar es Salaam city council's administrator, Cyprian Mbuya said the request will be taken into consideration by the government adding that it was valid.

"You need to continue with what you are doing because you are doing a great job, we will work on the requests which you have issued to see how we can help," he said.



BARRICK

BULYANHULU

Advertisement

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-23-10-01 – Purchase of Volvo L90H and Volvo L120H Wheel Loaders

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine ("the Company"), a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, requests the submission of Quotes from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Wheel Loader Specifications: Volvo L90H

- L90H H-series

Wheel Loader Specifications: Volvo L120H

- L120H H-series

Training must be included in the price.

NOTE: All additional specifications will be provided to the pre-qualified vendors.

Key documents:

- Clear and detailed Quotation
- Company registration documents, i.e., Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- BRELA detailed search document indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of the dealership as required.
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner.

Submission of Quotes:
Please submit your quotes via email to bulytender@barrick.com.
The reference "BUL-RFQ-23-10-01 – Purchase of Volvo L90H and L120H Wheel Loaders" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a quote through this advertisement.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your bid/quote unsuccessful.

Key Dates

- Last date to submit quotes: **01st November 2023.**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited



OPEN JOB VACANCIES – WE ARE HIRING

- ✓ SENIOR ACCOUNTANT [1]
- ✓ LOWER PRIMARY TEACHERS [2]
- ✓ NURSERY TEACHERS [2]
- ✓ UPPER PRIMARY TEACHER- MATHS [2]
- ✓ UPPER PRIMARY TEACHER- CIVICS AND MORAL [2]
- ✓ ADMIN & CUSTOMER SERVICES OFFICER [2]

- Upper Second class degree/diploma and above are encouraged to apply.
- Must be able to communicate well in English Language;
- Must have advanced level computer skills;
- Must have passion for kids. We care our children with Love!



2024 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT NURSERY & PRIMARY NOW OPEN

Among many others, the school offers reliable transport service, healthy delicious - breakfast, lunch, late afternoon snacks and dinner for our boarding students

1. Among the top 5 best performing schools in Dar es Salaam 2. Well-equipped computer lab and science lab School Library full of books 3. Well equipped academic clubs and extracurricular clubs of science, research and innovation, technology, language, sports, arts and more...	4. Spacious classrooms facilities equipped with latest technology teaching aids 5. State-of-the-art Sports grounds and extra-curricular facilities 6. International standard Football pitch, basketball court, half Olympic swimming pool and well equipped playgrounds for kids.
---	---

To apply, send the CV and transcripts to hr.hbs.tz@gmail.com. for more details, check our website www.hbs.ac.tz

Majaliwa addresses challenges in exploitation of mineral resources

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has said the limited data on high-resolution geophysical surveys is leading to insufficient planning of exploitation of mineral resources in Tanzania.

The PM said in his speech read on his behalf by the Minister of Minerals Anthony Mavunde yesterday during the closing of the 6th International Seabed Authority (ISA) annual contractors meeting 2023 held in Dar es Salaam.

According to the PM, the current status of geo-scientific information in Tanzania indicates that 97 per cent of the country has been geologically surveyed, and high-resolution airborne geophysical mapping accounts for only 16 per cent.

"The limited data on high resolution geophysical survey can lead to insufficient planning of exploitation of mineral resources due to uncertainty on reserves whereabouts," the PM speech reads.

To unlock this, he said, intensive and systematic exploration have to be undertaken across the country so as to increase high-resolution airborne geophysical surveyed areas for further detailed exploration.

The PM said the government through the ministry of minerals has developed the new roadmap coined "Vision 2030 minerals are life and wealth", which targets at increasing high-resolution airborne geophysical surveyed areas from 16 per cent by year 2030.

"The implementation of Vision 2023 will lead to new discoveries of other mineral deposits for potential mining investment, which would ultimately contribute to the GDP growth and sustainable mining business in Tanzania," he said.

Beside the mineral data, the information collected will be useful to other sectors as it will inform aquifers for water drilling and irrigation; land use; environmental management, mineral for making health equipment and mineral for agriculture development.

Currently, the mining sector contributes about 9.1 per cent of the GDP and is one of the fastest growing at the rate of 10 per cent annually and accounting for 56 per cent of exports. The target is to boost its contribution to more than 10 per cent by 2025.

He said the government commends the progress made thus far for the ongoing negotiations on drafting deep seabed minerals

exploitation regulations.

However, he reminded over the concerns of member states about seabed mining, saying it should not be ignored, especially on the aspect of taking onboard the precautionary approach, particularly in the protection of the marine environment.

He said; "as a member of International Seabed Authority (ISA), Tanzania urges the secretariat to continue supporting the member states on their regulations".

He assured that Tanzania continues to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation of deep seabed marine resources, including seabed minerals, while protecting the marine environment, a key pillar of ocean governance.

The PM further said the government commends the ISA for standing firm in implementing its mandates entrusted to it by the state parties to the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which include obligation to ensure compliance of all contractors through effective engagement of scientific studies and discussion of all matters relating to activities in the area.

The three-day contractors meeting aimed at, among other things; discussing the ongoing work of the council to develop the draft deep seabed minerals exploitation regulations.

"As a country of important terrestrial mineral wealth, Tanzania has a lot to contribute to the work of the International Seabed Authority," said Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, representative of the secretary general of the ISA.

Geologists attended the meeting said potential minerals found on the seabed; both territorial and international waters, include manganese, cobalt, nickel, copper and others that are important for enhancing access to clean energy.



As a country of important terrestrial mineral wealth, Tanzania has a lot to contribute to the work of the International Seabed Authority

Biteko expected to launch app for small-scale fishers

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Dotto Biteko is set to launch an App for small-scale fishermen that will help them to know the existing groups of fish through their phones and to abandon speculative fishing.

Livestock and Fisheries minister Abdallah Ulega said yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the 40th anniversary of Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI).

Ulega said that the research conducted will help fishermen catch fish using modern methods instead of guessing, noting that TAFIRI is a good tool in the fishing industry and recently they have done great things that have resulted in productivity for fishermen.

"Tomorrow, one of the things Dr Biteko will do is to launch an information system for small-scale fishermen.

He said that after the completion of the matter, it means that they are removing their fishermen from hunting fish, when they go fishing they will have information in their hand through their phones.

"Through their phones, they will be told where the groups of fish are and how far away they are to help the fisherman put fuel similar to his trip and to know the time he will spend. At the moment, fishermen are going by chance, that is, they are hunting," said the minister.

Ulega also urged TAFIRI to improve fish attractions so that they can spread in water areas to attract more fish and reproduce in abundance, noting that the aim of doing so is to enable the sea and other waters to produce more in order to eliminate poverty and increase the income of individual fishermen and income of the nation.

"This is in our Blue Economy policy," said minister Ulega.

TAFIRI director general, Dr Ismael Kimirei, said the institute is happy to celebrate 40 years and they have worked hard to do many things including developing a system to identify suitable areas for fishing and reduce the power of fishermen to find fish and fuel consumption.

He said that the instructions given to them regarding the technology is to ensure that it reaches the fishermen in the coastal regions of the Indian Ocean.

He also said that the research has taken a long time since in 2011 they closed the first satellite and started collecting data and processing the data they got.

"Two weeks ago, we completed a telephone system where a person can send a message and receive information about where he is and go to a fishing spot that is close to where he is. It is a long period of about 10 years but it is beneficial because we were helping the fishermen with whom we were doing this research," he said.



Afyra Intelligence director Harrison Mariki (R), whose agency places a premium on the use of data-driven solutions to improve healthcare outcomes, explains to representatives of UN agencies in Dar es Salaam yesterday on how innovation has improved health service delivery in Tanzania. The briefing was made in commemoration of United Nations Day (Oct 24). Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

More govt institutions drop fuelwood, choose clean energy, says VPO report

By Guardian Reporter

A GOOD number of public institutions have already dropped the use of firewood and charcoal and replaced the same with clean energy as directed by the government; it has been announced.

A statement released yesterday by the Vice President's Office quoted Deputy minister in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Khamis Hamza Khamis saying that in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, until this week, 30 of the 35 colleges in the country have started implementing the directives by starting to use renewable energy.

The Prison Service has shown

readiness to stop the use of firewood and charcoal as a measure to reduce the cutting of trees which is a source of environmental damage.

Khamis said this while presenting the Implementation Statement of the National Strategy to Cope with Climate Change (2021-2026) to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water and Environment in Dodoma yesterday.

He pointed out that the government's instructions do not concern individual citizens but are aimed at institutions that feed more than 100 people that have a large consumption of wood and charcoal.

Khamis has said that the ban on the use of wood and charcoal

is aimed at preserving the environment and that it is based on the resolutions of the National Committee for Safe Energy where each institution was given responsibilities to implement.

Deputy Minister also said that the government is implementing a ban on firewood and charcoal and entering into the use of clean energy for cooking to avoid environmental damage due to cutting down trees.

"There has been a great response to some government institutions, for example Ruvu Girls' school has completely stopped using wood and charcoal and they have saved more than 50 to 60 percent of money," he said.

He also said that the government

has continued to negotiate with gas companies including Taifa and Oryx, which have shown their willingness to participate in the campaign to reduce the use of wood and charcoal and enter clean energy for cooking.

Regarding the National Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation (2021 - 2026), deputy minister Khamis said that it aims to build the national capacity to withstand the effects of climate change and enable the country to use methods with low greenhouse gas emissions to achieve sustainable development.

He said that in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy, a vision and strategy for clean cooking energy has been prepared as well as encouraging the use of clean cooking energy for the entire Tanzanian community with the aim of saving the environment from being damaged.



Members of the Exim Bank Tanzania staff and an agent (3rd-L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday waiting to cut a cake as part of the bank's ongoing Customer Service Month celebrations. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tabora municipality to acquire city status 'very soon', says RC

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

TABORA municipal residents have been tasked to improve their economic undertakings following the ongoing process transforming the municipality into city, which will increase the commercial cycle.

Tabora Regional Commissioner, Dr Batilda Burian made the call here on Monday when speaking with journalists to explain regional strategies to transform the municipality into. President Samia Suluhu Hassan recently visited the central part of the country.

She said that despite the fact that there is a need for important things to complete the process of Tabora

becoming a city, but the signs point to the possibility of being declared as such if they complete those things and meet the criteria.

According to her, in order for Tabora to become a city, there are important things that are needed to be in place such as the number of people, the size of the area and other things.

"And if we complete them, we will be approved as a city, so prepare yourself and make strategies to promote commercial activities," she said.

Dr Burian mentioned other opportunities that citizens should be excited about including beekeeping and explained: "If

citizens ensure that everyone has their own beehive, it will bring productivity to the beekeeping products."

She attested that so far Tabora Region has 800,000 beehives, urging residents to continue investing in the activity to increase honey production and increase income for the region.

She also asked the residents to undergo two-week beekeeping training provided by the Beekeeping Training Institute-Tabora (BTI), on how to make products derived from bee products with the aim of building their capacity and ensuring the region's strategy to make honey hub in Tanzania is

realised. "President Samia has vowed to provide us medium honey processing plant, this will be a big relief to us as it will be an opportunity for the entire region," said RC.

She also urged investors to chip in and invest in diverse fields in Tabora including beekeeping value chain as honey has a big market in and outside the country, stressing: "Tabora honey has high quality and meet the international standards."

Tabora Region produces about 13,500 tonnes of honey per year, which is approximately 50 per cent of bulk (unprocessed) honey in Tanzania.



Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Ltd CEO Oscar Mgaya (L) presents a certificate to Mwanga Hakika Bank managing director Jagjit Singh in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after naming the bank as a shareholder in the firm. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TMRC invites MHB as its new shareholder

By Getrude Mbago

IN efforts to expand and strengthen access to decent and affordable housing for the low income population, the Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited (TMRC) has invited Mwanga Hakika Bank Limited (MHB) as its new shareholder.

Speaking during the welcoming event in Dar es Salaam yesterday, TMRC chief executive officer, Oscar Mgaya said the move will help the bank to provide longer-term, affordable mortgages and housing to people.

He said that the bank has joined TMRC shareholding as the 18th shareholder following the investment of 500m/- capital.

"The company believes that there is tremendous potential in Tanzania's housing finance market to reach low-income families. As a wholesale lender we are eager to continue expanding our services to reach more banks and financial institutions to enable Tanzania's populations to continue accessing decent housing," he said.

He noted that the Tanzanian housing demand which is estimated at 200,000 houses annually and a total housing shortage of 3 million houses has been rising for easy access of mortgages, with the number of mortgage lenders in the market increasing from 3 in 2009 to 31 by 30 June 2023 and the average mortgage interest rate falling from 22 per cent to 15 per cent.

He said demand for housing and housing loans remains extremely high as it is constrained by inadequate supply of equitable houses and expenses.

The Tanzanian housing sector's fast-growing demand is mainly driven by the strong and sustained economic growth with GDP growth averaging 6-7 per cent over the past decade, the fast-growing Tanzanian population, which is estimated to double by 2050.

"The mortgage market in Tanzania registered a 6 per cent growth in the value of residential mortgages as of 30 June 2023 where a total mortgage debt outstanding that resulted from lending by the banking sector for the purposes of residential housing was 584.59bn/-," he said.

He said that the firm is committed to expanding access to decent homes for all families and that welcoming new shareholders was a key step and instrumental in unlocking new housing finance opportunities for low-income families.

Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited (TMRC) is a specialised private-sector financial institution that provides long-term funding to financial institutions for mortgage lending purposes.

Jagjit Singh, MHB managing director thanked TMRC for welcoming them to further help expand access to mortgage loans and housing in the country.

"With this move, Mwanga Hakika Bank will be providing various housing loans to customers which are 'Chapchap Makazi' loan, a credit facility to facilitate the purchase of houses or renovations of existing houses. There is also 'Kwako ni Kwako' loan which helps customers construct new houses," he said.

SUMA JKT tasked to speed up construction of VPO building

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE commercial wing of the National Service (SUMA JKT) has been tasked to speed up construction of the Vice President Office building in Dodoma.

Dr Jim Yonazi, Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and

Coordination) made the call yesterday when speaking during the tour to inspect the construction progress of the building.

He called upon the office of the Vice President to administer closely the construction of the building so that it is completed on time.

"We have trust in Suma JKT, we need to show the world that local

companies, especially those which are owned by the government," he said.

The PS called for it to abide by safety at work places especially for workers who are constructing the building including protection from hazards that may arise at the site.


Abdallah Hassan Mitawi, deputy PS (Union and Environment Affairs)

said the construction of the building was delayed by 83 days.

Mitawi said due to the delay, the client was told to send a plan on how the days might be compensated for the building to be completed.

He said they will continue to administer construction of the building to ensure the building which is worth 18.8bn/- was completed as planned.

A contract for the building was signed on October 13, 2021 under the National Housing Corporation as the consulting engineer and is expected to be completed by November 2023.



BARRICK

BULYANHULU

Advertisement

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-23-10-02 - Supply of two units of MacLean TM2 Transmixer

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine ("the Company"), a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Quotes from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

MacLean TM2 Transmixer Specifications:

- 2 x MacLean TM2 Transmixer - MEM-933 carrier c/w 4WD articulated frame, stick steering, passenger seat; ROPS/FOPS canopy; Engine mercedes 904 @ 147 HP (110 kW) + Mesabi radiator + HTI; Exhaust installation firwin MK-III exhaust blankets on pipes and purifier/muffler; Transmission dana model T14,3 speed power-shift; Engine end axle dana model 113, limited slip differential, oscillation; Rear axle dana model 113, limited slip differential; Service brakes independent front and rear hydraulically applied service brakes; Secondary brakes SAHR-Spring applied hydraulic released emergency/park brakes; Tires solid 12.00x20 tires; Articulation joint oversized spherical bearings, knock-out bushings, dual steer cylinders, central grease manifold; 2jacks-30"(0.76m) stroke, mounted on rear frame; Remixer drum 4.7cubic yards (3.6m3) concrete capacity.

Key documents

- Clear and detailed Quotation
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- BRELA detailed search document indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018;
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of dealership as required;
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner.

Submission of Quotes:
Please submit your quotes via email to bulytender@barrick.com

The reference "BUL-RFQ-23-10-02 - Supply of two units of MacLean TM2 Transmixer" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.


NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a quote through this advertisement.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your bid/quote unsuccessful.

Key Dates

- Last date to submit quotes: **01st November 2023.**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited



BARRICK

BULYANHULU

Advertisement

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-23-10-03 - SUPPLY OF CABLE BOLTER - BOLTEC M

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine ("the Company"), a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Quotes from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Cable Bolter Specifications:

- 1 x Cable Bolter - Boltec M, fully mechanized cable bolting drill rig; (Australian Standard) Cable bolts up to 20m; Hole diameter range of 51-76mm 775m of 15.2mm diameter bolting cable storage capacity 500kg of dry cement; Operator station FOPS approved ROPS/FOPS air conditioned cabin; Engine deutz TCD2013 L04 2V 120kw stage IIIA/Tier 3; Axles (front & rear) dana 113/147; Drilling system rockdrill COP 1838+T38E 07; Feed/position system BMHP6000 series hydraulic cylinder/rope feed, RHS 10 rod handling system (10+1 drill extension rod capacity), BUT 32 PD positioning boom; Bolting unit modified palfinger PK8000 series telescopic boom for grout/cable installation, grout hose reel max 20m length, cable roll cassette for cable bolting suitable for 15.2mm or 18mm cable, auto cement mixing system (500kg on board dry cement capacity + 114L mixer unit); Rig control system (RCS)-5th generation software based control of positioning & drilling; Compressor Atlas Copco GAR5; Water booster pump Flygt 55v-11, Min incoming water pressure required 2bar; Hydraulic oil filtration 16 microns (return line), electric hydraulic oil filling pumps; Electrical system main motor 1x95kw, total installed power 103kw, voltage 1000V, frequency 50Hz; Commissioning and user training on site.

Key documents:

- Clear and detailed Quotation.
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- BRELA detailed search document indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of dealership as required.
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner.

Submission of Quotes:
Please submit your quotes via email to bulytender@barrick.com

The reference "BUL-RFQ-23-10-03 - Supply of Cable Bolter - Boltec M" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a quote through this advertisement.

If you do not hear from us in 21days after the deadline date, please consider your bid/quote unsuccessful.

Key Dates:

- Last date to submit quotes: **01st November 2023**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited

Merck Foundation extends 1700 scholarships globally

By Beatrice Philemon

MERCK Foundation has provided more than 1700 scholarships for diploma and master's degree to young doctors from 50 countries including Tanzania.

Prof Frank Stangenberg-Haverkamp, chairman of both the executive board of Merck KG and Merck Foundation board of trustees made the remarks recently at the 10th Edition of Merck Foundation Africa - Asia luminary 2023 that took place in India.

"I am very proud that Merck Foundation has been an outstanding and significant contributor towards transforming the patient care landscape in many countries across Africa, Asia and beyond since 2012," he said.

He added: "It is important to mention that many of these scholarships were offered in India where a state of art clinical training was provided at the prestigious training institutions of our partners such as Tata Memorial Centre, Manipal University, Maharashtra University, Krishna University, Indira IVF Training and more."

He said many of Merck Foundation alumni have become and are becoming specialists especially in the field of oncology and fertility care in their countries, such as in Liberia, Niger, Chad, The Gambia, Burundi, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Central African Republic, Botswana, Namibia, Mauritius, Guinea, Ethiopia, Congo, Nepal, Bangladesh and more.

Stangenberg-Haverkamp visited many countries and personally met many of the doctors who received the scholarships.

"I was genuinely impressed by their unwavering dedication and commitment, I will make sure I will continue visiting and meeting them in their countries to update myself about the impact of our programmes," he said.

This would not have been

possible without African First Ladies Excellencies' efforts and continuous support and dedication to the wellbeing of your nations.

"He called on doctors, African First Ladies and journalists from different countries across the world all to join hands to realise the vision of Merck Foundation that "Everyone can lead a Healthy and Happy life".

He said educated girls become women who know their rights and duties, they become more than mothers whether they have children or not.

Senator, Dr Rasha Kelej, Merck Foundation, chief executive officer and president of 'More Than Mother' Campaign added that more than 10,000 participants including healthcare providers, policymakers, researchers, academia and media representatives from 70 English, French, Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries attended the luminary.



It is important to mention that many of these scholarships were offered in India where a state of art clinical training was provided at the prestigious training institutions of our partners such as Tata Memorial Centre, Manipal University, Maharashtra University, Krishna University, Indira IVF Training and more



First ladies from various African countries pose for a group photo with Merck Foundation director Dr Rasha Keleji (4th-L) board of directors chairman Prof Dr Frank Haverkamp (4th-R) at the foundation's 10th anniversary meeting held in Mumbai last week. The event also marked the sixth year of an initiative by the foundation known as More than a Mother Movement, the thrust of whose activities is on empowering infertile and childless women through access to information, education and change of mindset. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Govt, partners develop projects to help LGAs to manage waste

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Minister of State in the Vice President, Union and Environment, Khamis Hamza Khamis has said the government in collaboration with development partners had developed projects to enable local government authorities to manage waste in the country.

He made the statement on Monday in Dodoma when presenting information to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water and Environment on the implementation of strategies to deal with environmental pollution in rivers and within Dar es Salaam.

He also shared achievements and challenges in waste management in the city.

Khamis said the government issued guidelines for river cleaning with the aim of removing solid waste, sand and mud from rivers in Dar es Salaam. He said the move was geared at reducing the harm that may occur due to illegal mining of sand in the specific rivers.

He said that in the implementation of the guidelines, cleaning up of rivers started with five rivers whereas a total of nine rivers have so far been cleaned. They are Msimbazi, Mbezi, Tegeta, Nyakasangwa, Mpiji Luhanga,

Kibangu, Kibwegere and Kigori.

The deputy minister mentioned the successes achieved during implementation of the strategies as the increase in the cleaning up rivers in the city areas where the total length area is approximately 99,677 meters where the contractors had cleaned up 41,150 meters and 58,527 meters cleaned up by residents.

He also mentioned strengthening of river banks where 24,000 environmentally friendly trees have been planted in various areas including the Msimbazi valley, Pugu station, Mpiji River as well as the areas at Mgemuzi, Mabwepande,

Mitiki and Mbweni.

Dar es Salaam is one of the largest cities with a total of five million people according to the 2022 Housing and Population Census. The increase is being accompanied by many economic and social activities that contribute significantly to environmental challenges including pollution from solid waste and waste water.

According to recent statistics, the production of solid waste in Dar es Salaam is estimated at 4,161 tonnes per day, of which, the ability of the council to collect waste is between 45 and 50 per cent.

More than 50 per cent of the generated waste remains in the environment and spills into the rivers and sewerage systems. The situation which contributes to the blockage of rivers and water passage ways, thus causing floods.

Govt called upon to improve infrastructure in hilly areas

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

THE government has been tasked to improve road infrastructure in hilly areas like Mwanza city to help fire brigade to control fire once it breaks out.

Person Mlote, representative of Jubilee Allianz General Insurance made the call yesterday when speaking at the training on the importance of insurance cover to Mwanza-based residents.

He said that many areas in

Mwanza have no better roads particularly residents who live in hilly areas and that is why they lack insurance cover. "These people have been facing serious challenges especially when their houses catch fire due to unfriendly infrastructure which makes it difficult for fire brigade to arrive at the area.

He said when there is fire, insurance companies have been finding it difficult to insure the residents because they need heavy packages as their houses become

completely burnt to ashes.

The leader for the agents from Jubilee Allianz General Insurance Mary Ndege said youth in the country with insurance expertise must employ themselves instead of waiting for the government to do everything for them.

Justin Mjema, who won a Television set at the event, advised youth in the area to involve themselves in legal activities including joining the group as an insurance broker.



KFC staff busy serving food to children during the firm's 10th anniversary celebrations held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. The event was attended by 50 children and 10 guardians from the city's Baba Oreste Orphanage alongside 50 children and six teachers from Rightway Primary and Primary School. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

19 buses suspended for irregularities in Geita

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

THE Police in Geita Region have suspended operations of 19 passenger buses over failure to fulfil some criteria as stipulated by the law.

The passenger buses are among the 214 vehicles that have been inspected by the traffic department. During the inspection, 142 vehicles were proved to have fulfilled all the criteria.

Briefing journalists on the inspection that was conducted on

October 19, 2023, Geita Regional Police Commander, Safia Jongo said that 53 vehicles out of the 214 inspected vehicles were proved to comply with the regulations, thus being allowed to continue carrying passengers.

She said the inspection involved all the passengers operating within Geita Region. The vehicles are those plying from Geita to Mwanza, Shinyanga and Geita as well as commuters plying between Geita and Katoro, Nkome, Nyarugusu and Nyang'hwale.

The RPC noted that such inspections are carried out to reduce road accidents whereas all the buses that don't meet the set criteria are suspended from transporting passengers.

The head of Traffic Police in Geita Region, Aloys Jacob called upon drivers and other road users to adhere to road safety rules and respect road signs.

"The inspections are sustainable; measures will be taken against reckless drivers including being taken to court," he added.

THE UNITED OF REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



PUBLIC NOTICE

VACANCY AND SECONDMENT TO THE PAN AFRICAN POSTAL UNION (PAPU) GENERAL SECRETARIAT - DUTY STATION, ARUSHA

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) is a member of PAN AFRICAN POSTAL UNION on behalf of the United Republic of Tanzania.

TCRA wishes to inform the general public that PAPU invites applications from suitably qualified Tanzanians for the following post available at the (PAPU) Headquarters as follows:

Title of Post	Grade	Projected date of entry into service	Date of publication of notice
Head, Policy and Regulatory Department	P4	2 nd January, 2024	27 th September, 2023
Service or administrative unit Policy and Regulation department		Duty Station Arusha (Tanzania)	Deadline for receipt of applications 31 st October, 2023

Post: Head, Policy, Regulatory and Legal Affairs Department" Grade P4 Title of Post

Details on duties, responsibilities and qualifications may be accessed on the PAPU's website: <https://www.upap-papu.africa/vacancies/>

Issued by:

**Director General,
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority,
Mawasiliano Towers,
20 Sam Nujoma Road, P.O Box 474,
14414, DAR ES SALAAM.
Email: dg@tcra.go.tz**



Simanjoro District Council chairman Baraka Kanunga pictured on Monday opening a councillors' meeting called to discuss reports from wards. He is flanked by council executive director Gracian Max Makota (R) and the vice chairman Jacob Kimeso. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Minister urges involvement of the citizenry in opportunities available in water projects

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

WATER Minister Jumaa Aweso has called upon water authorities in the country to involve the citizenry on opportunities available in water projects in their localities.

Aweso made the remarks yesterday during a ceremony for laying a foundation stone for the construction of Parkwa water dam project in Chemba District, Dodoma region.

He said upon completion, will have enough water which will allow

people in the area to operate and run agriculture projects within the area, noting that the project which is a project between the government and Su-Yapi Engineering consulting Inc is expected to complete by 2025.

He said the project will facilitate availability of water to residents of the capital city by the Dodoma Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DUWASA).

He said the project will allow residents to grow their vegetables and practice irrigation farming in their respective areas and facilitate

eradication of poverty.

Aweso said the government now has a strategy to ensure there is availability of water in Dodoma by also ensuring that they dig wells in remote areas.

Acting managing director for DUWASA Lena Mwakisale said they currently depend on Makutupora valleys as water sources which avails 68.6 million litres while the actual demand is 133 million per day.

Mwakisale said there is a project which involves construction of five

water wells which will serve the people of Nzuguni, Ilazo, Kisasa and Ipagala.

Speaking on the implementation of the project, deputy Permanent Secretary of the ministry of water Mwavuma Waziri said the project is being implemented by the government and African Development Bank (AFDB) via a grant worth \$125.3 million which was signed on May 16, 2022.

He said the dam will have 32 meters and construction of a water purification machine with the ability to clean 128,000 per day.

He said the ministry will construct 75 acres which will also involve training of 200 groups by people surrounding the dam.

Stakeholders call on govt to eliminate lead poisoning in products

By Getrude Mbago

STAKEHOLDERS have urged the government to enhance efforts to permanently eliminate lead poisoning in various products in order to rescue the public from serious health risks.

Lead is a toxic metal that is used for many purposes and may be present in consumer products including paint, ceramic glazes, solder, ammunition and some traditional medicines and cosmetics.

Dora Swai, senior programme officer of the Agenda for Environment and Responsible Development (AGENDA) made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a joint press conference with the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) as part of the commemoration of the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW).

The week takes place every year during the third week of October with an aim of raising awareness about health effects of lead exposure.

According to Dora, leaving lead paints to continue being imported into the country or being produced pose huge risks to children who are the major victims of the poison.

"Paint containing lead additives poses risks to health from poisoning and environmental contamination. Lead can have permanent health effects on children, but also causes harm in adults," she noted.

She said lead exposure can also occur through mining, smelting and recycling of lead in lead-acid batteries and electrical and electronic items and in some countries these activities can occur in and around the home, where children live and play.

She urged the government to put in place robust strategies to ensure that the nation remain safe from the poisons from lead.

She said the focus of this year's campaign "End Childhood Lead Poisoning" reminds governments, civil society organisations, health partners, industry and others of the unacceptable risks of lead exposure and the need for action to protect children's health.

The campaign builds on the success in illegalising the use of lead in petrol and the progress achieved by many countries in establishing laws that limit the use of lead in paint, particularly those paints to which children are exposed in their homes, schools and playgrounds mainly enamel decorative paints.

"We all need to raise awareness about health effects of lead exposure, highlight the efforts of countries and partners to prevent lead exposure, particularly in

children; and urge further action to eliminate lead paint through regulatory action at country level," she said.

Yohana Ngoshashy, GCLA in-charge of poison control centre said that in previous years, the government took efforts to remove importation and use of fuel-based products with lead but there is still a challenge in some products.

"This calls for concerted efforts to ensure that we eliminate this poison which also include heightening supervision and monitoring of small-scale battery processing factories, mines, weapons, cosmetics, dolls and paints, more public education is also needed to ensure that our people are aware of the impacts," he said.

According to him, childhood lead poisoning, also during pregnancy, can have lifelong health impacts including: learning disabilities, anemia, and disorders in coordination, visual, spatial and language skills.

There is no known level of lead exposure that is considered safe for adults or children. Lead can be found in decorative paint for interiors and exteriors of homes, schools, public and commercial buildings, as well as on toys, furniture and playgrounds.

Silvani Mng'anya, principal programme officer at AGENDA said that concerted national and international action is urgently needed to address the challenge.

Studies have documented that exposure leads to neuropsychological impacts in children including impaired intelligence.

He said it is well-established that even minimal exposure can lead to lifelong developmental and health issues, making the eradication of lead exposure a paramount concern for public health.

Estimates by the World Bank in 2023 put the global cost of the loss of intellectual capacity in children under 5 years at US\$ 1.4 trillion, with the highest impact in low- and middle-income countries.

Paint containing lead additives poses risks to health from poisoning and environmental contamination. Lead can have permanent health effects on children, but also causes harm in adults



Energy deputy minister Judith Kapinga (2nd-R) pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend presenting an award to Puma Arusha filling station director Husin Sjat for outstanding performance. Photo: Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

Shinyanga Region beneficiaries show appreciation for TASAF programme

BENEFICIARIES of the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) in Shinyanga have appreciated how the programme had changed their lives including facilitating their education up to the university level.

The beneficiaries spoke on different occasions when visited by officials from Tasaf with some of them requesting to be removed from the programme because they are out of poverty.

A resident of Ishinabulandi village Samuye Ward in Shinyanga Region, Grace Mahona (23) said

the programme has helped her to study up to university level, saying she is now pursuing a degree in education at the University of Dar es Salaam.

She said despite the fact that her family had serious economic problems, the programme has helped her achieve her educational dreams as most of her colleagues did not continue because of financial constraints.

She added that her mother was registered into the programme in 2015 to receive 72,000/- which was

used to purchase school needs such as pads and food among others with the remaining channeled to boost a family business.

"The problems which we had at first in the family made me give up because I was going to school without eating as many of my friends have ended dropping out," said.

Another beneficiary Ndalo Luhende said economic hardship was facing the family when the husband who was the bread winner died.

She kept an amount to start a plastic chair business where she bought at 2,500/- each and sold it at 5,000/0 each.

Another beneficiary Mrisho Bundala, a resident of Kilogo ward in Kahama District has requested to be removed from the programme after owning a house and a farm for cultivating crops.

"I think this is the best time for me to be removed from the programme so that others get the opportunity to be listed. I am now out of poverty," he said.

Mobile money firm starts digital platform to empower customers

By Guardian Reporter

TIGO Tanzania, has announced an innovative way for customers to make their transactions through the popular messaging platform, WhatsApp called 'Tigo Pesa Rafiki'.

The new transactional option through the Meta-owned app, is the first in the market and will enable customers to perform several transactions, all within the familiar WhatsApp interface.

Angelica Pesha, Tigo Pesa chief officer expressed her enthusiasm during the live launch event, emphasising the service's versatility.

She said: "We are delighted to bring 'Tigo Pesa Rafiki' to Tanzanians, demonstrating our commitment to delivering innovative and user-friendly solutions that enhance the daily lives of our customers. This service will simplify digital transactions and accelerate financial inclusion across Tanzania."

"As the first telecom to offer this innovative service, Tigo reaffirms its dedication to pioneering digital advancements that facilitate financial growth, streamline

payments, and foster economic development in the country. Ultimately, the Tigo Pesa Rafiki goal is to offer convenience for customers to pay right within a chat, seamlessly," she said.

According to Pesha, Tigo Pesa is committed to driving financial and digital inclusion while enhancing the user experience through continuous innovation.

"The integration of Tigo Pesa Rafiki services with WhatsApp is a testament to this commitment."

"To access Tigo Pesa Rafiki services on WhatsApp, customers simply need to register their Tigo Pesa mobile number, email, and a unique code. This integration brings the power of Tigo Pesa right to their fingertips on WhatsApp, making transactions easier than ever before. Additionally, Tigo Pesa WhatsApp will manage our customers' finances and transactions right from the chat you already love using hence make your life simpler," explained Pesha.

The transactions will be made through Tigo Rafiki include government payments, merchant payment (Lipa Kwa Simu) and peer to peer transactions.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: DENNIS NTAITA

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

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

Expect no social media miracles in TRA tax education campaign

SINCE its inception in 1996, the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has never lacked in educational campaigns concerning its activities, write large as the vital importance of paying taxes for national development. While TRA and business management specialists are best placed to say if such campaigns make a change in people's attitudes towards paying taxes, a few things are visible. It is a matter of self-inspection as to paying taxes, and it is clear it isn't an avid response, and is best done when it is indirect, for example buying a product, not in getting a receipt.

It would follow in terms of classification that taxes that are indirectly collected by purchasing an item are good taxes, as people need no education to purchase food, clothing, take a shave, buy fuel or buy a ticket for a trip to somewhere. The issue comes in seeking to enlist the support of the buyer in ensuring that the tax is duly remitted, whereas a well-designed tax ought to be collected merely in purchasing the goods involved. In that sense it is clear that the TRA tax structure of perhaps it is the government's tax format that needs to be revisited, to fill collectability gaps.

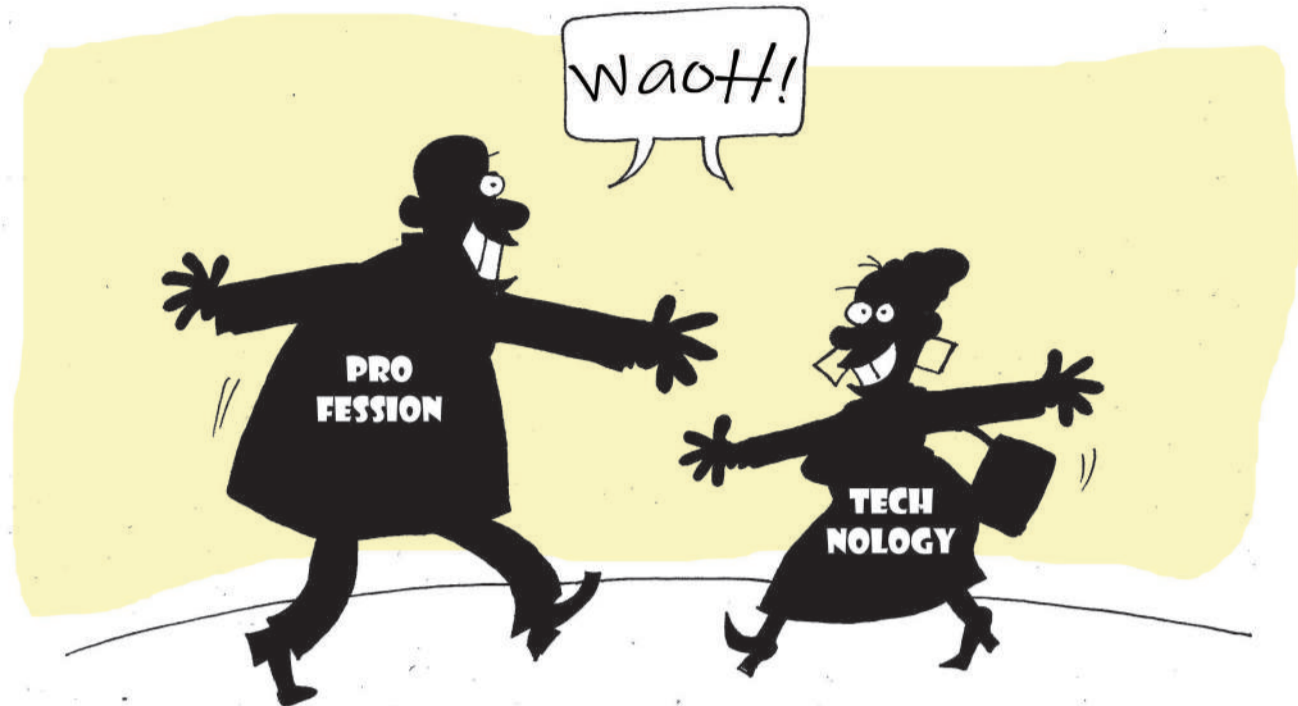
stion comes up that social media ought to be added to areas for the dispensing of tax education, equally ponderous issues come to mind. Social media is effective for strictly personal matters where information is targeted to a specific individual, as it is with a telephone call. When it is a public issue, fairly removed from anyone's personal concerns, it only adds to a numbing amount of

pellets that telephone users must contend with daily, from football betting to routine adverts.

The issue is the design of social media tax education, if it arises from ineffective delivery of avenues of tax education existing, and whether social media will make any difference. At the same time it is evident that anyone with an idea or goods to sell will use social media, and in that case TRA is alerting all and sundry that it will be there as well. In that case it is a routine matter and not really a change of strategy or adopting a new strategy that is expected to yield appreciable results as it would otherwise be perceived with a big billboard, widening tax education as such.

Looking at what is going to be placed the tax education campaigns it is evident that there is no change of strategy, and it is not possible that there is a change of strategy in tax education unless there is shift in taxation policy. To emphasise that the public will be told to focus on paying taxes and requesting legal receipt equal to amount of money they paid is proof of one thing. That without receipt, no tax will be collected even if the goods have been sold, itself a problem of tax design.

All excess educational effort is clear demonstration of ineffectiveness of formal procedure. Otherwise taxes are supposed to be collected seamlessly without a semblance of education, as unless it is a matter of how one should pay taxes, the rest is taken for granted. Ordinarily people are not talked into surrendering significant amounts of money for public causes for which they have no direct interest.



US AMBASSADOR'S OP-ED

Launching the US-Tanzania commercial dialogue: A key to unlocking mutually beneficial trade and prosperity

By Michael A. Battle Sr.

LAST Thursday, the United States and Tanzania entered into a transformative new chapter in our relationship, when US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and Tanzanian Minister for Industry and Trade, Dr Ashatu Kijaji signed the US - Tanzania commercial dialogue. This historic agreement builds off the successful visit of Vice President Kamala Harris to Tanzania earlier this year, and sets the foundation for increasing economic growth, investment, trade, and prosperity between our two countries. The signing of this agreement comes at an exciting time in our bilateral relationship and reinforces our commitment to working together in strengthening our economic ties as partners based on mutual respect and shared values.

The United States and Tanzania are entering into a new era, one in which we deliver on our development cooperation priorities while increasing our focus on strengthening investment and trade ties between our two countries. The US government and US investors come to Tanzania, ready to partner in ways that unleash Tanzania's enormous economic potential, epitomized by the wealth of human capital and abundance of natural resources. We want the Tanzanian economic base to grow, and we believe in its growth potential. The US - Tanzania commercial dialogue is a significant symbol of the United States' serious and enduring commitment to this goal. Once implemented, this agreement will catalyze increased US - Tanzania commerce and trade in ways that directly benefit the Tanzanian people.

US businesses are already investing in critical sectors of the Tanzanian economy, but the economic relationship is now primed for take-off. The US - Tanzania trade relationship is solid, but there's also significant room to grow. Recent milestones such as Ward Holdings shipments of processed cashews to U.S. markets, Boeing aircraft deliveries for Air Tanzania, and progress towards developing a battery grade nickel processing facility for clean energy technology are remarkable achievements. With the signing of the US - Tanzania commercial dialogue, together, we are taking the next step towards fully realizing that potential.



According to the agreement, the commercial dialogue will be co-chaired by the Minister for Industry and Trade and the US Secretary of Commerce. Our countries will rotate hosting an annual meeting with participants that include senior US and Tanzanian government officials and executive-level private sector stakeholders. Between each annual meeting, representatives from the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam and the Tanzanian Ministry of Industry and Trade will regularly confer to develop and shape the dialogue, implement decisions, collaborate on next steps, troubleshoot issues facing, and serve as technical experts advising both our governments. Early discussions will focus on growing Tanzania's digital economy, increasing US and Tanzanian market access, improving regulatory and business climate reforms, organizing trade missions to the United States and Tanzania, and developing trade fairs in both our countries. Together, we will increase our mutual understanding, forge new commercial ties between our

countries, and learn and share best practices for successfully operating in the American and Tanzanian markets.

Over time, the US - Tanzania commercial dialogue will become the foundation for building a strong and lasting bilateral trade relationship that benefits both businesses and the average U.S. and Tanzanian citizen. Whether by bringing high-quality Tanzanian products to U.S. markets or by expanding US economic engagement in Tanzania and creating good paying jobs to expand and develop Tanzania's middle class, this agreement is the first step. Sustained engagement between our governments and private sectors will be critical to improving the business environment, removing barriers to trade, integrating our economies, resolving supply chain issues, and fully realizing our shared prosperity goals. The US - Tanzania commercial dialogue will provide a platform for us to do all this, and jointly explore, and strengthen regulatory policies that attract US businesses to Tanzania, and

Tanzanian businesses to the United States. Tanzanian producers, manufacturers, entrepreneurs, and small and medium sized enterprises stand the most to gain. This agreement will build strong, lasting, and mutually beneficial ties between our two countries.

The US - Tanzania commercial dialogue is a critical step towards unleashing the enormous economic potential that exists in the US - Tanzania bilateral relationship. The government alone cannot expand opportunity to its citizens to the same magnitude that including the private sector will. Tanzania is an economic force and a leader in East Africa and on the continent. The United States is your committed partner in reaching our shared economic development aspirations, and together, we will make limitless progress. I look forward to attending the first US - Tanzania commercial dialogue meeting and welcoming new US commercial partners into this dynamic market.

Michael A. Battle Sr. (pictured) is the US Ambassador to Tanzania

Buses need to be operationally usable, while operators have margins to avoid

NEWS that 19 buses plying major roads in Geita Region have lately been banned from rendering services in view of mechanical faults noticed in traffic police checks isn't surprising. The number refers to those caught particularly off guard in relation to mechanical precautions on the state of their vehicles when the police checked 214 buses, finding fault with 142 buses and putting 19 others out of operation altogether. Statistically speaking there is nothing strange in those figures, as the removed buses are less than a tenth of the total, while a half had some faults.

Minding about these figures is alright as bus transport reflects social capacity as a whole, as to the kind of services offered in a competitive manner, how buses are put to wear and tear, and how long they are expected to serve after being purchased.

This of course has to do with the state of the roads and a bit on the staff the operator hires, and then the effort at optimal use on a daily basis, as it has to do with the sort of margins that a bus operator asks from drivers and in turn, conductors. All this can be put neatly on a table as to how it should be, as routes differ in quality and fares, buses differ in size and days also differ in cash realised.

The fact that over half of the buses had faults and less than a fifth of them were halted from providing services shows that on the whole, buses on the road are usable. The vexing matter is whether it is this sort of problem

that causes accidents as the real issue here is speeding, and this often has to do with the psychological state of the driver on that day. Police statistics relating to world data on road traffic causes put mechanical faults at a fairly low level of accident causes, and speeding or human faults was the main cause. It is an unstable state of mind causing faults.

Police checks on buses rendering services in the region sort of complement bus operators' wishes, that the drivers and their front door assistants make sure that buses are usable and do not lose money for staying in garages or held at police stations. But then this is also the case for drivers and conductors as without making sufficient trips on a particular day, they will earn little or nothing after paying out to the bus owner what they must daily remit. So police checks are complementary to everyone's concerns, on the part of the owner if the driver and assistants are taking care of the bus, and with the latter, if their regular mechanic is up to the job.

In that case it is clear that there will be mechanical faults on any bus that has been used for a while, or that the parts ought to be replaced. But the parts can't be maintained in such a manner that they look new, first due to the margins to be respected in terms of costs and remittance cash, and then buses like other vehicles can operate with fairly used spares. Any problems will first inconvenience the driver and assistants, even before the police arrive.

DP World deal: We look forward to better services and more cash

By Carlos Banda

LAST Sunday, Tanzanians witnessed the signing of three agreements for the development of the Port of Dar es Salaam between the government and Dubai-based multinational logistics company DP World.

The ceremony at State House Chamwino saw many people glued to their television screens while others followed it via radio and on various social media platforms. The interest was huge mainly because people wanted to know if questions raised in the Inter-governmental Agreement (IGA) which was signed earlier were answered.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan who assured Tanzanians that the agreements are for the good of our country's social and economic development, stating that the only way to bring about efficiency at the Port of Dar es Salaam is making room for cooperation with investors capable of doing the job.

"Today, we have witnessed the signing of three important agreements on the development of Port of Dar es Salaam between TPA (Tanzania Ports Authority) and DP World of Dubai. These contracts are a result of the major memorandum of understanding which was approved by our National Assembly mid this year," she said.

The president also pointed out that a committee of experts was formed to ensure they look into the matter and advise on vital issues that need to be included in the contracts, taking into consideration the views and voices raised by the public.

The president added that the partnership will bring total transformation and efficiency in port operations and uplift the economy by rapidly increasing cargo volume and port revenues.

The agreements are part of implementation of the IGA entered between Tanzania and the Emirate of Dubai, which the DP World CEO said was a significant step as the concession starts to be operationalized for the firm to operate, develop, maintain and upgrade the Dar es Salaam port.

The agreements open a new page for the vast improvement of Dar port's operations and efficiency, to move up from its current performance where it ranks 312 for the year 2022, a up from 361 recorded in the year 2021 in the Container Port Performance Index (CPPI).

The same CPPI ranked the port of Dar es Salaam above its regional rival—Port of Mombasa— which stands at 326 in the survey of 348 ports globally, making it the preferred facility in East Africa. However, to rank number 312 out of 348 is not something to brag about and that is why the entry of experienced player like DP World is important.

Port development plays a pivotal role in advancing development of emerging economies, considering the fact that 80 percent of the global trade products are transported over the sea from one country to another or from one continent to another.

A container port like Dar es Salaam acts as prerequisite for the country's progress as it enables other countries to connect and trade with Tanzania through imports and exports.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan looks on at Chamwino State House in Dodoma Region last Sunday as Tanzania Ports Authority director general Plasduce Mbossa (L) and board chairman Ernest Mangu (seated, 2nd-L) sign agreements with Dubai's DP World Company on the lease of four piers at the Port of Dar es Salaam. The Dubai firm was represented by its chairman and CEO, Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem (2nd-R). File photo

With the signing of IGA earlier and the three agreements on Sunday, the stage is now set for the port have the highest possible and make it the facility of choice in Eastern, Southern and Central Africa.

Improvement of efficiency at the Port of Dar es Salaam is now no longer a pipe dream considering the fact that that DP World will invest \$250mn/- (623bn/-) in the next five years to improve cargo clearing and eliminate delays that shipping companies face currently.

The investment will help improve transport and logistics services all over Tanzania and into the hinterland, thus strengthening the supply chain, Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, DP World group chairman and CEO pointed out during the signing ceremony.

"Today, intra-African trade is very low, so with this partnership, we will be able to stimulate trade between and among African countries while also

seeing a major boost in various sectors, including agriculture, textiles, mining and manufacturing," he said.

Along with the improvement of the supply chain, the agreement serves to table substantial employment opportunities, expertise and training as well as the application of modern technology and equipment to make port operations fast and effective.

Plasduce Mbossa, TPA director general, said the 30-year contract will transform the port, assuring Tanzanians that more jobs will be created and that the current port workers' jobs will remain secure as they benefit from various capacity building programmes as well as transfer of knowledge and equipment familiarity.

For import and export traders whose businesses depend on marine transport, this is good news because Mbossa hinted that with DP World's entry ship anchorage is set to be reduced from

five days to 24-hours alongside cutting down the time spent for container off-loading from the previous four days to an average of two days.

Investment at the Port of Dar Salaam was long-overdue because competing ports like the Port of Beira to the south in Mozambique seem to do better. While Port of Dar es Salaam ranked number 312 in the 2022 CPPI survey, Port of Beira ranked 223 out of the of 348 ports assessed.

Looking at DP World's performance, the firm reported positive yields in the first quarter of 2023 after handling 19.5 million TEU (twenty-foot equivalent units) across its global portfolio of container terminals with the gross container volumes rising by 1.4 percent year-on-year on a reported basis and up 3.7 percent on a like-for-like basis.

The company's director general attributed the growth to its strong performance in Asian market, noting that

despite the uncertainty caused by the geopolitical backdrop, high inflation and currency fluctuations; they expect to deliver strong performance in 2023 as the key focus will be driving revenue synergies through acquisitions while managing costs.

"Our portfolio has had an encouraging start to the year with container volume growth of 3.7 percent, once again ahead of the market. This outperformance continues to demonstrate that our strategy to offer integrated supply chain solutions to cargo owners is driving value for our stakeholders," he said.

This investment is expected to help Tanzania see an increase in cargo volume at the Port of Dar es Salaam as well as the rapid rise in revenue and tax collections from the current 776trn/- to upwards of 26.7trn/- in the year 2032/33 by preliminary projections. The deal is done, we now look forward to efficiency at the port of Dar es Salaam and more cash.



A view of Dar es Salaam Port

A lesson from Brazil on how to restore lost nature

By Mario Osava

HOUSES with balconies facing the street or the surrounding hills, when they are not hidden behind high walls, reflect a neighborhood where people live on the shore of a lagoon but reject the landscape it offers.

Piratininga, a 2.87 square kilometer coastal lagoon in the southern part of the Brazilian city of Niterói, began to change after several decades of uncontrolled urban growth with no care for the natural surroundings, in what has become a neighborhood of 16,000 inhabitants.

Garbage, polluted water, construction debris and bad odors hurt the landscape and the quality of life that is sought when choosing a lagoon and green hills as a place to build a year-round or weekend residence.

The accumulated sludge at the bottom of the lagoon is 1.6 meters thick, on average, resulting from both pollution and natural sedimentation.

"That's what explains those houses that turn their backs to the lagoon," explained Dionê Castro, coordinator of the Sustainable Oceanic Region Program (PRO Sostensible) of the city government of Niterói, a municipality of 482,000 people separated from the city of Rio de Janeiro only by Guanabara Bay.

Oceânica is one of the five administrative zones of the municipality, locally called regions, which includes 11 neighborhoods in the southern part, on the open sea coast, in contrast to others on the shore of the bay or inland areas without beaches. With two lagoons and a good part of the Atlantic Forest still preserved, the area stands out for its nature.

PRO Sostensible, which was founded in 2014, seeks to restore environmental systems and to ensure better and more sustainable urbanization in the area. Its actions are based on a systemic approach and nature-based solutions.

Natural clean-up of the water

The program's flagship project is the Orla Piratininga Alfredo Sirkis Park, which pays homage to a leader of the environmental movement, former national lawmaker and former president of the Green Party, as well as journalist and writer, who died in 2020.

The park, known by its acronym POP, has the mission of recovering and protecting the ecosystems associated with the Piratininga Lagoon, in addition to fostering a sense of belonging to the environment and its surroundings. For this reason, the participation of the local residents in all stages of the project has been and continues to be a basic principle.

It comprises an area of 680,000 square meters, the largest in Brazil in nature-based solutions projects, with 10.6 kilometers of bicycle paths, 17 recreational areas and a 2,800 square meter Ecocultural Center.

To bring residents and visitors closer to the local environment, the plan is to complete three three-story lookout points - two of which have already been built - and piers reaching into the lagoon, part of which can be used for fishing, as fish still inhabit the lagoon despite the pollution of recent decades.

The first section, known as Hacienda Cafubá, was inaugurated on Jun. 17, with a water filtration system for the Cafubá River, one of the three that flow into the lagoon, a lookout point, piers, a bicycle path and even a nursery for newborn crocodiles in a special fenced-in area.

"I went to see if I could find the crocodiles, my son made me walk down the street, he loves animals... I never thought I would see what I saw... I went to the beginning of the Hacienda, I saw fish where there was nothing living before, I saw flowers where there was only mud, I saw life where nature was already dead without any hope. Congratulations for tolerating us, that community is tough."

This is the testimony of a resident, addressed to the head of PRO Sostensible. The park has had a large number of visitors since before its inauguration, attracted by flora and fauna that had long since disappeared from the shores of the lagoon.

The technology used to clean the waters is known around the world but has not been widely used in Brazil. It is based on filter gardens, in which layers of gravel and permeable substrates serve as a base for macrophytes, aquatic plants that live in flooded areas and are visible on the surface.

The plants filter the water in a process that does not



Dionê Castro is head of the Sustainable Oceanic Region Program of the municipality of Niterói, on the edge of the Piratininga Lagoon in southeastern Brazil. Gardens and piers jutting into the lagoon have replaced the garbage dumps, polluted water and construction debris that had led local residents to reject the landscape, leading houses to be built with their "backs to the lagoon." CREDIT: Mario Osava / IPS

require chemical inputs.

A special spillway receives the waters of the Cafubá, which conducts and controls them to give greater efficiency to the next pond, the sedimentation pond, the first step in cleaning the polluted waters by reducing the solid material produced by erosion and garbage thrown into the riverbed.

After the sedimentation basins, the water passes through three filtering gardens before flowing into the lagoon.

Plant filters

Twelve species of macrophytes are used in the filtra-

tion process, but the variety has been reduced due to maintenance difficulties. "We use only Brazilian species, and no exogenous species," said Heloisa Osanaí, a biologist specialized in environmental management and one of the 17 employees of PRO Sostensible.

Examples include water lettuce and water lilies with orange flowers.

"One of the effects of the water treatment is the reduction of mosquitoes, which is important to local residents, who used to burn dry vegetation in an attempt to drive

away the insects. People no longer build bonfires in the evenings. The filter gardens attract dragonflies that eat the mosquitoes," said Osanaí.

In the larger Jacaré River, 11 filtering gardens were created, which operate in sequence and whose size was designed for greater efficiency, said Andreea Maia, another biologist and environmental manager of the team.

Awards and results

PRO Sostensible has already won several national and international awards. It was

named one of the three best environmental sustainability programs in Latin America and the Caribbean in the Smart Cities 2022 award.

This year it won another award from Smart Cities Latin America, as the best in Sustainable Urban Development and Mobility. The Park also won awards for valuing biodiversity, from the Federation of Industries of Rio de Janeiro, and another as an environmental project, from the São Paulo city government, for contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals of the

2030 Agenda.

In addition to the Park, the program has inaugurated a Sports and Leisure Center on the island of Tibau, on the other side of the Piratininga Lagoon, closer to the sea.

As part of this project, sports fields, a playground and a lookout point have been built, while an invasive tree, the white lead tree (*Leucaena leucocephala*), native to Mexico and Central America, which dominated the island's vegetation, has been gradually replaced with local species.

The systemic thinking that guides PRO Sostensible is based on three pillars, explained Dionê Castro.

First is the complexity of local ecosystems and of the projects being implemented, focusing on the environmental, natural, social and cultural dimensions.

In second place is what is called "intersubjectivity", which takes into account new paradigms of science, leaving behind "simplistic and Cartesian views...The changes do not come from outside, but from local residents, with public input from the conception of the project to its execution," said the geographer who holds a doctorate in environmental management.

The third pillar is irreversibility. The lagoon and its ecosystems will not return to their original state, "to zero," but will be cleaned up as much as possible to reach a "new equilibrium," she said.

Local support for the environmental project led to solutions in different areas, such as the regularization of real estate in the favelas or shantytowns, the improvement of health, the revitalization of fishing, and even the creation of a fishermen's association.

"It's environmental justice on the march," Castro summed up.



An aerial view of Hacienda Cafubá, on the north shore of Piratininga, a lagoon in southeastern Brazil, when ponds that serve as a spillway and to collect sedimentation of polluted water were being built and filter gardens that clean the water of the Cafubá River before discharging its waters into the lagoon were being planted. CREDIT: Alex Ramos / Niterói City Government

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

How and why President Buhari failed in leadership

By Umar Ardo

JUDGING by the high spate of insecurity, collapsed economy, endemic corruption in public affairs, among several other vices pervading the country at the time President Muhammadu Buhari (pictured) left office on May 29, 2023, Nigeria can be rightly said to have drifted inexorably into a failed state. All over the country, especially in the North and the Southeast, kidnappings, killings and bloodlettings of horrifyingly unimaginable proportions had become standard daily occurrences of communities.

While internecine genocide, communal killings and banditry were going on in villages and towns unabated, highways had been taken over by armed robbers and kidnappers. Almost on a daily basis, villages were raided and people abducted even when the previously kidnapped ones were still in captivity.

Since there were no federal or state authorities to turn to, citizens were left with no option but to negotiate with the new rulers of the day - kidnapers, bandits and unknown gunmen - to secure the release of the abducted. In the South-east, for about three years, IPOB, commanding 'Unknown Gunmen', became so strong it declared and enforced a sit-at-home order on Mondays throughout the region. In the South-south, pirates were seizing oil installations and siphoning national oil at will. In the South-west, cultism and harvesting of human organs for ritual purposes had been standardized.

To all intents and purposes, therefore, adding to the Boko Haram insurgents which he inherited from the previous PDP regimes, under him insurgents, bandits, kidnappers, unknown gunmen, pirates, cultists and ritualists had been added as de facto governments of the day in many communities of Nigeria.

In such communities, citizens either obeyed the rules of the outlaws or lost their lives. The point being made here is that nowhere and no one was safe under the Buhari government, except probably the heavily guarded so-called public officials. And when the president's convoy was itself attacked by bandits, lawlessness became complete. In consequence, travelling, trading, farming and such other necessary daily lifestyle activities of ordinary citizens were either halted altogether or carried out in dread by those who were compelled to undertake them.

Eight years of his leadership had not improved the national economy either; rather, it actually collapsed. The national Gross Domestic Product (GDP), representing the total value of all economic activities in the country, had nosedived and remained down, pushing the country into almost a state of permanent recession throughout his regime.

Depletion of our foreign reserve and humongous debts with no productivity combined to send the value of the naira plummeting to an exchange rate of N650 to \$1 by the time he left office, and the resulting inflation sent many Nigeri-

ans below poverty line into a state of deprivation and destitution. In 2018, Nigeria was pronounced the poverty capital of the world.

The same failure was as well evident in the fight against corruption. With the appointment of Ibrahim Magu as the head of the EFCC, the key anti-corruption agency, in contravention of the law, the fight against corruption started on a wrong footing under Buhari. On account of security reports accusing Magu of corruption, thus denting his moral standing to prosecute the war, the Senate declined to confirm his nomination as required by law. Still, President Buhari put him in office for about five years, thus calling to question the sincerity of the administration's commitment to fight corruption.

Not surprisingly, Magu himself ended up being further accused by his supervising minister, Abubakar Malami, of re-looting recovered corruption loots and ignominiously removed from office. In effect, the twin evils of bribery and corruption continued having a field-day under the Buhari-led APC regime. Hence, all over the country, persons on corruption charges were roaming about free. Many had even bribed themselves back into public offices either in elective or appointive capacities.

There were also widespread outrageous open displays of stupendous wealth by several serving public officers, hitherto living from hand to mouth, suggesting corrupt enrichments in the Buhari government. Less than two years before he left office, Nigeria was ranked amongst the top most corrupt countries on earth. As it is, Magu's successor at EFCC, AbdulRasheed Bawa, is currently under detention for more than two months on allegations of impropriety.

Aside from these core issues, there were also many other aspects of our national life that similarly deteriorated under the Buhari administration, principal of which is ethical decay. What was morally wrong, had become politically right. But one needs not list instances, for they were endless! Right under our noses, we helplessly watched Nigeria drift into a failed state. This is the stark reality that must be admitted of the Buhari regime.

Buhari ran for office and was elected president on a set of principles of trust and hope. In 2015, the overriding factor in his campaign was Buhari himself, on his assumed integrity, incorruptibility, forthrightness and the magic wand to deliver! The presidential campaign was mainly about Buhari the person - not his policies, nor his programmes, nor even his political party, but Buhari the man and his promises - that had received the drumming endorsement of the Nigerian people, particularly northerners.

To virtually everyone in the North, Buhari was the only man, and therefore the only hope, for the people. That was why a sagacious political strategist would draw up a sophisticated strategic blueprint after his 3-failed attempts without asking for something in return. That was why an old woman of over 80 years would



TANROADS CEO, Eng. Mohamed Besta

sit out in the scorching sun of the northern desert for a whole day just to see the man Buhari and donate her life-long savings towards his election bid without expecting anything back from him.

That was why poor wheelbarrow pushers, nail cutters, shoe shiners, hewers of woods and fetchers of water, literally the wretched of the earth, would starve themselves to buy cards and donate their meagre earnings towards his election without any hope of ever meeting him. And that was why someone would trek from Lagos to Abuja in joyous celebration of Buhari's electoral victory without a price tag.

So, when Buhari won the contest and was sworn-in as president, it was expected he would solve the numerous problems of the country. Other than solving problems of individuals' survival, there were also daunting challenges threatening the very survival of the nation itself that President Buhari was equally expected to resolve. In his campaigns, Buhari summed these concerns up into three - insecurity, corruption and economy. In other words, the resolution of these three would resolve both the individuals' and collective developmental challenges of the nation; to create a sense of belonging and forge functional unity to a desperate and despairing nation torn apart by cries of marginalization, agitations and separatist tendencies.

Given that President Buhari came to office with the confidence and goodwill of Nigerians behind him, it was sad that, as seen above, he woefully failed in his leadership and lost the peoples' confidence and goodwill till he left office. So how and why did he fail as president? To me, the simple and truthful answer to this twin question is that President Buhari just lacked leadership acumen, which he displayed in seven discernible ways.

First, as president, he was deficient in the effective acquisition, control and utilization of state au-

thority to deliver valuable leadership. After being sworn-in to office he failed to immediately appoint officials who would take control and charge in the utilization of state power, ensuing a period of lull in the polity and creating doubts in people's minds to his leadership ability. It was after petulant whippers started becoming loud reproaches that a handful of Advisers, Secretary to Government and a couple of personal aides were appointed. Then followed a much longer period of sloth; dragging to nearly six months before the government cabinet was at last grudgingly constituted. Consequently, when at last he constituted his cabinet, he ended up with a kakistocratic team that further plummeted the situation. Thus, from the beginning, Buhari had sown the first seed of leadership failure by neglecting this critical aspect in the exercise of state power as an important element of governance. Since then, he lost the momentum and never regained it till he left office.

Second, there was an incapacity to provide strong and decisive leadership by President Buhari. Even though the regime's apologists always blamed his failings on the enormity of the misdeeds of past regimes, or the dislocated structures of our society, the real reason was lack of leadership's firmness, confidence and direction from the president himself. Almost any problem can be successfully resolved if there is effective leadership at the top.

All that is required is the force of personal leadership, and this was manifestly lacking in President Buhari. To all intents and purposes, he was a passive leader - one who allowed problems to solve themselves, refusing to intervene even when it was absolutely necessary! Given that the resolution of the country's problems is the responsibility of the government, it therefore ultimately required direction and inter-connected AI elements are getting more international scrutiny. The UN Security Council for the first time held a session on 18th July 2023 on the threat that artificial intelligence poses to international peace and stability, and UN Secretary General called for a global watchdog to oversee a new technology that has raised at least as many fears as hopes.

The UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities presented a report (March 2022) to the Human Rights Council on artificial intelligence (AI) and the rights of persons with disabilities.

Enhanced multi-stakeholder efforts on global AI cooperation are needed to help build global capacity for the development and use of AI in

and prodding of the leadership at the Villa. That entailed the president taking full charge and responsibility for all acts and outcome of whatever events the government set in motion. Where this is lacking, then there is a problem. And this is simply absent in President Buhari's leadership.

Third, even in organizing for collective decisions, President Buhari exhibited other serious deficits. Throughout his reign, there was lack of harmony and coordination among the various segments and agencies of the executive organ he headed. There were conflicts and acrimony among members of the government that affected the regime's general output. In all these, the president abandoned his appointees to thrash out issues and settle differences and disagreements themselves, with minimum or no intervention from him. This was a wrong approach to leadership, as harmony and cooperation are benchmarks for successful government, and the role of the leader in ensuring these conditions is essential.

Fourth, throughout his reign, President Buhari had little value for ideas and innovations. The essence of collective decision-making in a government is to aggregate various ideas from cabinet members with a view to evolving the best policy option for the problem at hand. As we all know, there are plenty of good ideas out there if only they were listened to and harnessed into use by the leadership. But the president was a non-listening leader. This explains his rebuffing of all genuine and well-meaning calls on him to amend his ways on certain national issues. He even alienated ideas of his key appointees through his misconceived directive to his Cabinet Ministers to pass through his Chief of Staff in dealing, communicating and meeting with him. Needless to say, this was a bureaucratic process that delivered nothing but mediocrity. A serious leader must evaluate and guide first-hand the initiatives of his appointees. But in Buhari's disorderly style, an appointee became responsible for evaluating and deciding on policy initiatives of other appointees. This was not only an unnecessary bureaucratic bottleneck created but the process also indeed diminished the zeal, confidence and energy of appointees concerned, ultimately hindering the general policy outputs of his government.

Naturally, this lack of direct evaluation and guidance of the president on the initiatives of his appointees rendered the government slow, weak and bankrupt in ideas, and in policy formulation and implementation.

Consequently, nothing was properly or usefully designed and decided, as all initiatives and energy were paralyzed. Not surprisingly, under such a situation nothing much was achieved.

Fifth, whatever efforts put forth by other members of the government were mired in confusion from the outset owing chiefly to lack of good understanding of the real issues at play, thereby resulting in poor policy options and choices. The reason being that most of the

personnel he appointed did not fit the offices they occupied. Sourcing the right personnel to occupy key offices of government is no doubt important, but the refinement of the personnel to fit the offices assigned to is even more important. To this end, sufficient thought was not given by the president in matching the character of the individual with the demands of the office assigned to them. In this, President Buhari also failed miserably. A purposeful leadership must always have its policy makers strive to conceive and implement new initiatives so as to create and maintain positive momentum for the government. And this can only happen if the right persons hold the right offices.

The sixth failing in President Buhari's leadership style was temporization. The president hardly took decisions on virtually any issue. In fact, it looked as if the president hated taking decisions at all until compelled to do so. We saw that in him time and again on even the most serious issues. These included the formation of his cabinet, acting on corruption allegations against his appointees, changing his Service Chiefs, injecting capable hands into government, etc. Not that a long period of procrastination necessarily gives cause to taking right decisions, or decisiveness leads to taking bad decisions, but temporization is hardly a virtue in the books of leadership. In fact, as the saying goes, the easier it is for a leader to do nothing, the harder it is for him to achieve anything. A good leader must be decisive; he must abhor procrastination, temporization and equivocation. We saw this virtue in President Obasanjo; for whatever may be said of his leadership faults, Obasanjo was undoubtedly a decisive leader.

Seventh, Buhari as a person had serious moral and ethical burdens weighing down his personality, and therefore affected his leadership output. On coming to power, President Buhari grassed up those who were pivotal to his victory; those who stood by him and sacrificed everything - their intellect, their wealth and putting their lives on the line for him at the time when crass opportunists were all running away from him.

By this act of betrayal, he purposelessly made enemies out of his friends; those who believed in him, persevered hardships, threats and persecution, and never wavered against all odds at a time when he was being stigmatized, abused and dreaded.

But when he got to power, those who had maligned him, with whose investives his opponents campaigned against him; those who ran away from him in his hour of need, swarmed back on him like flies on rotten carcass, unfortunately making him turn his back on those who really made it possible for him to gain power in the first place.

No one would commit such misdemeanour against those who made the real difference in his electoral victory after three unsuccessful attempts and still succeed in leadership. No one; no way! The reason is simple - it is against natural laws of power!

the digital public sphere. AI is contributing to both sides of democratic aspirations: Majority rule and protection of minorities.

While the discourse on AI and the democratic public sphere focuses mostly on the societal requirements for a healthy democracy, an additional discourse looks at how we "practice" democracy, namely at elections and how they are conducted.

Recent election cycles in different countries have made it clear that malicious actors are both willing and able to leverage digital applications to subvert democracy and democratic processes.

With the advent of powerful new language models, those actors now have a potent new weapon in their arsenal. Here is good reason to fear that A.I. systems like ChatGPT and GPT4 will harm democracy.

By A.H. Monjurul Kabir

In 2002, the Human Development Report (UNDP) focused on 'Deepening Democracy in a Fragmented World'. It was an important discourse then [and still is] that evoked lot of insightful cross-regional exchanges of ideas. It reiterates that politics matter for human development because people everywhere want to be free to determine their destinies, express their views and participate in the decisions that shape their lives.

The year 2022 brought AI into the mainstream through widespread familiarity with applications of Generative Pre-Training Transformer (a type of large language model and a prominent framework for generative artificial intelligence).

The most popular application is OpenAI's ChatGPT. The widespread

Deepening democracy in an AI-enabled world

fascination with ChatGPT made it synonymous with AI in the minds of most consumers. However, it represents only a small portion of the ways that AI technology is being used today. The large language models may disrupt far more than just the economy. They also appear to challenge democracy including the traditional forms of democratic engagement.

Today in 2023, on #democracyday and beyond these newer innovation and capabilities are just as important for human development—for expanding people's choices—as being able to read or enjoy good health.

Public debate may be overwhelmed by industrial quantities of autogenerated argument. Deepfakes and misinformation generated by

AI could undermine elections and democracy. Let us also lose sight of empowering citizens, fighting corruption, reforming public administration an addressing climate change.

Increasing International Monitoring and Scrutiny

We all know that AI brings targeted benefits to both development and political agenda in the digital era. It is already the main driver of emerging technologies like big data, robotics and IoT - not to mention generative AI, with tools like ChatGPT and AI art generators garnering mainstream attention. It can, nevertheless, instill bias, and significantly compromise the safety and agency of users worldwide.

Increasingly, these inter-depend-

Climate change turns African rivers into epicentres of conflict

By Maina Waruru

ALMOST all major river basins in Africa have become the epicentres for conflicts over the last 20 years, and agricultural yields on the continent could drop by up to 50 percent in the coming years owing to the drying up of 'traditional' water sources, thanks in part to effects climate change and degradation of the environment, the inaugural edition of the State of Africa's Environment Report 2023 released in Nairobi finds.

At the same time, environmental degradation and loss of biodiversity affect the continent the most, with a loss of 4 million hectares of forest cover each year, double the global average rate.

This, in part, has contributed to over 50 million people migrating from the degraded areas of sub-Saharan Africa to North Africa and Europe by 2020, according to the report compiled by India's Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) released in Nairobi on October 13, 2023.

It finds that all the critical water basins on the continent were experiencing distress and turbulence due to, among other reasons, unsustainable use of resources besides climate, becoming hotspots for competition over water.

The basins include Lake Chad, shared by Chad, Nigeria, Cameroon and Niger; the river Nile shared by Egypt, Uganda, Sudan and Ethiopia; Lake Victoria, shared by Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania; and the river Niger used by communities in Niger, Mali and Nigeria.

Also on the list is the river Congo basin, a joint resource used by Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon, and the Lake Malawi basin shared by Tanzania and Malawi. Also on the list is the Lake Turkana basin in Kenya and Ethiopia.

Examples show that the Lake Chad basin disputes started in 1980, and the water body has diminished by 90 percent since the 1960s due to overuse and climate change effects.

"For years, the lake has supported drinking water, irrigation, fishing, livestock and economic activity for over 30 million people; it is vital for indigenous, pastoral and farming communities in one of the world's poorest countries. However, climate change has fueled massive environmental and humanitarian crises in the region," the report notes.

It notes that international actors and regional governments have long ignored the interplay between climate change, community violence and the forced displacement of civilians.

"Conflict between herders and farmers has become common as livelihoods are lost, and families dependent on the lake are migrating to other areas in search of water," the report says.

"In the Congo basin, disputes started in 1960. The basin witnesses multifaceted crises, including forced displacement, violent conflicts, political instability, and climate change impacts," it concludes.

On the other hand, it traces conflicts in the Niger basin to 1980, blaming climate change for disagreements over "damage to farmland and restricted access to water, while in the Nile, disagreements began around 2011 stemming from the construction of the Grand Renaissance dam by Ethiopia, which Egypt fears will impact water flow.

Conflicts over Lake Turkana resources are fairly recent, traced to 2016 when it was observed that with 90 percent of its water from the Omo River in Ethiopia, rising temperatures and reduced rainfall have contributed to the lake's 'retreat' into Kenya.

To survive, the Ethiopian herder tribes began following the water, resulting in inter-tribal conflict with their Kenyan counterparts. The construction of Ethiopia's Gilgel Gibe III Dam on the river worsened matters.

It notes that in 2020, between 75 and 250 million peo-



Cattle carcass in Kenya's Kitengela Maasai rangelands in the great drought of 2009. A new report shows that major river basins in Africa have become sources of conflict due to drying up thanks to climate change and environmental degradation. Credit: ILRI

ple on the continent were projected to be "exposed to increased water stress" due to climate change, warning that in some countries, yields from rain-fed agriculture could drop up to 50 percent due to drying up of traditional water sources including lakes, rivers, and wells.

"How Africa manages its water resources will define how water-secure the world would be. Africa's aquifers hold 0.66 million KM3 of water. This is more than 100 times the annual renewable freshwater resources stored in dams and rivers."

Take Ethiopia, for instance. Known as the continent's water tower, the country is confronting huge challenges of disappearing lakes and rivers, it explains.

Africa, the world's second-largest and second-most-populous continent, hosts a quarter of the planet's animal and plant species, but the species extinction and general biodiversity loss rate in the continent are higher than in the rest of the world.

As a result, total deaths from extreme weather, climate or water stress in the world in the last 50 years, 35 percent of them were in Africa. Predictably, Africa will account for 40 percent of the world's migration due to climate change.

"While the Global South will bear the maximum burden of internal migration, the reasons might vary from region to region, depending on climate change-related issues like water scarcity or rising sea levels. However, water scarcity will be the main driving force of the total migration, the report explains.

Citing the example of chimpanzees, the SOE 2023 reports that there are only 1.050 million to 2.050 million of the species on the continent, limited to Gabon, Democratic Republic of Congo and Cameroon, with populations having disappeared in Gambia, Burkina Faso, Benin, and

Togo.

On the brighter side, it says that African countries have some pioneering conservation models that, among other things, put communities at the centre of conservation efforts, noting that if Africa protects its biodiversity, the whole world will also gain.

Protected areas in Africa, if sustainably used, can eradicate poverty and bring peace, it asserts.

South Africa will be worst impacted by extreme weather events, making some areas inhospitable because of weather events, where already people are being forced to migrate within their own countries or regions in search of more hospitable and better living conditions, said Sunita Narain, CSE Director General.

Explaining the rationale behind the report, Narain said: "We can read and get the immediate story today, but often we do not get the big picture. The report will help us get that big picture. It will enable us to understand the different aspects of the environment by putting together a comprehensive picture that makes the links clearer between the environment and development. Environment and development are two sides of the same coin."

She added that the report, produced with input from scientists and Africa-

based journalists, also helped people appreciate the link between development and the environment.

According to Mamo Boru Mamo, director of Kenya's National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), the issues raised in the report are important and pertinent to the environment in Africa.

Among other things, the SOE 2023 had captured the plight of East Africa's agro-pastoral communities whose migration from arid and semi-arid areas of Africa to urban centres and out of the continent has risen over the recent years, thanks in part to accelerated degradation of the environment.

"The continent has a collective responsibility to manage the environment sustainably while giving direction on the position Africa should take in the upcoming UN's COP28 in Dubai," he said.

Citing the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), "Provisional State of the Global Climate 2022", it finds that in East Africa, rainfall has been below average for four consecutive wet seasons, the most extended sequence in 40 years.

The region recorded five consecutive deficit rainy seasons by the end of 2022, with the rainy season of March to May 2022 being the driest in over 70 years for Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, partly due to the destruction of the environment and climate change.

Overall, the report confirms that the climate crisis in Africa was an existential problem facing millions of people who have endured the wrath of nature for years.

Over 100 journalists, researchers and experts from across Africa have contributed to the preparation of this annual publication.

IPS UN Bureau Report



RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALUYOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALUYOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALUYOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALUYOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS MALLUMBANO YA HOJA 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS KIPINA JOTO 23.00 HRS WEEKEND SHOW 01.00 - 05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWSPAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 09.00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11.00 AM MITAA WA MAGOMA 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTOMOTO 18.00 HRS BONGO TEN 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.15 HRS CHEMSHA BONGO 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS MAMBO MISETO 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWSPAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11:00 HRS TOP 20 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 18.00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MABUJI ZANGU 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS MAMBO MISETO 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS RAFIKI I 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS RAFIKI II 01.00 - 05.00 MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One




NICO spurs local share index increase on week's opening

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Share Index (TSI), which is measuring the locally listed companies, opened the week in green, after closing at 4,305.33 points on Monday's close, an increase of 0.23 basis points, compared to the closing of last week.

The Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) daily market report for Monday indicates that the gain of the index resulted from the appreciation of NICO share price by 3.85 percent to 540/-, compared with 520/- recorded during the end of last week.

The appreciation of the share price of NICO, the first ever collective investment scheme in Tanzania also pushed up the Banking, Finance & Investment Index (BI) by 0.77 basis points, after closing at 4,587.03 points on Monday. This is being recorded after the com-

pany announced a dividend of 43/- per share to be paid on December 4th this year. This is an increase of 6/- per share compared to 37/- paid during last year.

During the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held earlier this year, NICOL Chief Executive Officer Erasto Ngamilaga revealed the plans to venture into energy, minerals and gas and that they are in the process of establishing a subsidiary to deal with those sectors.

The company has invested in government securities and also managed to establish a real estate subsidiary, after purchasing the Mirambo Street Properties Limited, located in the heart of Dar es Salaam city.

"Among our big achievements of last year is buying Mirambo Street Properties Limited, so we expect the profit will continue to increase and we expect next year the dividend will fur-



NICO board Chairman Dr Gideon Kaunda

ther increase," Dr. Gideon Kaunda, the company board chairman, said during the AGM.

"The value of our shares has continued to rise each year, when we started, the price was 270/-

but now has reached more than 500/- and will continue to rise," he noted.

According to the market report, all share index (DSEI) closed the first day of the week in red,

after closing at 1,778.25 points, a decrease by 0.87 points, following the depreciation of East African Breweries Limited (EABL) by 0.46 percent and Mwalimu Commercial Bank (MCB) by 3.13 percent.

A total turnover of 19.3mn/- was recorded during Monday, following the transaction of 25,374 shares traded in 42 deals.

CRDB Bank Plc, the largest in terms of assets, was top mover, after transacting 18,897 shares valued 8.57mn/- traded at a price ranging from 450/- and 460/- per share in 27 deals, followed by top gainer NICO, which its counter transacted 2,440 shares valued 1.3mn/- traded at a price ranging from 540/- and 550/- per shares in five deals.

Mwalimu Commercial Bank (MCB) transacted 2,100 shares valued 651,000/- traded at a price of 310/- per share on two deals.

The market report shows, foreign investors sold shares valued 8.32 percent, which was 43.09 percent of total shares sold, while local investors sold the remaining 56.68 percent. All shares sold were bought by local investors by 100 percent.

According to the report, foreign investors have so far sold shares valued 7.5bn/- during the first three weeks of this month and made a purchase of shares valued 49.75mn/-.

By Guardian Correspondent

I&M appoints new CEO for Ugandan subsidiary

I&M Group Plc and the Board of Directors of I&M Bank (Uganda) Limited have announced the appointment of Robin Bairstow (pictured) as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) effective August 2023 subject to Bank of Uganda approval.

With an extensive record in the financial services sector, Bairstow's appointment underscores I&M Bank's commitment to delivering excellence and growth across its regional operations.

According to a statement issued by the bank's group

over the weekend, Bairstow brings a wealth of experience to his new role and knows the Group well, having served as the CEO of I&M Bank (Rwanda) Plc from September 2015 to June 2023.

During his tenure, he achieved remarkable growth and success including the trebling of total assets to RWF 491.3 billion and growth in pre-tax profits to RWF 13.4 billion. Robin also oversaw I&M Bank Rwanda's listing on the Rwanda Stock Exchange

in 2017.

Before joining I&M Group, Bairstow held senior leadership positions at various financial institutions including Standard Chartered Bank, Citibank NA, BOE Bank, and Nedbank.

His roles spanned across Central & East Africa and South-East Asia, highlighting his versatile expertise in navigating complex financial landscapes.

A graduate of the South African Merchant Naval Acad-



emy, Bairstow holds a Diploma in Business Management from the Institute of Business Management and a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration from the University of Leicester, among others.

His educational background combined with his extensive firsthand experience makes him a dynamic addition to the I&M Bank Uganda team.

Bairstow takes over the Chief Executive Officer role

following the exit of Kumanan Pather in December 2022. Sam Ntulume, who has been serving in acting capacity since December 2022, will now continue in his role as Executive Director and Chief Operations Officer.

Commenting on the new appointment, Mr. Kihara Maina, Regional CEO I&M Group Plc said, "Robin Bairstow is a very familiar face to the I&M Group. We are confident that he will steer the bank towards the realization of its strate-

gic goal of becoming one of Uganda's leading banks."

Suleiman Kiggundu, the Board Chairman of I&M Bank (Uganda) Limited said, "We are happy to announce the appointment of Robin Bairstow as the new Chief Executive Officer. We are confident that he will build on his institutional knowledge and work with the I&M Bank team to push the organization to the next level. The Board congratulates Robin Bairstow on his appointment and sincerely thanks Sam Ntulume for the strong and dedicated leadership exhibited while serving in acting capacity".

Local fintech firm attracts thinkers, problem solvers

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzanian fintech startup, Ramani is quickly becoming the go-to destination for Tanzania's most talented, young individuals who are applying technology to solve Africa's problems.

Ramani's People and Culture Consultant, Judith Sequeira told the Guardian that in a rapidly evolving job market, the fintech stands as a beacon for those drawn to innovation, technological advancement, and impactful work.

"Ramani has a lively and welcoming culture, driven by core values that prioritize results, speed, and an unwavering commitment to the 'challenge to win' ethos. With a clear vision in mind, it provides an environment where everyone is encouraged to bring their best selves to work," she said.

This vibrant atmosphere, she noted, is fuelled by a young, energetic team dedicated to making a meaningful im-

pact.

"Our unique combination of inclusivity, innovation, and collaboration gives us a competitive edge. This culture is not only foundational to our past achievements but also essential for our future growth," Sequeira said.

According to her, Ramani is great for skilled professionals who can guide others and like to be actively involved, attracting new talents who are curious, adaptable, and eager to learn.

She noted that the company values open communication, letting everyone share ideas and encouraging outside-the-box thinking for effective solutions.

"With Tanzania on the point of a fintech revolution, now is the perfect moment to become a part of Ramani," she said.

The company is dedicated to providing disruptive solutions aimed at unlocking the potential of Africa's



During the first 16 days of the current quarter, foreign investors had sold shares valued at 6.8bn/-. File Photo

Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) supply chain, according to Sequeira.

"In short, Ramani is not like a regular organi-

zation. It's a place for people who want to make a difference and have big ideas. Here, you can grow in your career and help shape the future

of fintech in Tanzania and beyond. Don't pass up this chance to be part of something exciting and new," she added.

Kenya shilling exchange rate against dollar hits 150

NAIROBI

THE official exchange rate of the shilling against the dollar on Monday crossed the 150-unit mark following a period of sustained and consistent depreciation that has narrowed the gap between the official and retail selling rates of the US currency.

Since the beginning of the year, the shilling has depreciated by 17.7 percent against the dollar, which is more than double the 8.3 percent it shed against the unit in the whole of 2022.

The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) indicative rate published Monday morning showed the dollar's buy price at Sh149.84 and a selling rate of Sh150.04 units, hence an average of 149.94.

The spot or average trading

rate had climbed to Sh150.03 in the afternoon.

The indicative rate is the closing price of the previous day's trading session, which is taken as the opening price of the following day. A check in banking halls of 12 commercial lenders—including all nine tier one banks— showed that they were selling the dollar at between Sh154.95 and Sh157, and buying at a range of Sh141 and Sh149.95.

Forex bureaus, meanwhile, quoted dollar selling prices of between Sh156.50 and Sh157 while buying at between Sh152 and Sh153.

Banks have been selling dollars above the Sh150 level from late August. A forex dealer told the Business Daily on Monday that the lenders are seeing resistance on the sell side at around Sh156, sig-



nalling the currency might be finding its true rate after months of consistent depreciation.

The reopening of the interbank dollar market in April

and the removal of a Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) rule that capped daily deviation from the indicative rate at 20 cents has helped the exchange rate find its own level through de-

mand and supply.

"The interbank market is better than where we were in March, even though there are still a few structural issues to sort out. Overall,

we have seen the spread between retail and official selling price of the dollar come down to between Sh4 and Sh6, from double digits in the first quarter," said a dealer.

During the period, the interbank market was not functioning, banks quoted the rate at which they were buying the dollar in line with that of the CBK rate to avoid regulatory reprimand, but on the sell side they were charging each other – and customers – a margin of up to Sh13 above the official rate.

Treasury Cabinet secretary Njuguna Ndung'u, when appearing before the National Assembly on September 27, said that the shilling's recent slide was not a free fall, but rather a "process of adjustment" from what he

termed as historical policy mistakes in the management of the shilling.

Prof Ndung'u said Kenya had largely held its currency constant in the previous five to seven years even as the country's price structure changed, leaving it misaligned with the real economy.

The comments by the CS indicated that the consistent pace of depreciation against the dollar is a result of CBK allowing the shilling to ease to its correct level without intervention unless there is volatility.

"We are actually paying the price of misalignment which happened in the previous five to seven years," said the CS when he appeared before Parliament to answer questions from MPs.

ECB to pause interest rate rises as focus shifting to shrinking balance sheet

FRANKFURT

THE European Central Bank is expected to halt the most aggressive series of interest rate rises in its history when policymakers meet in Athens this week.

Yet, with eurozone inflation running at more than twice its target and the Israel-Hamas conflict pushing up energy prices, ECB president Christine Lagarde is expected to make clear that rates are likely to stay at – or above – their current level for some time.

Most investors, looking at this year's near-stagnation of the eurozone economy and the downward trajectory of inflation, view the chances of a further rise in eurozone rates as slim.

"They will keep the option open for additional rate hikes, but the bar is pretty high for that to happen," said Konstantin Veit, a portfolio manager at US investment group Pimco.

Yet the idea of eurozone interest rates staying higher for longer than anticipated earlier this year is gaining ground, despite signs that the region's economy is hardly growing.

"Only a month ago, the mar-

ket had three full rate cuts priced in for the ECB next year, but now it is pricing in slightly more than two," said Veit. "There are still a lot of risks for inflation out there and it is too early to say exactly how soon the rate cuts will start."

In response to a double-digit surge in Europeans' cost of living, the biggest for a generation, the ECB has raised borrowing costs at 10 consecutive meetings. This lifted its benchmark deposit rate from an all-time low of minus 0.5 per cent to a record high of 4 per cent.

Officials remain cautious however about how long it will take to complete the "last mile" of their journey in returning inflation to their target of 2 per cent.

Lagarde said this month that price pressures remain "undesirably high", despite dropping to nearly a two-year low of 4.3 per cent last month.

The rate is expected to drop even further in October, though data is not published until a few days after this week's meeting.

More clues on how quickly price pressures are cooling will come on Tuesday, when



ECB president Christine Lagarde

the latest survey of purchasing managers is expected to point to further declines in eurozone business activity. The ECB's own survey of banks is also likely to show that the supply of credit continues to contract.

However, the conflict between Israel and Hamas has raised fears of wider tensions in the Middle East and pushed up oil and gas prices in recent weeks, which economists worry could keep inflation stubbornly high.

"The attacks on Israel, and the potential knock-on effects on the oil market, pose a new upside risk to inflation," said Dirk Schumacher, a former ECB economist who is now at French bank Natixis. "Downside risks to growth, at the same time, have also increased, complicating the picture further for the ECB."

Greek central bank governor Yannis Stournaras, who is one of the ECB's 26 governing council members, told the Financial Times recently that it should avoid a "knee-jerk reaction" to the jump in energy prices caused by the Middle East conflict.

ECB chief economist Philip Lane also played down fears,

saying higher borrowing costs should prevent higher prices from causing a broader surge in consumer prices. "When rates are restrictive then the ability of firms to pass on those energy price increases into consumer prices is less," Lane told the Dutch newspaper Het Financieele Dagblad.

But Lane also voiced concern about soaring incomes, which rose 4.5 per cent in the region in the year to the second quarter. "We need to see wage growth slow down," he said. "If inflation shocks are sufficiently large or persistent, the ECB will have to be open to doing more."

Rate-setters are also expected to discuss the possibility of tightening monetary policy via their balance sheet.

Up for debate is whether to stop reinvesting the proceeds of a €1.7tn portfolio, bought in response to the pandemic, earlier than expected.

The recent sell-off in bond markets, which drove government borrowing costs up to their highest levels for a decade, has made some nervous about shrinking the balance sheet,

however.

They say the ECB needs the flexibility to target the proceeds of maturing bonds more towards the debt of any country hit by a sharp divergence, or fragmentation, in financing costs compared to others.

Italy's borrowing costs have already risen more than those of Germany on concerns about Rome's rising fiscal deficit, taking the closely watched spread between the two countries' 10-year bond yields above 2 per cent for the first time in months.

"Given the rise in long-term yields – with 10-year Italian yields around 5 per cent and additional fiscal risks – we expect the ECB to move cautiously," said Svenjari Stehn, economist at Goldman Sachs.

Some ECB council members are also pushing for it to cut the interest it pays to commercial banks. Rate-setters would do so by increasing the minimum amount of reserves the sector needs to park at the central bank, on which lenders earn nothing.

The idea is controversial as it seems mainly designed to reduce the heavy losses some eurozone national central banks are racking up rather than contributing to the fight against inflation.

"If concerns about central bank losses intrude into policy and the ECB seems to have other objectives apart from price stability then it could negatively affect central bank credibility," said Veit at Pimco.

The debate is unlikely to be settled until the ECB completes a wider review of its operating framework. That review, which will assess the optimum size of its balance sheet, is due to be completed next spring.

Global oil demand to reach its peak this decade, says IEA

LONDON

GLOBAL demand for oil will reach its peak this decade, the International Energy Agency predicted for the first time, amid growing popularity of electric cars and the cooling of China's economy.

The predicted peak, which the agency also anticipates for coal and natural gas, doesn't mean a rapid plunge in fossil fuel consumption is imminent. It will probably be followed by "an undulating plateau lasting for many years" with emissions remaining too high to limit global warming to 1.5C, the IEA said.

The world will consume as much as 102 million barrels a day of oil by the late 2020s, with the volumes dropping to 97 million barrels a day by mid-century, according to the base-case, called the Stated Policies Scenario, laid out on Tuesday in the IEA's annual World Energy Outlook.

"The transition to clean energy is happening worldwide and it's unstoppable," IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol said in a statement. "Claims that oil and gas represent safe or secure choices for the world's energy and climate future look weaker than ever."

Oil demand in the petrochemi-

cal, aviation and shipping industries will continue to increase to 2050 but it won't be enough to offset lower demand from road transport amid "astounding rise in electric vehicle sales," the IEA said. China, which has for years driven the growth in global crude consumption, will see its appetite weakening over the next few years, with total consumption declining in the long run, according to the report.

Global oil consumption will follow the same path as demand for other hydrocarbons. "We are on track to see all fossil fuels peak before 2030," the IEA said. It's the first

time all scenarios drawn up by the Paris-based agency for global energy markets point to a near-term decline in hydrocarbon consumption.

The IEA's base-case reflects energy policies currently pursued by governments worldwide and the continued ramifications of last year's energy crisis.

The IEA's second scenario, which assumes all governments meet their energy and climate pledges in full and on time, envisions global oil demand peaking at 93 million barrels a day in 2030, with a decline to 55 million barrels per day in 2050. The third, a net zero emissions scenario

in which global warming is limited to 1.5C, would see global demand plunging to 77 million barrels a day in 2030 and just under 25 million barrels a day in 2050.

The process of decarbonizing the global economy "will be a long one and fossil fuel producers remain influential" in the years to come, according to the report.

In the base-case, Russia and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will keep their combined share of the oil market at 45 percent to 48 percent until the end of this decade. By the middle of the century, that will rise above 50 per-

cent thanks to higher production in Saudi Arabia, the de-facto OPEC leader.

Russia, on the other hand, is set to lose some 3.5 million barrels a day, or roughly a third, of its oil production by 2050, "as it struggles to maintain output from existing fields or to develop large new ones," the IEA said.

The IEA also assumes that in the years to come Iran and Venezuela will be able to grow their output thanks to a gradual relaxation of international sanctions.

However, over time the market power of major oil producers will decline, the agency warned.

Infobip introduces signals combating fake sms traffic

By Guardian Correspondent

INFOBIP, a global cloud communications platform, has introduced "Signals" – an innovative solution designed to counteract the threats posed by SMS pumping.

"Infobip Signals" employs machine learning to automatically detect and block fraudulent SMS traffic without any interventions from the business.

According to the statement issued by Infobip, the tool is for brands that want to protect their financial resources and maintain a genuine user base by preventing fake accounts that can harm their value.

SMS pumping, also known as arti-

ficially inflated traffic (AIT), is a form of fraud where attackers generate a substantial volume of fake SMS traffic through a business's app or website to obtain one-time PINs (OTPs) or app download links via SMS.

In the realm of SMS pumping, fraudsters deploy automated bots to create fraudulent accounts and systematically input phone numbers into online forms linked to SMS systems.

This triggers the delivery of OTP SMS messages, resulting in increased expenses for businesses, particularly when these fraudulent OTP requests are directed to high-cost SMS destinations.



Adrian Benic, chief product officer at Infobip

Typically, businesses only become aware of this type of fraud when they investigate discrepancies between their SMS billing and the expected returns from SMS traffic.

Unusual OTP requests originating from regions or countries where a business does not usually receive traffic can serve as a red flag indicating potential SMS pumping fraud.

Researches have shown that SMS traffic fraud cost businesses a whopping Ksh1.4 trillion (USD 10 billion) globally in 2021.

"In an ecosystem where every active user counts, and brand integrity is a priority, Infobip Signals is our answer to ensuring businesses can thrive without the burden of SMS fraud."

This is not just about financial security; it's about upholding the genuine value of every brand," said Adrian Benic, Chief Product Officer at Infobip.

Available for global adoption now, Infobip Signals underlines Infobip's commitment to providing innovative solutions for modern communication challenges. All businesses employing SMS in their operations can now shield themselves from potential financial setbacks and reputational damage by including Infobip Signals in their security framework



This triggers the delivery of OTP SMS messages, resulting in increased expenses for businesses, particularly when these fraudulent OTP requests are directed to high-cost SMS destinations

South African central bank deputy governor quits

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH African central bank Deputy Governor Kuben Naidoo (pictured) tendered his resignation, almost 18 months before his second five-year term is due to end.

A departure date has still to be decided on, Naidoo said in a text message to Bloomberg on Monday. He didn't provide reasons for his decision.

The rand held a gain of about 0.5 percent against the dollar after the news and bond yields were unmoved.

President Cyril Ramaphosa, who appoints governors at the bank, has yet to accept Naidoo's resignation, presidency spokesman Vincent Magwenya said in a separate text message.

"Naidoo has expressed a desire to resign," he said. "The matter is still under consideration."

The central bank's monetary policy committee is scheduled to announce its final interest-rate decision of the year next month. Naidoo's departure would leave the panel with only four members if a successor isn't appointed before the Nov. 21-23 meeting, leaving Governor Lesetja Kganyago with the deciding vote in case of a tie.

The MPC has held rates steady at 8.25 percent at its last two meetings after tightening policy by a cumulative 475 basis points since November 2021 to anchor inflation around the midpoint of its 3 percent to 6 percent target range. Annual inflation accelerated to 5.4 percent in September from 4.8



percent a month earlier.

Naidoo's current term was due to end on March 31, 2025. He joined the central bank as an adviser to then-Governor Gill Marcus in 2013, was appointed deputy governor two years later and in his present role oversees the financial stability and currency cluster.

"Naidoo is very much respected in policy circles and will be missed," said Razia Khan, chief economist for Africa and Middle East at Standard Chartered Bank. "Until a reason is given for his departure, it is likely to create some uncertainty."

The deputy governor is due to speak at a JPMorgan Chase & Co. webinar on Thursday, according to people with knowledge of the matter, who asked not to be identified

as the information isn't public. JPMorgan declined to comment.

Looking forward, the central bank's board needs to make a recommendation for a new deputy governor, said Andrea Masia, a senior economist at RMB Morgan Stanley in a research note. "We suspect this would be an external appointment. Until then, it may be that another senior member of staff joins the MPC on a temporary basis until such an appointment has been made."

Naidoo previously headed the National Planning Commission in the presidency and the budget office at the National Treasury. He spent two years at the UK Treasury working on capital budgets and biannual spending reviews.

Five key things to watch in global commodity markets

By Sophie Caronello, London

IT'S a busy week for earnings, with Exxon Mobil Corp., Chevron Corp., TotalEnergies SE and Eni SpA kicking off Big Oil's reporting season. In metals, the world's top gold producer Newmont Corp. and No. 3 Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. also post results in the days ahead, while crop traders Archer-Daniels-Midland Co. and Bunge Ltd. headline agriculture companies.

Big Oil

After a dismal start to the year, US energy stocks posted a strong rebound in the third quarter – with the S&P 500 Energy Index the top performer among the S&P 500's 11 industry groups – as record oil demand and a surge in crude prices helped boost shares. As Exxon and Chevron report earnings for the period on Friday, investors will be focused on production forecasts as well as assumptions for the months ahead, especially as tensions in the Middle East are poised to bring further price volatility to markets and raise questions over future supplies. For Exxon, analysts will be keen to learn more about its blockbuster \$60 billion acquisition of Pioneer Natural Resources Co., which has left many wondering about the strategic promise of Chief Executive Officer Darren Woods's shale bet.

Natural Gas

With winter in the Northern Hemisphere right around the corner and the conflict between Israel and Hamas ratcheting up, volatility is returning to the natural gas market, one that the International Gas Union describes as "undersupplied." While the supply picture is much better than last year in Europe, prices there are still at historically high levels. Moreover, a shrinking gap between natural gas expressed in oil-equivalent terms and Brent crude prices signals the existence of elevated risks rattling the market. Mild weather for now has kept a lid on Dutch front-month futures – the European benchmark – but the market is bracing for further sharp price moves, especially if the weather turns colder, boosting demand for the heating fuel.



Metals

Shares of Newmont, which reports earnings on Thursday, have tumbled 18% this year after falling below

their key 50-day moving average on Friday. Such a move is seen by some chart watchers as a bearish signal. The weakness has come despite a backdrop of historically elevated gold

prices, as well as the Denver-based company's \$15 billion acquisition of Newcrest Mining Ltd. – Australia's biggest gold miner. That transaction helps solidify Newmont's global lead over other bullion mining rivals like Barrick Gold Corp., which re-

ports results next week. The takeover also offers the US giant greater exposure to copper – a metal where demand is expected to outpace supply as the transition away from fossil fuels gathers pace.

Agriculture

Soybean processing margins are an important indicator of potential returns for producers. Profits from crushing the oilseed into animal feed and cooking oil have rebounded since June as a poor harvest in Argentina boosted demand for American crops, even as the prices for soybean futures and soybean oil have weakened. At the same time, increased demand from the renewable-diesel industry and a bumper crop in Brazil have helped lift margins. Earnings reports from crop traders ADM and Bunge should provide investors with further insight into the metric, as well as the overall performance of their agribusiness segments.

Solar

The bad news is piling up in the solar industry. Last week, shares of SolarEdge Technologies Inc. tumbled after the company warned that third-quarter revenue will be well below its guidance, citing "substantial" cancellations and delayed orders. Rival Enphase Energy Inc. – which also supplies inverters that are needed with solar power installations – dropped 15%. Shares of rooftop solar installer Sunnova Energy Inc. also slumped. The downbeat results from SolarEdge underscore investor concerns about the prospects of rooftop solar installers who have seen their inventories pile up as potential customers face higher borrowing costs and other economic headwinds. Both Enphase and Sunnova report earnings this week.

Oil steadies as traders focus on latest moves in Israel's conflict

SINGAPORE

OIL steadied after dropping on Monday by the most since Hamas' attack on Israel on signs the conflict will remain contained for the time being.

Global benchmark Brent traded near \$90 a barrel after tumbling by 2.5 percent in the previous session, while West Texas Intermediate was close to \$86.

There are growing calls within Israel to rethink the scope of a ground invasion amid fear of retaliation by Hezbollah militants from Lebanon, the fate of some 200 hostages in Gaza and the risk of Israeli military casualties.

The lack of any immediate disruptions in the Middle East, the source of about a third of the world's crude, has seen some of the war-risk premium being eroded.

Brent is still about 7percent higher than before the Oct. 7 attack, however, and the main triggers for a further surge in prices include Washington ramping up compliance checks on sanctioned Iranian oil and Tehran disrupting key shipping routes.

The US said it will deploy more military forces to the Middle East in an effort to deter groups such as Hezbollah from trying to expand the war.

Hamas, meanwhile, freed two more hostages, both elderly women, from the Gaza Strip on Monday.

"The diplomatic efforts in Gaza are indicating the possibility of de-escalation and stripping away the momentum in oil prices," said Priyanka Sachdeva, a senior market analyst at Phillip Nova Pte. "Markets are also eagerly awaiting further clues on the US economy to gauge the domestic demand for fuel."

Traders had been ramping up bullish oil positions due to the conflict, with money managers increasing their bets on higher Brent crude prices by the most in seven years in the week through Oct. 17.

Much of the most frenzied oil-trading activity in the last few days has been centered in the options market, with a record number of Brent calls changing hands over the past week.

ITV PGM SCHEDULE			
WEDNESDAY 25 Oct	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha
7:30 HABARI	8:00 KumeKucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo
9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:25 Jungu kuu rpt
10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Dakika 45 rpt	13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Kipindi maalum: NSSF rpt	14:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Music: The Base	18:00 Igizo: Mizenge	18:15 Jarda la wanawake
19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT	19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	20:00 Habari	21:05 Abu Yako
21:05 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing	21:20 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	21:50 Ripoti maalum	22:30 Soap: Uzalo
23:00 Habari	23:30 Music: The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera	
THURSDAY 26 Oct	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:40 KumeKucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 KumeKucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon	9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto Wetu
10:25 Jungu kuu rpt	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing rpt	11:20 Jungu kuu
11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt	12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Kipindi maalum: NSSF rpt	14:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Music: The Base
18:00 Igizo: Mizenge	18:15 Jarda la wanawake	19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT	19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari	21:05 Abu Yako	21:20 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	21:50 Ripoti maalum
22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 Habari	23:30 Music: The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera
FRIDAY 27 Oct	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:40 KumeKucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 KumeKucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon	9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto Wetu
10:25 Jungu kuu rpt	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing rpt	11:20 Jungu kuu
11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt	12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Kipindi maalum: NSSF rpt	14:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Music: The Base
18:00 Igizo: Mizenge	18:15 Jarda la wanawake	19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT	19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari	21:05 Abu Yako	21:20 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	21:50 Ripoti maalum
22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 Habari	23:30 Music: The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera
SATURDAY 28 Oct	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha
7:00 Habari			
SUNDAY 29 Oct	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 KumeKucha
7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Watoto Wetu	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon	9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto Wetu
10:25 Jungu kuu rpt	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing rpt	11:20 Jungu kuu
11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt	12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Kipindi maalum: NSSF rpt	14:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 Music: The Base
18:00 Igizo: Mizenge	18:15 Jarda la wanawake	19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT	19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari	21:05 Abu Yako	21:20 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	21:50 Ripoti maalum
22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 Habari	23:30 Music: The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera
MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM			



CAPITAL

Wed 25 Oct	
06:00	Al Jazeera
09:00	KumeKucha Michezo rpt
10:00	Meza Huru Rpt
11:30	Tomorrow Today rpt
12:30	Dw News Africa rpt
13:00	Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana

ITV

Sat 28 Oct	
08:00	Al Jazeera

WORLD

'India only country with no history of antisemitism'

WASHINGTON

NISSIM Reuben, Programme Director of Indian-Jewish Relations at the American Jewish Committee (AJC), said at a Congressional briefing in support of Israel that India is the only country with no history of antisemitism.

He also expressed solidarity with Israel in its fight against the terrorist group Hamas.

HinduAction and Namaste Shalom Multi-faith Alliance organised a timely Congressional briefing on Tuesday in support of Israel and against rising anti-Hindu bigotry and antisemitism in the US and Canada.

"India is the only country in the world with no history of antisemitism. Never ever were Jews persecuted in India until the Mumbai attacks of 2008, which were perpetrated by terrorists that came from across the border. That's why even today in Israel, Indian Jews say that Israel is our fatherland. India is our motherland. Israel is in our hearts. India is in our blood," he said.

He further expressed gratitude that the Indian American diaspora, the global Indian diaspora, the people of India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the Indian government have solidly supported Israel in its ongoing war with Hamas.

"It was a brutal terror attack... Israel has gone through a tremendous tragedy, but it will overcome and rebound. And we as Indian Americans and Indians will never forget that Israel came to India's help, assistance with defence, much-needed defence equipment in the wars of 1965 and 1971, and of course, Kargil 1999, when Israel rushed much-needed defence supplies," he added.

Reuben added that this support shown to Israel will be repaid multiple times.

Astra Nomani, an Indian-American, said she was a proud follower of Islam, which preaches a peaceful coexistence, respect and humanity.

"I am a daughter of India. I am a

Muslim daughter of India. And I have known freedom and joy in India. What I have seen over my lifetime in America is that a new extreme has emerged. And that is from within my own Muslim community. And that is an extremism that denies women rights and makes a Jew an enemy simply for being a Jew, and that has now done something very unfortunate and demonised and vilified Hindus," she said.

"So, I came here as a Muslim because I stand for an Islam in which everybody can live with coexistence, respect, and a sense of humanity," she added.

Stressing that this was a fight of our generation, she added, "We must win, I want to encourage everyone to stand up with moral courage and to transcend any fear that they may feel in their heart of being shamed or demonised because if you stand for goodness and humanity, you will always be on the correct side of history, and that's why I'm standing here today."

Meanwhile, Rajshree Keisham, who belongs to the Meitei community of Manipur, said she was at the briefing to correct the misinformation that the recent conflict in Manipur was not a fallout of religious differences.

"I'm here to correct the misinformation or the disinformation that the conflict we have been seeing for the last 6 months in Manipur is not a religious conflict. It has been represented, in a very wrong way, that it is a fight between the Hindus and the Christians, where the Hindu majorities are prosecuting the Christians. I'm just here today to explain that it is not at all," she said.

Richard Harowitz, a former Israeli military officer who is currently living in the US, highlighted the two core issues he talked about at the briefing.

"The first is the explosion that took place at the hospital in Gaza. Secondly, I spoke about an aspect of international law. On the disproportionality of the use of military power," he said.

ANI

Lavrov talks boosting bilateral partnership in Iran within high-level agreements

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov discussed expanding bilateral cooperation within high-level agreements in Tehran, the Russian Foreign Ministry following the meeting of foreign ministers in the "3+3" format.

"The current bilateral agenda was thoroughly discussed, with an emphasis on the further development of the entire complex of the multi-faceted Russian-Iranian partnership in accordance with the agreements reached between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi," the statement said.

The parties highlighted the implementation of joint projects in the fields of energy and logistics, including the full launch of the North-South international transport corridor. Additional steps to further strengthen Russian-Iranian ties have been agreed, the ministry said.

Furthermore, both Moscow and Tehran stressed the unacceptability



of unilateral Western sanctions that "undermine the normal functioning of the global economy."

"Considering the situation around the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on Iran's nuclear program, the parties condemned the steps taken by its Western participants, which contradict UN Security Council Resolution 2231.

The parties reiterated that there is no alternative to the corresponding international agreement from 2015," the statement said.

Russia did not steal 'super-duper' missile from US – Kremlin spokesman

MOSCOW

RUSSIA has its own hypersonic missiles, so it did not steal any secrets of "super-duper" weapons from the United States, Russian Presidential Spokesman Dmitry Peskov has told the media.

Former US President Donald Trump earlier claimed that Moscow had allegedly obtained secret information about what he described as the US "super-duper" missile during the Barack Obama presidency.

"We have our own missile, an excellent one," Peskov (pictured) said. "It's hard for me to say whether our missile fits in well with Mr. Trump's



term 'super-duper,' but it is a good missile that has no rivals in the world

for now. And there is not just one," Peskov added.

Earlier, Trump alleged that "Russia stole a super duper rocket, they fly super fast."

"They stole it during Barack Obama's administration. They stole the classified plans and built it," Trump claimed.

Pentagon officials have repeatedly acknowledged over the past three years that the United States had fallen behind Russia and China in making hypersonic weapons. The then Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper, noted in December 2020 that the United States was catching up in this area.

Agencies

Hamas releases two Israeli hostages as more aid reaches Gaza

GAZA/JERUSALEM/BRUSSELS/ UNITED NATIONS/THE HAGUE

THE Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) released two elderly Israeli women held hostage in Gaza on Monday, as more planes carrying humanitarian aid landed at Egypt's al-Arish Airport in North Sinai, waiting to be sent into war-torn Gaza.

As Israel's airstrikes on Gaza and its preparations for a possible ground invasion of the Palestinian enclave persisted, Lebanon's Shiite military group Hezbollah and Israel clashed more along the border, raising fears of a regional escalation of the conflict.

Also on Monday, UN General Assembly President Dennis Francis announced that he will resume the 10th Emergency Special Session of the assembly on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Hostages released

Al-Qassam Brigades, the military wing of Hamas, said Monday in a statement that it has freed two more hostages for "humanitarian reasons" through "Egyptian-Qatari mediation."

It is the second time that Hamas has released some of the hostages it took on Oct 7 after releasing two American hostages on Friday.

An Israeli government official confirmed the release of the two Israelis, who arrived at the Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt, adding that an Israeli team was on its way to meet them.

Israel's state-owned Kan TV news identified the two women as Yohved Lifshitz, 85, and Nurit Cooper, 79. Yohved's husband, Oded Lifshitz, an 83-year-old journalist, was kidnapped with his wife and is still being held by Hamas.

Earlier on Monday, Palestinian sources said Hamas plans to release some foreign hostages captured in Gaza following "intense mediation efforts made by Qatar, Egypt and the United Nations."

In a briefing to reporters, Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Spokesman Daniel Hagari said the military "has been actively involved in operational and intelligence efforts to secure the release of all the hostages," while neither confirming nor denying reports on Hamas' hostage-release plan.

Hagari confirmed that the number of hostages in Gaza now stands at 222, adding they include Israelis, foreign nationals, women, children, and the elderly.

UN emergency session

In a letter to delegations, UNGA's Francis said he had received a letter dated Oct 19 from Jordanian UN ambassador Mahmoud Hmoud and Mauritanian UN ambassador Sidi



An Israeli woman touches photos of Israelis missing and held captive in Gaza, displayed on a wall in Tel Aviv, on Oct 21, 2023. AP

Mohamed Laghdaf in their respective capacities as chair of the Arab Group and chair of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation, requesting the resumption of the 10th Emergency Special Session as quickly as possible.

He said he also received a letter from the representatives of Nicaragua, Russia, Syria, as well as a letter from the representatives of Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Timor-Leste, Vietnam, and Brunei, related to the same matter.

"I will convene the 39th plenary meeting of the 10th Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly on Thursday, Oct 26, 2023," said Francis.

The 10th Emergency Special Session was convened for the first time in April 1997. The special session was last resumed in June 2018.

Humanitarian aid

The latest release of two Israelis also coincided with the delivery of the third shipment of humanitarian aid into the coastal enclave through the Rafah crossing on Monday.

The Palestinian Red Crescent confirmed that it has received the third convoy of 20 trucks carrying humanitarian aid containing food, water, medicines, and medical supplies.

Aid deliveries entering Gaza have not included fuel. The UN Agency for Palestine Refugees, or UNRWA, by far the largest humanitarian provider in Gaza, will exhaust its fuel reserves within the next two days, said the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

"No fuel means no functioning water desalination. No fuel also means that humanitarian partners will have to focus almost their entire aid delivery operation on transporting water. It also means no bakeries and no hospitals," it said.

The number of people internally displaced in Gaza is estimated at about 1.4 million, with nearly 580,000 people sheltering in 150 UNRWA-designated emergency shelters. Humanitarians

Xinhua

Conflict in Sudan disrupts trade, forcing influx of refugees into South Sudan - UN

JUBA

THE cross-border impact of the ongoing conflict in Sudan has significantly affected trade between Sudan and South Sudan amid an influx of returnees, the United Nations humanitarian agency said on Monday.

The conflict, which began between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in mid-April, has resulted in reduced imports from Sudan, leading to a rise in the cost of the food basket in South Sudan, said the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

The OCHA, which cited market monitoring conducted by humanitarian partners, said in its latest update on the Sudan crisis that the cost of agricultural products has increased significantly since the start of the Sudan crisis.

"In areas bordering Sudan, particularly in Upper Nile and Unity states, the increase has ranged between 20 and 70 percent in Upper Nile State and between 70 and 165 percent in Unity State."

The UN agency reported that 317,993 people have crossed into South Sudan from Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April. Half of the arrivals are female, and about half are children below the age of 18, while South Sudanese returnees account for 88.5 percent of all arrivals.

According to the OCHA, new arrivals continue to report harassment, intimidation, torture and extortion of money during their journey to South Sudan.

The proportion of refugees among new arrivals from Sudan is increasing, with Sudanese refugees accounting for 40 percent of new arrivals since the beginning of October, compared to 9 percent in September.

"Teams on the ground are investigating the causes," it said, noting that some 37,066 refugees and asylum-seekers have sought asylum in South Sudan, with 61 percent biometrically registered.

The UN agency also mentioned that poor roads, combined with rains and floods, continue to pose challenges in delivering humanitarian assistance and supporting the transportation of returnees and refugees, and its partners are seeking other options to ensure the delivery of supplies to affected areas.

Sudan has been witnessing deadly clashes between the SAF and the RSF in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, and other areas since April 15, resulting in at least 3,000 deaths and more than 6,000 injuries, according to data released by the Sudanese Health Ministry.

According to the International Organization for Migration, nearly 5.8 million people have been displaced inside and outside Sudan due to the prolonged conflict between the SAF and the RSF.



The UN agency also mentioned that poor roads, combined with rains and floods, continue to pose challenges in delivering humanitarian assistance and supporting the transportation

he said.

Consumption will continue to recover and improve. Sheng Sheng Laiyun explained that in the first three quarters, commodity consumption, service consumption, and household consumption expenditure have steadily rebounded, and local governments are accelerating the implementation of policies to promote consumption. Additionally, improvement in employment and growth in residents' income have laid a foundation for the recovery and growth of consumption, he added.

People's Daily

China's economy keeps recovering in first three quarters

CHINA'S GDP grew 5.2 percent year on year in the first three quarters of 2023, reaching 91.3 trillion yuan (about \$12.7 trillion), according to statistics recently released by the country's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

The growths in the first, second and third quarters were 4.5 percent, 6.3 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively.

In the first three quarters, China's economy withstood downward pressure and continued to recover, said Sheng Sheng Laiyun, deputy head of the NBS, during a press conference on Oct. 18.

Particularly in the third quar-

ter, multiple sectors and indicators showed positive changes, and the trend of overall economic recovery has become even more prominent, he added.

Deducting the base effect, the average two-year growth in the January-September period this year stood at 4.4 percent, 1.1 percentage points higher than the Q2 figure. China's GDP increased by 1.3 percent quarter-on-quarter in Q3, 0.8 percentage points higher than that of the second quarter.

Whether looking at year-on-year growth in the third quarter

or cumulative growth in the first three quarters, China was among the top-performing major economies, Sheng said.

Employment performance was better. In the first three quarters, the surveyed urban unemployment rate nationwide was 5.3 percent, a decrease of 0.3 percentage points compared to the same period last year, and it improved month by month. In September, this figure stood at 5 percent, 0.2 percentage points down from August.

Overall price levels remained

stable. In the January-September period, China's consumer price index (CPI) went up moderately by 0.4 percent, and the producer price index (PPI) for industrial products fell by 3.1 percent year on year, with a narrowing decline for three consecutive months.

In particular, in September, the PPI decreased by 2.5 percent year-on-year, nearly 3 percentage points less than the lowest point in June, indicating a stable and improving domestic demand.

High-quality development

was steadily advanced. For example, innovation momentum remained abundant. In the first three quarters, investment in high-tech industries grew 11.4 percent year-on-year, with the production of electric vehicles, lithium-ion batteries, and solar cells maintaining rapid growth. Also, resident income increased steadily. In the first three quarters, the per capita disposable income of residents nationwide was 29,398 yuan, up 5.9 percent in real terms after deducting price factors, higher than GDP

growth.

"These positive changes fully demonstrated that China's economy has continued to recover and improve in the first three quarters, and also highlighted the tremendous resilience, potential, and vitality of the Chinese economy," Sheng said.

Looking ahead, Sheng said growth will likely pick up in the fourth quarter given the continued recovery trend and stimulus policy measures taking effect gradually. "We are very confident in achieving the annual target,"

Working together as Iron Fist to eliminate Hamas -Netanyahu

TEL AVIV

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that he along with Defence Minister Yoav Gallant and Israeli Defence Forces Chief of Staff Lt General Herzl Halevi are at the security assessment working together as an "iron fist" to eliminate Hamas.

In a post on X, the Israel Prime Minister's Office released a video which showed Netanyahu, Gallant and Halevi making statements regarding the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas.

In the video, Netanyahu said, "I am here at a security assessment with Defence Minister Yoav Gallant and IDF Chief of Staff Lt General Herzl Halevi. We are working together as an iron fist for one objective to eliminate Hamas."

"We back each other and we back the IDF - our soldiers and our commanders. I want the citizens of Israel to know something else: We make the decisions here and in the War Cabinet unanimously. We do so with great responsibility. We



Statements by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and IDF Chief-of-Staff Lt-Gen. Herzl Halevi, at the start of a security assessment, on Monday. ANI

do so with deep awareness. We are fighting together and we will win together, only together," he added.

While sharing video on X, Israel Prime Minister's Office stated, "Statements by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Defence

Minister Yoav Gallant and IDF Chief of Staff Lt-Gen. Herzl Halevi, at the start of a security assessment: "We are working together as an iron fist for one objective - to eliminate Hamas."

Meanwhile, Israel Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said that

Israeli soldiers are undergoing a "thorough and lengthy preparation process" and are ready for their missions. He welcomed the formation of the war cabinet and called it a blessing for Israel.

"In recent days, I have been on visits and inspections around the

country. I have met with soldiers in the north, in the Ground Forces, the Navy and the Air Force. I have met reservists and conscripts. All of these soldiers are very determined to carry out their missions. They are undergoing a thorough and lengthy preparation process. They are ready for their missions," Yoav Gallant said.

Praising the commanders for their work amid the ongoing conflict, he said, "I especially note the commanders, from junior officers up to the Chief-of-Staff, who have been doing excellent work during the war and are ready to continue it."

"I welcome the formation of the war Cabinet. I think it is a blessing for the State of Israel and for the people of Israel. It is a message of unity for all of us here in the country and to our enemies ahead of the difficult stages that await us in the war," Gallant said.

ANI

Morocco to dispatch emergency humanitarian aid to Palestinian populations

RABBIT

KING Mohammed VI has instructed the government of Morocco to send an emergency humanitarian aid to Palestine, the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced.

The aid includes significant quantities of foodstuffs, medical supplies, and water, the ministry's statement said.

"The details of sending this emergency aid will be coordinated with the Egyptian and Palestinian authorities," the ministry said, stressing Morocco's commitment to continue supporting the Palestinian cause.

Morocco has been following the situation in Gaza with concern and the country has strongly condemned the relentless Israeli bombardment targeting civilians across Gaza and the occupied West Bank.

The Moroccan government reiterated its concerns over the situation during the Cairo summit, which convened Arab leaders and some of their European counterparts on Saturday to discuss the increasingly alarming situation in Gaza.

Morocco's Foreign Affairs Minister Nasser Bourita attended the summit, describing the situation in Gaza as "tragic and dangerous."

He also reiterated Morocco's readiness to coordinate with and assist all members and stakeholders of the international community to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Bourita further stressed the need to protect civilians in accordance with international human rights law and to allow humanitarian aid to reach the affected population.

Israeli occupation forces have been launching airstrikes throughout Gaza, killing at least 5,000 and injuring tens of thousands.

The Palestinian death toll reached 5,182 people as of today, medical sources told the Palestinian news agency Wafa.

Gaza has recorded the majority of fatalities from the continued Israeli aggression (5,087), including 2,055 children.

Yesterday alone, the Israeli army's unremitting bombing of the besieged Palestinian enclave claimed the lives of 436 people, including 182 children.

Albanese gets cross-party support to push US for Assange's release

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIAN parliamentarians are among those that wish the release of Julian Assange could be somewhere in the briefing of Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in his meeting with US President Joe Biden.

An Australian citizen and founder of WikiLeaks, Assange (pictured) is currently awaiting extradition from a British prison to the US to face espionage charges.

Before he was elected prime minister, Albanese, had been fighting to have Assange released. He has publicly said on several occasions that the Assange case has gone on for too long. But in office of the prime minister, he has been walking a fine line, not to upset the Canberra-Washington relationship.

Recently a parliamentary delegation from across the political

divide in Australia visited Washington to put forward the case for the release of Assange.

For the past four years, Assange has been detained at Belmarsh maximum security prison near London which has often been described as the United Kingdom's Guantanamo, a reference to the United States' base and prison in Cuba.

Many lawmakers in the US want Assange to stand trial for espionage but analysts argue that the US wants to make an example of Assange for exposing, what some would say, war crimes by the US military in Iraq and elsewhere.

Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva told the United Nations General Assembly, on Sept 19, that it is "essential" to preserve the freedom of the press and that WikiLeaks' founder Assange should not be prosecuted for informing the public. "A journal-



Assange cannot be punished for informing society in a transparent and legitimate way," Lula said.

His comments came a day before the Australian cross-party delegation arrived in Washington.

The group brought a letter, signed by more than 60 members of the Australian parliament, calling on the US to drop the charges against Assange who faces up to 175 years in an American maximum-security prison if

found guilty. Greens Senator David Shoebridge, who was part of the delegation, said: "There was a strong level of support and energy in all of our meetings with US lawmakers."

"Many of those we met were extremely moved by the level of commitment from Australia about (Assange's) case."

He told China Daily the cross-party delegation was an "extremely powerful display" of the consensus in the Australian parliament about the need for Assange to be released.

"It's extremely rare for matters to be advocated across political lines in the US, so the diversity of the delegation really cut through," Shoebridge said.

Liberal Party MP Bridget Archer, one of the co-convenors of the 'Bring Julian Assange Home' parliamentary group, told China Daily "there is certainly strength

for the case to bring (Assange) home".

"This is evidenced by the multi-partisan membership of the Parliamentary Friends group and the sentiments shared by both the prime minister and opposition leader that enough is enough," Archer said.

"His case can no longer be ignored, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a just decision by the US government," she said.

The letter which the Australian delegation took to the US said, in part: "Let there be no doubt that if Julian Assange is removed from the United Kingdom to the United States there will be a sharp and sustained outcry in Australia".

The letter also applauds the US academics, civil society groups, human rights advocates, journalists, and lawmakers who have demanded freedom for the 52-year-old.

Agencies

'World far off track on pledges to end deforestation by 2030'

SAO PAULO

THE world is moving too slowly to meet pledges to end deforestation by 2030, with the destruction worsening in 2022, according to a report by a coalition of environmental organizations released on Monday.

More than 140 countries - representing the vast majority of the world's woodlands - pledged at the 2021 United Nations climate summit in Glasgow to halt and reverse forest loss and degradation by the end of the decade.

Yet deforestation increased by 4 percent worldwide in 2022 com-

pared with 2021, as some 66,000 square kilometers were destroyed, the annual Forest Declaration Assessment report said. That means the world is 21 percent off track to end deforestation by 2030.

"The world's forests are in crisis. The opportunity to make progress is passing us by," said Erin Matson, a senior consultant at environmental group Climate Focus.

The report was conducted by a coalition of civil society and research organizations who assess progress toward pledges to eliminate deforestation by 2030.

That includes the Glasgow pledge and the 2014 New York

Declaration on Forests, which saw a shorter list of countries as well as dozens of the world's biggest companies make a similar commitment.

Efforts to preserve old-growth tropical forests - prized for their dense carbon content and rich biodiversity - are 33 percent off track, with 4.1 million hectares lost in 2022, according to the study.

In a news briefing, the researchers involved in the report stressed that the annual \$2.2 billion in public funds channeled to projects to protect forests every year is a fraction of the investment needed.

The study also looked beyond deforestation to analyze forest deg-

radation, with one researcher estimating the area of degraded forests to be much larger than the area of global deforestation.

Drivers of forest degradation include logging activities, livestock grazing, and road construction, according to Climate Focus.

But some parts of the world are making progress, said Franziska Haupt, a lead author and managing partner at consultancy Climate Focus.

Haupt said that some 50 countries are on track to end forest loss, with Brazil, Indonesia, and Malaysia showing drastic reductions in deforestation.

"Hope isn't lost," Haupt said. "These countries set clear examples that others must follow."

Brazil, which is responsible for around 30 percent of the world's deforestation, has seen a significant turnaround with a new government which is much more committed to fighting deforestation than the last, said a WWF Brazil representative during the news conference.

"This showcases what could happen when countries with good laws and the books actually invest in enforcing them," said Darragh Conway, lead on rights & governance for the Forest Declaration Assessment.

Innovation propels Tibetan carpet industry into new prospects

WHEN a Tibetan carpet unfolds before one's eyes, it's hard to tell whether it is a functional household item or a work of art because of its distinct ethnic patterns and colors, soft and delicate texture and exquisite craftsmanship.

As one of the world's three famous carpets alongside Persian and Turkish carpets, Tibetan carpets are renowned far and wide for their vibrant colors, strong ethnic styles, and distinct regional characteristics.

The Tibetan carpet weaving skills have been passed down for thousands of years. In the Neolithic Age, ancient residents of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau already formed a unique weaving culture.

According to historical records, 3,500 years ago, nomadic tribes there were adept at weaving woolen fabrics into clothes and quilts to fend off the cold. These weaving techniques were handed down generation after generation, forming the Tibetan carpet weaving skills still in use today.

Carrying profound Tibetan culture, the Tibetan carpet evolved from a simple household item into a work of art. Tibetan carpet weaving also grew into a featured industry, with the products being sold worldwide.

The development of the Tibetan carpet industry has not always been

smooth sailing. Traditional Tibetan carpets were mostly handmade in small workshops, with high labor and time costs. Facing competition from lower-cost machine-made carpets produced in bulk, many Tibetan carpet companies saw shrinking orders and losses.

In recent years, affected by factors like the COVID-19 pandemic, hotel occupancy was on a decline, which decreased the demand for carpet replacement, hence a depressed Tibetan carpet market.

The ever-changing market demands have pressed Tibetan carpet companies to take the initiative through innovation. A number of leading Tibetan carpet companies have blazed a trail of innovation for the industry.

To better incorporate ancient skills into modern life, some Tibetan carpet companies have combined modern carpet weaving techniques with traditional hand-knotting skills.

They use special materials and techniques on Tibetan carpets, turning their products from hand-woven carpets to machine-woven, hand-knotted, and fluorescent ones.

They are gradually moving away from mass production and traditional marketing models in the past days, and start embracing digital production methods.



Workers manufacture Tibetan carpets in a workshop of Shengyuan Carpet, a Tibetan carpet company in Xining, northwest China's Qinghai province. (Photo from Shengyuan Carpet)

By adopting advanced weaving techniques and innovating pattern designs, a batch of machine-woven Tibetan carpets with cost advantages, fine workmanship, and exquisite patterns are winning the favor of the market.

Nowadays, Tibetan carpet enterprises design patterns and use materials based on customers' preferences and home decor styles, and customize the sizes of carpets according to the need of customers.

Some Tibetan companies have shifted production from large-scale manufacturing to personalized customization, in order to meet diverse individualized customer demands. They have even developed antibacterial and flame-retardant Tibetan carpets using new technologies to meet modern requirements for eco-friendly home furnishing.

Tibetan carpets from China are seen in many parts of the world, from the Jumeirah Emirates Towers in Dubai to Marriott hotels, and from Las Vegas to Carnival Cruise ships. With continuous innovation in recent years in functions, designs, craftsmanship and standards, Tibetan carpets are increasingly gaining an "international style," becoming the first choice for many foreign customers.

Tibetan carpets are a treasure of Chinese ethnic traditional crafts. In the interplay between tradition and modernity, in its interaction with the world, the Tibetan carpet industry has undergone an innovative transformation.

This not only injects new vitality into the traditional skills passed down over thousands of years, but also provides valuable experience for the industrialization and modernization of other ethnic traditional crafts.

People's Daily

SPORT



Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, Damas Ndumbaro (C), chats with Tanzania's Ambassador to Egypt, Emmanuel Nchimbi (L), and Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) first vice-president Athuman Nyamli at the Confederation of African Football (CAF) Executive Committee meeting that took place in Cairo on September 27. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

Opening a window for Tanzanian-born players abroad for 2023 AFCON finals

By Correspondent John Kimbute

SPORT is becoming a vehicle in which sentiments are being remapped on the world around us, as Tanzania is gradually putting up the image of an outward-looking spot in Africa.

It is in sport where it has built a considerable cosmopolitan image by excellent signings of players from the four corners of the continent, and a scatter of European and South American managers for the more important club sides.

It is also a power in regional television with multiple beaming of other premier leagues to sitting rooms and restaurants all over the region. It is relaxing.

This impression is of course agreeably tied up with the globe-trotting for new investments, and detailing envoys on what the country can offer.

Added to visible investments in sports infrastructure, which previously came from state programs and increasingly arise from private investments.

Instead of the Uhuru Stadium complementing the massive complex on its side, Benjamin Mkapa Stadium alias 'Estadio Lupaso', it is Azam Complex Stadium that serves the purpose, relegating Uhuru and Karume stadiums to the status of auxiliary city grounds for the second-tier soccer league, the championship.

With Taifa Stars now qualified for the coming Africa Cup of Nations finals early next year, several top soccer bigwigs are scratching their heads on how to find professional players with Tanzanian calling points to join the national side ahead of the finals.

How far that issue can be worked upon in the next two months before the final lists are filed by CAF head offices before the kickoff, even if it is 72 hours earlier, is a bit unclear.

It all depends if there is a track record on the issue that can be followed up, and if there is none, laying it down at present can be rather tricky.

There is a coincidental environment in how the matter can be worked upon at the moment, and if it indeed existed before, or if it is just a brainwave arising from what looks like an unexpected qualification in some quarters.

The surprising situation is that two ministers have recently swapped places and thus the relevant incumbent on issues of either constitutionality or advising on surrogate citizenship for the 2024 AFCON finals is actually in place.

Pindi Chana, now handling the docket, was earlier in Arts, Culture, and Sports, now taken up by the one who was handling legal affairs in the past cabinet lineup.

If the matter had come up earlier, the minister would have been aware of it and assiduously followed it up but if it is new it could take time.

It is hard to imagine that the passport issue has any roots but for the qualification.

There is fear of the sort of groups that the national side will land, as it has even fewer hopes of making it to the first two slots.

At the club level, the hope is more

reasonable that either Simba SC or Young Africans SC could take up the second slot in their groups for the CAF Champions League, and for the Msimbazi Street side.

Not much hope is on the Taifa Stars side as it can see the difference between the level of local players and the clubs our professional players appear for in Europe and the Middle East, as others in our group have a clear advantage.

Until this point, anyone following pundits' discussions would be under the view that there was trust that raising young players and putting them in sufficient drills would do the trick.

Years of experience with success by national youth teams whose age cohorts vary with the time, depending on CAF emphasis at a specific period show that what a youth becomes after early prowess can't always be told beforehand.

It is not always the case that reaching the Serengeti Boys XI primes a youth for a stellar national team role later; at times the talent is blunted and dissipates.

There was an even louder and less realistic outlook, which has even been tried time and again, of raising school and a few street contests to get some talent.

At one point the federation picked 40 players and put them to rigorous training, trying to pick a national team from there, but it just didn't work.

There is still an element of that experimentation, not forcefully by trying out schoolboys and street youths but by skirting top sides' first-choice players with talented youths of less gifted club sides.

There is still a big risk that the reasons for Taifa Stars qualifying for the next AFCON finals will not be taken to heart, and outside that somewhat late suggestion to give some second-rate passport offer to Tanzanian-born professional players with foreign citizenship little more is done.

The side qualified with a score of players from the local premier league who don't feature for the top city sides, chosen ahead of those trusted by major sides for those positions.

The reasoning is partly that there is a 'program' to build a good team, or just detesting top sides.

An especially contested feature of the current Taifa Stars lineup preparing for the January 2024 finals, whose glorious point was a draw against spirited Algeria who had already qualified and took no exceptional preparation for the tie against us.

The side did not have the Simba SC backline that gave it the results it desired, opting for 'big stars' like Beno Kakolanya and Nickson Kibabage, who massively disappointed Yanga fans in the match against Ifeju SC.

Just because Simba SC coach Robertinho rested Shomari Kapombe in the last minutes of the epic encounter against Al Ahly at 'Estadio Lupaso', pro-Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) pundits got a bone to chew.

SPORTS

African Football League offers gripping contests



Tanzania's Simba SC striker, Kibu Denis (R), dribbles past Egypt's Al Ahly central defender, Yasser Ibrahim, when the two sides locked horns in the first leg of the quarterfinal of the inaugural African Football League (AFL) played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend and culminated in 2-2 draw. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

THE long-awaited spanking new championship, the African Football League (AFL), got off to a splendid beginning last Friday at the state-of-the-art Benjamin Mkapa Stadium here in the commercial nerve center of the country, Dar es Salaam.

With a veritable who's who of powerful football figures in attendance, like the FIFA president Gianni Infantino, CAF president Patrice Motsepe, and the FIFA Chief of Global Football Development Arsene Wenger, the stage was set for what many hoped would be a gripping football contest between Simba SC and Al Ahly.

Indeed, the two clubs went toe-to-toe with each other in the first leg of their quarterfinal tie last Friday and thankfully, the encounter lived up to expectations.

The perennial juggernauts, Al Ahly, drew first blood in the first half's injury time and so the Egyptians went into the breather with their noses in front.

In the second half, though, the hosts came out with all guns blazing and restored parity in the 53rd minute via a sterling goal by Denis Kibu.

In the 60th minute, things got even better for the Msimbazi Street outfit as Sadio Kanoute brilliantly handed his team the lead.

Alas, the lead lasted for just a minuscule three minutes as Mahmoud Kahraba struck to equalize for the Egyptian giants.

In the wake of that equalizer, both teams earnestly bent over backwards in their determined efforts to grab the winner but these efforts ultimately proved to be in vain as both teams ended the first leg with two goals apiece.

This result then set up a truly fascinating second leg, slated for yesterday in Cairo, in prospect, especially when one remembers that away goals no longer count double in this brand-new competition.

Let us now sink our teeth into the concluding Rugby World Cup, which has been a fabulous rugby competition in which the great and the good of the sport have produced some utterly thrilling displays.

Ahead of the tournament, many pundits had tipped the in-form Republic of Ireland to overcome all comers and clinch their first Rugby World Cup trophy in history.

Nevertheless, matters sadly did not unfold according to plan for the Irish as in the quarterfinals, they ran into a superlative All Blacks (New Zealand's nickname) side, who downed the European giants 28-24 in what was a rugby clash for the ages.

Buoyed by that smashing display, the All Blacks completely pummeled Argentina 44-6 in the semi-finals to advance to their umpteenth Rugby World Cup final.

Meanwhile, as New Zealand were impeccably making a mockery of all the nay-sayers, who had predicted doom and gloom for them ahead of the quadrennial championship, the Springboks (South Africa's nickname) were demonstrating that fearsome inner resolve which they are so renowned for.

After seeing off the hosts France in an exhilarating and

close quarterfinal, South Africa faced off against an ascendant English side, which had gone from strength to strength since the outset of the competition.

And, in that semi-final pitting the Springboks against England, the former trailed the latter for large chunks of the match, and at one point, it seemed as if England would prevail.

Nonetheless, in what was a hugely dramatic moment, a long-range last-gasp penalty kick by the South African fly-half Handre Pollard ultimately tipped the scales in the Boks' favour, which means that rugby fans now have the dream finale which they had always wanted, a meeting between All Blacks and Springboks.

And, it is hoped that that final will prove to be an unquestionable classic.



Traditional dance artists forming the Msanii Theater group entertain attendants of the three-day International Grandmothers Gathering at Msimbazi Center in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT SABATO KASIKA

Ministry urges sports betting firms to expand scope of financing

By Getrude Mbago

PERMANENT Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports Gerson Msigwa has urged betting companies in Tanzania that provide financial support in football alone to expand the scope of their philanthropy to other sports.

Msigwa made the call in Dar es Salaam recently at a bonanza for commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Gaming Board of Tanzania (GBT), stressing such a move will improve employment for young people.

He said that many youths are engaging in various sports disciplines so if betting firms could expand their support to other sports, the move will greatly help increase youth's participation in sports.

The Permanent Secretary said that betting is a good game especially when the

companies are registered and comply with the rules and regulations set by GBT.

He said that the companies contribute significantly to the country's economic growth.

"Betting companies in this country that sponsor various sports, including soccer, have greatly helped to create a better employment environment for young people," he said. He commended the board for marking 20 years in supporting the growth of betting activities in the country, allowing the sector to operate smoothly for the country's development.

James Mbalwe, GBT Director, assured that his office will continue supervising betting games to enable the industry to contribute immensely to the development of various sectors in this country, particularly sports.

He further said that GBT through sports betting firms has contributed five percent of its tax revenue to the development of the country's sports sector.

According to the board, it has registered some success since its establishment including an increase in its contribution to the country's economy.

"GBT is fully implementing its targeted strategies to ensure that the betting game contributes to the national economy," he said.

Currently, the board has increased its tax contribution to 170.43 bn/- in 2022/23 from merely 2.8 bn/- in 2006/07.

from that, sports betting has increased youth employment to 25,000 in 2022/23 from just 600 in 2006/07.

Sports betting firms have also increased to 67 compared to the initial six which were present.

Milan's Maignan stands in way of old club PSG in Champions League

MILAN

PARIS Saint-Germain's Champions League clash with AC Milan this week will see the French club come up against one of the many outstanding talents they have let slip away in recent years.

In the Italian side's goal will be Mike Maignan, who was allowed to leave Paris for Lille in 2015 and has gone on to win a Ligue 1 title, Serie A and become France's first-choice 'keeper.

PSG, meanwhile, handed the gloves to a long list of goalkeepers before signing Gianluigi Donnarumma from Milan in 2021 and making him their undisputed number one a year later.

But would the Qatar-backed club have ultimately been better off keeping faith in a young Maignan than going from Salvatore Sirigu and Kevin Trapp to Gianluigi Buffon, Alphonse Areola, Keylor Navas and then Donnarumma in their ongoing quest to win the Champions League?

Now aged 28, Maignan has become one of the world's outstanding goalkeepers and will be Milan's last line of defence against his France teammates Kylian Mbappe, Ousmane Dembele and Randal Kolo Muani in a pivotal Group F match.

Having kept clean sheets in draws with Newcastle United and Borussia Dortmund so far in the group, Maignan is set to return for Milan after sitting out the 1-0 Serie A loss against Juventus on Sunday due to suspension.

"It is always a strange feeling to go back home, whether that to be to Lille or Paris," said Maignan while on France duty last week.

He missed last year's World Cup with injury but has become France's first choice since Hugo Lloris retired.

"It brings back memories. I have already played against PSG for Lille. It's the Champions League. There will be a great atmosphere. My family will be there. I need to make sure I focus on my job and not let the emotions overwhelm me."

- 'Practically thrown out' -

There has been much focus in recent months on PSG's lack of Champions League success while their Qatari owners have adopted a policy of spending huge money on superstar signings.

Meanwhile they have rather neglected the young talent on their doorstep in the fertile football breeding grounds of the Paris region.

A conscious effort has been made to change the approach with the departures of Lionel Messi and Neymar and the arrivals of exciting French talents like Normandy-born Dembele and Kolo Muani, a native of the same Paris suburb as Mbappe.

It is not just Maignan they let go over the last decade, with Kingsley Coman, Adrien Rabiot, Christopher Nkunku and Moussa Diaby all choosing to pursue their careers elsewhere.

As well as Maignan, the Milan side to face PSG could include Yacine Adli, a 23-year-old playmaker born in the Paris suburbs who left his hometown team after just one top-team appearance.

PSG have won just four two-legged knockout ties in the Champions League since Maignan left eight years ago.

"That means nothing to me," Maignan said last season in a post-match interview when asked what he thought about PSG going out of the competition against Bayern Munich.

Having slumped to a 4-1 defeat in Newcastle three weeks ago, a failure to beat the "Rossoneri" on Wednesday would increase the risk of Luis Enrique's side not getting out of their group, which would be disastrous for a club of PSG's ambitions.

Questionable recruitment decisions have cost PSG in recent years, like allowing a 20-year-old Maignan to join Lille for a reported one million euros (\$1.1m) in 2015 having never played a top-team game.

Born in French Guiana, Maignan was eight when he moved to mainland France with his family. He joined the PSG academy in 2009.

"PSG practically threw him out,

like they have done with others. You wonder what the club's policy is," former Paris and France goalkeeper Bernard Lama told sports daily L'Equipe earlier this year.

"They should have loaned him to Lille. If he stands out, then you bring him back instead of going out and buying someone else and getting it wrong."

Meanwhile, Borussia Dortmund travel to their crucial Champions League clash at Newcastle on Wednesday still adjusting to life after Jude Bellingham.

Bellingham, who joined Dortmund aged 17 in 2020 from boyhood club Birmingham City, moved to Real Madrid this summer for a fee in excess of 100 million euros (\$108 million).

The England midfielder's form in the Spanish capital, where he has scored 10 goals in 11 matches including several late winners, has shown the world just what Dortmund lost in the summer.

For their part, Dortmund have had a puzzling start to the season. The eight-time German champions are unbeaten in the league but have failed to impress, often grinding out wins against less-fancied opponents.

In the Champions League, the 1997 winners are not only winless but goalless, having gone down 2-0 at Paris Saint-Germain and played out a 0-0 draw with AC Milan.

The Germans currently sit bottom of Group F and cannot afford another defeat at St James' Park.

At a club which has recently seen superstar youngsters Erling Haaland, Jadon Sancho, Achraf Hakimi and Ousmane Dembele move elsewhere, it may end up being Bellingham that Dortmund miss the most.

He was a vital player last season as Dortmund came within a whisker of winning the Bundesliga title for the first time since 2012, falling agonisingly short with Bellingham injured and unable to feature in the last two matches.

He watched from the bench as Dortmund drew 2-2 at home against Mainz on the final day, handing the title to Bayern Munich on goal difference.

At Dortmund, Bellingham played a less attacking role than at he does now for Real.

Dortmund brought in two internationals in Germany's Felix Nmecha and Austria's Marcel Sabitzer to replace Bellingham, but the two tend to be more attack-minded and lack the versatility of the Englishman.

The result has been some disjointed and stuttering performances where the side have failed to make the most of their wealth of attacking talents, while leaving captain and defensive midfielder Emre Can exposed at the back.

- 'Embrace the fight' -

Newcastle started the season poorly, losing three of their first four league games, but have rebounded in recent weeks - best highlighted by their 4-1 home thrashing of PSG in early October to sit top of the group.

"We need to take something away from (St James' Park)," Dortmund goalkeeper Gregor Kobel said after Friday's 1-0 win over Werder Bremen. "We need to embrace the fight from the beginning."

The in-form Julian Brandt said he called on his Germany teammate and Brighton midfielder Pascal Gross for inside knowledge of what to expect.

"Even though they had a very good game against PSG, we need to go there with confidence," Brandt said. "The group is so competitive that anything can happen. We need a win badly."

"(It will be) an intense task - one we're looking forward to extremely," said coach Edin Terzic.

Nmecha, who came through the Manchester City youth system and was a rumoured target for Newcastle in the summer before leaving Wolfsburg for Dortmund, is shaping as the player most likely to slot into the Bellingham-shaped hole.

He played his best game in yellow and black so far against Bremen on Friday.

AFP

'Really disappointed': Ange Postecoglou's surprise response as Tottenham go top

By Jamie Braidwood

ANGE Postecoglou said he was left "really disappointed" by Tottenham's second-half performance against Fulham - despite his side returning to the top of the Premier League table courtesy of a 2-0 win on Monday night.

Spurs have made their best start to a league campaign since 1960/61 - the year they last won the title - as goals from Son Heung-min and James Maddison ensured Postecoglou's side returned to the Premier League summit.

Postecoglou himself has now made a record start as a Premier League manager, taking 23 points from his first nine matches since joining the club from Scottish champions Celtic in the summer.

But despite the feeling of optimism returning to Tottenham supporters since his arrival, Postecoglou was in no mood to celebrate as the Australian criticised his team for taking their foot off the gas.

"I'm really disappointed with the second half," Postecoglou said.

"We were nowhere near the levels we have been all year and we have got to make sure we stay disciplined in our approach. The keeper [Guglielmo Vicario] made a couple of great saves to keep the clean sheet and within the context we should have had a much better control of the game.

"I'm not trying to make a point, it's just what I saw. I thought we were really wasteful with the ball in the second half. We took some liberties with taking extra touches. I've been around long enough to know if you try to take liberties, you'll get dragged down pretty quickly.

"I'm not going to let the fact that we've won the game disguise the



Postecoglou has now taken more points from his first nine Premier League matches than any manager in history. Agencies

opportunity there for us to improve. In the second half, with the ball we weren't anywhere near the levels we've already shown this year and there was no real reason for it. It wasn't as if the opposition did anything different. It was more self-inflicted.

"My role in that was to give feedback to the players. That's what they want. They want to get better, they want to improve, I've got some stuff there to show them."

Tottenham's unusual Monday-Friday double header this week means they could stretch their

lead at the top of the table to five points should they defeat Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park before the weekend.

And although Spurs are earning plaudits for their attacking football under Postecoglou, the Tottenham manager believes his team still has a "long way to go".

"I think I've sat here every week and said that," Postecoglou said. "That doesn't change. We are nine games in and we're at the beginning of building something."

"It would be so much easier for me to sit here and say, 'Yeah, we're

a great team'. What I'm saying is we have to improve and that puts the responsibility on me to make sure we do it. We can be better, absolutely we can."

Despite his disapproval at Tottenham's second-half display, Postecoglou was full of praise for this team's "outstanding" pressing as well as the performance of midfielder Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg, who made his first start of the Premier League campaign in place of the suspended Yves Bissouma.

THE INDEPENDENT

Sergio Ramos is football's last great villain - let's enjoy him while we can

By Sam Dean

VIEWERS of David Beckham's Netflix documentary might have noticed a familiar face in the fourth episode of the series. The scene was the final game of the 2006/07 season, when Beckham was looking to win the Spanish league title in his last match for Real Madrid, and the footage shows the former England captain embracing his teammates before kick-off.

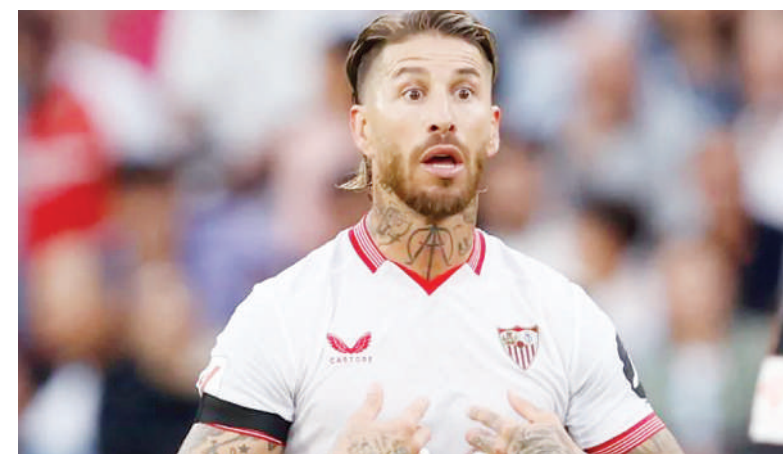
Among those white-shirted friends of Beckham was a young man with long, greased hair: Sergio Ramos. Yes, that Sergio Ramos. The same Ramos who went on to become one of the great defenders of the modern game - if not the greatest of all defenders in the modern game - and the same Ramos who still battles on at the highest level today.

To see him there, playing alongside the likes of Beckham, Roberto Carlos and Fabio Cannavaro, is to be reminded of the Spaniard's extraordinary longevity at the top of the sport. Few players in football history have straddled the eras like Ramos, with his unique brand of metrosexual machismo (part-pirate, part-prince) and few players have stamped their authority, sometimes literally, on so many different generations of stars.

Ramos was doing the business - stopping goals, scoring goals, kicking opponents - all the way back in the Galacticos era. At the age of 37, he is still doing it now: on Saturday, he starred for Sevilla against Real Madrid, helping his new side to a 1-1 draw against his old club. On Tuesday, he will look to dominate the occasion again when he faces Arsenal in the Champions League.

Against Real, it was a performance straight from the Ramos playbook of old. He elbowed Jude Bellingham in the face, and then he scuffled with Antonio Rudiger. He also produced all of his usual technical and defensive quality with and without the ball, in what was only his fifth start of the season.

The last time Ramos played against Arsenal, he was among the Real defenders who were out-



classed by Thierry Henry in the Santiago Bernabeu. That was all the way back in 2006, at a very different point in footballing history. Bukayo Saka, who is surely the main target for those pointy Spanish elbows this midweek, was four years old at the time.

Ramos being Ramos, his return to Seville this summer was not without controversy. He is an academy graduate of the club, who was born just a few kilometres from Sevilla's city centre, but he is certainly not universally loved by the fans. Ramos left for Madrid in 2005, when he was 19 years old, and his relationship with some sections of the Sevilla support had broken in the years that followed.

In part, this was because Ramos became so closely associated with Real. He spent 16 seasons in the Spanish capital, making 671 appearances, scoring 101 goals and winning a total of 22 major honours.

But it is also true that Ramos had hardly played the role of homecoming hero on his returns to the city of his birth. In 2017, in a cup match, he responded to the home crowd's jeers and whistles by scoring a late penalty in front of Sevilla's ultras. Typically of Ramos, he chipped it down the middle. Also typical of Ramos was his celebration: cupping his ears towards the fans and pointing at the name on the back of his shirt. Sevilla subsequently made an official complaint to the relevant governing body.

Six years later, as the centre-back finalised his move to his boyhood club from Paris Saint-Germain, the bad blood remained - at least with some members of the Sevilla fanbase.

"As an ultras group of Sevilla for almost 50 years, we want to express our unease to those who proposed this signing," said the Biris Norte supporter group. "We are not motivated by hatred or resentment, but by love and

pride for our club, its history and its fans.

"We believe that the mere proposal of this signing was already a lack of respect for the values that have made us great, for the symbols and legends that have defended our badge, and for the thousands of Sevillistas who have suffered the scorn of this player in the past."

Ramos, for his part, has portrayed his return to Sevilla as one of romance. "I had the opportunity to continue in Paris for two years, but I didn't see it," he said. "I have always been moved by impulses and heart. Not by money. That is why I did not go to Saudi Arabia or the MLS. For me it was a dream to return here. My heart asked me to return home. I had a debt with Sevillismo."

It feels somewhat fitting that Ramos can "follow his heart", returning to the club that made him in a move straight out of the fairytale playbook, and still be hated by some for it. That is the footballing life he lives, and that is what makes him one of the most fascinating characters the sport has seen in recent decades.

On the one hand, Ramos remains the snarling high priest of footballing villainy. On the other, he is the handsome leader who has done it all and won it all in the game. You might loathe him, or you might love him. You can't help but admire, though, the fact that he is still here, still snarling and still competing, even after all these years.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

'Really disappointed': Ange Postecoglou's surprise response as Tottenham go top

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Yanga's Burkinabe midfielder, Stephane Aziz Ki, appreciates the club's fanatics upon receiving a football after scoring a hat-trick during the 2023/24 NBC Premier League clash against Azam FC played in Dar es Salaam two days back. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Hat-trick hero Aziz Ki praises team effort

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC reclaimed the NBC Premier League top spot in great part thanks to the three goals scored by midfielder Stephane Aziz Ki in a 3-2 victory over Azam FC at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The Burkina Faso international had handed Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, the lead nine minutes into the game.

The skillful midfielder had cut through Azam FC's Senegalese defender, Malickou Ndoye, to slot the ball past the on-rushing Ghanaian goalkeeper, Abdullahi Idrissu.

However, Azam FC replied 10 minutes later through Gambian winger Gibrill Sillah.

After the break, Aziz Ki took center stage once again when he equalized for Yanga in the 68th minute.

His thundering free kick was spilled into the net by goalkeeper Idrissu to level the scoreboard. Prince Dube had scored for Azam FC from the spot kick at the hour mark.

A third goal would follow for Aziz Ki when beautifully connected home a through pass from midfielder Khalid Aucho in the 72nd minute, despite heavy protests from the Azam FC players and coaching staff who felt the referee should have blown for a foul on central defender Daniel Amoah.

Aziz Ki was all smiles come the final whistle but was still modest not to forget the contributions of his teammates. He attributed the hat-trick to team efforts.

The footballer noted: "It was the team's effort because everyone was involved, not just Aziz Ki who made the hat-trick."

"The players who assisted me, those who allowed me to go into space so this hat-trick is for Young Africans, it is for everyone not for me," the midfielder disclosed.

When asked which was his favourite goal on the day, the former attacking midfielder for Ivory Coast's ASEC Mimosas chose to highlight the importance of each strike in bringing three points to the Jangwani Street outfit and went on to praise the team's fans for supporting the players.

The midfielder noted: "I can't choose because all the goals were important. The first, the second, and the winning one, each goal was important for me, I can't choose."

"For me, it is all about three points. I must say thank you to Wananchi because this support they gave to the players is why we can produce this performance," the footballer said.

Aziz Ki has become the third player to score a hat-trick in the NBC Premier League this season.

He is now the top-flight's leading top goal scorer with six goals, one more than Simba SC's Congolese forward Jean Baleke.

“

For me, it is all about three points. I must say thank you to Wananchi because this support they gave to the players is why we can produce this performance

Kagera Sugar takes on off-form Dodoma Jiji FC

By Guardian Correspondent

THIS season's NBC Premier League enthusiasts would have a rare late kick-off in the top flight tonight as Dodoma Jiji FC hosts Kagera Sugar, with the game having been scheduled for a 9 p.m. kick-off at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma.

After their opening day victory over Coastal Union, Dodoma Jiji FC's form has rather hit a buffer, as coach Melis Medo's team is now winless in the last five league games following a 2-2 draw at Geita Gold last week.

The Capital City club is sitting 11th in the table but only one point away from the relegation zone.

It is still early rounds but failure to bag maximum points could drag them into another relegation battle.

Club captain Augustino Samson Nsata is anticipating a difficult challenge from Kagera Sugar who have confidence in a four-match unbeaten streak including a morale-boosting victory in their last outing.

"We know it will be a difficult game. We are going to play with a good team that has done good recruitment and plays like we do."

"They also got good results in the last game, so they are coming here with high morale. We are aware of that so we know the game will be difficult but we are well prepared to battle for a good result."

Kagera Sugar made the trip to Jamhuri on the back of a 2-0 victory on the road over Mtwara Sugar on Thursday last week.

Trends show in their last 10 away games in all competitions, Kagera Sugar has a poor record of just two wins.

This season there have been defeats at Ihefu and Mashujaa FC plus a draw against JKT Tanzania.

Paul Ngwai, Kagera Sugar fitness trainer, said they know what to expect from a tough Dodoma Jiji FC side that will have the advantage of a vocal home support base backing them.

The official disclosed: "The technical bench has done their work and is finalized, we just have to wait for tomorrow's match. Our traveling squad has no injuries. All players are fit and available for selection."

"We are playing against Dodoma Jiji FC which is a good team. If you play against Dodoma Jiji FC at their home ground you have to prepare well because they have a lot of young players," the official pointed out.

"The type of football they play is compatible with the players they have. We know what kind of match we are going to play tomorrow," he stressed.

In head-to-head stats, Dodoma Jiji FC and Kagera Sugar have met in six league matches since the 2020/21 season.

With four drawn games, this fixture has been dominated by stalemates. Each team has won one game.

Gamondi salutes Yanga's character after victory over Azam FC in PL



Yanga's attacking midfielder, Stephane Aziz Ki (3rd R), negotiates his way past Azam FC's Malickou Ndoye (L), Sospeter Bajana (2nd R), and Lusajo Mwaikenda (R), as the sides locked horns in a 2023/24 NBC Premier League tie played in Dar es Salaam on Monday and ended in 3-2 victory for Yanga. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

HEAD coach Miguel Gamondi has saluted the character demonstrated by Young Africans SC after the club went top of the 2023/24 NBC Premier League with a hard-fought 3-2 win over Azam FC in Dar es Salaam on Monday evening.

Stephane Aziz Ki's third strike of the day proved to be the winner for Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium after he had earlier canceled out Azam FC forward Prince Dube's penalty.

The reigning champions have displaced age-old rivals, Simba SC, the then league leaders, at the summit of the table.

The Argentine coach, celebrating the continuation of his 100% record against Azam FC, told the press his side deserved the win and expressed his pride for his players' individual and collective performances.

He also praised the team's fans for rallying behind the players when they were trailing.

The gaffer disclosed: "I must congratulate the players and the fans, they won the game. I am so happy with the strong character shown by the players."

"I am happy with Wananchi because even when we were trailing 2-1 they still believed in the team and supported us, they encouraged the players," the Argentine pointed out.

The tactician said: "Today we had Stephane Aziz Ki inspired, like I said, he is a great player but the entire team was fighting and showing what you need to be champions and to show why they are champions and why we can compete in Africa as well... I am very proud of them."

"From the first day, I always say my message is that the team is the most important. The team is above all of us."

"The team's spirit is the most important. We play like we train. In the training you see everybody is fighting, trying to do his best for the team. It is my philosophy,"

Gamondi noted.

"When people tell me about pressure, it is there but I am confident with this group of players. They showed today this strong character and this is training, this is work."

The Argentine noted: "It is not coming from the gods, it comes from training. They train, they believe and they are happy. We are building a very good team."

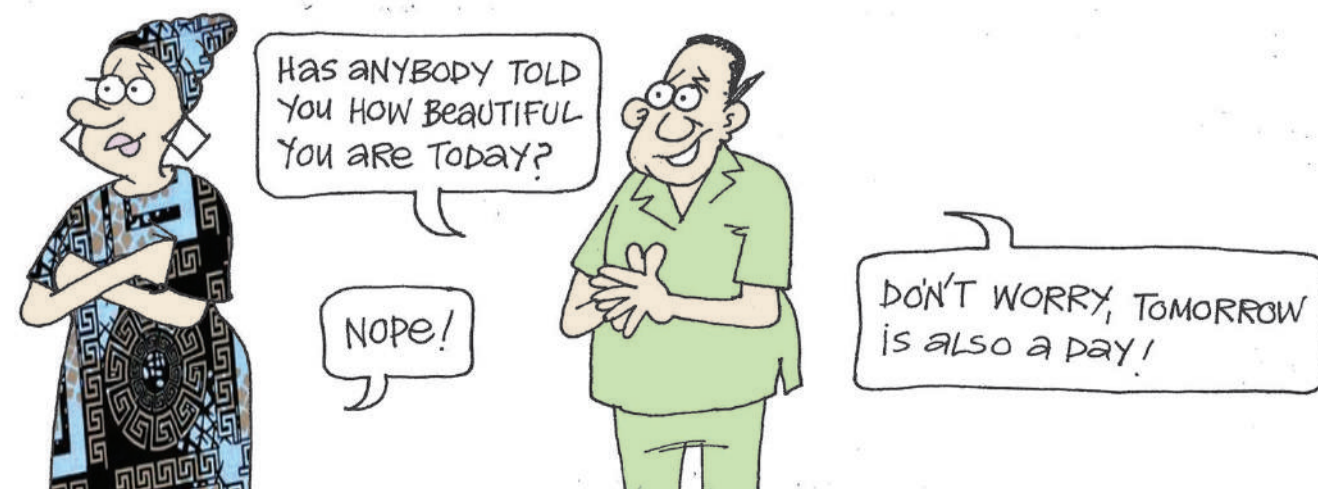
"We analyze teams, when they play against other teams they look ordinary but when they play against us they look like superheroes and play the game of their life."

"That is good. I told the players they force us to be better. In my life, I always need to be better as a coach, man, father."

The gaffer noted: "I told the player we need to be better every single day because sometimes the referee decides against us, sometimes the other team wastes time and sometimes we don't play but we need to be on top of that."

"When you see this crowd of fans you need to die for them. This is my philosophy," he concluded.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV WEDNESDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

UJENZI

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 MJADALA (r)
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 Mpera Mpera
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zole Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kati Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 Mid week Movie
21:50 Mid Week Movie
23:00 KURASA
23:05 EATV SAA 1

UJENZI provides information and ideas on residential construction, interior decor and residential appliance markets values. The show aims to enhance residential construction. It provides free expert advice, news and commentary.

eastAfrica RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planef Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM